

STUDIES IN THE SYNTAX OF MIXTECAN LANGUAGES

Volume 4



Edited by
C. Henry Bradley and Barbara E. Hollenbach

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Syntax of Mixtecan Languages**

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4**

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Preface

The present volume constitutes the fourth and final installment of a set that includes syntactic sketches of ten languages in the Mixtecan language family, which is one of eight families included in the Otomanguean stock. It contains sketches of two languages spoken in the western part of the state of Oaxaca, Mexico: Yosonda Mixtec, a member of the Western Highlands grouping of Mixtec languages, and Copala Trique.

These sketches follow the same outline and format as the sketches in the previous three volumes of the series (Bradley and Hollenbach 1988, 1990, 1991).¹ They present the structure of the languages with minimum attention to theory, and over half of the space in each sketch is devoted to examples. As in most of the other sketches, each closes with an indigenous version of the tar-baby story as a sample text in the language.

Further information about these sketches can be found in the preface and introduction to Bradley and Hollenbach 1988.

BEH

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Abbreviations

ADD	additive	INAN	inanimate
AFF	affirmative	INC	incomplete
AML	animal	INT	interrogative
CAUS	causative	INTS	intensifier
CF	contrafactual	LIM	limiter
cf.	compare	lit.	literally
CMP	complementizer	ME	male ego
COM	completive	NEG	negative
CON	continuative	NONCON	noncontinuative
DEC	declarative	PERS	persuasive
DEI	deity	PL	plural
DETR	detransitive	POS	possessed
DU	dual	POT	potential
EMPH	emphatic	reg. Sp.	regional Spanish
EX	exclusive	REP	repetitive
FAM	familiar	RES	respect
FE	female ego	SG	singular
GEN	general	Sp.	Spanish
HORT	hortatory	SPEC	specifier
IMP	imperative	UN	unspecified third person
IN	inclusive	?	gloss unknown

**A Syntactic Sketch of
Yosondúa Mixtec**

Edwin R. Farris

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Introduction

0.1 Orientation

Yosondúa Mixtec is spoken by approximately 7,000 people living under the jurisdiction of the municipal center of Santiago Yosondúa, in the district of Tlaxiaco, Oaxaca, Mexico. Spanish is spoken in the town center and in some of the outlying settlements, but Mixtec is spoken by the majority of the inhabitants of Cañada de Galicia, Buena Vista, Atalaya, Alacrán, Primavera, Plumas, Vergel, and Guajelotes.

Because Yosondúa is served by a truck road and functions as a commercial center for a number of surrounding towns, Yosondúa Mixtec is understood over a much wider area, which includes Santo Domingo Ixcatlán, Santa María Yolotepec, Yolotepec de la Paz, Santa Cruz Tacahua, and San Miguelito Ixcatlán, all located to the east of Yosondúa; Santa Catarina Cuanana, San Mateo Yucutindoo, and Santiago Amoltepec, all located to the south; and Chalcatongo de Hidalgo and San Miguel el Grande, both located to the north.

Yosondúa Mixtec shows some internal variation. In the area to the north bordering San Miguel el Grande and Chalcatongo, *u* is replaced by *o* in many words, and in the area to the east bordering Santo Domingo Ixcatlán, Yolotepec de la Paz, and Santa María Yolotepec, *Nn* is replaced by *ch*.

Because of the primary school system, which has been in the area for more than fifty years, and because many Mixtecs have spent time working away from the area, there exists a high degree of bilingualism. More and more people are speaking Spanish because of these factors, but in the

outlying areas, Mixtec remains the language of preference for communication within the group, and children learn Mixtec as their first language.

This study is based on data gathered during fieldwork in Yosondúa beginning in 1969. The principal language associate was Juventino Martínez Cruz. The text in chapter 7 was recorded on tape in February 1979 by Bernardino Martínez, a resident of Atalaya; he was then about seventy-five years old. Many of the examples were drawn from a concordance of texts compiled in 1970 on the IBM 1410 computer at the University of Oklahoma by the Linguistic Information Retrieval Project of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, supported (in part) by Grant GS-270 of the National Science Foundation.

0.2 Phonology

Yosondúa Mixtec has the following consonants and vowels: voiceless stops and affricate *p t ch k kw*, prenasalized stops and affricate *mb nd nj ng*, voiceless fricatives *s sy sh shy x*, voiced fricatives *v d*, simple nasals *m n ñ*, preaspirated nasals *Nn Ññ*, liquids *l r*, semivowels *w y*, laryngeal *h* (glottal stop), oral vowels *i e ĩ a u o*, and nasalized vowels *in iñ an on uñ*. The consonant *b* is also found in Spanish loanwords.

There are three tones: high (written with acute accent), mid (written with macron), and low (unmarked). This variety of Mixtec exhibits extensive tone sandhi, in which the basic tone of words is changed after certain other words. The tones written in this sketch are the basic tones, not the surface tones that result from the application of sandhi rules.

This variety of Mixtec is characterized by many fast-speech rules in which underlying forms with two syllables, especially those with the shape CVV, are reduced to a single syllable when they do not receive phrase stress. In this sketch the longer forms are written.

0.3 Bibliography

Farris, Ed. 1981. Yosondúa Mixtec Kinship Terms. In *Proto Otomanguean Kinship*, edited by William R. Merrifield, pp. 193–97. International Museum of Cultures, Publication 11. Dallas: International Museum of Cultures.

1

Basic Sentences

1.1 Statements

Verbs fall into three classes—content, equative, and stative—which serve to define sentence types. Sentences with content verbs are impersonal, intransitive, or transitive; transitive and intransitive sentences optionally take various kinds of adjuncts. Equative sentences link a subject to a nominal complement by means of an equative verb. Stative sentences link a subject to a stative verb; sometimes this linkage is provided by another verb. Each of these sentence types may take a peripheral element, such as location and/or time. They may also have any element within them fronted to indicate focus. In addition, each type may be used as a sentential complement within another sentence.

1.1.1 Impersonal sentences. The minimal form of an impersonal sentence consists of an impersonal verb with neither subject nor object. Such verbs are limited to a small set and usually express meteorological and related concepts.

Nnāa

CON:quake

There is an earthquake. (lit. It is quaking.)

ndī

CON:dawn

It is dawning.

kāhvī
 CON:be:dark
 It is dark.

kūñāā
 CON:get:dark
 It is getting dark.

1.1.2 Intransitive sentences. The minimal form of an intransitive sentence consists of an intransitive verb followed by its subject.

chaa *rī*
 CON:arrive:here I:FAM
 I am coming.

kīshī *rā*
 CON:sleep you:FAM
 You are sleeping.

kátúú *dā*
 CON:lie he
 He is lying down.

kúhu *ī*
 CON:be:sick GEN
 The child is sick.

xínū *taxa*
 CON:run flash
 It is lightning. *or* Lightning is flashing.

(See also 7.6, 7.19, 7.21, 7.45, and 7.47.)

A subject may, however, be unexpressed if it can be supplied from the discourse context; two examples are found in 7.21 and 7.28.

1.1.3 Transitive sentences. The minimal form of a transitive sentence consists of a transitive verb, its subject, and its object.

xíhí *ī* *ndūchā*
 CON:drink it:AML water
 The animal is drinking water.

shíkó *ñā* *nūni*
 CON:sell she corn
 She is selling corn.

ñūhū ī shndīki
 CON:lead GEN COW
 The child is leading the cow.

sāmā ñā ndūchī
 CON:change she bean
 She is exchanging beans.

(See also 7.9, 7.10, 7.17, 7.47, and 7.51.)

Reflexive action may be indicated by using an appositional noun phrase containing either the specifier *máá* or the plural specifier *náá* as the subject of a transitive verb (see §§3.1.2 and 3.7).

ndéhé dā máá dā
 CON:look he SPEC he
 He sees [himself].

xáhnī dā máá dā
 COM:kill he SPEC he
 He killed [himself].

kā ndututu dā náá dā
 PL CON:join he SPEC:PL he
 They got [themselves] together.

kā ndéhé máá dā náá dā
 PL CON:look SPEC he SPEC:PL he
 They see [themselves].

Some transitive sentences allow the omission of the object when the focus is on the action, as seen by comparing the following pair of sentences.

xáhnī dā kīī
 CON:kill he animal
 He hunts animals.

xáhnī dā
 CON:kill he
 He hunts. *or* He is a hunter.

When they can be recovered from the context, however, any subject or object may be unexpressed. Unexpressed subjects are found in 7.30 and 7.43, and an unexpressed object is found in 7.48.

1.1.4 Sentences with adjuncts. Both intransitive and transitive sentences may take the following adjuncts: locative, associative, instrument, and

referent. Adjuncts are frequently expressed by an adverbial noun phrase (see §3.6) or by a prepositional phrase (see §4.3), which follows the subject in intransitive sentences and the object in transitive sentences. The specific locative noun or preposition used depends on both the kind of adjunct and the specific verb.

The locative adjunct expresses source, destination, or location, depending on the meaning of the verb; it includes elements traditionally classified as indirect objects. This adjunct is normally required with verbs that express change of possession, change of location, position, or placement.

With transitive verbs that express change of possession, the locative adjunct expresses source or destination, and it has an animate, usually human, referent. It is usually signaled by the locative noun *nūu* ‘face’.

kwāhā ní kaa nūu dā
 POT:give you:RES metal face his
 You will give him the axe.¹

shikó ñā nūni nūu dā
 CON:sell she corn face his
 She is selling corn to him.

xaān dā kaa nūu yó
 COM:buy he metal face our:IN
 He bought an axe from us.

táxí ñā tūtū nūu kūhu ñā
 CON:send she paper face sister:FE her
 She is sending a message to her sister.

ni kahān dā ĩñ Nnuhu nūu dā
 COM COM:speak he one word face his
 He scolded him. (lit. He spoke one word to him.)

An example with no locative noun is found in 7.29.

With intransitive verbs that express change of location (motion verbs), the locative adjunct expresses source or destination, depending on such factors as the meaning of the verb, the location of the speaker, and the

¹Yosondúa Mixtec pronouns do not distinguish grammatical function (see §5.4). It would therefore be more accurate to gloss them consistently by a single English form. I have, however, chosen to gloss them by the English form most appropriate in the context in order to enable the reader to understand the structure of the Mixtec examples more quickly. In the above example the pronoun *dā* is the possessor of *nūu* ‘face’, and so it is glossed ‘his’ in the literal gloss line. Because the phrase *nūu dā* is the indirect object, it appears as ‘him’ in the free translation. In earlier examples, where *dā* functioned as the subject, it was glossed ‘he’.

location of the subject; but destination is more frequent. Locative adjuncts of this type usually have inanimate referents, and they are often expressed by adverbs or nouns unmarked by any locative noun or preposition. They may, however, be signaled by *nūu* ‘face’ or *īchī* ‘trail’; *nūu* often indicates a specific location, and *īchī* indicates that the source or destination is not in the immediate vicinity. If the location has an animate referent, *nūu* must occur. Words supplied in the free translation are enclosed in square brackets.

kīhīn ñā yahu
 POT:go she market
 She is going to market.

kīhīn ñā nūu yahu
 POT:go she face market
 She is going to the market.

kwāhan dā ndinūū
 INC:go he Tlaxiaco
 He is on the way to Tlaxiaco.

kwāhan dā īchī ndinūū
 INC:go he trail Tlaxiaco
 He is going in the direction of Tlaxiaco.

vāxī dā īchī ndinūū
 INC:come he trail Tlaxiaco
 He is coming back from Tlaxiaco.

ni xahan ná nūu “doctor”
 COM COM:go I:RES face doctor
 I went to [see] the doctor.

ni kanakava īnī ndūchā ún
 COM COM:fall insides water that
 [They] fell into the water.

(See also 7.20 and 7.48.)

With intransitive verbs that express position, the locative adjunct usually occurs and expresses location. Its referent is commonly either inanimate or part of an animate entity, and it is usually expressed by an adverbial noun phrase (see §3.6).

ñūhú ndūchī īnī ndōho
 CON:be:in bean insides palm:basket
 The beans are in the palm basket.

kánjā *dā vehe dā*
 CON:be:located:SG he house his
 He is at his house.

kánjā *īā sīkī ndōho yúkán*
 CON:be:located:SG flower nape palm:basket that
 That palm basket has a flower design on it. (lit. Flowers are located on the outside of that palm basket.)

(See also 7.22, 7.31, 7.32, and 7.38.)

With transitive verbs that express placement or transport, the locative adjunct expresses either source or destination. Sometimes the preposition *ūndi* ‘until’ occurs to emphasize the distance involved.

chúhūn nā staa īnī ndōho
 CON:put:in she tortilla insides palm:basket
 She is putting tortillas in the palm basket.

chúshndéé nā staa nūu mésa
 CON:put:on she tortilla face table
 She is putting the tortillas on the table (Sp. *mesa*).

ndiso ná ndūku vehe ná
 CON:carry I:RES firewood house my:RES
 I am carrying the firewood to my house.

ndiso ná ndūku ūndi vehe ná
 CON:carry I:RES firewood until house my:RES
 I carry the firewood from my house.

(See also 7.1, 7.19, 7.34, and 7.48.)

The associative adjunct is marked by the preposition *xín* ‘with’; a variant form *xíní* is used by some older speakers and appears in the text in chapter 7. This adjunct has two functions, one of which is to add a second participant to some other element of the sentence, usually the subject.

vāxī dā xín kwāyū
 INC:come he with horse
 He is coming with his horse (Sp. *caballo*).

sáhā dā Nnīñū xín xwáa
 CON:do he work with John
 He is working with John (Sp. *Juan*).

xáhnja ná ndūku xíin dā
 CON:cut I:RES firewood with him
 I am cutting firewood with him.

yáxí dā staa xíin sēhē dā
 CON:eat he tortilla with child his
 He is eating tortillas with his son.

yésíkí suchī lúlu xíin Nnáhā kwáchí ī
 CON:play child small:SG with companion small:PL GEN
 The child is playing with his companions.

kā sáhā ná īin Nnūñū xíin sēhē ná
 PL CON:do I:RES one work with child my:RES
 We do one job with my child.

The second function of the associative adjunct is to express the addressee of a direct quotation (see §6.3); two examples are found in 7.5 and 7.7.

Instrument adjuncts are also expressed by the preposition *xíin* ‘with’. With some verbs, however, instrument is expressed by a phrase in focus position (see §1.1.8) with no locative noun or preposition signaling it.

xáhnja dā xíin kaa
 CON:cut he with metal
 He cuts [it] with an axe.

kāshin yó xíin yūu
 POT:crush we:IN with rock
 We will crush [it] with a rock.

ni kā xasí dā ndūchī ya xíin sāhmā
 COM PL COM:close he bean DEI with cloth
 They close his (the statue’s) eyes with a cloth.

yūNnū kánī dā sīkí būrū dā
 wood CON:hit he nape donkey his
 He hits his donkey (Sp. *burro*) on the back WITH A STICK.

The referent adjunct covers a broad semantic range, which includes benefactives. This adjunct is usually signaled by one of various locative nouns and prepositions. The locative nouns are *kwénta* ‘account’ (Sp. *cuenta*), *sīkí* ‘nape’, *xaha* ‘foot’, and *nūu* ‘face’; and the prepositions are *xíin* ‘with’, *xākū* ‘with reference to’, and *xā sīkí* ‘because of’.

kāhān yó kwénta nūu yó
 CON:speak we:IN account town our:IN
 We are talking about our town.

káhān yó sīkí xwáa
 CON:speak we:IN nape John
 We are talking about John.

ni kā sahā ī nūu sántu kwáchí
 COM PL COM:do GEN face saint small:PL
 They do [things] for the little saints (Sp. *santo*).

kēxáhá yó xíin Nnīñū
 POT:begin we:IN with work
 We will begin work.

íyó “voluntad” ñā xākū sēhē yē chaa ún
 CON:exist willingness her with:reference:to child male man that
 She is willing to marry the man’s son. (lit. Her willingness exists with
 reference to that man’s son.)

ni kuhu ná xā sīkí ĩin nundóhō
 COM COM:be:sick I:RES CMP nape one suffering
 I was sick with reference to a suffering.

When a referent adjunct has an animate referent and is marked by the locative noun *xaha* ‘foot’, the meaning is usually benefactive.

káhān dā xaha xwáa
 CON:speak he foot John
 He is speaking on John’s behalf.

When a referent adjunct is marked by *xākū* ‘with reference to’ and the verb phrase contains the additive marker *ka* ‘more’, the sentence expresses a comparison of degree.

yāchī ka xínū lalo xākū nándo
 fast ADD CON:run Ed with:reference:to Ferd
 Ed (Sp. *Lalo*) runs faster than Ferd (Sp. *Nando*).

Sometimes a referent adjunct occurs with no locative noun signaling it; this is especially common when it serves as a sentence topic, as seen in 7.2. Sometimes a referent is expressed as the possessor of the direct object.

káshín kaa sēhē yúkán
 CON:ring metal child that
 The bell is ringing for that child. (to announce his death)

xáhnja ná ndūku nāna ná
 CON:cut I:RES firewood mother my:RES
 I am cutting firewood for my mother (Sp. *nana*).

Occasionally, two adjuncts occur in a single sentence. The order of the adjuncts is free.

kwāhan dā ndinūū nūu ñānī dā
 INC:go he Tlaxiaco face brother:ME his
 He left going to Tlaxiaco for his brother.

vāxī dā ichī ndinūū xīin kwāyū
 INC:come he trail Tlaxiaco with horse
 He is coming from Tlaxiaco with [his] horse.

The following sentence contains an associative adjunct and a referent expressed as the possessor of the direct object.

xāhnja ná ndūku nāna ná xīin dā
 CON:cut I:RES firewood mother my:RES with him
 I am cutting firewood for my mother with him.

1.1.5 Equative sentences. The minimal form of an equative sentence consists of a nominal complement, an equative verb, and its subject. The equative verbs are *kūū* ‘to be’, *ndūu* ‘to become’, and *kōnání* ‘to be named’.

sūtū kūū dā
 priest CON:be he
 He is a priest.

kīī nduu ñā
 animal COM:become she
 She turned into an animal.

“Ceniza” nání ñūu
 Ceniza CON:be:named town
 The town is called Ceniza.

xwáa nání dā
 John CON:be:named he
 His name is John.

When the equative verb occurs with preverbal or postverbal elements (see §2.2), the nominal complement usually follows the subject.

tu kuu dā “soldado”
 NEG COM:be he soldier
 He was not a soldier.

ni nduu dā "maestro"
 COM COM:become he teacher
 He became a teacher again.

As in other sentence types, a subject that can be supplied from the discourse context may be unexpressed.

sāhmā kūū
 cloth CON:be
 [It] is cloth.

(See also 7.26 and 7.50.)

It is also possible to leave the verb *kūū* unexpressed if there is an expressed subject, as seen in 7.24.

1.1.6 Stative sentences. The minimal form of a stative sentence consists of a stative verb and its subject. All such sentences are continuative in meaning.

káhnū tī
 big:SG it:AML
 It (the animal) is big.

ñáhnū ñā
 mature she
 She is mature.

njī dā
 old he
 He is elderly.

kāxīn sāhmā
 damp cloth
 The cloth is damp.

ndáhu dā
 poor he
 He is poor.

As in other sentence types, the subject may be unexpressed if it can be supplied from the context.

vixin
 cold
 [It] is cold.

vīī

pretty

[It] is pretty.

(See also 7.35, 7.41, and 7.44.)

Sometimes the equative verbs *kūū* ‘to be’ or *ndúu* ‘to become’, or the intransitive verbs *káā* ‘to appear’ or *kōō* ‘to exist’, occur in stative sentences following the stative verb. These verbs are inflected for aspect, and, to express an aspect other than continuative, it is necessary to use one of them together with the stative verb. Some stative verbs typically occur with one of these verbs, and other stative verbs have different sense discriminations when they occur with one of these verbs than when they occur alone.

With *kūū*:

vaha kūū staa yó
 good CON:be tortilla our:IN
 Our tortillas are good.

ñáhnū kūū dā
 mature CON:be he
 He is mature.

káhnū ni kuu tī
 big:SG COM COM:be it:AML
 It (the animal) got big.

káhnū kūū tī
 big:SG CON:be it:AML
 It (the animal) is big.

káhnū kūū tī
 big:SG POT:be it:AML
 It (the animal) will be big.

With *ndúu*:

káhnū ndúu tī
 big:SG COM:become it:AML
 It (the animal) got big again.

With *káā*:

vīl káā ñāsíhí ún
 pretty CON:appear woman that
 That woman is pretty.

vaha káā sāhmā
 good CON:appear cloth
 The cloth looks good.

With *kōō*:

vaha kā íyó trú
 good PL CON:exist wheat
 The wheat [crop] (Sp. *trigo*) is good.

shāān íyó Nnāma
 fierce COM:exist famine
 The famine was bad.

vaha íyó sāhmā
 good CON:exist cloth
 The cloth is good.

There are many intransitive verbs formed by fusing *kūū* ‘to be’ and *ndúu* ‘to become’ with a following stative verb (see §5.1.1). The resulting intransitive verbs are inflected for all three aspects.

Certain verbs of perception that are normally transitive, and a few other verbs, have special intransitive sense discriminations in stative sentences.

āsun yáxí
 delicious CON:eat
 [It] tastes delicious.

ndáhu ni sahā “tiempo”
 poor COM COM:do weather
 The weather was bad.

A few general adverbs (see §5.5) function as predicates of stative sentences containing *kūū* or *káā*.

syáhán káā
 in:this:way CON:appear
 This is the way [it] seems.

syúkán ni kuu
 in:that:way COM COM:be
 That's the way [it] was.

Stative sentences sometimes occur with adjuncts. To express comparison of degree, a referent adjunct marked by *xākū* 'with reference to' occurs together with the additive *ka* 'more' in the verb phrase.

súkún ka chíku xākū lalo
 tall ADD Chico with:reference:to Ed
 Chico (Sp. *Chico*) is taller than Ed.

1.1.7 Peripheral elements. All basic sentence types optionally indicate location, time, and manner. Peripheral location describes the setting of an entire predication and so is distinguished from locative adjuncts, which complete the meaning of some verbs. Manner is somewhat infrequent and is expressed mainly by a few quantifiers and general adverbs. Peripheral elements follow subjects, objects, and adjuncts; they may be expressed by adverbs, adverb phrases (see §4.2), adverbial noun phrases (see §3.6), prepositional phrases (see §4.3), or subordinate sentences (see §6.2.1).

Location:

ni Nnaa "México"
 COM quake Mexico:City
 There was an earthquake in Mexico City.

sáNniñū dā ūū
 CON:work he cornfield
 He is working in the cornfield.

ni yaxī dā staa yúkán
 COM COM:eat he tortilla there
 He ate tortillas there.

kūndātū ná xáhá nī
 POT:wait I:RES here LIM
 I will wait right here.

kíku ñā inī vehe
 CON:sew she insides house
 She is sewing in the house.

sáNniñū dā ūndi "México"
 CON:work he until Mexico:City
 He works as far away as Mexico City.

(See also 7.11.)

Time:

ndū *viNnā*
 CON:shine now
 [The sun] is shining today.

kūsámá *yó* *kaa* *ūu* / *viNnā*
 POT:eat:lunch we:IN metal two now
 We will eat at two o'clock today.

ni xaha *dā nūni nūu ná* *ikū*
 COM COM:give he corn face my:RES yesterday
 He gave corn to me yesterday.

kana *dā fīn* *nūndāa* / *viNnā*
 POT:call he one little:later now
 He will be calling you a little bit later today.

(See also 7.11.)

Manner:

ni xaha *dā nūni nūu ná* *tūkū*
 COM COM:give he corn face my:RES REP
 He gave corn to me again.

ni ndenda *tūkū ná* *tīhlī*
 COM COM:appear:again REP I:RES a:little
 I just got back.

xwáa nání *dā sūnī*
 John CON:be:named he also
 He's called John also.

(See also 7.2, 7.11, 7.17, 7.20, 7.41, and 7.44.)

When manner is expressed by *syáhán* 'in this way', it may occur within another phrase, as seen in 7.15. This adverb is often accompanied by a gesture.

Sometimes two peripheral elements occur in a single sentence.

sáNnūñū *dā ūū* *viNnā*
 CON:work he cornfield now
 He is working in the cornfield today.

ni xaha dā nūni nūu ná ikū tūkū
 COM COM:give he corn face my:RES yesterday REP
 He gave corn to me again yesterday.

(See also 7.11.)

1.1.8 Focus permutations. In appropriate discourse contexts, one element of the sentence may be focused by permuting it to pre-verb-phrase position. Throughout this sketch focused elements are indicated by capitalization in the free translation. When a noun subject is focused, a coreferential poststressed clitic pronoun (see §5.4) optionally follows the verb. A clitic pronoun may be focused only if it is preceded by a specifier or a quantifier phrase. Focused peripheral elements often occur at major transition points within the discourse.

Subject focus:

xwáa tahu ndūku
 John CON:split firewood
 JOHN is splitting firewood.

xwáa xáhnu yūNnū
 John CON:break wood
 JOHN is breaking the stick.

máá dā chāa
 SPEC he CON:arrive:here
 HE is coming.

máá ñā kishī
 SPEC she CON:sleep
 SHE is sleeping.

Object focus:

ndūchā xihí tī
 water CON:drink it:AML
 It (the animal) is drinking WATER.

yūNnū xáhnu dā
 wood CON:break he
 He is breaking THE STICK.

(See also 7.18.)

Locative adjunct focus:

ndinūū kwāhan dā
 Tlaxiaco INC:go he
 He left for TLAXIACO.

nūu máá dā shíkó ñā nūni
 face SPEC his CON:sell she corn
 She is selling the corn TO HIM.

ūndi yūkū ni kakīhi ná ndūku
 until mountain COM COM:carry I:RES firewood
 I carried the firewood FROM THE MOUNTAINS.

nūu máá yó xaan dā kaa
 face SPEC our:IN COM:buy he metal
 He bought an axe FROM US.

xáhá kūnjā rá
 here POT:be:located:SG you:FAM
 You live HERE.

yúkán kándē yāu “gentil”
 there CON:be:located:SG hole ancient:people
 The ancient people’s (Sp. *gentil* ‘gentile’) tombs are THERE.

Associative adjunct focus:

xíin xwáa sáhā dā Nniñū
 with John CON:do he work
 He is working WITH JOHN.

Instrument adjunct focus:

xíin kaa xáhnja dā
 with metal CON:cut he
 He is cutting [it] WITH AN AXE.

xíin yūu kāshin yó
 with rock POT:crush we:IN
 We will crush [it] WITH A ROCK.

yūNnū kánī dā siki būrū dā
 wood CON:hit he nape donkey his
 He is hitting his donkey WITH A STICK.

Referent adjunct focus:

kwénta ñūu yó ka káhān yó
 account town our:IN PL CON:speak we:IN
 We are speaking ABOUT OUR TOWN.

sīkī yúkán kūNñīñū ná
 nape that POT:be:occupied I:RES
 THAT will be my work. (lit. I will be occupied WITH REFERENCE TO THAT.)

xaha xwáa káhān dā
 foot John CON:speak he
 He is speaking ON BEHALF OF JOHN.

kwénta nāna ñā xāān ñā yaha
 account mother her CON:buy she chili
 She buys chili FOR HER MOTHER.

xākū “mamá” ná kā xáhnja ná ndūku
 with:reference:to mother my:RES PL CON:cut I:RES firewood
 We are cutting firewood FOR OUR MOTHER.

Peripheral element focus:

ndinūū saNñīñū dā
 Tlaxiaco COM:work he
 He worked IN TLAXIACO.

vīNñā ndī
 now CON:shine
 [The sun] is shining TODAY.

kaa ūu kūśámá yó
 metal two POT:eat:lunch we:IN
 We will eat lunch AT TWO O'CLOCK.

(See also 7.9, 7.35, 7.38, 7.40, and 7.50.)

When an element expressed by either an adverbial possessive noun phrase or a prepositional phrase is focused, it is possible to front only the possessor of the noun or the object of the preposition and leave the locative noun or the preposition in normal order.

suchī ni kahān ñā xaha
 child COM COM:speak she foot
 She spoke on behalf of THE CHILD.

ñāhā ni chahu dā shuhun nūu
 woman COM COM:pay he money face
 He paid money to THE WOMAN.

xwáa sáhā dā Nnīñū xín
 John CON:do he work with
 He is working with JOHN.

Occasionally two elements may be focused. The following example shows a focused time followed by a focused manner.

ikū tūkū ni xaha dā nūni nūu ná
 yesterday REP COM COM:give he corn face my:RES
 He gave corn to me AGAIN YESTERDAY.

In equative sentences the subject may be focused, in which case the nominal complement must follow the verb, rather than precede it.

chaa kúū “mayordomo”
 man CON:be sponsor
 THE MAN is the sponsor (of the fiesta).

máá ñā nduu kīī
 SPEC she COM:become animal
 SHE became an animal.

máá dā kúū sūtū
 SPEC he CON:be priest
 HE is a priest.

To focus the subject of a stative sentence, the subject may simply be fronted.

sāhmā kāxīn
 cloth damp
 THE CLOTH is damp.

máá ñā ñáhnū
 SPEC she mature
 SHE is mature.

máá dā ndáhú
 SPEC he poor
 HE is poor.

máá ñāsíhí ún vīī káā
 SPEC woman that pretty CON:appear
 THAT WOMAN is pretty.

sāhmā vaha kúū
 cloth good CON:be
 THE CLOTH is good.

The last sentence also has a reading as an equative sentence meaning ‘[It] is good cloth.’

To express the days of the month, there is a special construction employing the verb *xíka* ‘to walk (continuative)’ with the numbers from one through thirty-one as focused temporal elements. Another temporal element may occur at the end of the sentence.

ĩn xíka yōō “marzo” vīNnā
 one CON:walk month March now
 Today is March FIRST.

ōko ĩn xíka yōō “marzo” vīNnā
 twenty nine CON:walk month March now
 Today is March TWENTY-NINTH.

This construction is often juxtaposed with another sentence; see §6.2.2.

There are several ways of expressing a stronger kind of focus, which may be termed sentence topic. The conjunctions *tī* ‘and’ or *chī* ‘because’ (used in the sense of ‘indeed’) can follow the fronted element. If it is a subject, a clitic pronoun occurs in normal order. A slight pause (symbolized by /) optionally precedes the *tī* or *chī*.

ĩNñā / tī kāxī dā ndúshyā
 tomorrow and POT:eat he hominy
 As for tomorrow, he will eat hominy.

ikū / chī ni kihin ñā kisi káhnū
 yesterday because COM COM:take she cooking:pot big:SG
 As for yesterday, she bought a big cooking pot.

ñānī dā / chī sáNnīñū dā vīNnā
 brother:ME his because CON:work he now
 As for his brother, he is working now.

“México” / chī sáNnīñū dā yúkán
 Mexico:City because CON:work he there
 As for Mexico City, he works there.

(See also 7.2 and 7.3.)

In stative sentences it is especially common to use *chī*, possibly because it breaks up what would otherwise appear to be a noun phrase, but a clitic pronoun does not usually occur.

sāhmā / chī vaha
 cloth because good
 As for the cloth, [it] is good.

sāhmā / chī vaha kūū
 cloth because good CON:be
 As for the cloth, [it] is good.

It is also possible to place the complementizer *xā* before the fronted element, with an optional pause following it.

xā nūū yó ī shñūū /
 CMP town our:IN and Chalcatongo

sāhā yó yāNnī ūhun óra
 CON:do we:IN near five hour

As for our town and Chalcatongo, we can go in about five hours (Sp. *hora*).

If the topic is the subject, sometimes only the clitic pronoun, and the optional pause following the fronted element, occur to signal topic.

xwáa / tahu dā ndūku
 John CON:split he firewood
 As for John, he is splitting firewood.

1.1.9 Sentential complements. Basic sentences occur as subject complements, as object complements, and sometimes as complements functioning as adjuncts or nominal complements within other sentences. Object complements are most frequent.

There are two kinds of subject complements. The first kind serves as the subject of an intransitive sentence, and the second kind serves as the subject of a stative sentence.

The first kind of subject complement occurs only with a restricted set of intransitive verbs. They include *kēxáhá* ‘to begin’, *sīn* ‘to continue’, *ndīhi* ‘to finish’, *xīnu* ‘to finish’, *kūū* ‘to be possible’ (homophonous with ‘to be’), *kánúú* ‘to be important’, and *kuni* ‘to want’, used with subject complements to mean ‘ought’. Subject complements optionally begin with the complementizer *xā*, except for those occurring with *kūū* ‘to be possible’.

With *kēxáhá* ‘to begin’ as the main verb, the complement verb may have the same or a different aspect.

ni kexāhā Nnāā shāān
 COM COM:begin POT:quake fierce
 A bad earthquake began.

ni kexāhā káyú ná
 COM COM:begin CON:cough I:RES
 I began to cough.

With *sīn* ‘to continue’, *ndīhi* ‘to finish’, and *xinu*, ‘to finish’, the complement verb must agree with the main verb in aspect.

sīn káhān dā
 CON:continue CON:speak he
 He keeps on speaking.

ndīhi sáhā dā vehe
 CON:finish CON:do he house
 He is finishing building the house.

ndīhi tehnde xīf̄ ȳ
 COM:finish COM:be:cut cord GEN
 His (the baby’s) umbilical cord was done being cut.

ndīhi xā kunu ñā t̄kachi
 POT:finish CMP POT:weave she blanket
 She will finish weaving the blanket.

xinu ni kahu dā tūtū
 COM:finish COM COM:read he paper
 He finished reading the book.

With *kūū* ‘to be possible’, *kánúú* ‘to be important’, and *kuni* ‘ought’, the complement verb must be in the potential aspect.

kūū kahu dā tūtū
 CON:be:possible POT:read he paper
 He can read.

kūū sáhā dā Nnīnū
 CON:be:possible POT:do he work
 He can work.

kūū ndúu dā vāhu
 POT:be:possible POT:become he coyote
 He can turn into a coyote.

kánúú xā kīhīn dā
 CON:be:important CMP POT:go he
 It is important that he go.

kuni kwēē kwēē sáhā ní
 POT:want slowly slowly POT:do you:RES
 You should do it very slowly.

The second kind of subject complement usually serves as the subject of a stative sentence. It is frequently introduced by the complementizer *xā* or, if a value judgment is involved, by the preverbal marker *ná* ‘hortatory’ (see §2.1.2).

vaha xā kixí dā iÑñā
 good CMP POT:come he tomorrow
 It’s good that he will come tomorrow.

vaha ná chíhī dā ūū dā
 good HORT POT:thrust he cornfield his
 It’s good that he should plant his cornfield.

The sentence in 7.7 contains a subject complement of a stative sentence that is separated from the stative verb phrase by a vocative, followed by a pause and the conjunction *ī* ‘and’.

Object complements also fall into two kinds, conditioned by the relationship between the main verb and the complement sentence. In the first kind, the main verb brings some influence to bear on the complement sentence, and in the second kind, the main verb simply reports it.

The first kind of object complement usually shows restrictions of subject and/or aspect between the matrix and complement sentences, depending on the main verb. These verbs include *kuni* ‘to want’, *xáNnāhā* ‘to like’ (used only with *īnī* ‘insides’ in the subject), *skwáhā* ‘to study’, *kūūhvā* ‘to learn’, *kūnī* ‘to know’ (used with object complements to mean ‘to know how’), *kēxáhā* ‘to begin’, and *sáhā* ‘to do’.

The main verb *kuni* ‘to want’ restricts the complement sentence to potential aspect. If the subjects are coreferential, the complementizer is frequently omitted. If the subjects are noncoreferential, the complementizer must occur.

kūni dā kahu dā tūū
 CON:want he POT:read he paper
 He wants to read.

kūni dā xā kahu dā tūū
 CON:want he CMP POT:read he paper
 He wants to read.

kūni rí xā kūdātū rá
 CON:want I:FAM CMP POT:wait YOU:FAM
 I want you to wait.

kūni ñā xā kihīn dā yahu
 CON:want she CMP POT:go he market
 She wants him to go to market.

With the idiom *xáNnāhā īnī* ‘to like’, any aspect occurs in the complement sentence. If the aspect is completive, the complementizer must be used, but with potential and continuative aspects, the complementizer is usually omitted if the subjects of the main sentence and the complement sentence are coreferential. If the subjects are noncoreferential, the complementizer must occur.

xáNnāhā īnī dā kihīn dā yahu
 CON:like insides his POT:go he market
 He likes to go to market.

tu xáNnāhā īnī ñā kākī ñā kuñu rī kwéyáá
 NEG CON:like insides her POT:eat she meat sheep thin
 She doesn’t like to eat lamb.

xáNnāhā īnī ñā xā káhu dā tūtū
 CON:like insides her CMP CON:read he paper
 She likes it that he reads.

With *skwáhā* ‘to study’ and *kūtūhvā* ‘to learn’, the subjects of both the main sentence and the complement sentence are always coreferential. The complement sentence must be in potential aspect, and the complementizer does not occur. The same restrictions hold for the verb *kūni* ‘to know’ when it means ‘to know how’.

ni skwahā dā kahu dā tūtū
 COM COM:study he POT:read he paper
 He studied reading.

skwéla ni kutuhva ná káhān ná san stila
 school COM COM:learn I:RES POT:speak I:RES dialect Spanish
 I learned to speak Spanish (Sp. *Castilla* ‘Castile’) IN SCHOOL (Sp. *escuela*).

tū xīnī kwítí ñā chūhūn ñā sāhmā sēhē ñā
 NEG CON:KNOW completely she POT:put:in she cloth child her
 She knows absolutely nothing about dressing her children.

With *kēxáhá* ‘to begin’, which also occurs with subject complements, the complement verb may have the same or a different aspect. The complementizer is usually omitted. The subjects are coreferential.

kā kexāhā dā kā xītā dā
 PL COM:begin he PL CON:sing he
 They began to sing.

kēxáhá ina kūnū tī
 POT:begin dog POT:run it:AML
 The dog will begin to run.

(See also 7.4.)

With *sáhā* ‘to do’, which is used to form syntactic causatives, the complement is usually fronted and the complementizer omitted. The complement may, however, occur in normal order, in which case the complementizer occurs. The two sentences usually require noncoreferential subjects, and the aspects normally agree.

sáhā “lombriz” xā kūhu yó
 POT:do worm CMP POT:be:sick we:IN
 Worms make us sick.

sáhā ñā xā kākī dā ndikā
 POT:do she CMP POT:eat he banana
 She will make him eat a banana.

kākī dā ndikā / sáhā ñā
 POT:eat he banana POT:do she
 She will make him eat a banana.

sáhā ñā xā xīka dā skwéla
 CON:do she CMP CON:walk he school
 She makes him go to school.

xīka dā skwéla / sáhā ñā
 CON:walk he school CON:do she
 She makes him go to school.

The second kind of object complement, which occurs with verbs that simply report, generally shows no restrictions on subject or aspect between the matrix sentence and the complement sentence. The complementizer usually occurs.

ndéhé ná xā vāxī dā
 CON:LOOK I:RES CMP INC:come he
 I see that he is coming.

xínī ná xā kahān dā
 CON:KNOW I:RES CMP COM:speak he
 I know that he spoke.

xini ñá xā kwān kwítá dā
 COM:KNOW she CMP INC:go CON:be:tired he
 She knew that he was getting tired.

kúhun inī rí xā kúí dā iÑñā
 CON:be:in insides my:FAM CMP POT:come he tomorrow
 I understand that he will come tomorrow.

(See also 7.1.)

When an equative sentence occurs as an object complement within another sentence, the unmarked order is verb—subject—nominal complement.

xínī ná xā kúú dā sūtū
 CON:KNOW I:RES CMP CON:be he priest
 I know that he is a priest.

Complement sentences that function as adjuncts also occur. No restrictions as to subject or aspect have been noted to date. The complementizer must occur. The following sentences contain complements that function as referent adjuncts. Two of them are signaled by the locative noun *sīkí* ‘nape’, and the other two have no locative noun or preposition.

kahān dā sīkí xā shíkó ñā nūni
 CON:speak he nape CMP CON:sell she corn
 He speaks against her selling corn. *or* He speaks about her selling corn.

kā ndāNnūhu yó sīkí xā kwāhan “presidente”
 PL CON:discuss we:IN nape CMP INC:go president
 We are discussing the fact that the president has gone.

íyó “razón” xā kā ndúu dā vāhu nī
 CON:exist reason CMP PL POT:become he coyote LIM
 There are reasons why they become just coyotes.

yúkán íyó kwéntu xā íyó vehe káhnū shāān
 there CON:exist story CMP CON:exist house big:SG fierce
 THERE there is a story (Sp. *cuento*) to the effect that there is a very
 large house.

The last two examples could also be viewed as relative clauses modifying *razón* and *kwéntu*.

It is possible to focus an element found within a complement sentence to the beginning of its own sentence or to the beginning of the matrix sentence.

xínī ná xā xwáa kíí
 CON:know I:RES CMP John POT:COME
 I know that JOHN will come.

xínī ná xā iññā kixí dā
 CON:know I:RES CMP tomorrow POT:COME he
 I know that TOMORROW he will come.

sáhā yó kwénta xā ñúú nī ni kā
 CON:do we:IN account CMP all:night LIM COM PL

skahndi kwéte
 COM:make:explode rocket

We realize that JUST AT NIGHT [they] fired the skyrockets.

In 7.1 the subject of an object complement sentence occurs at the beginning of the matrix sentence.

With many main verbs, an entire complement or element containing a complement may be fronted for focus. The complementizer *xā* often precedes the fronted complement, but never occurs if the main verb is *kuni* 'to want'.

xā chíhī dā / vaha
 CMP POT:thrust he good
 It is good THAT HE PLANT.

xā vīí íyó / xínī dā
 CMP pretty CON:exist CON:know he
 He knows THAT (IT) IS PRETTY.

sīkī xā shikó ñá nūni / káhān dā
 nape CMP CON:sell she corn CON:speak he
 He speaks AGAINST HER SELLING CORN. *or* He speaks ABOUT HER SELLING
 CORN.

xā vāxī dā / ndéhé ná
 CMP INC:come he CON:look I:RES
 I see THAT HE IS COMING.

vāxī dā / ndéhé ná
 INC:come he CON:look I:RES
 I see HE IS COMING.

kīhīn dā / kūni dā
 POT:go he CON:want he
 He wants TO GO.

(See also 7.47.)

Sometimes a fronted complement is followed by the conjunction *chī* ‘because’. The complementizer frequently occurs.

xā ni sahā dā Nniñū / chī ndihi
 CMP COM COM:do he work because COM:finish
 HE finished WORKING.

xā sáhā dā kisi / chī kūtūhvā dā
 CMP POT:do he cooking:pot because POT:learn he
 He will learn TO MAKE COOKING POTS.

1.2 Questions

There are three types of questions: YES/NO questions, WH questions, and indirect questions.

1.2.1 YES/NO questions. Any basic sentence may be formed into a YES/NO question by placing the interrogative sentential marker *nú*, or its variant form *núh*, at the end. If it is clear from the context that the sentence is a question, however, the interrogative marker is usually unexpressed.

ni Nnaa nú
 COM COM:quake INT
 Was there an earthquake?

chaa ní nú
 COM:arrive:here you:RES INT
 Did you come?

kánjā rá nú
 CON:be:located:sg you:FAM INT
 Are you home?

xíhí it̄ ndūchā nú
 CON:drink it:AML water INT
 Is it (the animal) drinking water?

máá dā kúū sūtū nú
 SPEC he CON:be priest INT
 Is HE a priest?

káhnū it̄ nú
 big:SG it:AML INT
 Is it (the animal) big?

ndūchā xíhí it̄
 water CON:drink it:AML
 Is it (the animal) drinking WATER?

It is also possible to place the coordinate conjunction *shí* ‘or’ at the beginning of a sentence to signal a YES/NO question.

shí kīhīn rá
 or POT:go you:FAM
 Are you going?

For a description of disjunctive questions, see §6.1.1.

1.2.2 WH questions. Any element of a sentence may be questioned by using an appropriate interrogative pronoun, adverb, or noun phrase (see §§5.4, 5.5, and 3.4) in focus position.

Subjects, objects, and nominal complements are usually questioned by using *ndōō* ‘what?’ or a phrase. Less frequently they employ one of the other interrogative pronouns: *nā* ‘what?’, *nāū* ‘what?’ or ‘who?’, and *návā* ‘what?’ or ‘who?’.

Questioning subject:

nāū chaa ni xahan xūn ní
 who man COM COM:go with you:RES
 Which man went with you?

nāū yivī kīhīn
 what person POT:go
 Who will go?

nāū ñāhā ni kunu tikachi xáhá
 what woman COM COM:weave blanket this
 Who wove this blanket?

nāū yiv̄i kúhu
 what person CON:be:sick
 Who is sick?

nāū chaa kúū “presidente” vīNnā
 what man CON:be president now
 Who is president now?

Questioning object:

ndōō kiku ñā
 what CON:sew she
 What is she sewing?

ndōō chíhī rá
 what CON:cook YOU:FAM
 What are you cooking?

ndōō ni kā sahā dā
 what COM PL COM:do he
 What did they make?

nāū yiv̄i ni kanā dā
 what person COM COM:call he/him
 Whom did he invite? or Who invited him?

Questioning nominal complement:

ndōō nání dā
 what CON:be:named he
 What is his name?

nāū chaa kúū dā
 what man CON:be he
 Who is he?

nāū sēhē kúū dā
 what child CON:be he
 Whose child is he?

There is also an interrogative pronoun *nā* ‘what?’, which is presently used mainly in interrogative noun phrases (see §3.4). At an earlier time, however, this word apparently occurred frequently in an equative structure, in which *nā* was followed by *kúū* ‘to be (continuative)’ and a nominal complement, which consists of a relative clause introduced by the prestressed pronoun *xā* (see §§3.1.3 and 5.4).

nā kúū xā chíhī
 what CON:be it:INAN CON:cook
 What is cooking?

nā kúū xā kíku ñā
 what CON:be it:INAN CON:sew she
 What is she sewing?

The sequence *nā kúū* has fused to *nāū*, and the sequence *nā kúū xā* has fused to *návā*.

nāū xā káhān
 what it:INAN CON:speak
 Who [is] the one who is talking?

nāū xā yéndáhá róhó
 what it:INAN CON:hold:in:hand you:FAM
 Over whom do you have charge?

návā kíku ñā
 what CON:sew she
 What is she sewing?

(See also 7.23.)

Both of these words now serve as interrogative pronouns meaning ‘what?’ or ‘who?’, and *nāū* can precede *kúū*.

nāū kúū yúkán
 what CON:be that
 What is that?

nāū kúū xā kíku ñā
 what CON:be it:INAN CON:sew she
 What is she sewing?

(See also 7.22 and 7.24.)

The subject of a stative sentence can be questioned only by using a content or equative verb together with the stative verb or adverb, or by using the equative structure described above.

nāū kúū yāchī
 what CON:be fast
 Which one is fast?

nā kúū xā lúlú
 what CON:be it:INAN small:SG
 What is little?

Adjuncts are questioned by the interrogative adverbs *náchī* ‘where?’ or ‘in which direction?’, *nándī* ‘where?’, ‘as far as where?’, or ‘from where?’, *nánū* ‘where?’ or ‘at which place?’; or by an interrogative noun phrase (see §3.4). Other adjuncts are questioned by *nā xíin* ‘with what?’ or ‘with whom?’, by *ndōō*, *nā “razón” xā*, or *nā sīkì xā*, all of which mean ‘why?’; or by an interrogative noun or adverb phrase (see §§3.4 and 4.2.6).

nándī kwāhan dā
 where INC:go he
 Where did he leave for? or How far is he going?

nándī máá njáá róhó yúkán
 where SPEC CON:be:located you:FAM there
 Precisely where over there do you live?

nūu nāū xaha dā tūtū
 face what COM:give he paper
 To whom did he give the paper?

nā xíin káhān maría
 what with CON:speak Mary
 With whom is Mary (Sp. *María*) speaking?

nā xíin chihi rí ndēyū
 what with POT:COOK I:FAM food
 What will I cook the food with?

ndōō shikó dā nūni
 why CON:sell he corn
 Why (for whose sake) does he sell corn?

nā “razón” xā shikó dā nūni
 what reason CMP CON:sell he corn
 Why does he sell corn?

Peripheral location is questioned by the interrogative adverbs *náchī* ‘where?’ or ‘in which direction?’, *nándī* ‘where?’, ‘as far as where?’, or ‘from where?’; and *nánū* ‘where?’ or ‘at which place?’. Time is questioned by *nāmā* ‘when?’, and manner is questioned by *nāsā* ‘how?’ and *nāsā módo* ‘how?’ or ‘by what means?’ (Sp. *modo*). Peripheral elements may also be questioned by an interrogative noun or adverb phrase.

náchī xīka dā
 where CON:walk he
 Where is he walking?

nāmā ni kuu dā “presidente”
 when COM COM:be he president
 When was he president?

nāmā ni xahan ní
 when COM COM:go you:RES
 When did you go?

nāsā ni saNnīñū dā
 how COM COM:work he
 How did he work?

nāū kwīyā ni iyo “eclipse”
 what year COM COM:exist eclipse
 Which year was the eclipse?

Subordinate cause and purpose sentences (see §6.2.1) may be questioned by *ndōō*, *nā* “razón” *xā*, or *nā sīki xā*, all of which mean ‘why?’, or by an interrogative noun phrase.

ndōō ni kā sahā
 why COM PL COM:do
 Why did [they] do [it]?

(See also 7.25.)

Stative verbs are questioned by *nāsā* ‘how?’. A content or equative verb, such as *kōō* ‘to exist’, *kūū* ‘to be’, *ndūu* ‘to become’, or *kāā* ‘to appear’, must occur together with *nāsā*.

nāsā íyó itū
 how CON:exist cornfield
 How is the cornfield?

nāsā kúū rá
 how CON:be you:FAM
 How are you?

nāsā kāā ndikā
 how CON:appear banana
 How do the bananas appear?

The interrogative adverb *nāsā* is also sometimes used to question the nominal complement of *kōnání* ‘to be named’ and to question manner in

the verb phrase (see §2.1.3). In the latter use it is sometimes followed by *íyó* ‘to exist (continuative)’.

nāsā nání ní
 how CON:be:named you:RES
 What is your name?

nāsā xāā yó
 how POT:arrive we:IN
 How do we get there?

nāsā ni saNniñū dā
 how COM COM:work he
 How did he work?

nāsā sáhā mīsa
 how POT:do mass
 How do [we] do a mass (Sp. *misa*)?

nāsā njáá
 how CON:cost
 How much does [it] cost?

nāsā íyó ni xahan rá
 how CON:exist COM COM:go you:FAM
 How did you go?

Questions introduced by *nāsā* may be rhetorical; an example is found in 7.49.

Content verbs are questioned by using *nā* ‘what?’, *návā* ‘what?’, or *nāsā* ‘how?’, together with a very general verb. If the subject is agentive, the verb used is *sáhā* ‘to do’, and if it is not agentive, the verb is *ndoho* ‘to suffer’ or *Nnáhā* ‘to fare’.

nā sáhā dā
 what CON:do he
 What is he doing?

návā ndóho dā
 what CON:suffer he
 What is the matter with him? *or* What is happening to him?

nāsā Nnáhā ñā vīNnā
 how CON:fare she now
 What’s happening to her now?

Interrogative words and phrases occur in focus position, but it is possible for the sentence to have a topic as well.

ī róhó / nāū xā kúū rá
 and you:FAM who it:INAN CON:be you:FAM
 And as for you, who are you?

1.2.3 Indirect questions. Both YES/NO questions and WH questions can occur as sentential complements in statements.

Indirect YES/NO questions are formed by placing the subordinate conjunction *nú* ‘if’ at the beginning of the question; the optional interrogative marker *nú* does not occur at the end.

kāNnuhu ní nú ni ndenda ñānī dā
 POT:ask you:RES if COM COM:appear:again brother:ME his
 Ask [him] if his brother has returned.

tu xínī ná nú kīhīn dā
 NEG CON:know I:RES if POT:go he
 I don’t know if he will go.

kīhīn ná ndéhé nú tu níhi ná īso
 POT:go I:RES POT:look if NEG POT:get I:RES rabbit
 I’ll go see if I can’t get a rabbit.

(See also 7.16.)

Indirect WH questions are indistinguishable in form from the corresponding direct questions.

xínī ñā nā ndóho dā
 CON:know she what CON:suffer he
 She knows what is the matter with him. *or* She knows what has happened to him.

xínī ná nánū kándē dā
 CON:know I:RES where CON:be:located he
 I know where he is.

xínī ní nāsā sáhā njākwáhá
 CON:know you:RES how CON:do tepache
 You know how to make tepache (an alcoholic beverage).

tu xínī ná ndōō kā sáhā xín kōo
 NEG CON:know I:RES what PL CON:do with snake
 I don’t know what [we] should do with the snake.

kāchī tūtū nánū kíhin dā nūni
 CON:say paper where CON:take he corn
 The paper says where he buys corn.

tu chákū ĩnī rí nā kwénta kúū
 NEG CON:be:alive insides my:FAM what account CON:be
 I don't understand what [it]'s all about.

(See also 7.12.)

The following example contains an indirect question in apposition with the noun *kwéntu* 'story'.

ná kānī ná ĩn kwéntu návā kā sáhā
 HORT POT:hit I:RES one story what PL POT:do

chaa kā sāka trúu
 man PL POT:scatter wheat

May I tell a story [about] what men who sow wheat do.

In 7.26 an indirect question serves as the subject of an equative sentence.

1.3 Commands

To form a second person familiar positive command, a basic sentence in potential aspect is used, except that the subject is often unexpressed. Sometimes the stress of the verb shifts from the first syllable to the second in imperative forms.

kíkū sāhmā
 POT:sew cloth
 Sew cloth!

kíkū rá sāhmā
 POT:sew you:FAM cloth
 Sew cloth! *or* You will sew cloth.

kāxī staa
 POT:eat tortilla
 Eat!

(See also 7.36.)

To form a second person respect command, a subject pronoun must be used.

kāxī ní staa
 POT:eat you:RES tortilla
 Eat! *or* You will eat.

ndétātū ní
 POT:rest you:RES
 Rest! *or* You will rest.

(See also 7.14 and 7.15.)

For a more polite command the hortatory marker *ná* (see §2.1.2) is used.

ná kāxī rá staa
 HORT POT:eat you:FAM tortilla
 Eat!

ná kīhin ní
 HORT POT:take you:RES
 You should get [it]!

Polite requests in first and third person usually take the hortatory marker *ná* and a subject.

ná kāxī yó staa
 HORT POT:eat we:IN tortilla
 Let's eat!

ná kīhin ná
 HORT POT:go I:RES
 Permit me to go!

ná kíkū ñā sāhmā iÑñā
 HORT POT:sew she cloth tomorrow
 Let her sew the cloth tomorrow!

ná sāNniñū dā
 HORT POT:work he
 Let him work!

(See also 7.8, 7.9, and 7.16.)

A few verbs have special imperative forms (see §5.1.2), which occur instead of potential aspect in commands.

kwáhán
 IMP:GO
 Go!

ñaha
IMP:come
Come!

xáán
IMP:take
Take (it)!

yáhá
IMP:take
Take (it)!

chóhō
IMP:GO:IN
Let's go!

Negative commands usually contain the imperative negative marker *koto* or *koto ma*, but they may also contain the ordinary negative marker *tu*, in which case they are less forceful.

koto kīhīn rá
NEG POT:go YOU:FAM
Don't go!

koto ma kīhīn rá
NEG NEG POT:go YOU:FAM
Don't go!

koto sāNniñū ní iÑñā
NEG POT:work you:RES tomorrow
Don't work tomorrow!

tu kīhīn rá
NEG POT:go YOU:FAM
Don't go! *or* You won't go.

(See also 7.33 and 7.42.)

1.4 Vocatives

Vocatives occur most frequently as independent utterances or in final position, but they also occur in initial position, especially when trying to attract the attention of the person addressed, and they are sometimes found following a sentence-initial conjunction or between the parts of complex sentences. Vocatives are set off from the rest of the sentence by pause. They include proper names, kinship or other terms used in direct

address, mutual relation terms like cofather, and free forms of the second person pronouns.

ñaha ní xáhá / shīto
 IMP:COME YOU:RES here uncle
 Come here, Uncle!

shīto / ñaha ní xáhá
 uncle IMP:COME YOU:RES here
 Uncle, come here!

īna / kwáhán
 dog IMP:GO
 Go outside, dog!

nāsā kúū rá / maría
 how CON:be YOU:FAM Mary
 How are you, Mary?

(See also 7.7, 7.14, 7.36, and 7.42.)

1.5 Sentential Markers

The interrogative marker *nú* optionally occurs at the end of any basic sentence and converts it into a YES/NO question; see §1.2.1 for examples.

The temporal adverb *sáá* ‘then’ occurs after *nú* and converts a YES/NO question into a tag question.

ndīshyā rá nú sáá
 correct YOU:FAM INT then
 You are right, aren’t you?

The markers *sūū* ‘affirmation’ and *vasu* ‘expectation’ occur at the beginning of a sentence and indicate that the speaker hopes the statement is true.

sūū sáhā dā Nnūū
 AFFIRMATION POT:do he work
 I am quite sure he will work.

sūū kúū
 AFFIRMATION CON:be
 I believe [it] is.

vasu īso kúū
 EXPECTATION rabbit CON:be
 I’m fairly sure [it] is a rabbit.

The markers *vā* ‘really’ and *vānūshīī* or *vānūshīā* ‘with good reason’ occur sentence initial.

vā īso kúū núsáá
really rabbit CON:be okay
Okay, [it] really is a rabbit.

vānūshīī xíkāNnuhu ná máá ní
for:good:reason CON:ask I:RES SPEC you:RES
I am asking you for good reason.

The agreement marker *vātūni* occurs sentence initial.

vātūni kīhīn rá
AGREEMENT POT:go YOU:FAM
Yes, you may go!

The sentential marker *ví* ‘really’ occurs sentence final.

yúhú ndīshyā ná ví
CON:be:afraid correct I:RES really
I am really scared.

sēhē máá ñā kúū dā ví
child SPEC her CON:be he really
He really is her son.

The contrafactual sentential marker *nikú* occurs sentence final and means the expected or desired activity did not take place.

kíxí dā níkú
POT:come he:RES CF
He was going to come (but didn’t).

shíkó dā nūni nūu ñā níkú
POT:sell he:RES corn face her CF
He was going to sell corn to her (but didn’t).

The verb *kāchī* ‘to say (continuative)’ and the sentential marker *chi* ‘hearsay’ occur sentence final and function as disclaimers meaning that the speaker does not want to accept responsibility for the accuracy of the information in the sentence.

ūu “vuelta” ni sahā dā chi
two time COM COM:do he:RES HEARSAY
He did it TWO TIMES, they say.

ni nihi dā kwaha shuhun / kāchī
COM COM:get he:RES much money CON:say
He received a lot of money, they say.

2

Verb Phrases

2.1 Content Verb Phrases

Content verb phrases consist of a nucleus, six optional preverbal elements, and six optional postverbal elements.

2.1.1 Verb nuclei. Both simple and complex verb nuclei occur; the latter are idioms composed of a content verb plus some other word, which may be a noun, a content verb, a stative verb, an adverb, or an indeterminate element.

A simple nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect. In the examples given in this chapter, the part of each sentence not included in the verb phrase is enclosed in parentheses.

chihī (dā)
CON:thrust (he)
(He) plants.

chaá (ná)
COM:arrive:here (I:RES)
(I) came.

Nnāa
CON:quake
(It) is quaking.

íyó (*staa*)
 CON:exist (tortilla)
 There are (tortillas).

kúū
 CON:be
 ([It]) is happening.

xítā (*dā*)
 CON:sing (he)
 (He) sings.

kāhān (*ñā*)
 POT:speak (she)
 (She) will speak.

ini
 COM:get:late
 (It) got late (in the afternoon).

A verb-plus-noun nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect followed by a noun.² Occasionally the tone of a noun used to modify a verb is raised to high high.

xīkān *táhū* (*dā*)
 CON:ask gift (he)
 (He) is asking a favor.

xáán *tāchi* (*ñā*)
 CON:pull wind (she)
 (She) is breathing.

xīnī *soho* (*dā*)
 CON:see ear (he)
 (He) is listening.

xākūn *xīŕ* (*ñā*)
 CON:sit knee (she)
 (She) is kneeling.

²Some Mixtecan languages have incorporated the noun *ini* 'insides' from the subject into the verb phrase to form a large class of verbs that express emotional states. In Yosondúa Mixtec, however, even though *ini* is used to form such idioms, it has not been incorporated into the verb phrase, but remains part of the subject. For an example of such an idiom see 7.36.

kātā xáhá (dā)
 POT:sing on:foot (he)
 (He) will dance. (cf. *xaha* 'foot')

Reciprocal action is indicated by a verb followed by *Nnáhā* 'companion'; this construction is somewhat productive.

kā xáhnī Nnáhā (dā)
 PL CON:kill companion (he)
 (They) are killing each other.

nanúú Nnáhā (dā)
 CON:embrace companion (he)
 (They) embrace each other.

A verb-plus-content-verb nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect followed by a content verb in continuative or potential aspect.

kūnū njáā (dā)
 POT:run CON:be:located (he)
 (He) embraces.

ndéñā njáā (dā)
 CON:be:sticky CON:be:located (he)
 (He) is sitting up against.

yúú njáā (nūxīī)
 CON:stand POT:be:located (rifle)
 (The rifle) is standing on end.

A verb-plus-stative-verb nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect followed by a stative verb (see §5.2).

chukū xáá (ñā)
 CON:place new (she)
 (She) is putting some more on. (e.g., food on the table)

xūnū kwáchi (dā)
 CON:complete little:PL (he)
 (He) is serving.

núkōō sší (ñā)
 CON:sit female (she)
 (She) is sitting the way women sit.

xíka yátá (dā)
 CON:walk backward (he)
 (He) is walking backwards.

káhān soo (dā)
 CON:speak bothered (he)
 (He) is complaining.

A verb-plus-adverb nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect followed by an adverb.

kwāhā núú (dā)
 POT:give little:while (he)
 (He) will lend.

A verb-plus-indeterminate-element nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect followed by a word that occurs only in idiomatic phrases. It is therefore not possible to assign the second element to a class without access to historical or comparative data.

xaku nduxi (dā)
 COM:place ? (he)
 (He) was buried.

2.1.2 Preverbal elements. There are six orders of elements preceding the verb nucleus. Listed from the nucleus out to the beginning of the verb phrase they are: directional, plural, aspect, temporal, negative, and hortatory.

There are nine directionals, which are reduced forms of motion verbs; they express the notions of motion and direction. These markers immediately precede a verb nucleus in potential aspect, except that prefixes that help to signal potential aspect (see §5.1.2) do not occur following a directional. The directionals are listed in the following table, along with their meanings and the fuller forms to which they are related.

Marker		Full form	
<i>kīn</i>	‘will go’	<i>kīhīn</i>	POT:GO
<i>xán</i>	‘goes’	<i>xáhan</i>	CON:GO
<i>xan</i>	‘went’	<i>xahan</i>	COM:GO
<i>kwān</i>	‘has gone (and has not returned)’	<i>kwāhan</i>	INC:GO
<i>kwán</i>	‘go!’	<i>kwáhán</i>	IMP:GO
<i>chó</i>	‘let’s go!’	<i>chóhó</i>	IMP:GO:IN
<i>kí</i>	‘will come’	<i>kíxí, kíí</i>	POT:COME
<i>ki</i>	‘came’	<i>kixi, kii</i>	COM:COME
<i>vē</i>	‘is coming’	<i>vāxí</i>	INC:COME

The following examples show directionals used in sentences.

kīn sete (dā)
 POT:go POT:shave (he)
 (He)'s going to shave.

xan súchá (dā)
 COM:go POT:swim (he)
 (He) went to swim.

xan kīhin (ñā ndūchā táká kāvī)
 COM:go POT:take (she water each day)
 (She) went to get (water every day).

xan njākā (dā)
 COM:go POT:deposit (he)
 (He) went to leave ([something]).

kwān kūchī (dā)
 INC:go POT:bathe (he)
 (He)'s going to bathe.

kwān kīhin (dā nūni)
 INC:go POT:take (he corn)
 (He) has gone to get (corn).

kwán kūchī
 IMP:go POT:bathe
 Go take a bath!

chó ndéhé
 IMP:go:IN POT:look
 Let's go see!

ki ndéhé (dā)
 COM:come POT:look (he)
 (He) came to see.

ni ki kīhin (dā kisi ñā)
 COM COM:come POT:take (he cooking:pot her)
 (He) came to get (her cooking pot).

vē njākā (dā)
 INC:come POT:deposit (he)
 (He) is coming to leave ([something]).

vē kihin (dā staa)
 INC:COME POT:take (he tortilla)
 (He) is coming to get (tortillas).

vē kihin (ná ndūchī)
 INC:COME POT:take (I:RES bean)
 (I) am coming [to your house] to get (beans).

(See also 7.12, 7.46, and 7.48.)

In addition to its directional meaning, *kwān* has also developed the aspectual meaning ‘is in the process of’. In sentences with agentive subjects both meanings are possible, and in sentences without agentive subjects only the aspectual meaning is possible.

kwān ini
 INC:GO POT:get:late
 (It)’s getting late (in the afternoon).

kwān kwahnu (dā)
 INC:GO POT:grow (he)
 (He) is growing.

kwān ndukū (dā nūni)
 INC:GO POT:look:for (he corn)
 (He) has gone to look for (corn). *or* (He) is in the process of looking for (corn).

(See also 7.3.)

Constructions containing directionals can be considered a subtype of juxtaposed purpose sentences (see §6.2.2). It is very common to leave subjects unexpressed when they can be recovered from the context, and it is also common to reduce words that do not receive sentence stress to one syllable, especially those with the form CVV or CVhV.

Plural subject may be expressed by the plural marker *kā* when the verb nucleus is in continuative or completive aspect.

kā kānāā (yivī)
 PL CON:fight (person)
 (The people) were fighting.

kā kahān (dā)
 PL COM:speak (he)
 (They) were talking.

When the verb is in potential aspect, a plural subject cannot be marked in this way, but the plural specifier *náá* often occurs in the subject noun phrase (see §3.1.2).

Aspect is expressed only by *ni* ‘completive’. For many verbs, completive aspect is already signaled unambiguously by the tone of the verb nucleus (see §5.1.2), and the use of *ni* is optional.

ni k̄ā xíkónúú (d̄ā)
COM PL CON:walk:around (he)
(They) were traveling around.

ni k̄ā xan shikó (d̄ā)
COM PL COM:go CON:sell (he)
(They) went to sell.

ni yaxī (d̄ā ndíkā)
COM COM:eat (he banana)
(He) ate (bananas).

ni sahā (d̄ā yōhō)
COM COM:do (he rope)
(He) made (rope).

ni kwaa
COM COM:get:late
(It) got late (at night).

(See also 7.1, 7.10, 7.17, 7.18, 7.19, 7.20, 7.38, 7.40, 7.44, 7.45, 7.46, 7.47, 7.50, and 7.51.)

The temporal elements are *xa* ‘already’, which occurs only with verbs in continuative or completive aspect, and *sā*, which occurs with verbs in any aspect, and, depending on the aspect, means ‘about to’, ‘still’, or ‘just now’.

With *xa*:

xa ni kuu
already COM COM:be
([It]) is done. *or* ([It]) has already happened.

xa ni k̄ā sahā (d̄ā)
already COM PL COM:do (he)
(They) already did ([it]).

xa ni k̄ā xan njākā (d̄ā)
already COM PL COM:go POT:deposit (he)
(They) already went to leave ([something]).

xa yáxí (dā ndikā)
 already CON:eat (he banana)
 (He) is already eating (a banana).

(See also 7.45.)

With *sā*:

sā kāhān (dā)
 just POT:speak (he)
 (He) is about to speak.

sā kōō (īn vīkō)
 just POT:exist (one fiesta)
 In the near future there will be (a fiesta).

sā káhān (dā)
 just CON:speak (he)
 (He) is still talking.

sā xan kāhnjā (dā yūNnū)
 just COM:go POT:cut (he tree)
 (He) went just now to cut (trees).

sā ni kahān (dā)
 just COM COM:speak (he)
 (He) just finished talking.

There are five negative markers: *tu* ‘not’, *tūkāā* ‘no more’ or ‘no longer’, *tuxáhī* ‘not yet’, *koto* ‘don’t!’, and *koto ma* ‘don’t!’.

The markers *tu* and *tūkāā* occur with verbs in any aspect.

With *tu*:

tu kā sndíhī (dā)
 NEG PL CON:finish (he)
 (They) are not finishing ([it (the house)]).

tu ni kā xan njākā (dā)
 NEG COM PL COM:go POT:deposit (he)
 (They) did not go to leave ([something]).

(See also 7.12, 7.16, 7.23, 7.25, 7.26, 7.33, and 7.35.)

With *tūkāā*:

tūkāā kánjūkū (yivi vehe)
 no:more CON:be:located:PL (person house)
 (The people) aren't living in ([their] houses) any longer.

tūkāā ni xini (ná)
 no:more COM COM:know (I:RES)
 (I) didn't know any more ([about it]).

There is a longer form of *tu*, *tuu*, which is used when no verb follows, as seen in 7.27. Both forms are related historically to the negative verb *tūū* 'to not exist'. *tūkāā* is also sometimes used alone.

The marker *tuxáhī* 'not yet' occurs only with verbs in potential or continuative aspect.

tuxáhī káhān (dā)
 not:yet POT:speak (he)
 (He) does not talk yet.

tuxáhī kā xinu (dā)
 not:yet PL CON:finish (he)
 (They) haven't finished yet.

The markers *koto* and *koto ma* occur only with verbs in potential aspect.

koto ndēhē (rá)
 NEG POT:cry (YOU:FAM)
 Don't cry!

koto ma kīhīn (rá)
 NEG NEG POT:go (YOU:FAM)
 Don't go!

The hortatory marker *ná* occurs only with verbs in potential aspect or with special imperative forms, and it usually signals a command (see §1.3), but it is also used in subject complements that express a value judgment (see §1.1.9).

ná ndétātū (dā)
 HORT POT:rest (he)
 Let (him) rest a lot!

ná kīhīn (dā)
 HORT POT:go (he)
 Let (him) go!

ná kāchī (dā fīn kwéntu)
 HORT POT:say (he one story)
 Have (him) tell (a story [Sp. *cuento*])!

ná kāxī (yó ndúshyā)
 HORT POT:eat (we:IN hominy)
 Let('s) eat (hominy)!

(See also 7.8, 7.9, and 7.16.)

2.1.3 Postverbal elements. There are six orders of elements following the verb nucleus: manner, plural, limiter, additive, affirmative, and repetitive.

Manner is expressed by a large and diverse class of modifiers. Stative verbs, stative verb phrases (see §2.3), intensifying elements, general adverbs, and adverb phrases (see §4.2) are the most common elements in this position, but quantifiers and quantifier phrases (see §4.1) have also been found.

With stative verbs:

kahān vaha (yivī xīn yó)
 COM:speak good (person with us:IN)
 (The people) spoke kindly (to us).

ni kahān kaxī (dā)
 COM COM:speak clear (he)
 (He) spoke clearly.

With intensifying elements:

xínū shāān (dā)
 CON:run fierce (he)
 (He) runs fast.

ndihī kwítí (ná)
 COM:finish completely (I:RES)
 (I) completely finished ([it]).

tuu kwítí (kātī dā)
 NEG:CON:exist completely (animal his)
 (He) has absolutely no (animals). (lit. [His animals] don't exist at all.)

With adverbs:

xíka kwēē (dā)
 CON:walk slowly (he)
 (He) walks slowly.

xītu káhá (dā)
 COM:plow in:vain (he)
 (He) plowed in vain.

With quantifiers:

sáNniñū kwaha (dā)
 CON:work much (he)
 (He) is working a lot.

ni ndoho kwaha (dā)
 COM COM:suffer much (he)
 (He) suffered a lot.

Manner may occur at the beginning of the verb phrase to indicate focus. When it is expressed by a phrase, it often occurs in that position.

vaha xínī (dā)
 good CON:know (he)
 (He) knows WELL.

tíhli sáhā (yó Nniñū)
 little:bit CON:do (we:IN work)
 (We) do A LITTLE (work).

kwēē nī kīhīn (dā)
 slowly LIM POT:go (he)
 (He) JUST goes SLOWLY.

kwēē ka xíka (yř)
 slowly ADD CON:walk (GEN)
 (The people) walk MORE SLOWLY.

ndē vaha kuūn (sāu)
 INTS good COM:fall (rain)
 (It) rained VERY WELL.

kwēē shāān xíka (dā)
 slowly fierce CON:walk (he)
 (He) walks VERY SLOWLY.

kwaha shāān ndoho (dā)
 much fierce COM:suffer (he)
 (He) suffered VERY MUCH.

A few adverbs expressing manner occur only in preverbal position.

ndē ni kā xihī (njākwixin)
 INTS COM PL COM:drink (pulque)
 ([They]) drank a lot (of pulque [fermented century-plant juice]).

sō xahnja (ñā)
 thus COM:cut (she)
 (She) cut ([it (her hair)]) thus.

māni njaa (ná)
 just COM:arrive:here (I:RES)
 (I) came for no particular reason.

māni skwāhā (yó)
 just CON:study (WE:IN)
 (We) just study.

When a quantifier or an intensifying element occurs as manner with a transitive verb, the manner element refers to the direct object even though it occurs within the verb phrase.

ni nihi kwaha (dā chaká)
 COM COM:get much (he fish)
 (He) got a lot (of fish).

See also the example containing *ndē* in the paragraph above.

Manner is questioned by using *nāsā* ‘how?’, or *nāsā módo* ‘how?’ or ‘by what means?’ (Sp. *modo*).

nāsā ni saNniñū (dā)
 how COM COM:work (he)
 How did (he) work?

nāsā módo xika (dā)
 how way CON:walk (he)
 How does (he) walk?

Such questions may be rhetorical, as seen in 7.49.

The postverbal plural *koyo* occurs in second postverbal position. Like the preverbal plural, it indicates the number of the subject even though it occurs within the verb phrase. The postverbal plural occurs only with

motion verbs, but it occurs with all aspects. The two plural markers may cooccur.

nī kā nāxāā koyo
 COM PL COM:arrive:again PL
 ([They]) got back.

vendī koyo (ná)
 COM:come PL (I:RES)
 (We) came.

kwān nohō koyo
 INC:go POT:leave PL
 ([They]) are leaving.

kīhīn koyo (ná)
 POT:go PL (I:RES)
 Let (us) go! *or* (We) will go.

Because *koyo* usually receives phrase stress, the verb that precedes it is often reduced in fast speech: *nohō* and *kīhīn* are pronounced *nu* and *kīn*. The limiter *nī* ‘just’ occurs in third postverbal position.

úhū nī
 CON:hurt LIM
 ([It]) just hurts.

kwāhan nī (tī)
 INC:go LIM (it:AML)
 (It [the animal]) just went.

xítā nī (dā)
 CON:sing LIM (he)
 (He) is just singing.

kusū nī (dā)
 POT:sleep LIM (he)
 (He) will just sleep.

(See also 7.1 and 7.31.)

If the subject of the sentence is expressed by a poststressed clitic pronoun, *nī* often follows the pronoun, even though it modifies the verb.

xítā (dā) nī
 CON:sing (he) LIM
 (He) is just singing.

When *nī* follows a fuller noun phrase, however, it is part of that phrase; see §3.1.3.

The additive *ka* ‘more’ occurs in fourth postverbal position.

chúhūn ka
CON:put:in ADD
([He]) is putting more in.

ni xahnu ka (dā)
COM COM:grow ADD (he)
(He) got older.

kú ka (dā)
POT:come ADD (he)
(He) will still come.

tu kāhān ka (yivi)
NEG POT:speak ADD (person)
(People) won’t talk anymore.

The affirmative marker *tū* ‘really’ occurs in fifth postverbal position. This marker occurs only in statements with verbs in continuative or completive aspect.

kachi tū (dā)
COM:say really (he)
(He) really said ([it]).

In the text in chapter 7, *tū* occurs over thirty times before the climax at 7.43, where the rabbit bit the tar baby and was completely stuck, but not after that. This probably indicates that *tū* has some discourse function. In the data available, however, *tū* occurs only in texts given by one older speaker, and it is probably obsolescent.

The repetitive *tūkū* ‘again’ occurs in the last postverbal position.

sáhā tūkū
POT:do REP
([He]) will make ([it]) again.

ni sahā tūkū (dā)
COM COM:do REP (he)
(He) did ([it]) again.

kwāhan tūkū (dā ndinūū)
INC:go REP (he Tlaxiaco)
(He) has gone (to Tlaxiaco) again.

ni yaxī tūkū (dā kuñu)
 COM COM:eat REP (he meat)
 (He) ate (meat) again.

(See also 7.39.)

Repetitive *tūkū* also expresses peripheral manner, as seen in 7.40.

2.1.4 Combinations of elements. There are two cooccurrence restrictions among preverbal elements: negative and temporal do not cooccur, and hortatory occurs only with negative, directionals in potential aspect, and the intensifier *ndē*. All other combinations of preverbal elements are possible.

tu ni kā xan shíkó (dā shndīki)
 NEG COM PL COM:go POT:sell (he bull)
 (They) didn't go to sell (the bulls).

sā ni kā xan kāhrjā (yūNnū)
 just COM PL COM:go POT:cut (tree)
 ([They]) just went to cut (the wood).

tu ni ki kāxī (dā)
 NEG COM COM:come POT:eat (he)
 (He) didn't come to eat.

ná kí kāxī (dā)
 HORT POT:come POT:eat (he)
 Have (him) come to eat!

ndē kā xīhi (yivī yúkán)
 INTS PL CON:die (person there)
 (People) are really dying (there).

(See also 7.45 and 7.46.)

Postverbal elements also show various cooccurrence restrictions. Plural does not cooccur with manner, limiter, or additive, and it is rare for any element except repetitive to follow manner directly. (This is because manner can be expressed by stative verb phrases [see §2.3] and adverb phrases [see §4.2], both of which also optionally contain the limiter and additive.) When limiter and additive cooccur, they mean 'all the time'.

ñúhú nī ka
 CON:be:in LIM ADD
 ([It]) contains ([something]) all the time.

kīhīn koyo tūkū (dā)
 POT:go PL REP (he)
 (They) are going again.

sáhā ka tūkū
 POT:do ADD REP
 ([He]) will make more again.

shíkó kwaha tūkū (dā)
 CON:sell much REP (he)
 (He) is selling a lot again.

(See also 7.31.)

There are no specific cooccurrence restrictions between preverbal and postverbal elements, but complex constructions are generally avoided.

tu ni saNnīñū vaha tūkū (dā)
 NEG COM COM:work good REP (he)
 (He) didn't work well again.

xa ni kā xihī shāān ka tūkū (dā)
 already COM PL COM:drink fierce ADD REP (he)
 (They) already drank very much more again.

kwān sāNnīñū ni tūkū (dā)
 INC:go POT:work LIM REP (he)
 (He) has gone to just work again.

2.2 Equative Verb Phrases

Equative verb phrases are based on three equative verbs: *kūū* 'to be', *ndūu* 'to become', and *kōnání* 'to be named'. While none enter into the formation of complex nuclei, all occur with the preverbal and postverbal elements described, although preverbal directional is restricted to *kwān* with the meaning 'is in the process of' (see §2.1.2), and postverbal plural *koyo* does not occur. Also, the negative *tu* is rare with *kūū* 'to be' because it is more common to use a negative noun phrase as the nominal complement (see §3.5).

tu kuu (dā "soldado")
 NEG COM:be (he soldier)
 (He) was not (a soldier).

kwān kũũ (*dā* “maestro”)
 INC:GO POT:be (he teacher)
 (He) is in the process of becoming (a teacher).

ni nduu (*dā* “maestro”)
 COM COM:become (he teacher)
 (He) became (a teacher) again.

vaha kā ndũũ (*dā vāhu*)
 good PL CON:become (he coyote)
 (They) turn into (coyotes) well.

xa nání (*dā xwáa*)
 already CON:be:named (he John)
 (He) is already named (John [Sp. *Juan*]).

tu nání (*dā xwáa*)
 NEG CON:be:named (he John)
 (His) name isn’t (John).

ná kũũ (*dā* “maestro”)
 HORT POT:be (he teacher)
 Have (him) be (a teacher)!

2.3 Stative Verb Phrases

Stative verb phrases are based on stative verbs, which are not inflected for aspect. These verbs occasionally form complex nuclei. They occur with only two preverbal elements, temporal and negative, and with all postverbal elements, but manner is expressed mainly by intensifying elements.

xa ñáhnũ (*dā*)
 already mature (he)
 (He) is already grown.

tu ñáhnũ (*dā*)
 NEG mature (he)
 (He) is not grown.

káhnũ shāān (*tĩ*)
 big:SG fierce (it:AML)
 (It [the animal]) is very big.

ndē vaha ka
 INTS good ADD
 ([It]) is much better.

káhnū tūkū (tī)
 big:SG REP (it:AML)
 (It [the animal]) is big again.

lúlú nī (tī)
 small:SG LIM (it:AML)
 (It [the animal]) is just little.

lúlú ka (tī)
 small:SG ADD (it:AML)
 (It [the animal]) is smaller.

vaha shāān ka tūkū
 good fierce ADD REP
 ([It]) is much better again.

(See also 7.7.)

Stative verb phrases occur alone in the predicate of stative sentences as seen in the above examples. They also occur in the predicate of stative sentences followed by a verb like *kūū* ‘to be’ or *kāā* ‘to appear’.

tu vaha (kūū sāhmā)
 NEG good (CON:be cloth)
 (The cloth is) not good.

sā lúlú (kāā tī)
 just small:SG (CON:appear it:AML)
 (It [the animal]) still (looks) little.

káhnū ka (kāā tī)
 big:SG ADD (CON:appear it:AML)
 (It [the animal] looks) bigger.

lúlú ni (kāā tī)
 small:SG LIM (CON:appear it:AML)
 (It [the animal]) just (looks) little.

Stative verb phrases also occur as manner in content verb phrases (see §2.1.3), either following the nucleus or at the beginning of the phrase. When stative verb phrases express manner, the only preverbal element which may occur is negative. Only three postverbal elements may occur: a limited manner, expressed only by intensifying elements; limiter; and additive. When negative occurs in a stative verb phrase, that phrase must precede the main verb in the sentence.

(xítā) vaha nī (dā)
 (CON:sing) good LIM (he)
 (He) just (sings) well.

(xítā) vaha ka (dā)
 (CON:sing) good ADD (he)
 (He sings) better.

vaha shāān (xítā dā)
 good fierce (CON:sing he)
 (He sings) very well.

ndē vaha (kuūn sāu)
 INTS good (COM:fall rain)
 (It rained) VERY WELL.

tu vaha (xítā dā)
 NEG good (CON:sing he)
 (He does) NOT (sing) WELL.

It is, however, more common to place the negative in a content verb phrase than in a stative verb phrase expressing manner.

(tu xítā) vaha (dā)
 (NEG CON:sing) good (he)
 (He doesn't sing) well.

2.4 Repetitive Verb Phrases

Both content and stative verbs may be repeated to indicate continued or intensified action.

A content verb in any aspect may be repeated to indicate continued action. The preverbal elements aspect and hortatory optionally precede the first occurrence of the verb, and any postverbal element except manner optionally follows the second occurrence of the verb.

xika xika (ñā)
 CON:walk CON:walk (she)
 (She) keeps on walking.

ni xika xika (dā)
 COM COM:walk COM:walk (he)
 (He) kept on walking.

kākā kākā (dā)
 POT:walk POT:walk (he)
 (He) will keep walking.

ná kātā kātā (dā)
 HORT POT:sing POT:sing (he)
 Have (him) keep on singing!

xíka xíka nī (dā)
 CON:walk CON:walk LIM (he)
 (He) just keeps on walking.

xíka xíka ka (dā)
 CON:walk CON:walk ADD (he)
 (He) still keeps on walking. *or* (He) keeps on walking more.

xíka xíka tūkū (t̄)
 CON:walk CON:walk REP (it:AML)
 (It [the animal]) keeps on walking again.

(See also 7.11.)

A stative verb in the predicate of a stative sentence or in the postverbal or preverbal manner position in content verb phrases may be repeated to indicate intensification. No preverbal elements occur, and of the postverbal elements, only limiter and additive occur.

In stative sentences:

ndáhu ndáhu (dā)
 poor poor (he)
 (He) is very poor.

ndáhu ndáhu nī (dā)
 poor poor LIM (he)
 He is just very poor.

ndáhu nī ndáhu nī (dā)
 poor LIM poor LIM (he)
 He is just very poor.

ndáhu ndáhu (dā) nī
 poor poor (he) LIM
 (He) is just very poor.

ndáhú ndáhú nī ka (dā)
 poor poor LIM ADD (he)
 (He) is very poor all the time.

In manner:

(xīnī) vaha vaha (dā)
 (CON:know) good good (he)
 (He knows) very well.

(xīnī) vaha vaha ka (dā)
 (CON:know) good good ADD (he)
 (He knows) very much better.

vaha vaha (xīnī dā)
 good good (CON:know he)
 (He knows) VERY WELL.

2.5 Appositional Verb Phrases

Appositional verb phrases consist of two short semantically related phrases, which are simply juxtaposed or linked by the complementizer *xā*. The phrases contain only a few preverbal or postverbal elements, such as the completive aspect marker or the limiter.

kayu xā naa
 CON:burn CMP CON:destroy
 [(They)] burned [(it)] up. (lit. [(They)] burned and destroyed [(it)].)

chóhō xā tuhva ka
 IMP:GO:IN CMP POT:be:near ADD
 Let's get closer!

(See also 7.1.)

3

Noun Phrases

3.1 Basic Noun Phrases

Basic noun phrases consist of a noun or pronoun nucleus, two optional prenominal elements, and four optional postnominal elements.

3.1.1 Noun nuclei. Both simple and complex noun nuclei occur. A simple nucleus comprises only a noun or pronoun.

<i>ndāhā</i>	‘hand’
<i>Nnuhu</i>	‘word’
<i>vela</i>	‘grandmother (Sp. <i>abuela</i>)’
<i>vehe</i>	‘house’
<i>chaa</i>	‘man’
<i>kīvi</i>	‘day’
<i>staa</i>	‘tortilla’
<i>chotō</i>	‘rat’
<i>idā</i>	‘he’

A complex nucleus is a lexical unit that comprises a noun or pronoun followed by a frozen modifier, which may be a noun, a numeral or general quantifier, a content verb, or a stative verb. The tone of a noun used to modify another noun is sometimes raised.

Noun plus noun:

yōhō kaa
 rope metal
 wire

sāhmā staa
 cloth tortilla
 tortilla cloth

tāNna chóhó
 medicine flea
 flea powder (cf. *choho* 'flea')

īshī yūhū
 hair mouth
 beard

ndūchā nūu
 water face
 tear

tríu sāu
 wheat rain
 wheat (Sp. *trigo*) growing on nonirrigated land

ndūchā nīī
 water salt
 salt water

nīī yáhá
 salt chili:pepper
 salt mixed with ground chili pepper (cf. *yaha* 'chili pepper')

Noun plus numeral or general quantifier:

nāhā ūu
 woman two
 second wife

vīu sāvā
 beam half
 a piece of a beam

Noun plus content verb:

yíkē xíka
bone CON:walk
legs

Noun plus stative verb:

ndūchā vīshi
water sweet
soda pop

ndūchā shāān
water fierce
white rum

xā vīshi
it:INAN sweet
candy

(See also 7.3.)

3.1.2 Prenominal elements. There are two elements that precede the nucleus, specifier and quantifier; the specifier occurs next to the nucleus.

The specifier comprises the general specifier *máá* ‘the very’ and the plural specifier *náá*. *náá* has a highly restricted distribution: it occurs only preceding a poststressed clitic pronoun that refers to the subject of the sentence (see §5.4), and the sequence of *náá* and the pronoun occurs only as the second part of an appositional noun phrase (see §3.7). *náá* is especially common when the main verb is in potential aspect because the preverbal plural marker *kā* does not cooccur with potential aspect (see §2.1.2).

máá vehe
SPEC house
the very house

máá maría
SPEC Mary
Mary (Sp. *María*) herself

(*kāhan*) *dā náá dā*
(POT:speak) he SPEC:PL he
They themselves (will speak).

(*kānaa*) *yivi* *náá* *ī*
 (POR:fight) person SPEC:PL GEN
 The people (are going to fight) among themselves.
 (See also 7.17.)

Both specifiers are also used to mark reflexive constructions; see §1.1.3.
 The quantifier comprises numerals and general quantifiers.

Numerals:

ūu *vehe*
 two house
 two houses

ūhun *chaa*
 five man
 five men

ūna *dā*
 eight he
 eight of them

ūu *vétu*
 two Robert
 two Roberts (Sp. *Beto*)

(See also 7.20.)

General quantifiers:

kwaha *kāīī*
 much animal
 many animals

īīNnī *shndīki*
 several bull
 various bulls

xākū *vehe*
 few house
 a few houses

(See also 7.14 and 7.34.)

The numeral *īīn* ‘one’ is often used simply as an indefinite article, and the numeral *ūu* ‘two’, or the expanded numeral phrase *ūu nī* ‘just two’ (see §4.1.4), sometimes mean ‘a few’.

ĩn ndĩvi
 one egg
 an egg *or* one egg

ũu ndĩshĩ
 two ear:of:corn
 a few ears of corn *or* two ears of corn

ũu nĩ yĩvĩ
 two LIM person
 a few people *or* just two people

(See also 7.7, 7.17, 7.30, and 7.37.)

The concept ‘many’ is sometimes expressed in the verb phrase even when it refers to a noun phrase (see §2.1.3).

3.1.3 Postnominal elements. Four elements follow the nucleus: relative clause, deictic, limiter, and additive.

Restrictive relative clauses are marked as such by their distribution following nouns or pronouns and usually by the absence of a noun phrase that is logically supplied by the head. The complementizer *xā* sometimes occurs between the head and the relative clause, thus functioning as a relative pronoun. There are no nonrestrictive relative clauses; their function is filled by appositional noun phrases (see §3.7).

Sentences with content verbs may become relative clauses based on any noun phrase. A locative noun or preposition associated with the head noun is retained in its original position in the relative clause.

With subject as head:

ñāhā xā ni kixi ikū
 woman CMP COM COM:come yesterday
 the woman who came yesterday

chaa xāhnĩ ñāhā
 man CON:kill woman
 the man who kills women

yĩvi kánjūkū ndinũũ
 person CON:be:located:PL Tlaxiaco
 the people who live in Tlaxiaco

chaa xāhnja yũNnũ
 man CON:cut wood
 the man who cuts down trees

chaa xā xáhnja yūNnū
 man CMP CON:cut wood
 the man who cuts down trees

ñā kúhū
 she CON:be:sick
 the woman who is sick

xārā tu íyó
 UN NEG CON:exist
 the stuff that doesn't exist

(See also 7.1, 7.22, and 7.23.)

With object as head:

staa kāxī dā
 tortilla POT:eat he
 the tortillas that he will eat

kūī njákā yó
 animal CON:guide we:1N
 domesticated animals

kūī xā njákā yó
 animal CMP COM:guide we:1N
 domesticated animals

shuhun xā ni nihi dā
 money CMP COM COM:get he
 the money he received

yívi xā chindéé yó
 person CMP CON:help we:1N
 the people that we help

xārā xínī dā
 UN CON:know he
 that which he knows

xā kāxī yó
 it:INAN POT:eat we:1N
 that which we eat *or* food

With locative adjunct as head:

suchī xā xáhā ñā staa nūu
 child CMP CON:give she tortilla face
 the child to whom she gives the tortillas

suchī ni chahu ñā
 child COM COM:pay she
 the child she paid [the money] to

ñūu vāxī vétu
 town INC:come Robert
 the town from which Robert comes

nūu kūdīchī
 face CON:be:placed
 the place where [it] is being built

nūu kīn kihin dā útū dā
 face POT:go POT:take he paper his
 the place he is going to to get his documents

īchī kwāhan dā
 trail INC:go he
 the trail he was traveling on

(See also 7.48.)

With associative adjunct as head:

suchī kwāhan dā xīn
 child INC:go he with
 the child with whom he left

ndēshi kwāhan dā xīn
 liquor INC:go he with
 the liquor he took with him

chaa xā sáhā dā Nñīñū xīn
 man CMP CON:do he work with
 the man with whom he works

With instrument adjunct as head:

yūchi xáhnja dā kuñu
 knife CON:cut he meat
 the knife with which he cuts meat

yūchi xáhnja dā xín kuñu
 knife CON:cut he with meat
 the knife with which he cuts meat

kaa xáhnja dā ndūku
 metal CON:cut he firewood
 the axe he cuts firewood with

With referent adjunct as head:

chaa káhān dā kwachi siki
 man CON:speak he sin nape
 the man whom they are accusing (lit. the man they are speaking
 blame against)

suchi káhān dā xaha
 child CON:speak he foot
 the child on whose behalf he speaks

suchi ni kahān ñā xaha
 child COM COM:speak she foot
 the child on whose behalf she spoke

xārā iyó kwéntu
 UN CON:exist story
 the one there is a story (Sp. *cuento*) about

tāNna úhū xāta yó
 medicine CON:hurt back OUR:IN
 medicine for our backaches

With peripheral element as head:

ñūu xā shikó vétu ndikā
 town CMP CON:sell Robert banana
 the town where Robert sells bananas

ñūu shikó xwáa ndōho
 town CON:sell John palm:basket
 the town where John (Sp. *Juan*) sells palm baskets

kēvi xā ni xihi vétu
 day CMP COM COM:die Robert
 the day Robert died

kāvi ni xihī xwáa
 day COM COM:die John
 the day John died

yāNnī ūhun óra xā kākā xaha yó
 near five hour CMP POT:walk foot our:IN
 about five hours (Sp. *hora*) that we walk on foot

(See also 7.19.)

A proper noun or a free personal pronoun may occur as the head of a relative clause.

vétu xā kwāhan ikū
 Robert CMP INC:go yesterday
 the Robert who went yesterday

róhó xā kúū yivī san sāu
 you:FAM CMP CON:be person dialect rain
 you who are Mixtecs

A poststressed clitic pronoun may occur as the head of a relative clause only if it follows a specifier and/or a quantifier.

máá dā xā kwāhan ikū
 SPEC he CMP INC:go yesterday
 he who went yesterday

kwaha dā xā ndóho kwēhē yúkán
 much he CMP CON:suffer sickness that
 many of those who have that sickness

Equative sentences may become relative clauses based on the subject or a peripheral element.

chaa kúū shīni
 man CON:be head
 the man who is town president

chaa xā kúū shīni
 man CMP CON:be head
 the man who is town president

chaa kúū sūtū
 man CON:be priest
 the man who is the priest

chaa ni nduu “*presidente*”
 man COM COM:become president
 the man who became president

suchī nání vétu
 child CON:be:named Robert
 the child who is named Robert

suchī xā nání vétu
 child CMP CON:be:named Robert
 the child who is named Robert

kwīyā xā kuu dā “*maestro*”
 year CMP COM:be he teacher
 the year he was a teacher

Sentences with stative verbs may become relative clauses based on the subject. The complementizer *xā* rarely occurs unless another verb is used together with the stative verb (see §1.1.6).

chaa xíní
 man drunk
 drunk man

kūī shāān
 animal fierce
 fierce animal

sāhmā vaha
 cloth good
 good cloth

sāhmā xā vaha
 cloth CMP good
 good cloth

ūtū xā kōō vaha
 cornfield CMP POT:exist good
 the cornfield that will be good

xārā vīī kākā
 UN pretty CON:appear
 things that look pretty

Three stative verbs have suppletive forms for singular and plural (see §5.2). When these occur as simple relative clauses, the nouns they modify are singular or plural by virtue of the number of the stative verb form.

īna káhnū

dog big:SG

big dog

kāī náhnū

animal big:PL

big animals

chaa lúlú

man small:SG

boy

chaa kwáchí

man small:PL

boys

vehe lúlú

house small:SG

little house

vétu lúlú

Robert small:SG

little Robert

yōhō kánī

rope long:SG

long rope

yōhō nánī

rope long:PL

long ropes

(See also 7.17.)

There are also sequences of a noun followed by a modifying noun that should probably be considered to be relative clauses with a deleted verb. The second noun often gives the material out of which the first is made, or the topic of the first noun. These constructions are freely formed and are therefore not complex nuclei.

móno ñūma

figure wax

wax figure (Sp. *mono*)

tūtū kwéntu

paper story

book of stories

kwéntu *īso*
 story rabbit
 rabbit story

In relative clauses, but not in main sentences, numerals function like stative verbs to express ordinals. The tone of the first syllable is replaced by high.

kēvī *úshi*
 day ten
 the tenth day (cf. *ūshi*)

chaa *úni*
 man three
 the third man (cf. *ūni*)

Deictic function is carried by one nominal marker, *ún* ‘that’, and by two locative adverbs, *xáhá* ‘here’ and *yúkán* ‘there’. The nominal marker is somewhat weaker than the locative adverb, and it is often used much like a definite article. When the locative adverbs function as deictics, they are glossed ‘this’ and ‘that’, respectively.

sāhmā *xáhá*
 cloth this
 this cloth

īchī *xáhá*
 trail this
 this trail

xārā *xáhá*
 UN this
 this one

kānī *yúkán*
 pig that
 that pig

kānī *ún*
 pig that
 that pig *or* the pig

(See also 7.2, 7.3, 7.9, 7.12, and 7.19.)

The limiter *nī* ‘just’ follows the deictic.

ndīkā nī
 banana LIM
 just a banana

maría nī
 Mary LIM
 just Mary

The additive *ka* ‘more’ follows the limiter and occurs only if the limiter does.

Nnīnū nī ka
 work LIM ADD
 only more work

3.1.4 Combinations of elements. All possible combinations of these elements occur, except that the additive occurs only if the limiter also does.

ūu chaa ún
 two man that
 those two men *or* the two men

ūu chaa kwáchi ún
 two man small:PL that
 those two boys *or* the two boys

kwaha kīī shāān ún
 much animal fierce that
 those many fierce animals *or* the many fierce animals

kwaha vehe xáá xáhá
 much house new this
 these many new houses

kwéntu xā tu xīnī ná ún
 story CMP NEG CON:know I:RES that
 the story that I don’t know

kwēhē ni Nnaha ná ún
 sickness COM COM:fare I:RES that
 that sickness I had

kūun máá chaa
 four SPEC man
 four of only men

t̄hli máá ndūchā
 little:bit SPEC water
 only a little bit of water

kūun máá sāhmā xáhá
 four SPEC cloth this
 four of these very cloths

sāhmā yúkán nī
 cloth that LIM
 just that cloth

táká xā ni kā sahā ī
 each it:INAN COM PL COM:do GEN
 each thing that they did

máá īchī káhnū
 SPEC trail big:SG
 the big trail in particular

máá sāhmā lúlú yúkán
 SPEC cloth small:SG that
 that little cloth itself

máá ndīkā nī ka
 SPEC banana LIM ADD
 just more bananas themselves

(See also 7.18 and 7.34.)

Long relative clauses, including most of those based on content verbs, usually occur at the end of a noun phrase, rather than immediately following the noun. They therefore sometimes follow the deictic and limiter, and when they follow any of these, the relative clause usually begins with the complementizer *xā*.

sāhmā yúkán xā ni kiku ñā
 cloth that CMP COM COM:sew she
 that cloth she sewed

chaa lúlú yúkán xā xahan ndinūū
 man small:SG that CMP COM:go Tlaxiaco
 that boy who went to Tlaxiaco

chaa yúkán xā kúū “maestro”
 man that CMP CON:be teacher
 that man who is a teacher

(See also 7.23.)

More than one relative clause may occur in a single noun phrase. Relative clauses based on content verbs follow those based on stative verbs. Those based on stative verbs may occur in any order, although the preferred sequence seems to be color, state, and then size.

sāhmā kwáhá téhndé lúlú
 cloth red torn small:SG
 little torn red cloth

sāhmā kwáhá vaha lúlú xā ni kiku ñā xā
 cloth red good small:SG CMP COM COM:SEW she CMP

ñúhú sehe ñā
 CON:be:in child her
 the good little red cloth she sewed that her child wears

chaa vaha kā xíní
 man good PL CON:KNOW
 good men who know.

Under certain conditions in discourse, the nucleus of a noun phrase may be unexpressed.

máá
 SPEC
 [it] itself

yúkán
 that
 that [one]

ūni
 three
 three [things]

táká yúkán
 each that
 each of those [things]

(See also 7.29.)

3.2 Measurement Noun Phrases

Measurement noun phrases have a noun expressing a unit of measurement as their nucleus, and they contain an obligatory quantifier. They occur only

as quantifiers in other noun phrases, and in the following examples, the higher noun is enclosed in parentheses.

ūshi métru (sāhmā)
 ten meter (cloth)
 ten meters (Sp. *metro*) (of cloth)

īn yāxīn (ndūchā)
 one gourd (water)
 one gourdful (of water)

ūu nūndōō (nūni)
 two maquila (corn)
 two maquilas (four-quart measures) (of corn)

Measurement noun phrases optionally include the limiter *nī*, the additive *ka*, a deictic, and certain restricted kinds of relative clauses.

ūni yāxīn nī (ndūchā)
 three gourd LIM (water)
 just three gourdfuls (of water)

ūni yāxīn ka (ndūchā)
 three gourd ADD (water)
 three more gourdfuls (of water)

ūu nūndōō nī ka ún (nūni)
 two maquila LIM ADD that (corn)
 only two more of those maquilas (of corn)

ūni yāxīn lúlu (ndūchā)
 three gourd small:SG (water)
 three little gourdfuls (of water)

(See also 7.17.)

Relative clauses in measurement noun phrases are limited to those based on a stative verb, as in the last example above, or to the fraction *yóso sāvā*, which consists of the verb *yóso* ‘to be on top’, used in the sense of ‘to be in addition’, and the general quantifier *sāvā* ‘half’. This form is often reduced to *yó sāvā* or simply to *sāvā*. The fraction often follows the nucleus of the noun phrase in which the measurement noun phrase is embedded, even though it logically belongs with the measurement noun phrase. When the full form follows the nucleus, it may be preceded by the conjunction *tī* ‘and’.

ūu nūndōō yóso sāvā (nūni)
 two maquila CON:be:on:top half (corn)
 two and a half maquilas (of corn)

ūu nūndōō sāvā (nūni)
 two maquila half (corn)
 two and a half maquilas (of corn)

ūu kilo (shahan) yó sāvā
 two kilogram (lard) CON:be:on:top half
 two and a half kilograms (Sp. *kilo*) (of lard)

ūu nūndōō (nūni) ī yóso sāvā
 two maquila (corn) and CON:be:on:top half
 two and a half maquilas (of corn)

Fraction does not cooccur with deictic, nor does it cooccur with an aggregative noun phrase (see §4.1.3) as quantifier.

3.3 Possessive Noun Phrases

Possessive noun phrases have a noun as their nucleus followed by an obligatory possessor. A quantifier or specifier may precede the nucleus, and a limiter or relative clause based on a stative verb may follow it. Nuclei of possessive noun phrases are limited to nouns that can be possessed. The possessor is a full noun phrase with no special genitive marking.

With inherently possessed nouns:

īnī dā
 insides his
 his insides

ndāhā ná
 arm my:RES
 my arm

shīni lúsū
 head mouse
 the mouse's head

shīshī ní
 aunt your:RES
 your aunt

sāxin nā
nephew her
her nephew

shīn vehe
owner house
the owner of the house

ūu sēhē nā
two child her
her two children

ūu sēhē lúlú ina
two child small:sg dog
the dog's two little pups

(See also 7.5, 7.17, 7.33, 7.36, and 7.42.)

With optionally possessed nouns:

shndēki dā
bull his
his bulls

nūhu yó
earth our:IN
our land

vehe nā
house her
her house

shiní vétu
hat Robert
Robert's hat

kwéntu tēNnē yivē nāhnū yúkán
story several person mature that
the story of several of those old people

vehe káhnū dā
house big:sg his
his big house

táká ndāxāha dā
each helper his
each of his helpers

ūu vehe vaha dā
 two house good his
 his two good houses

If the possessor is expressed by a poststressed clitic pronoun, a deictic or relative clause that modifies the nucleus sometimes follows the possessor.

sēhē dā yúkán
 child his that
 that child of his

sēhē dā xā ni xahan
 child his CMP COM COM:go
 his child who went

sēhē lúlú dā yúkán xā ni xahan
 child small:SG his that CMP COM COM:go
 that little child of his who went

(See also 7.17.)

A possessive noun phrase may occur as the possessor in another possessive noun phrase.

īna sēhē nānī chaa yúkán
 dog child brother:ME man that
 that man's brother's child's dog

3.4 Interrogative Noun Phrases

Interrogative noun phrases are formed with the interrogative pronouns *nā* 'what?' and *nāū* 'what?' or 'who?', and the interrogative adverb *nāsā* 'how?' (used in this construction to mean 'how much?' or 'how many?'). The interrogative word is initial in its noun phrase, and an interrogative noun phrase always occurs in focus position in its sentence (see §§1.1.8 and 1.2.2). Occasionally the tone of a noun is raised to high high following an interrogative word.

nā sāhmā
 what cloth
 what cloth?

nā īchī
 what trail
 what trail?

nāū chaa

what man

what man?

nāū sēhē

what child

what child?

nāū suchī

who child

whose child?

nāsā yáhá

how chili:pepper

how many chili peppers? (cf. *yaha* ‘chili pepper’)

Many interrogative noun phrases have acquired idiomatic meanings; they have the function of single-word interrogative pronouns or adverbs. Some of the most common ones are:

nāū yivī

what person

who?

nā óra

what hour

when?

nā kēvī

what day

when?

nā sīkī

what nape

why?

nā kwénta

what account

why? (Sp. *cuenta*)

nāū xā shīin

who CMP owner

whose?

One idiomatic phrase has the interrogative word second.

nūu nāū
 face who
 to whom?

3.5 Negative Noun Phrases

Negative noun phrases are formed by preposing the negative marker *ansu* to a noun phrase; they occur only in focus position in the sentence. An equative sentence (see §1.1.5) is usually negated by using a negative noun phrase for the nominal complement, but negative noun phrases also occur in other sentence types. In the following sentences containing negative noun phrases, the portion of the sentence outside the negative noun phrase is enclosed in parentheses.

ansu suchī vaha (ni sahá xáhá)
 NEG child good (COM COM:do this)
 ([It was]) NOT A GOOD CHILD ([who] did this).

ansu sāhmā (ni kihin ñā)
 NEG cloth (COM COM:take she)
 ([It was]) NOT CLOTH (she bought).

ansu yūchi vétu (kūū)
 NEG knife Robert (CON:be)
 ([It] is) not Robert's knife.

ansu máá dā (kūū)
 NEG SPEC he (CON:be)
 ([It] is) not he himself.

3.6 Adverbial Noun Phrases

Adverbial noun phrases are either basic or possessive. The first subtype consists of a basic noun phrase with either a locative or a temporal noun nucleus. They are used as locative adjuncts (see §1.1.4) and as location or time peripheral elements (see §1.1.7).

īchī káhnū
 path big:sg
 big path

kēvī káhnū
 day big:sg
 important day

nūu lúlu yúkán
 town small:sg that
 that little town

kwīyā xáhá
 year this
 this year

(See also 7.38.)

Many locative noun phrases have the nouns *nūu* 'face' or *īchī* 'trail' as nucleus, followed by a relative clause.

nūu kīhīn dā
 face POT:go he
 the place where he will go

nūu xítú dā
 face CON:plow he
 the place where he is plowing

nūu kwāhan yó
 face INC:go we:IN
 the future (lit. the place we are going to)

īchī kwāhan dā
 trail INC:go he
 the direction he is going (lit. the trail he is going on)

(See also 7.19 and 7.48.)

Adverbial possessive noun phrases consist of a possessive noun phrase with a locative noun as nucleus. Many of these are body-part nouns that are used with extended meanings (see §5.3.2). Adverbial possessive noun phrases are used in all noun-phrase positions, but they are especially common as adjuncts and as peripheral elements.

nūu nāhā
 face woman
 in front of the woman *or* to the woman

nūu īchī
 face trail
 on the trail

xāta vehe
 back house
 in back of the house

chii chaá ún
 stomach man that
 that man's stomach *or* below where that man is

ĩnĩ xaku
 insides corral
 in the corral

ĩnĩ yōō
 insides month
 within the month

shĩni yūkū
 head mountain
 at the top of the mountain

shĩni yōō
 head month
 the end of the month

nūu ũni kēvĩ
 face three day
 within three days

sĩki ndōho yúkán
 nape palm:basket that
 on the outside of that basket

xaha nāna ñā
 foot mother her
 at her mother's (Sp. *nana*) feet *or* for the sake of her mother

(See also 7.1 and 7.48.)

The nouns *ĩchĩ* 'trail' and *kwénta* 'account', which do not refer to body parts and are not inherently possessed, also occur frequently in adverbial possessive noun phrases.

ĩchĩ ñūu
 trail town
 toward town

ĩchĩ vehe
 trail house
 the way to the house *or* the way from the house

īchī xāta lóma
 trail back hill
 the trail behind the hill (Sp. *loma*)

īchī chü cháhá
 trail stomach this:place
 the trail below this one

kwénta sēhē dā
 account child his
 for his child

Adverbial possessive noun phrases differ from ordinary possessive noun phrases in that they do not permit the nucleus to have prenuclear or postnuclear elements, whereas the nucleus of an ordinary possessive noun phrase can take prenuclear quantifier or specifier and postnuclear limiter or relative clause based on a stative verb (see §3.3).

3.7 Appositional Noun Phrases

Appositional noun phrases consist of two or more coreferential noun phrases in the same structural position joined with no conjunction linking them. They occur in any noun-phrase position. One function of appositional noun phrases is to express additional information about a noun nucleus that is already identified, a function filled by nonrestrictive relative clauses in English.

kūhu nā / maría
 sister:FE her Mary
 her sister, Mary

chaa lúlu / sēhē chaa yúkán
 man small:SG child man that
 the boy, that man's child

vétu / chaa xā ni kixi ikū
 Robert man CMP COM COM:come yesterday
 Robert, the man who came yesterday

nūu / nūu njáā dā
 town face CON:be:located he
 the town, the place where he lives

máá dā / chaa xā xahan ndinūū
 SPEC he man CMP COM:go Tlaxiaco
 he, the man who went to Tlaxiaco

vehe / *nūu vāxī* *xwáa*
 house face INC:come John
 the house, the place John is coming from

īchī / *nūu kā xínū* *tī*
 trail face PL CON:run it:AML
 the trail, the place where the animals run

kūī *njáā* *yó* / *ūu rī* *yó*
 animal CON:guide we:IN two sheep our:IN
 the animals we lead, our two sheep

músu / *chaa kā sáhā* *Nnūū*
 hired:hand man PL CON:do work
 the hired hands (Sp. *mozo*), the men who work

xārā *xínī* *ní* / *nūu njáā*
 UN CON:know you:RES face CON:be:located

tāa “*Sebastián Ojeda*” / *yúkán*
 sir Sebastian Ojeda there
 the one you know, the place where Mr. Sebastian Ojeda lives, over there

(See also 7.4, 7.17, 7.23, and 7.46.)

3.8 Additive Noun Phrases

Additive noun phrases are either coordinate or disjunctive. In the coordinate type, noun phrases are linked by the preposition *xíin* ‘with’, or less frequently by the coordinate conjunction *tī* ‘and’; occasionally they have no overt link. (Noun phrases may also be linked by repeating the verb, as described in §6.1.2.)

máá dā xíin sēhē dā
 SPEC he with child his
 he and his child

ūu ñānī dā tī īñ kwāhā dā
 two brother:ME his and one sister:ME his
 two of his brothers and one of his sisters

When three or more items are conjoined, *xíin* may precede each item, all but the first item, just the final item, or be omitted entirely.

xíin rǎ xíin shndǐkǐ xíin kǎnǐ xíin chuun
 with sheep with bull with pig with chicken
 sheep, bulls, pigs, and chickens

máá yó xíin mbáá yó
 SPEC we:IN with child's:godparent our:IN

xíin táká yǐwǐ xā chǐndéé yó
 with each person CMP CON:help us:IN
 we ourselves and our child's godparents (Sp. *compadre*) and each
 person who is helping us

rǎ shndǐkǐ kǎnǐ xíin chuun
 sheep bull pig with chicken
 sheep, bulls, pigs, and chickens

rǎ shndǐkǐ kǎnǐ chuun
 sheep bull pig chicken
 sheep, bulls, pigs, and chickens

ǐn ndǐNǎa vaha / ǐn lǐlu vaha / ǐn sǎhmā vaha
 one sandal good one hat good one cloth good
 a good pair of sandals, a good hat (Sp. *sombrero*), [and] a good
 piece of clothing

A sequence of two noun phrases linked by *xíin* 'with' is sometimes ambiguous between an additive noun phrase as subject or object and a simple noun phrase followed by an associative adjunct (see §1.1.4).

(ni xahan) chaa yúkán xíin nǎnǐ dā
 (COM COM:go) man that with brother:ME his
 That man and his brother (went). *or* That man (went) with his
 brother.

(ni kihin nǎ) ndǐkǐn xíin tǎnǎnǎ
 (COM COM:take she) onion with tomato
 (She bought) onions and tomatoes. *or* (She bought) onions with
 tomatoes.

Additive noun phrases with *xíin* show attraction when the first component noun phrase contains a plural quantifier and the second component noun phrase permits the interpretation that it is included in the first one. This construction is limited to noun phrases expressing kinship and other social relationships. In this construction *xíin* should perhaps be translated 'including' rather than 'with'.

nd̄ĩndúú dā x̄ín ñānī dā
 both he with brother:ME his
 both he and his brother

nd̄ĩ ūni chaa yúkán x̄ín ñānī dā x̄ín kwāhā dā
 all three man that with brother:ME his with sister:ME his
 all three, including that man, his brother, and his sister

táká dā x̄ín ñēro dā
 each he with companion his
 he and his companions (Sp. *compañero*)

nd̄ĩndúú yó x̄ín ní
 both we:IN with you:RES
 both you and I

To express a disjunctive relationship between two noun phrases, the coordinate conjunction *shí* ‘or’ occurs between the two.

īchī cháhá shí īchī chúkán
 trail this:place or trail that:place
 in this direction or that direction (lit. this trail or that trail)

kwāhā dā shí ñānī dā
 sister:ME his or brother:ME his
 his sister or his brother

t̄kwā shí nd̄íkā
 citrus:fruit or banana
 either citrus fruit or bananas

To express a negative disjunction, the conjunction *nī* (or its variant form *n̄ĩ*) ‘nor’ (Sp. *ni*) is used before each part. Only one such phrase may occur in a sentence, and the verb must also be negated.

nī kwāhā dā nī ñānī dā (tu ni xahan)
 nor sister:ME his nor brother:ME his (NEG COM COM:go)
 NEITHER HIS SISTER NOR HIS BROTHER (went).

n̄ĩ nd̄ishi dā n̄ĩ njākwáhá dā
 nor liquor his nor tepache his
 neither his liquor nor his tepache (an alcoholic beverage)

3.9 Indefinite Noun Phrases

Indefinite noun phrases are formed in two ways. In the first way the interrogative pronouns *nā* ‘what?’ or *nāū* ‘what?’ or ‘who?’ occur together

with a following noun phrase. The general quantifier *táká* ‘each’ may precede the interrogative pronoun, and the limiter *nī* may follow it.

nā kīvi
 what day
 any day *or* whenever

nāū īīn Nnuhu
 what one word
 any word

táká nāū kā kihin dā
 each what PL POT:take he
 whatever else they may get

nāū nī yivi
 who LIM person
 anyone *or* whoever

Indefinite noun phrases formed in this way are similar to interrogative noun phrases, except that they are not restricted to sentence-initial position.

In the second way the nominal marker *sāvahni* ‘any’, optionally followed by the additive *ka*, occurs with a following noun.

sāvahni ka ndōho
 any ADD palm:basket
 any palm basket

3.10 Classifier Noun Phrases

Classifier noun phrases are formed by combining a classifier with a noun, usually one that refers to a person or animal. The classifiers include the prestressed pronouns *rā* ‘he’, *ñā* ‘she’, *xā* ‘it (inanimate)’, and *xārā* ‘unspecified’, and also the nouns *tāa* ‘sir’ and *nāa* ‘ma’am’.

rā īso
 he rabbit
 Mr. rabbit *or* the rabbit

ñā maría
 she Mary
 Miss Mary

xā gríyu
 it:INAN cricket
 the cricket (Sp. *grillo*)

xārā chaa
UN man
Mr. man *or* the man

xārā vāhu
UN coyote
Mr. coyote *or* the coyote

xārā kōō
UN terrace
the terrace

tāa xwáa
sir John
Mr. John

nāa ma'ña
ma'am Mary
Mrs. Mary

(See also 7.1, 7.2, and 7.12.)

Sometimes a quantifier occurs between the classifier and the noun, and occasionally two classifiers occur together.

xārā īñ gríyu
UN one cricket
the one cricket

xārā táká kãĩ
UN each animal
each of the animals

rā xārā ndikáhá
he UN lion
Mr. lion *or* the lion

Sometimes the classifier functions as an honorific title, and sometimes it simply slows down the flow of information.

4

Other Phrases

4.1 Quantifier Phrases

4.1.1 Additive numeral phrases. In additive numeral phrases simple numerals from one to ten, fifteen, twenty, hundred, and thousand combine to form the numerals from eleven through fourteen, sixteen through nineteen, twenty-one through thirty, thirty-five, and certain combinations involving hundred and thousand. The larger numeral always occurs first.

ūshi īn
ten one
eleven

shyāhun ūni
fifteen three
eighteen

ōko ūshi
twenty ten
thirty

ōko shyāhun
twenty fifteen
thirty-five

syentu ōko
hundred twenty
one hundred (Sp. *ciento*) twenty

Additive numeral phrases may contain more than two elements to form the numerals thirty-one through thirty-four, thirty-six through thirty-nine, and other larger numerals.

ōko shyāhun kūun
twenty fifteen four
thirty-nine

mīl syentu ōko ūshi ūu
thousand hundred twenty ten two
one thousand (Sp. *mil*) one hundred thirty-two

4.1.2 Attributive numeral phrases. Multiples of twenty, one hundred, and one thousand are expressed by attributive numeral phrases, which have two parts in a quantifier-nucleus relationship. The larger numeral occurs second. When the numeral twenty occurs as the nucleus of an attributive numeral phrase, a suppletive allomorph, *shiko*, occurs.

kūun shiko
four twenty
eighty

ūna syentu
eight hundred
eight hundred

ūni mīl
three thousand
three thousand

Attributive numeral phrases combine with additive numeral phrases to form all the remaining nonsimple numerals.

ūu shiko shyāhun fīn
two twenty fifteen one
fifty-six

ūu mīl ūshya syentu ūni shiko ūshi fīn
two thousand seven hundred three twenty ten one
two thousand seven hundred seventy-one

4.1.3 Aggregative numeral phrases. A numeral higher than one, or a short expanded numeral phrase (see §4.1.4), combines with the noun *Nnāhā* ‘companion’ to form aggregative numeral phrases. In this construction *Nnāhā* means something like ‘grouped’. These phrases occur as quantifiers in noun phrases and as nuclei in other numeral phrases. In

the following examples, an entire noun phrase is given with the part outside the numeral phrase enclosed in parentheses.

ūni Nnāhā (dā)
 three companion (he)
 three (of them)

ūu nī ka Nnāhā (nūndōō)
 two LIM ADD companion (maquila)
 only two more (maquilas [four-quart measures])

(See also 7.6.)

4.1.4 Expanded numeral phrases. A simple numeral or an additive or attributive numeral phrase may serve as the nucleus of expanded numeral phrases. These phrases include one optional prenuclear element and five optional postnuclear elements.

The prenuclear element comprises several words that quantify the numeral nucleus. These include the locative adverb *yāNnī* ‘near’, used in this construction to mean ‘approximately’, the general quantifiers *ndīhī* or *ndī* ‘all’ and *táká* ‘each’, and the specifier *máá*.

yāNnī ōko
 near twenty
 approximately twenty

ndīhī syéntu
 all hundred
 all hundred

ndī ūshya
 all seven
 all seven

táká ūu (vehe)
 each two (house)
 every other (house)

máá ūshya
 SPEC seven
 only seven

The general quantifier *ndī* ‘all’ fuses with the numeral *ūu* ‘two’ to form *ndúú* ‘both’. More commonly, however, *ndī* fuses again with *ndúú* to create *ndīndúú*.

There are five postnuclear elements: the general adverb *kwíté* ‘completely’, the repetitive *tūkū*, the limiter *nī*, the additive *ka*, and the fraction *yóso sāvā* ‘half’. The first four of these occur in any combination in the above order.

ūu kwíté
two completely
exactly two

ūshya tūkū
seven REP
seven other

ūhun nī
five LIM
only five

ūhun ka
five ADD
five more

ūna kwíté tūkū
eight completely REP
exactly eight other

ndē ūhun nī ka
all five LIM ADD
five more, that’s all

máá fīn nī
SPEC ONE LIM
just one particular *or* a single

Sometimes *ka* follows the nucleus of the noun phrase in which the numeral phrase occurs, thus creating a discontinuous quantifier phrase.

ūu (sēhē nī) ka (chaa yúkán)
two (child LIM) ADD (man that)
(that man’s only) two (children) that are left

The fraction *yóso sāvā* ‘half’ contains the verb *yóso* ‘to be on top’, used in the sense of ‘to be in addition’, and the general quantifier *sāvā* ‘half’. It may be reduced to *yó sāvā* or simply *sāvā*. This element usually follows the nucleus of the noun phrase in which the numeral phrase occurs, thus creating a discontinuous quantifier phrase. The full form is sometimes preceded by the conjunction *tī* ‘and’.

ĩn (*ndīkā*) *yóso* *sāvā*
 one (banana) CON:be:on:top half
 one and a half (bananas)

ĩn (*ndīkā*) *yó* *sāvā*
 one (banana) CON:be:on:top half
 one and a half (bananas)

ĩn (*ndīkā*) *sāvā*
 one (banana) half
 one and a half (bananas)

ĩn (*ndīkā*) *tī yóso* *sāvā*
 one (banana) and CON:be:on:top half
 one and a half (bananas)

When fraction cooccurs with the limiter and/or the additive, the limiter and additive may either precede the noun nucleus or follow the fraction.

ũhun nī ka (*ndīkā*) *yó* *sāvā*
 five LIM ADD (banana) CON:be:on:top half
 only five and a half more (bananas)

ũhun nī ka (*ndīkā*) *sāvā*
 five LIM ADD (banana) half
 only five and a half more (bananas)

ũu (*stāā*) *yó* *sāvā nī ka*
 two (tortilla) CON:be:on:top half LIM ADD
 only two and a half more (tortillas)

4.1.5 General quantifier phrases. Approximate quantities may be expressed by general quantifier phrases. These phrases consist of a nucleus, which is a nonnumeral quantifier, two optional prenuclear elements, and three optional postnuclear elements. The prenuclear elements are the specifier *máá* and manner, expressed only by the intensifying adverb *ndē*; and the postnuclear elements are manner (expressed only by intensifying elements), the limiter *nī*, and the additive *ka*. All three postnuclear positions cooccur in the above order.

máá tihli (*ndūchā*)
 SPEC little:bit (water)
 a little bit of that very (water)

ndē kwaha (*nūni*)
 INTS much (corn)
 very much (corn)

kwaha ka (ndīvi)
 much ADD (egg)
 many more (eggs)

ndī kwítí (chaa)
 all completely (man)
 every one (of the men)

xākū nī (kītī)
 few LIM (animal)
 just a few (animals)

tīhlī nī (nūxīī)
 little:bit LIM (firearm)
 a few (rifles), no more

xākū ka (kītī)
 few ADD (animal)
 a few more (animals)

tīhla ka (tríu)
 somewhat ADD (wheat)
 some more (wheat [Sp. *trigo*])

tīhlī nī ka (nūxīī)
 little:bit LIM ADD (firearm)
 a few more (rifles), that's all

xākū kwítí nī ka (kuñu)
 few completely LIM ADD (meat)
 just a very little bit more (meat)

Sometimes two intensifiers cooccur.

kwaha shāān tōndo (kaa)
 much fierce foolish (metal)
 very very much (metal)

4.1.6 Distributive numeral phrases. A repeated numeral with no pre-nuclear or postnuclear modifiers, or a repeated numeral preceded by *ndī* 'all', constitutes a distributive numeral phrase.

īīn īīn
 one one
 each

ūu ūu
two two
each pair

ndī īīn ndī īīn
all one all one
every single one

ndī ūu ndī ūu
all two all two
each pair

4.1.7 Alternative numeral phrases. Two or three numerals, with the later ones expressing higher quantities, combine to form alternative numeral phrases. The numerals may be simply juxtaposed, or the conjunction *shí* ‘or’ may precede the last phrase or all of them.

īīn ūu (ndīshī)
one two (ear:of:corn)
a few (ears of corn)

īīn ūu ūni (ndīshī)
one two three (ear:of:corn)
a few (ears of corn)

kūun ūhun (yivī)
four five (person)
four or five (people)

ūna shí ūshi (kīī)
eight or ten (animal)
eight or ten (animals)

shí ūna shí shyāhun (kīvī)
or eight or fifteen (day)
one or two (weeks)

Occasionally a brief expanded numeral phrase occurs as the first part of this construction.

yāNnī ōko ūhun / ōko ūshi (kīī)
near twenty five twenty ten (animal)
approximately twenty-five or thirty (animals)

yāNnī ōko ūhun shí ōko ūshi (kīī)
near twenty five or twenty ten (animal)
approximately twenty-five or thirty (animals)

4.1.8 Negative quantifier phrases. The conjunction *nī* or *nī̄* ‘nor’ (Sp. *ni*), used here in the sense of ‘not even’, combines with a numeral, a general quantifier, or a short general quantifier phrase expressing a minimal amount to form negative quantifier phrases.

nī *ī̄n*
nor one
not even one

nī *xākū*
nor few
not even a few

nī *tīhlī*
nor little:bit
not even a little bit

nī *tīhlī* *nī*
nor little:bit LIM
not even just a little bit

nī *tīhlī* *nī* *ka*
nor little:bit LIM ADD
not even just a little bit more

Only one negative quantifier phrase may occur in a sentence, and the verb must also be negated unless the negative quantifier phrase is in focus position.

(*tu ni kihin nīā*) *nī* *ī̄n* (*ndīkā*)
(NEG COM COM:take she) nor one (banana)
(She didn’t buy) even one (banana).

nī *tīhlī* *nī* (*nūni ni kendo*)
nor little:bit LIM (corn COM COM:stay)
NOT EVEN A LITTLE (CORN was left).

4.2 Adverb Phrases

4.2.1 Basic adverb phrases. A nucleus and three optional postnuclear elements combine to form basic adverb phrases. The nucleus is expressed by a locative, temporal, or general adverb; and the postnuclear elements are manner (expressed only by intensifying elements), the limiter *nī*, and the additive *ka*. Semantically, manner and additive collocate only with certain general adverbs.

With locative adverbs:

xáhá nī
here LIM
just here

yúkán nī
there LIM
just there

With temporal adverbs:

īkū nī
yesterday LIM
just yesterday

With general adverbs:

syúkán nī
in:that:way LIM
just that way

yāchī shāān ka
fast fierce ADD
much faster

kwēē shāān nī ka
slowly fierce LIM ADD
just very much more slowly

(See also 7.35.)

4.2.2 Appositional adverb phrases. Any two of the following structures may be juxtaposed to form appositional adverb phrases: adverbs, adverb phrases, adverbial noun phrases, or prepositional phrases.

yúkán / nūu sáNniñū dā
there face CON:work he
there, the place where he works

yúkán / inī vehe
there insides house
there, inside the house

xáhá nī / māhñu ndēndúú vehe
here LIM between both house
just here, between both houses

yúkán / ūndi nūndūvā
 there until Oaxaca
 there, as far as Oaxaca

iññā / kēvi ūshi
 tomorrow day ten
 tomorrow, the tenth day

kaa ūshi / xākwāā
 metal ten at:night
 ten o'clock at night

kaa ūu / viNnā
 metal two now
 at two o'clock today

ññ nūndāā / viNnā
 one little:later now
 a little bit later today

4.2.3 Additive adverb phrases. There are two ways to form additive adverb phrases. Two noncoreferential adverbs may be juxtaposed with no conjunction linking them, or they may be linked by *xíin* 'with'.

ndúú ñúú
 all:day all:night
 all day and all night

ndúú xíin ñúú
 all:day with all:night
 all day and all night

viNnā iññā
 now tomorrow
 today and tomorrow *or* in the near future

iññā ísá
 tomorrow day:after:tomorrow
 tomorrow and the day after *or* in the future

4.2.4 Alternative adverb phrases. Two adverbs or adverb phrases linked by the coordinate conjunction *shí* 'or' constitute an alternative adverb phrase. The interrogative marker occurs between the two parts and optionally before the first.

īÑñā shí ísá
 tomorrow or day:after:tomorrow
 tomorrow or the day after

shí īÑñā shí ísá
 or tomorrow or day:after:tomorrow
 tomorrow or the day after

xáhá shí yúkán
 here or there
 here or there

shí xáhá shí yúkán
 or here or there
 here or there

4.2.5 Repetitive adverb phrases. The simple repetition of an adverb, which intensifies its meaning, constitutes a repetitive adverb phrase. The limiter *nī* may follow both adverbs, and the additive *ka* may follow the second.

kwēē kwēē
 slowly slowly
 very slowly

kwēē kwēē nī
 slowly slowly LIM
 just very slowly

kwēē nī kwēē nī
 slowly LIM slowly LIM
 just very slowly

kwēē kwēē ka
 slowly slowly ADD
 much more slowly

kwēē ka kwēē ka
 slowly ADD slowly ADD
 much more slowly

Repetitive adverb phrases occur only in content verb phrases. Those consisting of a repeated adverb phrase occur only in preverbal manner position.

kwēē nī kwēē nī (ni kee koyo yivì)
 slowly LIM slowly LIM (COM COM:leave PL person)
 (The people) just (left) very slowly.

In 7.13, however, a repetitive adverb phrase occurs as a sentence fragment.

4.2.6 Interrogative adverb phrases. An interrogative adverb may be combined with the specifier *máá* ‘the very’ to form an interrogative adverb phrase.

nándī máá
 where SPEC
 precisely where?

4.3 Prepositional Phrases

Prepositional phrases consist of a preposition followed by its object, which is expressed either by a noun phrase or by an adverb or adverb phrase. The set of prepositions is small because prepositional function is carried largely by locative nouns (see §§5.3.2 and 3.6). It includes only *xíin* or *xíni* ‘with’, *ūndi* ‘until’,³ *māhñu* ‘between’, *xākū* ‘with reference to’ or ‘than’, *xā sīkì* ‘because of’, and *māhñu sāvā* ‘halfway between’. Prepositional phrases occur mainly as adjuncts and as peripheral elements.

xíin sēhē dā
 with child his
 with his children

ūndi vīNnā
 until now
 until now *or* from now on

ūndi vīNnā nī
 until now LIM
 just until today *or* just from today on

māhñu vehe
 between house
 between the houses

³The preposition *ūndi* has a wider distribution than other prepositions. Prepositional phrases with *ūndi* sometimes serve as subject, for example, or as part of the object of another preposition. Perhaps it could be more accurately classified as a specifier (see §3.1.2).

xākū *chíku*
 with:reference:to Frank
 than Frank (Sp. *Chico*) or as for Frank

xā sīkī fīn nūndóhō
 CMP nape one suffering
 because of a sickness

māhñu sāvā ūu vehe
 between half two house
 halfway between the two houses

(See also 7.5, 7.7, and 7.11.)

The object of a preposition may be unexpressed if it can be supplied from the context.

When two prepositional phrases with *ūndi* ‘until’ are juxtaposed, they express the spatial or temporal scope of an action; the first instance of *ūndi* is translated ‘from’, and the second one is translated ‘to’, ‘until’, or ‘as far as’.

ūndi “México” ūndi xáhá
 until Mexico:City until here
 from Mexico City to here

ūndi vīNnā ūndi kwīyā xā kixí
 until now until year CMP POT:come
 from now until next year

5

Parts of Speech

5.1 Content and Equative Verbs

5.1.1 Derivation. Content verbs are derived from other content verbs, stative verbs, and nouns by means of prefixes, sometimes accompanied by tone changes, and also by compounding.

The prefix *s-* or *sā-* ‘causative’, which is a reduced form of the verb *sáhá* ‘to do’, adds an agent. The *s-* form combines with content verbs in potential aspect in a highly productive derivational process. When this prefix is added, the tone of the first syllable of the stem changes to high.

s-káxī

CAUS-POT:eat

to give to eat (cf. *kāxī* ‘POT:eat’)

s-kóhō

CAUS-POT:drink

to give a drink to (cf. *kōhō* ‘POT:drink’)

s-kókó

CAUS-POT:swallow

to cause to swallow (cf. *kókó* ‘POT:swallow’)

s-kúnū

CAUS-POT:run

to chase, to frighten (cf. *kūnū* ‘POT:run’)

s-kwáhā

CAUS-POT:?

to study (cf. *kwāhā* ‘POT:give’)

s-ndihī

CAUS-POT:finish

to cause to finish (cf. *ndihī* ‘POT:finish’)

s-kāhndī

CAUS-POT:explode

to cause to explode (cf. *kāhndī* ‘POT:explode’)

(See also 7.9.)

The *sā-* form combines with stative verbs and nouns to create derived content verbs.

With stative verbs:

sā-vaha

POT:CAUS-good

to put away

sā-ndáhú

POT:CAUS-poor

to humble (oneself)

With nouns:

sā-Nniñū

POT:CAUS-work

to work

sā-kwīhnā

POT:CAUS-demon

to steal (cf. *kwīhna* ‘demon’)

The prefix *nā-* ‘repetitive’ combines with content and equative verbs in potential aspect. This prefix adds the meaning of repeated or resumed action, though many verbs with it have acquired idiomatic meanings.

nā-ndihī

POT:REP-POT:finish

to need

nā-kūnī

POT:REP-POT:see
to recognize

nā-kwāhā

POT:REP-POT:give
to hand over

Sometimes the prefix is reduced to *n-*, and a stem-initial *k* is either lost or replaced by *d*.

n-jāā

REP-POT:arrive:here
to return, to arrive back here (cf. *chāā* ‘POT:arrive here’)

n-dúu

REP-POT:be
to become (cf. *kūū* ‘POT:be’)

n-dēndā

REP-POT:appear
to show up again (cf. *kēndā* ‘POT:appear’)

n-dāā

REP-POT:ascend
to ascend again (cf. *kāā* ‘POT:ascend’)

Repetitive and causative prefixes can occur together in a word. The causative prefix occurs next to the stem.

nā-sā-vaha

POT:REP-POT:CAUS-good
to repair

nā-s-ndēē

POT:REP-CAUS-POT:lower
to transplant (cf. *ndēē* ‘POT:lower’)

nā-s-tútú

POT:REP-CAUS-POT:be:gathered:together
to reunite (cf. *tútú* ‘POT:be:gathered:together’)

Compounds are formed by the fusion of a complex verb nucleus (see §2.1.1) into a single word. Often the first part of the compound, which was the main verb of the original construction, is reduced to a single syllable.

The verbs *kūū* ‘to be’ and *ndúu* ‘to become’ combine with stative verbs, adverbs, and nouns to form content verbs.

kū-kwéé

POṚ:be-slowly

to be slow

kū-Nnīñū

POṚ:be-work

to be occupied

kū-tūhva

POṚ:be-intelligent

to learn

kū-tūluu

POṚ:be-round

to be round (cf. *tūlūú* 'spherical')

ndū-shāān

POṚ:become-fierce

to get fierce

ndū-xáhán

POṚ:become-fertilized

to be fertilized (cf. *xáhán* 'fertilizer')

(See also 7.3, 7.20, 7.35, 7.41, 7.44, 7.47, and 7.50.)

Many other verbs serve as the first part of compounds.

With verbs of placement:

chū-sāmā

POṚ:put:in-POṚ:change

to change direction (cf. *chūhūn* 'POṚ:put:in')

chū-Nnāhā

POṚ:put:in-companion

to join together (cf. *Nnāhā* 'companion')

chī-ndéé

POṚ:thrust-brave

to help (cf. *chīhī* 'POṚ:thrust')

chī-ndáhá

POṚ:thrust-hand

to push (cf. *ndāhā* 'hand')

(See also 7.48.)

With verbs of movement:

kūn-jūkū

POT:fall-POT:put

to be located (plural) (cf. *kūūn* 'POT:fall', *chūkū* 'POT:place')

kūn-soho

POT:fall-ear

to listen

kē-xāhā

POT:leave-foot

to begin (cf. *xaha* 'foot')

With other verbs:

kā-ndahu

POT:speak-poor

to beg (cf. *kāhān* 'POT:speak', *ndáhú* 'poor')

kā-ndāhā

POT:be:joined-hand

to care for (cf. *kāhā* 'POT:be:joined')

In some compounds it is difficult to determine the source of the first part.

ndá-Nnūhū

?-word

to discuss (cf. *Nnuhu* 'word')

nū-Nnāhā

?-companion

to embrace (cf. *Nnāhā* 'companion')

xā-Nnaha (*īnī*)

?-companion (insides)

to like

ná-ndāhā

?-hand

to marry

kō-nēnē

?-POT:be:closed

to close the eyes

kō-ñūhū

?-earth

to rake (cf. *ñuhu* ‘earth’)

nī-kwehe

?-sickness

to get sick (cf. *kwēhē* ‘sickness’)

nū-kāvā

?-POT:rest

to lay down

(See also 7.36, 7.43, and 7.45.)

Some words must be compounds because they contain three syllables, but both parts are of indeterminate origin.

ñú-ñáhmū

?-?

to be combined

xā-kwīñi

?-?

to be still

One pair of verbs is in a suppletive relationship: one occurs with a singular subject, and the other with a plural subject.

kūnjā ‘to be located (singular)’

kūnjūkū ‘to be located (plural)’

One verb, *tūū* ‘to not exist’, is inherently negative.

5.1.2 Inflection. Content and equative verbs are inflected for three aspects: potential, continuative, and complete. These three aspects are similar to future, present, and past tenses, but cannot be equated with them, because, once a time frame has been established in the discourse context, all three aspects can occur to express time relative to that frame. For example, continuative aspect is often used for ongoing action in the past.

Potential aspect is considered the basic form of the verb. Continuative and complete aspects are described by means of changes from the potential form.

There are two major inflectional classes of simple verbs. In the first class, aspect inflection is carried by tone changes, and in the second class, there are segmental changes as well.

One class of verbs that are inflected for aspect by means of tone changes alone shows changes only on the first syllable. Continuative aspect forms have high tone on the first syllable, and completive forms have low tone on the first syllable. If the potential aspect form has mid tone on the first syllable, there are three distinct aspect forms. If potential has high tone on the first syllable, continuative is homophonous with potential. (No verbs of this class have low tone on the first syllable of the potential form.) The preverbal marker *ni* 'completive' (see §2.1.2) optionally occurs with completive forms.

	POT	CON	COM
swim	<i>súchá</i>	<i>súchá</i>	<i>suchá</i>
look	<i>ndéhé</i>	<i>ndéhé</i>	<i>ndehé</i>
get wet	<i>ndáxí</i>	<i>ndáxí</i>	<i>ndaxí</i>
do	<i>sáhā</i>	<i>sáhā</i>	<i>sahā</i>
become	<i>ndúu</i>	<i>ndúu</i>	<i>nduu</i>
swallow	<i>kókó</i>	<i>kókó</i>	<i>kokó</i>
ring	<i>kāshín</i>	<i>káshín</i>	<i>kashín</i>
plane	<i>yókón</i>	<i>yókón</i>	<i>yokón</i>
pick fruit	<i>tāshín</i>	<i>táshín</i>	<i>tashín</i>
pat with hands	<i>kātū</i>	<i>kātū</i>	<i>katū</i>
paint	<i>kāhyū</i>	<i>káhyū</i>	<i>kahyū</i>
cover over	<i>sūkū</i>	<i>sūkū</i>	<i>sukū</i>
appear like	<i>ndākū</i>	<i>ndākū</i>	<i>ndakū</i>
drip	<i>kōyō</i>	<i>kóyō</i>	<i>koyō</i>
hit	<i>kānī</i>	<i>kánī</i>	<i>kanī</i>
put out	<i>ndáhva</i>	<i>ndáhva</i>	<i>ndahva</i>
save, multiply	<i>kāya</i>	<i>káya</i>	<i>kaya</i>

In verbs of the form CVV, however, the low tone that marks completive carries across both syllables.

	POT	CON	COM
continue	<i>sīin</i>	<i>sūn</i>	<i>siin</i>
be	<i>kūū</i>	<i>kúū</i>	<i>kuu</i>
ascend	<i>kāā</i>	<i>káā</i>	<i>kaa</i>

Some verbs show other patterns of tone change.

	POT	CON	COM
desire	<i>xíhyó</i>	<i>xíhyó</i>	<i>xihyo</i>
dream	<i>xānī</i>	<i>xání</i>	<i>xani</i>
want, ought	<i>kuni</i>	<i>kūni</i>	<i>kuni</i>

Most verbs that have segmental changes begin with *k* or *kw* in potential, and with *x* or *y* in the other two aspects. These verbs also show various tone changes.

	POT	CON	COM
walk	<i>kākā</i>	<i>xíka</i>	<i>xika</i>
close	<i>kāsī</i>	<i>xásī</i>	<i>xasi</i>
be joined	<i>kāhī</i>	<i>yíhī</i>	<i>yihī</i>
buy	<i>kwāān</i>	<i>xāān</i>	<i>xaan</i>
sing	<i>kātā</i>	<i>xítā</i>	<i>xitā</i>
be careful	<i>kōtō</i>	<i>xítō</i>	<i>xitō</i>
place	<i>kānī</i>	<i>xání</i>	<i>xanī</i>
run	<i>kūnū</i>	<i>xínū</i>	<i>xinū</i>
see, know	<i>kūnī</i>	<i>xínī</i>	<i>xini</i>
give	<i>kwāhā</i>	<i>xáhā</i>	<i>xaha</i>
cut	<i>kāhnjā</i>	<i>xáhnja</i>	<i>xahnja</i>

Some verbs show other changes.

	POT	CON	COM
eat	<i>kāxī</i>	<i>yáxí, yéé</i>	<i>yaxī, yeē</i>
drink	<i>kōhō</i>	<i>xíhí</i>	<i>xihī</i>

die	<i>kūu</i>	<i>xíhi</i>	<i>xihi</i>
be sour	<i>kwīya</i>	<i>íyá</i>	<i>xiya</i>
exist	<i>kōō</i>	<i>íyó</i>	<i>iyo</i>
sleep	<i>kūsū</i>	<i>kíshī</i>	<i>kishi</i>

Some verbs have a prefix *kū-* or *kō-* in potential aspect. This prefix does not occur when the potential aspect form follows a directional (see §2.1.2).

	POT	CON	COM
carry	<i>kūndīsō</i>	<i>ndīsō</i>	<i>ndiso</i>
wait	<i>kūndātū</i>	<i>ndātū</i>	<i>ndatu</i>
guide, deposit	<i>kūnjākā</i>	<i>njākā</i>	<i>njaka</i>
watch	<i>kūndūtō</i>	<i>ndītō</i>	<i>ndito</i>
be named	<i>kōnání</i>	<i>nání</i>	<i>naní</i>

Verbs with derivational prefixes usually change only the tone of the prefix. If, however, the prefix has no vowel, the tone change appears on the first syllable of the stem.

	POT	CON	COM
chant	<i>nākwātū</i>	<i>nákwātū</i>	<i>nakwātū</i>
recognize	<i>nākūnī</i>	<i>nákūnī</i>	<i>nakūnī</i>
hand over	<i>nākwāhā</i>	<i>nákwāhā</i>	<i>nakwaha</i>
give to drink	<i>skóhō</i>	<i>skóhō</i>	<i>skohō</i>
study	<i>skwáhā</i>	<i>skwáhā</i>	<i>skwahā</i>
work	<i>sāNnīñū</i>	<i>sáNnīñū</i>	<i>saNnīñū</i>
put away	<i>sāvaha</i>	<i>sāvaha</i>	<i>savaha</i>

In compound verbs the changes that indicate aspect usually occur only on the first part of the compound. These changes sometimes involve segments as well as tone.

	POT	CON	COM
push	<i>chīndáhá</i>	<i>chīndáhá</i>	<i>chindáhá</i>
discuss	<i>ndāNnūhū</i>	<i>ndāNnūhū</i>	<i>ndaNnūhū</i>
travel around	<i>kwíkónúú</i>	<i>xíkónúú</i>	<i>xikónúú</i>

bite	<i>kēyíhí</i>	<i>yéyíhí</i>	<i>yeyíhí</i>
begin	<i>kēxáhá</i>	<i>kéxāhā</i>	<i>kexāhā</i>
learn	<i>kūtūhvā</i>	<i>kútūhvā</i>	<i>kutuhva</i>
go in front	<i>kōshnúú</i>	<i>yóshnúú</i>	<i>yoshnuu</i>
be located (SG)	<i>kūnjā</i>	<i>kánjā</i>	<i>kunja</i>
be located (PL)	<i>kūnjūkū</i>	<i>kánjūkū</i>	<i>kunjuku</i>

A few compounds have suppletive forms for different aspects because they contain different verb stems as the first part.

	POT	CON	COM
listen	<i>kūnsoho</i>	<i>ñúsoho</i>	<i>ñusocho</i>
kneel	<i>kūnxīī</i>	<i>ñúxīī</i>	<i>ñuxīī</i>

The first part of these two verbs is *kūūn* ‘to fall’ in potential, and *ñúhú* ‘to be in’ in continuative and completive.

Two motion verbs have an incomplete aspect, used for trips that have been initiated but not yet terminated. Continuative aspect forms of motion verbs, when they occur, are used only for habitual action, never progressive.

	POT	CON	COM	INC
go	<i>kīhīn</i>	<i>xáhan</i>	<i>xahan</i>	<i>kwāhan</i>
come	<i>kíxí, kíí</i>	—	<i>kixi, kii</i>	<i>vāxī</i>

The potential aspect form is usually used to express imperative, but a few verbs have special imperative forms.

<i>kwáhán</i>	‘go!’ (cf. <i>kwāhan</i> ‘INC:go’)
<i>chóhō</i>	‘let’s go!’ (cf. <i>yó</i> ‘we:IN’)
<i>ñaha</i>	‘come!’
<i>xáán</i>	‘take [it]!’
<i>yáhá</i>	‘take [it]!’

The negative verb *tūū* ‘to not exist’ is defective in that it occurs only in continuative aspect.

5.2 Stative Verbs

Stative verbs differ from content and equative verbs in that they are not inflected for aspect.

<i>vaha</i>	‘good’
<i>vīī</i>	‘pretty’
<i>ndáhú</i>	‘poor, sad’
<i>kwáhá</i>	‘red’

Stative verbs are occasionally derived from nouns by raising the tone of both syllables to high.

<i>súkúin</i>	‘tall’ (cf. <i>sūkun</i> ‘throat’)
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Three stative verbs have distinct forms for singular and plural referents. They are:

	SG	PL
small	<i>lúú</i>	<i>kwá chí</i>
big	<i>káhnū</i>	<i>náhnū</i>
long	<i>kánī</i>	<i>nánī</i>

The prefix *t̄-* is used with some stative verbs to denote roundness; it is probably the same prefix that occurs with spherical nouns.

<i>t̄-kánī</i>	‘oblong’ (cf. <i>kánī</i> ‘long:SG’)
<i>t̄-chúū</i>	‘doughnut shaped’
<i>t̄-lúú</i>	‘spherical’

(See also 7.3.)

Three stative verbs function as intensifying elements; they occur in content verb phrases, stative verb phrases, quantifier phrases, and adverb phrases (see §§2.1.3, 2.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.5, and 4.2). These stative verbs are:

<i>shāān</i>	‘fierce’
<i>lóko</i>	‘crazy (Sp. <i>loco</i>)’
<i>tōndo</i>	‘foolish (Sp. <i>tonto</i>)’

5.3 Nouns

5.3.1 Derivation. There are no regular processes for deriving nouns from other parts of speech. There are, however, some prefixes, which are reduced forms of generic nouns. This is an especially common way to create animal, tree, and fruit names, and also abstract nouns.

Animal names are often derived by a prefix that has the forms *tī-*, *ndī-*, and occasionally *ndī-*, which come from *kāī* ‘animal’. The meaning of the stem sometimes cannot be determined.

<i>tī-suhmā</i> or <i>ndī-suhmā</i>	‘scorpion’ (cf. <i>suhma</i> ‘tail’)
<i>tī-kūchi</i>	‘bat’ (cf. reg. Sp. <i>cuchi</i> ‘pig’)
<i>ndī-nūñú</i>	‘chameleon’
<i>ndī-káhá</i>	‘lion’
<i>ndī-shihyú</i>	‘goat’ (cf. <i>īshī</i> ‘hair’, <i>yūhū</i> ‘mouth’)

Some animal names begin with *ch* or *nj*, which is probably a fused form of this prefix.

<i>chaká</i>	‘fish’
<i>chotō</i>	‘rat’
<i>choho</i>	‘flea’
<i>chukún</i>	‘fly’
<i>njóhó</i>	‘hummingbird’

Tree names or wooden articles often have the derivational prefix *nū-*, from *yūNnū* ‘tree’.

<i>nū-ndikā</i>	‘banana tree’ (cf. <i>ndikā</i> ‘banana’)
<i>nū-iñú</i>	‘sticker bush’ (cf. <i>īñú</i> ‘thorn’)
<i>nū-yushyá</i>	‘pine tree’ (cf. <i>sushya</i> ‘resin’)
<i>nū-yukún</i>	‘cypress tree’
<i>nū-yaNnúú</i>	‘black oak tree’ (cf. <i>Nnúú</i> ‘black’)
<i>nū-yakwáán</i>	‘yellow oak tree’ (cf. <i>kwáán</i> ‘yellow’)
<i>nū-xīī</i>	‘firearm, rifle’

Some names of spherical articles, including fruit and vegetables, are formed by using a prefix of the form *tí-* or *ndí-*, which is probably related to the prefix that is used to form animal names.

<i>tí-kwā</i>	‘citrus fruit’
<i>tí-nānā</i>	‘tomato’
<i>ndí-kin</i>	‘onion’

A few abstract nouns have been derived from verbs by the prefix *nu-*, or its variant form *Nnu-*, from *Nnuhu* ‘word’.

<i>nu-ndóhó</i>	‘suffering’ (cf. <i>ndóhó</i> ‘FOR:suffer’)
<i>nū-ndee</i>	‘courage, joy’ (cf. <i>ndéé</i> ‘brave, joyful’)

Other prefixes that sometimes occur are: *njā-* (from *ndūchā* ‘water’), *ndā-* (from *ndāhā* ‘hand’), and *ñā-* (from *ñāhā* ‘woman’).

<i>njā-kwáhá</i>	‘tepache (an alcoholic beverage)’ (cf. <i>kwáhá</i> ‘red’)
<i>njā-kwíxín</i>	‘pulque (an alcoholic beverage)’ (cf. <i>kwíxín</i> ‘white’)
<i>ndā-xāha</i>	‘helper’
<i>ndā-Nniñú</i>	‘tool, thing’ (cf. <i>Nniñú</i> ‘work’)
<i>ñā-síhí</i>	‘wife’ (cf. <i>síhí</i> ‘female’)
<i>ñā-táNná</i>	‘midwife’ (cf. <i>táNná</i> ‘medicine’)
<i>ñā-tásí</i>	‘witch’ (cf. <i>tásí</i> ‘witchcraft’)

There are also compound nouns formed in other ways.

<i>nduch-áhá</i>	‘chili sauce’ (cf. <i>ndūchā</i> ‘water’, <i>yaha</i> ‘chili pepper’)
<i>vē-ñuhu</i>	‘church’ (cf. <i>vehe</i> ‘house’, <i>ñuhu</i> ‘fire’)
<i>ñū-yivi</i>	‘world’ (cf. <i>ñūu</i> ‘town’, <i>yivi</i> ‘person’)
<i>sh-ndíkí</i>	‘bull, cow’ (cf. <i>ndíkí</i> ‘horn’)

5.3.2 Classification. Nouns fall into several cross-cutting classifications; they may be divided according to gender, possessibility, distribution, and countability.

Nouns fall into five gender classes according to the third person poststressed pronouns (see §5.4) that can refer to them: masculine, feminine, animal, deity, and inanimate (no pronoun). This classification is for the most part natural, but a few exceptions are given in the examples

below. A few nouns fall into two classes; for example, *sūtū* ‘priest’ is classified by some people as deity and by others as masculine. Animals in folktales are sometimes classified as masculine or feminine.

Masculine nouns:

<i>chaa</i>	‘man’
<i>velu</i>	‘old man, grandfather (Sp. <i>abuelo</i>)’
<i>shīto</i>	‘uncle’
<i>ñānī</i>	‘brother (of male)’

Feminine nouns:

<i>ñāhā</i>	‘woman’
<i>ñāsīhī</i>	‘wife’
<i>kūhu</i>	‘woman’s sister’

General nouns:

<i>suchī</i>	‘child’
<i>yivī</i>	‘person’

Animal nouns:

<i>kīlī</i>	‘animal’
<i>shndēki</i>	‘cow’
<i>tīsuhmā</i>	‘scorpion’
<i>ndīnūñū</i>	‘chameleon’
<i>īna</i>	‘dog’

Deity nouns:

<i>yaa</i>	‘God’
<i>sāntu</i>	‘saint (Sp. <i>santo</i>)’
<i>sāu</i>	‘rain’

Wood nouns:

<i>yūNnū</i>	‘tree, stick’
<i>nūxī</i>	‘firearm, rifle’
<i>nūyushyá</i>	‘pine tree’

Liquid nouns:

<i>ndūchā</i>	‘water’
<i>ndīshī</i>	‘liquor’

Inanimate nouns:

<i>yūu</i>	‘rock’
<i>yāu</i>	‘hole, grave’
<i>kisi</i>	‘cooking pot’
<i>ndūchī</i>	‘bean, eye’
<i>yōō</i>	‘moon, month’
<i>sāhmā</i>	‘cloth’

Nouns may also be divided into those that cannot be possessed and those that can. Nouns that cannot be possessed often refer to topographical or meteorological phenomena, wild animals, or supernatural beings. They also include proper names.

<i>yucha</i>	‘river’
<i>vīko</i>	‘cloud’
<i>yōō</i>	‘moon’
<i>kōo</i>	‘snake’
<i>vāhu</i>	‘coyote’
<i>nihna</i>	‘ghost’
<i>xwáa</i>	‘John (Sp. <i>Juan</i>)’

Nouns in the above category may have more than one sense discrimination, one of which may be possessible.

<i>tāchi</i>	wind, evil spirit
<i>tāchi da</i>	wind his
	his breath <i>or</i> his voice

Nouns that can be possessed are either inherently or optionally possessed. Nouns which are inherently possessed are usually kinship terms or body parts.

<i>ñānī</i>	‘man’s brother’
<i>kwāhā</i>	‘man’s sister, woman’s brother’
<i>shūto</i>	‘uncle’
<i>īnī</i>	‘insides’
<i>xāta</i>	‘back’

Optionally possessed nouns include all others.

<i>vehe</i>	‘house’
<i>īso</i>	‘rabbit’
<i>kwēhē</i>	‘sickness’
<i>sāhmā</i>	‘cloth’
<i>ñuhu</i>	‘earth, land’
<i>yōhō</i>	‘rope’
<i>nūni</i>	‘corn’
<i>īū</i>	‘cornfield’

The distribution classes of nouns include vocatives, proper nouns, locative nouns, temporal nouns, measurement nouns, and common nouns. Some nouns fall into more than one class.

Vocatives include personal names, kinship terms, and other terms of social relation. There is a special set of vocative kinship terms used in greetings.

Personal names:

<i>xwāa</i>	‘John!’
<i>vētu</i>	‘Robert! (Sp. <i>Beto</i>)’

Kinship terms:

<i>ñānī</i>	‘Brother! (of male)’
<i>shūto</i>	‘Uncle!’
<i>tía</i>	‘Aunt! (Sp. <i>tía</i>)’
<i>velu</i>	‘Old one!, Grandfather! (term of respect)’

Other terms of social relation:

<i>tāa</i>	‘sir!, mister!’
<i>nāa</i>	‘ma’am!, missus!’

Proper nouns include personal and place names. They are simple or complex.

Simple:

<i>maría</i>	‘Mary (Sp. <i>María</i>)’
<i>lolo</i>	‘Isadore (Sp. <i>Isidoro</i>)’
<i>shñuu</i>	‘Chalcatongo’ (cf. <i>shīni</i> ‘head’, <i>ñūu</i> ‘town’)
<i>nūndūvā</i>	‘city of Oaxaca’ (cf. <i>nūu</i> ‘face’, <i>ndūvā</i> ‘guaje pod’)

Complex:

<i>lachi bom bo</i>	
Plácido boom boom	
Plácido (Sp. <i>Plácido</i>) Boom Boom (plays bass drum in town band)	
<i>chika chñhñ</i>	
Frances skunk	
Frances (Sp. <i>Chica</i>) Skunk	
<i>xwáa “molino”</i>	
John mill	
John Mill (owns a mill)	
<i>yūkū námá</i>	
mountain soap	
Amoltepec	

Locative nouns occur as nuclei of adverbial noun phrases (see §3.6). They fall into two categories: those that occur in the basic subtype and those that occur in the possessive subtype. The first category includes place names, names of topographical features, and some other nouns.

<i>nūndūvā</i>	‘city of Oaxaca’
<i>īchī</i>	‘trail’
<i>ñūu</i>	‘town’
<i>yahu</i>	‘market’
<i>vehe</i>	‘house’
<i>yūkū</i>	‘mountain’
<i>yucha</i>	‘river’

The second category includes mainly certain body-part nouns that are used in an extended sense. The most common ones are:

xāta

back

behind

chii

stomach, intestines

under, inside of

sīki

nape, upper back

on top of, about, against

xaha

foot

at the foot of, on behalf of

nūu

face

in front of, toward, to

shīni

head

at the top of

yūhū

mouth

at the edge of

īnī

insides

in

sūkun

throat

on top of

īchī

trail

toward

kwénta

account

for (Sp. *cuenta*)

The noun *nūu* ‘face’ also functions as a prestressed pronoun meaning ‘place where’ or ‘time when’, and *kwénta* ‘account’ also functions as a conjunction meaning ‘somewhat like’.

Temporal nouns are also divided into these two categories. The first category includes names for units of time and calendric units, which occur as nuclei of adverbial basic noun phrases.

<i>kāvi</i>	‘day’
<i>kwīyā</i>	‘year’
<i>yōō</i>	‘month’
<i>nūndāa</i>	‘a little later’
<i>óra</i>	‘hour (Sp. <i>hora</i>)’

The second category includes only a few body-part nouns that are extended in a temporal sense; they are:

<i>shīni</i>	head	at the end of
<i>xaha</i>	foot	at the beginning of
<i>nūu</i>	face	within

Measurement nouns express units of weight or measurement; they occur as the nucleus of measurement noun phrases (see §3.2).

<i>yāxīn</i>	‘gourd, gourdful’
<i>ndōho</i>	‘palm basket, basketful’
<i>ndāhā</i>	‘hand, fathom’
<i>nūndōō</i>	‘four-liter measure’
<i>kílo</i>	‘kilogram (Sp. <i>kilo</i>)’

Common nouns are those not included in any of the above distribution classes.

<i>īsu</i>	‘deer’
<i>vehe</i>	‘house’
<i>staa</i>	‘tortilla’
<i>kwēhē</i>	‘sickness’
<i>īna</i>	‘dog’
<i>ndūku</i>	‘firewood’

Nouns may also be classified as either mass or count. Mass nouns do not permit a numeral or numeral phrase as quantifier, whereas count nouns do.

Mass nouns:

<i>ndūchā</i>	‘water’
<i>nūni</i>	‘corn’
<i>ndēhyu</i>	‘mud’

Count nouns:

<i>staa</i>	‘tortilla’
<i>chaa</i>	‘man’
<i>kisi</i>	‘cooking pot’
<i>īna</i>	‘dog’

Sometimes a single noun has two or more sense discriminations, some of which fall into the class of mass nouns, while the others fall into the class of count nouns.

<i>tāchi</i>	‘wind, breath’ (mass); ‘evil spirit, voice’ (count)
<i>yūNnū</i>	‘wood’ (mass); ‘tree, stick, board’ (count)

5.4 Pronouns

Personal pronouns for first and second person show a distinction in respect versus familiar and in free versus postclitic forms. Respect forms are used when the addressee has a higher status than the speaker, or between equals in a formal situation. Familiar forms are used elsewhere. Except for the inclusive form, which is inherently nonsingular, number is not relevant to the system. The remaining forms are used for both singular and plural referents. The free pronouns are:

	RES	FAM
first EX	<i>sáñá</i>	<i>rúhú</i>
first IN		<i>yóhó</i>
second	<i>nihí</i>	<i>róhó</i>

The corresponding clitic pronouns are:

	RES	FAM
first EX	<i>ná</i>	<i>rí</i>
first IN		<i>yó</i>
second	<i>ní</i>	<i>rá</i>

The free pronouns show no distributional restrictions; they occur as subject, object of verb, object of preposition, and possessor of noun. In all positions except object of verb, however, they are emphatic. The clitic pronouns, on the other hand, occur commonly as subject, object of preposition, and possessor of noun, but do not occur as object of verb or in focus position unless they are preceded by a specifier or a quantifier phrase.

Personal pronouns for third person are all clitics; there are six different gender classes of poststressed pronouns, and four of prestressed pronouns. The poststressed forms occur in focus position only when preceded by a specifier or a quantifier phrase. The poststressed pronouns all appear to be reduced forms of nouns; they are:

masculine	<i>dā</i> (cf. <i>chaá</i> 'man')
feminine	<i>ñā</i> (cf. <i>ñāhā</i> 'woman')
animal	<i>tē</i> (cf. <i>kātē</i> 'animal')
deity	<i>ya</i> (cf. <i>yaa</i> 'God')
general	<i>yē</i> or <i>ī</i> (cf. <i>yēvē</i> 'person')
inanimate	∅

The general pronoun refers to people when gender is not specified and is often used for children. A child may also be referred to by the masculine or feminine pronoun. Inanimate objects do not have any specific pronoun that refers to them, and they are usually unexpressed. Under certain infrequent conditions in discourse structure, however, they are referred to by the general pronoun. Pronouns with a human or animal referent are

also sometimes unexpressed when the referent is clear from the context, as seen in 7.20 and 7.22.

There are four prestressed pronouns:

masculine	<i>rā</i>
feminine	<i>ñā</i>
inanimate	<i>xā</i>
unspecified	<i>xārā</i> (cf. <i>xā</i> , <i>rā</i>)

These pronouns occur mainly as classifiers preceding another noun (see §3.10). The feminine, inanimate, and unspecified pronouns also serve as heads of relative clauses; the unspecified pronoun may have a human, animal, or inanimate referent.

The inanimate pronoun *xā* also functions as a complementizer (see §1.1.9), as a relative pronoun (see §3.1.3), as a conjunction meaning both ‘because’ and ‘in order that’ (see §6.2.1), and as a focus marker (see §1.1.8). In addition, it separates the parts of appositional verb phrases (see §2.5) and juxtaposed coordinate sentences (see §6.1.2), and it separates a fronted complement sentence from the matrix sentence (see §1.1.9). In all of these functions it is glossed ‘complementizer’, rather than ‘it (inanimate)’.

The locative noun *nūu* ‘face’ also functions as a prestressed pronoun meaning ‘place where’ and ‘time when’.

There are four interrogative pronouns.

<i>nā</i>	‘what?’
<i>ndōō</i>	‘what?’ (homophonous with ‘why?’)
<i>nāvā</i>	‘what?, who?’ (cf. <i>nā</i> , <i>kūū</i> ‘CON:be’, <i>xā</i> ‘it:INAN’)
<i>nāū</i>	‘what?, who?, whose?’ (cf. <i>nā</i> , <i>kūū</i>)

The pronouns *nā* and *nāū* also occur in interrogative noun phrases (see §3.4), and in indefinite noun phrases (see §3.9).

A few fixed interrogative noun phrases function as interrogative pronouns (see §3.4).

There are two locative demonstrative pronouns, formed by combining *īchī* ‘trail’ with the locative adverbs *xáhá* ‘here’ and *yúkán* ‘there’.

<i>cháhá</i>	‘this place’
<i>chúkán</i>	‘that place’

5.5 Adverbs

Adverbs are locative, temporal, general, intensifying, or interrogative.

Locative adverbs include all locational words that are not nouns; they occur as locative adjuncts (see §1.1.4), as location peripheral elements (see §1.1.7), and as manner in the verb phrase (see §2.1.3).

<i>xáhá</i>	‘here’
<i>yúkán</i>	‘there’
<i>yāNnī</i>	‘near’
<i>xíká</i>	‘far’

The adverbs *xáhá* and *yúkán* have an additional function as deictics in noun phrases (see §3.1.3). In this function they are glossed ‘this’ and ‘that’, rather than ‘here’ and ‘there’. Examples of the locative-adverb use are seen in 7.11 and 7.22; and examples of the deictic use are seen in 7.2 and 7.9. *yúkán* sometimes occurs in focus position, where it may be extended from a locative to a manner meaning, as seen in 7.9.

Temporal adverbs include all temporal words that are not nouns; they occur as time peripheral elements (see §1.1.7).

<i>ikū</i>	‘yesterday’
<i>viNnā</i>	‘today’
<i>iNñā</i>	‘tomorrow’
<i>ísá</i>	‘day after tomorrow’
<i>xāhīnī</i>	‘in the afternoon’ (cf. <i>xā</i> ‘it:INAN’, <i>īnī</i> ‘POT:get:late’)
<i>xākwāā</i>	‘at night’ (cf. <i>xā</i> , <i>kwāā</i> ‘POT:get:late’)
<i>ndúú</i>	‘all day (daylight)’
<i>ñúú</i>	‘all night’
<i>sáá</i>	‘then’

General adverbs include manner words that are not stative verbs.

<i>syáhán</i>	‘in this way’
<i>syúkán</i>	‘in that way’ (cf. <i>yúkán</i> ‘that’)
<i>sō</i>	‘thus’
<i>kwítí</i>	‘completely’
<i>kwēē</i>	‘slowly’

<i>yāchī</i>	‘fast’
<i>yíí</i>	‘with difficulty’
<i>káhá</i>	‘in vain’
<i>māni</i>	‘just’ (cf. <i>máá</i> ‘SPEC’, <i>nī</i> ‘LIM’)
<i>sūnī</i>	‘also’ (cf. <i>sūū</i> ‘affirmation’, <i>nī</i>)
<i>núsáá</i>	‘okay’ (cf. <i>nú</i> ‘if, INT’, <i>sáá</i> ‘then’)

General adverbs occur as peripheral manner (see §1.1.7) and as manner in the verb phrase (see §2.1.3). *sō* also functions as a conjunction meaning ‘with the result that’.

There is one intensifying adverb; it is:

<i>ndē</i>	‘very’
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The general adverb *kwúí* ‘completely’ also functions as an intensifying element, as do the stative verbs *shāān* ‘fierce’ and *tōndo* ‘foolish’ (see §5.2). Intensifying elements most commonly occur as manner in content verb phrases, stative verb phrases, quantifier phrases, and adverb phrases (see §§2.1.3, 2.3, 4.1.4, 4.1.5, and 4.2.1).

Interrogative adverbs are simple or complex.

Simple:

<i>náchī</i>	‘where?, in which direction?’ (cf. <i>nā</i> ‘what?’, <i>īchī</i> ‘trail’)
<i>nāndī</i>	‘where?, as far as where?, from where?’ (cf. <i>nā</i> , <i>ūndi</i> ‘until’)
<i>nānū</i>	‘where?, at which place?’ (cf. <i>nā</i> , <i>nūu</i> ‘face’)
<i>nāmā</i>	‘when?’ (cf. <i>nā</i> , <i>ama</i> ‘when? [obsolete]’)
<i>nāsā</i>	‘how?, in what manner? how much?’ (cf. <i>nā</i> , <i>sáá</i> ‘then’)
<i>ndōō</i>	‘why?’ (homophonous with ‘what?’)

Complex:

<i>nā</i>	<i>xíin</i>
what	with
	with what?, with whom?
<i>nā</i>	<i>síkí xā</i>
what	nape CMP
	why?

nā “razón” *xā*
 what reason CMP
 why?

nāsā *módo*
 how way
 how?, by what means (Sp. *modo*)?

There are also a number of interrogative noun phrases that function as interrogative adverbs (see §3.4).

5.6 Quantifiers

Quantifiers include both numerals and general quantifiers. These elements commonly occur as quantifiers in noun phrases (see §§3.1.2 and 3.2) and as nuclei in quantifier phrases (see §4.1). They also occur as manner in verb phrases (see §2.1.3) and as ordinals in relative clauses (see §3.1.3). When no noun nucleus occurs, a quantifier sometimes appears to function as a noun.

The simple numerals are:

<i>īñ</i>	‘one, a’
<i>ūu</i>	‘two, a few’
<i>ūni</i>	‘three’
<i>kūun</i>	‘four’
<i>ūhun</i>	‘five’
<i>īñu</i>	‘six’
<i>ūshya</i>	‘seven’
<i>ūna</i>	‘eight’
<i>īñ</i>	‘nine’
<i>ūshi</i>	‘ten’
<i>shyāhun</i>	‘fifteen’
<i>ōko</i>	‘twenty’
<i>shīko</i>	‘twenty’ (as the nucleus of attributive numeral phrases)
<i>syéntu</i>	‘hundred (Sp. <i>ciento</i>)’
<i>mīl</i>	‘thousand (Sp. <i>mil</i>)’

Other numerals are expressed by phrases, as described in §§4.1.1 and 4.1.2.

Numerals have an ordinal form, in which the tone of the first syllable is replaced by high. This form occurs in relative clauses (see §3.1.3).

<i>úni</i>	‘third’
<i>úshi</i>	‘tenth’

The numeral *úu* ‘two’ fuses with *ndĩ*, the reduced form of *ndĩhĩ* ‘all’, to create *ndúú* ‘both’, and it often fuses a second time to create *ndĩndúú*.

General quantifiers include a number of less precise quantifying words. They are simple or complex. The most common simple ones are:

<i>sāvā</i>	‘half’
<i>kwaha</i>	‘much, many’
<i>xākū</i>	‘few’
<i>ndĩhĩ</i> or <i>ndĩ</i>	‘all’
<i>tĩhĩ</i>	‘little bit’
<i>tĩhla</i>	‘somewhat’
<i>tĩNnĩ</i>	‘several, various’
<i>táká</i>	‘each’
<i>nínĩ</i>	‘only’
<i>ĩnga</i>	‘another’ (cf. <i>ĩn</i> ‘one’, <i>ka</i> ‘ADD’)
<i>ĩnúú</i>	‘the same’ (cf. <i>ĩn</i> , <i>nūu</i> ‘face’)

Two common complex general quantifiers are:

<i>táká</i>	<i>nūu</i>
each	face
each kind of,	all kinds of
<i>ndĩhĩ</i>	<i>nūu</i>
all	face
every kind of	

5.7 Prepositions

There are four simple prepositions and two complex prepositions.

Simple:

<i>xíin</i> or <i>xíní</i>	‘with’
<i>ūndi</i>	‘until, to, as far as, from’
<i>māhñu</i>	‘between, among’
<i>xākū</i>	‘with reference to, than’ (cf. <i>xā</i> ‘CMP’, <i>kúū</i> ‘CON:be’)

Complex:

<i>xā</i>	<i>sīkī</i>
CMP	nape
	because of
<i>māhñu</i>	<i>sāvā</i>
between	half
	halfway between

The preposition *xíin* also occurs in additive noun phrases and additive adverb phrases (see §§3.8 and 4.2.3), and *ūndi* also functions as a conjunction meaning ‘until’ or ‘since’ (see §6.2.1).

Many prepositional functions are carried by noun phrases containing locative nouns used in an extended sense (see §3.6).

5.8 Conjunctions

Conjunctions are used mainly to link combinations of sentences in a coordinate or subordinate relationship (see §§6.1.1 and 6.1.2). The coordinate conjunctions are simple or complex.

Simple:

<i>tī</i>	‘and’
<i>kō</i>	‘but’
<i>shí</i>	‘or’
<i>nī</i> or <i>nī̄</i>	‘nor (Sp. <i>ni</i>)’

Complex:

<i>na</i>	<i>tī</i>
when	and
	and then

xā tī
 CMP and
 and then

chī sūnī
 because also
 but also

The conjunction *tī* ‘and’ sometimes follows a focused element or another conjunction (see §§1.1.8, 6.1.1, and 6.4); and it also occurs in measurement noun phrases (see §3.2), in additive noun phrases (see §3.8), and in expanded numeral phrases (see §4.1.4). *shī* ‘or’ also occurs in additive noun phrases (see §3.8), in alternative numeral phrases (see §4.1.7), and in YES/NO questions (see §1.2.1). *nī* ‘nor’ also occurs in additive noun phrases (see §3.8) and in negative quantifier phrases (see §4.1.8).

The subordinate conjunctions are also simple or complex.

Simple:

chī ‘because’
nú ‘if, whenever, when’ (cf. *nūu* ‘face’)
 (homophonous with ‘INT’)
vasu ‘although’ (cf. *vá* ‘really’, *sūū* ‘affirmation’)
 (homophonous with ‘expectation’)
na ‘when’
náva ‘in order that’ (cf. *na*, *kúū* ‘CON:be’, *xā* ‘CMP’)
nánū ‘as, exactly like’ (cf. *na*, *nú*)

Complex:

sīkī xā
 nape CMP
 because

sō xā
 thus CMP
 with the result that

The conjunction *chī* ‘because’ sometimes follows a focused element (see §§1.1.8 and 6.4); in this use it has the meaning ‘indeed’.

5.9 Markers

Markers include all words that form parts of sentences or phrases that are not included in the parts of speech already described. They are verbal, nominal, numerical, general, or sentential.

Verbal markers occur as preverbal and postverbal elements in verb phrases (see §§2.1.2 and 2.1.3). There are nine directionals, five negatives, one of which is complex, and six other verbal markers. The directionals are:

<i>kīn</i>	‘will go’
<i>xán</i>	‘goes’
<i>xan</i>	‘went’
<i>kwān</i>	‘has gone (and has not returned)’
<i>kwán</i>	‘go!’
<i>chó</i>	‘let’s go!’
<i>kí</i>	‘will come’
<i>ki</i>	‘came’
<i>vē</i>	‘is coming’

The simple negatives are:

<i>tu</i>	‘not’ (cf. <i>tūū</i> ‘to not exist’)
<i>koto</i>	‘don’t!’ (cf. <i>kōtō</i> ‘FOR:BE:careful’)
<i>tuxáhī</i>	‘not yet’ (cf. <i>tu</i>)
<i>tūkáā</i>	‘no more, no longer’ (cf. <i>tu</i> , <i>ka</i> ‘ADD’)

The complex negative is:

<i>koto</i>	<i>ma</i>
NEG	NEG
don’t!	

The other verbal markers are:

<i>nī</i>	‘completive aspect’
<i>kā</i>	‘plural’
<i>xa</i>	‘already’
<i>sā</i>	‘just’
<i>ná</i>	‘hortatory’

<i>koyo</i>	‘plural’
<i>tū</i>	‘affirmative’

Nominal markers occur in basic, negative, and indefinite noun phrases (see §§3.1.2, 3.1.3, 3.5, and 3.9); they are:

<i>náá</i>	‘the very ones, selves’
<i>ún</i>	‘that, the’
<i>ansu</i>	‘not’ (cf. <i>sūū</i> ‘affirmation’)
<i>savahni</i>	‘any’ (cf. <i>sáá</i> ‘then’, <i>vaha</i> ‘good’, <i>nī</i> ‘LIM’)

General markers occur in more than one major phrase type; they are:

<i>máá</i>	‘the very, self’
<i>tūkū</i>	‘again, also, other’
<i>nī</i>	‘just’
<i>ka</i>	‘more’

There are two kinds of sentential markers. One kind affects the mood or truth value of a sentence, as described in §1.5. They occur in initial or final position.

Initial only:

<i>sūū</i>	‘affirmation’
<i>vā</i>	‘really’
<i>vānūshīl</i> or <i>vānūshīā</i>	‘for good reason’ (cf. <i>vā</i> ‘really’, <i>nú</i> ‘if’, <i>shí</i> ‘or’, <i>xā</i> ‘CMP’)
<i>vātūni</i>	‘agreement’ (cf. <i>vā</i> , <i>tū</i> ‘really’, <i>nī</i> ‘LIM’)
<i>vasu</i>	‘expectation’ (cf. <i>vā</i> , <i>sūū</i>) (homophonous with ‘although’)

Final only:

<i>nú</i> or <i>núh</i>	‘YES/NO interrogative’ (homophonous with ‘if’)
<i>ví</i>	‘really’
<i>níkú</i>	‘contrafactual’ (cf. <i>ni</i> ‘COM’, <i>kúū</i> ‘CON:be’)
<i>chi</i>	‘hearsay’ (cf. <i>kachi</i> ‘COM:say’)

The markers *vā* and *vānūshīā* also function as conjunctions meaning ‘because’ (see §6.2.1).

The second kind of sentential marker relates a sentence to its discourse context, as described in §6.4. Two of the most common ones are:

xā yúkán
CMP there
therefore

sīkí yúkán
nape there
therefore

5.10 Interjections

Interjections are words used outside of sentences to express emotion. Some common interjections are:

aa ‘ah!’
xūta ‘surprise’
suukū ‘agreement’ (cf. *sūū* ‘affirmation’, *kúū* ‘CON:be’)
xaxan ‘oh!’
nání ‘pause form’ (cf. *nání* ‘CON:be:named’)

Examples of the pause form used in sentences are found in 7.7, 7.10, and 7.14.

Some interjections do not fit the phonological system of the language. A high-pitched bilabial trill is used to call chickens and turkeys, and *sst* is used to chase dogs out of the house.

6

Intersentential Relations

6.1 Coordinate Relations

Some combinations of sentences are connected by a conjunction, and some are not.

6.1.1 Coordinate relations with conjunctions. Coordinate sentences with conjunctions express coordination, antithesis, disjunction, temporal sequence, and result.

General coordination is expressed by the conjunction *tī* 'and'.

ná kīhīn ná / tī kāhān yó
HORT POT:go I:RES and POT:speak we:IN
I'm going, and we'll be talking [later].

nōhō ná / tī chāā ná iÑñā
POT:leave I:RES and POT:arrive:here I:RES tomorrow
I'm leaving, and I'll be back tomorrow.

ni yaxī dā staa / tī ni xihī dā ndūchā
COM COM:eat he tortilla and COM COM:drink he water
He ate tortillas and drank water.

If the first sentence contains a negative noun phrase (see §3.5), the second sentence may be introduced by the conjunction *chī sūnī* 'but also', rather than by *tī*.

ansu nínī ndīshī kōhō yó / chī sūnī
 NEG only liquor POT:drink we:IN because also

njākwáhá kōhō yó
 tepache POT:drink we:IN

We will NOT ONLY drink FIREWATER, but we will also drink TEPACHE (an alcoholic beverage).

Antithesis is expressed by the conjunction *kō* ‘but’, or by *kō* followed by another conjunction or adverb.

kīhīn ná / kō tu njāā ná
 POT:go I:RES but NEG POT:arrive:back:here I:RES
 I’m going, but I’m not coming back.

kwāhan nā nūu yahu / kō tu ni xini ná
 INC:go she face market but NEG COM COM:see I:RES
 She went to the market, but I didn’t see [her go].

tu xīnī ná / kō kāchī tu kwéntu
 NEG CON:know I:RES but CON:say really story
 I don’t know, but the story (Sp. *cuento*) really tells [about it].

kīhīn rí / kō tī kīhīn ka rí
 POT:go I:FAM but and POT:go DD I:FAM
 I’m going, but not yet.

vīī íyó kwéntu / kō sáá chī tu xīnī
 pretty CON:exist story but then because NEG CON:know

rí nāsā kwāhan
 I:FAM how INC:go

It’s a nice story, but then indeed I really don’t know how [it] goes.

Disjunction is expressed by the conjunction *shī* ‘or’ or by *shī* followed by *tī*. Sentences containing *shī* alone, however, are construed as questions, rather than as statements (see §1.2.1).

kīhīn shūto ná / shī kīhīn shīshī ná
 POT:go uncle my:RES or POT:go aunt my:RES
 Is my uncle going, or my aunt?

ūni ni yaha / shī kūun ni yaha
 three COM COM:pass or four COM COM:pass
 Did THREE OR FOUR pass by?

xa vāxī / shí tī kīí ka dā
 already INC:come or and POT:come ADD he
 [He] is already coming, or he hasn't left yet. (lit. ... or he will still come.)

The second part of a disjunctive sentence may be reduced; the following example contains only a negative.

xihí dā ndūchā / shí tuu
 CON:drink he water OR NEG
 Does he drink water, or not?

(See also 7.27.)

Negative disjunction is expressed by the conjunction *nī* or *nī̄* 'nor' (Sp. *ni*). The conjunction precedes both parts of the disjunction, and a negative marker must occur in each verb phrase.

nī tu yáxí dā staa / nī tu xihí dā ndūchā
 nor NEG CON:eat he tortilla nor NEG CON:drink he water
 He neither eats tortillas, nor drinks water.

Temporal sequence is expressed by the complex conjunctions *na tī* and *xā tī*, which mean 'and then', by the sequences *tī sáá* and *sáá tī* 'and then', or simply by *tī* 'and'.

tī kwaha ndūku kāhnjā yó / xā tī kwīkō yó
 and much firewood POT:cut we:IN CMP and POT:stack we:IN
 We will cut A LOT OF FIREWOOD, and then we'll stack [it] up.

xa ni xanī dā shyāhun kēwī /
 already COM COM:place he fifteen day

tī sáá ni xahan tūkū ná
 and then COM COM:go REP I:RES
 He allowed [me] two weeks, and then I was to go back.

ndōō ni kā sahā dā / sáá tī yóhó xini
 what COM PL COM:do he then and we:IN COM:know
 What did [they] do, and then we knew [about it]?

Examples of *tī* alone are found in 7.11, 7.17, 7.19, and 7.30.

Result may be expressed by *tī* 'and', followed by the complex sentential markers *xā yúkán* or *sīkī yúkán*, both of which mean 'therefore'.

xahan dā ndinūū / tī xā yúkán tu ni kixi
 COM:go he Tlaxiaco and CMP there NEG COM COM:come

dā xáhá

he here

He went to Tlaxiaco, and therefore he didn't come here.

ni kuūn vaha sāu / tī sīkī yúkán xaha
 COM COM:fall good rain and nape there COM:give

vaha ūū

good cornfield

It rained well, and therefore the cornfield yielded [a] good [crop].

6.1.2 Coordinate relations without conjunctions. It is possible to simply juxtapose two or more independent sentences, with no pause at the seam, to link sentences that are closely related in the mind of the speaker. These sentences have coreferential subjects and verbs that usually agree in aspect. (Incomplete aspect in motion verbs [see §5.1.2] is considered to agree with either completive or continuative aspect in other verbs.) Sometimes the sentences describe different, but related, events or states, and sometimes the two sentences describe the same event; often one sentence is more specific than the other.

xinū dā / kwāhan dā
 COM:run he INC:go he

He left running.

xahan dā / xan kōhō dā ndūchā
 COM:go he COM:go POT:drink he water

He went to drink water.

ni kundéé dā / nihi dā īso
 COM COM:win he COM:get he rabbit

He won; he got the rabbit.

(See also 7.12 and 7.47.)

The second part is often a negative counterpart of the first.

kwāhan dā nūū / tu kánjā dā
 INC:go he town NEG CON:be:located:SG he

He went to town; he isn't [here].

vāhu kúū / ansu īna kúū
 coyote CON:be NEG dog CON:be

[It]'s a coyote, not a dog.

Sometimes the two juxtaposed sentences describe simultaneous events.

xítā dā / xikónúú dā
COM:sing he COM:walk:around he
He traveled around singing.

kēndā tē / kúnū tē
POT:appear it:AML POT:run it:AML
It (the animal) will come running up.

vāxī “Carranza” / xáhnī dā yivī
INC:come Carranza CON:kill he person
Carranza was coming along killing people.

kátúú dā / kishī dā
CON:lie he CON:sleep he
He is lying asleep.

(See also 7.35 and 7.44.)

Sometimes the complementizer *xā* separates the parts of such a sentence; an example with three parts is found in 7.50.

Sometimes the two parts describe events that occur in close sequence.

ni kihin dā ichi / kwāhan dā
COM COM:take he path INC:go he
He took the road and went.

(See also 7.11, 7.43, 7.45, and 7.48.)

A series of items that form a list may be expressed by juxtaposition. If the items in the list serve as the subject of the sentence, the verb is stated before each item in the series.

ni xihi ndīshīyú / ni xihi rē
COM COM:die goat COM COM:die sheep
Goats and sheep were killed.

xítā chaa / xítā ñāhā / xítā suchī
CON:sing man CON:sing woman CON:sing child
Men, women, and children are singing.

If the items in the list serve as something other than the subject, the verb and subject are stated before each item.

shikó dā nūni / shikó dā ndūchī / shikó dā tríu
CON:sell he corn CON:sell he bean CON:sell he wheat
He sells corn, beans, and wheat (Sp. *trigo*).

kāxī rá kuñu / kāxī rá staa
 POT:eat you:FAM meat POT:eat you:FAM tortilla
 You will eat meat and tortillas.

There is also a highly restricted juxtaposed coordinate construction that involves a verb of existence and a shared noun phrase. The first sentence must contain *kōō* ‘to exist’ or *tūū* ‘to not exist’, and a noun phrase as subject. The second sentence may have any verb, and the shared noun phrase may express any element within it. In the following examples, the solidus that signals the break between the two parts is arbitrarily placed after the shared noun phrase.

íyó ndīkā / xáhā ñā nūu dā
 CON:exist banana CON:give she face his
 There are bananas she is giving him.

tūū nā ñunu / kwāhan dā xíin
 NEG:CON:exist what net:bag INC:go he with
 He didn’t take a net bag with him. (lit. There isn’t any net bag he left with.)

tūū kwénta / sáhā yó
 NEG:CON:exist account CON:do we:IN
 We don’t pay attention (Sp. *cuenta*).

6.2 Subordinate Relations

Subordinate relations are usually expressed using conjunctions, but purpose and one kind of temporal relation may be expressed by simple juxtaposition.

6.2.1 Subordinate relations with conjunctions. Conjunctions are used to express cause, result, condition, concession, purpose, time, and comparison of likeness.

Cause sentences are usually introduced by the conjunction *chī* ‘because’. Less frequently they are introduced by the complex conjunction *sīkī xā* ‘because’, by the sentential markers *vā* ‘really’ and *vānūshīā* ‘with good reason’, or simply by the complementizer *xā*. Cause sentences usually follow the main sentence.

With *chī*:

kwān kwítá dā / chī kúhu shāān dā
 INC:GO CON:be:tired he because CON:be:sick fierce he
 He is getting tired because he is very sick.

íyó nūndee īnī / kō ná kūndātū kwēē yó /
 CON:exist joy insides but HORT POT:wait slowly we:IN

chī kwēē kīn kōyō yó
 because slowly POT:go POT:arrange we:IN

[We] are happy, but we still have to wait because we are going to get [things] arranged slowly.

(See also 7.9, 7.26, 7.33, 7.36, and 7.42.)

With *sīkí xā*:

kúsii īnī dā / sīkí xā nihi dā kwaha shuhun
 CON:be:happy insides his nape CMP COM:get he much money
 He is happy because he received a lot of money.

With *vā*:

kā xāchā dā / vā shuhun nī kā ndúkú dā
 PL CON:dig he really money LIM PL CON:look:for he
 They are digging because they are JUST looking for MONEY.

With *vānūshīā*:

tu yúhú suchī kwáchí / vānūshīā
 NEG POT:fear child small:PL for:good:reason

kūnjā nāna ī
 POT:be:located:SG mother GEN

The children will not be afraid because their mother (Sp. *nana*) will be [with them].

With *xā*:

kachi tē / xā yūhū tē xārā kēē ún
 COM:say it:AML CMP COM:fear it:AML UN animal that
 It (the cricket) said [it] because he was afraid of the [other] animal.

nā xūn chihi rí ndēyū / xā tuu tēn kisi
 what with POT:COOK I:FAM food CMP NEG:CON:exist one pot
 With what will I cook the food because there isn't [even] one pot.

A sentence with *sīki xā* often has an adjunct-complement reading, as well as a cause-sentence reading; see §1.1.9. For example, the sentence above could also be glossed ‘He is happy about receiving a lot of money.’

Cause sentences can also precede the main sentence, in which case the main sentence often begins with *tī* ‘and’.

sīki xā nihi dā kwaha shuhun / kúsi inī dā
 nape CMP COM:get he much money CON:be:happy insides his
 Because he received a lot of money, he is happy.

chī kúhu shāān dā / tī kwān kwítá dā
 because CON:be:sick fierce he and INC:go CON:be:tired he
 Because he is very sick, he is getting tired.

Result sentences are introduced by the adverb *sō* ‘thus’, used in this construction to mean ‘with the result that’, or by the complex conjunction *sō xā*. They follow the main sentence.

tu ndishyā dā / sō shndáhu dā
 NEG true he thus CON:deceive he
 He is not truthful with the result that he deceives (people).

xíkónáá tī / sō xā tūkáā kundéé
 CON:walk:around it:AML thus CMP no:more COM:win

kwíkó tī
 POT:GO:around it:AML

They (the animals) have been making (a lot of) turns with the result that they no longer enjoy it.

Simple condition sentences are introduced by the conjunction *nú* ‘if’, which also means ‘whenever’ or simply ‘when’. The condition sentence may precede or follow the main sentence; when it precedes, the main sentence is introduced by *tī* ‘and’ or *vasu* ‘expectation’.

tī ná káchī dā / nú iyó “voluntad” sēhē dā
 and HORT POT:say he if CON:exist willingness child his
 And let him say [so] if his child is willing. (lit. ... if his child’s willingness exists.)

nú nánī ishī ún / tī sō xahnja ñā
 if long:PL hair that and thus COM:cut she
 If that hair [was] long, she cut [it] thus.

nú tu nīhi yó “pan” / vasu staa ná
 if NEG POT:get we:IN bread EXPECTATION tortilla HORT
nīhi yó
 POT:get we:IN

If we don't find bread, we should surely [be able to] get TORTILLAS.

Contrafactual condition sentences often precede the main sentence; both parts of the sentence have verbs in completive aspect, and the main sentence may end with the contrafactual sentential marker *níkú*.

nú ni xihī dā tāNna / tī xa ni
 if COM COM:drink he medicine and already COM
nduvaha dā níkú
 COM:get:well he CF

If he had drunk the medicine, he would have already gotten well.

An unfulfilled wish is expressed by a contrafactual condition sentence used alone.

nú ni kii dā níkú
 if COM COM:come he CF
 If only he had come!

Concession sentences precede the main sentence; they are introduced by the conjunction *vasu* 'although', and the main sentence is introduced by *kō* 'but'.

vasu íyó nāsthí dā / kō kunja dā
 although CON:exist wife his but COM:be:located:sg he
xín nā
 with her

Even though he has a wife, he lived with her (another woman).

vasu nāndúkú yó / kō tu nānīhi yó
 although POT:look:for we:IN but NEG POT:get we:IN
 Even though we'll look for [it], we won't get [it].

Purpose sentences are introduced by *náva* 'in order that' or by an extended use of the complementizer *xā*. A potential verb is required in the subordinate sentence except in rare instances when instructions are being given. In these cases, continuative aspect is used. (Aspect and context distinguish purpose sentences with *xā* from the cause sentences described above, which usually have completive or continuative aspect.)

kīhīn nā yahu / náva kīhin nā yaha
 POT:go she market in:order:that POT:take she chili:pepper
 She will go to the market to buy chili peppers.

kīhīn dā / náva kā nándāhā dā
 POT:go he in:order:that PL POT:marry he
 They will go to get married.

Subordinate time sentences are introduced by the conjunctions *nú* ‘when’ or ‘whenever’ (which also means ‘if’) or *na* ‘when’, or by the preposition *ūndi* ‘until’, which also functions as a conjunction meaning ‘until’ or ‘since’. When the time sentence precedes the main sentence, the main sentence often begins with *tī* ‘and’ or *na tī* ‘and then’.

nú ni kākū sēhē nā / tī kā kāā nā
 when COM COM:be:born child her and PL POT:ascend she

nīhī yúkán
 steambath that

When women have borne children, they go up to the steambath.

tī nú ni xahnu tríu / kwān īchi
 and when COM COM:grow wheat INC:go POT:be:dry
 And when the wheat is grown, [it] gets dry.

kuūn sāu / na ni njaa ní
 COM:fall rain when COM COM:arrive:back:here you:RES
 It was raining when you arrived.

na ni xahan rá nūndūvā / tī ni kendo
 when COM COM:go you:FAM Oaxaca and COM COM:stay

máá fīn rí
 SPEC one I:FAM

When you went to Oaxaca, I was left alone.

nú ni ndīhi ni xacha dā /
 when COM COM:finish COM COM:sow he

na tī kā kexāhā dā kā xitu dā
 when and PL COM:begin he PL COM:plow he
 When they finished sowing, they began to plow [it in].

syáhán kachi tu xārā chaa ún /
 in:his:way COM:say really UN man that

ūndi xaa dā xīn yī chūi yuku ún
 until COM:arrive he with GEN stomach mountain that
 That man said THAT until he arrived with the child in the mountains.

Comparison of likeness is introduced by the conjunction *nánū* ‘as’ or ‘exactly like’, or by the locative noun *kwénta*, which functions as a conjunction meaning ‘somewhat like’. No verb occurs in the subordinate sentence, but it is assumed to be the same as the verb of the main sentence.

iyó kwéntu dā nánū xārā vāhu
 CON:exist story his exactly:like UN coyote
 There are stories about him just like [the story there is about] Mr. coyote.

xīnū yó kwénta vāhu
 CON:run we:IN somewhat:like coyote
 We run somewhat like coyotes [run].

Comparison of degree is expressed by a simple sentence containing a referent adjunct (see §1.1.4).

6.2.2 Subordinate relations without conjunctions. Two subordinate relations, purpose and one kind of temporal, may be expressed without a conjunction.

Purpose sentences follow the main sentence. They must have their verb in potential aspect.

xáhnja rí yūNnū / sáhā yó vehe
 CON:cut I:FAM tree POT:do we:IN house
 I am cutting trees in order that we might build a house.

ndikō ñā staa / kāxī yó
 CON:grind she tortilla POT:eat we:IN
 She is grinding (making) tortillas for us to eat.

kēvi “viernes” kōshyu ni kā xanī yivē / kōhō sántu
 day Friday midday COM PL COM:place person POT:drink saint
 AT NOON ON FRIDAY (Sp. *viernes*) the people put out [something] for the saints (Sp. *santo*) to drink.

(See also 7.16 and 7.34.)

The day of the month is expressed as a basic sentence containing the verb *xíka* ‘to walk (continuative)’ (see §1.1.8). When such a sentence is

juxtaposed to the main sentence, it functions as a peripheral time element within it.

ūu xika “abril” / kwāhan dā ndinūū
two CON:walk April INC:go he Tlaxiaco
ON APRIL SECOND he went to Tlaxiaco.

6.3 Direct Quotations

Quotations consist of three parts: the quotation itself, the quotation introducer, and the quotation closer. The quotation is obligatory and consists of one or more sentences (or fragments). The introducer and closer are both optional, but closers occur more frequently than introducers. Closers often contain only a verb of thinking or speaking, usually *kāchī* ‘to say’, and a subject. More detailed information is usually expressed in introducers.

With closer:

xáhá ni kande rí // ndōō xañu rá
here COM COM:be:located I:FAM why CON:step you:FAM

s̄k̄i rí / kachi t̄i
nape my:FAM COM:say it:AML

“I have been RIGHT HERE. Why are you stepping all over me?” it (the animal) said.

tu k̄ax̄i rá rúhú // tuu / ch̄i tuu //
NEG POT:eat you:FAM me:FAM NEG because NEG

tu k̄ax̄i rá rúhú / ch̄i “rey” kúū rí /
NEG POT:eat you:FAM me:FAM because king CON:be I:FAM

kachi t̄i / xārā gr̄iyu ún
COM:say it:AML UN cricket that

“You aren’t going to eat me. No, you won’t. You aren’t going to eat me because I am a king,” it, the cricket (Sp. *grillo*), said.

t̄i r̄ohó nāū xā kúū rá / kachi t̄i
and you:FAM who CMP CON:be you:FAM COM:say it:AML

x̄iní xārā nd̄ikáhá ún
with UN lion that

“And as for you, who are you?” it (the animal) said to the lion.

(See also 7.15–16, 7.22, 7.23–25, 7.27, 7.29, 7.33, 7.36, and 7.42.)

With introducer:

tī ni kachi dā / nōhō ná vīNnā
and COM COM:say he POT:leave I:RES now
And he said, “I’m going back now.”

ni xikāNnuhu dā rúhú / ndōō sáhā ní
COM COM:ask he me:FAM what CON:do you:RES
He asked me, “What are you doing?”

tī ni ndōho īnī dā / ná kúndéé rí nūu dā
and COM COM:think insides his HORT POT:win I:FAM face his
And he thought, “May I win out over him!”

tī ni kandahu dā xún dā / ná chīndéé ní
and COM COM:plead he with him HORT POT:help you:RES

sáñá

me:RES

And he pleaded with him, “Help me!”

With both introducer and closer:

ni kahān / ná kenjaa ndāhā rá /
COM COM:speak HORT POT:take:away hand your:FAM

kachi ī

COM:say it:AML

[It] spoke, “Get your front paw off,” it (the animal) said.

ni kā kexāhā kā ndaNnuhu dā / ndōō ni kahān
COM PL COM:begin PL COM:discuss he why COM COM:speak

syáhán chaa ún / kachi dā / kā ndaNnuhu dā
in:this:way man that COM:say he PL COM:discuss he
They began to discuss, “Why does the man speak in this way?” they
said, discussing it.

(See also 7.7–9 and 7.14.)

For dramatic style, it is possible to omit both the introducer and the closer. The following text fragment contains three quotations, and only the last has a closer.

tī ndíshyā rá nú sáá // ndíshyā rí //
 and correct you:FAM INT then correct I:FAM

ndíshyā rá núsáá / káchī ndīkáhá ún
 correct you:FAM okay CON:say lion that
 “And you are right, aren’t you?” “I am right.” “Okay, you are right,”
 said the lion.

6.4 Relations Across Sentence Boundaries

One important way in which a sentence is related to its discourse context is by the use of certain linking expressions in sentence-initial position. These expressions include conjunctions, adverbs, and complex sentential markers. These links occur commonly in narrative before the peak of the discourse, but are not used when the speaker wants to heighten the dramatic effect. In the text in chapter 7, they are quite common up to 7.30, where the rabbit first hits the tar baby, and rare between 7.31 and 7.49, the section which contains most of the action. A link occurs again in 7.50, which is part of the conclusion.

The conjunctions that occur most frequently are the coordinate conjunctions *tī* ‘and’, *kō* ‘but’, and *na tī* ‘and then’; and the subordinate conjunction *chī* ‘because’.

With *tī*:

kā xaha dā njākwíxín nūu dā // tī tu ni xihī
 PL COM:give he pulque face his and NEG COM COM:drink
 They gave him pulque (an alcoholic beverage). And [he] did not
 drink [it].

kachi dā syáhán nání ñūu // tī nduku
 COM:say he in:this:way COM:be:named town and COM:look:for

dā ñm vehe kēndō dā // tī tu ni xaha
 he one house POT:stay he and NEG COM COM:give

chaá ún vehe
 man that house

He said [that] thus was the town named. And he looked for a house
 to stay in. And the man didn’t give [him] a house.

tī “sábado” *kā ndísō dā ndūku* //
and Saturday PL CON:carry he firewood

tī vē koyo vīkō
and INC:come PL fiesta

And ON SATURDAY they carry firewood. And [they] started out for the fiesta.

(See also 7.2–5, 7.6–7, 7.10–12, 7.13–14, 7.15–17, 7.18–19, 7.20–24, 7.26–28, and 7.29–30.)

With *kō*:

kā sahā dā veñuhu ñūu yó xáhá //
PL COM:do he church town our:IN here

ndē vīī kā xanī dā kwéntu //
INTS pretty PL COM:place he story

kō xā sáñá / tu ni kā xini ná
but CMP I:RES NEG COM PL COM:see I:RES

They built the church in our town here. VERY BEAUTIFULLY they talked [about it]. But as for us, we didn’t see [it].

(See also 7.1–2.)

With *na tī*:

kuūn sāu // *na tī ka kexāhā dā kā xítú dā*
COM:fall rain when and PL COM:begin he PL CON:plow he
It rained. And then they began to plow.

In 7.14 *kō* occurs at the beginning of a quotation. The narrator apparently did this to show that he was breaking into the middle of a conversation. In 7.29 the subordinate conjunction *chī* ‘because’ occurs at the beginning of a sentence, relating it back to 7.27.

Sometimes the conjunctions *tī* ‘and’ or *chī* ‘because’, used in the sense of ‘indeed’, occur after a sentence-initial conjunction, just as they sometimes occur after a focused element (see §1.1.8).

tī tuu / chī vāxī ní // *kō tī kīhīn*
and NEG because INC:come YOU:RES but and POT:go

ka ní nūu kachi ní
ADD YOU:RES face COM:say YOU:RES

But no, you were coming. But you were still going to go where you said [you would].

The adverbs that commonly link sentences are *yúkán* ‘there’, *syúkán* ‘in that way’, *sáá* ‘then’, *sūnī* ‘also’, and *núsáá* ‘okay’. *yúkán* sometimes has a temporal, causal, or manner meaning, and *syúkán* is used to refer back to a fairly large span of material.

íyó vekihin // yúkán íyó kwéntu xā
 CON:exist Bequi:Cave there CON:exist story CMP

íyó vehe káhnū shāān
 CON:exist house big:SG fierce

There’s Bequi Cave. Then there’s the story that there’s a very big house.

tī uhu yūkā xika ná // yúkán ni sahā
 and COM:hurt bone CON:walk my:RES there COM COM:do

“doctor”
 doctor

And my legs hurt. Therefore the doctor treated [me].

(See also 7.8–9 and 7.31–38.)

Sometimes the conjunctions *tī* ‘and’ or *chī* ‘because’, used in the sense of ‘indeed’, occur after a sentence-initial adverb, just as they sometimes occur after a focused element (see §1.1.8).

syáhán kachi tī // yúkán tī ni kā kandishya tē
 thus COM:say it:AML there and COM PL COM:believe it:AML
 It (the animal) said THAT. And then the (other) animals believed [it].

vātūni kihīn rá //
 AGREEMENT POT:go YOU:FAM

núsáá tī nā kēvī nūñā tūkū rá
 okay and what day POT:be:open REP YOU:FAM
 Yes, you can go. All right, what day are you free again?

ndōō kachī rá nūu rí // sáá chī
 why CON:say YOU:FAM face my:FAM then because

vānūshīā ná kachī rí nūu rá
 for:good:reason HORT POT:say I:FAM face YOU:FAM
 Why are you asking me? Then for good reason let me tell you.

In 7.7 the narrator began a quotation with *sáá tī*, apparently to indicate that he was breaking into the middle of a conversation.

Sometimes a sentence is introduced by a sequence of conjunctions and/or adverbs.

íyó tāNna nú úhū ndūchī // tī sūnī íyó
 CON:exist medicine if CON:hurt bean and also CON:exist

tāNna úhū xāta yó syáhán nú
 medicine CON:hurt back our:IN in:this:way INT
 There is medicine when [our] eyes hurt. And is there also medicine for our backaches (gesturing)?

nú ndáxí yó / tī kīhin kwēhē shiNni yó //
 if POT:get:wet we:IN and POT:take sickness nose our:IN

tī sūnī sáhā “lombriz” xā kúhu yó
 and also CON:do worm CMP CON:be:sick we:IN
 If we get wet, we get a cold. And also worms make us sick.

vīí íyó kwéntu // kō sáá chī tu xínī
 pretty CON:exist story but then because NEG CON:know

rí nāsā kwāhan
 I:FAM how INC:go
 The stories are pretty. But then indeed I don't know how [they] go.

tī kwaha ndūku kāhnjā yó / xā tī kwīkō yó //
 and much firewood POT:cut we:IN CMP and POT:stack we:IN

tī xā tī xāā yó chindīyī yó chīi ñuhu
 and CMP and POT:arrive we:IN POT:cover we:IN stomach earth
 We will cut A LOT OF FIREWOOD, and then we'll stack [it] up. And then we'll arrive [and] cover [it] with dirt.

tī náva tu kēē yōko / ndīhī ni
 and in:order:that NEG POT:leave vapor COM:finish COM

xasī ná // tī xā tī kēvī ñā kúhu
 COM:close I:RES and CMP and POT:enter she CON:be:sick

kaña ñīhī ún
 POT:rise steambath that
 And so that the steam wouldn't escape, I finished closing [it] up. And then a sick woman can enter [and] take a steambath.

tī nú kwēhē tāsī kúū / tī tāvā dā //
 and if sickness witchcraft CON:be and POT:take:out he

yúkán na tī tēvī dā ndīshī tāchi
 then when and POT:blow he liquor wind
 And if [it] is a sickness caused by witchcraft, he takes [it] out. And then he blows a spray of liquor.

(See also 7.49–50.)

Two complex sentential markers that link sentences are *xā yúkán* ‘therefore’ and *sīki yúkán* ‘therefore’.

ī yúkán kwāhan máá “dios” //
and there INC:GO SPEC god

xā yúkán kā chákū yó náá yó
CMP there PL CON:be:alive WE:IN SPEC:PL WE:IN

And there went god (the sun) himself. Therefore we ourselves are alive.

7

Text

- 7.1 *xārā īso / kāchī dā xā ni xaha nī xā*
 UN rabbit CON:say he CMP COM COM:give LIM CMP
kanī shyikē chūi mōno ndūtō ndūchī
 COM:hit fist stomach figure COM:guard ean
 They say that THE RABBIT just gave and threw punches at the figure
 (Sp. *mono*) that was guarding the peas.
- 7.2 *kō xārā yúkán / chī kā sakā tū rā chaa*
 but UN that because PL COM:plant really he man
ún ndūchī syáhán
 that bean in:this:way
 But as for that guy (the figure), those men planted peas in this
 manner.
- 7.3 *tī ndūchī tīlúú / tī kwān kūvaha ndūchī ún*
 and bean spherical and INC:go CON:be:good bean that
 And as for the peas, those legumes were growing very well.
- 7.4 *tī kexāhā “cabrón” / īso yáxí tē ndūchī ún*
 and COM:begin bad:one rabbit CON:eat it:AML bean that
 And that bad rabbit started eating the peas.
- 7.5 *tī kāchī tū rā chaa ún xíní tāta dā*
 and CON:say really he man that with father his
 And that man said to his father (Sp. *tata*).

- 7.6 *íyó ūu Nnáhā dā*
 CON:exist two companion he
 There were two of them (two brothers).
- 7.7 *tī kāchī tū dā xíní tāta dā / nání / sáá tī*
 and CON:say really he with father his PAUSE then and
vaha nī / “papá” / tī kwāān ní f̄n “violín”
 good LIM father and POT:buy you:RES one violin
 And he said to his father, “And then it would just be good, Father,
 for you to buy a violin.
- 7.8 *ná kīhīn ná / ná chāā ná yāā*
 HORT POT:go I:RES HORT POT:play I:RES song
 Let me go and play some songs.
- 7.9 *yúkán ná skúnū ná īso / chī*
 there HORT POT:frighten I:RES rabbit because
yéé t̄ ndūchī xáhá / kachi tū dā
 CON:eat it:AML bean this COM:say really he
 IN THAT WAY let me scare the rabbit because he is eating these peas,”
 he said.
- 7.10 *nání / ni xaan tū dā “violín”*
 PAUSE COM COM:buy really he violin
 Then he bought a violin.
- 7.11 *tī kwāhan tū dā / núkōō dā syáhán /*
 and INC:go really he CON:sit he in:this:way
tī chāā chāā tū dā yāā
 and CON:play CON:play really he song
xākū ndúú xáhá
 with:reference:to all:day here
 And he went [and] sat down like this, and [then] he played and
 played songs here all day long.
- 7.12 *tī xākwāā tu xíní dā nāsā xáhan tū*
 and at:night NEG CON:know he how CON:go really
rā k̄f̄ ún / xán k̄xī t̄ ndūchī ún
 he animal that CON:go POT:eat it:AML bean that
 And he didn’t know how that animal kept going out AT NIGHT to eat
 up those peas.

- 7.13 *syáhán nī / syáhán nī*
 in:this:way LIM in:this:way LIM
 This [is] just [the way it was].
- 7.14 *ū káčhī tū īnga dā / nání / kō / “papá” /*
 and CON:say really another he PAUSE but father
kwāān ní / nání / ñūma / káčhī tū rā chaa ún
 POT:buy you:RES PAUSE wax CON:say really he man that
 And the other one (brother) said, “But, Father, buy [some] wax,”
 that man said.
- 7.15 *kwāān ní īñ “pelota” syáhán ñūma*
 POT:buy you:RES one ball in:this:way wax
 “Buy a ball of wax like this.
- 7.16 *tū ná kīhīn ná / ndéhé nú tu nīhi ná*
 and HORT POT:go I:RES POT:look if NEG POT:get I:RES
īso / káčhī tū dā
 rabbit CON:say really he
 And let me go to see if I can’t get the rabbit,” he said.
- 7.17 *tū ni xaan tū máá “papá” dā ún īñ “pelota”*
 and COM COM:buy really SPEC father his that one ball
ñūma / tū ni sahā dā īñ móno lúlú /
 wax and COM COM:do he one figure small:SG
móno xā súkún syáhán
 figure CMP tall in:this:way
 And that very father of his bought a ball of wax, and [then] he made
 one little figure, a figure that was this tall.
- 7.18 *móno ñūma ún ni sahā dā*
 figure wax that COM COM:do he
 He made THAT WAX FIGURE.
- 7.19 *tū ni xaa tū rā chaa ún / tū xanī*
 and COM COM:arrive really he man that and COM:place
dā nūu yéé tū īso ún ndūchī ún
 he face CON:eat really rabbit that bean that
 And that man arrived, and [then] he placed [it] in the place where
 the rabbit was eating those peas.

- 7.20 *ni kūxīyō ēñ ládo syáhán / kánjā dā*
 COM COM:be:separated one side in:this:way CON:be:located:SG he
 [He] went off to one side (Sp. *lado*), [and] he was there [waiting].
- 7.21 *tī xaa tū rā īso / xakunu tū*
 and COM:arrive really he rabbit COM:arrive really
 And the rabbit arrived; he got there.
- 7.22 *tī nāvā kúū xārā kándīchī xáhá / kachi tū*
 and what CON:be UN CON:stand here COM:say really
 “And what is the thing standing here?” [he] said.
- 7.23 *tī nāū xā kāhān tū / xārā ún tu kāhān*
 and who it:INAN POT:speak really UN that NEG COM:speak
 “And who [is] the one who should speak, that one who did not
 speak?”
- 7.24 *tī nāū róhó*
 and who you:FAM
 And who [are] you?
- 7.25 *ndōō tu kāhān rā / kāchī tū rā īso*
 why NEG POT:speak you:FAM CON:say really he rabbit
 “Why won’t you speak?” the rabbit said.
- 7.26 *tu kāhān tū rā ún / chī mónico kúū*
 NEG POT:speak really he that because figure CON:be
nā kāchī yó
 what POT:say we:IN
 That one won’t speak because what we call [it] is a figure.
- 7.27 *tī kāhān rá / shí tuu nú / kachi tū*
 and POT:speak you:FAM OR NEG INT COM:say really
 “And will you speak, or not?” [he] said.
- 7.28 *tī ndavā*
 and COM:jump
 And [he] jumped.
- 7.29 *aa / chī kwāhā rí ēñ róhó / kachi tī*
 ah because POT:give I:FAM one you:FAM COM:say it:AML
 “Ah, because I’m going to give you one [punch],” he said.
- 7.30 *tī ndavā / tī kanī tū ēñ shyiki*
 and COM:jump and COM:hit really one fist
 And [he] jumped, and [then he] gave [it] a punch.

- 7.31 *Nnii nī tū ndāhā chii móno*
 COM:stick LIM really hand stomach figure
 [His] hand was just stuck to the figure.
- 7.32 *Nnii tū ndāhā chii móno*
 COM:stick really hand stomach figure
 [His] hand was stuck to the figure.
- 7.33 *xaxan / tu yúhú rá / chī íyó ññ*
 oh NEG POT:fear you:FAM because CON:exist one
kā ndāhā rí / kachi tū
 ADD hand my:FAM COM:say really
 “Oh, don’t worry because I still have another hand!” [he] said.⁴
- 7.34 *kāhin tū ñnga ndāhā nī / kānī tū chii*
 POT:take really another hand LIM POT:hit really stomach
móno
 figure
 [He]’s getting just another hand ready to hit the figure.
- 7.35 *syáhán nī kutūluu tū / ndéñā /*
 in:this:way LIM CON:be:round really CON:be:sticky
tu xíka móno
 NEG CON:walk figure
 IN THIS WAY [it] was round; [it] was sticky; the figure wasn’t walking.
- 7.36 *aa / “cabrón” / ndésáhā inī rá / chī*
 ah bad:one POT:be:careful insides your:FAM because
íyó sīhin rí / kāchī tū
 CON:exist foot my:FAM CON:say really
 “Ah, bad one, you’d better be careful because I have feet!” [he] said.
- 7.37 *xaha tū ññ “patada”*
 COM:give really one kick
 [He] gave [it] a kick.
- 7.38 *sūnī ni Nnii tū ññ ládo*
 also COM COM:stick really one side
 [He] was ALSO stuck on one side.

⁴The expression *tu yúhú rá* ‘Don’t be afraid!’ is used ironically in this sentence, and has about the same force as English ‘Don’t worry!’. It serves to introduce a threat.

- 7.39 *xaha tūkū ĩnga “patada” ĩnga ládo*
 COM:give REP another kick another side
 [He] gave [it] another kick on the other side.
- 7.40 *tūkū ni Nn̄i*
 REP COM COM:stick
 AGAIN [it] was stuck.
- 7.41 *kutūluu tū syáhán*
 CON:be:round really in:this:way
 [They] were balled up in this way.
- 7.42 *aa / “cabrón” / tu yúhú rá / chī*
 ah bad:one NEG POT:fear you:FAM because
íyó yūhū rí / kachi tū
 CON:exist mouth my:FAM COM:say really
 “Ah, bad one, don’t worry because I’ve still got my mouth!” [he] said.
- 7.43 *ndavā / yeyíhí tū chii móno*
 COM:jump COM:bite really stomach figure
 [He] jumped up [and] bit the stomach of the figure.
- 7.44 *ni Nn̄i / kutūluu syáhán / ndeña*
 COM COM:stick CON:be:round in:this:way COM:be:sticky
 [They] were stuck together in a round ball like this.
- 7.45 *xa ni kendāvā chaa ún / ni xahan dā*
 already COM COM:jump:out man that COM COM:go he
 Then that man jumped out, [and] he went.
- 7.46 *ni xan Nn̄i dā / chaa ndáhú iso*
 COM COM:go POT:grab he man poor rabbit
 The poor man caught the rabbit.
- 7.47 *ni kundéé dā / nihi dā iso / kachi dā*
 COM COM:win he COM:get he rabbit COM:say he
 He won; he got the rabbit, he said.
- 7.48 *ná chūndēé dā chii ñunu / kwān nohō dā*
 HORT POT:put he stomach net:bag INC:go POT:leave he
nūu kánjā tāta dā
 face CON:be:located:SG father his
 Now may he put [him] inside the net bag, [and] return to the place where his father lives.

7.49 *nāsā kwāhan rā ún*
 how INC:go he that
 How that [one] did go!

7.50 *kō syúkán ni kuu rā ún / xā ni nihi dā*
 but in:that:way COM COM:be he that CMP COM COM:get he
īso / xā ni kundéé dā
 rabbit CMP COM COM:win he
 But that man was LIKE THAT; he got the rabbit; he won.

7.51 *ni Nn̄i dā īso*
 COM COM:grab he rabbit
 He caught the rabbit.

A Syntactic Sketch of Copala Trique

Barbara E. Hollenbach

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Introduction

0.1 Orientation

Copala Trique is spoken by approximately 15,000 people according to an informal census taken in 1990 by local Trique officials. Most speakers live in and around the town of San Juan Copala, a dependency of the municipal center of Juxtlahuaca, the head town of the ex-district of Juxtlahuaca, Oaxaca, Mexico. Some Trique settlements extend into the northern part of the ex-district of Putla and form part of the municipal center of Constanca del Rosario. The name of this language is sometimes given as Triqui or Driqui.

There are two other varieties of Trique. One is spoken in and around the town of San Andrés Chicahuaxtla, ex-district of Putla, and the other is spoken in and around the town of San Martín Itunyoso, ex-district of Tlaxiaco. Neither of these varieties is covered in this study. Speakers of all three inhabit a contiguous area which forms a linguistic island within the Mixtec region.

Although little is known about the history of the Trique, they have almost certainly lived in their present location since pre-conquest times. They are not mentioned in any of the sources for the colonial period of Mexican history, presumably because they were considered to be simply another group of Mixtecs. The earliest accurate mention known to me is in Martínez Gracida (1883).

Within Copala Trique there is no discernible geographic variation, but there does exist considerable idiolectal variation in the pronunciation of particular lexemes, even within a single nuclear family. Two or more

shapes have been noted for perhaps twenty percent of the lexical units recorded to date.

Even though the construction of roads and the availability of primary schooling are causing the situation to change rapidly, a fairly high degree of monolingualism still prevails among the Copala Trique. Many people leave to work as agricultural laborers, and they often go to Sinaloa, Sonora, and Baja California in northwestern Mexico. Some have worked in the United States. As a result, many younger men have learned some Spanish, but fluent Trique-Spanish bilinguals are found only among those who have spent considerable time away from the Trique area or who have married non-Triques. Some Trique speakers have acquired fluency in Juxtlahuaca Mixtec, which is spoken in towns only a few hours' walk from Copala. Among themselves, however, Trique speakers prefer to use Trique, and children whose parents both speak Trique usually learn it as their first language.

This study is based on data gathered by the author and her husband, Bruce E. Hollenbach, during fieldwork beginning in 1962 for her and in 1966 for him. Most examples were checked in 1978 with either Juan López Merino, then about twenty-one years old, or with Pablo Ramírez Flores, then about thirty-five years old, both of the barrio of Sabana. The text in chapter 7 was dictated in 1972 by Manuel Camilo Ramírez Santiago of San Manuel Copala, ex-district of Putla; he was then about thirty years old.

Some examples are taken from texts published elsewhere; sometimes only the relevant part of a sentence is cited. Examples from the deluge story (Hollenbach 1982) are identified by the word *Deluge*, followed by the number of the sentence; and examples from the three myths published in Hollenbach 1988b are identified by the words *Openly*, *Fight*, and *Brother*, followed by the number of the sentence. These four texts were all tape recorded in 1972 by Manuel Camilo Ramírez Santiago. Examples from the four versions of the sun and moon myth published in Hollenbach 1977a are identified by the word *Sun*, followed by the number of the version and the number of the sentence, separated by a colon. These texts were tape recorded by four different speakers from the barrio of Sabana during the late 1960s and early 1970s. Sometimes an example is adapted from a sentence in a published text, in which case the citation is introduced by the abbreviation *cf.*

0.2 Phonology

Copala Trique has the following nonlaryngeal consonants: fortis stops *p* (rare) *t k*, lenis stops *b* (rare) *d g*, affricates *ts ch chr* (retroflexed), fortis

sibilants *s sh shr*, lenis sibilants *z zh r*, nasals *m n*, liquid *l*, and glides *w y*. In nonfinal syllables the contrast between fortis and lenis obstruents is neutralized; in this sketch I employ the symbols for fortis sounds, except that I use *r* rather than *shr*, and lenis symbols following nasals.

There are three laryngeals: *h* (glottal stop), *x* (glottal spirant), and an abstract laryngeal akin to a ballistic accent. This abstract laryngeal occurs only in word-final position, and its most important phonetic manifestation is a shortening of the preceding vowel. In this sketch, a single vowel at the end of a word represents a vowel checked by this laryngeal, and a double vowel represents a word-final vowel unchecked by any laryngeal. The abstract laryngeal analysis is presented in greater detail in Hollenbach 1984a:129–47, 1985b, and 1987.

There are five oral vowels, *i e a o u*, and five nasalized vowels, *in en an on un*; nasalized vowels occur only in word-final syllables. As noted above, these vowels are written doubled in word-final syllables when they are unchecked by any laryngeal.

There are five tone levels, *1 2 3 4 5* (from low to high), and three tone sequences, *13 31 32*. Most nonfinal syllables do not carry contrastive tone.

Some regressive tone sandhi occurs, caused by a limited number of pronouns; this sandhi is described in §5.4 and in Hollenbach 1974 and 1984a:260–303. The tones written in this sketch show the result of the sandhi rules, rather than the underlying tones.

The phonology of Copala Trique is described in greater detail in Hollenbach 1977b, 1978, 1984a:9–167, 1985a, and 1988a. Spanish loanwords introduced the rare consonant *b* and new distributions for various other phonemes. The influence of Spanish on the phonology is described more fully in Hollenbach 1973a:83–93.

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1

Basic Sentences

1.1 Statements

Verbs fall into three classes—content, equative, and stative—which serve to define sentence types. Sentences with content verbs are impersonal, intransitive, or transitive; transitive and intransitive sentences optionally take various kinds of adjuncts. Equative sentences link a subject to a nominal complement by means of an equative verb. Stative sentences link a subject to a stative verb; sometimes this linkage is provided by another verb. Each of these sentence types may take peripheral time, location, and manner elements. They may also have almost any element within them fronted to indicate focus. In addition, each of these types may be used as a sentential complement within another sentence.

1.1.1 Impersonal sentences. The minimal form of an impersonal sentence consists of an impersonal verb, with neither subject nor object, followed by an obligatory sentential marker that signals mood and speaker attitude (see §1.5). Impersonal verbs are limited to a small set and usually express meteorological and related concepts.

*shuguun*³¹ *a*³²
CON:shine DEC
It is dawning.

*tihnuu*³² *a*³²
 CON:get:dark DEC
 It is getting dark.

*raan*³¹ *a*³²
 CON:flash DEC
 Lightning is flashing.

*kamanh*¹ *a*³²
 POT:rain DEC
 It will rain. (cf. Openly 53)

*kanuu*³¹ *a*³²
 COM:explode DEC
 It exploded. (i.e., thunder rolled) (Openly 81)
 (See also 7.57.)

1.1.2 Intransitive sentences. The minimal form of an intransitive sentence consists of an intransitive verb, its subject, and a sentential marker.

*hnah*⁴ *hunx*¹ *a*³²
 CON:come I DEC
 I come.

*otox*³² *zoh*¹ *a*³²
 CON:sleep you:SG DEC
 You are sleeping.

*kuchih*³ *noh*³ *a*³²
 COM:arrive she DEC
 She arrived. (Fight 75)

*unanx*⁵ *shnii*³ *a*³²
 CON:run boy DEC
 The boy is running.

(See also 7.43, 7.64, 7.73, 7.78, 7.86, 7.102, and various others.)

With an arbitrary subset of verbs a nonagentive personal subject is expressed by an adverbial noun phrase with the locative noun *man*³ ‘body of’ (see §3.6).

*ahngax*³² *man*³ *shnii*³ *a*³²
 CON:throb body boy DEC
 The boy is in pain.

*kakaa*³² *man*³ *nehex*³ *a*³²
 COM:burn body baby DEC
 The baby was burned.

With other verbs, however, *man*³ does not occur.

*kawih*³ *chii*³ *a*³²
 COM:die man DEC
 The man died.

1.1.3 Transitive sentences. The minimal form of a transitive sentence consists of a transitive verb, its subject, its object, and a sentential marker.

*ho*³² *zhoh*³ *na*³² *a*³²
 CON:drink it:AML water DEC
 It (the animal) is drinking water.

*ranx*⁵ *noh*³ *hnuu*⁵ *a*³²
 CON:buy she corn DEC
 She buys corn.

*uchrah*³ *zoh*³ *chruun*³ *a*³²
 CON:split he wood DEC
 He splits wood.

*kirii*³² *sha*³*na*¹ *naa*³¹ *a*³²
 COM:take:out woman cornfield DEC
 The woman harvested the cornfield. (Fight 60)

*tuhwex*⁵ *gwaa*⁴ *ruhwi*³ *a*³²
 CON:sell John charcoal DEC
 John (Sp. *Juan*) sells charcoal.

(See also 7.22, 7.46, 7.50, and various others.)

A personal object is often marked by *man*³ ‘body of’, and a pronominal object always is.

*nehe*³ *noh*³ *man*³ *gwaa*⁴ *a*³²
 CON:sense she body John DEC
 She sees John.

*nehe*³ *zoh*³ *gwaa*⁴ *a*³²
 CON:sense he John DEC
 He sees John.

*tikawih*¹³ *nih*⁴ *man*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 POT:kill we:IN body his DEC
 We will kill him.¹ (Brother 145)

(See also 7.51 and 7.76.)

A third person inanimate direct object is often unexpressed, though speakers sometimes use the phrase-final pronoun *yoh*³ 'it (inanimate)'.¹

*cha*⁴ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:eat he DEC
 He ate [them (the tubers)]. (Fight 220)

cf. *cha*⁴ *zoh*³ *man*³ *yoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:eat he body it:INAN DEC
 He ate them (the tubers). (Fight 213)

(See also 7.3, 7.7, 7.17, 7.35, and 7.37.)

Objects other than third person inanimate are also sometimes unexpressed if they are clear from the context; see 7.63.

Reflexive meaning may be expressed by using a possessive noun phrase (see §3.3) containing *mahan*¹³ 'self of' in the object position. The possessor of *mahan*¹³ must be coreferential with the subject. See Hollenbach 1984b for further discussion of reflexives.

*nehe*³ *zoh*³ *mahan*¹³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:sense he self his DEC
 He sees himself.

*tikawih*³ *zoh*³ *man*³ *mahan*¹³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:kill he body self his DEC
 He killed himself.

It is also possible to use an ordinary transitive sentence without *mahan*¹³ when the meaning is reflexive. If such sentences have third person objects, however, they have both a nonreflexive and a reflexive reading.

*nehe*³ *zoh*³ *man*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:sense he body his DEC
 He sees him. *or* He sees himself.

¹Copala Trique pronouns do not distinguish grammatical function (see §5.4). It would therefore be more accurate to gloss them consistently by a single English form. I have, however, chosen to gloss them by the English case form that corresponds most closely to their function in the sentence in order to help the reader understand the structure of the Trique examples more quickly.

*nazhuun*² *yanix*⁵ *zoh*¹ *man*⁴ *zoh*¹ *a*³²
 POT:pull:again apart you:SG body your:SG DEC
 You will move yourself away. (Openly 53)

In similar fashion, reciprocal meaning may be expressed by using *tuwih*³ ‘companion of’ in the direct object; such sentences also have a literal reading. See Hollenbach 1984b for further discussion of reciprocals.

*nehe*³ *nix*³ *zoh*³ *tuwih*³ *nix*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:sense the:PL he companion the:PL his DEC
 They see each other. *or* They see their companions.

1.1.4 Sentences with adjuncts. Both intransitive and transitive sentences may take the following adjuncts: locative, benefactive, associative, referential, and instrument (rare). Locative adjuncts are almost required by certain verbs; the other four are optional. Adjuncts are frequently expressed by an adverbial possessive noun phrase (see §3.6) or by a prepositional phrase (see §4.3). The specific locative noun or preposition used depends on both the kind of adjunct and the specific verb. Adjuncts follow the subject in intransitive sentences and the object in transitive sentences.

The locative adjunct expresses source, destination, or location, depending on the meaning of the verb, and it includes elements traditionally classified as indirect objects. This adjunct occurs mainly with verbs that express change of possession, change of location, placement, and position, and each such verb normally takes it.

With transitive verbs that express change of possession, the locative adjunct expresses source or destination, and it is animate, usually human. When it expresses source, the locative noun that signals it is often *raha*³ ‘hand of’, and when it expresses destination, the locative noun is often *riaan*³² ‘face of’. Other locative nouns are also sometimes used; the choice seems to depend on the verb.

Source:

*kitahaa*³² *tuhwii*³ *me*³*rke*¹³ *raha*³ *zii*⁵ *wax*² *yoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:grab thunder sash hand he CON:move that DEC
 The thunder (god) grabbed the sash from that man going along.
 (Openly 76)

*kahnex*⁵ *zhi-h*⁴ *yoh*³ *raha*³
COM:take:away grandfather-our:IN that hand

*shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *a*³²
grandmother-our:IN DEC
That grandfather of ours took [it (the drum)] away from our grandmother. (Brother 164)

*kahnex*⁵ *zoh*³ *chraa*³ *tuhwa*³ *shnii*³ *a*³²
COM:take:away he tortilla mouth boy DEC
He took the boy's food away.

Destination:

*naruhwee*³² *gwaa*⁴ *sahanx*³² *riaan*³² *pe*³*dro*⁴ *a*³²
COM:repay John money face Peter DEC
John paid the money back to Peter (Sp. *Pedro*).

*tuhwex*⁵ *zoh*³ *hnuu*⁵ *riaan*³² *ma*³*rya*⁴ *a*³²
CON:sell he corn face Mary DEC
He sells corn to Mary (Sp. *María*).

*ahnee*⁵ *noh*³ *na*³*na*¹ *rihaan*³² *shuhwix*³² *noh*³ *a*³²
CON:put:in she word face sister:FE her DEC
She sends a message to her sister.

*rke*⁴ *sha*³*na*¹ *tanh*³ *man*³ *zhoh*³ *a*³²
COM:give woman corn:ear body its:AML DEC
The woman gave the ear of corn to it (the raven). (Fight 170)

*kachrix*⁵ *sha*³*na*¹ *ston*³ *shkaa*³² *yoh*³ *a*³²
COM:tuck:in woman finger raven that DEC
The woman handed [it (the ear wax)] to the raven. (Fight 195)

A locative adjunct with *riaan*³² is also used to express the addressee with the verb *tax*³² 'to say'.

*katax*³² *noh*³ *riaan*³² *shuhwix*³² *noh*³ *a*³²
COM:say she face sister:FE her DEC
She said [it] to her sister.

*dax*¹³ *tax*³² *rox*¹ *zoh*³ *riaan*³² *tuwih*³ *rox*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³²
thus CON:say the:DU he face companion the:DU his DEC
Thus the two of them say to their companions. (Fight 109)

(See also 7.5, 7.6, 7.9, and various others.)

With intransitive verbs that express change of location (motion verbs), the locative adjunct expresses source or destination, depending on the meaning of the verb, but destination is more frequent. These instances of the locative adjunct are usually inanimate. They are often expressed by a noun or adverb unaccompanied by any locative noun or preposition, but various locative nouns and prepositions sometimes occur.

Destination:

*kahanx*³² *zoh*³ *makaa*⁵ *a*³²
 COM:go he Mexico:City DEC
 He went to Mexico City.

*kahanx*³² *zoh*³ *ganh*¹ *a*³²
 COM:go he far DEC
 He went far away.

*kuchih*³ *zhoh*³ *ndaa*¹³ *raa*³¹ *yoho*⁴ *chruun*³ *a*³²
 COM:arrive it:AML until head another wood DEC
 It (the raven) arrived as far as the top of another tree.
 (cf. Fight 261)

(See also 7.58, 7.64, 7.66, 7.71, and 7.84.)

Source:

*kawii*³² *gwa*⁴ *ya*³ *kwex*² *a*³²
 COM:come:out John Oaxaca:City DEC
 John left Oaxaca.

*kahna-x*³ *tukwa-x*³ *a*³²
 COM:come-I pos:home-my DEC
 I came from my home. (Brother 90)

*kannah*³ *zoh*³ *shko*⁴ *kix*³² *a*³²
 COM:come he beyond mountain DEC
 He came from behind the mountain. (cf. Brother 51)

*kawii*³² *yax*³ *riaan*³² *to*³² *yoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:come:out ash face grindstone that DEC
 Powder came off the surface of that grindstone. (Fight 114)

*kayuu*³ *tachruu*³¹ *tuhwa*³ *nehex*³ *a*³²
 COM:fall crumb mouth baby DEC
 The crumbs fell from the baby's mouth.

*kunanx*² *rex*³ *chex*¹ *zoh*³ *rke*³ *zhee*⁵ *a*³²
 POT:run father in:law his stomach clearing DEC
 His father-in-law will run out of the clearing. (cf. Fight 26)

Either destination or source:

*kahnah*³ *gwaa*⁴ *ngax*³² *a*³²
 COM:come John Putla DEC
 John came to Putla. *or* John came from Putla.

In order to express source unambiguously, it is possible to use a sentence combination with a verb that means ‘to leave’ in the first part (see §6.1.2).

With intransitive verbs that express position, the locative adjunct expresses location. It is often expressed by an adverbial possessive noun phrase (see §3.6), but is sometimes expressed by another kind of noun phrase, by a prepositional phrase (see §4.3), or by an adverb.

*nuu*² *sahanx*³² *rke*³ *chruun*⁵ *a*³²
 CON2:be:in money stomach box DEC
 The money is in the box.

*tax*¹ *yanx*³ *riaan*³² *me*³*sa*⁴ *a*³²
 CON2:be:on:top paper face table DEC
 The book is on the table (Sp. *mesa*).

*tax*¹ *yanx*³ *nianx*⁵ *a*³²
 CON2:be:on:top paper here DEC
 The paper is up here.

*ne*¹³ *zoh*³ *weh*³ *a*³²
 CON2:sit he house DEC
 He is in the house. (Fight 51)

*ne*³ *ho*² *runh*⁵ *weh*³ *ta*³*nuu*² *taa*³ *a*³²
 CON:sit one single house middle plain DEC
 A single house was in the middle of the plain. (Deluge 19)

*taa*⁵ *shrux*³ *yume*³² *ruwax*³ *a*³²
 CON:be:on:top pot tuber fireplace DEC
 The pot of tubers was on the fireplace. (Fight 208)

*kinax*⁵ *zoh*³ *rke*³ *chruun*³ *a*³²
 COM:remain he stomach wood DEC
 He stayed inside the tree. (Openly 21)

Further examples of the locative adjunct with position verbs are found in 7.57, 7.77, 7.79, 7.82, and several other sentences in chapter 7. Examples of position verbs without a locative adjunct are found in 7.2 and 7.59.

With transitive verbs that express placement or impingement, the locative adjunct expresses source or destination. It is expressed by the same elements that occur with position verbs.

Source:

*kirii*³² *sha*³*na*¹ *skii*⁵ *shree*⁵ *sha*³*na*¹ *a*³²
COM:take:out woman resin ear woman DEC
The woman took wax out of her ear. (Fight 194)

*kirii*³² *yahanx*³² *tuhwii*¹³ *yume*³² *rke*³ *shrux*³ *a*³²
COM:take:out god of:thunder tuber stomach pot DEC
The thunder god took the tubers out of the pot. (cf. Fight 219)

*tanix*³² *zoh*³ *shrux*³ *yume*³² *ruwax*³ *a*³²
COM:lower he pot tuber fireplace DEC
He took the pot of tubers down from the fireplace. (Fight 211)

(See also 7.62.)

Destination:

*karaa*³ *zoh*³ *sahanx*³² *rke*³ *chruun*⁵ *a*³²
COM:put:in he money stomach box DEC
He put the money in the box.

*karaa*³ *zoh*³ *yume*³² *shrux*³ *a*³²
COM:put:in he tuber pot DEC
He put the tubers in the pot. (Fight 147)

*kachron*⁴ *zoh*³ *chruun*³ *riaan*³² *chraan*³² *a*³²
COM:erect he wood face masonry DEC
He stood the poles up against the wall.

*uchrux*³² *gwaa*⁴ *yax*³² *takoo*⁵ *chruun*³ *a*³²
CON:lay John flower foot wood DEC
John lays the flowers at the foot of the tree.

*kaoh*¹ *nix*³ *zoh*³ *yahan*³² *zhee*⁵ *a*³²
POT:hit the:PL he fire clearing DEC
They will set fire to the clearing. (Fight 14)

*tanix*³² *yuwii*³¹ *wahnux*¹ *gee*¹ *rlix*³ *na*³² *yohoo*⁵ *a*³²
 com:lower person three whole bubble water earth DEC
 The person dropped exactly three drops of water on the ground.
 (Sun 3:13)

(See also 7.11, 7.27, 7.74, 7.90, 7.91, 7.94, and 7.96.)

Locative adjuncts are often found in sentences that are metaphorical in nature; in such sentences they do not necessarily refer to a spatial entity, and the verbs are not limited to the classes mentioned above.

*kutah*³ *gwaa*⁴ *kakunh*³ *shraa*⁵ *pe³dro*⁴ *a*³²
 com:place:on John blame back Peter DEC
 John blamed Peter. (lit. John placed the blame on Peter's back.)

*kinax*⁵ *rachruun*⁵ *tuhwa*³ *ruhwee*³² *a*³²
 com:remain bread mouth rich:person DEC
 The bread was left over from the rich person's meal.

*kachiin*⁵ *nahanx*² *noh*³ *tuhwa*³ *sno⁵ho*³² *a*³²
 com:ask wordlike she mouth man DEC
 She inquired of the man. (Fight 76)

*nawix*³ *sahanx*³² *riaan*³² *gwaa*⁴ *a*³²
 com:finish money face John DEC
 John's money ran out. (lit. The money finished up in front of John.)

*kachen*⁴ *sna³na*¹ *sno⁵ho*³² *riaan*³² *sha³na*¹ *a*³²
 com:pass pos:word man face woman DEC
 The man's word prevailed over the woman. (i.e., the man got his way) (Fight 81)

*kahneh*³ *tinuu*⁵ *zhi-h*⁴ *zuun*³² *riaan*³² *ni³ka*²
 com:cut brother:ME grandfather-our:IN work face spouse

*zoh*³ *a*³²
 his DEC

Our grandfather's brother gave orders to his wife. (Brother 84)

*nayon*⁴ *gwaa*⁴ *riaan*³² *hunx*¹ *a*³²
 con:be:in:again John face my DEC
 John is taking my place.

(See also 7.85.)

The benefactive adjunct must be animate; it is marked by the locative noun *shehe*⁴ 'feet of', or occasionally by the preposition *ga*² 'with'.

*ahmii*³² *zoh*³ *shehe*⁴ *gwaa*⁴ *a*³²
 CON:speak he feet John DEC
 He speaks on John's behalf.

*tuhwex*⁵ *zoh*³ *hnuu*⁵ *shehe*⁴ *rex*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:sell he corn feet father his DEC
 He sells corn for his father.

*ranx*⁵ *noh*³ *yahax*³ *shehe*⁴ *nii*³ *noh*³ *a*³²
 CON:buy she chili:pepper feet mother her DEC
 She buys chili peppers for her mother.

*tikawih*³ *gwaa*⁴ *shkuu*³ *shehe*⁴ *tinuu*⁵ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:kill John animal feet brother:ME his DEC
 John kills the animal for his brother.

*hyax*³ *gwaa*⁴ *ze*³² *lux*² *ga*² *kosee*⁴ *a*³²
 CON:do John it:INAN generous with Joseph DEC
 John is kind to Joseph (Sp. *José*).

Sometimes the benefactive adjunct refers to someone affected negatively by an action. Negative benefactive may be signaled by *ga*² 'with' or *riaan*³² 'face of'.

*dax*¹³ *kihyax*¹³ *nih*⁴ *ga*² *nehex*³ *a*³²
 thus POT:do we:IN with baby DEC
 We will act in that way toward the baby. (i.e., we will attempt to abandon him) (cf. Sun 3:22)

*kirahaan*³ *yoh*³ *weh*³ *riaan*³² *rox*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:prohibit that house face the:DU his DEC
 That [one] wouldn't let them in the house. (cf. Sun 2:89)

The associative adjunct is marked by the preposition *ga*² 'with'; it functions to add a second participant to some other element of the sentence, usually, but not always, the subject. When an associative adjunct immediately follows the element it expands, the combination of the two can also be interpreted as an additive noun phrase (see §3.8).

*achraa*⁵ *zoh*³ *ga*² *gwaa*⁴ *a*³²
 CON:sing he with John DEC
 He sings with John. *or* He and John sing.

*hyax*³ *zoh*³ *weh*³ *ga*² *gwaa*⁴ *a*³²
 CON:do he house with John DEC
 He builds the house with John.

*cha*⁴ *zoh*³ *chraa*³ *ga*² *rnee*³² *a*³²

CON:eat he tortilla with bean DEC

He eats tortillas with beans. *or* He eats tortillas and beans.

*cha*⁴ *sno*⁵*ho*³² *chraa*³ *ga*² *tahnü*⁵ *zoh*³ *a*³²

CON:eat man tortilla with child his DEC

The man eats tortillas with his child.

*ahmii*³² *ma*³*rya*⁴ *ga*² *shuhwix*³² *noh*³ *a*³²

CON:speak Mary with sister:FE her DEC

Mary speaks with her sister. *or* Mary and her sister speak.

*tiko*³² *shnii*³ *ga*² *tuwih*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²

CON:play boy with companion his DEC

The boy plays with his companion. *or* The boy and his companion play.

*chee*⁵ *gwaa*⁴ *ga*² *tuwih*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²

CON:walk John with companion his DEC

John walks with his companion. *or* John and his companion walk.

*hnah*³ *nike*³ *yume*³² *ga*² *zoh*³ *a*³²

CON:come back tuber with him DEC

The tubers were coming back with him. *or* The tubers and he were coming back. (Fight 178)

The participant expressed as an associative adjunct is less salient in the discourse than the participant expressed by the element it doubles. This difference in salience is perhaps most noticeable with the verb *ahmii*³² ‘to speak’, where the associative adjunct sometimes merely signals the addressee. In the first example below, the raven was capable of answering, but in the second one, the ear of corn was not.

*kahmii*³² *noh*³ *ga*² *shkaa*³² *a*³²

COM:speak she with raven DEC

She spoke with the raven. (Fight 154)

*kahmii*³² *zoh*³ *ga*² *tanh*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴

COM:speak he with corn:ear indeed PERS

He spoke to the ear of corn for sure. (Fight 182)

The referent adjunct is usually signaled by the locative noun *shehe*⁴ ‘feet of’ or *riaan*³² ‘face of’, but occasionally *kwe*³*nda*⁴ ‘account’ (Sp. *cuenta*) or no locative noun occurs. Referent adjuncts with *shehe*⁴ usually express reason, medium of exchange, and general reference (about, concerning).

hnix² gwaa⁴ ta³gah³ shehe⁴ kakunh³ a³²
 CON2:be:wedged:in John jail feet blame DEC
 John is in jail because of a crime.

kahanx³² nii³ gwaa⁴ ngax³² shehe⁴ shkuu³ a³²
 COM:go mother John Putla feet animal DEC
 John's mother went to Putla on account of the animals.

rih³ zoh³ sahanx³² shehe⁴ hnuu⁵ a³²
 CON:get he money feet corn DEC
 He gets money for the corn.

kiranx⁵ gwaa⁴ tana³² shehe⁴ mix⁵ pe³so⁴ a³²
 COM:buy John goat feet thousand peso DEC
 John bought the goat for a thousand (Sp. *mil*) pesos (Sp. *peso*).

kahmii³² gwaa⁴ shehe⁴ tahnuh³ zoh³ a³²
 COM:speak John feet uncle his DEC
 John spoke about his uncle.

kahmii³² rahngah³ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ yoh³ shehe⁴ ri³kix¹³
 COM:speak snare grandmother-our:IN that feet frog

yaa³² adonx²
 tongue certainly

That grandmother of ours certainly spoke a curse concerning the leopard frog. (Sun 2:63)

kunuh³ rox¹ nika² rox¹ zoh³ shehe⁴ tanh³ a³²
 COM:fight the:DU spouse the:DU his feet corn:ear DEC
 He and his wife fought about the ears of corn. (i.e., where to store them) (Fight 102)

(See also 7.1.)

An animate referent signaled by *shehe⁴* can also be interpreted as a benefactive.

kahmii³² zoh³ shehe⁴ gwaa⁴ a³²
 COM:speak he feet John DEC
 He spoke about John. *or* He spoke on John's behalf.

Referent adjuncts with *riaan³²* 'face of' usually express comparison of degree. The general quantifier *dox³* 'more' must occur in the verb phrase (see §§2.1.3 and 2.3).

chee⁵ dox³ gwaa⁴ riaan³² pe³dro⁴ a³²
 CON:walk more John face Peter DEC
 John walks more than Peter.

Referent adjuncts with no locative noun are found in 7.76 and 7.89.

The instrument adjunct is rare in Copala Trique; it occurs only in preverbal focus position (see §1.1.8). It is far more common to express a semantic instrument in either of two other ways. One is to use a sentence combination with a verb like *ra⁵zuun³²* ‘to use’ or *ni³kax²* ‘to have’ or ‘to hold’ in the first part (see §6.1.2). The second way is very common. Many verbs that commonly take a semantic instrument express it as the direct object, and express the element that is translated by a direct object in English as a locative adjunct.

karaan⁵ noh³ ro³to² shraa⁵ neh³ a³²
 COM:cover she blanket back baby DEC
 She covered the baby with a blanket. (lit. She covered the blanket on the baby’s back.)

kaoh³ zoh³ chruun³ shraa⁵ tana³² a³²
 COM:hit he wood back goat DEC
 He hit the goat with a stick. (lit. He hit a stick on the goat’s back.)

This construction is found in the text in 7.27 and 7.32. In 7.28, 7.34, and 7.46, the semantic instrument is also expressed as the direct object, but no locative adjunct occurs. In each of these five sentences, the semantic instrument is a body part of the subject. It is more common, however, to incorporate body-part nouns that are the semantic instrument into the verb phrase (see §2.1.3), as seen in 7.51; or even to express them in the second part of a complex verb nucleus (see §2.1.1), as seen in 7.41. Sentence 7.42 has two body-part nouns, one as part of a complex nucleus and the other as the direct object.

The preposition *ga²* ‘with’ is used to express instrument only in literal translations from Spanish.

Sometimes a sentence contains two adjuncts; in such cases, one of them is usually a locative, and it precedes the other one.

goh³ ma³rya⁴ sahanx³² man³ gwaa⁴ shehe⁴ hnuu⁵ a³²
 COM:give Mary money body John feet corn DEC
 Mary gave money to John for the corn.

kahnee⁵ gwaa⁴ yanx³ rke³ chruun⁵ shehe⁴ tinuu⁵
 COM:put:in John paper stomach box feet brother:ME

zoh³ a³²
 his DEC

John put the documents in the box for his brother.

If, however, a locative adjunct is long or complex, it is likely to follow the simpler one.

goh¹ zox³ sahanx³² shehe⁴ nih⁴ riaan³² nix³ zii⁵
 POT:give you:PL money feet our:IN face the:PL he

ahnex⁵ pe³shto⁴ a³²
 CON:take:away tax DEC

You will give the money on our behalf to the tax (Sp. *impuesto*) collectors.

1.1.5 Equative sentences. The minimal form of an equative sentence consists of an equative verb, a subject, a nominal complement, and a sentential marker. The order in which these elements occur is conditioned by the verb.

With *me³* ‘to be’, which occurs only in continuative aspect, the order is nominal complement—verb—subject.

tanuu³ me³ gwaa⁴ a³²
 soldier CON:be John DEC
 John is a soldier.

gwaa⁴ me³ zii⁵ yoh³ a³²
 John CON:be he that DEC
 That one is John.

tahnii⁵ tyo³se¹ me³ nih⁴ a³²
 child god CON:be we:IN DEC
 We are God’s (Sp. *Dios*) children. (Fight 326)

(See also 7.13, 7.24, 7.101, 7.106, and 7.108.)

With the verbs *kuhnax¹* ‘to be named’, *uun³* ‘to become’, and *nauun³* ‘to turn into’, the order is either verb—subject—nominal complement or nominal complement—verb—subject. Like *me³*, *kuhnax¹* occurs only in continuative aspect.

kuhnax¹ zoh¹ shkwaa³ yahan² a³²
 CON:be:named you:SG ant of:fire DEC
 You are called fire ant. (Sun 3:30)

gwaa⁴ kuh¹nax¹ tinuu⁵ hunx¹ a³²
 John CON:be:named brother:ME my DEC
 My brother is named John.

guun³ gwaa⁴ tanuu³ a³²
 COM:become John soldier DEC
 John became a soldier.

tanuu³ guun³ gwaa⁴ a³²
 soldier COM:become John DEC
 John became a soldier.

guun³ yoh³ chrex³² a³²
 COM:become that trail DEC
 That [place] became a trail. (Brother 23)

kinaun³ zoh³ yaix³ nanx¹ a⁴
 COM:turn:into he stone indeed PERS
 He turned into the stones for sure. (Brother 190)

kinaun³ zoh³ chruun³ nanx¹ a⁴
 COM:turn:into he wood indeed PERS
 He turned into the poles for sure. (Fight 316)

doh¹ chruun³ kinaun³ zoh³ nanx¹ a⁴
 merely wood COM:turn:into he indeed PERS
 He turned into just the poles for sure. (Fight 317)

Equative sentences sometimes have unexpressed subjects.

shkuu³ cha⁴ me³ a³²
 animal CON:eat CON:be DEC
 [It] is an animal that is eaten. (Sun 2:39)

Adjuncts occasionally occur in equative sentences. The following example shows a referent adjunct introduced by the locative noun *kwe³nda⁴* 'account'.

tuhwe³ noh³ kwe³nda⁴ rex³ noh³ me³ pe³tra⁴ a³²
 aunt her account father her CON:be Petra DEC
 Petra (Sp. *Petra*) is her aunt on her father's side.

1.1.6 Stative sentences. The minimal form of a stative sentence consists of a stative verb, its subject, and a sentential marker. All such sentences are continuative in meaning.

*shno*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 drunk he DEC
 He is drunk.

*tsinh*³ *yohoo*⁵ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 tiny earth indeed PERS
 The earth is tiny for sure. (cf. Brother 39)

*tinux*¹ *rox*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 brother:ME:related the:DU he DEC
 They are brothers.

(See also 7.100.)

As in the case of intransitive sentences, a nonagentive personal subject is marked by the locative noun *man*³ 'body of' (see §3.6) with an arbitrary subset of stative verbs.

*zheh*³ *man*³ *gwa*⁴ *a*³²
 tired body John DEC
 John is tired.

Not all stative verbs occur in this simple construction, however. Some require the presence of a content verb in addition to the stative verb, and still others occur either with or without another verb. The verb that is most commonly used in such constructions is *waa*³² 'to exist'. Sometimes the stative verb precedes *waa*³², and sometimes it follows. Some stative verbs prefer one order, some the other, and still others accept either, sometimes with different sense discriminations.

With stative verb preceding:

*kanike*¹³ *waa*³² *na*³*na*¹ *a*³²
 evil CON:exist word DEC
 The words are evil.

*tsinh*³ *waa*³² *shli*³*nge*⁴ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 tiny CON:exist cannibal indeed PERS
 The cannibal is tiny for sure. (Brother 141)

*chix*² *waa*³² *noh*³ *a*³²
 mature CON:exist she DEC
 She is old.

With stative verb following:

*waa*³² *hyoo*² *yatsex*⁵ *a*³²
 CON:exist wet clothing DEC
 The clothes are wet.

(See also 7.66 and 7.70.)

With stative verb preceding or following:

*zah*¹ *waa*³² *sha*³*na*¹ *a*³²
 good CON:exist woman DEC
 The woman is good. (pretty)

*waa*³² *zah*¹ *sha*³*na*¹ *a*³²
 CON:exist good woman DEC
 The woman is good. (healthy, morally upright)

*gee*¹ *waa*³² *ta*³*sa*⁴ *a*³²
 whole CON:exist cup DEC
 The cup (Sp. *taza*) is full.

*waa*³² *gee*¹ *ta*³*sa*⁴ *a*³²
 CON:exist whole cup DEC
 The cup is unbroken. *or* The set of cups is complete.

Occasionally a stative verb is used as the predicate of an impersonal sentence, in which case no subject occurs.

*rmih*² *a*³²
 dark DEC
 It is dark.

*waa*³² *dinx*⁵ *a*³²
 CON:exist calm DEC
 It is peaceful. (Brother 153)

A number of nonstative verbs beside *waa*³² also occur in stative sentences, but each such verb adds some further meaning to the sentence. The verbs *uun*³ 'to become' and *nuu*³ 'to become again' are used for the notion of entering into a state; they usually precede the stative verb.

*guun*³ *maree*¹³ *riaan*³² *gwaa*⁴ *a*³²
 COM:become red face John DEC
 John's face became red.

*guun*³ *eh*¹ *yume*³² *a*³²
 COM:become bitter tuber DEC
 The tubers became bitter. (Fight 218)

*kunuu*³ *nuhwe*¹³ *riaan*³² *to*³² *a*³²
 COM:become:again smooth face metate DEC
 The surface of the metate (grindstone) became smooth again.

*kunuu*³ *taa*⁻¹³ *a*³²
 COM:become:again flat-UN DEC
 It became flat again. (cf. Deluge 15)

Certain verbs of perception that are normally transitive are used intransitively in stative sentences; for example, *cha*⁴ 'to eat' is used to mean 'to taste'.

*shianh*¹ *cha*⁴ *chraa*³ *a*³²
 tasty CON:eat tortilla DEC
 The tortilla tastes good.

*eh*¹ *cha*⁴ *yume*³² *a*³²
 bitter CON:eat tuber DEC
 The tubers tasted bitter. (Fight 223)

*nix*³² *ni*³*hyax*² *kotoo*⁴ *a*³²
 ugly CON:look shirt DEC
 The shirt (Sp. *cotón*) looks ugly.

Occasionally a position verb is used in a stative sentence, as seen in 7.53.

In order to express aspects other than continuative, it is necessary to employ one of the content verbs mentioned above together with the stative verb.

*gaa*³² *rmi*² *shumii*³¹ *a*³²
 COM:exist dark world DEC
 The world was dark. (Sun 1:1)

*gaa*² *shno*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 POT:exist drunk he DEC
 He will be drunk.

*wehe*⁴ *ushra*⁴ *gaa*² *ra*³*zuun*² *a*³²
 pretty INTS POT:exist thing DEC
 Things will be very pretty. (spoken in bitter sarcasm as a curse)
 (cf. Brother 133)

*guun*³ *tinux*¹ *nix*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:become brother:ME:related the:PL he DEC
 They became brothers.

Adjuncts sometimes occur in stative sentences. The first example below contains a locative adjunct used metaphorically; and the second one contains a referent adjunct expressing comparison of degree, with *dox*³ 'more' following the subject.

*tsinh*³ *yohoo*⁵ *riaan*³² *zhi-h*⁴ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 tiny earth face grandfather-our:IN indeed PERS
 The earth was tiny to our grandfather for sure. (Brother 39)

*shkaan*¹ *rox*¹ *zox*¹³ *dox*³ *riaan*³² *zoh*³ *a*³²
 tall the:DU you:PL more face his DEC
 You two are taller than he.

To express permanent characteristics, an equative sentence is often used instead of a stative sentence, as seen in 7.108.

1.1.7 Peripheral elements. All sentence types may indicate time, location, and manner. A peripheral location, which describes the setting of the entire predication, must be distinguished from the locative adjunct, which is required to complete the meaning of some verbs. Peripheral elements may be expressed by adverbs (see §5.5), adverb phrases (see §4.2), adverbial noun phrases (see §3.6), prepositional phrases (see §4.3), or subordinate sentences (see §6.2.1). Peripheral elements follow subject and object, and they usually follow adjuncts as well.

Time:

*otox*³² *noh*³ *kwa*³ *no*² *a*³²
 CON:sleep she right:now DEC
 She is sleeping right now.

*kihyax*¹³ *gwaa*⁴ *weh*³ *rke*³ *shnuh*² *gwii*³ *a*³²
 POR:do John house stomach fifteen day DEC
 John will build the house within two weeks.

*kahanx*³² *zoh*³ *tayox*³ *kii*³ *a*³²
 COM:go he Juxtlahuaca yesterday DEC
 He went to Juxtlahuaca yesterday.

*guun*¹³ *zoh*³ *tanuu*³ *a*³ *yoh*³ *a*³²
 POR:become he soldier next:year DEC
 He will become a soldier next year.

tuwih³ nih⁴ me³ zoh³ gaa¹³ naa⁴ a³²
 companion our:IN CON:be he when long:ago DEC
 They were our companions long ago. (Deluge 60)

kuhluh³ zoh³ kunuh¹ yawii³² rke³ chruun³ a³²
 COM:be:stuck he complete month stomach wood DEC
 He was stuck in the tree all year long. (Openly 24)

(See also 7.22, 7.57, 7.62, 7.91, and 7.106.)

Location:

ananx⁵ sha³na¹ rohno⁴ shumanh³ a³²
 CON:weave woman tunic town DEC
 The woman is weaving the tunic in town.

kihyax³ zoh³ weh³ shraa⁵ kix³² a³²
 COM:do he house back mountain DEC
 He built the house on the top of the mountain.

(See also 7.9.)

Manner:

kawih³ wahnux¹ mix⁵ yuwii³¹ tah¹ azuun³² a³²
 COM:die three thousand person although likely DEC
 Three thousand people died, more or less.

kahmii³² zoh³ dax¹³ a³²
 COM:speak he thus DEC
 He spoke in that way.

ax¹ kahmaan³ ra⁴ sha³na¹ asno³ shehe⁴ rex³ noh³ a³²
 already COM:get:hot inside woman first feet father her DEC
 The woman had already become angry the first time about her father. (Fight 99)

(See also 7.42, 7.43, and 7.46.)

In 7.1, there are two instances of peripheral manner, one preceding the final sentential marker, and another one interrupting an adverbial noun phrase.

Two peripheral elements may occur in one sentence.

kawih³ kahyanx³² yoh³ ta³nuu² rias³² yax¹³ a³²
 COM:die coyote that middle bamboo now DEC
 That coyote died in the middle of the bamboo at that time.

Peripheral time is quite common, especially at major transition points in the discourse, but peripheral location and manner are relatively infrequent. It is more natural to express a location as a locative adjunct, and so sentence combinations with a motion or position verb in one part are quite common (see §6.1.2). Manner is more commonly expressed within the verb phrase (see §2.1.3).

In general, speakers prefer short basic sentences. The text in chapter 7, for example, contains no sentences with two or more adjuncts, and only three sentences with both an adjunct and a peripheral element. The most complex sentence structures in the text are found in 7.62 and 7.91, both of which have four elements beside the verb phrase. In order to express more than three constituents beside the verb phrase, it is common to employ a sentence combination, which provides an extra verb with which constituents can be associated (see §6.1.2).

1.1.8 Focus permutations. In appropriate discourse contexts, one element of the sentence may be focused by permuting it to pre-verb-phrase position. Any element may be focused in this way except that most speakers do not focus the associative adjunct. The instrument adjunct, on the other hand, occurs only in focus position; this adjunct includes the material out of which something is made. Elements in focus are indicated by small capitals in the free translation.

Subject focus:

gwaa⁴ otox³² a³²
 John CON:sleep DEC
 JOHN is sleeping.

shnii³ cha⁴ rnee³² a³²
 boy COM:eat bean DEC
 THE BOY ate beans.

sha³na¹ kananx⁵ rohno⁴ manx³ a³²
 woman COM:weave tunic day:before:yesterday DEC
 THE WOMAN wove the tunic a few days ago.

shu³kwa²han-h⁴ kuchrux³² ya³kwex² a³²
 grandmother-our:1N COM:lay Oaxaca:City DEC
 OUR GRANDMOTHER founded Oaxaca. (Brother 44)

shkaa³² tume⁴ chrex³² a³²
 raven CON:guard trail DEC
 THE RAVEN was watching the trail. (Sun 2:25)

shkuu³ ruhwe³² karih³ tuhwex³² noh³ a³²
 animal ball:of:thread COM:get POS:thread her DEC
 THE POTTER WASP got her thread. (Sun 4:36)

(See also 7.2, 7.44, 7.53, 7.77, 7.88, and 7.92.)

Object focus:

na³² ho³² zhoh³ a³²
 water CON:drink it:AML DEC
 It (the animal) is drinking WATER.

sahanx³² naruhwee³² gwaa⁴ riaan³² sha³na¹ shehe⁴ skux⁵ a³²
 money COM:repay John face woman feet ox DEC
 John paid THE MONEY back to the woman for the ox.

ta⁵nux¹³ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ kahnex⁵ zhi-h⁴
 POS:drum grandmother-our:IN COM:take:away grandfather-our:IN

nanx¹ a³²
 indeed PERS

Our grandfather took OUR GRANDMOTHER'S DRUM away for sure.
 (Brother 166)

ichix² skii⁵ tamanh³ rex³ chex¹ zoh³ rke³
 seven resin COM:sprinkle father in:law his stomach

zhee⁵ a³²
 clearing DEC

His father-in-law scattered SEVEN [pieces of] INCENSE in the clearing.
 (Fight 20)

ichix² tanh³ ka³ta¹³ naa³¹ gaa¹³ naa⁴ a³²
 seven corn:ear COM:carry cornfield when long:ago DEC
 Corn plants used to bear SEVEN EARS OF CORN [each] long ago.
 (Fight 58)

Adjunct focus:

tayox³ kahanx³² zoh³ a³²
 Juxtlahuaca COM:go he DEC
 He went TO JUTLAHUACA.

weh³ ka²ne⁴ zoh¹ a³²
 house POT:sit you:SG DEC
 You will sit IN THE HOUSE. (cf. Fight 71)

*shehe*⁴ *gwaa*⁴ *ahmii*³² *noh*³ *a*³²

feet John CON:speak she DEC

She speaks ABOUT JOHN. *or* She speaks ON BEHALF OF JOHN.

*shehe*⁴ *yahanx*³² *gwii*¹³ *yoh*³ *ranh*³ *tahnii*⁵ *yoh*³ *kwanh*³

feet god of:sun that CON:suffer child that today

*nianx*⁵ *a*³²

here DEC

ON ACCOUNT OF THAT SUN GOD the children of that [one suffer here [and] now. (Sun 2:114)

*nee*³² *kahneh*¹ *zoh*³ *nee*³¹ *a*³²

knife POT:cut he flesh DEC

He will cut the meat WITH A KNIFE.

*agah*³ *neh*² *kanokoh*³ *yahanx*³² *shtah*¹ *a*³²

metal ropelike COM:follow god high DEC

The god hung from the sky BY A CHAIN. (Sun 2:118)

*maan*¹ *yoh*³ *kishihnanx*² *ndoho*³² *shkuu*³ *a*³²

only that POT:abound INTS animal DEC

Many animals will abound FROM JUST THAT [stuff (blood)].

(Brother 147)

(See also 7.79 and 7.80.)

Peripheral element focus:

*ngax*³² *kananx*² *ma*³*rya*⁴ *rohno*⁴ *a*³²

Putla POT:weave Mary tunic DEC

Mary will weave the tunic IN PUTLA.

*kii*³ *kahanx*³² *zoh*³ *niaan*⁵ *a*³²

yesterday COM:go he Tlaxiaco DEC

He went to Tlaxiaco YESTERDAY.

*kunuh*¹ *yawii*³² *kahanx*³² *maan*³¹ *a*³²

complete month COM:go rain DEC

The rain went away ALL YEAR LONG. (Openly 25)

(See also 7.37 and 7.49.)

When a focused element is expressed by an adverbial noun phrase (see §3.6) or by a prepositional phrase (see §4.3), the locative noun or preposition may either be fronted along with the rest of the phrase or left in its

original position, except that *man*³ 'body of' is usually unexpressed in focused elements.

*riaan*³² *ma*³*rya*⁴ *naruhwee*³² *gwaa*⁴ *sahanx*³² *a*³²
 face Mary COM:repay John money DEC
 John paid the money back TO MARY.

*ma*³*rya*⁴ *naruhwee*³² *gwaa*⁴ *sahanx*³² *riaan*³² *a*³²
 Mary COM:repay John money face DEC
 John paid the money back TO MARY.

*shehe*⁴ *gwaa*⁴ *ahmii*³² *zoh*³ *a*³²
 feet John CON:speak he DEC
 He speaks ABOUT JOHN. *or* He speaks ON BEHALF OF JOHN.

*gwaa*⁴ *ahmii*³² *zoh*³ *shehe*⁴ *a*³²
 John CON:speak he feet DEC
 He speaks about JOHN. *or* He speaks on behalf of JOHN.

*zoh*³ *karakwix*⁵ *hunx*¹ *a*³²
 him COM:help I DEC
 I helped HIM.

*shnii*³ *oh*³ *ma*³*rya*⁴ *sahanx*³² *a*³²
 boy CON:give Mary money DEC
 Mary gives money TO THE BOY.

In equative sentences, the subject may be focused, in which case the nominal complement follows the verb.

*gwaa*⁴ *me*³ *tanuu*³ *a*³²
 John CON:be soldier DEC
 JOHN is a soldier.

*neko*⁴ *me*³ *zii*⁵ *rih*³ *yahan*³² *a*³²
 opossum CON:be he CON:get fire DEC
 THE OPOSSUM is the one who got the fire. (Sun 4:9)

*zoh*³ *kuhnax*¹ *gwaa*⁴ *a*³²
 he CON:be:named John DEC
 HE is named John.

(See also 7.60.)

If some other element in the sentence is focused, the nominal complement follows the subject.

kwa³no² me³ zoh³ shrex³ a³²
 right:now CON:be he priest DEC
 He is a priest RIGHT NOW.

In stative sentences, the subject or some other element may be focused.

sha³na¹ wehe⁴ waa³² a³²
 woman pretty CON:exist DEC
 THE WOMAN is pretty.

gox³ kunuu³ zah¹ zoh³ a³²
 last:year COM:become:again good he DEC
 He got well LAST YEAR.

(See also 7.44.)

Occasionally two elements are focused.

asno³ skii⁵ kaoh¹ nih⁴ rke³ zhee⁵ a³²
 first resin POT:hit we:IN stomach clearing DEC
 FIRST we'll TOSS INCENSE in the clearing. (Fight 16)

There are various ways to create stronger focus. The most common way is to place the general marker *roh³*, followed by pause, after the fronted element. A pronoun copy may occur in the normal order, especially if the focused element is the subject and it has a human referent.

With pronoun copy:

ne² ho² runh⁵ shahwaa⁵ roh³ / ne³ otox³² zhoh³ a³²
 and one single macaw TOPIC NEG CON:sleep it:AML DEC
 And as for only the macaw, it wasn't sleeping. (cf. Sun 3:105)

tsax² ne² shli³nge⁴ roh³ / ne³ zoh³ kwa³no² nanx¹ a⁴
 but and cannibal TOPIC CON:sit he right:now indeed PERS
 But as for the cannibal, he is living now for sure. (Brother 186)

tsax² ne² mahan¹³ yahanx³² tuhwii¹³ shana¹ roh³ / zah¹
 but and self god of:thunder female TOPIC good

ushra⁴ nokoh³ shex³² man³ noh³ a³²
 INTS CON:follow weight body her DEC
 But as for the thunder goddess herself, prosperity follows her very well. (Fight 59)

Without pronoun copy:

*mahan*¹³ *zoh*³ *roh*³ / *kunuu*³² *shumanh*³ *kopa*³*la*⁴ *a*³²
 self his TOPIC COM:be:in town Copala DEC
 As for him himself, [he] was in the town of Copala (Sp. *Copala*).
 (Brother 64)

*ne*² *shee*⁵ *zoh*³ *roh*³ / *kinauun*³ *kox*³²
 and spouse's:younger:relative his TOPIC COM:turn:into plant

*shnee*⁴ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 bean:plant indeed PERS

And as for his sister-in-law, [she] turned into the bean plant for sure.
 (Fight 318)

*ne*² *maan*¹ *tuneh*⁴ *zoh*¹ *roh*³ / *tukwa*²*hanx*³² *uun*¹ *zoh*¹
 and only tail your:SG TOPIC POT:cause:to:go LIM you:SG

*rke*³ *yahan*³² *a*³²
 stomach fire DEC

And as for only your tail, you will just put [it] in the fire.
 (cf. Sun 3:160)

*shtah*¹ *roh*³ / *nuu*³² *na*³*na*¹ *yahax*¹³ *a*³²
 high TOPIC CON:be:in wind of:chili DEC

As for the sky, the chili wind is [there]. (Brother 173)

*yohoo*⁵ *katsii*¹ *roh*³ / *kihyax*³ *zoh*³ *man*³ *zii*⁵ *tanuu*¹³ *a*³²
 earth white TOPIC COM:do he body his soldierlike DEC

As for white earth, he made the soldier people [out of it].
 (Deluge 34)

*ne*² *yax*¹³ *nianx*⁵ *roh*³ / *kuruwih*³ *yahanx*³² *gwii*¹³ *a*³²
 and now here TOPIC COM:appear god of:sun DEC

And as for then [and] there, the sun god appeared. (Sun 2:17)

In the following sentences, the same element is focused both by simple fronting and by using the topic marker; both involve the nominal marker *maan*¹ 'only'.

*maan*¹ *ton*³² *man*³ *shli*³*nge*⁴ *roh*³ / *maan*¹ *yoh*³ *kishihnanx*²
 only blood body cannibal TOPIC only that POT:abound

*ndoho*³² *shkuu*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 INTS animal indeed PERS

As for only the cannibal's blood, OUT OF ONLY THAT [stuff] many animals will abound for sure. (cf. Brother 147)

*gaa*¹³ *ne*² *maan*¹ *riaan*³² *na*³*na*¹ *roh*³ / *maan*¹ *dan*³²
 when and only face wind TOPIC only that

*hnah*³ *ndoho*³² *nix*³ *sha*³*na*¹ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 CON:COME INTS the:PL woman indeed PERS

And then as for only after the wind, ONLY [at] THAT [time] many of the women were coming for sure. (Fight 303)

A second way to strengthen focus is to place the general adverb *shiah*¹ ‘truly’ before the fronted element, a pause after the fronted element, and the complex coordinate conjunction *tsax*² *ne*² ‘but’ at the beginning of the main sentence. The focused element is also expressed by a noun or pronoun in the usual order.

*shiah*¹ *ma*³*rya*⁴ / *tsax*² *ne*² *achiin*³ *sahanx*³² *man*³ *noh*³ *a*³²
 truly Mary but and CON:lack money body her DEC
 As for Mary, she needs money. (lit. . . . money is lacking to her.)

*shiah*¹ *tanh*³ / *tsax*² *ne*² *kinawix*³ *tanh*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 truly corn:ear but and COM:finish corn:ear indeed PERS
 As for the ears of corn, they were finished up for sure. (Fight 164)

The following sentence uses both *roh*³ and *tsax*² *ne*².

*ne*² *shli*³*nge*⁴ *roh*³ / *tsax*² *ne*² *ne*³ *awih*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 and cannibal TOPIC but and NEG CON:die he DEC
 And as for the cannibal, he doesn’t die. (Brother 137)

Another way to strengthen focus is to use a cleft construction. The equative verb *me*³ ‘to be’ and the non-phrase-final inanimate pronoun *ze*³², which functions as a complementizer, occur between the fronted element and the rest of the sentence.

*ni*³*ka*² *zoh*³ *me*³ *ze*³² *kunanx*⁵ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 spouse his CON:be CMP COM:run indeed PERS
 It was his wife who ran away for sure. (cf. Fight 135)

*dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³² *tinuu*⁵ *zoh*³ *me*³ *ze*³² *kihyax*³
 that CON:be CMP brother:ME his CON:be CMP COM:do

*kinahax*⁵ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:become:weak he DEC

And then it was his brother who made him get weak. (Brother 62)

The cleft construction superficially resembles an equative sentence that contains a nominal complement, the equative verb *me*³, and a subject that consists of the non-phrase-final inanimate pronoun *ze*³² as the nucleus,

modified by a relative clause (see §3.1.3). The cleft construction differs from the relative clause construction, however, because the inanimate pronoun is always used in the cleft construction, even for a human referent. Compare the last sentence above with the following equative sentence containing a relative clause introduced by the non-phrase-final masculine pronoun.

tinuu⁵ zoh³ me³ zii⁵ kunuu³² niaan⁵ a³²
 brother:ME his CON:be he COM:be:in Tlaxiaco DEC
 HIS BROTHER was the one that was in Tlaxiaco. (Brother 63)

Sometimes *me³* alone is used in the cleft construction, without the complementizer.

tsax² ne² kix³² yoh³ me³ kachix³² riaan³² na³²
 but and mountain that CON:be COM:grow face water
yahanx² a³²
 divine DEC

But [it] is that mountain [that] grew above the flood water.
 (Deluge 4)

doh¹ maan³¹ me³ kahnah³ nanx¹ a⁴
 merely rain CON:be COM:come indeed PERS
 [It] is only rain [that] came for sure. (Fight 301)

The use of *me³* alone is especially common after the interrogative noun phrase *me³ shehe⁴* ‘why?’.

me³ shehe⁴ me³ hyax³ zoh³ dax¹³ ga²
 which feet CON:be CON:do he thus INT
 Why is [it that] he acts that way? (Brother 70)

It is also possible to use only pause after the fronted element, or to use pause followed by the conjunction *tsax² ne²* ‘but’ or *ne²* ‘and’. The use of *ne²* is particularly common following focused time elements.

With pause:

ne² sno⁵ho³² / n-ahwee³ kushman¹ ra⁴ zoh³ mah³
 and man NEG-CON:be:possible POT:arrive inside he NEG
 And as for the man, it was not possible for him to believe [it].
 (cf. Fight 95)

With *tsax² ne²*:

ne² zhii¹³ nih⁴ / tsax² ne² kawih³ zoh³ nanx¹ a⁴
 and grandfather our:IN but and COM:die he indeed PERS
 And as for our grandfather, he died for sure. (Brother 187)

yax¹³ / tsax² ne² ne³ nehe³ nih⁴ man³ zoh³ mah³
 now but and NEG CON:sense we:IN body his NEG
 As for the present, we don't see him. (Openly 84)

With *ne²*:

yax¹³ / ne² nauun³ zoh³ kuruwii³ nianx⁵ yax¹³ a³²
 now and CON:turn:into he monkey here now DEC
 As for the present, they have turned into monkeys here [and] now.
 (Deluge 61)

gaa¹³ naa⁴ / ne² shianh¹ cha⁴ yume³² yoh³ a³²
 when long:ago and tasty CON:eat tuber that DEC
 As for long ago, the tubers were tasty. (Fight 216)

kuruwii³ / ne² ne³ kahanx² nihya² zoh³ mah³
 monkey and NEG COM:go lost he NEG
 As for monkeys, they did not disappear. (Deluge 57)

ne² rex³² nikunh³ tanx³² / ne² kutah³ uun⁴
 and place CON:stand thorn and COM:place:on:top REP

yoh³ a³²
 that DEC

And as for the thorn patch, that [one] placed [them] on top [of it]
 also. (cf. Sun 3:41)

1.1.9 Sentential complements. Basic sentences occur both as subject complements and as object complements within other sentences, though object complements are more frequent. Complement sentences do not, however, contain sentential markers, which occur only in independent sentences.

There are two kinds of subject complements. The first kind serves as the subject of an intransitive verb. The most common verbs in this group are phasal verbs, such as *navix³* 'to finish', and verbs with modal meaning, such as *ahwee³* 'to be possible'. The phasal verb *zix⁵* 'to be complete' is also used to express the spatial concept 'to have room' or 'to be enough'. In this type, no complementizer occurs, the complement sentence must contain a verb inflected for aspect, and the main verb and the complement

verb either agree in aspect, or else the main verb is continuative, and the complement verb is completive.

*zix*⁵ *kuno*³ *zhoh*³ *na*³*na*¹ *yoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:be:complete COM:hear it:AML word that DEC
 It (the raven) finishes hearing that word. (Fight 226)

*kizix*⁵ *kawii*³² *naa*³¹ *a*³²
 COM:be:complete COM:come:out cornfield DEC
 The cornfield finished producing. (Fight 46)

*zix*⁵ *hyax*³ *zoh*³ *weh*³ *a*³²
 CON:be:complete CON:do he house DEC
 He finishes building the house.

*kizix*² *kinax*¹³ *tanh*³ *yoh*³ *dox*¹³ *skux*⁵ *weh*³ *nianx*⁵
 POT:be:complete POT:lie corn:ear that some angle house this

*nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 indeed PERS

There is room for those ears of corn to lie in this little corner of the house for sure. (Fight 86)

*kinawix*³ *koho*³² *zoh*³ *ri*³*nde*⁴ *a*³²
 COM:finish COM:drink he rum DEC
 He has stopped drinking rum (Sp. *aguardiente*).

*kanikunh*³ *kachix*³² *kix*³² *a*³²
 COM:stand COM:grow mountain DEC
 The mountain stopped growing. (Deluge 13)

*guun*¹³ *shehe*¹ *kihyax*¹³ *zoh*³ *weh*³ *a*³²
 POT:become based POT:do he house DEC
 He will begin to build the house.

*kahwee*¹³ *kahanx*² *gwaa*⁴ *ya*³*kwex*² *a*³²
 POT:be:possible POT:go John Oaxaca:City DEC
 It will be possible for John to go to Oaxaca. *or* John can go to Oaxaca.

*kahwee*³ *kihyax*³ *gwaa*⁴ *weh*³ *a*³²
 COM:be:possible COM:do John house DEC
 It was possible for John to build the house. *or* John could build the house.

(See also 7.16, 7.18, 7.47, and 7.105.)

When, however, the main verb is in completive aspect and it is negated, it has the form of potential aspect (see §2.1.2). Following a negated completive, the complement verb is in potential aspect.

ne³ guun¹³ yukwanh¹ kirih¹ zoh³ ze³² anuu³¹
 NEG COM:become in:time POT:get he it:INAN CON:explode

ni³kax² zoh³ mah³
 CON:have he NEG

He wasn't in time to get the explosives that he has. (Openly 68)

Some verbs do not require aspect agreement.

guun³ raan¹ naman¹ zoh³ a³²
 COM:become delayed POT:arrive:home:here he DEC
 He wouldn't get home for a long while. (Fight 174)

Verbs that express noises often occur with the action that produces the noise expressed as a subject complement.

ka³yux² wax² chraa⁵ a³²
 CON:roar CON2:move river DEC

The river roars [as it] moves. (lit. The moving of the river roars.)

The verb *achen⁴* 'to pass', when used with a subject complement, means 'too much'; no complementizer occurs, and the two verbs must agree in aspect.

kachen⁴ koho³² zoh³ ri³nde⁴ a³²
 COM:pass COM:drink he rum DEC

He drank too much rum. (lit. His drinking rum passed.)

The verbs *waa³²* 'to exist' and *uun³* 'to become' often take a sentence of any type as a subject complement, with no complementizer. These verbs serve to affirm the truth of the complement sentence, and they can follow the complement as well as precede it.

waa³² kahanx³² zoh³ a³²
 CON:exist COM:go he DEC
 It is [the case that] he went.

kahanx² zoh³ / gaa² a³²
 POT:go he POT:exist DEC
 It will be [the case that] he will go.

kahanx² zoh³ / guun¹³ a³²
 POT:go he POT:become DEC
 It will happen [that] he will go.

The general adverb *dax*¹³ ‘thus’ sometimes precedes *waa*³².

*dax*¹³ *waa*³² *kinax*⁵ *ra*³*zuun*² *riaan*³² *rox*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 thus CON:exist COM:remain thing face the:DU his DEC
 It was in that way [that] the things stayed with the two of them. (i.e.,
 the things were divided up between them) (Openly 14)

The verbs *waa*³² ‘to exist’ and *dax*³² ‘to not exist’ may take a special kind of subject complement in which the complement sentence lacks a subject and functions something like a gerund.

*waa*³² *uno*³² *hnuu*⁵ *a*³²
 CON:exist CON:SOW corn DEC
 [People] are sowing corn. or Sowing corn is taking place.

*dax*³² *tukuhyon*⁴ *kwanh*³ *mah*³
 CON:NEG:exist CON:teach today NEG
 There’s no school today. (lit. There’s no teaching today.)

*dax*³² *cha*⁴ *man*³ *yoh*³ *mei*³²
 CON:NEG:exist CON:eat body it:INAN NEG:EMPH
 It’s definitely not eaten.

The second kind of subject complement usually serves as the subject of a stative sentence. It is often introduced by the complementizer *ze*³² *waa*³² (or, less commonly, *ze*³² alone), and there are no aspect restrictions between the two parts.²

*zah*¹ *waa*³² *ze*³² *waa*³² *kahanx*³² *gwaa*⁴ *ya*³*kwex*² *a*³²
 good CON:exist CMP CON:exist COM:go John Oaxaca:City DEC
 It is good that John went to Oaxaca.

*ya*¹³ *ze*³² *kawih*³ *noh*³ *a*³²
 true CMP COM:die she DEC
 It is true that she died.

²The complex complementizer *ze*³² *waa*³² is a combination of the simple complementizer *ze*³², which is basically a non-phrase-final third person pronoun that refers to inanimate objects (see §5.4), and the continuative aspect form of *waa*³² ‘to exist’. Sentences with the complex complementizer can be viewed as sentences with the simple complementizer followed by sentences in which *waa*³² is the main verb and everything that follows is a subject complement, as described above. This is probably the historical source of *ze*³² *waa*³², but it has become grammaticalized, as shown by the fact that *waa*³² is not inflected for aspect when it forms part of the complex complementizer.

*kunax*¹ *ushra*⁴ *kahnah*⁴ *zoh*¹ *a*³²
 good INTS COM:COME you:SG DEC
 It is very good [that] you came. (Brother 82)

Object complements also fall into two kinds, conditioned by the relationship between the main verb and the complement sentence. In the first kind, the main verb brings some influence to bear on the complement sentence, and in the second kind, the main verb simply reports it.

In the first kind of object complement, there is usually no complementizer. Some verbs, such as *zix*⁵ *ra*⁴ ‘to dare’, require potential aspect in the complement verb, and also require the subjects of the complement sentence and the matrix sentence to be coreferential. Other verbs, such as *me*³ *ra*⁴ ‘to want’, also require potential aspect, but allow the subjects to be either coreferential or noncoreferential.

*zix*⁵ *ra*⁴ *zoh*¹ *ki*²*hyaa*⁵ *zoh*¹ *dax*¹³ *a*³²
 CON:be:complete inside you:SG POT:do you:SG thus DEC
 You dare to act that way. (cf. Sun 3:68)

*me*³ *ra*⁴ *gwaa*⁴ *kahanx*² *zoh*³ *ya*³*kwex*² *a*³²
 CON:be inside John POT:go he Oaxaca:City DEC
 John wants to go to Oaxaca.

*me*³ *ra*⁴ *gwaa*⁴ *kahanx*² *hunx*¹ *ya*³*kwex*² *a*³²
 CON:be inside John POT:go I Oaxaca:City DEC
 John wants me to go to Oaxaca.

*me*³ *ra*⁴ *zoh*³ *kuno*² *zoh*³ *hnuu*⁵ *rke*³ *yohoo*⁵ *a*³²
 CON:be inside he POT:sow he corn stomach earth DEC
 He wanted to plant the corn in the ground. (Fight 185)

*kahwex*³² *gwaa*⁴ *guun*¹³ *zoh*³ *rto*³*mo*⁴ *a*³²
 COM:be:willing John POT:become he mayordomo DEC
 John was willing to become the mayordomo (sponsor of a fiesta; Sp. *mayordomo*).

*n-ahwex*³² *sha*³*na*¹ *kahanx*² *sno*⁵*ho*³² *a*³²
 NEG-CON:be:willing woman POT:go man DEC
 The woman doesn't want the man to go. (Fight 65)

*nahwix*¹ *hunx*¹ *kuchih*¹ *zoh*¹ *a*³²
 POT:wait I POT:arrive you:SG DEC
 I will wait for you to arrive. (Fight 281)

Other verbs, such as *uun*³ *shehe*¹ ‘to begin’ (which also occurs with subject complements) and *uun*³ *nukwax*¹³ ‘to be strong enough’ or ‘to be

enough', require coreferential subjects, and they also require the two parts to agree in aspect.

*guun*³ *shehe*¹ *gwaa*⁴ *kihyax*³ *zoh*³ *weh*³ *a*³²
 COM:become based John COM:do he house DEC
 John began to build the house.

*guun*³ *yukwanh*¹ *yawii*³ *kirih*³ *yoh*³ *rex*³² *nuwah*¹
 COM:become in:time moon COM:get that place right:side

*shkwaa*⁵ *a*³²
 snake DEC

The moon was quick enough to get [the one on] the right side of the snake. (Sun 2:79)

*guun*¹³ *nukwax*¹³ *gwaa*⁴ *na*²*shkax*³² *zoh*³ *yuwex*³² *a*³²
 POT:become strong John POT:lift he rock DEC
 John will be strong enough to lift the rock.

*guun*³ *nukwax*¹³ *kix*³² *yoh*³ *kachen*⁴ *yoh*³ *riaan*³²
 COM:become strong mountain that COM:pass it:INAN face

*na*³² *a*³²
 water DEC

The mountain was strong enough to surpass the water (in height). (Deluge 8)

*kihyax*³ *kanaan*⁴ *tuhwii*³ *yoh*³ *ku*³*rianx*¹ *zoh*³ *katuun*³¹
 COM:do gain thunder that COM:appear he waist

*chruun*³ *a*³²
 wood DEC

That thunder succeeded (Sp. *ganar*) in leaving the tree trunk. (Openly 58)

(See also 7.104.)

When, however, the main verb is in completive aspect and it is negated, the complement verb is in potential aspect.

*ne*³ *guun*¹³ *yukwanh*¹ *reh*³ *chex*¹ *zoh*³ *kunanx*² *rex*³
 NEG COM:become in:time father in:law his POT:run father

*chex*¹ *zoh*³ *rke*³ *zhee*⁵ *mah*³
 in:law his stomach clearing NEG

His father-in-law wasn't quick enough to run out of the clearing. (Fight 26)

*ne*³ *guun*¹³ *nukwax*¹³ *na*³² *nazix*² *yoh*³
 NEG COM:become strong water POT:be:complete:again it:INAN

*raa*³¹ *kix*³² *mah*³
 head mountain NEG

The water wasn't strong enough to reach the top of the mountain.
 (Deluge 7)

The verb *hyax*³ 'to do', which creates syntactic causatives, often takes the complementizer *ze*³² *waa*³², usually requires the two parts to have non-coreferential subjects, and requires the two parts to have the same aspect, or the main verb to be completive and the complement verb continuative.

*hyax*³ *zoh*³ *ze*³² *waa*³² *uno*³ *tahnii*⁵ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:do he CMP CON:exist CON:hear child his DEC
 He makes his children obey.

*kihyax*³ *gwaa*⁴ *ze*³² *waa*³² *nax*⁵ *shuwee*³ *zheh*³ *a*³²
 COM:do John CMP CON:exist CON:remain dog outside DEC
 John caused the dog to stay outside.

*hyax*³ *yoh*³ *hnah*³ *nike*³ *chruun*³ *a*³²
 CON:do that CON:come back wood DEC
 Those [ones (the boys)] caused poles to come back. (i.e., they brought poles back) (cf. Sun 1:26)

*hyaa*⁵ *dih*¹ *tax*³² *ze*³² *nia-x*² *mah*³
 CON:do you:SG:FAM CON:NEG:exist POS hominy-my NEG
 You cause my hominy not to exist. (i.e., you ate it up) (Sun 3:81)

In the second kind of object complement, the main verb often refers to cognition or speech, the complementizer *ze*³² *waa*³² usually occurs, and there are no restrictions of aspect or subject person. This kind of object complement includes sentences that are usually called indirect quotations.

*nehe*³ *gwaa*⁴ *ze*³² *waa*³² *kahanx*³² *noh*³ *ya*³ *kwex*² *a*³²
 CON:sense John CMP CON:exist COM:go she Oaxaca:City DEC
 John knows that she went to Oaxaca.

*katax*² *gwaa*⁴ *ze*³² *waa*³² *kawii*³² *noh*³ *kii*³ *a*³²
 POT:say John CMP CON:exist COM:come:out she yesterday DEC
 John will say that she left yesterday.

ne³ achrix⁵ ra⁴ zoh³ ze³² man¹ shkuu³ rke³
 NEG CON:tuck:in inside he CMP CON2:exist:PL animal stomach
na³² mah³
 water NEG

He didn't realize that there were animals in the water. (Openly 64)

guun³ ya¹³ ra-x³ kuchih¹ zoh¹ a³²
 COM:become true inside-I POT:arrive you:SG DEC
 I have been convinced [that] you will arrive. (Fight 281)

ne³ kenehe¹³ sno⁵ho³² kunanx⁵ noh³ mah³
 NEG COM:sense man COM:run she NEG
 The man didn't see [that] she ran away. (Fight 118)

ni³hyax² yoh³ tax¹ ra³zuun² ra⁴ weh³ a³²
 COM:look that CON2:be:on:top thing inside house DEC
 That [one] observed [that] the utensils were [out] on top in the house. (Sun 3:115)

When an equative sentence serves as an object complement, the order is verb—subject—nominal complement, even with *me³* 'to be', which usually has the nominal complement first.

tax³² gwaa⁴ ze³² waa³² me³ zoh³ me³stro⁴ a³²
 CON:say John CMP CON:exist CON:be he teacher DEC
 John says that he is a teacher (Sp. *maestro*).

It is possible for sentences containing sentential complements to show focus in various ways. First, it is possible to focus some element within the complement sentence.

nehe³ gwaa⁴ ze³² waa³² ma³rya⁴ kawih³ a³²
 CON:sense John CMP CON:exist Mary COM:die DEC
 John knows that MARY died.

kuno³ gwaa⁴ ze³² waa³² kii³ kawih³ noh³ a³²
 COM:hear John CMP CON:exist yesterday COM:die she DEC
 John heard that YESTERDAY she died.

tax³² zoh³ dox¹³ tsinh³ tanh³ kawii³² a³²
 CON:say he some tiny corn:ear COM:come:out DEC
 He said VERY FEW EARS OF CORN were produced. (Fight 89)

ne³ nehe-x³ ze³² zoh¹ ne³ a³²
 NEG CON:sense-I CMP you:SG CON:sit DEC
 I didn't know that YOU lived [here]. (Deluge 26)

The above examples all involve object complements because no examples of this kind of focus in subject complements have been found to date.

If no complementizer occurs, it is possible to extract an element from a complement sentence and place it at the beginning of the matrix sentence.

*yuwii*³¹ *ahwex*³² *zoh*³ *katuu*² *ra*⁴ *weh*³ *a*³²
 person CON:be:willing he POT:enter inside house DEC
 He is willing for PEOPLE to enter the house.

*weh*³ *nawih*³ *tirno*⁴ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 house COM:finish COM:paint he DEC
 He finished painting THE HOUSE.

*chii*³ *n-ahwex*³² *sha*³*na*¹ *nianx*⁵ *shkax*² *yoh*³ *mah*³
 man NEG-CON:be:willing woman this POT:take that NEG
 This woman doesn't want to marry A MAN. (Sun 3:7)

It is also possible to focus the entire complement sentence, in which case the complementizer is usually omitted.

*ganh*¹ *hna-x*³ / *nehe*³ *shkuu*³ *a*³²
 far CON:come-UN CON:sense animal DEC
 The animals saw SHE WAS COMING FAR AWAY. (Sun 3:99)

*yume*³² *cha*⁴ *zoh*³ / *ni*³*hyax*² *shkaa*³² *yoh*³ *a*³²
 tuber CON:eat he COM:look raven that DEC
 The raven observed [that] HE WAS EATING TUBERS. (Fight 159)

*nawix*³ *tuwih*³ *zoh*³ / *kawih*³ / *tax*³² *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:finish companion his COM:die CON:say he DEC
 He said HIS COMPANIONS HAD ALL DIED. (Deluge 18)

*kihyax*¹³ *uun*⁴ *zoh*³ *shumanh*³ / *tax*³² *zoh*³ *a*³²
 POT:do REP he town CON:say he DEC
 He said HE WOULD BUILD THE TOWN AGAIN. (Brother 159)

In the case of subject complements of *waa*³² 'to exist' and *uun*³ 'to become', the complement often precedes the main verb, but no special prominence seems to be implied.

*kahanx*² *zoh*³ / *gaa*² *a*³²
 POT:go he POT:exist DEC
 It will be the case [that] he will go.

With *hyax*³ 'to do', it is far more common to place the object complement in sentence-initial position than in the usual order following the subject. No special prominence seems to be involved.

katux⁵ shnii³ ra⁴ weh³ / kihyax³ noh³ a³²
 COM:enter boy inside house COM:do she DEC
 She made the boy enter the house.

kawih¹ sha³na¹ / kihyax¹³ shihii³¹ a³²
 POT:die woman POT:do sickness DEC
 The sickness will make the woman die.

kahnah³ ushra⁴ yaix³ / kihyax³ zoh³ a³²
 COM:COME INTS stone COM:do he DEC
 He caused a lot of stones to come. (i.e., he brought a lot of stones)
 (Brother 56)

zix⁵ weh³ / hyax³ rox¹ yoh³ a³²
 CON:be:complete house CON:do the:DU that DEC
 Those two [persons] caused the house to be finished. (Sun 1:27)
 (See also 7.58, 7.70, 7.71, 7.83, 7.90, and 7.97.)

If, however, the subject of *hyax³* is focused, the complement sentence occurs at the end.

tinuu⁵ zoh³ kihyax³ kinahax⁵ zoh³ a³²
 brother:ME his COM:do COM:become:weak he DEC
 HIS BROTHER caused him to become weak. (Brother 65)

With *ra⁴* ‘to think’ or ‘to be of the opinion’, the object complement occurs only in sentence-initial position. No special prominence seems to be implied by this order.

kawih¹ noh³ / ra⁴ zoh³ a³²
 POT:die she CON:think he DEC
 He thinks she will die.

tuhwa³ rmahan¹³ sha³na¹ / ra⁴ sno⁵ho³² a³²
 CON:talk in:vain woman CON:think man DEC
 The man thought the woman didn’t really mean [it (what she said)].
 (Fight 110)

kane² zoh³ na³² / ra⁴ zoh³ a³²
 POT:bathe he water CON:think he DEC
 He thought he would bathe in the water. (Openly 65)

nike¹³ gwaa⁴ / ra⁴ hunx¹ a³²
 poor John CON:think I DEC
 I think John is poor. (i.e., to be pitied)

(See also 7.17, 7.54, 7.60, 7.89, 7.92, and 7.101.)

It is possible to focus an element within the complement sentence even when the complement sentence occurs at the beginning of the matrix sentence.

shuwee³ katux⁵ ra⁴ weh³ / kuno¹³ zoh³ a³²
 dog COM:enter inside house POT:hear he DEC
 He will hear [that] THE DOG ENTERED THE HOUSE.

ya³kwex² kahanx³² gwaa⁴ / kinarih³ noh³ a³²
 Oaxaca:City COM:go John COM:find she DEC
 She found out [that] JOHN WENT TO OAXACA.

ni³ka² zoh³ hnah³ / ra⁴ zoh³ a³²
 spouse his CON:come CON:think he DEC
 He thought HIS WIFE was coming. (Fight 313)

kunuh¹ yawii³² kahanx³² maan³¹ / kihyax³ zoh³ a³²
 complete month COM:go rain COM:do he DEC
 He made the rain go away ALL YEAR LONG. (Openly 25)

One complement sentence may be embedded in another one. In the example below, the subject complement of *n-ahwee³* is a sentence containing an object complement.

n-ahwee³ guun¹³ nukwax¹³ zoh³ kurianx¹ zoh³
 NEG-CON:be:possible POT:become strong he POT:appear he
rke³ chruun³ mah³
 stomach wood NEG

It wasn't possible for him to be strong enough to leave the inside of the tree. (Openly 23)

A juxtaposed sentence (see §§6.1.2. and 6.2.2) may serve as an object complement; this is especially common with verbs of speech and thought. In the example below, a purpose sentence serves as the object complement of *ra⁴* 'to think'.

guun¹³ nukwax¹³ kuchruu³¹ tanh³ yoh³ / cha² zoh³ /
 POT:become strong corncrib corn:ear that POT:eat he
ra⁴ zoh³ a³²
 CON:think he DEC

He thought that those corncribs [full] of ears of corn would be enough for him to eat. (Fight 120)

1.2 Questions

There are three types of questions: YES/NO questions, WH questions, and indirect questions.

1.2.1 YES/NO questions. Any basic sentence may be made into a YES/NO question by placing the interrogative sentential marker *nah*³ at the end in place of a declarative marker like *a*³².

*raan*³¹ *nah*³
 CON:flash INT
 Is lightning flashing?

*otox*³² *zoh*¹ *nah*³
 CON:sleep you:SG INT
 Are you sleeping?

*kuchih*¹ *ya*⁴ *ya*⁴ *zoh*¹ *nah*³
 POT:arrive true true you:SG INT
 Will you really truly arrive? (Fight 276)

*nakuun*⁵ *sha*³*na*¹ *nah*³
 CON:call woman INT
 Is the woman inviting [me]? (Fight 249)

*narih*⁴ *zoh*¹ *ree*⁵ *zoh*¹ *nah*³
 COM:find you:SG father your:SG INT
 Did you find your father? (Sun 3:176)

*oh*³ *zoh*³ *sahanx*³² *man*³ *gwaa*⁴ *nah*³
 CON:give he money body John INT
 Is he giving money to John?

*tanuu*³ *me*³ *gwaa*⁴ *nah*³
 soldier CON:be John INT
 Is John a soldier?

*zah*¹ *waa*³² *ro*³*to*² *nah*³
 good CON:exist blanket INT
 Is the blanket good?

*sahanx*³² *oh*³ *zoh*³ *man*³ *gwaa*⁴ *nah*³
 money CON:give he body John INT
 Does he give money to John?

There is a second interrogative sentential marker, *zhah*², which implies that an affirmative answer is expected.

*raan*³¹ *zhah*²
 CON:flash INT:AFF
 Lightning is flashing, isn't it?

*tiko*² *hunx*¹ *yanx*³ *zhah*²
 POT:play I paper INT:AFF
 I can play with the paper, can't I?

Disjunctive questions are expressed by a sentence combination (see §6.1.2).

1.2.2 WH questions. Any element of a basic sentence can be questioned by using an appropriate interrogative noun phrase (see §3.4) or interrogative adverb (see §5.5) in focus position, and by using the interrogative sentential marker *ga*² at the end. The most common interrogatives are: *me*³ *zii*⁵ 'who?', *me*³ *nii*⁵ 'which woman?', *me*³ *ze*³² 'what?', *tunx*³ or *me*³ *rex*³² 'where?', *aman*³, *me*³ *o³ra*⁴ (Sp. *hora* 'hour'), or *me*³ *gwii*³ 'when?', *a³zah*¹ 'how?', *me*³ *shehe*⁴ 'why?', *dax*¹ 'how?', and *me*³ 'which?'.

The interrogatives *me*³ *zii*⁵, *me*³ *nii*⁵, and *me*³ *ze*³² are used to question subject, object, nominal complement, and occasionally adjuncts.

*me*³ *zii*⁵ *kahnah*³ *ga*²
 which he COM:come INT
 Who came?

*me*³ *zii*⁵ *me*³ *zoh*³ *ga*²
 which he CON:be he INT
 Who is he?

*me*³ *nii*⁵ *kananx*⁵ *rohno*⁴ *ga*²
 which she COM:weave tunic INT
 Who (which woman) wove the tunic?

*me*³ *ze*³² *achiin*³ *man*⁴ *zoh*¹ *ga*²
 which it:INAN CON:lack body your:SG INT
 What do you need? (lit. What is lacking to you?) (cf. Deluge 25)

*me*³ *ze*³² *kiranx*⁵ *gwaa*⁴ *ga*²
 which it:INAN COM:buy John INT
 What did John buy?

It is also possible to use more specific noun phrases in such questions.

*me*³ *shnii*³ *unanx*⁵ *ga*²
 which boy CON:run INT
 Which boy is running?

*me*³ *kotoo*⁴ *kiranx*⁵ *gwaa*⁴ *ga*²
 which shirt COM:buy John INT
 Which shirt did John buy?

The interrogatives *tunx*³ and *me*³ *rex*³² ‘where?’ are used to question the locative adjunct and the location peripheral element; *tunx*³ is somewhat obsolescent.

*tunx*³ *rahanx*⁵ *gwaa*⁴ *ga*²
 where CON:dance John INT
 Where is John dancing?

*me*³ *rex*³² *nuu*³² *wito*⁴ *ga*²
 which place CON:be:in handkerchief INT
 Where is the handkerchief?

*me*³ *rex*³² *rahanx*⁵ *gwaa*⁴ *ga*²
 which place CON:dance John INT
 Where is John dancing?

*me*³ *rex*³² *kawii*³² *zoh*¹ *ga*²
 which place COM:come:out you:SG INT
 Where did you come from? (cf. Fight 181)

*me*³ *rex*³² *karaa*¹³ *nih*⁴ *tanh*³ *ga*²
 which place POT:put:in we:IN corn:ear INT
 Where will we store the ears of corn? (Fight 76)

The interrogatives *aman*³, *me*³ *o³ra*⁴, and *me*³ *gwii*³ ‘when?’ are used to question the time peripheral element; *aman*³ is somewhat obsolescent.

*aman*³ *kawih*³ *gwaa*⁴ *ga*²
 when COM:die John INT
 When did John die?

*me*³ *o³ra*⁴ *kizix*² *nix*³ *zoh*³ *ga*²
 which hour POT:be:complete the:PL he INT
 When will they arrive? or What time will they arrive?

me *gwii*³ *kawih*³ *gwaa*⁴ *ga*²
 which day COM:die John INT
 When did John die? or Which day did John die?

The interrogative *a³zah¹* ‘how?’ is used to question manner; it often expresses surprise or questions a motive.

a³zah¹ zix⁵ ra⁴ zoh¹ ki²hyaa⁵ zoh¹ dax¹³ ga²
 how CON:be:complete inside you:SG POT:do you:SG thus INT
 How dare you do that? (cf. Sun 3:68)

a³zah¹ ahwee³ kirih³ zoh³ sahanx³² ga²
 how CON:be:possible COM:get he money INT
 How is it possible [that] he got the money?

The interrogative *me³ shehe⁴* ‘why?’ is used to question benefactives and some referents, as well as subordinate cause and purpose sentences (see §6.2).

me³ shehe⁴ kahanx³² gwaa⁴ ngax³² ga²
 which feet COM:go John Putla INT
 Why did John go to Putla?

me³ shehe⁴ kirii² zoh¹ naa³¹ ga²
 which feet POT:take:out you:SG cornfield INT
 Why should you harvest the cornfield? (Fight 48)

(See also 7.23 and 7.26.)

This interrogative phrase often occurs in a reduced cleft construction, in which it is followed by *me³* ‘to be’.

me³ shehe⁴ me³ ne⁴ zoh¹ tuhwa³ chrex³² ga²
 which feet CON:be CON:sit you:SG mouth trail INT
 Why is [it that] you are sitting at the side of the trail? (cf. Sun 3:107)

me³ shehe⁴ me³ hyax³ zoh³ dax¹³ ga²
 which feet CON:be CON:do he thus INT
 Why is [it that] he acts that way? (Brother 70)

This interrogative phrase is also sometimes followed by the conjunction *ne²* ‘and’.

me³ shehe⁴ ne² hyax³ zoh³ dax¹³ ga²
 which feet and CON:do he thus INT
 Why does he act that way? (Brother 73)

me³ shehe⁴ ne² hnah⁴ zoh¹ ga²
 which feet and CON:come you:SG INT
 Why do you come? (Fight 69)

Questions using *me³ shehe⁴* are often used rhetorically to scold.

me³ shehe⁴ ne³ uno⁴ zoh¹ / ahmii³² nih⁴ ga²
 which feet NEG CON:hear you:SG CON:speak we:IN INT
 Why don't you do what I say? (lit. Why don't you hear [when] we speak?) (Fight 85)

me³ shehe⁴ me³ tinax⁵ zoh¹ man-x³ ga²
 which feet CON:be COM:leave you:SG body-my INT
 Why is [it that] you left me? (cf. Sun 3:112)

me³ shehe⁴ hyaa⁵ zoh¹ dax¹³ ga²
 which feet CON:do you:SG thus INT
 Why do you do that? (cf. Sun 3:188)

The interrogative *dax¹* 'how?' is used to question stative verbs. A content verb such as *waa³²* 'to exist' must occur in such questions.

dax¹ waa³² gwaa⁴ ga²
 how CON:exist John INT
 What is John like?

This interrogative is also used to question manner.

dax¹ kahwee¹³ kiri-h¹ onx³²
 how POT:be:possible POT:get-we:IN INT:INSISTENT
 How can we get [it]? (Sun 3:135)

To question content verbs, *dax¹* 'how?' or *me³* 'which?' is used together with a very general verb. If the subject of the verb is agentive, the verb used is *hyax³* 'to do'; and if the subject is not agentive, the verb used is *ranh³* 'to suffer' or 'to fare', or *uun³* 'to become' or 'to happen'.

dax¹ kihyax¹³ nih⁴ ga²
 how POT:do we:IN INT
 What should we do? (cf. Sun 2:43)

me³ kihyax¹³ nih⁴ ga² nehex³ ga²
 which POT:do we:IN with baby INT
 What will we do with the babies? (cf. Sun 3:22)

dax¹ ranh³ gwaa⁴ ga²
 how CON:suffer John INT
 What is happening to John? or How is John faring?

dax¹ uun³ man³ gwaa⁴ ga²
 how CON:become body John INT
 What is happening to John?

(See also 7.8.)

When an adjunct or peripheral element is expressed by an adverbial possessive noun phrase (see §3.6), there are two ways of questioning it that include the locative noun. It is possible to leave the locative noun in its usual position and front only the interrogative noun phrase that serves as its possessor.

*me*³ *ze*³² *ahmii*³² *zoh*³ *shehe*⁴ *ga*²
 which it:INAN CON:speak he feet INT
 What is he speaking about?

*me*³ *zii*⁵ *naruhwee*³² *gwaa*⁴ *sahanx*³² *riaan*³² *ga*²
 which he COM:repay John money face INT
 Who did John pay the money back to?

It is also possible to front the locative noun too, in which case the fronted element forms an interrogative possessive noun phrase (see §3.4); the locative noun follows the interrogative basic noun phrase and lowers its tone (see §5.2 for a description of this tone lowering).

*me*³ *ze*³² *shehe*¹ *ahmii*³² *zoh*³ *ga*²
 which it:INAN feet CON:speak he INT
 About what is he speaking? (cf. *shehe*⁴ ‘feet of’)

*me*³ *zii*⁵ *riaan*² *naruhwee*³² *gwaa*⁴ *sahanx*³² *ga*²
 which he face COM:repay John money INT
 To whom did John pay the money back? (cf. *riaan*³² ‘face of’)

When an adjunct or peripheral element is expressed by a prepositional phrase, the formation of questions is governed largely by the individual preposition (see §4.3). Associative adjuncts with *ga*² ‘with’ cannot be questioned. The object of *ra*⁴ ‘inside’ may be questioned by fronting the entire prepositional phrase to sentence-initial position, and placing the interrogative nominal marker *me*³ ‘which?’ before it.

*me*³ *ra*⁴ *weh*³ *ne*³ *zoh*³ *ga*²
 which inside house CON:sit he INT
 In which house does he live?

The object of *ndaa*¹³ ‘until’ can be questioned in various ways, though not all speakers accept them all.

*me*³ *rex*³² *kunanx*⁵ *zoh*³ *ndaa*¹³ *ga*²
 which place COM:run he until INT
 Where did he run to?

me³ rex³² ndaa¹³ kunanx⁵ zoh³ ga²
 which place until COM:run he INT
 Where to did he run?

ndaa¹³ me³ rex³² kunanx⁵ zoh³ ga²
 until which place COM:run he INT
 To where did he run?

WH questions can occur with the sentential marker *onx³²*, rather than *ga²*; *onx³²* indicates insistence on the part of the speaker, and sometimes even irritation.

dax¹ ki²hya-h⁴ ga² yoh¹ onx³²
 how POT:do-we:IN with that INT:INSISTENT
 What should we do with those [ones (the babies)]? (said after two unsuccessful attempts to get rid of them) (Sun 3:39)

dax¹ hyaa-³ yax¹³ onx³²
 how CON:do-UN now INT:INSISTENT
 And so what is he doing now? (Fight 229)

If no complementizer occurs, it is possible to question an element within a sentential complement.

me³ ze³² ahwex³² zoh³ kiraan² hunx¹ ga²
 which it:INAN CON:be:willing he POT:buy I INT
 What is he willing for me to buy?

me³ zii⁵ kahnah³ / kenehe³ gwaa⁴ ga²
 which he COM:come COM:sense John INT
 Who did John see come?

1.2.3 Indirect questions. Both YES/NO and WH questions can occur as object complements in statements. In neither case, however, does an interrogative sentential marker occur.

Indirect YES/NO questions are signaled by the subordinate conjunction *seze³²* 'if', used in this construction to mean 'whether'.

shna⁵hanx³² gwaa⁴ seze³² kahnah³ pe³dro⁴ a³²
 COM:ask:question John if COM:come Peter DEC
 John asked whether Peter had come.

*ne*³ *nehe*³ *gwaa*⁴ *seze*³² *nuu*³² *sahanx*³² *rke*³
 NEG CON:sense John if CON:be:in money stomach

*chruun*⁵ *a*³²
 box DEC

John doesn't know whether the money is in the box.

(See also 7.95.)

Sometimes, however, *seze*³² seems to function simply as a complementizer.

*ne*³ *kachrii*² *ra*⁴ *zoh*³ *seze*³² *tuhwii*³ *no*⁴
 NEG COM:tuck:in inside he if thunder CON:be:attached

*katuun*³¹ *chruun*³ *mah*³
 waist wood NEG

He didn't realize that the thunder was stuck in the trunk of the tree.
or He didn't consider whether the thunder ... (Openly 46)

Indirect disjunctive questions are expressed by a sentence combination (see §6.1.2).

Indirect WH questions are identical in form to ordinary WH questions except that they do not have an interrogative sentential marker. No complementizer occurs.

*nehe*⁴ *hunx*¹ *me*³ *zii*⁵ *kahanx*³² *a*³²
 CON:sense I which he COM:go DEC
 I know who went.

*shna*⁵*hanx*³² *gwaa*⁴ *me*³ *rex*³² *kahanx*³² *pe*³*dro*⁴ *a*³²
 COM:ask:question John which place COM:go Peter DEC
 John asked where Peter went.

(See also 7.3 and 7.7.)

Indirect WH questions frequently occur at the beginning of the matrix sentence.

*dax*¹ *kihyax*¹³ *zoh*³ *ga*² *tanh*³ / *ni*²*hyax*³² *nih*⁴ *a*³²
 how POT:do he with corn:ear POT:look we:IN DEC
 We will observe WHAT HE DOES WITH THE EAR OF CORN. (Fight 167)

*dax*¹ *waa*³² *re*-*x*⁵ / *kene*²*he*-*x*³ *a*³²
 how CON:exist father-my POT:sense-I DEC
 I will see WHAT MY FATHER IS LIKE. (cf. Sun 3:113)

*me*³ *zii*⁵ *hyax*³ / *ra-x*³ *a*³²
 which he CON:do CON:think-I DEC
 I was wondering who was doing [it]. (Sun 3:110)

*me*³ *hyaa*⁵ *zoh*¹ / *ra-x*³ *a*³²
 which CON:do you:SG CON:think-I DEC
 I was wondering what you were doing? (cf. Fight 70)
 (See also 7.15.)

1.3 Commands

Commands are signaled largely by the presence of an appropriate sentential marker. The marker *a*⁴ ‘persuasive’ signals a command when it occurs in a sentence with potential aspect and second person or inclusive subject.

*kananx*² *zoh*¹ *rohno*⁴ *a*⁴
 POT:weave you:SG tunic PERS
 Weave the tunic!

*kahanx*² *zox*³ *niaan*⁵ *ahyox*³ *a*⁴
 POT:go you:PL Tlaxiaco tomorrow PERS
 Go to Tlaxiaco tomorrow!

*kihyax*¹³ *nih*⁴ *weh*³ *a*⁴
 POT:do we:IN house PERS
 Let’s build the house!

If, however, the imperative sentence is followed by a vocative and/or is combined with another sentence, no sentential marker occurs. Only the context shows that it is an imperative.

*cha*² *zoh*¹ *nee*³¹ / *'na*³ⁱⁱⁿ³²
 POT:eat you:SG flesh Mama
 Eat the meat, Mama! *or* You will eat the meat, Mama. (Sun 1:54)
 (See also 7.9, 7.29, 7.41, 7.68, and various others.)

The sentential marker *ru*^{3gwanx}³² ‘polite imperative’ occurs only in commands.

*kananx*² *zoh*¹ *rohno*⁴ *ru*^{3gwanx}³²
 POT:weave you:SG tunic IMP:POLITE
 Please weave the tunic!

Various other markers, including *ei*³² ‘emphatic’, *mah*³ ‘negative’, and *mei*³² ‘negative emphatic’, occur in both statements and commands. When they occur in sentences with potential aspect, an agentive verb, and an appropriate subject, the command reading is more likely.

*kahanx*² *zoh*¹ *ei*³²

POT:GO YOU:SG EMPH

By all means, go! *or* You will definitely go.

*ze*² *cha*⁴ *zoh*¹ *man-x*³ *mah*³

NEG POT:eat you:SG body-my NEG

Don’t eat me! *or* You won’t eat me. (Sun 3:36)

*ze*² *kahanx*³² *zoh*¹ *mei*³²

NEG POT:GO YOU:SG NEG:EMPH

By all means, don’t go! *or* You definitely won’t go.

*ze*² *kata-h*³ *ze*² *narih-ix*³ *nehex*³ *mah*³

NEG POT:say-we:IN NEG POT:find-I baby NEG

Let it not be said [that] I can’t conceive a child! (Sun 3:89)

In order to make a command more polite, a diminutive, such as the general quantifier *dox*¹³ ‘some’ or ‘a little’, may be used somewhere within it.

*kachen*² *zoh*¹ *dox*¹³ *yaan*³² *a*⁴

POT:pass you:SG some salt PERS

Pass a little salt! *or* Please pass the salt!

There are no specific ways of expressing a first or third person command, but such a reading is possible for any sentence that has potential aspect, an agentive subject, and an appropriate sentential marker.

*kihyax*¹³ *gwaa*⁴ *weh*³ *a*⁴

POT:do John house PERS

Believe me, John will build the house. *or* Let John build the house!

*kahanx*² *nux*⁵ *niaan*⁵ *ei*³²

POT:GO we:EX Tlaxiaco EMPH

We will definitely go to Tlaxiaco. *or* By all means, let us go to Tlaxiaco!

There are special imperative forms of the verbs ‘to go’ and ‘to come’. These forms are used only with second person subjects in short sentences referring to an immediate action, and they signal a lack of respect.

*gwix*² *zoh*¹ *a*⁴
 IMP:GO YOU:SG PERS
 Go away! *or* Scram!

*kuwah*² *zox*³ *nianx*⁵ *a*⁴
 IMP:COME YOU:PL here PERS
 Come here!

(See also 7.82.)

1.4 Vocatives

Vocatives occur almost exclusively in sentence-final position and are separated from the rest of the sentence by pause. Vocatives tend to be single words, and they rarely contain more than two. Many nouns have special vocative forms (see §5.3.2).

Sometimes a sentence ending in a vocative does not have a sentential marker.

*naru*²*hwee*³² *hunx*¹ *sahanx*³² *riaan*³² *zoh*¹ / *'pe*³*dro*³²
 POT:repay I money face your:SG Peter
 I will pay the money back to you, Peter.

*kuwah*² *zoh*¹ / *sha*³*la*¹ *kunii*³
 IMP:come you:SG girl little
 Come, young woman!

*kannah*⁴ *zoh*¹ / *'ti*³*nux*¹
 COM:come you:SG brother:ME
 You came, Brother! (Brother 80)

*nawix*³ *sahanx*³² / *'a*³*tax*¹
 CON:finish money papa
 The money is about gone, Papa (Sp. *tata*).

*nuwix*¹³ *ushra-x*³ / *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴
 CON:be:chilled INTS-I grandmother-our:IN
 I am very cold, Grandmother. (Sun 3:158)

*gwex*³² *kachix*³² *zoh*¹ / *rex*³²
 quickly COM:grow you:SG son
 You grew up quickly, Son. (Sun 1:35)

*guun*³ *na*²*ko-x*³ / *'na*³*iin*³²
 COM:become big-I mama
 I got big, Mama. (Sun 1:37)

(See also 7.6, 7.9, 7.29, and various others.)

In other cases the marker precedes the vocative, and sometimes the pause comes between the sentence and the marker, rather than between the marker and the vocative. Some markers have special forms when they precede a vocative. The negative marker is *man*³² rather than *mah*³, and one of the emphatic markers is *nanx*¹ rather than *nanx*¹ *a*⁴.

*ze*² *nano*⁴ *ra*⁴ *zoh*¹ / *man*³² 'na³iin³²
 NEG POT:tell inside you:SG NEG mama
 Don't be sad, Mama! (Sun 2:31)

*ranh*⁴ *zoh*¹ / *nanx*¹ 'pe³dro³²
 CON:suffer you:SG indeed Peter
 You're sick for sure, Peter.

Vocatives have a special interrogative form ending in *h* (see §5.3.2). The YES/NO interrogative sentential marker is *nih*³, rather than *nah*³, preceding a vocative, and the other interrogative sentential markers do not occur with vocatives.

*kenehe*⁴ *zoh*¹ *shuwaa*³¹ / *nih*³ 'pe³droh³²
 COM:sense you:SG cougar INT Peter:INT
 Did you see the cougar, Peter?

*kahanx*² *zoh*¹ / *nih*³ 'pe³droh³²
 POT:go you:SG INT Peter:INT
 Will you go, Peter?

*me*³ *rex*³² *kahanx*² *zoh*¹ / 'pe³droh³²
 which place POT:go you:SG Peter:INT
 Where will you go, Peter?

*dax*¹ *hyaa*⁵ *zoh*¹ / 'ti³nuh¹
 how CON:do you:SG brother:ME:INT
 What are you doing, Brother?

(See also 7.8.)

1.5 Sentential Markers

There are two kinds of sentential markers. One kind occurs in sentence-initial position and links a sentence to the preceding discourse context; these markers are described in 6.4. The second kind, which is described here, occurs in sentence-final position and expresses something about the truth value of the sentence and the attitude of the speaker

toward the information contained in it. There is a strong correlation between the grammatical mood of the sentence and the markers that can occur in it. Questions and commands, which show the greatest restrictions, are discussed first, followed by statements.

Two markers signal YES/NO questions: *nah*³, which is neutral as to which answer is expected, and *zhah*², which expects an affirmative answer. The presence of one of these markers is the only formal signal of a YES/NO question. See §1.2.1 for examples of these markers used in sentences. A third form, *nih*³, occurs before a vocative; see §1.4 for an example. This form also occurs in embedded disjunctive questions; examples are given in §6.1.2.

In WH questions, two different markers occur: *ga*², which simply signals WH question, and *onx*³², which signals insistence, and sometimes irritation, as well. WH questions are also marked by the presence of an interrogative word or phrase at the beginning of the sentence. See §1.2.2 for examples of these markers used in sentences.

Various sentential markers occur in commands. Of these, *ru*³*gwanx*³² ‘polite imperative’ is limited to commands; the others occur in statements as well. When the verb takes an agentive subject, and it appears in potential aspect with a second person or first person inclusive subject, *a*⁴ ‘persuasive’ always signals a command, and *ei*³² ‘emphatic’, *mah*³ ‘negative’, and *mei*³² ‘negative emphatic’ usually signal a command. See §1.3 for examples of these markers used in sentences. The form *man*³² occurs instead of *mah*³ preceding a vocative; see §1.4 for an example.

In statements, a wide range of sentential markers occurs. The most common and least marked one is *a*³² ‘declarative’, which occurs in more than three-fourths of the sentences in the text in chapter 7. Other narrative texts show a similar percentage.

The remaining markers covered in this study can be somewhat arbitrarily classified into emphatic, negative, and miscellaneous.

There are various emphatic markers, some of them consisting of two words, and it is difficult to distinguish the precise meaning associated with each marker. Some of these markers, such as *a*⁴ ‘persuasive’ and *ei*³² ‘emphatic’, occur in both statements and commands. Other emphatics occur only in statements; some common ones are: *adonx*² ‘certainly’, *shugwanx*³² ‘obviously’, *shtonx*³² ‘agreement’, *nanx*¹ *a*⁴ ‘for sure’, *nanx*¹ *ei*³² ‘definitely for sure’, *zhix*³² ‘cheerful’, and *a*¹ *zhix*³² ‘yes indeed’. Of these, only *nanx*¹ *a*⁴ is common in narrative; the others are more frequent in dialogue.

With *a*⁴:

*kahanx*³² *zoh*³ *a*⁴
 COM:GO he PERS
 He went for sure.

With *ej*³²:

*kahanx*³² *zoh*³ *ej*³²
 COM:GO he EMPH
 He definitely went.

*guun*³ *yoh*³ *gaa*¹³ *naa*⁴ / *ra*⁴ *zox*³ *ej*³²
 COM:become that when long:ago CON:think you:PL EMPH
 You definitely think that happened long ago. (Sun 2:127)

With *adonx*²:

*shehe*⁴ *dan*³² *me*³ *kahmii*³² *rahngah*³ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴
 feet that CON:be COM:speak snare grandmother-our:IN

*yoh*³ *shehe*⁴ *ri*³*kix*¹³ *yaa*³² *adonx*²
 that feet frog tongue certainly

Therefore that grandmother of ours certainly spoke a curse about the leopard frog. (Sun 2:63)

*tuhwa*³ *rmahan*¹³ *ri*³*kix*¹³ *yaa*³² *adonx*²
 CON:talk in:vain frog tongue certainly

The leopard frog certainly doesn't mean [it (what it says)].
 (Sun 3:182)

*kawii*² *zah*¹ *ndoho*³² *shnaa*⁴ *zoh*¹ *adonx*²
 POT:come:out good INTS POS:cornfield your:SG certainly
 Your cornfield will certainly yield very well. (Openly 44)

With *shugwanx*³²:

*dax*¹ *katax*² *noh*³ / *kuno*¹³ *nih*⁴ *shugwanx*³²
 how POT:say she POT:hear we:IN obviously
 We will hear WHAT SHE WILL SAY of course! (Sun 3:70)

*ax*¹ *kenehe*⁴ *zoh*¹ *shugwanx*³²
 already COM:sense you:SG obviously
 You already know [it] of course.

With *shtonx*³²:

*ne*³ *wex*⁵ *nih*⁴ / *nuwee*⁴ *rex*¹³ *nih*⁴ *me*³
 NEG CON:jump we:IN NEG father our:IN CON:be

*yoh*³ *shtonx*³²
 that AGREEMENT

We don't jump; that [one] is clearly not our father. (Sun 3:129)

With *nanx*¹ *a*⁴:

*yume*³² *cha-x*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 tuber CON:eat-UN indeed PERS
 He is eating TUBERS for sure. (Fight 163)

*hnah*³ *nix*³ *noh*³ *nanx*¹ *a*³²
 CON:come the:PL she indeed PERS
 The women were coming for sure. (Fight 312)

*dax*¹³ *kiranh*³ *rox*¹ *zoh*³ *gaa*¹³ *naa*⁴ *nanx*¹ *a*³²
 thus COM:suffer the:DU he when long:ago indeed PERS
 The two of them fared thus long ago for sure. (Fight 320)

(See also 7.35, 7.44, 7.46, 7.53, 7.88, 7.99, 7.102, and 7.104.)

With *nanx*¹ *ei*³²:

*dax*¹³ *waa*³² *kwe*³*ndo*⁴ / *tax*³² *nii*³ *nanx*¹ *ei*³²
 thus CON:exist story CON:say they indeed EMPH
 That's definitely how the story (Sp. *cuento*) goes, they say for sure.
 (Sun 4:53)

With *zhix*³²:

*kahnah*⁴ *zoh*¹ *zhix*³²
 COM:come you:SG CHEERFUL
 It's so nice that you came. (Fight 268)

With *a*¹ *zhix*³²:

*kahanx*³² *zoh*³ *a*¹ *zhix*³²
 COM:go he ? CHEERFUL
 He went, yes indeed.

(See also 7.61.)

Both *ei*³² and *nanx*¹ *ei*³² frequently occur at the end of a discourse. Sun 4:53 and Sun 2:127 in the examples above are both the final sentences of their texts.

The negative markers include two that occur also in commands, *mah*³ ‘negative’ and *mei*³² ‘negative emphatic’, as well as some that occur only in statements: *a*¹ *mah*³ ‘negative emphatic’, *madonx*² ‘certainly not’, and *marah*² ‘negative quotative’. Negative sentential markers occur only if the sentence contains a negative marker in the verb phrase (see §2.1.2), a negative emphatic noun phrase in focus position (see §3.5), or an inherently negative verb (see §5.1.1).

*ne*³ *otox*³² *pe*³*dro*⁴ *mah*³
 NEG CON:sleep Peter NEG
 Peter isn’t sleeping.

*ne*³ *kachrii*² *ra*⁴ *sno*⁵*ho*³² *mah*³
 NEG COM:tuck:in inside man NEG
 The man didn’t realize [it (that she meant it)]. (Fight 111)

*dax*³² *sahanx*³² *mei*³²
 CON:NEG:exist money NEG:EMPH
 There’s definitely no money.

*nuwee*⁴ *shnii*¹³ *me*³ *zoh*³ *a*¹ *mah*³
 NEG boy CON:be he NEG NEG
 He’s really not a boy.

*ne*³ *kawih*¹ *zoh*³ *madonx*²
 NEG COM:die he NEG:certainly
 He certainly didn’t die.

*ne*³ *kano*¹ *yoh*³ *shtah*¹ *marah*²
 NEG COM:grab that high NEG:QUOTATIVE
 That [one] didn’t become attached to the sky, they say. (Sun 1:79)

*ne*³ *kawih*¹ *zoh*³ *marah*²
 NEG COM:die he NEG:QUOTATIVE
 He didn’t die, she says.

See also 7.3, 7.7, 7.12, 7.25, 7.65, 7.69, 7.93, 7.95, and 7.101 for further examples of *mah*³, and 7.31, 7.33, 7.36, 7.40, 7.48, 7.52, 7.56, 7.76, 7.87, and 7.105 for further examples of *a*¹ *mah*³.

Even when a sentence contains a negative marker or negative verb, a nonnegative sentential marker sometimes occurs.

*ne*³ *otox*³² *zoh*³ *a*³²
 NEG CON:sleep he DEC
 He isn't sleeping.

The miscellaneous markers include *nianh*³ 'urgent', *ne*³*dih*¹ 'you know', and *rah*² 'quotative'. The quotative marker is used to repeat something that someone else has just said, and for some speakers it also serves as an evidential.

*weh*³ *ka*²*ne*⁴ *zoh*¹ / *tax*³² *hunx*¹ *kwanh*³ *nianh*³
 house POT:sit you:SG CON:say I today URGENT
 I said firmly today [that] YOU SHOULD SIT IN THE HOUSE. (i.e., you should stay home) (cf. Fight 71)

*kahanx*³² *pe*³*dro*⁴ *ne*³*dih*¹
 COM:go Peter you:know
 Peter went, you know.

*nehex*³ *me*³ *yahanx*³² *gwii*¹³ *rah*²
 baby CON:be god of:sun QUOTATIVE
 The sun god is the baby, they say. (Sun 1:10)

*achiin*³ *rme*³*dyo*⁴ *rah*²
 CON:lack medicine QUOTATIVE
 He says [he] needs medicine (Sp. *remedio*). (lit. He says medicine is lacking.)

*chee*⁵ *shkaa*³² / *cha*⁴ *yoh*³ *naa*³¹ *rah*²
 CON:walk raven CON:eat that cornfield QUOTATIVE
 The raven walks around eating cornfields, they say. (Sun 1:34)

In sentences containing contrafactual conditions, the contrafactual marker *zax*² may occur preceding another sentential marker; an example is given in §6.2.1.

The sentential marker usually fits the final independent sentence, but in the following example, the negative marker fits the object complement, which comes last.

*hyaa*⁵ *dih*¹ *tax*³² *ze*³² *nia-x*² *mah*³
 CON:do you:SG:FAM CON:NEG:exist POS hominy-my NEG
 You cause my hominy not to exist. (i.e., you ate it up) (Sun 3:81)

2

Verb Phrases

2.1 Content Verb Phrases

Content verb phrases consist of a nucleus, which may be simple or complex, two optional preverbal elements, and three optional postverbal elements.

2.1.1 Verb nuclei. Both simple and complex verb nuclei occur; the latter are idioms composed of a content verb plus some other word, which may be a noun, another content verb, a stative verb, an adverb, a numeral, or an indeterminate element. Because there are no productive morphological processes for creating new verbs (see §5.1.1), the creation of complex nuclei is an important lexical resource.

A simple nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect. In the examples given in this chapter, the part of each sentence not included in the verb phrase is enclosed in parentheses.

*unanx*⁵ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
CON:run (he DEC)
(He) runs.

*nehe*³ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
CON:sense (he DEC)
(He) knows ([it]).

*ahneh*³ (*zoh*³ *yanx*³ *a*³²)
 CON:cut (he paper DEC)
 (He) cuts (the paper).

A verb-plus-noun nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect plus a noun. Nouns which do not refer to body parts may be the logical direct object or a manner element.

Object:

*utah*³ *ruhna*⁴ (*shnii*³ *a*³²)
 CON:place:on:top knot (boy DEC)
 (The boy) ties a knot.

*hyax*³ *suun*³² (*sha*³ *na*¹ *a*³²)
 CON:do work (woman DEC)
 (The woman) works.

*achrix*⁵ *shkuun*⁵ (*pe*³ *dro*⁴ *sahanx*³² *a*³²)
 CON:tuck:in debt (Peter money DEC)
 (Peter [Sp. *Pedro*]) lends (money).

*kinarih*³ *nukwax*³ (*yahan*³² *nanx*¹ *a*⁴)
 COM:find strength (fire indeed PERS)
 (The fire) got stronger (for sure). (Fight 24)

*kihyax*³ *kwe*³ *nda*⁴ (*rex*³ *chex*¹ *zoh*³ *skii*⁵ *a*³²)
 COM:do account (father in:law his resin DEC)
 (His father-in-law) counted (Sp. *cuenta*) (the [pieces of] incense).
 (Fight 19)

*kahmii*³² *rahngah*³ (*zoh*³ *riaan*³² *tinuu*⁵ *zoh*³ *a*³²)
 COM:speak snare (he face brother:ME his DEC)
 (He) cursed (his brother). (cf. Brother 134)

Manner:

*chee*⁵ *kwa*³ *yo*⁴ (*nehx*³ *a*³²)
 CON:walk horse (baby DEC)
 (The baby) crawls (Sp. *caballo*).

*anuu*³¹ *tohloo*³ (*hnuu*⁵ *a*³²)
 CON:explode rooster (corn DEC)
 (The corn) pops.

Sometimes the noun refers to a body part of the subject.

*tigix*⁵ *shehe*⁴ (*gwaa*⁴ *yuwex*³² *a*³²)
 COM:poke feet (John rock DEC)
 (John [Sp. *Juan*]) kicked (the rock).

*kano*⁴ *shraa*⁵ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 COM:grab back (he DEC)
 (He) was asphyxiated. (cf. Brother 180)

(See also 7.41 and 7.42.)

A verb-plus-content-verb nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect plus a verb without aspect inflection, i.e., a stem in its basic continuative form.³

*ahmii*³² *achron*⁴ (*gwaa*⁴ *a*³²)
 CON:speak CON:write (John DEC)
 (John) speaks in a veiled manner.

*ahmii*³² *unuh*³ (*rox*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³²)
 CON:speak CON:fight (the:DU he DEC)
 (They) argue.

Occasionally a continuative two form occurs (see §5.1.2).

*nokoh*³ *wax*² (*yoo*⁴ *a*³²)
 CON:follow CON:move (palm:basket DEC)
 (The palm basket) is hanging ([there]).

(See also 7.76, 7.77, and 7.87.)

The second verb may also be a Spanish loanword.

*kihyax*³ *kanaan*⁴ (*tuhwii*³ *yoh*³ *a*³²)
 COM:do gain (thunder that DEC)
 (That thunder [god]) succeeded (Sp. *ganar*) ([at it]). (cf. Openly 58)

*kihyax*³ *kanaan*⁴ (*yoh*³ *riaan*³² *na*³² *a*³²)
 COM:do gain (that face water DEC)
 (That [one (the mountain)]) won out (over the water).
 (cf. Deluge 10)

*kachee*⁵ *pasyaa*⁴ (*noh*³ *a*³²)
 COM:walk stroll (she DEC)
 (She) went for a walk (Sp. *pasear*).

³Sometimes the second verb agrees with the first one in aspect, rather than taking the continuative form. Further study is needed to determine if this is a matter of speaker preference, or if specific idioms take different patterns.

A verb-plus-stative-verb nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect plus either a basic stative verb or one derived from a noun (see §5.2).

With basic stative verbs:

araa³ zah¹ (noh³ a³²)
 COM:put:in good (she DEC)
 (She) puts ([it]) away.

kawih³ ihnah¹ (zoh³ a³²)
 COM:die alive (he DEC)
 (He) became unconscious.

nakihyax³ chreh² (rox¹ zoh³ tanh³ a³²)
 COM:remake compact (the:DU he corn:ear DEC)
 (The two of them) gathered (the ears of corn) together.
 (cf. Openly 11)

(See also 7.71.)

With derived stative verbs:

kachee⁵ takox¹ (pe³dro⁴ a³²)
 COM:walk by:foot (Peter DEC)
 (Peter) went on foot. (cf. *takoo⁵* ‘foot of’)

guun³ shehe¹ (shahanx³² a³²)
 COM:become based (celebration DEC)
 (The celebration) began. (cf. *shehe⁴* ‘feet of’)

nano⁴ shrex¹ (zhoh³ a³²)
 COM:grab:again by:ear (it:AML DEC)
 (It [the animal]) listened ([to it]). (cf. Fight 205) (cf. *shree⁵* ‘ear of’)

nakihyax³ rmii¹ (nehex³ man³ sha³na¹ a³²)
 COM:remake idle (baby body woman DEC)
 (The baby) bothered (the woman). (cf. *rmii³¹* ‘lazy person’)

guun³ tahnix¹ (ma³rya⁴ man³ nehex³ a³²)
 COM:become child:related (Mary body baby DEC)
 (Mary [Sp. *María*]) adopted (the baby). (cf. *tahnii⁵* ‘child of’)

*guun*³ *stax*² (*rox*¹ *zoh*³ *man*³ *zii*⁵)
 COM:become relative's:husband:related (the:DU he body he

*kahnah*³ *a*³²)
 COM:come DEC)

(The two of them) became parents-in-law (of the man who came).
 (cf. Fight 6) (cf. *stax*³² 'relative's 'husband of')

(See also 7.104.)

A verb-plus-adverb-nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect plus either a basic adverb or one derived from a locative noun or a preposition (see §5.5).

With basic adverbs:

*nax*³ *nituu*² (*shnii*³ *a*³²)
 CON:lie prone (boy DEC)
 (The boy) lies facedown.

*tuhwa*³ *rmahan*¹³ (*sha*³*na*¹ *a*³²)
 COM:talk in:vain (woman DEC)
 (The woman) didn't really mean ([it (what she said)]). (cf. Fight 110)

With a derived locative adverb:

*chee*⁵ *shko*¹ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 CON:walk beyond (he DEC)
 (He) walks backward. (cf. *shko*⁴ 'beyond')

A verb-plus-quantifier nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect plus a numeral or general quantifier.

*chee*⁵ *wahnux*¹ (*nix*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²)
 CON:walk three (the:PL he DEC)
 (They) go on the third visit. (i.e., to arrange a marriage)

*kuchrah*³ *tahax*² (*rox*¹ *zoh*³ *tanh*³ *a*³²)
 COM:split part (the:DU he corn:ear DEC)
 (The two of them) divided up (the ears of corn). (Openly 12)

*kishrah*³ *manh*¹ (*chruun*³ *a*³²)
 COM:be:split two (wood DEC)
 (The tree) split in two. (Openly 20)

A verb-plus-indeterminate-element nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect plus a word that occurs only in one or a few frozen phrases. It

is therefore not possible to assign the second element to a part of speech without access to historical or comparative data.

hna³ nika³ (zhi-h⁴ chrex³ a³²)
 CON:come back (grandfather-our:IN trail DEC)
 (Our grandfather) was coming toward home (on the trail).
 (Brother 165)

cha² ni⁵hyax⁵ (nih⁴ a³²)
 POT:eat at:noon (we:IN DEC)
 (We) will eat the noon meal. (Brother 82)

2.1.2 Preverbal elements. There are two orders of optional elements in preverbal position, truth value and temporal.

The truth-value position is expressed by the markers *ne³* ‘not’, *ze²* ‘not’, *ataa³* ‘not yet’, and *wee⁴* ‘affirmative’; and by the preposition *ndaa¹³* ‘until’, used in this construction to mean ‘even’.

To negate a verb in continuative aspect, *ne³* is used. To negate a verb in completive aspect, *ne³* is used together with the potential-aspect form of the verb. To negate a verb in potential aspect, *ze²* is used together with the completive-aspect form. In spite of this interchange, verb forms are glossed in this sketch according to their meaning. In the following examples, the positive counterpart of each sentence containing a negative marker is given for comparison. (See Hollenbach 1976a and 1984a:204–11 for further discussion of this interchange.)

Continuative:

ne³ ahmii³² (zoh³ a³²)
 NEG CON:speak (he DEC)
 (He) isn’t speaking.

cf. *ahmii³² (zoh³ a³²)*
 CON:speak (he DEC)
 (He) is speaking.

(See also 7.20, 7.23, 7.25, 7.26, 7.31, 7.33, 7.40, and 7.52.)

Completive:

ne³ kahmii² (zoh³ a³²)
 NEG COM:speak (he DEC)
 (He) didn’t speak.

cf. *kahmii*³² (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 COM:speak (he DEC)
 (He) spoke.

(See also 7.3, 7.7, 7.65, 7.69, and 7.95.)

Potential:

*ze*² *kahmii*³² (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 NEG POT:speak (he DEC)
 (He) won't speak.

cf. *kahmii*² (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 POT:speak (he DEC)
 (He) will speak.

Both of these negative markers often cooccur with negative sentential markers (see §1.5).

*ne*³ *ahmii*³² (*chii*³ *mah*³)
 NEG CON:speak (man NEG)
 (The man) isn't speaking.

*ze*² *kahmii*³² (*chii*³ *mei*³²)
 NEG POT:speak (man NEG:EMPH)
 (The man) definitely won't speak.

(See also 7.3, 7.31, and various others.)

Negated completive verbs often require potential aspect in complement sentences (see §1.1.9).

*ne*³ *kizix*² (*kihyax*¹³ *zoh*³ *weh*³ *mah*³)
 NEG COM:be:complete (POT:do he house NEG)
 (He) didn't finish (building the house).

The marker *ne*³ fuses with the continuative aspect form of *ahwex*³² 'to be willing' and *ahwee*³ 'to be possible' to create the forms *n-ahwex*³² and *n-ahwee*³.

*n-ahwex*³² (*sha*³*na*¹ *kahanx*² *sno*⁵*ho*³² *a*³²)
 NEG-CON:be:willing (woman POT:go man DEC)
 (The woman) doesn't want (the man to go). (Fight 65)

*n-ahwee*³ (*kahanx*² *zoh*³ *a*³²)
 NEG-CON:be:possible (POT:go he DEC)
 (It) is not possible (for him to go). *or* (He) can't (go).

The marker *ataa*³ ‘not yet’ occurs only with verbs in potential aspect; it does not cooccur with negative sentential markers.⁴

*ataa*³ *kahmii*² (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
not:yet POT:speak (he DEC)
(He) hasn’t spoken yet.

*ataa*³ *kurianx*¹ (*rex*³ *chex*¹ *zoh*³ *rex*³² *tanuu*²
not:yet POT:appear (father in:law his place middle
*zhee*⁵ *a*³²)
clearing DEC)
(His father-in-law) hadn’t yet left (the middle of the clearing).
(Fight 22)

The affirmative marker *wee*⁴ expresses agreement. It occurs with verbs in any aspect.

*wee*⁴ *nanoh*¹ (*yoh*³ *yanx*³ *a*³²)
AFF POT:look:for (that paper DEC)
Yes, (that [one]) should look for (bark fiber). (cf. Sun 3:142)

*wee*⁴ *kawih*³ (*pe*³*dro*⁴ *adonx*²)
AFF COM:die (Peter certainly)
Yes, (Peter certainly) died.

The preposition *ndaa*¹³ ‘until’ or ‘even’ occurs with verbs in any aspect.

*ndaa*¹³ *ku*³*rianx*¹ (*shtax*³ *a*³²)
until COM:appear (deer DEC)
(The deer) even showed up. (Sun 2:37)

*ndaa*¹³ *na*²*shkax*³² (*zuun*³² *shiaan*⁵ *zoh*¹ *a*³²)
until POT:be:raised (work POS:town your:SG DEC)
(Work) will even be accomplished (in your hometown). (spoken in bitter sarcasm as a curse) (Brother 170)

The temporal marker is *ax*¹ ‘already’; it occurs only with verbs in continuative and completive aspects. Verbs with *ax*¹ and completive aspect are used in discourse much like the English perfect and pluperfect.

⁴*ataa*³ ‘not yet’ is sometimes followed by *dox*³ ‘more’, which often occurs in postverbal quantifier (see §2.1.3). This fact suggests that *ataa*³ may originally have been a verb meaning something like ‘to be lacking’. Furthermore, it is rare for words that are not verbs to begin with a vowel.

ax¹ nuu³² (yax³² ra⁴ yoo⁴ a³²)
 already CON:be:in (flower inside palm:basket DEC)
 (The flower) is already in (the palm basket).

ax¹ hnix³² (tuhwii³ yoh³ tuhwa³ shkwaa⁵)
 already CON:be:wedged:in (thunder that mouth snake
rkax² a³²)
 lizardlike DEC)

(That thunder [god]) was already wedged in (the mouth of the dragon). (Openly 75)

ax¹ kahmii³² (zoh³ a³²)
 already COM:speak (he DEC)
 (He) has already spoken.

ax¹ nawix³ (kahmii³² zoh³ ga² na³² yahanx² a³²)
 already COM:finish (COM:speak he with water divine DEC)
 (He) had already finished (speaking with the ocean). (Brother 115)
 (See also 7.18.)

2.1.3 Postverbal elements. There are three orders of optional elements in postverbal position: manner, quantifier, and incorporated noun.

Manner is expressed by a large and diverse class of modifiers. Stative verbs and stative verb phrases are the most common elements in this position, but adverbs and adverb phrases, quantifiers, content verbs uninflected for aspect, and at least one noun also occur.

With stative verbs:

chee⁵ zah¹ (nehex³ a³²)
 CON:walk good (baby DEC)
 (The baby) walks well.

kanikunh¹ nika² (tana³² a³²)
 POR:stand straight (goat DEC)
 (The goat) will stand upright.

With adverbs:

chee⁵ nanax³² (chii³ nga¹³ a³²)
 CON:walk slowly (man old DEC)
 (The old man) walks slowly.

*yanx*¹ *kwanh*³ (*shrux*³ *a*³²)
 CON2:sit barely (clay:pot DEC)
 (The clay pot) is barely sitting. (i.e., it is about to fall over)

*kahnah*³ *rmahan*¹³ (*gwaa*⁴ *a*³²)
 COM:come in:vain (John DEC)
 (John) came for nothing.

*a*³*riin*² *rmahan*¹³ (*shtah*¹ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴)
 CON:roar in:vain (high indeed PERS)
 It is roaring (up in the sky) for no reason for sure. (Brother 120)

*kahanx*³² *yuun*¹ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 COM:go once (he DEC)
 (He) went once.

*kahnah*³ *yuun*⁴ (*zhoh*³ *a*³²)
 COM:come again (it:AML DEC)
 (It [the animal]) came again. (Fight 199)

*ra*⁵*zuun*³² *inanx*² (*sha*³*na*¹ *man*³ *shkaa*³² *a*³²)
 COM:use just (woman body raven DEC)
 (The woman) just used (the raven). (Fight 198)

*unanx*⁵ *ndoho*³² (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 CON:run INTS (he DEC)
 (He) runs a lot.

(See also 7.4 and 7.97.)

With quantifiers:

*cha*⁴ *wix*¹ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 COM:eat two (he DEC)
 (He) ate for the second time.

*kakaa*³² *nuh*¹ (*rex*³ *chex*¹ *zoh*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴)
 COM:burn complete (father in:law his indeed PERS)
 (His father-in-law) burned up completely for sure. (Fight 28)

(See also 7.28.)

With a content verb:

*cha*⁴ *ako*⁴ (*yoh*³ *nee*³¹ *shtax*³ *a*³²)
 COM:eat CON:sob (that flesh deer DEC)
 (That [one]) was sobbing [as she] ate (the venison). (Sun 2:60)

With a noun:

*kishrah*³ *mahan*¹³ (*kox*³² *a*³²)
 COM:be:split self (plant DEC)
 (The plant) sprouted by itself. (i.e., it was not planted)

*ayuu*³ *mahan*¹³ (*tanh*³ *a*³²)
 CON:fall self (corn:ear DEC)
 (The ears of corn) were falling down by themselves. (Fight 63)

Manner sometimes occurs in preverbal position, rather than in postverbal position.

*wehe*⁴ *ahmii*³² (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 pretty CON:speak (he DEC)
 (He) speaks graciously.

*dax*¹³ *ahmii*³² (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 thus CON:speak (he DEC)
 (He) speaks that way.

*nanx*¹³ *waa*³² (*rohno*⁴ *a*³²)
 thus CON:exist (tunic DEC)
 (The tunic) is like this.

*ushra*⁴ *kunanx*⁵ (*kwa*³*yo*⁴ *a*³²)
 INTS COM:run (horse DEC)
 (The horse) ran very fast. (Brother 126)

*tikix*¹³ *guun*³ *raan*¹ (*zoh*¹ *a*³²)
 INTS COM:become delayed (you:SG DEC)
 (You) were gone a long time. (cf. Fight 70)

*ho*² *kotox*³² (*wichix*³² *yoh*³ *a*³²)
 one COM:sleep (old:woman that DEC)
 (That old woman) slept continuously. (Sun 1:73)
 (See also 7.61, 7.67, and 7.107.)

This is especially common when manner is expressed by a phrase.

*yoo*¹³ *ndoho*³² *chee*⁵ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 quickly INTS CON:walk (he DEC)
 (He) walks very quickly.

*inanx*² *dax*¹³ *hyaa*⁽⁻³ *a*³²)
 just thus CON:do(-UN DEC)
 She acted in just that way. (cf. Sun 3:93)

The position of manner is often linked to the specific lexical item that expresses it. While some stative verbs and adverbs seem to require one position or the other, others occur in either position, sometimes with no apparent meaning difference, and sometimes with two different sense discriminations.

*nanax*³² *chee*⁵ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
slowly CON:walk (he DEC)
(He) walks slowly.

*chee*⁵ *nanax*³² (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
CON:walk slowly (he DEC)
(He) walks slowly.

*zah*¹ *ahmii*³² (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
good CON:speak (he DEC)
(He) speaks well.

*ahmii*³² *zah*¹ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
CON:speak good (he DEC)
(He) speaks well.

*unanx*⁵ *zah*¹ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
CON:run good (he DEC)
(He) runs well. (i.e., without problems)

*zah*¹ *unanx*⁵ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
good CON:run (he DEC)
(He) runs well. (i.e., gracefully)

When an intensifying adverb or quantifier expresses manner, it often refers to the subject of an intransitive verb or to the direct object of a transitive verb, even though it occurs within the verb phrase.

*hnah*³ *ndoho*³² (*nix*³ *sha*³*na*¹ *a*³²)
CON:come INTS (the:PL woman DEC)
A lot of (the women) were coming. (cf. Fight 303)

*todoh*¹ *man*⁴ (*yuwii*³¹ *gaa*¹³ *naa*⁴ *a*³²)
tiny:bit CON:exist:PL (person when long:ago DEC)
There were very few (people long ago). (Brother 3)

*cha*² *ndoho*³² (*zoh*³ *nehex*³ *a*³²)
POT:eat INTS (he baby DEC)
(He) will eat a lot of (babies). (cf. Brother 138)

ichix² ka³ta¹³ (naa³¹ tanh³ a³²)
 seven COM:carry (cornfield corn:ear DEC)
 (Corn plants) used to bear seven (ears of corn [each]). (cf. Fight 56)
 (See also 7.6.)

Compare Fight 56 above with Fight 58, which restates the same idea, but has the numeral in a focused noun phrase.

(ichix² tanh³) ka³ta¹³ (naa³¹ gaa¹³ naa⁴ a³²)
 (seven corn:ear) COM:carry (cornfield when long:ago DEC)
 (Corn plants) used to bear (SEVEN EARS OF CORN [each] long ago).
 (Fight 58)

Manner is questioned by the interrogative adverbs *dax¹* ‘how?’ and *me³ dax³²* ‘how much?’, ‘to what extent?’, or ‘how many times?’.

dax¹ kawih³ (zoh³ ga²)
 how COM:die (he INT)
 How did (he) die?

me³ dax³² kahanx³² (gwaa⁴ ga²)
 which how:much COM:go (John INT)
 How many times did (John) go?

Often *dax¹* is followed by the verb *waa³²* ‘to exist’. In the analysis adopted in this study, this construction is viewed as a stative sentence with a sentential complement as the subject.

dax¹ gaa² (kihyax¹³ zoh³ weh³ ga²)
 how POT:exist (POT:do he house INT)
 How will it be ([the case that] he will build the house)?

Following manner is the quantifier, which is expressed by the verbal marker *uun⁴* ‘again’ or ‘also’, the general marker *uun¹* ‘just’, and the general quantifiers *dox¹³* ‘some’ and *dox³* ‘more’.

kinix³² uun⁴ (shahax³² a³²)
 COM:fall REP (gopher DEC)
 (The gopher) fell again. (Sun 2:124)

cha⁴ uun¹ (zoh³ a³²)
 COM:eat LIM (he DEC)
 (He) just ate.

chee⁵ dox¹³ (zoh³ a³²)
 CON:walk some (he DEC)
 (He) walks somewhat.

*chee*⁵ *dox*³ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 CON:walk more (he DEC)
 (He) walks more.

(See also 7.17, 7.22, 7.76, and various others.)

The final position in the verb phrase is incorporated element, which is expressed by an inherently possessed kinship term, a body-part noun, or a preposition. There are four kinds of incorporated elements, differing according to productivity and meaning.

When the incorporated element is a kinship term, the subject is plural, and the meaning is reciprocal. The verb nucleus and the kinship term form an idiomatic unit, even though the two parts can be separated by manner and/or quantifier, because the existence of the combination cannot be predicted and because of the reciprocal meaning. (See Hollenbach 1979 and 1984b for further discussion of this construction.)

*ano*⁴ *tuwih*³ (*rox*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³²)
 CON:grab companion (the:DU he DEC)
 (They) fight with each other.

*kinarih*³ *tuwih*³ (*rox*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³²)
 COM:find companion (the:DU he DEC)
 (They) met each other. (Fight 270)

*guun*³ *mane*⁴ (*nih*⁴ *a*³²)
 COM:become comadre (we:IN DEC)
 (We) became comadres (child's godmother; Sp. *comadre*) of each other.

*tax*³² *bax*⁵ (*rox*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³²)
 CON:say compadre (the:DU he DEC)
 (They) call each other compadre (child's godfather; Sp. *compadre*).

When the incorporated element is the preposition *ra*⁴ 'inside', the verb nucleus and *ra*⁴ form an idiomatic unit that refers to a psychological state.⁵

*kahmaan*³ *ra*⁴ (*sno*⁵*ho*³² *a*³²)
 COM:get:hot inside (man DEC)
 (The man) became angry. (Fight 97)

⁵*ra*⁴ was apparently a body-part noun meaning 'heart of' at an earlier stage in the history of Trique, but it survives at present only as a preposition meaning 'inside', as an incorporated element in expressions that refer to psychological states, and in a few other frozen expressions. The Spanish loanword *niman*⁴ (from *ánima* 'soul') is currently used as the noun for 'heart of'.

kahneh³ ra⁴ (zoh³ a³²)
 COM:cut inside (he DEC)
 (He) changed his mind.

Some idioms with *ra⁴* contain three parts.

guun³ ya¹³ ra⁴ (yoh³ a³²)
 COM:become true inside (that DEC)
 (That [one]) was convinced ([of it]). (cf. Sun 2:35)

The incorporated noun may also be a body-part of the subject.⁶

nahaan³ rke³ (noh³ a³²)
 CON:sting stomach (she DEC)
 (She) is hungry.

(See also 7.51.)

If the verb is transitive and the body part is logically part of the object, the idiom comprising the verb and the body-part noun is intransitive.

rij³² talux⁵ (zoh³ a³²)
 CON:take:out saliva (he DEC)
 (He) spits.

na³shkax² raha³ (zoh³ a³²)
 COM:raise hand (he DEC)
 (He) raised [his] hand.

It is also possible to use a transitive sentence in which the body-part noun serves as the direct object with its possessor coreferential with the subject (see the discussion of the instrument adjunct in §1.1.4).

⁶There are four points along a scale where a body-part noun may occur. The body part may be the nucleus of a possessive noun phrase (see §3.3) expressing the subject, as seen in 7.55 and 7.56. It may occur in the final incorporated-element position in the verb phrase, as described in §2.1.3. It may be the modifier in a complex nucleus, in which case it immediately follows the verb (see §2.1.1). Finally, the verb and body-part noun may be fused into a compound verb (see §5.1.1).

These points represent four stages in an historical process in which a body-part noun moves from the subject toward the verb. This process begins when there is a close lexical tie between a particular verb and a body-part noun. Sometimes a particular combination falls at one point for some speakers, and at a different point for others.

Nouns may also move from the object into the verb phrase if there is a close lexical tie between the verb and the noun.

na³shkax² (zoh³ raha³ zoh³ a³²)
 COM:raise (he hand his DEC)
 (He) raised (his hand).

(See also 7.46.)

When the incorporated noun is a body part and the nucleus contains a position verb, the combination shows a reversal of polarity when compared to the position verb alone, i.e., the subject becomes the direct object.

hnix² tuhwa³ (shuwee³ yanx³ a³²)
 CON2:be:wedged:in mouth (dog paper DEC)
 (The dog) is holding (the paper) in [its] mouth.

ax¹ hnix³² tuhwa³ (shkwaa⁵ rakax² man³)
 already CON:be:wedged:in mouth (snake lizardlike body

zoh³ a³²)
 his DEC)

(The dragon) was already holding (him) in [its] mouth. (Openly 67)

hnix² raha³ (shnii³ sahanx³² a³²)
 CON2:be:wedged:in hand (boy money DEC)
 (The boy) grasps (the money) in [his] hand.

tax¹ shia⁴ (chii³ kax³² a³²)
 CON2:be:on:top neck (man log DEC)
 (The man) is carrying (the log) on [his] shoulder.

The position verbs in these idioms are intransitive and take a locative adjunct; but the idioms containing them are transitive. Compare the following intransitive sentences with the above.

hnix² (yanx³ tuhwa³ shuwee³ a³²)
 CON2:be:wedged:in (paper mouth dog DEC)
 (The paper) is in (the dog's mouth).

tax¹ (kax³² shia⁴ chii³ a³²)
 CON2:be:on:top (log neck man DEC)
 (The log) is on (the man's shoulder).

Occasionally two incorporated nouns occur in an idiom.

natah³ shraa⁵ tuwih³ (yanx³ a³²)
 CON:be:stacked back companion (paper DEC)
 (The papers) are stacked on top of each other.

See Hollenbach 1979 for further discussion of these kinds of incorporated nouns.

2.1.4 Combinations of elements. The two preverbal elements do not cooccur, but all possible combinations of postverbal elements occur, and all occur with preverbal elements.

unanx⁵ zah¹ uun⁴ (shnii³ a³²)
 CON:run good REP (boy DEC)
 (The boy) is running well again. *or* (The boy) is also running well.

guun³ yaan² uun⁴ (zoh³ a³²)
 COM:become first REP (he DEC)
 (He) moved ahead again. (Brother 126)

kuyanx³² ndoho³² ra⁴ (noh³ a³²)
 COM:boil INTS inside (she DEC)
 (She) was very furious. (Fight 101)

ne³ nokoh³ zah¹ (hnuu⁵ man³ tuhwi³ sno²ho³² mah³)
 NEG CON:follow good (corn body thunder male NEG)
 (The corn) doesn't grow well for (the male thunder [god]).
 (Openly 8)

ne³ ahmaan³ ndoho³² ra⁴ (zoh³ a²)
 NEG CON:get:hot INTS inside (he DEC)
 (He) doesn't become very angry.

ataa³ kahmaan¹³ dox³ ra⁴ (zoh³ a³²)
 not:yet POT:get:hot more inside (he DEC)
 (He) hasn't become angrier yet.

ax¹ cha⁴ ndoho(-x³² a³²)
 already COM:eat much(-I DEC)
 (I) have already eaten a lot. (Brother 90)

Sometimes the quantifier follows an incorporated element.

kahmaan³ ra⁴ uun⁴ (sha³na¹ shehe⁴ tanh³ a³²)
 COM:get:hot inside REP (woman feet corn:ear DEC)
 (The woman) became angry again (about the ears of corn).
 (Fight 100)

When preverbal manner cooccurs with the truth-value marker, manner precedes, as seen in 7.40 and 7.52. When manner follows a truth-value marker, however, the truth-value marker is analyzed as part of a stative verb phrase (see §2.3) or an adverb phrase (see §4.2.1).

When a negative marker cooccurs with the intensifying adverb *ndoho*³², the meaning is ‘not much’; but when a negative marker cooccurs with the intensifying adverb *ushra*⁴, the meaning is ‘not at all’. See Hollenbach 1976b for further discussion.

*ne*³ *cha*⁴ *ndoho*³² (*shnii*³ *a*³²)
 NEG CON:eat INTS (boy DEC)
 (The boy) doesn’t eat much.

*ne*³ *cha*⁴ *ushra*⁴ (*shnii*³ *a*³²)
 NEG CON:eat INTS (boy DEC)
 (The boy) doesn’t eat at all.

*ushra*⁴ *ne*³ *cha*⁴ (*shnii*³ *a*³²)
 INTS NEG CON:eat (boy DEC)
 (The boy) doesn’t eat at all.

Further examples of a negative marker with *ushra*⁴ are found in 7.33, 7.40, and 7.52. In 7.105, *ushra*⁴ cooccurs with the inherently negative verb *dax*³² ‘to not exist’ with the meaning ‘to not exist at all’.

When the verb *tiko*³² ‘to play’ occurs as postverbal manner, a negative marker must occur.

*ne*³ *ahngax*³² *tiko*³² (*tako-x*⁵ *mah*³)
 NEG CON:throb CON:play (foot-my NEG)
 (My foot) throbs a lot. (lit. [My foot] does not throb playing.)

2.2 Equative Verb Phrases

Equative verb phrases are based on four verbs: *me*³ ‘to be’, *kuhnax*¹ ‘to be named’, *uun*³ ‘to become’, and *nauun*³ ‘to turn into’. These verbs do not enter into complex nuclei, but *me*³ and *uun*³ combine with the incorporated preposition *ra*⁴ ‘inside’ to form idioms that function like transitive content verbs.

*me*³ *ra*⁴ (*shnii*³ *cha*² *zoh*³ *yuhweh*³ *a*³²)
 CON:be inside (boy POT:eat he ice DEC)
 (The boy) wants (to eat ice cream).

*guun*¹³ *ra*⁴ (*noh*³ *ku²nuu*³² *noh*³ *yatsex*⁵ *a*³²)
 POT:become inside (she POT:be:in she clothing DEC)
 (She) will want (to put the garment on).

These verbs otherwise take only the truth-value markers and the quantifier, except that *me*³ ‘to be’ does not occur with the negative markers.

Equative sentences with *me*³ are negated by means of negative noun phrases (see §3.5).

(*tanuu*³) *me*³ *uun*⁴ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 (soldier) CON:be REP (he DEC)
 (He) is (a soldier) again.

*ze*² *guun*³ (*zoh*³ *me*³*stro*⁴ *mah*³)
 NEG POT:become (he teacher NEG)
 (He) won't become (a teacher [Sp. *maestro*]).

*kinauun*³ *uun*⁴ (*zoh*³ *shkuu*³ *a*³²)
 COM:turn:into REP (he animal DEC)
 (He) turned into (an animal) again.

2.3 Stative Verb Phrases

Stative verb phrases are based on stative verbs, which do not take aspect inflection. These verbs do not enter into complex nuclei, but they sometimes occur with the incorporated preposition *ra*⁴ 'inside' to form idioms, some of which function as transitive content verbs.

*yahaan*¹³ *ra*⁴ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 hot inside (he DEC)
 (He) is hotheaded.

*nukwax*¹³ *ra*⁴ (*zoh*³ *man*³ *tinuu*⁵ *zoh*³ *a*³²)
 strong inside (he body brother:ME his DEC)
 (He) is trusting (in his brother).

*hee*¹ *ra*⁴ (*zoh*³ *nehex*³ *a*³²)
 heavy inside (he baby DEC)
 (He) feels compassion (for babies). (cf. Brother 13)

(See also 7.81.)

Stative verbs occur with the negative marker *ne*³, the affirmative marker *wee*⁴, and the preposition *ndaa*¹³ 'until', used in this construction to mean 'even'. They also occur with a limited manner, expressed mainly by intensifying adverbs and the stative verb *gee*¹ 'whole', used in this construction to mean 'exactly'; and with a limited quantifier, expressed by the general marker *uun*¹ 'just' or the general quantifier *dox*³ 'more'.

Stative verb phrases occur in the predicate of stative sentences, either alone or together with a content or equative verb like *waa*³² 'to exist' or *uun*³ 'to become' (see §1.1.6).

Alone:

zah¹ ushra⁴ (ro³to² a³²)
 good INTS (blanket DEC)
 (The blanket) is very good.

chreh² uun¹ (shnii³ a³²)
 short LIM (boy DEC)
 (The boy) is just short.

ne³ ya¹³ (ri³kix¹³ a³²)
 NEG true (frog DEC)
 (The frogs) are not truthful. (cf. Sun 4:17)
 (See also 7.100.)

With a content or equative verb:

wee⁴ nix³² (waa³² nanx³ a³²)
 AFF ugly (CON:exist net:bag DEC)
 Yes, (the bag is) ugly.

ndaa¹³ skah¹ (gaa² zoh¹ a³²)
 until hard (POT:exist you:SG DEC)
 (You will be) even strong! (spoken in bitter sarcasm as a curse)
 (Brother 170)

chron¹ dox¹³ tsinh⁵ (waa³⁴ zoh³ a³²)
 dark some tiny (CON:exist he DEC)
 (He is) a little bit dark-skinned. (cf. Deluge 35)

kunix¹³ dox³ (waa³² zoh³ a³²)
 young more (CON:exist he DEC)
 (He is) younger. (cf. Brother 70)

ne³ shix¹ (waa³² zoh³ mah³)
 NEG big (CON:exist he NEG)
 (He is) not big. (Brother 144)

(waa³²) raan³² gee¹ (rke-x³ a³²)
 (CON:exist) firm whole (stomach-my DEC)
 (My stomach is) exactly full. (Brother 90)

(*guun*³) *ganh*¹ *ndoho*³² (*kuchrux*³² *zhi-h*⁴)
 (COM:become) far INTS (COM:lay grandfather-our:IN
*shumanh*³ *makaa*⁵ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴)
 town Mexico:City indeed PERS)
 (It came to be) very far away ([that] our grandfather founded
 Mexico City for sure). (Brother 42)

Stative verb phrases also occur in the manner position of the verb phrase in other sentence types (see §2.1.3).

*zah*¹ *dox*³ (*awii*³² *naa*³¹ *rex*³² *muu*³² *a*³²)
 good more (CON:come:out cornfield place coast DEC)
 (The cornfields yield) better (on the coast). (Openly 17)

*zah*¹ *ushra*⁴ *dox*³ (*ananx*⁵ *noh*³ *a*³²)
 good INTS more (CON:weave she DEC)
 (She weaves) much better.

(*kahmii*³²) *chree*¹³ *ndoho*³² (*zii*⁵ *chix*³² *dox*³ *yoh*³ *a*³²)
 (COM:speak) evil INTS (he mature more that DEC)
 (That older one spoke) in a very evil manner. (Brother 130)

When the negative marker cooccurs with the intensifying adverb *ushra*⁴, the meaning is 'not at all' (see §2.1.4).

*ne*³ *zah*¹ *ushra*⁴ (*ananx*⁵ *noh*³ *mah*³)
 NEG good INTS (CON:weave she NEG)
 (She does) not (weave) well at all.

Sometimes an intensifying adverb precedes the stative verb.

*ushra*⁴ *wehe*⁴ (*waa*³² *sha*³*na*¹ *a*³²)
 INTS pretty (CON:exist woman DEC)
 (The woman is) very pretty.

*dox*³ *a*¹ *nukwax*¹³ (*chee*⁵ *zoh*³ *a*³²)
 more ? strong (CON:walk he DEC)
 (He walks) even faster.

When the negative marker *ne*³ or the affirmative marker *wee*⁴ occurs in a stative verb phrase, however, that phrase must precede any content verb that occurs in the sentence, and no truth-value marker can occur in that content verb phrase. In other words, only one truth-value marker can occur in any full verb phrase, and it must occur at the beginning.

ne³ chee⁵ zah¹ ushra⁴ (zoh³ a³²)
 NEG CON:walk good INTS (he DEC)
 (He) doesn't walk well at all.

ne³ zah¹ ushra⁴ chee⁵ (zoh³ a³²)
 NEG good INTS CON:walk (he DEC)
 (He) doesn't walk well at all.

2.4 Repetitive Verb Phrases

Repetitive verb phrases are formed by repeating a content or stative verb nucleus.

Repetitive content verb phrases usually repeat a simple verb nucleus in continuative aspect, but the repeated verb occasionally has another aspect. Sometimes an optional verb phrase element follows the repeated verb. This construction indicates the repetition or continuation of an action or process.

chee⁵ chee⁵ (wichix³² yoh³ a³²)
 CON:walk CON:walk (old:woman that DEC)
 (That old woman) kept on walking. (cf. Sun 1:24)

agwax⁵ agwax⁵ (zhoh³ a³²)
 CON:cry:out CON:cry:out (it:AML DEC)
 (It [the animal]) kept on crying out. (Fight 256)

rahyunx³² rahyunx³² (rox¹ zoh³ maan-³ a³²)
 CON:harm CON:harm (the:DU he body-UN DEC)
 (The two of them) kept on mistreating (her). (Sun 4:46)

ganx⁵ ganx⁵ (zoh³ yume³² a³²)
 COM:dig COM:dig (he tuber DEC)
 (He) kept on digging (tubers). (Fight 143)

kinax⁵ kinax⁵ (zhi-h⁴ rex³² nanx¹³ a³²)
 COM:remain COM:remain (grandfather-our:IN place thus DEC)
 (Our grandfather) continued staying (in this place). (cf. Brother 129)

nokoh³ nokoh³ uun⁴ (zoh³ a³²)
 CON:follow CON:follow REP (he DEC)
 (He) kept on following again. (Fight 263)

Sometimes a complex nucleus is repeated, or some modifier is repeated along with the verb nucleus.

kuruhmaan³ shehe⁴ kuruhmaan³ shehe⁴ (zhi-h⁴ a³²)
 COM:press feet COM:press feet (grandfather-our:IN DEC)
 (Our grandfather) kept on stamping ([it]). (Brother 22)

guun¹³ yaan² guun¹³ yaan² uun⁴ (zoh¹ a³²)
 POT:become first POT:become first REP (you:SG DEC)
 (You) will keep on becoming first again. (Brother 124)

maan¹ dax¹³ kihyax³ maan¹ dax¹³ kihyax³ (rox¹ zoh³)
 only thus COM:do only thus COM:do (the:DU he

nanx¹ a⁴)
 indeed PERS)

Just in that fashion (the two of them) kept on doing (for sure).
 (cf. Fight 265)

It is also possible to repeat a combination of a verb nucleus and a subject pronoun.

kagwax² hunx¹ / kagwax² hunx¹ a³²
 POT:cry:out I POT:cry:out I DEC
 I will keep on crying out. (Fight 252)

In the analysis adopted in this sketch, however, this construction is considered to be a kind of juxtaposed coordinate sentence (see §6.1.2).

Repetitive stative verb phrases consist simply of a repeated stative verb. They are infrequent except for the following one.

ya¹³ ya¹³ (ahmij³² zoh³ a³²)
 true true (CON:speak he DEC)
 (He speaks) very truly.

(kuchih¹) ya⁴ ya⁴ (zoh¹ nah³)
 (POT:arrive) true true (you:SG INT)
 (Will you) really truly (arrive)? (Fight 276)

2.5 Additive Verb Phrases

Additive content verb phrases are formed by linking two content verbs with the preposition *ndaa¹³* ‘until’, used in this construction to mean ‘and even’. The two verbs must be in the same aspect, and the second one must express an action or process that is similar to, and usually more intense than, that expressed by the first verb. No preverbal or postverbal elements occur.

*chee*⁵ *ndaa*¹³ *unanx*⁵ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 CON:walk until CON:run (he DEC)
 (He) walks [and] even runs.

*araa*³ *ndaa*¹³ *ayanx*³² (*na*³² *a*³²)
 CON:be:full until CON:spill (water DEC)
 (The water) is full to overflowing.

Additive stative verb phrases are formed either by juxtaposing two stative verbs, or by placing the preposition *ndaa*¹³ before each one.

*shkaan*¹ *kashrah*¹ (*waa*³² *skux*⁵ *a*³²)
 tall wide (CON:exist OX DEC)
 (The ox is) tall [and] wide.

*ndaa*¹³ *niah*¹ *ndaa*¹³ *kochrox*¹³ *ra*⁴ (*zoh*³ *a*³²)
 until colorful until fragrant inside (he DEC)
 (He) is very very happy.

2.6 Appositional Verb Phrases

Appositional verb phrases are doublets that serve as a literary device. Two semantically related verb phrases are juxtaposed for rhetorical effect. These phrases follow the schema A B, A C. A repeated verb is followed by different, but semantically related, elements, which often have some degree of phonological similarity as well. In the first example, the B and C elements are intensifying adverbs; and in the second example, they are the second part of complex verb nuclei.

*kahanx*³² *tiah*³ / *kahanx*³² *tihunh*³ (*neko*⁴ *yoh*³ *a*³²)
 COM:go INTS COM:go INTS (opossum that DEC)
 (That opossum) really went in a big hurry. (Sun 1:49)

*natux*⁵ *siuu*² / *natux*⁵ *rmii*² (*noh*³ *a*³²)
 COM:reenter by:bottom COM:reenter ball-like (she DEC)
 (She) rolled over and over. (Sun 4:42)

A similar use of repetition with variation is also found in appositional noun and adverb phrases (see §§3.7 and 4.2.2) and in juxtaposed coordinate sentences (see §6.1.2).

3

Noun Phrases

3.1 Basic Noun Phrases

Basic noun phrases consist of a noun or pronoun nucleus, three optional pronominal elements, and three optional postnominal elements.

3.1.1 Noun nuclei. Both simple and complex noun nuclei occur. A simple nucleus comprises only a noun or pronoun.

<i>na³na¹</i>	‘word’
<i>chraa⁵</i>	‘river’
<i>shkuu³</i>	‘animal’
<i>weh³</i>	‘house’
<i>chraa³</i>	‘tortilla’
<i>to³²</i>	‘metate’
<i>hnuu⁵</i>	‘corn’
<i>zoh³</i>	‘he’

A complex nucleus is a lexical unit that comprises a fairly generic noun or a non-phrase-final pronoun followed by a frozen modifier, which may be a noun, a numeral, or a stative verb. A stative verb in this position may be either a basic stative verb or a stative verb derived from a noun by means of a tone change (see §5.2). Complex nuclei probably developed

historically from a sequence of a noun plus a reduced relative clause which acquired an idiomatic meaning.

Noun plus noun:

rme³dyo⁴ shluu⁵
 medicine worm
 worm medicine (Sp. *remedio*)

chruun³ me³sa⁴
 wood table
 wooden table (Sp. *mesa*)

shkuu³ kohoo³
 animal bowl
 ant lion

tuku³ya³² u³ro⁴
 rabbit donkey
 jackrabbit (Sp. *burro*)

Noun plus numeral:

we³rne⁴ wix¹
 Friday:of:Lent two
 second Friday (Sp. *viernes*) of Lent

kohoo³ chix²
 bowl seven
 seven ritual bowls of food (given to symbolize transfer of
 responsibility to new mayordomo [sponsor of a religious fiesta])

Noun or pronoun plus basic stative verb:

na³² tsih¹
 water sweet
 soda pop

ze³² tsih¹
 it:INAN sweet
 candy

shrux³ maree³¹
 pot green
 glazed pot

Noun plus derived stative verb:

agah³ neh²

metal ropelike

chain (Sun 2:118) (cf. *neh³* ‘rope’)

na³² yahanx²

water divine

ocean or flood (Openly 63, Deluge 1) (cf. *yahanx³²* ‘saint, god’)

na³na¹ yahax¹³

wind of:chili

chili wind (a harsh choking wind) (Brother 175) (cf. *yahax³* ‘chili’)

Terms for owner are formed from a noun or non-phrase-final pronoun (see §5.4) followed by a possessed noun that has undergone a tone lowering. These nuclei usually occur in possessive noun phrases.

chii³ tahnix¹

man child:related

the father (Sun 3:11) (cf. *tahnii⁵* ‘child of’)

zii⁵ tahnix¹

he child:related

the parents (Brother 69)

zii⁵ daan¹

he POS:animal:related

the owner (of the animal) (cf. *daan⁴* ‘animal of’)

zii⁵ tohox¹

he POS:earth:related

the owner (of the land) (cf. *tohoo⁵* ‘land of’)

zii⁵ tukwa¹

he POS:home:related

the owner (of the house) (cf. *tukwa⁴* ‘home of’)

nii⁵ sihyax¹³

she possession:related

the (female) owner (of the object) (cf. *sihyax³* ‘possession of’)

This tone lowering is also used to derive stative verbs from nouns; it is described in §5.2. In owner constructions, however, the possessed noun retains its definiteness, which would not be the case if the tone lowering converted it into a stative verb. For example, *zii⁵ tohox¹* refers to the

owner of a specific plot of land, i.e., one that has a role in the discourse, not to landowners in general.

3.1.2 Prenominal elements. There are three elements that precede the nucleus: prenuclear limiter, quantifier, and article.

There are four prenuclear limiters: the nominal markers *doh*¹ 'merely' (scornful), *nanx*² 'merely' (mildly deprecative), and *maan*¹ 'only', and the general adverb *inanx*² 'just'. Occasionally two limiters occur in sequence.

*doh*¹ *maan*³¹
merely rain
merely rain (Fight 299)

*doh*¹ *chruun*³
merely wood
merely poles (Fight 317)

*nanx*² *sha*³*na*¹
merely woman
merely a woman (Brother 36)

*maan*¹ *shtax*³
only deer
only a deer (Sun 1:18)

*inanx*² *nehex*³
just baby
just babies (Brother 11)

*maan*¹ *inanx*² *yume*³²
only just tuber
only just tubers (Fight 145)

(See also 7.88 and 7.101.)

A noun phrase containing one of these limiters usually occurs at the beginning of the sentence, as seen in 7.88. (Each of the above examples from texts also occurs in initial position.) In the following example, a limiter follows a pronoun nucleus. The part of the sentence outside the noun phrase is enclosed in parentheses.

*zoh*¹ *inanx*² (*hyax*³ *ra*⁴ *weh*³ *nianx*⁵ *a*³²)
you:SG just (CON:do inside house this DEC)
JUST YOU (are doing [it] in this house). (Sun 3:110)

The quantifier comprises numerals and general quantifiers.

Numerals:

*ho*² *yatsex*⁵
 one clothing
 one garment

*kahanx*¹³ *sno*⁵*ho*³²
 four man
 four men

*uhunh*¹ *chruun*³
 five wood
 five trees

*ichix*² *skii*⁵
 seven resin
 seven [pieces of] incense (Fight 20)

*iko*² *sanx*³²
 twenty bit
 two pesos and fifty centavos

*yoho*⁴ *ra*³*zuun*²
 another thing
 another thing (Fight 191)

*yoho*⁴ *zoh*³
 another he
 the other one (Brother 108)

(See also 7.1, 7.32, 7.36, 7.42, 7.46, 7.47, and 7.50.)

General quantifiers:

*kehee*¹ *shkuu*³
 many animal
 many animals

*kunudax*¹³ *shkuu*³
 all animal
 all the insects (Sun 4:33)

*dax*³² *a*¹ *shtax*³²
 how:many ? bird
 all sorts of birds (Sun 2:116)

tahax² yuwii³¹
 part person
 some of the people

tahax² kix³²
 part mountain
 part of the mountain (Brother 60)

dox¹³ tsinh³ naa³¹
 some tiny cornfield
 a tiny bit of cornfield (Fight 86)

The numeral *ho²* ‘one’ often functions as an indefinite article. The first example under numerals could therefore be glossed ‘a garment’, as well as ‘one garment’. See also 7.15, 7.76, and 7.89.

The concept many is sometimes expressed by an intensifying adverb or quantifier in the verb phrase even when it refers to a noun phrase (see §2.1.3).

There are two definite articles, *rox¹* ‘the two’ and *nix³* ‘the (plural)’.

rox¹ shnii³
 the:DU boy
 the two boys (Sun 1:42)

nix³ sha³na¹
 the:PL woman
 the women (three or more) (Fight 303)

(See also 7.7, 7.15, and 7.109.)

In that there is no singular definite article, the absence of both a quantifier and an article often signals definite singular, especially if the nucleus has a human or animal referent.

shnii³
 boy
 the boy

(See also 7.17, 7.79, 7.84, and various others.)

See §3.1.3 below for the use of a deictic as a singular definite article.

3.1.3 Postnominal elements. Three elements follow the nucleus: deictic, postnuclear limiter, and relative clause.

There are three deictics. The locative adverbs *nianx⁵* ‘here’ and *yoh³* ‘there’ function as deictics, and they are glossed ‘this’ and ‘that’, respectively. There is

also a somewhat obsolescent nominal marker *dan*³² 'that', which refers to something previously mentioned.

*skii*⁵ *nianx*⁵
resin this
this ear wax (Fight 196)

*shkaa*³² *yoh*³
raven that
that raven (Fight 159)

*shnii*³ *dan*³²
boy that
that boy (the one we were talking about)

(See also 7.23.)

A weakly stressed form of *yoh*³ is developing a further function as a singular definite article.

*weh*³ *yoh*³
house that
the house

(See also 7.23 and 7.32.)

The postnuclear limiter is expressed by the general marker *uun*¹ 'just'.

*shnii*³ *uun*¹
boy LIM
just the boy

Restrictive relative clauses follow the nucleus. There are no relative pronouns; relative clauses are marked as such by their distribution following nouns or non-phrase-final pronouns (see §5.4), sometimes by the presence of a low-tone continuative aspect form of a verb (see §5.1.2), and by the absence of a noun phrase that is logically supplied by the head. Non-phrase-final pronouns are very common as heads of relative clauses; see Hollenbach 1992 for a more detailed treatment. For most speakers there are no nonrestrictive relative clauses; their function is filled by appositional noun phrases (see §3.7).

Sentences with content verbs may become relative clauses based on any noun or prepositional phrase within them, except that most speakers do not accept relative clauses based on an associative adjunct. (Because of the intrinsic reciprocal nature of this adjunct, speakers prefer to say 'the one who went with John', rather than 'the one John went with'.) A locative noun or preposition associated with the head noun is retained in its

original position in the relative clause, except that *man*³ ‘body of’ may be unexpressed.

With subject as head:

*sno*⁵*ho*³² *ahneh*³ *chruun*³
 man CON:cut wood
 the man who cuts trees

*naa*³¹ *awii*³² *zah*¹
 cornfield CON:come:out good
 cornfields that yield well (Openly 9)

*zii*⁵ *cha*⁴ *yuwii*³¹
 he CON:eat person
 the one who was eating people (Brother 9)

*zii*⁵ *kahneh*³ *zuun*³² *riaan*³² *zoh*³
 he COM:cut work face his
 the one who gave orders to him (Brother 19)

*ri*³*kix*¹³ *man*¹ *ra*⁴ *chraa*⁵
 frog CON2:exist:PL inside river
 the frogs that are in the river (Sun 4:17)

*zii*⁵ *ne*³ *nehe*³
 he NEG CON:sense
 the one who doesn't know

(See also 7.26, 7.36, 7.40, 7.60, 7.77, 7.91, 7.94, and 7.100.)

With object as head:

*shnii*³ *nehe*³ *gwaa*⁴
 boy CON:sense John
 the boy that John (Sp. *Juan*) sees

*shnii*³ *nehe*³ *gwaa*⁴ *man*³
 boy CON:sense John body
 the boy that John sees

*shumanh*³ *kihyax*¹³ *zoh*³
 town POT:do he
 the town he was going to build (Brother 65)

*ra*³*zuun*² *ra*⁵*zuun*³² *nix*³ *zoh*³
 thing COM:use the:PL he
 the utensils that they used (Deluge 45)

*sahanx*³² *naruhwee*³² *noh*³ *riaan*³² *gwaa*⁴
 money COM:repay she face John
 the money that she paid back to John

With adjunct as head:

*shnii*³ *naruhwee*³² *noh*³ *sahanx*³² *riaan*³²
 boy COM:repay she money face
 the boy she paid the money back to

*shumanh*³ *kahanx*³² *gwaa*⁴
 town COM:go John
 the town John went to

*shumanh*³ *kane*¹³ *zoh*³
 town POT:sit he
 the town where he was going to live (Brother 72)

*rex*³² *tax*¹ *zoh*³
 place CON2:be:on:top he
 the place where he is on top (Openly 9)

*shnii*³ *kiranx*⁵ *noh*³ *kotoo*⁴ *shehe*⁴
 boy COM:buy she shirt feet
 the boy she bought the shirt (Sp. *cotón*) for

*shnii*³ *kahmii*³² *zoh*³ *shehe*⁴
 boy COM:speak he feet
 the boy he spoke about

*shnii*³ *yoo*¹³ *dox*³ *unanx*⁵ *zoh*³ *riaan*³²
 boy fast more CON:run he face
 the boy he runs faster than

*nee*³² *kahneh*³ *gwaa*⁴ *nee*³¹
 knife COM:cut John flesh
 the knife John cut the meat with

*agah*³ *neh*² *wax*² *mahan*¹³ *zhoh*³
 metal ropelike CON2:move self its:AML
 the chain by which it (the gopher) itself was moving along
 (Sun 2:122)

(See also 7.84.)

With peripheral element as head:

shumanh³ tuhwex⁵ noh³ rohno⁴
 town CON:sell she tunic
 the town where she sells tunics

yan³² nee.¹³ tukwa-x³
 place CON2:sit-UN POS:home-UN
 the place where he is living in his home (Fight 153)

rex³² kutunh³ na³² yoh³
 place COM:dry:up water that
 the place where that (flood) water dried up (Deluge 22)

gwii³ kuchih¹ noh³
 day POT:arrive she
 the day she would arrive (Fight 283)

All occurrences of a noun phrase coreferential with the head can be unexpressed in a relative clause.

sha³na¹ kinanh³ tukwa⁴ shehe⁴ mahan¹³
 woman COM:go:home POS:home feet self
 the woman who went home to [her] house for [her] own sake

shnii³ uun³ yaan² riaan³² tuwih³
 boy CON:become first face companion
 boys who get ahead of [their] friends (Brother 109)

A relative clause may occur within another relative clause.

yan³² nikunh¹ zii⁵ guun³ yaan²
 place CON2:stand he COM:become first
 the place where the one who got ahead was standing (Brother 108)

The head of a relative clause may be part of a sentential complement (see §1.1.9). In the following example, the subject of an embedded object complement serves as the head.

yaix³ kahnah³ / kihyax³ zoh³
 stone COM:come COM:do he
 the stones that he caused to come (i.e., the stones that he brought)
 (Brother 57)

In 7.58, the locative adjunct of an embedded object complement serves as the head; and in 7.105, the subject of an embedded subject complement serves as the head.

A relative clause may also contain a combination of two or more sentences, either juxtaposed or linked by a conjunction.

zui⁵ wax² / nanoh³ shtax³
 he CON2:move CON:look:for deer
 the one who was going along hunting deer (Openly 39)

ra³zuun² ra⁵zuun³² nix³ zoh³ / gaa¹³ nanii³² zoh³ rihaan³²
 thing COM:use the:PL he when COM:escape he face
na³² yahanx²
 water divine
 the things they used when they escaped from the flood (Deluge 46)

Some relative clauses containing content verbs have acquired an idiomatic meaning.

zui⁵ akox⁵ chruun³
 he CON:shape wood
 carpenter

yatsex⁵ nuu² chraa³
 clothing CON2:be:in tortilla
 woven bag used to hold tortillas

kuchrih³ chee⁵ shtah¹
 vehicle CON:walk high
 airplane

Equative sentences with verbs other than *me³* 'to be' may become relative clauses based on the subject.

shnii³ kuhnax¹ gwaa⁴
 boy CON:be:named John
 the boy who is named John

zui⁵ guun³ tanuu³
 he COM:become soldier
 the person who became a soldier

Stative sentences may become relative clauses based on the subject.

yatsex⁵ maree³¹
 clothing green
 the green garment

weh³ zah¹
 house good
 the good house (i.e., large, expensive)

shihyanx³² nakoo¹³ ndoho³²
 celebration large INTS
 a very large celebration (Brother 99)

zii⁵ chron¹ dox¹³ tsinh⁵ waa³²
 he dark:skinned some tiny CON:exist
 the ones who are a little bit dark skinned (Deluge 35)

(See also 7.59, 7.96, and 7.108.)

Some stative verbs occur only with the content verb *waa³²* 'to exist', and other stative verbs have a different sense discrimination when they occur with *waa³²* (see §1.1.6).

yatsex⁵ wehe⁴ waa³²
 clothing pretty CON:exist
 the pretty garment *or* the garment that is pretty

weh³ waa³² zah¹
 house CON:exist good
 the house that is good (i.e., in good condition)

There are sequences of a noun followed by a modifying noun that should probably be considered to be relative clauses with an unexpressed verb. The second noun often gives the material out of which the first is made.

wito⁴ sa³da⁴
 handkerchief silk
 silk (Sp. *seda*) handkerchief

nee³¹ shtax³
 flesh deer
 venison (Sun 2:60)

niaa³² nehax³
 stew baby
 baby stew (i.e., stew made from the meat of human babies)
 (Brother 87)

yax³ to³²
 ash grindstone
 powder from the grindstone (Fight 115)

nanx³ yume³²
 net:bag tuber
 the net bag [full] of tubers (Fight 210)
 (See also 7.12, 7.13, and 7.16.)

In relative clauses, but not in main sentences, numerals function like stative verbs to express ordinals.

shnii³ wahnux¹
 boy three
 the third boy

3.1.4 Combinations of elements. All possible combinations of elements occur in the order prenominal limiter, quantifier, article, nucleus, relative clause, deictic, and postnominal limiter. It is, however, rare to have more than five elements in a single noun phrase. There are also certain cooccurrence restrictions involving semantics. For example, quantifier and article must agree in number, and a limiter may occur with a relative clause only if a deictic also does. Deictics occur with relative clauses based on stative verbs, but they occur with other relative clauses only if there is little possibility that they could be parsed as part of the relative clause.

wix¹ rox¹ zoh³
 two the:DU he
 the two of them (Sun 1:12)

kehee¹ ndoho³² nix³ noh³
 many INTS the:PL she
 very many of them (the women) (Fight 307)

kwe³ndo⁴ nga¹³ yoh³
 story old that
 that old story (Sp. *cuento*) (Brother 195, Deluge 62)

zii⁵ wax² / nanoh³ shtax³ yoh³
 he CON2:move CON:look:for deer that
 that one who was going along hunting deer (Openly 40)

doh¹ niaa³² nehex³
 merely stew baby
 merely baby stew (Brother 87)

yoho² tuhwii³ shana¹
 one thunder female
 one female thunder (Openly 5)

ho² shnii³ chreh² nianx⁵ uun¹
 one boy short this LIM
 just this one short boy

nix³ shnii³ chreh² nianx⁵ uun¹
 the:PL boy short this LIM
 just these short boys

nanx² watanh¹ nix³ sha³na¹
 merely six the:PL woman
 merely the six women

wahnux¹ nix³ nee³² zah¹ yoh³
 three the:PL knife good that
 those three good knives

(See also 7.106.)

Sometimes two relative clauses occur in a single noun phrase, in which case one based on a stative verb precedes one based on a content verb.

shnii³ lehex¹³ nii³
 boy babylike small
 the very tiny boy

shkwax³² kunii³ wah² ra⁴ na³²
 fish little CON2:move inside water
 the little fish that were moving around in the water (Sun 2:9)

ze³² anuu³¹ ni³kax² zoh³
 it:INAN CON:explode CON:have he
 the explosives that he has (Openly 68)

(See also 7.15.)

Sometimes the nucleus of a noun phrase is unexpressed, leaving a quantifier or a deictic as the only manifestation of a phrase.

tahax²
 part
 part [of them (the ears of corn)] (Openly 13)

dan³²
 that
 that [place] (Fight 137)

*nianx*⁵

this

this [stuff (the stew)] (Brother 89)

In 7.93, 7.95, and 7.101, the deictic *yoh*³ is the only element in its noun phrase.

It is also possible to have a quantifier or deictic plus a limiter or a relative clause.

*maan*¹ *dan*³²

only that

only that [stuff (its blood)] (Brother 149)

*me*³ *a*¹ *a*³*ta*¹³ *yoh*³

which ? CON:carry that

all sorts of [things] which that [one] was carrying (Sun 1:66)

3.2 Measurement Noun Phrases

Measurement noun phrases have a noun expressing a unit of measurement as their nucleus, and they contain an obligatory quantifier. They occur only as quantifiers in other noun phrases, and in the following examples, the higher noun is enclosed in parentheses.

*wix*¹ *ta*³*nex*¹ (*hnuu*⁵)

two maquila (corn)

two maquilas (four-liter dry measures) (of corn)

*ho*² *yoo*⁴ (*rkoo*³² *natox*¹)

one palm:basket (custard:apple sleep:inducing)

a basketful (of yellow zapote fruit [*Lucuma salicifolia*]) (Sun 2:101)

*watanh*¹ *me*³*tro*⁴ (*ma*³*nda*⁴)

six meter (cloth)

six meters (Sp. *metro*) of cloth [Sp. *manta*])

*ichix*² *kuchruu*³¹ (*tanh*³)

seven corncrib (corn:ear)

seven corncribs [full] (of ears of corn) (Fight 116)

*wahnux*¹ *gee*¹ *rlix*³ (*na*³²)

three whole bubble (water)

exactly three drops (of water) (Sun 3:13)

ho² takox¹ (kanx³)
 one pair (sandal)
 a pair (of sandals)

Measurement noun phrases optionally include a relative clause based on a stative verb or one based on the verb *tax¹* or *taa⁵* 'to be on top', used in the sense of 'to be in addition'. Relative clauses with *tax¹* usually follow the nucleus of the noun phrase in which the measurement noun phrase is embedded, even though they logically belong with the measurement noun phrase.

ho² ta³sa⁴ shix¹ (a³skwa⁴)
 one cup big (sugar)
 one big cup (Sp. *taza*) (of sugar [Sp. *azúcar*])

ho² nanx³ yah³ (hnuu⁵)
 one net:bag century:plant:fiber (corn)
 one century-plant-fiber sack (of corn)

wahnux¹ li³tro⁴ (ri³nde⁴) tax¹ yanee⁵
 three liter (rum) CON2:be:on:top other:side
 three and a half liters (Sp. *litro*) (of rum [Sp. *aguardiente*])

3.3 Possessive Noun Phrases

Possessive noun phrases have a possessed noun as their nucleus followed by an obligatory possessor. Prenuclear limiter, quantifier, and article may precede the nucleus, but postnuclear modifiers occur only rarely. The possessor is a full noun phrase with no special genitive marking.

Nuclei of possessive noun phrases are limited to those considered capable of being possessed. They are either inherently possessed nouns or optionally possessed nouns. Inherently possessed nouns are largely body parts and kinship terms.

raha³ shnii³
 hand boy
 the boy's hand

maan¹ tuneh⁴ zoh⁵
 only tail your:SG
 only your tail (Sun 3:160)

tuwih³ nih⁴
 companion our:IN
 our companions (Deluge 60)

*doh*¹ *shee*⁵ *zoh*³
 merely spouse's:younger:relative his
 merely his wife's younger relatives (Fight 314)

*wix*¹ *tinuu*⁵ *shnii*³
 two brother:ME boy
 two brothers of the boy

*rox*¹ *tahnuh*³ *sha*³*na*¹
 the:DU uncle woman
 the woman's two uncles

*maan*¹ *inanx*² *nix*³ *shee*⁵ *zoh*³
 only just the:PL spouse's:younger:relative his
 only just his wife's younger relatives (Fight 309)

*nix*³ *zii*⁵ *tahnix*¹ *nehx*³ *yoh*³
 the:PL he child:related baby that
 the parents of those babies (Brother 69)

(See also 7.27, 7.42, 7.46, 7.53, 7.57, and various others.)

When optionally possessed nouns occur as the nucleus of a possessive noun phrase, they occur in a special morphologically marked possessed form. This form may have *d* or *t* replacing initial *y*; the prefix *ta-*, *ti-*, *s-*, or *sh-*; or the nominal marker *ze*³² preceding a low-tone form of the noun. These tone replacements are described in §5.3.2.

With *d* or *t* replacing *y*:

*dax*³² *zoh*³
 pos:flower his
 his flower (cf. *yax*³² 'flower')

*tachruh*³ *noh*³
 pos:gourd her
 her gourd (Sun 4:40) (cf. *yachruh*³ 'gourd')

*tuhwex*³² *noh*³
 pos:thread her
 her thread (Sun 4:36) (cf. *yuhwex*³² 'thread')

With a prefix:

*wahnux*¹ *taneh*³ *sno*⁵*ho*³²
 three pos:rope man
 the man's three ropes (cf. *neh*³ 'rope')

takanx³ noh³

POS:sandal her

her sandals (Sun 4:37) (cf. *kanx³* ‘sandal’)

tihnuu⁵ noh³

POS:corn her

her corn (cf. *hnuu⁵* ‘corn’)

ichix² sto³² hunx¹

seven POS:grindstone my

my seven grindstones (Fight 108) (cf. *to³²* ‘grindstone’)

ichix² kuchruu³¹ stanh⁴ hunx¹

seven corncrib POS:corn:ear my

the seven corncribs [full] of my ears of corn (Fight 107) (cf. *tanh³* ‘ear of corn’)

maan¹ shnaa³¹ gwaa⁴

only POS:cornfield John

only John’s cornfield (cf. *naa³¹* ‘cornfield’)

(See also 7.9.)

With a fused prefix:

raa⁵ noh³

POS:tortilla her

her tortillas (Sun 4:39) (cf. *chraa³* ‘tortilla’)

ra-x⁵

POS:tortilla-my

my tortillas

With *ze³²*:

ze³² mi²shte⁴ shnii³

POS machete boy

the boy’s machete (Sp. *machete*) (cf. *mi³shte⁴* ‘machete’)

ze³² kwe²ndo⁴ nix³ zoh³

POS story the:PL his

their story (i.e., the story about them) (Fight 334, Deluge 37) (cf. *kwe³ndo⁴* ‘story’)

nuh¹ ze³² razuun² nix³ zoh³

complete POS thing the:PL his

all of their things (Deluge 44) (cf. *ra³zuun²* ‘thing’)

(See also 7.28, 7.34, 7.107, and 7.109.)

Postnuclear modifiers are usually expressed by using an appositional noun phrase (see §3.7). A short relative clause based on a stative verb may, however, come between the nucleus and the possessor when the nucleus and relative clause form a close-knit unit.

tuwih³ shana¹ noh³
 companion female her
 her female companion *or* her fellow woman

If the possessor is expressed by a phrase-final pronoun (see §5.4), a deictic that follows the possessor refers to the nucleus. (If the deictic referred to the possessor, the possessor would be expressed by a non-phrase-final pronoun.) The deictic that most frequently occurs in this position is the weakly stressed form of *yoh³* 'that', which serves as a definite article.

tohoo⁵ zoh³ yoh³
 POS:earth his that
 that land of his *or* the land of his *or* his land (cf. *yohoo⁵* 'earth')

(See also 7.4, 7.5, 7.8, 7.10, 7.61, 7.76, and 7.89.)

One special use of the possessive noun phrase is to express a partitive. The inherently possessed noun *tuwih³* 'companion of' serves as the nucleus. It must be preceded by a quantifier.

kahanx¹³ tuwih³ nix³ shnii³
 four companion the:PL boy
 four of the boys *or* four companions of the boys

Another special use of the possessive noun phrase is to express an emphatic meaning. The inherently possessed noun *mahan¹³* 'self of' serves as the nucleus.

mahan¹³ nix³ shnii³
 self the:PL boy
 the boys themselves (lit. the selves of the boys)

mahan¹³ zoh³
 self his
 himself (Fight 44)

ma²han⁴ hunx¹
 self my
 I myself (Sun 3:88)

ma²han-x³
 self-my
 I myself (Fight 49)

A possessive noun phrase may occur as the possessor in another possessive noun phrase.

raa³¹ raha³ sno⁵ho³²
 head hand man
 the man's fingertips

shuhwix³² ni³ka² tahnuh³ shnii³
 sister:FE spouse uncle boy
 the boy's uncle's wife's sister

ni³ka² tinuu⁵ zhi-h⁴
 spouse brother:ME grandfather-our:IN
 our grandfather's brother's wife (Brother 7)

(See also 7.2, 7.5, and various others.)

Nouns that refer to parts of the possessor's body that are not localized do not normally occur in possessive noun phrases. They may, however, be followed by *man³* 'body of' and the possessor.

kuu⁵ man³ zoh³
 bone body his
 his bones (Brother 189)

maan¹ ton³² man³ zoh³
 only blood body his
 only his [own] blood (Brother 146)

nuh¹ nee³¹ man³ shkwaa⁵ rkax² yoh³
 complete flesh body snake lizardlike that
 all the flesh of that dragon (Openly 81)

When these nouns do not refer to the possessor's own body, however, they occur in possessive noun phrases.

snee³¹ zoh³
 pos:flesh his
 his meat (i.e., which he bought)

3.4 Interrogative Noun Phrases

There are two kinds of interrogative noun phrases, basic and possessive.

Basic interrogative noun phrases are formed with the interrogative nominal markers *me*³ ‘which?’ and *dax*³² or *me*³ *dax*³² ‘how much?’ or ‘how many?’, and with the interrogative adverb *dax*¹ ‘how?’. The interrogative is always initial in its noun phrase, and an interrogative noun phrase always occurs in focus position in its sentence (see §§1.1.8 and 1.2.2).

*me*³ *shni*³
 which boy
 which boy?

*me*³ *kohoo*³
 which bowl
 which bowl?

*dax*³² *sahanx*³²
 how:much money
 how much money?

*me*³ *dax*³² *skux*⁵
 which how:much ox
 how many oxen?

*dax*¹ *shni*³
 how boy
 what sort of boy?

(See also 7.3 and 7.7.)

Many interrogative noun phrases with *me*³ have acquired idiomatic meanings; they have the function of single-word interrogative pronouns or adverbs. Some of the most common ones are:

*me*³ *zii*⁵
 which he
 who? *or* which man?

*me*³ *nii*⁵
 which she
 who? *or* which woman?

*me*³ *ze*³²
 which it:INAN
 what? (Deluge 25)

*me*³ *rex*³²
 which place
 where? (Fight 76)

*me*³ *o*³*ra*⁴
 which hour
 when (Sp. *hora*)?

*me*³ *gwi*³
 which day
 when?

*me*³ *shehe*⁴
 which feet
 why? (Fight 48, Sun 3:188)

(See also 7.23 and 7.26.)

Interrogative possessive noun phrases are used to question a possessor. They are formed by combining a phrase like *me*³ *zii*⁵ ‘who?’ with a possessed noun whose tone has been lowered (see §5.2 for a description of this tone lowering).

*me*³ *zii*⁵ *tohox*¹
 which he POS:earth
 whose land? (cf. *tohoo*⁵ ‘land of’, *yohoo*⁵ ‘earth’)

*me*³ *zii*⁵ *tukwa*¹
 which he POS:home
 whose house? (cf. *tukwa*⁴ ‘home of’)

*me*³ *zii*⁵ *daan*¹
 which he POS:animal
 whose animal? (cf. *daan*⁴ ‘[domestic] animal of’)

Adjuncts signaled by a locative noun are often questioned in a similar fashion (see §1.2.2).

*me*³ *zii*⁵ *riaan*²
 which he face
 to whom? or whose face? (cf. *riaan*³² ‘face of’)

3.5 Emphatic Noun Phrases

Emphatic noun phrases have two subtypes, negative and affirmative.

Negative noun phrases are formed by preposing the nominal marker *nuwee*⁴ ‘not’ to a noun phrase and lowering the tone of an immediately following noun nucleus (see §5.2 for a description of this tone lowering). Negative noun phrases occur only in focus position in the sentence, and they often cooccur with negative sentential markers (see §1.5). Equative

sentences with *me*³ 'to be' (see §1.1.5) can be negated only by using a negative noun phrase for the nominal complement. In the following sentences containing negative noun phrases, the portion of the sentence outside the negative noun phrase is enclosed in parentheses.

*nuwee*⁴ *shana*¹ (*me*³ *yoh*³ *mah*³)
 NEG woman (CON:be that NEG)
 (That [one] is) not a woman. (Fight 300) (cf. *sha*³*na*¹ 'woman')

*nuwee*⁴ *yahanx*² *tuhwii*¹³ (*me*³ *rox*¹ *zoh*³ *kwa*³*no*² *mah*³)
 NEG god of:thunder (CON:be the:DU he right:now NEG)
 (The two of them are) not the thunder gods (now). (Fight 323) (cf. *yahanx*³² 'saint, god')

*nuwee*⁴ *rex*¹³ *nih*⁴ (*me*³ *yoh*³ *shtonx*³²)
 NEG father our:IN (CON:be that AGREEMENT)
 (That [one] is clearly) not our father. (Sun 3:129)

*nuwee*⁴ *niaa*² *zah*¹ (*me*³ *yoh*³ *mah*³)
 NEG stew good (CON:be it:INAN NEG)
 (It was) not good stew. (Brother 86) (cf. *niaa*³² 'stew')

*nuwee*⁴ *hunx*¹ (*ra*⁴ *mah*³)
 NEG I (CON:think NEG)
 I (did) NOT (think [of it]). (i.e., it wasn't my idea) (Fight 35)
 (See also 7.12, 7.93, and 7.101.)

If some other word comes between *nuwee*⁴ and the noun, the tone of the noun is not lowered.

*nuwee*⁴ *wix*¹ *shnii*³ (*kahanx*³² *mah*³)
 NEG two boy (COM:go NEG)
 ([It was]) NOT TWO BOYS ([that] went).

*nuwee*⁴ *uruun*³ *ni*³*ka*² *zoh*³ (*kahnah*³ *mah*³)
 NEG the:only spouse his (COM:come NEG)
 NOT ONLY HIS WIFE (came). (Fight 304)

Affirmative noun phrases are formed by preposing the general marker *wee*⁴ 'affirmative' to a noun phrase. Such phrases confirm some fact asked or suggested by another speaker. *wee*⁴ also occurs in verb phrases, where it has a similar function (see §2.1.2).

*wee*⁴ *gwaa*⁴ (*kawih*³ *adonx*²)
 AFF John (COM:die certainly)
 Yes, JOHN (certainly died).

wee⁴ noh³ (kachee⁵ a³²)

AFF she (COM:walk DEC)

Yes, SHE (walked). (Sun 2:6)

wee⁴ nuh¹ yaix³ yoh³ (nax³ nuh¹ kix³² yoh³)

AFF complete stone that (CON:lie complete mountain that

kwa³no² a³²)

right:now DEC)

Yes, ALL THOSE STONES (are lying all over that mountain at present).
(Brother 59)

wee⁴ tanuu³ (me³ zoh³ a³²)

AFF soldier (CON:be he DEC)

Yes, (he is) a soldier.

In the text in chapter 7, affirmative noun phrases are found only in the complex sentential marker *wee⁴ dan³² ne²* ‘and in addition to that’, ‘and after that’, or ‘and as a result of that’, as, for example, in 7.19 and 7.27.

If the affirmative noun phrase is the possessor of another noun, the possessor precedes the nucleus.

wee⁴ noh³ (ni³ka² me³ shtax³ a³²)

AFF her (spouse CON:be deer DEC)

Yes, HER (HUSBAND is a deer). *or* Yes, (a deer is) her (husband).
(Sun 2:6)

3.6 Adverbial Noun Phrases

Adverbial noun phrases have two subtypes, basic and possessive.

Adverbial basic noun phrases consist of a basic noun phrase with either a locative or temporal noun nucleus. They are used mainly as locative adjuncts (see §1.1.4) and as location and time peripheral elements (see §1.1.7).

chrex³² kahaan¹

trail big

road

shumanh³ raha¹³

town handlike

little town

nuh¹ kix³² yoh³

complete mountain that

all over that mountain (Brother 59)

gwii³ gee¹
 day delicate
 holy day

dox¹³ gwii³
 some day
 a few days (Fight 121)

kunuh¹ yawii³²
 complete month
 all year long (Openly 25)

dox¹³ o³ra⁴ nii³
 some hour little
 a little while (Sun 3:72)

(See also 7.49.)

Adverbial possessive noun phrases consist of a possessive noun phrase with an inherently possessed locative noun as nucleus. Many of these are body-part nouns that are used with extended meanings (see §5.3.2), but *kwe³nda⁴* ‘account of’ (Sp. *cuenta*) is also included. Adverbial possessive noun phrases are used in all noun-phrase positions, but they are especially common as adjuncts and as peripheral elements.

riaan³² sha³na¹
 face woman
 to the woman (Fight 48)

riaan³² to³² yoh³
 face grindstone that
 the surface of that grindstone (Fight 114)

ston³ shkaa³² yoh³
 finger raven that
 to the raven (Fight 195)

rke³ shrux³ yume³²
 stomach pot tuber
 in the pot of tubers (Fight 203)

rke³ naa³¹
 stomach cornfield
 in the cornfield (Fight 53)

*rke*³ *sma*³*na*⁴
 stomach week
 during the week (Sp. *semana*) or within a week

*shraa*⁵ *maka*⁵
 back Mexico:City
 uphill from Mexico City (Brother 176)

*ta*³*nuu*² *taa*³
 middle plain
 in the middle of the plain (Brother 177, Deluge 19)

*raa*³¹ *chruun*³
 head wood
 on the top of the tree (Fight 186)

*shehe*⁴ *rex*³ *noh*³
 feet father her
 about her father (Fight 99)

*takoo*⁵ *kix*³² *shrox*³
 foot mountain Shroj
 at the base of *Shroj* mountain (Brother 17)

*takoo*⁵ *yawii*³²
 foot month
 at the beginning of the month

*man*³ *noh*³
 body her
 to her (Fight 94)

*kwe*³*nda*⁴ *rex*³ *noh*³
 account father her
 on her father's side or on account of her father

Adverbial possessive noun phrases differ from ordinary possessive noun phrases in that the locative noun often has a relational, rather than a nominal function. When the locative noun has a relational function, these phrases do not permit prenuclear elements, and it is possible to front their possessors to preverbal focus position without them (see §1.1.8). When the locative noun has a nominal function, the phrases can take prenuclear elements, and their possessors cannot be fronted for focus without them. Sometimes the function of a locative noun in a given sentence cannot be determined, and either reading is possible.

In the text in chapter 7, the clearest instances of relational function are found with *shehe*⁴ ‘feet of’ in 7.1, *man*³ ‘body of’ in 7.81, and *riaan*³² ‘face of’ to mark a referent adjunct in 7.85 and the addressee of a quotation in 7.6, 7.9, and various other sentences. Compare these with the indeterminate instances of *riaan*³² ‘face of’ in 7.91 and 7.94, and *man*³ ‘body of’ in 7.24, 7.28, 7.29, 7.54, 7.76, and 7.105. Consider also *tuhwa*³ ‘mouth of’, which in 7.9, 7.11, and 7.16 is indeterminate in function, but in 7.53 and 7.55 is clearly nominal. See Hollenbach 1990 for a discussion of metaphorical extensions and category shifts in body-part terms.

The non-phrase-final pronoun *rex*³² ‘place’ (see §5.4) may precede the nucleus of an adverbial noun phrase. In this construction the meaning of *rex*³² is often ‘in the direction of’. The tone of the locative noun is often lowered following *rex*³² (see §5.2 for a description of this tone lowering).

*rex*³² *rnuu*³²
place coast
down at the coast (Fight 135)

*rex*³² *shiaan*⁵ *nih*⁴
place POS:TOWN OUR:IN
at the place of our hometown (Brother 29)

*inanx*² *rex*³² *raa*¹ *tanh*³
just place head corn:ear
just the top part of the ears of corn (Openly 15) (cf. *raa*³¹ ‘head of’)

*nuh*¹ *rex*³² *siuu*² *tanh*³
complete place bottom corn:ear
all the bottom parts of the ears of corn (Openly 16) (cf. *siuu*³² ‘bottom of’)

*rex*³² *tanuu*² *zhee*⁵
place middle clearing
the middle of the clearing (Fight 22) (cf. *ta*³*nnuu*² ‘middle of’)

3.7 Appositional Noun Phrases

Appositional noun phrases consist of two or more coreferential noun phrases in the same structural position joined with no conjunction linking them. They occur in any noun-phrase position.

*sahanx*³² / *tuhwee*³² *zoh*³
money pos:value his
the money, his salary

*shuhwix*³² *hunx*¹ / *ma*³*rya*⁴
 sister:FE my Mary
 my sister, Mary (Sp. *María*)

*ni*³*ka*² *zoh*³ / *tuhwii*³ *shana*¹
 spouse his thunder female
 his wife, the female thunder (goddess) (Fight 136)

*ho*² *shu*³*kwahanx*¹³ *nih*⁴ / *ni*³*ka*² *zoh*³
 one grandmother our:IN spouse his
 one grandmother of ours, his wife (Brother 4)

*ni*²*chrex*³² *rlix*³ *riaan*³² *shkwaa*⁵ / *rex*³² *nichruun*¹³ *zhoh*³
 one:side bubble face snake place left:side its:AML
 one side of the snake's eyes, [the one on] its left side (Sun 2:77)

*sha*³*na*¹ / *tahnii*⁵ *rox*¹ *zoh*³
 woman child the:DU his
 The woman, their child (Fight 5)

*weh*³ / *tukwa*⁴ *yahanx*³² *tuhwii*¹³ *sno*²*ho*³²
 house pos:home god of:thunder male
 the house, the home of the thunder god (Fight 200)

(See also 7.2, 7.60, and 7.67.)

The phrase in 7.2 is conventionalized and probably functions as a proper name.

Appositional noun phrases have several specific functions. One of these is to express additional information about a noun nucleus that is already identified, which is the function filled by nonrestrictive relative clauses in English. Such appositional noun phrases often have a proper name or a phrase-final pronoun (see §5.4) as the nucleus of the first part, and a non-phrase-final pronoun modified by a relative clause as the second part.

*gwaa*⁴ / *zii*⁵ *kawih*³ *kii*³
 John he com:die yesterday
 John, the one who died yesterday

*noh*³ / *nii*⁵ *kuhnax*¹ *ma*³*rya*⁴
 she she con:be:named Mary
 she, the one who is called Mary

*shumanh*³ *kopa*³*la*⁴ / *shiaan*⁵ *nih*⁴
 town Copala pos:town our:IN
 the town of Copala (Sp. *Copala*), our hometown (Brother 47)

If the first part of the appositional noun phrase is a first or second person pronoun, and the second part begins with a non-phrase-final pronoun, the non-phrase-final pronoun lowers its tone (see §5.2 for a description of this tone lowering).

hunx¹ / zix¹ kuh¹nax¹ pa³blo⁴
 I he CON:be:named Paul
 I, who am called Paul (Sp. *Pablo*)

zox³ / zix¹ kushuman⁴ ra⁴ na³na¹
 you:PL he COM:arrive inside word
 you, the ones who believed the word

This tone lowering clarifies participant reference; compare the following two sentences.

tahn⁴uh⁴ zoh¹ / zix¹ zah¹
 uncle your:SG he good
 the uncle of you, a person who is good (i.e., you are good)

tahn⁴uh⁴ zoh¹ / zii⁵ zah¹
 uncle your:SG he good
 your uncle, a person who is good (i.e., your uncle is good)

A second use of appositional noun phrases is to include a postnuclear modifier with the nucleus of a possessive noun phrase. Postnuclear noun modifiers cannot follow the nucleus directly because the possessor occurs there, but they can follow the coreferential nucleus of a basic noun phrase in apposition with the possessive noun phrase.

tukwa⁴ zoh³ / weh³ shix¹
 POS:home his house big
 his big house

sto³² sha³na¹ / to³² naka¹ nianx⁵
 POS:metate woman metate new this
 this new metate of the woman

zhi-h⁴ / zii⁵ kunix¹³ dox³
 grandfather-our:IN he young more
 our grandfather, the younger one (Brother 69)

rlix³ riaan³² shk⁵waa⁵ / ze³² waa³² zah¹
 bubble face snake it:INAN CON:exist good
 the snake's eye, the good one (Sun 2:83)

A third use is to express comparison. The nucleus of the second part is the inherently possessed noun *tuwih*³ 'companion of'.

*yuhwex*³² *mii*⁵ / *tuwih*³ *yoh*³
 thread yellow companion that
 yellow thread like that (lit. yellow thread, the companion of that
 [one])

A fourth use is to express the possessor of a specific animal. Nouns referring to specific kinds of animals cannot occur as the nucleus of a possessive noun phrase; they occur instead in a basic noun phrase in apposition with a possessive noun phrase that has the inherently possessed noun *daan*⁴ '(domestic) animal of' as its nucleus.

*daan*⁴ *zoh*³ / *shuwee*³
 POS:animal his dog
 his dog

*ho*² *dan-x*³ / *kwa*³*yo*⁴
 one POS:animal-my horse
 one of my horses (Sp. *caballo*)

*matsinx*³² *maruu*³¹ / *daan*⁴ *zoh*³
 sheep black POS:animal his
 his black sheep

A fifth use of apposition creates doublets which serve as a literary device. Two semantically related noun phrases are juxtaposed for rhetorical effect. These phrases follow the schema A B, A C; a repeated noun is followed by different, but semantically related, elements, which often have some degree of phonological similarity as well. The following example is a derogatory epithet found in folktales.

*tuhwa*³ *luu*⁵ / *tuhwa*³ *taan*⁵
 mouth worm mouth fly
 worm mouth, fly mouth (Sun 3:168)

This expression also occurs twice in the text; see 7.60 and 7.67. In each place, the frozen appositional expression is itself in apposition with something else, and in 7.67, the entire appositional phrase is modified by a relative clause. These facts suggest that this expression is so conventionalized that it functions as a complex noun nucleus.

Doublets are fairly common in Copala Trique, and the structure is not limited to noun phrases. Category membership does not seem to matter as long as the schema is followed. See §§2.6, 4.2.2, and 6.1.2 for a description of other constructions that show repetition with variation.

3.8 Additive Noun Phrases

There are various ways of conjoining noun phrases within the bounds of a single basic sentence. A further way to link noun phrases involves repeating the verb; this is described in §6.1.2.

One way to conjoin noun phrases is to use a conjunction. The preposition *ga*² ‘with’ sometimes occurs between two noun phrases and functions as a conjunction meaning ‘and’.

*yoho*² *sha*³*na*¹ *ga*² *yoho*² *sno*⁵*ho*³²
 one woman with one man
 one woman and one man (Fight 2)

*gwii*³ *ga*² *yawii*³
 sun with moon
 the sun and the moon (Sun 4:17)

*zoh*³ *ga*² *tuwih*³ *zoh*³
 he with companion his
 he and his companion

(See also 7.1.)

A sequence of two noun phrases linked by *ga*² can sometimes be interpreted either as an additive noun phrase or as a simple noun phrase followed by an associative adjunct (see §1.1.4).

*kahanx*³² *zoh*³ *ga*² *tuwih*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:go he with companion his DEC
 He and his companion went away. *or* He went away with his companion.

*kenehe*³ *zoh*³ *man*³ *ni*³*ka*² *zoh*³ *ga*² *tahnii*⁵ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:sense he body spouse his with child his DEC
 He saw his wife and child. *or* He, with his child, saw his wife. *or* He saw his wife with his child.

(See also 7.47.)

Additive noun phrases with *ga*² show attraction when the first noun phrase contains a dual or plural quantifier or article, and the second permits the interpretation that it is included in the first one. In such cases *ga*² should perhaps be translated ‘including’, rather than ‘with’.

*rox*¹ *zoh*³ *ga*² *iinuu*⁵ *zoh*³
 the:DU he with brother:ME his
 he and his brother

*rox*¹ *zoh*³ *ga*² *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴
 the:DU he with grandmother-our:IN
 he and our grandmother (Brother 27)

*runx*⁵ *ga*² *gwaa*⁴
 we:DU:EX with John
 John and I

*nux*⁵ *ga*² *tanuu*³
 we:EX with soldier
 we, including the soldier

It is also possible to use the conjunction *ne*² ‘and’, which usually joins full sentences, to conjoin noun phrases. The examples recorded are all in the nominal complement of equative sentences.

*yoho*² *yawii*³ *ne*² *yoho*² *yahanx*³² *gwii*¹³ (*me*³ *nehex*³ *a*³²)
 one moon and one god of:sun (CON:be baby DEC)
 (The babies were) one moon and one sun god. (Sun 1:11)

*ri*³*kix*¹³ *ne*² *shkwax*³² (*me*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²)
 frog and fish (CON:be he DEC)
 (They were) frogs and fish. (Sun 4:15)

It is also possible to use the preposition *ndaa*¹³ ‘until’ to conjoin two noun phrases; in this construction it means ‘and even’.

*tahnii*⁵ *dih*¹ *ndaa*¹³ *daan*⁴ *dih*¹
 child your:SG:FAM until POS:animal your:SG:FAM
 your children and even your animals (Sun 4:50)

In the other ways of conjoining, any number of noun phrases may be linked. In one common way, each conjunct is followed by the general marker *doh*¹ ‘and’ plus pause. Additive phrases using *doh*¹ usually occur in focus position in the sentence (see §1.1.8).

*yumih*³ *doh*¹ / *ku*³*yanx*¹ *doh*¹ / *ri*³*nde*⁴ *doh*¹ / (*kiranx*⁵
 soap and candle and rum and (COM:buy
*gwaa*⁴ *a*³²)
 John DEC)
 (John bought) SOAP, CANDLES, AND RUM.

Sometimes a pause alone marks one or more of the conjuncts.

*yumih*³ *doh*¹ / *ku*³*yanx*¹ / *ri*³*nde*⁴ *doh*¹ / (*kiranx*⁵ *gwaa*⁴ *a*³²)
 soap and candle rum and (COM:buy John DEC)
 (John bought) SOAP, CANDLES, AND RUM.

If the additive noun phrase is the final element in its basic sentence, the sentential marker *a*³² ‘declarative’ (see §1.5) may be used instead of *doh*¹.

(*karaa*³ *rox*¹ *zoh*³) *shkuu*³ *kahaan*³¹ *a*³² / *shkuu*³
 (COM:put:in the:DU he) animal steam DEC animal

*chron*⁴ *a*³² / *shkuu*³ *takanx*³ *a*³² / *shkuu*³
 black:person DEC animal POS:sandal DEC animal

*kwahax*³² *a*³² / *shianh*³ *a*³² / *shkuu*³ *shongo*⁴ *a*³²
 steambath DEC brown:wasp DEC animal bumblebee DEC
 (The two of them put in) wild bees, black wasps, paper wasps, mud dauber wasps, brown wasps, [and] bumblebees. (Sun 4:30)

Occasionally some word preceding a noun, such as the general quantifier *nuh*¹ ‘complete’ or the locative noun *riaan*³² ‘face of’, is repeated before each conjunct and optionally after the last.

*nuh*¹ *tohoo*⁵ *nix*³ *zoh*³ / *nuh*¹ *sihyax*³ *nix*³
 complete POS:earth the:PL his complete possession the:PL

*zoh*³ / *nuh*¹
 his complete
 all their lands [and] possessions

*nuh*¹ *stanh*³ *sha*³*na*¹ / *nuh*¹ *stanh*³ *sno*⁵*ho*³²
 complete POS:corn:ear woman complete POS:corn:ear man
 all of the woman’s ears of corn [and] all of the man’s ears of corn
 (Openly 11)

*riaan*³² *gwa*⁴ / *riaan*³² *pe*³*dro*⁴ / *riaan*³² *ma*³*rya*⁴ / *riaan*³²
 face John face Peter face Mary face
 to John, Peter (Sp. *Pedro*), [and] Mary

*shkuu*³ *kuhnax*¹ *shnayux*⁵ / *shkuu*³ *kuhnax*¹ *shawii*³¹
 animal CON:be:named weevil animal CON:be:named moth
 the animals that are called weevils [and] the animals that are called moths (Fight 129)

This construction is similar to the method of conjoining by repeating a verb, or a verb and its subject, described in §6.1.2. In this construction, however, the repeated element is not a verb and therefore does not create a sentence combination.

3.9 Possessor-Included Possessive Noun Phrases

Possessor-included possessive noun phrases are syntactically simple but function semantically like additive noun phrases. They contain an article, a kinship term (or other term of social relation) with its tone lowered (see §5.2 for a description of this tone lowering), and the possessor of the kinship term; and they refer to both the possessor and the nucleus.⁷ The possessor usually contains the same article as the nucleus.

*rox*¹ *tahnix*¹ *rox*¹ *zoh*³
 the:DU child the:DU his
 he and his son (cf. *tahnii*⁵ ‘child of’)

*rox*¹ *tinux*¹ *rox*¹ *zoh*³
 the:DU brother:ME the:DU his
 he and his brother (Brother 194) (cf. *tinuu*⁵ ‘brother of’)

*nix*³ *tinux*¹ *nix*³ *zoh*³
 the:PL brother:ME the:PL his
 the brothers of each other

*rox*¹ *nika*² *rox*¹ *zoh*³
 the:DU spouse the:DU his
 he and his wife (Fight 102) (cf. *ni*³*ka*² ‘spouse of’)

Compare the last two examples above with the corresponding ordinary possessive noun phrases.

*nix*³ *tinuu*⁵ *nix*³ *zoh*³
 the:PL brother:ME the:PL his
 their brothers

*rox*¹ *ni*³*ka*² *rox*¹ *zoh*³
 the:DU spouse the:DU his
 the two wives of the two of them

(See also 7.7 and 7.15.)

3.10 Indefinite Noun Phrases

Indefinite noun phrases are similar in form to basic interrogative noun phrases, but they are not limited to sentence-initial position. They consist of an interrogative, which may be *me*³ ‘which?’, or *dax*¹ ‘how?’, a nucleus,

⁷To my knowledge, the only other language that has a similar construction is Chichahuaxtla Trique, as described by Longacre 1964:90–91 and 1991:138–39.

the inherently possessed noun *mahan*¹³ ‘self of’, and an optional relative clause. When the nucleus forms an idiomatic phrase with *me*³ (see §3.4), *mahan*¹³ usually follows the nucleus.

*me*³ *rex*³² *mahan*¹³
 which place self
 wherever *or* anywhere

*me*³ *zii*⁵ *mahan*¹³
 which he self
 whoever *or* anyone

*me*³ *gwii*³ *mahan*¹³
 which day self
 whenever *or* any day

*dax*¹ *rex*³² *mahan*¹³
 how place self
 wherever *or* anywhere

When, however, the nucleus is not part of an idiomatic noun phrase, or when a relative clause modifies it, *mahan*¹³ usually occurs between the interrogative and the nucleus.

*me*³ *mahan*¹³ *ra*³*zuun*²
 which self thing
 any implement

*me*³ *mahan*¹³ *weh*³ *karanh*¹³ *zox*³
 which self house POT:stop you:PL
 any house you may lodge at

*me*³ *mahan*¹³ *rex*³² *kahanx*² *zoh*¹
 which self place POT:go you:SG
 wherever you may go

*me*³ *mahan*¹³ *ho*⁴ *ra*³*zuun*² *shihii*¹
 which self another thing evil
 any other evil thing

4

Other Phrases

4.1 Quantifier Phrases

4.1.1 Additive numeral phrases. Some additive numeral phrases occur without a connector, and others have *tax*¹ ‘to be on top’, used in the sense of ‘to be in addition’, linking the parts. The larger numeral always occurs first.

In additive numeral phrases without a connector, simple numerals from one to fifteen and twenty combine to form the numerals from sixteen to nineteen, and from twenty-one to thirty-five. When the numeral one occurs in additive numeral phrases with no connector, a suppletive allomorph, *yaan*¹, occurs.

*shnuh*² *yaan*¹
fifteen one
sixteen

*iko*² *watanh*¹
twenty six
twenty-six

*iko*² *shahnux*¹
twenty thirteen
thirty-three

Additive numeral phrases without a connector may contain three elements to form the numerals from thirty-six to thirty-nine.

*iko*² *shnuh*² *kahanx*¹³
 twenty fifteen four
 thirty-nine

Additive numeral phrases connected by *tax*¹ are used to form numerals over one hundred. The word *tax*¹ and the numeral that follows it form a relative clause modifying the first numeral.⁸

*sya*³*ndo*⁴ *tax*¹ *ho*²
 hundred CON2:be:on:top one
 [one] hundred (Sp. *ciento*) one

*mix*⁵ *tax*¹ *sya*³*ndo*⁴
 thousand CON2:be:on:top hundred
 [one] thousand (Sp. *mil*) [one] hundred

Following *sya*³*ndo*⁴ ‘hundred’ and *mix*⁵ ‘thousand’, numbers sometimes occur in their additive form (see §5.6).

*sya*³*ndo*⁴ *tax*¹ *yu*³*hunh*³
 hundred CON2:be:on:top another:five
 [one] hundred five

*mix*⁵ *tax*¹ *ya*³*wix*⁵
 thousand CON2:be:on:top another:two
 [one] thousand two

Additive numeral phrases may contain two relative clauses.

*mix*⁵ *tax*¹ *sya*³*ndo*⁴ *tax*¹ *iko*²
 thousand CON2:be:on:top hundred CON2:be:on:top twenty
 [one] thousand [one] hundred twenty

Additive numeral phrases with no connector may combine with additive numeral phrases with *tax*¹.

*sya*³*ndo*⁴ *tax*¹ *iko*² *chih*²
 hundred CON2:be:on:top twenty ten
 [one] hundred thirty

Some speakers use *ta*¹ or *taa*¹, rather than *tax*¹, to link numerals. For these speakers the reduced form is no longer identified with the verb *tax*¹, but has developed into a conjunction.

⁸The use of *tax*¹ with numerals is similar to its use to express fractions in measurement noun phrases and expanded numeral phrases (see §§3.2 and 4.1.4). In numeral phrases, however, there is no noun nucleus either in the relative clause or in the higher phrase.

4.1.2 Attributive numeral phrases. Multiples of twenty, one hundred, and one thousand are expressed by attributive numeral phrases, which have two parts in a quantifier-nucleus relationship. The larger numeral occurs second. When the numeral twenty occurs as the nucleus of an attributive numeral phrase, a suppletive allomorph, *shiaa*², occurs.

*kahanx*¹³ *shiaa*²
four twenty
eighty

*tunx*² *sya*³*ndo*⁴
eight hundred
eight hundred

*wix*¹ *mix*⁵
two thousand
two thousand

Sometimes the numerals for one hundred and one thousand are formed by means of an attributive numeral phrase.

*ho*² *sya*³*ndo*⁴
one hundred
one hundred

*ho*² *mix*⁵
one thousand
one thousand

Attributive numeral phrases combine with additive numeral phrases to form all the remaining nonsimple numerals.

*wix*¹ *shiaa*² *shnuh*² *yaan*¹
two twenty fifteen one
fifty-six

*chix*² *sya*³*ndo*⁴ *tax*¹ *chih*²
seven hundred CON2:be:on:top ten
seven hundred ten

*uhunh*¹ *sya*³*ndo*⁴ *tax*¹ *ya*³*hnux*⁵ *shiaa*² *shiaan*¹
five hundred CON2:be:on:top another:three twenty eleven
five hundred seventy-one

*wahnux*¹ *mix*⁵ *tax*¹ *yoho*⁴ *uun*² *sya*³*ndo*⁴
three thousand CON2:be:on:top another nine hundred
three thousand nine hundred

4.1.3 Aggregative numeral phrases. A numeral and either of two numerical markers combine to form aggregative numeral phrases. *runh*⁵ occurs only with the numeral one, and means 'single'; the combination means 'only'. *ranh*³ occurs with any numeral except one, and means 'grouped'.⁹

*ho*² *runh*⁵ (*tanh*³)
 one single (corn:ear)
 just one (ear of corn) (Fight 167)

*ho*² *runh*⁵ (*kix*³² *yoh*³)
 one single (mountain that)
 just (that) one (mountain) (Deluge 53)

*wix*¹ *ranh*³ (*rox*¹ *tinux*¹ *roo*⁻¹³)
 two grouped (the:DU brother:ME the:DU-UN)
 the two (brothers of each other) (Sun 3:133)

*ya*³*wix*⁵ *ranh*³ (*rox*¹ *nika*² *rox*¹ *zoh*³)
 another:two grouped (the:DU spouse the:DU he)
 the other two, (the man and his wife) (Fight 45)

(See also 7.53 and 7.77.)

4.1.4 Expanded numeral phrases. A simple numeral or an additive, attributive, or aggregative numeral phrase may serve as the nucleus of an expanded numeral phrase. These phrases also include two optional prenuclear elements and two optional postnuclear elements.

One prenuclear element is a quantifier, expressed only by the numerals *yoho*² or *ho*² 'one', used in the sense of 'approximately', and *yoho*⁴ 'another'; by the general quantifier *nuh*¹ 'complete', used in this construction to mean 'all'; and by the preposition *ndaa*¹³ 'until', used in this construction to mean 'even'.

*ho*² *iko*²
 one twenty
 about twenty

*yoho*⁴ *iko*²
 another twenty
 twenty more

⁹The word *runh*⁵ is cognate with Mixtec **ruhun* 'word', which occurs in a similar construction to mean 'single'; and *ranh*³ is cognate with Mixtec **rahan* 'companion', which occurs in a similar construction to mean 'grouped'. In Copala Trique, however, the words *runh*⁵ and *ranh*³ occur only in aggregative numeral phrases. Their presence witnesses to the antiquity of this construction in Mixtecan.

*nuh*¹ *iko*²
 complete twenty
 all twenty

*ndaa*¹³ *wix*¹
 until two
 even two (Sun 3:17)

The numeral *yoho*⁴ 'another' fuses with numerals from two to six to create other additive forms (see §5.6).

*ya*³*wix*⁵
 another:two
 the other two (Fight 45)

The second prenuclear element is a limiter that precedes the quantifier and is expressed by the numerical marker *dax*¹ 'only'. This word is usually followed by an additive numeral. The combination, however, does not have an additive meaning. Phrases containing this limiter must occur in focus position in the sentence.

*dax*¹ *yoho*⁴ *ichih*²
 only another ten
 only ten

*dax*¹ *ya*³*hnux*⁵
 only another:three
 only three

(See also 7.53.)

There are two postnuclear elements. One is fraction, expressed by a relative clause containing the verb *tax*¹ 'to be on top', used in the sense of 'to be in addition'. Even though fraction is logically a part of the numeral phrase, it usually follows the noun nucleus, which is enclosed in parentheses in the following examples.¹⁰

*wahnux*¹ (*chraa*³) *tax*¹ *yane*⁵
 three (tortilla) CON2:be:on:top another:side
 three and a half (tortillas)

¹⁰Fractions are expressed in a similar way in measurement noun phrases (see §3.2). The fraction follows the noun nucleus of the matrix noun phrase even though it belongs logically with the measurement noun phrase that serves as the quantifier within the matrix noun phrase.

*kahanx*¹³ (*yanx*³) *tax*¹ *yanee*⁵ *skux*¹
 four (paper) CON2:be:on:top another:side angled
 four and a quarter ([sheets of] paper)

*sya*³*ndo*⁴ (*yuwii*³¹) *tax*¹ *dox*³
 hundred (person) CON2:be:on:top more
 more than a hundred (people)

The other postnuclear element is the limiter, expressed by the stative verb *gee*¹ ‘whole’, used in this construction to mean ‘exactly (no more)’.

*wahnux*¹ *gee*¹ (*rlix*³ *na*³²)
 three whole (bubble water)
 exactly three (drops of water) (Sun 3:13)

Fraction and postnuclear limiter do not cooccur. Each cooccurs with prenuclear limiter and with quantifier, except that *nuh*¹ ‘all’ does not cooccur with *tax*¹ *dox*³ ‘more than’, and *yoho*² or *ho*² ‘one’ is rare with *gee*¹ ‘whole’ or with a specific fraction.

*dax*¹ *yu*³*kwahanx*³ *gee*¹ (*nato*³²)
 only another:four whole (banana)
 only exactly four (bananas)

*dax*¹ *yoho*⁴ *iko*² (*kax*³²) *tax*¹ *yanee*⁵
 only another twenty (log) CON2:be:on:top another:side
 only twenty and a half (logs)

*nuh*¹ *wahnux*³ (*chraa*³) *tax*¹ *yanee*⁵
 all three (tortilla) CON2:be:on:top another:side
 all three and a half (tortillas)

*yoho*⁴ *uun*² *gee*¹ (*tana*³²)
 another nine whole (goat)
 exactly nine more (goats)

*yoho*² *mix*⁵ (*te*³*xa*⁴) *tax*¹ *dox*³
 one thousand (tile) CON2:be:on:top more
 about a thousand (tiles [Sp. *teja*]), or more

4.1.5 General quantifier phrases. Approximate quantities may be expressed by general quantifier phrases. These phrases consist of a nucleus, which is a general quantifier, an optional prenuclear quantifier or limiter, and an optional postnuclear intensifier. Phrases containing the limiter must occur in focus position in the sentence.

yoho⁴ tahax²

another part

another part

dax¹ yanee⁵

only other:side

only the other side

dax¹ dox¹³ tsinh⁵

only some tiny

only a very few (Deluge 11)

kehe¹ ndoho³²

many INTS

very many (Fight 307)

(See also 7.44.)

Sometimes a postnuclear element in the quantifier phrase follows the noun nucleus.

kehee¹ (zox³) dox³

many (you:PL) more

many more (of you) (Sun 3:70)

At least one general quantifier can take the general marker *ne³* 'not' in pre-nuclear position.

ne³ dox¹³

NEG some

not a little (Sun 3:170)

This phrase should perhaps be treated as an idiom meaning 'a lot'. It often occurs in the pre-nuclear manner position in verb phrases.

ne³ dox¹³ ushra⁴ (ahmii³² shu³gwa²han-h⁴ mah³)

NEG some INTS (CON:speak grandmother-OUR:IN NEG)

(Our grandmother was speaking) not a little at all. (i.e., she really spoke a lot, which means she was angry) (Sun 3:74)

4.1.6 Distributive numeral phrases. A repeated basic or additive numeral, with no pre-nuclear or postnuclear modifiers, constitutes a distributive numeral phrase. These phrases indicate the size of a group.

ho² ho²

one one

each

*wix*¹ *wix*¹

two two

pairs of

*iko*² *iko*²

twenty twenty

in groups of twenty

*yoho*⁴ *yoho*⁴

another another

from one to another

4.1.7 Alternative numeral phrases. Two simple numerals, with the second one expressing a somewhat higher quantity, combine to form alternative numeral phrases. This construction expresses an approximation.

*wix*¹ *wahnux*¹

two three

a few

*wahnux*¹ *kahanx*¹³

three four

three or four

*shnuh*² *iko*²

fifteen twenty

about fifteen or twenty

4.1.8 Negative quantifier phrases. The negative numerical marker *a*¹ and a numeral or general quantifier expressing a minimal amount combine to form negative quantifier phrases. The numeral or general quantifier may occur in either a basic or additive form (see §5.6), depending on the speaker.

*a*¹ *ho*²

NEG one

not one

*a*¹ *ho*⁴

NEG another

not one

*a*¹ *wix*¹

NEG two

not even two

*a*¹ *ya*³*wix*⁵
 NEG another:two
 not even two

*a*¹ *dox*¹³
 NEG some
 not any

*a*¹ *dox*³
 NEG more
 not any

Only one negative quantifier phrase normally occurs in a sentence, and the verb must also be negated. The noun phrase containing the negative quantifier phrase usually occurs in focus position in the sentence.

*a*¹ *ho*² (*sno*⁵*ho*³² *ne*³ *kahmii*² *ga-x*² *mah*³)
 NEG one (man NEG COM:speak with-me NEG)
 NOT ONE (MAN spoke with me). (i.e., not one man had sex with me)
 (Sun 3:19)

*a*¹ *dox*³ (*a*³*skwa*⁴ *ne*³ *kiraan*² *gwaa*⁴ *mah*³)
 NEG more (sugar NEG COM:buy John NEG)
 (John [Sp. *Juan*] did) NOT (buy) ANY (SUGAR [Sp. *azúcar*]).

The preference for placing a negative quantifier phrase in sentence-initial position is so strong that one sometimes precedes a locative noun even though it logically belongs with its possessor.

*a*¹ *ho*⁴ (*riaan*³² *shnii*³ *ze*² *naruhwee*³² *hunx*¹)
 NEG another (face boy NEG POT:repay I
*sahanx*³² *mah*³)
 money NEG)
 (I will) NOT (pay the money back TO) EVEN ONE (BOY).

Negative quantifier phrases also occur in the preverbal manner position of content verb phrases (see §2.1.3).

*a*¹ *dox*³ (*ne*³ *rahanx*⁵ *gwaa*⁴ *mah*³)
 NEG more (NEG CON:dance John NEG)
 (John does not dance), not at all.

*a*¹ *dox*³ (*ne*³ *cha*⁴ *gwaa*⁴ *nee*³¹ *mah*⁴)
 NEG more (NEG CON:eat John flesh NEG)
 (John does not eat meat), not at all.

*a*¹ *dox*³ (*ze*² *cha-x*³ *nianx*⁵ *mah*³)
 NEG more (NEG POT:eat-I this NEG)
 (I won't eat this [stuff]), not at all. (Brother 89)

4.2 Adverb Phrases

4.2.1 Basic adverb phrases. A nucleus, two optional prenuclear elements, and two optional postnuclear elements combine to form basic adverb phrases. The nucleus is expressed by a locative, temporal, or general adverb. The prenuclear elements are truth value, expressed by the general markers *ne*³ 'not' and *wee*⁴ 'affirmative', and limiter. The postnuclear elements are manner, expressed mainly by intensifying adverbs, and quantifier, expressed by the general marker *uun*¹ 'just' and the general quantifier *dox*³ 'more'.

*ne*³ *nanax*³²
 NEG slowly
 not slowly

*wee*⁴ *nanax*³²
 AFF slowly
 yes, slowly

*doh*¹ *kwa*³*no*²
 merely right:now
 at the present time (Fight 218)

*maan*¹ *dax*¹³
 only thus
 just in that fashion (Sun 1:23, Fight 265)

*inanx*² *dax*¹³
 just thus
 just in that fashion (Sun 3:93)

*nanax*³² *ushra*⁴
 slowly INTS
 very slowly

*nuwaa*³² *uun*¹
 supine LIM
 just faceup

*ganh*¹ *dox*³
 far more
 farther (Brother 36)

*nanax*³² *dox*³
 slowly more
 more slowly

*nanax*³² *ushra*⁴ *uun*¹
 slowly INTS LIM
 just very slowly

The intensifying adverbs *ushra*⁴ and *ndoho*³² interact differently with a negative marker in adverb phrases, just as they do in content verb phrases and stative verb phrases (see §§2.1.4 and 2.3).

*ne*³ *nanax*³² *ndoho*³²
 NEG slowly INTS
 not very slowly

*ne*³ *nanax*³² *ushra*⁴
 NEG slowly INTS
 not slowly at all

The non-phrase-final pronoun *rex*³² ‘place’ (see §5.4) may precede the nucleus of an adverb phrase. In this construction, the meaning of *rex*³² is ‘in the direction of’ before a locative adverb and ‘at the approximate time of’ before a temporal adverb.

*rex*³² *shrax*¹
 place uphill
 up the hill (Openly 18)

*rex*³² *tashrex*¹
 place wee:hours
 in the hours before dawn

4.2.2 Appositional adverb phrases. Any two of the following structures may be juxtaposed to form appositional adverb phrases: adverbs (see §5.5), adverb phrases (see §4.2.1), adverbial noun phrases (see §3.6), and prepositional phrases (see §4.3).

*rex*³² *kix*³² / *rex*³² *shrax*¹
 place mountain place uphill
 on the mountain, up high (Openly 7)

*rex*³² *shrax*¹ / *shiaan*⁵ *nih*⁴
 place uphill POS:TOWN our:IN
 up high, in our hometown (Openly 18)

*rex*³² *rnuu*³² / *rex*³² *tuhwa*³ *na*³² *yahanx*²
 place coast place mouth water divine
 at the coast, at the edge of the ocean (Openly 63)

*rex*³² *man*¹ *nih*⁴ / *maka*⁵ / *nianx*⁵
 place CON2:exist:PL we:IN Mexico:City here
 the place where we are, Mexico, here (Brother 138)

*taa*³ / *rex*³² *kutunh*³ *na*³² *yoh*³
 plain place COM:dry:up water that
 the plain, the place where that (flood) water dried up (Deluge 22)

*raa*³¹ *chruun*³ / *nda*¹³ *yoh*³
 head wood until there
 on the top of the tree, over there (Fight 252)

*ko*³*ra*⁴ / *tihnuu*³²
 later dusk
 later today (Sp. *ahora* 'now'), at dusk (Openly 53)

*ahyox*³ / *ku*³*wix*¹
 tomorrow Tuesday
 tomorrow, on Tuesday

(See also 7.75.)

Some appositional adverb phrases are literary doublets that follow the schema A B, A C; see §§2.6, 3.7, and 6.1.2 for a description of other constructions that show repetition with variation.

*doh*¹ *kwanh*³ / *doh*¹ *kwa*³*no*²
 merely today merely right:now
 just now, at the present time (Fight 231)

*azix*² *kahnah*³ / *azix*² *rnuu*³² *yoh*³
 since COM:come since coast that
 since ancient times (Deluge 42)

Some doublets that function as appositional adverb phrases include idioms.

*nuh*¹ *kawii*³² / *nuh*¹ *kahnah*³
 complete COM:come:out complete COM:come
 forever and ever in the past (Fight 334)

*nuh*¹ *kawii*³² / *nuh*¹ *kahanx*³² / *yax*¹³
 complete COM:come:out complete COM:go now
 forever and ever from now on (Brother 169)

4.2.3 Additive adverb phrases. There are two ways to form additive adverb phrases. Two noncoreferential adverbs, adverb phrases, or adverbial noun phrases may be juxtaposed with no conjunction linking them.

*rex*³² *shrax*¹ *rex*³² *rke*¹³
 place uphill place downhill
 all over

*yax*¹³ *ahyux*³
 now tomorrow
 day after day (Fight 149, Sun 3:103)

*ahyox*³ *yatax*³
 tomorrow day:after:tomorrow
 in the future

*nianx*⁵ *kwa*³*no*²
 here right:now
 here [and] now (Fight 334, Deluge 59)

*kwa*³*no*² *nianx*⁵
 right:now here
 here [and] now (Deluge 39)

*kwanh*³ *nianx*⁵
 today here
 here [and] now (Sun 2:114)

*yax*¹³ *nianx*⁵
 now here
 here [and] now (Sun 2:17)

Many of these phrases are fairly conventionalized. The ones that mean 'here and now' may also mean 'then and there' in the appropriate discourse context.

Conventionalized phrases function like complex nuclei and permit some of the optional elements described in §4.2.1.

*doh*¹ *kwa*³*no*² *nianx*⁵
 merely right:now here
 just right now [and] here (Fight 218)

*inanx*² *yax*¹³ *ahyux*³
 just now tomorrow
 just every day (Sun 3:102)

They can also serve as one element of an appositional adverb phrase.

*yax*¹³ *ahyux*³ / *rangah*³
 now tomorrow early
 every morning (Sun 3:93)

It is also possible to form additive adverb phrases by using the general marker *doh*¹ 'and' plus pause after each conjunct; this construction is similar to one method of conjoining noun phrases described in §3.8.

*nianx*⁵ *doh*¹ / *yoh*³ *doh*¹
 here and there and
 here and there

*ra*⁴ *weh*³ *doh*¹ / *zheh*³ *doh*¹
 inside house and outside and
 inside and outside

4.2.4 Repetitive adverb phrases. The simple repetition of an adverb, which intensifies its meaning, constitutes a repetitive adverb phrase. This construction appears to be limited to certain general adverbs.

*nanax*³² *nanax*³²
 slowly slowly
 very slowly

*ganh*¹ *ganh*¹
 far far
 very far

*nanx*¹³ *nanx*¹³
 thus thus
 in precisely this way (Sun 3:146)

Repetitive adverb phrases occur mainly in preverbal manner position in content verb phrases (see §2.1.3).¹¹

4.3 Prepositional Phrases

Prepositional phrases consist of a preposition followed by its object, which is expressed either by a noun phrase or by certain adverbs. The set of prepositions is small because prepositional function is carried largely by

¹¹Note the similarity of this construction to the repetitive verb phrases described in §2.4. The doubling found in these repetitive structures seems to be a process that extends to various categories.

locative nouns (see §§5.3.2 and 3.6). It includes only *ga*² ‘with’; *ndaa*¹³ ‘until’, ‘as far as’, ‘over’, ‘from’, or ‘even’; *shko*⁴ ‘beyond’; *skahnux*⁵ ‘among’; *ra*⁴ ‘inside’; and the complex preposition *nuh*¹ *a*³*nikax*¹ ‘all around’.¹²

Simple:

*ga*² *nehex*³

with baby

with the baby (Sun 3:22)

*ga*² *shkaa*³²

with raven

with the raven (Fight 154)

*ndaa*¹³ *shumanh*³ *yoh*³

until town that

as far as that town (Brother 96)

*ndaa*¹³ *tuhwa*³ *na*³² *yahanx*²

until mouth water divine

as far as the shore of the ocean (Fight 137)

*ndaa*¹³ *shko*¹

until beyond

over to the rear (Fight 310)

*ndaa*¹³ *ko*³*ra*⁴

until later

until later today (Brother 91)

*shko*⁴ *kix*³²

beyond mountain

on the other side of the mountain (cf. Brother 51)

*skahnux*⁵ *nix*³ *zoh*³

among the:PL him

among them

¹²Of the five simple prepositions, two are historically related to body-part nouns: *shko*⁴ ‘beyond’ is a shortened form of *shkoo*⁵ ‘shoulder of’, and *ra*⁴ ‘inside’ formerly meant ‘heart of’ (see Longacre 1957:42, 139). Two of the remaining three, *ndaa*¹³ and *ga*², were perhaps originally members of other parts of speech. *ndaa*¹³ has a wider distribution than other prepositions, and it sometimes seems to function like a prenuclear limiter. *ga*² sometimes functions as a conjunction. This leaves only *skahnux*⁵ unaccounted for. It seems clear that in the history of Trique, the class of prepositions has been marginal at best.

*ra*⁴ *weh*³ *yoh*³
 inside house that
 in that house (Fight 167)

(See also 7.71, 7.74, and various others.)

Complex:

*nuh*¹ *a*³*nikax*¹ *shumanh*³
 complete CON:turn town
 all around the town

*nuh*¹ *a*³*nikax*¹ *tuhwa*³ *na*³² *yahanx*²
 complete CON:turn mouth water divine
 all around the ocean shore (Brother 139)

There are four words from other parts of speech that sometimes function as prepositions: the locative adverb *nichrunh*¹ 'near', the verb *a*³*nikax*¹ 'to turn', and the conjunctions *gaa*¹³ 'when' and *azix*² 'since'.

*nichrunh*¹ *shumanh*³
 near town
 near the town

*a*³*nikax*¹ *tuhwa*³ *riaa*³²
 CON:turn mouth bamboo
 around the edge of the bamboo [patch]

*gaa*¹³ *ko*³*hngo*²
 when Monday
 on Monday

*gaa*¹³ *naa*⁴
 when long:ago
 a long time ago (Openly 1, Deluge 3)

*azix*² *manx*³
 since day:before:yesterday
 since the day before yesterday

*azix*² *rmuu*³² *yoh*³
 since coast that
 since long ago (Deluge 42)

(See also 7.14.)

The meaning of *ndaa*¹³ in a given sentence is often determined by the verb, as seen in the following compound sentence.

(*ho*² *kawij*³² *tanh*³) *ndaa*¹³ *takoo*⁵ *naa*³¹ / (*ne*²
 (one COM:come:out corn:ear) until foot cornfield (and
*kizix*⁵ *tanh*³) *ndaa*¹³ *raa*³¹ *naa*³¹ (*a*³²)
 COM:be:complete corn:ear) until head cornfield (DEC)
 (The ears of corn were borne continuously) from the base of the
 corn plants, (and they arrived) up to the top of them. (Fight 57)

When two prepositional phrases with *ndaa*¹³ are juxtaposed within a single basic sentence, the first instance of *ndaa*¹³ is translated 'from', and the second one is translated 'to' or 'as far as'.

*ndaa*¹³ *ngax*³² *ndaa*¹³ *tayox*³
 until Putla until Juxtlahuaca
 from Putla to Juxtlahuaca

*ndaa*¹³ *nianx*⁵ *ndaa*¹³ *yoh*³
 until here until there
 from here to there

A prepositional phrase may serve as the object of another preposition.

*ndaa*¹³ *shko*⁴ *kix*³²
 until beyond mountain
 from behind the mountain (cf. Brother 50)

*ndaa*¹³ *nichrunh*¹ *riaan*³² *ruskah*³ *shtah*¹
 until near face heartwood high
 as far away as near the dome of heaven (Brother 174)

The non-phrase-final pronoun *rex*³² 'place' (see §5.4) may precede a prepositional phrase with the meaning 'in the direction of'. The tone of the preposition is often lowered following *rex*³² (see §5.2 for a description of this tone lowering).

*rex*³² *shko*¹ *na*³² *yahanx*²
 place beyond water divine
 on the other side of the ocean (Brother 129) (cf. *shko*⁴ 'beyond')

The use of *rex*³² in this construction is similar to its use in adverbial noun phrases and basic adverb phrases (see §§3.6 and 4.2.1).

5

Parts of Speech

5.1 Content and Equative Verbs

The class of content and equative verbs, defined by the presence of aspect inflection, is essentially closed. It contains only about three hundred members, virtually all of which are either roots, or stems derived from verb roots by prefixes or compounding.

5.1.1 Derivation. Content verbs are either simple roots or are derived, mainly from other verbs, by means of prefixes or compounding.

Simple verb roots usually have one or two syllables; one has three. Monosyllabic roots usually begin with a consonant, and disyllabic roots usually begin with a vowel. The disyllabic roots that begin with a consonant are probably old compounds. The trisyllabic root begins with a vowel, but is probably also an old compound.

<i>hyax</i> ³	'to do'
<i>nuu</i> ³²	'to be in'
<i>me</i> ³	'to be'
<i>uun</i> ³	'to become, to come to be'
<i>unanx</i> ⁵	'to run'
<i>akaa</i> ³²	'to burn'
<i>rakwix</i> ⁵	'to help'

*kuhnax*¹ 'to be named'

*a³nikax*¹ 'to turn'

Derived content and equative verbs are formed from other verbs by means of three prefixes: *na-* 'repetitive', *shi-* 'detransitive', and *tv-* 'causative'. None of these prefixes is, however, synchronically productive. As is common with derivational prefixes, neither the existence of a derived stem nor its meaning can be predicted from any general principles. All derived stems must therefore be listed in the lexicon.

The prefix *na-* 'repetitive' usually combines with a stem that consists of the verb root plus the inflectional prefix *k-*, *g-*, or *kV-* 'noncontinuative aspect' (see §5.1.2), but it is sometimes combined directly with the verb root. This prefix adds the meaning of repeated or resumed action. When *na-* is added to a vowel-initial root, the prefix vowel is lost.

*na-k-uchrah*³

REP-NONCON-split

to open (book)

*na-ki-hyax*³

REP-NONCON-do

to remake

*na-rih*³

REP-get

to find, to meet

*na-nuwa*⁴

REP-sew

to mend

*na-ruwih*³

REP-appear

to turn up

*n-ahmii*³²

REP-speak

to become reconciled (requires plural subject)

(See also 7.29 and 7.86.)

The verb *uun*³ 'to become' has two repetitive forms with different meanings.

*n-uu*³

REP-become

to become again, to become (used in stative sentences)

*na-uun*³

REP-become

to turn into, to be healed

The second of these may be a reduced form of **na-g-uun*³, which contains the noncontinuative prefix.

In one case *na-* appears to create a verb from a noun.

*na-rmii*³²

REP-ball

to wad up

The prefix *shi-* ‘detransitive’ combines with only seven transitive verb roots, all of which refer to some kind of deformation. It undergoes various phonological changes, sometimes fusing completely with the root.

*shi-hneh*³

DETR-cut

to be broken off (cf. *ahneh*³ ‘to cut’)*shi-hnex*⁵

DETR-take:away

to be taken away (cf. *ahnex*⁵ ‘to take away’)*shi-hnux*⁵

DETR-open

to be opened (door) (cf. *ahnux*⁵ ‘to open’)*sh-tunh*³

DETR-break:in:pieces

to be crushed, to be used up (cf. *utunh*³ ‘to break in pieces’)*sh-tuu*³¹

DETR-scratch

to be worn out, to be tattered (cf. *utuu*³¹ ‘to scratch’)*sinh*³

DETR:tear

to be torn (cf. *utsinh*³ ‘to tear’)

*shrah*³

DETR:split

to be split, to be shattered, to sprout, to hatch (cf. *uchrah*³ 'to split, to shatter')

(See also 7.36, 7.48, and 7.56.)

The prefix *tV-* 'causative' usually combines with a stem that consists of an intransitive verb root plus the inflectional prefix *k-*, *g-*, or *kV-* 'noncontinuative aspect', but it is sometimes combined directly with the verb root. This prefix adds an agent, and it occurs mainly with roots that do not normally take agentive subjects. The vowel varies and cannot be predicted; sometimes it is lost before a root-initial vowel.

*ti-k-ahmii*³²

CAUS-NONCON-speak

to knock, to cause a fight to be over

*ti-k-awih*³

CAUS-NONCON-die

to kill

*tu-shuhwih*³

CAUS-be:afraid

to frighten

*t-amanh*³

CAUS-rain

to sprinkle, to scatter

(See also 7.91.)

When the prefix has the form *tu-*, a following *ka* or *ki* becomes *kwa* or *kwi*.

*tu-kwa-hanx*³²

CAUS-NONCON-go

to put in (cf. *kahanx*³² 'went')

*tu-kw-ane*³²

CAUS-NONCON-take:bath

to bathe (baby or corpse) (cf. *kane*³² 'took a bath')

Sometimes *tV-* occurs with a verb that is already transitive.

*to-ko-ho*³²

CAUS-NONCON-drink

to give a drink to (a baby)

*ta-cha*⁴

CAUS-eat

to feed (a baby)

*tu-k-uhyon*⁴

CAUS-NONCON-be:accustomed:to

to teach

A word with *tV-* may have sense discriminations with more than one degree of transitivity. The verb *tukuhyon*⁴ means 'to be a student' and 'to study', as well as 'to teach'. The verb *tamanh*³ means 'to be scattered', as well as 'to sprinkle' or 'to scatter'.

In one case *tV-* appears to create a verb from a noun.

*tu-kwachriin*³

CAUS-circle

to surround (cf. *kachriin*³ 'circle, wheel')

There is also a syntactic causative, based on the verb *hyax*³ 'to do', described in §1.1.9.

A number of apparently simple verb roots begin with *n*, *sh*, or *t*; those with initial *sh* are usually intransitive, and those with *t* are usually transitive. These roots are probably frozen forms with derivational prefixes for which the corresponding simple form has been lost.

*anoh*³ 'to look for'*nikunh*³ 'to stand'*shuhwih*³ 'to be frightened'*shihnanx*³² 'to abound'*tituun*⁵ 'to pinch'*tuhwex*⁵ 'to sell'

Occasionally two derivational prefixes occur in a single stem. The one closer to the root probably became frozen to it before the second one was added.

*ti-n-atux*⁵

CAUS-REP-enter

to turn inside out (cf. *natux*⁵ 'to be turned inside out', *atux*⁵ 'to enter')

*na-t-ugwax*⁵

REP-CAUS-?

to drive (a vehicle) (cf. *tugwax*⁵ 'to twist', *shugwax*⁵ 'to be twisted')

There are many pairs of verbs that show no morphological relation, but which enter into transitive-intransitive pairs. One important set of such pairs contains intransitive verbs that express a position and corresponding transitive verbs that express placement in that position. The most common ones are:

Position verb	Placement verb
<i>ne</i> ³ , <i>yaan</i> ⁵ 'to sit'	<i>uneh</i> ³ 'to seat'
<i>nax</i> ³ 'to lie'	<i>uchrux</i> ³² 'to lay'
<i>nikunh</i> ³ 'to stand'	<i>achron</i> ⁴ 'to erect'
<i>taa</i> ⁵ 'to be on top'	<i>utah</i> ³ 'to place on top'
<i>nuu</i> ³² 'to be in'	<i>araa</i> ³ , <i>tukwahanx</i> ³² 'to put in'
<i>hnix</i> ³² 'to be wedged in'	<i>anuh</i> ³ 'to wedge in'
<i>zhix</i> ⁵ 'to be tucked in'	<i>achrix</i> ⁵ 'to tuck in'

The idioms and collocations that occur for one member of these pairs are usually matched by corresponding idioms and collocations for the other member. For example, to express the location of a town, the verb used is *nax*³ 'to lie', and the verb used to found a town is *uchrux*³² 'to lay'.

There is no productive process for forming compounds, but complex verb nuclei, which are idioms that consist of a verb plus a modifier (see §2.1.1), sporadically fuse into single words.

*ri*⁵-*nee*³²

tuck:in-knife

to clear (a field) (cf. *achrix*⁵ 'to tuck in')

ri⁵-tseh³

tuck:in-smoke

to fumigate (with incense) (cf. *achrix⁵*, *katseh³* ‘smoke’)*ra⁵-zuun³²*

?-work

to use (cf. *arax⁵* ‘?’)*ra⁵-yahanx¹³*

?-noteworthy

to make a fuss over (cf. *arax⁵*)*tj⁵-she⁴*

poke-feet

to trip over (cf. *tigix⁵* ‘to poke’, *shehe⁴* ‘feet’)*sh-na⁵hanx²*

ask-wordlike

to ask (a question) (cf. *achiin⁵* ‘to ask’, *nahanx²* ‘wordlike’)*sh-ianh³*

eat-toothlike

to bite (cf. *cha⁴* ‘to eat’, *yanh³* ‘toothlike’)

(See also 7.51 and 7.54.)

The verb *ahwee³* ‘to be possible’ is derived historically from *ahwex³²* ‘to be willing’ plus the third person unspecified postclitic pronoun (see §5.4). One verb of existence requires a plural reading for its subject.

man⁴

‘to exist’

Two verbs are inherently negative.

dax³² or *tax³²*

‘to not exist’

nuwih³

‘to not be present’

In the text in chapter 7, *dax³²* occurs in the idiomatic expression *dax³² ze³² ki²hya-h⁴* ‘there is nothing that can be done’ in 7.36, 7.48, and 7.56; and *nuwih³* occurs in the complex nucleus *nuwih³ wax²* ‘to not be present’ in 7.76 and 7.87.

Many verbs have specialized uses to mark some grammatical function. *me³* ‘to be’ is used in the cleft focus construction (see §1.1.8). *a³nikax¹* ‘to turn’ functions as a preposition meaning ‘around’ (see §4.3). *tiko³²* ‘to play’ is used in the manner position in verb phrases together with a negative

marker as an intensifier (see §2.1.3). *taa⁵* 'to be on top' is used to connect numerals and fractions (see §§3.2, 4.1.1, and 4.1.4). A number of verbs have a specialized use when they take a sentential complement (see §1.1.9), or when they occur in a sentence combination (see §§6.1.1, 6.1.2, and 6.2.2).

5.1.2 Inflection. Content and equative verbs are inflected for three aspects: continuative, completive, and potential. Continuative is used to express both habitual and progressive. Completive appears to be more highly marked than continuative and is used when the speaker wants to specify that an action is completed. Continuative is often used, however, in contexts where past tense forms are used in English, such as for ongoing activity in the past. Potential is similar to future tense, but it also includes modal ideas like those expressed by English *can*, *should*, and *would*. It is also used in dependent constructions where many Indo-European languages use the subjunctive.

Continuative aspect is the basic form of the verb. It consists of the root or stem alone. Completive and potential aspects are best described by means of changes from the continuative form. Completive aspect is usually marked by a prefix added to the root or stem, and potential aspect has the same prefix as completive and also a replacement of the tone pattern. The prefix and the tone replacement each have a complex set of realizations, only some of which are phonologically conditioned.

The noncontinuative prefix has the forms *k-*, *g-*, and *kV-*. Polysyllabic vowel-initial verbs take the form *k-*.

	CON	COM
die	<i>awih³</i>	<i>kawih³</i>
turn	<i>a³nikax¹</i>	<i>ka³nikax¹</i>
hear	<i>uno³</i>	<i>kuno³</i>

Monosyllabic vowel-initial verbs take the form *g-*.

	CON	COM
become	<i>uun³</i>	<i>guun³</i>
give	<i>oh³</i>	<i>goh³</i>

Polysyllabic verbs with initial *w* replace the *w* with *k*, and monosyllabic verbs with initial *w* replace the *w* with *g*.

	CON	COM
ache	<i>wehee</i> ³¹	<i>kehee</i> ³¹
grind	<i>wax</i> ⁵	<i>gax</i> ⁵

Other consonant-initial verbs often take a prefix of the form *kV-*. The prefix vowel tends to agree with the vowel in the following syllable, but it is not entirely predictable. Frequently the vowel is *i* preceding a stem with initial *n* or *r*.

	CON	COM
get	<i>rih</i> ³	<i>kirih</i> ³
sense, see, know	<i>nehe</i> ³	<i>kenehe</i> ³
help	<i>rakwix</i> ⁵	<i>karakwix</i> ⁵
drink	<i>ho</i> ³²	<i>koho</i> ³²
be in	<i>nuu</i> ³²	<i>kunuu</i> ³²
appear	<i>ruwih</i> ³	<i>kuruwih</i> ³
tell	<i>nano</i> ⁴	<i>kinano</i> ⁴
wash	<i>naan</i> ⁵	<i>kinaan</i> ⁵
buy	<i>ranx</i> ⁵	<i>kiranx</i> ⁵
do, make, cause, act	<i>hyax</i> ³	<i>kihyax</i> ³
grab	<i>tahaa</i> ³²	<i>katahaa</i> ³² , <i>kitahaa</i> ³²

Some consonant-initial verbs take no prefix, in which case the continuative and completive forms are homophonous.

	CON	COM
eat	<i>cha</i> ⁴	<i>cha</i> ⁴
look for	<i>nanoh</i> ³	<i>nanoh</i> ³

Some consonant-initial verbs with two syllables have two forms, one with the prefix and one without.

	CON	COM
finish	<i>nawix</i> ³	<i>kinawix</i> ³ , <i>nawix</i> ³
help	<i>rakwix</i> ⁵	<i>karakwix</i> ⁵ , <i>rakwix</i> ⁵
find	<i>narih</i> ³	<i>kinarih</i> ³ , <i>narih</i> ³

The tone replacements that mark potential aspect are complex and sometimes involve the addition or loss of the word-final laryngeal *x*. These tone replacements are treated in greater detail in Hollenbach 1984a:214–229.

In regular verbs, contrastive tones, including the tone replacements that mark potential aspect, occur only on word-final syllables. The tone patterns that occur with continuative and completive aspects are 3, 4, 5, 31, and 32; and the patterns that occur with potential aspect are 1, 2, and 13. Each continuative tone pattern corresponds to one or two characteristic potential patterns, as shown in the following table. Because the laryngeal that checks the vowel sometimes affects the tone replacement, the checked (*Vh*, *Vx*, *V*) and unchecked (*VV*) vowel patterns that are associated with each correspondence are noted in parentheses. Some combinations of tones with checked and unchecked vowels do not appear in the table, either because they do not occur in the language, or because they do not occur with verb stems.

CON/COM	POT
3 (<i>VV</i> , <i>Vx</i> , <i>V</i>)	13
3 (<i>Vh</i>)	13 or 1
4 (<i>V</i>)	1 or 2
5 (<i>VV</i>)	1 (<i>Vx</i>)
5 (<i>Vx</i>)	2 (<i>Vx</i>) or 2 (<i>VV</i>)
31 (<i>VV</i>)	1
32 (<i>VV</i> , <i>Vx</i> , <i>V</i>)	2

The following table shows all three aspects of sample verbs that take regular tone replacements.

	CON	COM	POT
put in, fill	<i>araa</i> ³	<i>karaa</i> ³	<i>karaa</i> ¹³
finish	<i>nawix</i> ³	<i>kinawix</i> ³	<i>kinawix</i> ¹³
hear	<i>uno</i> ³	<i>kuno</i> ³	<i>kuno</i> ¹³
follow, hang	<i>nokoh</i> ³	<i>kanokoh</i> ³	<i>kanokoh</i> ¹³
kill	<i>tikawih</i> ³	<i>tikawih</i> ³	<i>tikawih</i> ¹³
get	<i>rih</i> ³	<i>kirih</i> ³	<i>kirih</i> ¹
grab, become attached	<i>ano</i> ⁴	<i>kano</i> ⁴	<i>kano</i> ¹
pass	<i>achen</i> ⁴	<i>kachen</i> ⁴	<i>kachen</i> ²

wash	<i>naan</i> ⁵	<i>kinaan</i> ⁵	<i>kinanx</i> ¹
run	<i>unanx</i> ⁵	<i>kunanx</i> ⁵	<i>kunanx</i> ²
buy	<i>ranx</i> ⁵	<i>kiranx</i> ⁵	<i>kiraan</i> ²
explode	<i>anuu</i> ³¹	<i>kanuu</i> ³¹	<i>kanuu</i> ¹
burn	<i>akaa</i> ³²	<i>kakaa</i> ³²	<i>kakaa</i> ²
go	<i>hanx</i> ³²	<i>kahanx</i> ³²	<i>kahanx</i> ²
sow	<i>uno</i> ³²	<i>kuno</i> ³²	<i>kuno</i> ²

Two verbs with tone 5 and an unchecked vowel have tone 2 and no *x* in potential.

	CON	COM	POT
walk	<i>chee</i> ⁵	<i>kachee</i> ⁵	<i>kachee</i> ²
sing	<i>achraa</i> ⁵	<i>kachraa</i> ⁵	<i>kachraa</i> ²

There are also a number of verbs that show tone changes in nonfinal syllables to mark potential aspect.

One group of verbs leaves the tone on the final syllable unchanged in potential aspect and adds tone 2 on the penult. Most causative stems with the *tV-* prefix fall into this group, except for those with tone 3, which take the sequence 13 on the final syllable. This group also includes a few verbs that appear to be simple roots, but which may be frozen compounds.

	CON	COM	POT
feed	<i>tacha</i> ⁴	<i>tacha</i> ⁴	<i>ta²cha</i> ⁴
knock	<i>tikahmii</i> ³²	<i>tikahmii</i> ³²	<i>tika²hmii</i> ³²
make explode	<i>tukwanuu</i> ³¹	<i>tukwanuu</i> ³¹	<i>tukwa²nuu</i> ³¹
urinate	<i>rehe</i> ⁴	<i>rehe</i> ⁴	<i>re²he</i> ⁴
cover	<i>araan</i> ⁵	<i>karaan</i> ⁵	<i>ka²araan</i> ⁵
help	<i>rakwix</i> ⁵	<i>karakwix</i> ⁵	<i>kara²kwix</i> ⁵

Some verbs have a tone 3 or 5 on a nonfinal syllable, as well as a tone on the final syllable. These verbs leave the tone of the final syllable unchanged and replace the tone of the nonfinal syllable with tone 2. If, however, the first tone of the final syllable is 1 or 2, the tone of the nonfinal syllable is simply lost. The verbs in this group are probably all compounds, although the etymology of some of them is obscure.

	CON	COM	POT
care for	<i>ta³yahanx³²</i>	<i>ta³yahanx³²</i>	<i>ta²yahanx³²</i>
appear, show up	<i>u³rianx¹</i>	<i>ku³rianx¹</i>	<i>kurianx¹</i>
sigh	<i>ra⁵chex³²</i>	<i>kara⁵chex³²</i>	<i>kara²chex³²</i>
fumigate	<i>ri⁵tseh³</i>	<i>ri⁵tseh³</i>	<i>ri²tseh³</i>
ask question	<i>shna⁵hanx²</i>	<i>shna⁵hanx²</i>	<i>shnahanx²</i>
fuss over	<i>ra⁵yahanx¹³</i>	<i>kara⁵yahanx¹³</i>	<i>karayahanx¹³</i>

Five verbs change the tones of both the final syllable and a nonfinal syllable in potential aspect. These verbs all have 3 on the first syllable and 2 on the final syllable in continuative and completive, and they have 2 on the first syllable and a 32 sequence on the final syllable in potential.

	CON	COM	POT
have	<i>ni³kax²</i>	<i>ni³kax²</i>	<i>ni²kax³²</i>
look	<i>ni³hyax²</i>	<i>ni³hyax²</i>	<i>ni²hyax³²</i>
wrap around	<i>ni³kee²</i>	<i>ni³kee²</i>	<i>ni²kee³²</i>
raise	<i>na³shkax²</i>	<i>na³shkax²</i>	<i>na²shkax³²</i>
sit up	<i>na³shagaa²</i>	<i>na³shagaa²</i>	<i>na²shagaa³²</i>

Two motion verbs have suppletive imperative forms that are used only in short sentences with second person subjects (see §1.3).

gwix²
IMP:go
scram!

kuwah²
IMP:come
come!

(See also 7.82.)

About twelve common content verbs have two different continuative aspect forms. One is the root or stem alone, and the other is a form with a lower tone. See §5.2 below for a description of this set of tone replacements, which is similar to the set of tone replacements that mark potential aspect. The verbs in this group are all consonant-initial, and most refer to position. The following table shows the full set of aspect forms for these verbs, with the low-tone continuative form in the column labeled CON2.

	CON	CON2	COM	POT
lie	<i>nax</i> ³	<i>nax</i> ¹³	<i>kinax</i> ³	<i>kinax</i> ¹³
sit, live	<i>ne</i> ³	<i>ne</i> ¹³	<i>kane</i> ³	<i>kane</i> ¹³
follow, hang	<i>nokoh</i> ³	<i>nokoh</i> ¹	<i>kanokoh</i> ³	<i>kanokoh</i> ¹³
stand	<i>nikunh</i> ³	<i>nikunh</i> ¹	<i>kanikunh</i> ³	<i>kanikunh</i> ¹³
be attached	<i>no</i> ⁴	<i>no</i> ¹	<i>kano</i> ⁴	<i>kano</i> ¹
be in	<i>shion</i> ⁴	<i>shion</i> ¹	<i>kishion</i> ⁴	<i>kishion</i> ¹
exist (PL)	<i>man</i> ⁴	<i>man</i> ¹	<i>kuman</i> ⁴	<i>kuman</i> ¹
sit, live	<i>yaan</i> ⁵	<i>yanx</i> ¹	<i>kayaan</i> ⁵	<i>ka²yaan</i> ⁵
be on top	<i>taa</i> ⁵	<i>tax</i> ¹	<i>kitaa</i> ⁵	<i>kitax</i> ⁵
be in	<i>nuu</i> ³²	<i>nuu</i> ²	<i>kunuu</i> ³²	<i>ku²nuu</i> ³²
be wedged in	<i>hnix</i> ³²	<i>hnix</i> ²	<i>kihnix</i> ³²	<i>ki²hnix</i> ³²
move	<i>wax</i> ³²	<i>wax</i> ²	—	—

The two continuative forms show no difference in aspectual meaning, but occur in different syntactic environments. The low-tone form occurs in sentence-initial position, including initial position in relative clauses, as seen in 7.26, 7.84, 7.91, and various others. The basic (high-tone) form occurs in noninitial position in sentences, as seen in 7.2, 7.20, 7.53, 7.77, 7.79, and various others. Sometimes the high-tone form occurs after an initial sentential marker that ends in *waa*³² 'to exist', as seen in 7.57, 7.59, and 7.73, or after another sentence juxtaposed with it, as seen in 7.72, 7.75, and 7.90. Following a conjunction, however, the low-tone form usually occurs, as seen in 7.89.

There is some variation among speakers about which form is used in certain environments, and about which verbs belong to this class. The role of the two continuative forms in helping the hearer distinguish sentences containing relative clauses from those containing a noun in focus position is discussed in greater detail in Hollenbach 1992.

Most content verbs begin with a vowel, most commonly *a*. A few pairs of verbs exist with and without initial *a*, which suggests that the vowel was formerly a productive morpheme that had the meaning 'process' or 'inchoative'.

<i>no</i> ⁴	'to be attached'
<i>ano</i> ⁴	'to grab, to become attached'
<i>nokoh</i> ³	'to follow, to hang'
<i>anokoh</i> ³	'to move beyond zenith (sun)'

<i>nikunh</i> ³	‘to stand’
<i>anikunh</i> ³	‘to stop’

A few verbs are defective in that they are not inflected for aspect. The forms that occur are considered to be continuative.

<i>me</i> ³	‘to be’
<i>kuhnax</i> ¹	‘to be named’
<i>ra</i> ⁴	‘to think, to be of the opinion, to wonder’
<i>dax</i> ³² or <i>tax</i> ³²	‘to not exist’
<i>nuwih</i> ³	‘to not be present’

5.2 Stative Verbs

Stative verbs differ from content and equative verbs in that they are not inflected for aspect. They commonly occur as the predicate of stative sentences (see §1.1.6) and as manner in content verb phrases (see §2.1.3).

Stative verbs are either basic or derived from nouns by replacing their tone with a lower tone. This derivational process is only moderately productive; derived stative verbs often have idiomatic meanings, and many occur only in certain complex nuclei.

Basic stative verbs:

<i>zah</i> ¹	‘good’
<i>nix</i> ³²	‘ugly, bad’
<i>shix</i> ¹	‘big’
<i>chreh</i> ²	‘short’
<i>laruu</i> ¹³	‘soft’
<i>katsii</i> ¹	‘white’
<i>ikwaan</i> ²	‘pink’
<i>wehe</i> ⁴	‘pretty’
<i>shianh</i> ¹	‘tasty, pleasing’

Derived stative verbs:

Stative verb	Noun
<i>katuun</i> ¹	<i>katuun</i> ³¹
‘slender’	‘waist of’

<i>nee</i> ¹ 'bare, naked'	<i>nee</i> ³¹ 'flesh, meat'
<i>kux</i> ¹ 'uncluttered'	<i>kuu</i> ⁵ 'bone'
<i>yohox</i> ¹ 'muddy'	<i>yohoo</i> ⁵ 'earth'
<i>yanx</i> ¹ 'waxy, of wax'	<i>yanx</i> ⁵ 'wax'
<i>chron</i> ¹ 'dark colored'	<i>chron</i> ⁴ 'black person'
<i>yahanx</i> ² 'divine'	<i>yahanx</i> ³² 'saint, god'
<i>yanx</i> ¹³ 'papery'	<i>yanx</i> ³ 'paper'
<i>shana</i> ¹ 'female'	<i>sha</i> ³ <i>na</i> ¹ 'woman'
<i>sno</i> ² <i>ho</i> ³² 'male'	<i>sno</i> ⁵ <i>ho</i> ³² 'man'
<i>taa</i> ¹³ 'flat'	<i>taa</i> ³ 'plain'
<i>agah</i> ¹³ 'metallic'	<i>agah</i> ³ 'metal'
<i>neh</i> ² 'ropelike'	<i>neh</i> ³ 'rope'

The set of tone replacements used to derive stative verbs from nouns is similar to the set that marks potential aspect in content and equative verbs, but not identical to it. These replacements are shown in the following table.

Noun	Stative verb
3 (<i>VV, Vx, V</i>)	13
3 (<i>Vh</i>)	13 or 2
4 (<i>VV, V</i>)	1
5 (<i>VV</i>)	1 (<i>Vx</i>)
5 (<i>Vx</i>)	1
31 (<i>VV</i>)	1
32 (<i>VV, Vx, V</i>)	2

This set of replacements has several other syntactic functions; see §§1.2.2, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.7, 3.9, 4.3, 5.1.2, 5.3.2, 5.5, and 5.6. It is described in greater detail in Hollenbach 1984a:229–47.

The stative verb *gee*¹ ‘whole’ has a special use as a limiter meaning ‘exactly’ in stative verb phrases and expanded numeral phrases (see §§2.3 and 4.1.4).

5.3 Nouns

5.3.1 Derivation. There are no regular processes for deriving nouns from other parts of speech. There are, however, many compound nouns formed by the fusion of a complex noun nucleus, which consists of a fairly generic noun or non-phrase-final pronoun followed by various modifiers (see §3.1.1).

<i>ta</i> ³ - <i>gah</i> ³	‘jail’ (cf. <i>tukwa</i> ⁴ ‘home of’, <i>agah</i> ³ ‘metal’)
<i>ya</i> ⁵ - <i>nux</i> ¹³	‘drum’ (cf. <i>yahanx</i> ⁵ ‘musical instrument’, <i>nux</i> ¹³ ‘of leather’)
<i>ra</i> - <i>chruun</i> ⁵	‘bread’ (cf. <i>chraa</i> ³ ‘tortilla’, <i>chruun</i> ⁵ ‘box, oven’)
<i>ku</i> ³ - <i>yanx</i> ¹	‘candle’ (cf. <i>kuu</i> ⁵ ‘bone’, <i>yanx</i> ¹ ‘of wax’)
<i>s-no</i> ⁵ <i>ho</i> ³²	‘man’ (cf. <i>zii</i> ⁵ ‘he’, <i>noho</i> ³² ‘male’)
<i>ku</i> ³ - <i>wix</i> ¹	‘Tuesday’ (cf. <i>gwii</i> ³ ‘day’, <i>wix</i> ¹ ‘two’)

Fusions such as the above have resulted in many tree and fruit names with initial *r* or *ru*, from *chruun*³ ‘wood, tree’ and *chrux*³ ‘fruit, egg’, and a number of animal names with initial *sh* or *shkw*, from *shkuu*³ ‘animal’.

With fused 'tree':

- r-achih*³ 'pine tree'
*r-kwaan*⁵ 'Montezuma baldcypress tree (*Taxodium mucronatum*)'
*r-ichrux*³ 'oak tree with small untoothed leaves'
*r-anex*³² 'oak tree with large felty leaves'
*r-izhax*³² 'coralbean tree (*Erythrina americana*)'
*r-amix*³² 'sausage tree (*Hymenaea courbaril*)'

With fused 'fruit':

- ru*³-*tsih*¹ 'guava' (cf. *tsih*¹ 'sweet')
*r-kwehe*⁴ 'peach'
*r-koo*³² 'custard apple (*Annona* sp.)'
*r-ahwii*³² 'orange'

With fused 'animal':

- shkw-aa*⁵ 'snake' (cf. *yaa*⁵ 'root')
*shkw-ax*³² 'fish' (cf. *wax*³² 'to move')
*sh-luu*⁵ 'worm, caterpillar'
*sh-uwee*³ 'dog'
*sh-tuu*³² 'rat, mouse' (cf. *ituu*³² 'stealing')
*sh-uwaa*³¹ 'cougar' (cf. *yuwaa*¹ 'fierce')

5.3.2 Classification. Nouns fall into several cross-cutting classifications; they may be divided according to gender, possessibility, distribution, and countability.

Nouns fall into four natural gender classes according to the third person phrase-final pronouns (see §5.4) that can refer to them: masculine, feminine, animal, and inanimate. Some nouns belong to more than one class.

Masculine nouns:

- chii*³ 'man'
*tahnuh*³ 'uncle of'
*tanuu*³ 'soldier'
*yahanx*³² 'saint, god'

Feminine nouns:

<i>sha³na¹</i>	‘woman’
<i>tuhwe³</i>	‘aunt of’
<i>yahanx³²</i>	‘saint, god’

(See also 7.15.)

Animal nouns:

<i>shkuu³</i>	‘animal’
<i>shtax³</i>	‘deer’
<i>kachrinx⁵</i>	‘clam’
<i>zhoo³</i>	‘turtle’
<i>kahux³</i>	‘raccoon’
<i>shuwaa³¹</i>	‘cougar’
<i>ri³kix¹³</i>	‘frog’
<i>matsinx³²</i>	‘sheep’
<i>shuchee³²</i>	‘hen, chicken’

(See also 7.2, 7.3, and 7.78.)

Inanimate nouns:

<i>chruun³</i>	‘wood, tree’
<i>mi³shte⁴</i>	‘machete (Sp. <i>machete</i>)’
<i>yuwex³²</i>	‘rock, cliff’
<i>rtaa³¹</i>	‘tamale’

(See also 7.1, 7.9, 7.16, 7.27, 7.64, 7.71, 7.74, and various others.)

Nouns may also be classified into those that cannot be possessed and those that can. Nouns that cannot be possessed often refer to topographical or meteorological phenomena.

<i>yatih³</i>	‘star’
<i>chraa⁵</i>	‘river’
<i>maan³¹</i>	‘rain’
<i>yuun⁴</i>	‘earthquake’

Nouns in the above category may have more than one sense discrimination, some of which may be possessible.

<i>na³na¹</i>	'wind, air' (unpossessible); 'breath, speech, word' (possessible)
-------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------

A few nouns that cannot be possessed are related to special inherently possessed nouns.

<i>weh³</i>	'house' (cf. <i>tukwa⁴</i> 'home of')
<i>yatsex⁵</i> or <i>yatsix⁵</i>	'clothing, garment' (cf. <i>sa³ganh¹</i> 'clothing of')
<i>shkuu³</i>	'animal' (cf. <i>daan⁴</i> '[domestic] animal of')

Nouns that refer to specific animals cannot be possessed. Instead, an appositional construction is used, in which the name of the specific animal follows a possessive noun phrase with *daan⁴* '(domestic) animal of' (see §3.7).

Nouns that can be possessed are either inherently or optionally possessed. Nouns which are inherently possessed are usually kinship terms or body parts.

<i>ni³ka²</i>	'spouse of'
<i>rex³</i>	'father of'
<i>takuun⁵</i>	'nose of'
<i>raha³</i>	'hand of'

Inherently possessed nouns also include a number of other nouns.

<i>man³</i>	'body of'
<i>mahan¹³</i>	'self of' (probably related etymologically to <i>man³</i>)
<i>nuwah¹</i>	'right side of'
<i>nichruun¹³</i>	'left side of'
<i>se³shuwii¹³</i>	'name of'
<i>tuwih³</i>	'companion of, relative of'
<i>shiaan⁵</i>	'hometown of'
<i>tukwa⁴</i>	'home of'
<i>sa³ganh¹</i>	'clothing of'
<i>daan⁴</i>	'(domestic) animal of'

The noun *man*³ 'body of' is used to mark a nonagentive subject of certain verbs (see §§1.1.2 and 1.1.6), an animate or pronominal direct object (see §1.1.3), and a nonlocalized body part that is possessed (see §3.3). The nouns *mahan*¹³ 'self of' and *tuwih*³ 'companion of' also have specialized uses. *mahan*¹³ is used to express reflexives (see §1.1.3), lack of an agent (see §2.1.3), and emphatic and indefinite noun phrases (see §§3.3 and 3.10). *tuwih*³ is used to express reciprocals (see §§1.1.3 and 2.1.3), partitives (see §3.3), and comparison (see §3.7).

For many speakers, citation forms of inherently possessed nouns include the generalized inclusive postclitic pronoun (see §5.4).

*re-h*⁴

father-our:IN

our father *or* father (cf. *rex*³ 'father of')

*takun-h*⁴

nose-our:IN

our noses *or* nose (cf. *takuun*⁵ 'nose of')

Optionally possessed nouns include all nouns not in either of the above groups. These nouns have a special form that is used only when they occur as the nucleus of a possessive noun phrase (see §3.3), i.e., when they occur with a possessor. This form is created from the basic noun stem in various ways.

Many common nouns with initial *y* replace the *y* with *d* in monosyllabic words, and with *t* in polysyllabic words.

	Basic	Possessed
flower	<i>yax</i> ³²	<i>dax</i> ³²
paper	<i>yanx</i> ³	<i>danx</i> ³
palm basket	<i>yoo</i> ⁴	<i>doo</i> ⁴
instrument	<i>yahanx</i> ⁵	<i>tahanx</i> ⁵
earth, land	<i>yohoo</i> ⁵	<i>tohoo</i> ⁵

Some common nouns take a prefix of the form *ta-*, *ti-*, *s-*, or *sh-*. Sometimes the tone changes from 3 to 5 (in one case with loss of final *x*), and sometimes *sh-* fuses with the stem.

	Basic	Possessed
rope	<i>neh³</i>	<i>taneh³</i>
corn	<i>hnuu⁵</i>	<i>tihnuu⁵</i>
flesh, meat	<i>nee³¹</i>	<i>snee³¹</i>
metate	<i>to³²</i>	<i>sto³²</i>
ear of corn	<i>tanh³</i>	<i>stanh³</i>
cornfield	<i>naa³¹</i>	<i>shnaa³¹</i>
net bag	<i>nanx³</i>	<i>shnanx⁵</i>
wood, tree	<i>chruun³</i>	<i>shruun⁵</i>
fruit, egg	<i>chrux³</i>	<i>shruu⁵</i>
tortilla	<i>chraa³</i>	<i>raa⁵</i>

The most common way to express possession, however, is to place the nominal marker *ze³²* before the noun, and to replace the tone of the noun with a lower tone. The marker *ze³²* is homophonous with the third person inanimate non-phrase-final pronoun, but does not appear to be the same morpheme. The tone replacements that mark possession are usually the same as those used to derive stative verbs from nouns, described in §5.2.

	Basic	Possessed
metal	<i>agah³</i>	<i>ze³² agah¹³</i>
honey	<i>katsih³</i>	<i>ze³² katsih²</i>
tunic	<i>rohno⁴</i>	<i>ze³² rohno¹</i>
nail, earring	<i>kakii⁵</i>	<i>ze³² kakix¹</i>
language	<i>shnahax⁵</i>	<i>ze³² shnahax¹</i>
pitcher	<i>siuu³¹</i>	<i>ze³² siuu¹</i>
custard apple	<i>rkoo³²</i>	<i>ze³² rkoo²</i>

When, however, the noun has an unchecked vowel and tone 4, the tone 4 is unchanged, and tone 2 is added on the penultimate syllable. Also, nouns that have tone 3 on the penultimate syllable replace the 3 by 2. These words are often Spanish loanwords.

	Basic	Possessed
shirt (Sp. <i>cotón</i>)	<i>kotoo⁴</i>	<i>ze³² ko²too⁴</i>
silk (Sp. <i>seda</i>)	<i>sa³da⁴</i>	<i>ze³² sa²da⁴</i>

The distribution classes of nouns include vocatives, proper nouns, locative nouns, temporal nouns, measurement nouns, and common nouns. Some nouns fall into more than one class.

Vocatives include personal names, kinship terms, and certain other nouns. Many kinship terms have special vocative forms that are not inherently possessed. Vocative forms of names and common nouns usually show a stress shift from the ultima to the penult, and also certain tone changes.

Personal names:

- gwaa*³² 'John! (Sp. *Juan*)' (cf. *gwaa*⁴)
*'pe*³*dro*³² 'Peter! (Sp. *Pedro*)' (cf. *pe*³*dro*⁴)

Kinship terms:

- 'a*³*tax*¹ 'Papa! (Sp. *tata*)' (cf. *rex*³ 'father of')
*'na*³*iin*³² 'Mama!' (cf. *nii*³ 'mother of')
*'ti*³*nux*¹ 'Brother! (of male)' (cf. *tinuu*⁵ 'brother:ME')
*'so*³*ko*¹ 'Brother! (of female)' (cf. *rahwix*³² 'brother:FE')

Other nouns:

- 'shu*³*wee*³² 'dog!' (cf. *shuwee*³)
*'me*³*stro*³² 'teacher! (Sp. *maestro*)' (cf. *me*³*stro*⁴)

When a vocative occurs at the end of a YES/NO or WH question, it often ends with a glottal stop, which replaces any stem-final laryngeal (see §1.4).

- 'pe*³*droh*³² 'Peter?' (cf. *'pe*³*dro*³² 'Peter!')
*'ti*³*nuh*¹ 'Brother? (of male)' (cf. *'ti*³*nux*¹ 'Brother! [of male]')

(See also 7.8.)

Proper nouns include personal and place names.

- pe*³*to*⁴ 'Bob (Sp. *Beto*)'
*shtuu*³² 'Mouse' (nickname)
*makaa*⁵ 'Mexico City'
*ya*³*kwex*² 'Oaxaca City' (cf. *yan*³² 'place', *kwex*² 'of edible greens')
*natax*⁵ 'Sabana'

The proper noun category also includes many complex nuclei. See Hollenbach 1980b for a description of personal names, and Hollenbach 1980d for a description of place names.

Locative nouns occur as nuclei of adverbial noun phrases (see §3.6). They fall into two categories: those that occur in the basic subtype and those that occur in the possessive subtype. The first category includes place names, names of topographical features, and some other nouns.

<i>ngax</i> ³²	‘Putla’
<i>tihinx</i> ⁵	‘Huajuapan’
<i>kix</i> ³²	‘mountain’
<i>chraa</i> ⁵	‘river’
<i>chrex</i> ³²	‘trail’
<i>shumanh</i> ³	‘town’
<i>rnuu</i> ³²	‘coast, long ago’

The second category includes certain inherently possessed body-part nouns that are used in an extended sense, and also one Spanish loanword. This loanword also functions as a conjunction meaning ‘because’ (see §6.2.1).

<i>man</i> ³	body
	to
<i>riaan</i> ³²	face
	to, in front of, on top of, instead of
<i>ston</i> ³	finger
	to
<i>raha</i> ³	hand
	from
<i>shehe</i> ⁴	feet
	for, about, because of

*shraa*⁵

back

on top of, over, uphill from

*rke*³

stomach

under, in, among

*raa*³¹

head

on the top of

*takoo*⁵

foot

at the base of

*tuhwa*³

mouth

at the edge of

*ta*³*nuu*²

middle

in the middle of

*kwe*³*nda*⁴ or *kwenda*⁴

account

on the side of, on account of, because (Sp. *cuenta*)

The extended meanings of these nouns are often determined by the verb they occur with. In some cases, such as *ston*³ 'finger of' and *raha*³ 'hand of', the relational meaning seems to be almost entirely in the verb. In other cases, however, such as *riaan*³² 'face of', the body-part noun clearly carries the relational meaning. See Hollenbach 1990 for further discussion.

Temporal nouns also occur as nuclei of adverbial noun phrases (see §3.6) and are divided into the same two categories. The first category occurs as nuclei of adverbial basic noun phrases, and it includes names for units of time and calendric units.

*gwii*³

'day'

*yoh*³

'year'

*dyo*⁴'season (Sp. *tiempo* 'time')'*kwe*³*hnux*¹

'Wednesday'

*rnuu*³²

'coast, long ago'

The second category occurs as nuclei of adverbial possessive noun phrases, and it includes only a few body-part nouns that are extended in a temporal sense.

*rke*³
stomach
within, during

*takoo*⁵
foot
at the beginning of

*raa*³¹
head
at the end of

Measurement nouns express units of weight or measurement; they occur as the nucleus of measurement noun phrases.

*ta*³*nex*¹ 'maquila (four-liter dry measure)'
*li*³*tro*⁴ 'liter (Sp. *litro*)'
*shkoo*⁵ 'fathom (distance between outstretched fingertips),
shoulder of'
*zhee*⁵ 'load (amount a man can carry on his back)'
*takox*¹ 'pair (of shoes)' (cf. *takoo*⁵ 'foot of')

Common nouns are those not included in any of the above distribution classes.

*shuwee*³ 'dog'
*kox*³² 'plant'
*too*³² 'milk'

Nouns may also be classified as either mass or count. Mass nouns do not permit a numeral or numeral phrase as quantifier, whereas count nouns do.

Mass nouns:

*too*³² 'milk'
*tsih*³ 'tepache (fermented sugarcane juice)'
*sigih*³ 'mud'

<i>kachix</i> ³²	‘cotton’
<i>yanx</i> ⁵	‘wax’

Count nouns:

<i>shluu</i> ⁵	‘worm, caterpillar’
<i>rachruun</i> ⁵	‘bread’
<i>nee</i> ³	‘plow’
<i>shrux</i> ³	‘(clay) pot’

Sometimes a single noun has two or more sense discriminations, some of which fall into the class of mass nouns, while the others fall into the class of count nouns.

<i>na</i> ³²	‘water’ (mass); ‘fontanel’ (count)
<i>na</i> ³ <i>na</i> ¹	‘wind, air, breath, speech’ (mass); ‘word’ (count)
<i>chruun</i> ³	‘wood’ (mass); ‘tree, pole, stick’ (count)

5.4 Pronouns

Personal pronouns are free or postclitic. Free pronouns occur for all persons and numbers. First and second persons have a clear number distinction, with singular, dual, and plural forms. They also have an inclusive-exclusive distinction, and a contrast between familiar and unmarked in second person singular.

	SG	DU	PL
first			
EX	<i>hunx</i> ¹	<i>runx</i> ⁵ , <i>rox</i> ¹ <i>nux</i> ⁵	<i>nux</i> ⁵
IN	—	<i>roh</i> ¹ , <i>rox</i> ¹ <i>nih</i> ⁴	<i>nih</i> ⁴
second			
unmarked	<i>zoh</i> ¹	<i>rox</i> ¹ <i>zox</i> ¹³	<i>zox</i> ³ , <i>nix</i> ³ <i>zox</i> ³
familiar	<i>dih</i> ¹	—	—

The first person singular pronoun occurs in 7.32.

The exclusive pronouns *runx*⁵ and *nux*⁵ appear to be fusions of the definite articles *rox*¹ ‘the two’ and *nix*³ ‘the (plural)’ with the first person singular pronoun *hunx*¹. There is also a rise in tone, which may be related to the rise that indicates additive numerals and quantifiers (see §5.6).

The inclusive pronouns *roh*¹ and *nih*⁴ appear to be fusions of the definite articles with the generalized inclusive postclitic pronoun described below. An example of *nih*⁴ is found in 7.8.

The second person singular unmarked pronoun *zoh*¹ is usually unstressed and is sometimes reduced to *z* in fast speech. This pronoun occurs in 7.9, 7.29, 7.82, and various other sentences in chapter 7.

The second person singular familiar pronoun *dih*¹ is used both to children as a sign of affection and to adults as a way of showing politeness. It is used in the text in 7.61 in an apparently facetious way.

The three singular pronouns cause an immediately preceding word with the tone patterns 3, 13, and 31 on the final syllable to undergo tone sandhi. Any word with 3 or 13 that ends with the laryngeal *x* loses the laryngeal and replaces the basic tone with 5. A polysyllabic word with 13 also adds tone 2 on the penult. (There is one word with *x* and 31; it does not undergo sandhi.)

	Basic	Sandhi
lay	<i>kinax</i> ³	<i>kinaa</i> ⁵
will lie	<i>kinax</i> ¹³	<i>ki²naa</i> ⁵

An example of this change is found in the first word of 7.9.

Any word with tone 3, 13, or 31 that ends with one of the other two laryngeals or with an unchecked vowel replaces the basic tone with 4. Tone 2 is added to the penult of a polysyllabic word with 13.

	Basic	Sandhi
spoiled	<i>tirih</i> ³	<i>tirih</i> ⁴
heard	<i>kuno</i> ³	<i>kuno</i> ⁴
filled	<i>karaa</i> ³	<i>karaa</i> ⁴
will become	<i>guun</i> ¹³	<i>guun</i> ⁴
will spoil	<i>tirih</i> ¹³	<i>ti²rih</i> ⁴
will hear	<i>kuno</i> ¹³	<i>ku²no</i> ⁴
will fill	<i>karaa</i> ¹³	<i>ka²raa</i> ⁴
washed face	<i>kanaan</i> ³¹	<i>kanaan</i> ⁴

An example of this change is found in the fifth word of 7.9.

Tone sandhi is discussed further in Hollenbach 1974 and Hollenbach 1984a:260–303.

Third person pronouns are either phrase-final or non-phrase-final. Non-phrase-final pronouns occur when something else follows within the noun phrase (and in a few idiomatic expressions), and phrase-final pronouns occur when the pronoun is the final element within its own noun phrase. Non-phrase-final pronouns most commonly occur to introduce relative clauses; their function is treated more extensively in Hollenbach 1992. Third person pronouns have six gender categories, but neither set contains all genders. Number is not marked, but may be optionally shown in all genders except indefinite by using the dual and plural definite articles *rox*¹ and *nix*³.

	Phrase-final	Non-phrase-final
masculine	<i>zoh</i> ³	<i>zii</i> ⁵
feminine	<i>noh</i> ³	<i>nii</i> ⁵
animal	<i>zhoh</i> ³	—
inanimate	<i>yoh</i> ³	<i>ze</i> ³²
locative	—	<i>rex</i> ³² , <i>yan</i> ³²
indefinite	<i>nii</i> ³	—

The inanimate phrase-final pronoun *yoh*³ is related to the locative adverb *yoh*³ ‘there’, which also functions as a deictic meaning ‘that’. As a pronoun, it is never stressed and is sometimes reduced to *h*. It appears to be a recent addition to the pronoun system and is often unexpressed in positions other than subject. The masculine, feminine, and animal phrase-final pronouns appear to be fusions containing *yoh*³. The pronoun *yoh*³ is used in 7.24 and 7.33 to refer to the tar baby, and in 7.36 to refer to the rabbit’s fists.

The masculine non-phrase-final pronoun is often used for animals; an example is found in 7.60. In 7.23 and 7.26 this pronoun refers to the tar baby, an inanimate figure believed to be human. The masculine and feminine phrase-final pronouns are occasionally used in folktales to refer to animals.

The inanimate non-phrase-final pronoun *ze*³² also functions as a complementizer (see §1.1.9); in this function it is glossed complementizer, rather than ‘it (inanimate)’. It is also used in the cleft focus construction (see §1.1.8). An example of its use as a pronoun is found in the frozen expression in 7.36, 7.48, and 7.56; the remaining occurrences of *ze*³² in the text are in complex sentential markers (see §6.4).

The two locative pronouns are reduced forms of the nouns *chrex*³² ‘trail’ and *riaan*³² ‘face of’. An example of *yan*³² is found in 7.58. They sometimes

function as conjunctions to express purpose (see §6.2.1). *rex*³² also precedes adverbial noun phrases, basic adverb phrases, and prepositional phrases (see §§3.6, 4.2.1, and 4.3); in these constructions it adds the meaning 'in the direction of' or 'at the approximate time of'.

The indefinite pronoun *nii*³ 'they' is used to refer to people in general, or to avoid stating a more precise referent. For at least some speakers, *nii*³ is used only for subjects. The following sentence illustrates its use.

*ne*² *shli*³*nge*⁴ *roh*³ / *tsax*² *ne*² *ne*³ *awih*³ *zoh*³ / *tax*³²
 and cannibal TOPIC but and NEG CON:die he CON:say

*nii*³ *a*³²
 they DEC

And as for the cannibal, he doesn't die, they say. (Brother 137)

There are also three postclitic phrase-final pronouns, realized solely by tone and laryngeal replacements. Like free pronouns, they express the subject of a sentence, the possessor of a noun, and the object of a preposition. Postclitic pronouns are attached to the word that immediately precedes them. For example, a postclitic pronoun that expresses the subject is attached to the final word in the verb phrase, which is often a postverbal element, rather than the verb itself.

Even though these pronouns are tightly fused to the preceding word, they must be treated as full syntactic elements because they occur instead of, never in addition to, noun phrases or free pronouns. A full treatment of postclitic pronouns, including a discussion of this issue, is found in Hollenbach 1984a:304–79.

One of these pronouns is first person singular; it consists of a final *x* plus some tone changes. The tone changes include the tone sandhi changes that take place between the free first person singular pronoun and the preceding stem, and also the replacement of the unpermitted **x*⁴ combination by *x*³.

A second postclitic pronoun is a generalized inclusive, which consists of a final *h* plus tone changes similar to those for the first person singular postclitic. It has a range of meaning somewhat different from the free inclusive pronouns, which refer to more definite groups of people. It is currently used mainly for citation forms of inherently possessed nouns, and in soliloquy to refer to oneself, but some younger speakers no longer use it.

The third postclitic pronoun is a third-person singular pronoun that is unspecified as to gender. It is often used as a fourth person to keep participants separate in discourse. It is always realized by a tone 3 or a 13 sequence and by either *x* or an unchecked vowel, depending on the tone

and final laryngeal of the stem. Some tone-laryngeal classes are divided into two arbitrary groups, one of which takes *x* and the other of which takes an unchecked vowel.

The following table shows the three postclitic pronouns with a representative selection of stems. Throughout this study, postclitic pronouns are separated from the stem by a hyphen.

	Stem	First	Inclusive	Third
fills	<i>araa</i> ³	<i>ara-x</i> ³	<i>ara-h</i> ⁴	<i>araa</i> ⁻³
lies	<i>nax</i> ³	<i>na-x</i> ⁵	<i>na-h</i> ⁴	<i>naa</i> ⁻³
animal of	<i>daan</i> ⁴	<i>dan-x</i> ³	<i>dan-h</i> ⁴	<i>dan-x</i> ³
sings	<i>achraa</i> ⁵	<i>achra-x</i> ⁵	<i>achra-h</i> ⁴	<i>achraa</i> ⁻³
runs	<i>unanx</i> ⁵	<i>unan-x</i> ⁵	<i>unan-h</i> ⁴	<i>unaan</i> ⁻³
washes face	<i>anaan</i> ³¹	<i>anan-x</i> ³	<i>anan-h</i> ⁴	<i>anan-x</i> ³
burned	<i>kakaa</i> ³²	<i>kaka-x</i> ³²	<i>kaka-h</i> ³	<i>kakaa</i> ⁻³
drew	<i>narij</i> ³²	<i>nari-x</i> ³²	<i>nari-h</i> ³	<i>nari-x</i> ³
went	<i>kahanx</i> ³²	<i>kahan-x</i> ³²	<i>kahan-h</i> ³	<i>kahaan</i> ⁻³
will pass	<i>kachen</i> ²	<i>kachen-x</i> ²	<i>kachen-h</i> ²	<i>kachen-x</i> ¹³
lover	<i>shrah</i> ²	<i>shra-x</i> ²	<i>shra-h</i> ²	<i>shra-x</i> ¹³
will wash	<i>kinanx</i> ¹	<i>kinan-x</i> ¹	<i>kinan-h</i> ¹	<i>kinaan</i> ⁻¹³
will fill	<i>karaa</i> ¹³	<i>ka²ra-x</i> ³	<i>ka²ra-h</i> ⁴	<i>karaa</i> ⁻¹³

Note that, for each of the three postclitic pronouns, the combination of a stem with the pronoun is sometimes homophonous with the stem alone. A stem plus a first person postclitic is also sometimes homophonous with a stem plus a third person postclitic.

Examples of the first person singular postclitic are found in 7.6, 7.15, 7.16, 7.29, and many other sentences in chapter 7. Two examples of the inclusive postclitic with its literal meaning are found in 7.68. An example of its use in soliloquy is found in 7.24. Other occurrences of this pronoun are either with the inherently possessed kinship term ‘grandmother of’, which occurs in 7.2 and in many other sentences, or in the idiomatic expression *dax*³² *ze*³² *ki²hya-h*⁴ ‘there is nothing that can be done’, which occurs in 7.36, 7.48, and 7.56. Examples of the third person singular postclitic are found in 7.68 and 7.101. Some further examples are found in the following sentences.

dax¹ hyaa⁻³ yan³² nee⁻¹³ tukwa-x³ yax¹³ onx³²
 how COM:do-UN place CON:sit-UN POS:home-UN now INT:INSISTENT
 What is he doing in the place where he is living in his house now?
 (cf. Fight 153) (cf. *hyax³* ‘COM:do’, *nee³* ‘CON:sit’, *tukwa⁴* ‘POS:home’)

ne² naman-x³ weh³ / ne² kihyaa⁻³
 and COM:arrive:home:here-UN house and COM:do-UN

ruzhaan³ / ne² kahnü⁻³ nehex³ yoh³ rah²
 hanging:cradle and COM:put:in-UN baby that QUOTATIVE
 And she arrived at her house, and she made a hanging cradle, and
 she put that baby in [it], they say. (Sun 3:90) (cf. *naman⁴*
 ‘COM:arrive:home:here’, *kihyax³* ‘COM:do’, *kahnü⁵* ‘COM:put:in’)

For some older speakers, certain stems with final *h* have a longer form when the first and third person postclitic pronouns are attached to them. Instead of replacing the final *h* with *x*, they repeat the final stem vowel and add *x*.

kirih-ix³ nee³¹ shkuu³ a³²
 COM:get-I flesh animal DEC
 I got the meat of an animal. (Sun 3:190) (cf. *kirih³* ‘COM:get’)

kunuu³ zah-ax¹³ a³²
 COM:become:again good-UN DEC
 She got well. (cf. *zah¹* ‘good’)

It is fairly common to repeat a noun, rather than using a pronoun, even within a single sentence. Compare 7.14, which has a repeated noun, with 7.18, which has a pronoun.

5.5 Adverbs

Adverbs are locative, temporal, general, intensifying, or interrogative.

Locative adverbs comprise all locational words that are not nouns; they occur as locative adjuncts (see §1.1.4), as location peripheral elements (see §1.1.7), and as manner in the verb phrase (see §2.1.3).

<i>nianx⁵</i>	‘here’
<i>yoh³</i>	‘there’
<i>tihyax³</i>	‘there (out of sight)’
<i>zheh³</i>	‘outside’
<i>nituu²</i>	‘prone, facedown’

<i>kaya</i> ¹³	‘vertical’
<i>shtah</i> ¹	‘high, above, in the sky’
<i>nichrunh</i> ¹	‘near’

The adverb *nichrunh*¹ ‘near’ also functions as a preposition; see §4.3.

The locative adverbs *nianx*⁵ ‘here’ and *yoh*³ ‘there’ have an additional function as deictics in noun phrases (see §3.1.3). In this use they are glossed ‘this’ and ‘that’, rather than ‘here’ and ‘there’. Examples of the locative adverb function are found in 7.26, 7.40, 7.52, 7.54, 7.79, 7.80, and 7.82. Examples of the deictic function are found in 7.4, 7.5, 7.8, 7.10, 7.23, and various other sentences. It is also possible for locative adverbs functioning as deictics to occur without a noun nucleus, in which case they appear to be functioning as demonstrative pronouns, as seen in 7.93 and 7.101.

The adverb *yoh*³ ‘there’ has developed a form with reduced stress, which has two functions. When it follows a noun, it serves as a singular definite article for some speakers (see §3.1.3). An example of this use is found in 7.32. This appears to be a natural development from the deictic function by means of concomitant phonological and semantic weakening. When *yoh*³ occurs with reduced stress and no noun preceding, it serves as a third person inanimate pronoun, and it is included in the list of third person phrase-final pronouns given in §5.4. Some examples of *yoh*³ functioning as a pronoun are found in 7.12, 7.24, 7.33, 7.36, 7.48, and various others. It would also be possible, however, to view any of these as a deictic with an unexpressed noun nucleus (see §3.1.4). (In 7.93, 7.95, and 7.101, on the other hand, the deictic interpretation is required because the gender of the referents is clearly animate.)

Some locative adverbs are derived from locative nouns or prepositions by replacing the tone with a lower one. (These replacements are the same as those used to derive stative verbs from nouns, described in §5.2.)

<i>rke</i> ¹³	‘below, downhill’ (cf. <i>rke</i> ³ ‘stomach of, in, under’)
<i>shrax</i> ¹	‘above, uphill’ (cf. <i>shraa</i> ⁵ ‘back of’)
<i>shko</i> ¹	‘backwards, beyond’ (cf. <i>shko</i> ⁴ ‘beyond’)

Temporal adverbs comprise all temporal words that are not nouns; they occur mainly as time peripheral elements (see §1.1.7). They are either basic or derived from nouns by means of a tone replacement.

Basic temporal adverbs:

<i>kwa³no²</i>	‘right now, just then’
<i>yax¹³</i>	‘now, today, from now on, at that time’
<i>ko³ra⁴</i>	‘later today (Sp. <i>ahora</i>)’
<i>ahyox³</i> or <i>ahyux³</i>	‘tomorrow’
<i>yatax³</i>	‘day after tomorrow’
<i>kwahaa¹³</i>	‘last night’
<i>kii³</i>	‘yesterday’

Derived temporal adverbs:

<i>rke¹³</i>	‘in the past’ (cf. <i>rke³</i> ‘stomach of, in, under’)
<i>shrax¹</i>	‘in the future’ (cf. <i>shraa⁵</i> ‘back of’)

The adverb *yax¹³* ‘now’ also functions as a conjunction meaning ‘now that’ or ‘given the fact that’ (see §6.2.1).

General adverbs include manner words that are not stative verbs; they occur mainly as manner peripheral elements (see §1.1.7) and as manner in the verb phrase (see §2.1.3). They are simple or complex.

Simple:

<i>dax¹³</i> or <i>danx¹³</i>	‘thus’
<i>nanx¹³</i>	‘thus’ (often with accompanying gesture)
<i>nanax³²</i>	‘slowly’
<i>shiah¹</i>	‘truly’
<i>rmahan¹³</i>	‘in vain’ (cf. <i>mahan¹³</i> ‘self of’)
<i>yuun¹</i>	‘once’
<i>yuun⁴</i>	‘another time’
<i>inanx²</i>	‘just’

Complex:

<i>tah¹</i>	<i>azuun³²</i>
although	likely
more or less,	probably

See §5.6 for a description of the tone raising that distinguishes *yuun⁴* ‘another time’ from *yuun¹* ‘once’.

The adverb *shiah*¹ ‘truly’ has a special function to express strong focus (see §1.1.8). *inanx*² ‘just’ also serves as a prenuclear limiter in noun phrases (see §3.1.2).

Intensifying adverbs occur as manner in content verb phrases, stative verb phrases, basic adverb phrases, and general quantifier phrases (see §§2.1.3, 2.3, 4.2.1, and 4.1.5). They are simple or complex.

Simple:

<i>ndoho</i> ³²	‘very’
<i>ushra</i> ⁴	‘very’
<i>tiah</i> ³	‘very’
<i>tihunh</i> ³	‘very’
<i>tikix</i> ¹³	‘very’

Complex:

<i>dox</i> ³	<i>a</i> ¹
more	?
even more	

Interrogative adverbs occur in WH questions and indirect questions (see §§1.2.2. and 1.2.3).

<i>tunx</i> ³	‘where?’
<i>aman</i> ³	‘when?’
<i>a³zah</i> ¹	‘how? (expressing surprise)’ (homophonous with ‘when [in the future]’)
<i>dax</i> ¹	‘how?’

The words for where and when are obsolescent, and their function is usually filled by idiomatic interrogative noun phrases (see §3.4)

The category adverb has less unity than most of the other parts of speech. Some adverbs are much like stative verbs, but do not occur as the predicate of stative sentences. These adverbs are likely to occur in repetitive adverb phrases (see §4.2.4) or to take the negative marker *ne*³ when they occur in basic adverb phrases (see §4.2.1). Other adverbs are more like nouns, but do not occur with all the elements found in basic noun phrases. These adverbs are likely to occur in appositional adverb phrases (see §4.2.2) or as the object of prepositions (see §4.3). Still other adverbs, for example, the intensifying adverbs, are mainly function words.

5.6 Quantifiers

Quantifiers include both numerals and general quantifiers. These elements occur commonly as quantifiers in noun phrases (see chapter 3, especially §§3.1.2 and 3.2), and as the nucleus in various quantifier phrases (see §§4.1.3–4.1.8). They also occur occasionally as manner in verb phrases (see §2.1.3) and as ordinals in relative clauses (see §3.1.3). When no noun nucleus occurs, a quantifier sometimes appears to function as a noun.

The simple numerals are:

<i>yoho</i> ² or <i>ho</i> ²	‘one’
<i>yaan</i> ¹	‘one’ (in additive numeral phrases following fifteen and twenty)
<i>wix</i> ¹	‘two’
<i>wahnux</i> ¹	‘three’
<i>kahanx</i> ¹³	‘four’
<i>uhunh</i> ¹ or <i>hunh</i> ¹	‘five’
<i>watanh</i> ¹	‘six’
<i>ichix</i> ² or <i>chix</i> ²	‘seven’
<i>itunx</i> ² or <i>tunx</i> ²	‘eight’
<i>uun</i> ²	‘nine’
<i>ichih</i> ² or <i>chih</i> ²	‘ten’
<i>shiaan</i> ¹	‘eleven’ (cf. <i>chih</i> ² ‘ten’, <i>yaan</i> ¹ ‘one’)
<i>shuwix</i> ³	‘twelve’ (cf. <i>chih</i> ² , <i>wix</i> ¹ ‘two’)
<i>shahnux</i> ¹	‘thirteen’ (cf. <i>chih</i> ² , <i>wahnux</i> ¹ ‘three’)
<i>shikahanx</i> ¹³	‘fourteen’ (cf. <i>chih</i> ² , <i>kahanx</i> ¹³ ‘four’)
<i>shnuh</i> ²	‘fifteen’
<i>iko</i> ² or <i>ko</i> ²	‘twenty’
<i>shiaa</i> ²	‘twenty’ (as the nucleus of attributive numeral phrases)
<i>sya</i> ³ <i>ndo</i> ⁴	‘hundred (Sp. <i>ciento</i>)’
<i>mix</i> ⁵	‘thousand (Sp. <i>mil</i>)’
<i>manh</i> ¹	‘two, a pair’ (used mainly of tortillas)

Other numerals are expressed by phrases, as described in §§4.1.1 and 4.1.2.

The numeral *yoho*² ‘one’ has three special functions. It serves as an indefinite article (see §3.1.2), it occurs in preverbal manner position to mean ‘continuously’ (see §2.1.3), and it modifies other numerals to mean ‘approximately’ (see §4.1.4).

The numerals from one to six have special additive forms that involve a raising of the tone of the numeral. The relation between the raised form and the original low tone of the numeral is similar to the relation between the tone of a noun and the tone of a stative verb derived from it (see §5.2 for a description of this tone lowering). (See Hollenbach 1984a:248–52 for a detailed description of these changes.) The additive form of the numeral for one is created simply by raising the tone, while the additive forms of the numerals from two through six are created by fusing the additive form of one to the raised-tone form of the numeral. These additive forms are:

<i>yoho</i> ⁴ or <i>ho</i> ⁴	‘another’
<i>ya</i> ³ <i>wix</i> ⁵	‘another two’
<i>ya</i> ³ <i>hnux</i> ⁵	‘another three’
<i>yu</i> ³ <i>kwahanx</i> ³	‘another four’
<i>yu</i> ³ <i>hunh</i> ³	‘another five’
<i>ya</i> ³ <i>tanh</i> ³	‘another six’

The forms from two to six occur in additive numeral phrases and expanded numeral phrases (see §§4.1.1. and 4.1.4) as a composite realization of the prenuclear quantifier and the numeral nucleus.

General quantifiers include a number of less precise quantifying words. They are simple or complex. The most common simple ones are:

<i>kehee</i> ¹	‘many’ (used with count nouns)
<i>nokoo</i> ¹³	‘much’ (used with mass nouns)
<i>nuh</i> ¹ or <i>kunuh</i> ¹	‘complete, all’
<i>kunudax</i> ¹³ or <i>kunudanx</i> ¹³	‘all’ (cf. <i>kunuh</i> ¹ ‘complete’, <i>dax</i> ¹³ or <i>danx</i> ¹³ ‘thus’)
<i>tahax</i> ²	‘part of, some of’
<i>nahyanh</i> ¹	‘half’
<i>kano</i> ⁴	‘all sorts of’ (cf. <i>kano</i> ⁴ ‘COM:grab’)
<i>dox</i> ¹³	‘some, a little’
<i>yanex</i> ¹	‘side, part, half’
<i>ni</i> ² <i>chrex</i> ³²	‘one side of’ (cf. <i>yanex</i> ¹ ‘side’, <i>chrex</i> ³² ‘trail’)

The general quantifier *nuh*¹ ‘complete’ has a special function as a correlative conjunction meaning ‘as soon as’ (see §6.2.1).

The last three general quantifiers in the list above have additive forms with a higher tone, in one case also with loss of final *x*.

<i>dox</i> ³	‘more’
<i>yane</i> ⁵	‘other side, other part, other half’
<i>ni</i> ⁵ <i>chrex</i> ³²	‘other side of’

The general quantifiers *dox*¹³ ‘some’ and *dox*³ ‘more’ have a special function as quantifier in content verb phrases (see §2.1.3); *dox*³ also occurs as quantifier in stative verb phrases and adverb phrases (see §§2.3 and 4.2.1). In addition, *dox*¹³ is used to make a command more polite (see §1.3).

Some common complex general quantifiers are:

*naa*⁵ *guun*³
any COM:become
any

*nax*¹ *guun*³
any COM:become
any

*yanex*⁵ *skux*¹
side angled
a quarter

*dox*¹³ *tsinh*³
some tiny
very few, a very little bit (some speakers)

*dox*¹³ *tsinh*⁵
some tiny
very few, a very little bit (some speakers)

*dox*³ *tsinh*³
more tiny
very few more, a very little bit more (some speakers)

*dox*³ *tsinh*⁵
more tiny
very few more, a very little bit more (some speakers)

*me*³ *a*¹
 which ?
 every, all sorts of

*dax*³² *a*¹
 how:many ?
 every, all sorts of

5.7 Prepositions

There are five simple prepositions and one complex preposition.

Simple:

<i>ga</i> ²	'with'
<i>ndaa</i> ¹³	'until, as far as, over, from, even, and even'
<i>shko</i> ⁴	'beyond' (cf. <i>shkoo</i> ⁵ 'shoulder of')
<i>skahnux</i> ⁵	'among'
<i>ra</i> ⁴	'inside'

Complex:

*nuh*¹ *a*³*nikax*¹
 complete CON:turn
 all around

Three prepositions have special functions. *ga*² links the parts of additive noun phrases (see §3.8). *ra*⁴ occurs in the incorporated-element position in content, equative, and stative verb phrases to create idioms that express emotions (see §§2.1.3, 2.2, and 2.3). *ndaa*¹³ occurs in content verb phrases, stative verb phrases, and expanded numeral phrases to mean 'even' (see §§2.1.2, 2.3, and 4.1.4), and in additive verb phrases and additive noun phrases to mean 'and even' (see §§2.5 and 3.8).

Four words from other parts of speech also function as prepositions: the locative adverb *nichrunh*¹ 'near', the subordinate conjunctions *gaa*¹³ 'when' and *azix*² 'since', and the verb *a*³*nikax*¹ 'to turn', which means 'around'. Many prepositional functions are also carried by locative nouns used in an extended sense (see §§3.6 and 5.3.2).

5.8 Conjunctions

Conjunctions are used mainly to link combinations of sentences in a coordinate or subordinate relationship (see §§6.1.1 and 6.2.1). The coordinate conjunctions are simple or complex.

Simple:

<i>ne</i> ²	‘and’
<i>tsax</i> ²	‘but’

Complex:

<i>tsax</i> ² <i>ne</i> ²	but and
	but
<i>gaa</i> ¹³ <i>ne</i> ²	when and
	and then

The conjunctions *ne*² and *tsax*² *ne*² are also used to separate focused elements and fronted subordinate sentences from the rest of the sentence (see §§1.1.8, 1.2.2, and 6.2.1). *ne*² is also used to link the parts of additive noun phrases (see §3.8).

The subordinate conjunctions are also simple or complex:

Simple:

<i>e</i> ⁵ <i>ze</i> ³²	‘because’ (cf. <i>shehe</i> ⁴ ‘feet of’, <i>ze</i> ³² ‘CMP’)
<i>don</i> ³ or <i>duun</i> ³	‘with the result that’
<i>seze</i> ³²	‘if, whether, or else’
<i>gaa</i> ¹³	‘when’
<i>a</i> ³ <i>zah</i> ¹	‘when (in the future)’ (homophonous with ‘how? [expressing surprise]’)
<i>azix</i> ²	‘since’
<i>aze</i> ³²	‘as, whether’

Complex:

<i>shehe</i> ⁴ <i>ze</i> ³²	feet CMP
	because

*shehe*⁴ *rex*³²
 feet place
 because

*shehe*⁴ *yan*³²
 feet place
 because

*kwe*³*nda*⁴ *yan*³²
 account place
 because

*tah*¹ *ze*³²
 although CMP
 although (some speakers)

*ndah*¹ *ze*³²
 although CMP
 although (some speakers)

*nikih*¹ *ze*³²
 although CMP
 although

*ze*² *gaa*³² *nanx*¹³
 NEG POT:exist thus
 lest

*ndaa*¹³ *ze*³²
 until CMP
 until, since

*dax*¹ *ze*³²
 how CMP
 as

*aze*³² *waa*³²
 as CON:exist
 as

*ndaa*¹³ *waa*³²
 until CON:exist
 as

The conjunctions *gaa*¹³ ‘when’ and *azix*² ‘since’ also function as prepositions. *seze*³² ‘if’ and *aze*³² ‘as’ also function as complementizers in indirect questions (see §§1.2.3 and 6.1.2).

Some words from other parts of speech also function as conjunctions: the locative noun *kwe³nda⁴* ‘account’ means ‘because’, the temporal adverb *yax¹³* ‘now’ means ‘now that’ or ‘given the fact that’, and the non-phrase-final pronouns *rex³²* ‘place’ and *yan³²* ‘place’ mean ‘in order that’.

5.9 Markers

Markers include all words that form part of sentences or phrases that are not included in the parts of speech already described. They are verbal, nominal, numerical, general, or sentential.

Verbal markers include three words that occur in preverbal position and also the postverbal repetitive.

<i>ze²</i>	‘not’ (for potential aspect)
<i>ataa³</i>	‘not yet’
<i>ax¹</i>	‘already’
<i>uun⁴</i>	‘again, also’ (cf. <i>yuun⁴</i> ‘another time’)

Nominal markers include three postnuclear limiters, the two definite articles, one deictic, the possessed marker, two interrogatives, and the nominal negative.

Limiters:

<i>doh¹</i>	‘merely (deprecativ)’ (homophonous with ‘and’)
<i>narx²</i>	‘merely’
<i>maan¹</i>	‘only’

Articles:

<i>rox¹</i>	‘the two’
<i>nix³</i>	‘the (plural)’

Other nominal markers:

<i>dan³²</i>	‘that (previously mentioned)’
<i>ze³²</i>	‘possessed’
<i>me³</i>	‘which?’
<i>dax³²</i>	‘how much?, how many?’
<i>nuwee⁴</i>	‘not’ (cf. <i>ne³</i> ‘NEG’, <i>wee⁴</i> ‘AFF’)

There is also a complex interrogative nominal marker.

*me*³ *dax*³²
 which how:much
 how much?, how many?

Numerical markers occur in aggregative numeral phrases, expanded numeral phrases, and negative quantifier phrases (see §§4.1.3, 4.1.4, and 4.1.8).

*runh*⁵ 'single'
*ranh*³ 'grouped'
*dax*¹ 'only'
*a*¹ 'not (even)'

General markers occur in more than one major phrase type; they are:

Simple:

*ne*³ 'not' (for verbs in continuative and completive aspects
 and for stative verbs and adverbs)
*uun*¹ 'just' (cf. *yuun*¹ 'once')
*wee*⁴ 'affirmative'
*roh*³ 'topic'
*doh*¹ 'and' (homophonous with 'merely')

Complex:

*ze*³² *waa*³²
 it:INAN CON:exist
 that (complementizer)

There are two kinds of sentential markers. One kind affects the mood of a sentence, and also speaker attitude; these markers occur in sentence-final position (see §1.5). This class of markers is rather large, but many of its members are infrequent and/or limited to a few speakers. Only some of the most common ones are listed here.

Some markers occur only in questions.

*nah*³ 'YES/NO interrogative'
*nih*³ 'YES/NO interrogative' (used before a vocative and in
 embedded disjunctive questions)

<i>zhah</i> ²	‘YES/NO interrogative with affirmative answer expected’
<i>ga</i> ²	‘WH interrogative’
<i>onx</i> ³²	‘WH interrogative (insistent)’

One marker occurs only in commands.

<i>ru</i> ³ <i>gwanx</i> ³²	‘polite imperative, please’
---------------------------------------------------	-----------------------------

The following markers occur in both commands and statements.

<i>a</i> ⁴	‘persuasive, for sure’
<i>ei</i> ³²	‘emphatic, by all means, definitely’
<i>mah</i> ³	‘negative’
<i>man</i> ³²	‘negative’ (used before a vocative)
<i>mei</i> ³²	‘negative emphatic, by all means not, definitely not’ (cf. <i>man</i> ³² , <i>ei</i> ³²)

The markers that occur only in statements can be divided into neutral, emphatic, negative, and miscellaneous.

Neutral:

<i>a</i> ³²	‘declarative’
------------------------	---------------

Emphatic:

<i>adonx</i> ²	‘certainly’
<i>shugwanx</i> ³²	‘obviously, of course’
<i>shonx</i> ³²	‘agreement, clearly’
<i>zhix</i> ³²	‘cheerful, it’s so nice that’

Negative:

<i>madonx</i> ²	‘certainly not’ (cf. <i>man</i> ³² ‘NEG’, <i>adonx</i> ² ‘certainly’)
<i>marah</i> ²	‘negative quotative’ (cf. <i>man</i> ³² , <i>rah</i> ² ‘quotative’)

Miscellaneous:

<i>nianh</i> ³	‘urgent’
<i>ne</i> ³ <i>dih</i> ¹	‘you know’ (cf. <i>nehe</i> ³ ‘CON:sense’, <i>dih</i> ¹ ‘YOU:SG:FAM’)
<i>rah</i> ²	‘quotative’

The marker a^{32} 'declarative' is sometimes used to conjoin noun phrases (see §3.8).

One marker occurs before other markers, rather than in final position (see §6.2.1).

zax^2 'contrafactual' (cf. $tsax^2$ 'but')

There are also a number of complex sentential markers.

$nanx^1 a^4$
indeed PERS
for sure

$nanx^1 ei^{32}$
indeed EMPH
definitely for sure

$a^1 mah^3$
NEG NEG
negative emphatic, really not

$a^1 zhix^{32}$
? CHEERFUL
yes indeed

The second kind of sentential marker occurs in sentence-initial position and relates a sentence to its discourse context, as described in §6.4. Most of these markers are complex. The list is not fixed, and there is much variation between speakers. The most common markers used in expository discourse are:

Simple:

$tanax^{13}$ 'in addition, on the other hand' (cf. $ndaa^{13}$ 'until',
 $nanx^{13}$ 'thus')

Complex:

$dax^{13} inanx^2$
thus just
likewise

$ndaa^{13} nanx^{13}$
until thus
in addition, on the other hand

maan¹ ze³²
 only CMP
 only, it's only that
taa⁵ ze³²
 CON:be:on;top CMP
 let me suggest that
ho² ze³²
 one CMP
 consider that
shehe⁴ dan³²
 feet that
 therefore
shehe⁴ dan³² me³
 feet that CON:be
 therefore

The most common markers that express narrative sequence are:

zix⁵ gaa¹³ ne²
 CON:be:complete when and
 and after that
ndaa¹³ zix⁵ gaa¹³ ne²
 until CON:be:complete when and
 and after that
yoh³ gaa¹³ ne²
 that when and
 and after that
dan³² gaa¹³ ne²
 that when and
 and after that
wee⁴ dan³² ne²
 AFF that and
 and in addition to that, and after that, and as a result of that
wee⁴ dax¹³ waa³²
 AFF thus CON:exist
 in that way, and so it is that

wee⁴ dax¹³
 AFF thus
 in that way, and so it is that

nanx¹³ waa³²
 thus CON:exist
 in that way, and so it is that

dan³² me³ ze³²
 that CON:be CMP
 and then, it happened that, and so it is that

dan³² me³
 that CON:be
 and then, it happened that, and so it is that

5.10 Interjections

Interjections are words used outside of sentences to express emotion. They are systemic or extrasystemic.

Systemic interjections fit the phonological system of the language, but often take the stress and tone patterns typical for vocatives. Some common systemic interjections are:

'u³ta³² 'surprise' (cf. Sp. *puta* 'harlot')
tyoo³² 'mild surprise and displeasure'
'aii³² 'pain, sorrow'

The fox's cry of pain in 7.98 is the only example of an interjection in chapter 7.

One systemic interjection occurs sentence-medially, usually with a pause preceding and following, to indicate that the speaker wishes to correct what he just said.

naa³¹ 'correction'

The following sentence illustrates its use.

kahanx³² gwaa⁴ ya³kwex² / naa³¹ / ka³nihyaa¹ a³²
 COM:go John Oaxaca:City CORRECTION Puebla DEC
 John went to Oaxaca City—I mean Puebla.

Extrasystemic interjections do not fit the phonological patterns of the language. Some common extrasystemic interjections are:

<i>xmh</i> ⁴	‘mild annoyance’
<i>m</i> ⁴⁵ <i>xm</i> ³²	‘what a pity!’
<i>u</i> ⁴ <i>ti</i> ³ <i>ti</i> ² . . .	‘it’s hot!, ouch!’

Some extrasystemic interjections are used as calls.

<i>kst</i>	‘used to urge pack animals on’
<i>pst</i>	‘used to get someone’s attention’
<i>brrr</i> ⁴ (bilabial trill)	‘used to call chickens’

6

Intersentential Relations

Full sentences are marked as such by the presence of a sentential marker at the end (see §1.5). Each numbered sentence in the text in chapter 7 ends with one of these markers. Two or more basic sentences may be combined into a full sentence with either a coordinate relation or a subordinate relation between the parts.

6.1 Coordinate Relations

Some sentence combinations are connected by conjunctions, and others are not.

6.1.1 Coordinate relations with conjunctions. Coordinate sentences with conjunctions express coordination, antithesis, and temporal sequence.

The conjunction *ne*² ‘and’ expresses general coordination.

*kahanx*³² *zoh*³ *ya*³*kwex*² / *ne*² *kahanx*³² *zoh*³
COM:go he Oaxaca:City and COM:go he

*maka*⁵ *a*³²
Mexico:City DEC

He went to Oaxaca, and he went to Mexico City.

tahax² kinax⁵ riaan³² sno⁵ho³² / ne² tahax² kinax⁵
 part COM:remain face man and part COM:remain

riaan³² sha³na¹ a³²
 face woman DEC

PART [of them (the ears of corn)] stayed with the man, and PART [of them] stayed with the woman. (Openly 13)

zoh¹ kuchrux² makaa⁵ / ne² hunx¹ kuchrux²
 you:SG POT:lay Mexico:City, and I POT:lay

ya³kwex² a³²
 Oaxaca:City DEC

YOU will found Mexico City, and I will found Oaxaca. (Brother 35)

(See also 7.27, 7.28, 7.36, 7.90, and various others.)

When the verb *shrah³* ‘to split’ has the third person unspecified postclitic pronoun as its subject, and it occurs as the first part of a compound sentence with *ne²* ‘and’; it expresses a possibility.

shra-x³ / ne² kahanx² zoh³ a³²
 CON:split-UN and POT:go he DEC
 He may go.

The conjunction *tsax² ne²* ‘but’ expresses antithesis; less commonly *tsax²* is used alone.

ax¹ hnix³² tuhwi³ yoh³ tuhwa³ shkwaa⁵
 already CON:be:wedged:in thunder that mouth snake

rkax² / tsax² ne² kachrix⁵ zii⁵ wax² yoh³ me³rke¹³
 lizardlike but and COM:tuck:in he CON:move that sash

ston³ tuhwi³ a³²
 finger thunder DEC

That thunder (god) was already wedged in the mouth of the dragon, but that man going along handed the sash to the thunder (god). (Openly 75)

dyo⁴ manh³ me³ yoh³ / tsax² ne² kunuh¹ yawii³²
 season CON:rain CON:be it:INAN but and complete month

kahanx³² maan³¹ / kihyax³ zoh³ nanx¹ a⁴
 COM:go rain COM:do he indeed PERS

It was the rainy season (Sp. *tiempo* ‘time’), but ALL YEAR LONG he had made the rain go away for sure. (Openly 28)

*n-ahwex*³² *sha*³*na*¹ *kahanx*² *sno*⁵*ho*³² / *tsax*² *ne*²
 NEG-CON:be:willing woman POT:go man but and

*kuchih*³ *sno*⁵*ho*³² *rke*³ *naa*³¹ *a*³²
 COM:arrive man stomach cornfield DEC

The woman didn't want the man to go, but he arrived in the cornfield. (Fight 65)

*kahanx*³² *shu*³*nee*³ / *tsax*² *ne*³ *rih*³ *zoh*³ *yahan*³² *mah*³
 COM:go fox but NEG CON:get he fire NEG

The fox went, but he wasn't getting the fire. (Sun 4:8)

(See also 7.101.)

The conjunction *gaa*¹³ *ne*² 'and then' expresses temporal sequence.

*kahanx*² *zoh*¹ / *gaa*¹³ *ne*² *kurian-x*¹ *a*³²
 POT:go you:SG when and POT:appear-I DEC

You will go away, and then I will come out. (cf. Openly 43)

*asno*³ *skii*⁵ *kaoh*¹ *nih*⁴ *rke*³ *zhee*⁵ / *gaa*¹³ *ne*² *kaoh*¹
 first resin POT:hit we:IN stomach clearing when and POT:hit

*nih*⁴ *yahan*³² *zhee*⁵ *a*³²
 we:IN fire clearing DEC

FIRST we'll toss INCENSE in the clearing, and then we'll set fire to it. (Fight 16)

Sometimes, however, *ne*² 'and' is used for sequence.

tanii⁻³ *shrux*³ *yume*³² *ruwax*³ / *ne*² *cha-x*³ / *ne*²
 COM:lower-UN pot tuber fireplace and COM:eat-UN and

aax / *taa*⁻³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 ahhh CON:say-UN indeed PERS

He took the pot of tubers down from the fireplace, and he ate [them], and he said "ahhh" for sure. (Fight 230)

*kurian-x*¹ / *ne*² *kamanh*¹ *ko*³*ra*⁴ / *tihnuu*³² / *ne*²
 POT:appear-I and POT:rain later dusk and

*kawii*² *zah*¹ *shnaa*⁴ *zoh*¹ *a*³²
 POT:come:out good POS:cornfield your:SG DEC

I will come out, and it will rain later today (Sp. *ahora* 'now'), at dusk, and your cornfield will yield well. (Openly 53)

(See also 7.2, 7.68, 7.76, and 7.94.)

There is no conjunction that expresses disjunction, but this concept may be expressed by a juxtaposed construction containing the verb *ahwee*³ ‘to be possible’ or interrogative sentential markers (see §6.1.2).

6.1.2 Coordinate relations without conjunctions. It is very common to juxtapose two or more independent sentences, usually with no pause at the seam. This construction can be used to express a variety of semantic relations.

Restatement, in which a single situation is described in different ways, is often expressed by juxtaposition. This is a very common device to highlight an event in discourse.

*nazhuun*² *yanix*⁵ *zoh*¹ *man*⁴ *zoh*¹ / *kahanx*² *zoh*¹ *a*³²
 POT:pull:again apart you:SG body your:SG POT:go you:SG DEC
 You will move yourself away; you will go away. (Openly 53)

*kano*⁴ *zhi-h*⁴ *yoh*³ *ya*⁵*nux*¹³ / *kahnex*⁵
 COM:grab grandfather-our:IN that drum COM:take:away

*zhi-h*⁴ *yoh*³ *raha*³ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *a*³²
 grandfather-our:IN that hand grandmother-our:IN DEC
 That grandfather of ours grabbed the drum; he took [it] away from
 our grandmother. (Brother 164)

*ne*² *yax*¹³ *nianx*⁵ *roh*³ / *kuruwih*³ *yahanx*³² *gwii*¹³ /
 and now here TOPIC COM:appear god of:sun

*shrah*³ *yahanx*³² *gwii*¹³ / *guun*³ *zoh*³ *nehex*³ /
 COM:split god of:sun COM:become he baby

*kahngaa*³² *zoh*³ *ra*⁴ *na*³² *a*³²
 COM:be:born he inside water DEC

And as for then [and] there, the sun god appeared; the sun god hatched; he became the baby; he was born in the water. (Sun 2:17)

(See also 7.15.)

Sometimes the second basic sentence simply repeats part of the first.

kahaan⁻³ *ra*⁴ *chraa*⁵ / *kahaan*⁻³ *a*³²
 COM:GO-UN inside river COM:GO-UN DEC
 She went to the river; she went. (Sun 1:2)

*kahwee*¹³ *kunanx*² *zoh*¹ / *kahwee*¹³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 POT:be:possible POT:run you:SG POT:be:possible indeed PERS
 It's all right for you to run away; it's all right for sure. (Fight 105)

Restatement may be used to create doublets that serve as a literary device. Like the doublets found in appositional verb, noun, and adverb phrases (see §§2.6, 3.7, and 4.2.2), they follow the schema A B, A C. Either a verb is repeated with different, but semantically related, subjects; or a verb and short subject are repeated with different objects or adjuncts. The parts of the sentence that differ often show some degree of phonological similarity.

kakaa² kix³² / kakaa² takux³² a³²
 POT:burn mountain POT:burn slope DEC
 The mountain will burn; the slope will burn. (cf. Sun 2:54)

kano¹ yahan³² takaan³ / kano¹ yahan³² takux³² a³²
 POT:grab fire hillside POT:grab fire slope DEC
 The fire will ignite the hillside; the fire will ignite the slope.
 (Sun 1:47)

Sometimes one part of a restatement construction is the negative counterpart of the other.

kahanx³² gwa⁴ shumanh³ / ne³ kinax² zoh³ mah³
 COM:go John town NEG COM:remain he NEG
 John (Sp. *Juan*) went to town; he didn't stay [here].

tuhwa³ rmahan¹³ ho² ri³kix¹³ yaa³² / ne³ ya¹³ ri³kix¹³
 CON:talk in:vain one frog tongue NEG true frog

man¹ ra⁴ chraa⁵ a³²
 CON2:exist:PL inside river DEC
 A leopard frog doesn't mean [it (what it says)]; the frogs that are in the river aren't truthful. (Sun 4:17)

(See also 7.20.)

A generic-specific relation may also be expressed by juxtaposition.

kiranh³ zoh³ sayuun³² / kachranh³ takoo⁵ zoh³ a³²
 COM:suffer he trouble COM:break foot his DEC
 He suffered misfortune; his leg got broken.

kaoh³ zoh³ chruun³ / kishrah³ manh¹ chruun³ / kihyax³
 COM:hit he wood COM:be:split two wood COM:do
zoh³ a³²
 he DEC
 He hit the tree; he caused it to split in two. (Openly 20)

kiri-x² se³shu²wii⁴ zoh¹ / kuhnax¹ zoh¹
 POT:take:out-I POS:name your:sg CON:be:named you:sg

shkwaa³ yahan² a³²
 ant of:fire DEC

I will choose your name; you are called fire ant. (Sun 3:30)

ne³ guun¹³ yukwanh¹ yahanx³² gwii¹³ / kirih³ zoh³
 NEG COM:become in:time god of:sun COM:get he

rex³² nichruun¹³ shkwaa⁵ a³²
 place left:side snake DEC

The sun god wasn't quick enough; he got [the one on] the left side of the snake. (Sun 2:79)

(See also 7.54 and 7.98.)

The last sentence above has a very different structure from the following sentences, which contain an object complement.

ne³ guun¹³ yukwanh¹ rex³ chex¹ zoh³ kunanx² rex³
 NEG COM:become in:time father in:law his POT:run father

chex¹ zoh³ rke³ zhee⁵ mah³
 in:law his stomach clearing NEG

His father-in-law wasn't quick enough to run out of the clearing. (Fight 26)

ne³ guun¹³ nukwax¹³ na³² nazix² yoh³
 NEG COM:become strong water POT:be:complete:again it:INAN

raa³¹ kix³² mah³
 head mountain NEG

The water wasn't strong enough to reach the top of the mountain. (Deluge 7)

Note that the juxtaposed sentence ends with the declarative sentential marker *a³²*, even though there is a negative in the first part. The sentences with an object complement, on the other hand, end with the negative sentential marker *mah³*.

Sometimes, however, it is difficult to decide whether a sentence should be read as juxtaposed or as a sentence containing an object complement. The following sentences, which do not contain a negative, permit either reading.

*guun*³ *yukwanh*¹ *yawii*³ / *kirih*³ *yoh*³ *rex*³² *nuwah*¹
 COM:become in:time moon COM:get that place right:side

*shkwaa*⁵ *a*³²
 snake DEC

The moon was quick enough; that [one] got [the one on] the right side of the snake. *or* The moon was quick enough to get . . .
 (Sun 2:79)

*guun*³ *nukwax*¹³ *kix*³² *yoh*³ / *kachen*⁴ *yoh*³ *riaan*³²
 COM:become strong mountain that COM:pass it:INAN face

*na*³² *a*³²
 water DEC

That mountain was strong enough; it surpassed the water (in height).
or That mountain was strong enough to surpass . . . (Deluge 8)

A variety of temporal relations between what are viewed as two or more distinct situations may also be expressed by juxtaposition if the juxtaposed sentences have coreferential subjects.

To express simultaneous actions, the verbs must agree in aspect.

*chee*⁵ *zoh*³ / *achraa*⁵ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:walk he CON:sing he DEC
 He walks along singing.

*dinx*⁵ *waa*³² *tuhwa*³ *shkaa*³² / *chee*⁵ *zhoh*³ *gaa*¹³
 silent CON:exist mouth raven CON:walk it:AML when

*naa*⁴ *a*³²
 long:ago DEC

The raven had no voice [as] it walked long ago. (Fight 233)

*a*³*ta*¹³ *zoh*³ *yume*³² / *hna*³ *nike*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:carry he tuber CON:come back he DEC
 He was carrying tubers [as] he was returning. (Fight 207)

aax / *tax*³² *zoh*³ / *ne*³ *zoh*³ / *cha*⁴ *zoh*³ *yume*³²
 ahhh CON:say he CON:sit he CON:eat he tuber

*ra*⁴ *weh*³ *a*³²
 inside house DEC

He said “ahhh” [as] he was sitting [and] eating tubers in the house.
 (Fight 224)

*agwax*⁵ *agwax*⁵ *zhoh*³ / *taa*⁵ *zhoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:cry:out CON:cry:out it:AML CON:be:on:top it:AML DEC
 It (the raven) kept on crying out [as] it was on top [of it]. (Fight 256)
 (See also 7.72 and 7.75.)

Also common is temporal inclusion. To express inclusion, the including predicate must be in continuative aspect, and the included one in completive or potential. The two parts may occur in either order.

*wax*² *zoh*³ / *nashruh*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 CON2:move he COM:fall:down he DEC
 He was moving along [when] he fell down. or [As] he was moving along, he fell down.

*nax*³ *zoh*³ *takaan*³ / *kotox*³² *zoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:lie he hillside COM:sleep he DEC
 He slept [as] he was lying on the hillside. (Sun 4:20)

*kuno*³ *shkaa*³² / *taa*⁵ *zhoh*³ *raa*³¹ *chruun*³ *a*³²
 COM:hear raven CON:be:on:top it:AML head wood DEC
 The raven heard [it as] it was on the top of the tree. (Fight 225)
 (See also 7.21 and 7.66.)

In 7.70 and 7.90, the juxtaposed sentences serve as the object complement of *hyax*³ 'to do' (see §1.1.9).

Temporal sequence is also sometimes expressed by juxtaposition.

*kawii*³² *zoh*³ *kwa*³*yo*⁴ / *kahanx*³² *zoh*³ / *ku*³*rianx*¹ *zoh*³
 COM:come:out he horse COM:go he COM:appear he

*niaan*⁵ *a*³²
 Tlaxiaco DEC

He got on the horse (Sp. *caballo*), he went away, [and then] he showed up in Tlaxiaco. (Brother 79)

*kahanx*³² *shkwax*³² / *kuzhuun*³² *shkwax*³² *niax*³² *a*³²
 COM:go fish COM:pull fish hominy DEC
 The fish went, [and then] they pulled at the hominy. (Sun 3:67)

*kahanx*³² *noh*³ *ngax*³² / *kiranx*⁵ *noh*³ *yuhwex*³² *a*³²
 COM:go she Putla COM:buy she thread DEC
 She went to Putla, [and then] she bought thread.

(See also 7.2, 7.82, 7.86, and 7.99.)

Often a string of juxtaposed sentences occurs with a variety of relations between them.

*kawii*³² *noh*³ / *kunanx*⁵ *noh*³ / *kahanx*³² *noh*³
COM:come:out she COM:run she COM:go she

*nanx*¹ *a*⁴
indeed PERS

She left; she ran away; she went away for sure. (Fight 117)

*kachrix*⁵ *zhoh*³ *tuneh*³ *zhoh*³ / *kunanx*⁵ *zhoh*³ / *kahanx*³²
COM:tuck:in it:AML tail its:AML COM:run it:AML COM:go

*zhoh*³ / *kirih*³ *zhoh*³ *yahan*³² *a*³²
it:AML COM:get it:AML fire DEC

It stuck its tail [in the fire]; it ran; it went away; it got the fire. (Sun 2:53)

*chrux*¹ *chrux*¹ *chrux*¹ / *tax*³² *takoo*⁵ *shtax*³ / *gwex*⁵
thump thump thump CON:say foot deer COM:jump

*yoh*³ / *kannah*³ *yoh*³ / *kuno*³ *rox*¹ *shnii*³ *a*³²
that COM:come that COM:hear the:DU boy DEC

The two boys heard the deer's feet saying thump thump thump [as] that [one] came jumping. (Sun 1:41)

In 7.17 the first basic sentence precedes the others in time, and the remaining two basic sentences, the second of which contains an object complement, express simultaneous actions.

A series of items that form a list may be expressed by juxtaposition. If the items in the series serve as the subject, the verb is stated before each item and optionally following the last.

*kawih*³ *skux*⁵ / *kawih*³ *tana*³² / *kawih*³ *matsinx*³² *a*³²
COM:die ox COM:die goat COM:die sheep DEC

The oxen, goats, [and] sheep died. (i.e., they were butchered)

*kawih*³ *skux*⁵ / *kawih*³ *tana*³² / *kawih*³ *matsinx*³² /
COM:die ox COM:die goat COM:die sheep

*kawih*³ *a*³²
COM:die DEC

The oxen, goats, [and] sheep died.

kayuu³ tuhwex³² nga³ / kayuu³ takanx³ nga³
 COM:fall POS:thread old:woman COM:fall POS:sandal old:woman

yoh³ / kayuu³ a³²
 that COM:fall DEC

The balls of thread [and] the sandals of the old woman fell.
 (Sun 1:65)

kinakoo³¹ naa³¹ / kinakoo³¹ yohoo⁵ / kinakoo³¹ nanx¹ a⁴
 COM:dry cornfield COM:dry earth COM:dry indeed PERS
 The cornfields [and] the earth dried up for sure. (Openly 32)

hnah³ shuhwix³² noh³ / hnah³ nü³ noh³ / hnah³
 CON:come sister:FE her CON:come mother her CON:come

nuh¹ nix³ sha³na¹ / hnah³ ga² noh³ nanx¹ a⁴
 complete the:PL woman CON:come with her indeed PERS
 Her sisters, her mother, [and] all the women were coming with her
 for sure. (Fight 306)

hyax³ yoh³ hnah³ nixe³ chruun³ / hnah³ nixe³ kawee³¹
 CON:do that CON:come back wood CON:come back rafter /

hnah³ nixe³ a³²
 CON:come back DEC

Those [ones (the boys)] caused poles [and] rafters to come back.
 (i.e., they brought poles and rafters back) (Sun 1:26)

If the items in the series serve as something other than the subject, the verb and subject are stated before each item and optionally following the last.

kiranx⁵ noh³ yuhwex³² / kiranx⁵ noh³ yumih³ / kiranx⁵ noh³
 COM:buy she thread COM:buy she soap COM:buy she

yaan³² a³²
 salt DEC

She bought thread, soap, [and] salt.

kiranx⁵ noh³ yuhwex³² / kiranx⁵ noh³ yumih³ / kiranx⁵ noh³
 COM:buy she thread COM:buy she soap COM:buy she

yaan³² / kiranx⁵ noh³ a³²
 salt COM:buy she DEC

She bought thread, soap, [and] salt.

*cha*⁴ *zhoh*³ *ro*³² / *cha*⁴ *zhoh*³ *ra*³*zuun*³² / *cha*⁴
 CON:eat it:AML banana:plant CON:eat it:AML thing CON:eat

*zhoh*³ *kwa*³*no*² *a*³²
 it:AML right:now DEC

It (the gopher) eats banana plants [and other] things right now.
 (Sun 2:126)

kahngaa⁻³ *nuh*¹ *tahman*^{-x}³ / *kahngaa*⁻³ *nuh*¹
 COM:rub-UN complete thigh-UN COM:rub-UN complete

takoo⁻³ / *kahngaa*⁻³ *a*³²
 foot-UN COM:rub-UN DEC

She rubbed [them (pokeberries)] all over her thighs [and] legs.
 (cf. Sun 3:87)

*nayon*⁴ *na*³² *ra*⁴ *chraa*⁵ / *nayon*⁴ *na*³²
 CON:be:in:again water inside river CON:be:in:again water

*nuh*¹ *gee*¹ *kix*³² / *nayon*⁴ *na*³²
 complete whole mountain CON:be:in:again water

*nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 indeed PERS

Water was in the river [and] all over the mountains for sure.
 (Openly 57)

There are three ways in which disjunction may be expressed without conjunctions. A disjunctive statement may be expressed by juxtaposing sentences which contain *ahwee*³ 'to be possible' and a subject complement. Sometimes *ahwee*³ occurs after the last disjunct also.

*ahwee*³ *yaan*⁵ *noh*³ *ya*³*kwex*² / *ahwee*³
 CON:be:possible CON:sit she Oaxaca:City CON:be:possible

*yaan*⁵ *noh*³ *maka*⁵ *a*³²
 CON:sit she Mexico:City DEC

She may be living in Oaxaca, [or] she may be living in Mexico City.

*kahwee*¹³ *kiraan*² *gwaa*⁴ *mi*³*shte*⁴ / *kahwee*¹³ *kiraan*²
 POT:be:possible POT:buy John machete POT:be:possible POT:buy

*gwaa*⁴ *nee*³² / *kahwee*¹³ *a*³²
 John knife POT:be:possible DEC

John may buy a machete (Sp. *machete*), [or] he may buy a knife.

A disjunctive question may be expressed by using the YES/NO interrogative marker *nah*³, followed by pause, on the first and any other nonfinal

disjuncts, and using the YES/NO interrogative marker *zhah*² on the final disjunct. Even though *zhah*² expects an affirmative answer when used alone, it does not necessarily do so when used correlatively with *nah*³.

*kawih*³ *pa*³*blo*⁴ *nah*³ / *kinanii*³² *zoh*³ *zhah*²
 COM:die Paul INT COM:escape he INT:AFF
 Did Paul (Sp. *Pablo*) die, [or] did he escape?

*kiranx*⁵ *zoh*³ *skux*⁵ *nah*³ / *kiranx*⁵ *zoh*³ *tana*³² *nah*³ /
 COM:buy he OX INT COM:buy he goat INT

*kiranx*⁵ *zoh*³ *matsinx*³² *zhah*²
 COM:buy he sheep INT:AFF
 Did he buy an ox, a goat, [or] a sheep?

A disjunctive question may be embedded as the object complement of another sentence. Each disjunct is introduced by *seze*³² 'if' or *aze*³² 'as' and ends with the interrogative sentential marker *nih*³. The main verb in such a sentence is often a verb of knowing, usually in the negative, and the main verb and its subject are usually repeated following the last disjunct.

*ne*³ *nehe*³ *gwaa*⁴ *seze*³² *kahnah*¹ *li*³*na*⁴ *nih*³ / *seze*³²
 NEG CON:sense John if POT:come Lina INT if

*kahnah*¹ *ma*³*rya*⁴ *nih*³ / *ne*³ *nehe*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 POT:come Mary INT NEG CON:sense he DEC
 John doesn't know whether Lina (Sp. *Lina*) will come, [or] whether Mary (Sp. *María*) will come.

*ne*³ *nehe*³ *gwaa*⁴ *aze*³² *otox*³² *pe*³*dro*⁴ *nih*³ / *aze*³² *ne*³
 NEG CON:sense John as CON:sleep Peter INT as NEG

*otox*³² *pe*³*dro*⁴ *nih*³ / *ne*³ *nehe*³ *gwaa*⁴ *a*³²
 CON:sleep Peter INT NEG CON:sense John DEC
 John doesn't know whether Peter (Sp. *Pedro*) is sleeping, [or] not.

Juxtaposition is also used for a number of close-knit constructions in which at least one of the verbs is highly restricted, and the meaning is conventionalized. Even though these constructions have no pause at the boundary between the two parts, a solidus is used in the examples to show the boundary.¹³

¹³A number of similar sentence types were described for Chichahuaxtla Trique by Longacre 1966.

To express the addressee with a verb of saying, a juxtaposed sentence with the verb *uno*³ ‘to hear’ in the second part may be used. This construction often occurs in quotation closers (see §6.3).

*kahmii*³² *shnii*³² / *kuno*³ *nii*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:speak boy COM:hear mother his DEC
 The boy spoke to his mother.

Sometimes the reduced form *no*³ occurs; this form is not inflected for aspect and functions much like a preposition.

*kahmii*³² *shnii*³² / *no*³ *nii*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:speak boy CON:hear mother his DEC
 The boy spoke to his mother.

(See also 7.29, 7.67, and 7.68.)

It is also possible to express an addressee as a locative adjunct (see §1.1.4) signaled by the locative noun *riaan*³² ‘face of’; see, for example, 7.6, 7.9, and 7.10. The juxtaposed sentence method appears to be losing ground to the locative adjunct method, perhaps because of Spanish influence.

For many older speakers, idioms with the preposition *ra*⁴ ‘inside’, which refer to emotional and psychological states (see §§2.1.3, 3.2, and 3.3), are intransitive. In order to express an object, the sentence containing the idiom must be juxtaposed with a transitive sentence that has the verb *ni*³*hyax*² ‘to look’ or *nehe*³ ‘to sense’ or ‘to see’ and a coreferential subject.

*kahmaan*³ *ra*⁴ *noh*³ / *ni*³*hyax*² *noh*³ *ni*³*ka*² *noh*³ *a*³²
 COM:get:hot inside she COM:look she spouse her DEC
 She became angry at her husband.

*kahmaan*³ *ra*⁴ *noh*³ / *kenehe*³ *noh*³ *ni*³*ka*² *noh*³ *a*³²
 COM:get:hot inside she COM:sense she spouse her DEC
 She became angry at her husband.

Many speakers, however, treat the idiom as a transitive verb, and the object occurs in the same basic sentence as the idiom, usually introduced by *man*³ ‘body of’. An example of this is found in 7.81.

There are no verbs that mean ‘to bring’ or ‘to take’; these concepts may be expressed by juxtaposing a sentence that has a motion verb like *hnah*³ ‘to come’ or *hanx*³² ‘to go’ with a sentence that has a verb such as *ni*³*kax*² ‘to have’. The two verbs must agree in aspect, and they must have coreferential subjects.

ni³kax² gwaa⁴ mi³shte⁴ / kahnah³ zoh³ a³²
 COM:have John machete COM:come he DEC
 John brought a machete.

ni³kax² noh³ chraa³ / kahanx³² noh³ a³²
 COM:have she tortilla COM:go she DEC
 She took the tortillas. (Sun 4:22)

ni²kax³² zoh¹ ho² runh⁵ tanh³ / kahanx² zoh¹ a⁴
 POT:have you:SG one single corn:ear POT:go you:SG PERS
 Take a single ear of corn! (cf. Fight 167)

a³ta¹³ rox¹ zoh³ nee³¹ shtax³ / naman⁴ rox¹
 CON:carry the:DU he flesh deer CON:arrive:home:here the:DU
zoh³ weh³ a³²
 he house DEC

The two of them were bringing the venison home to the house.
 (Sun 2:56)

An example of this construction is found in 7.63, which has an unexpressed object.

The order of the two sentences may be reversed, in which case the motion verb has an unexpressed subject.

kahnah³ / ni³kax² gwaa⁴ mi³shte⁴ a³²
 COM:come COM:have John machete DEC
 John brought a machete.

kahanx² / ni²kax³² shnii³ shuwee³ ahyox³ a³²
 POT:go POT:have boy dog tomorrow DEC
 The boy will take the dog tomorrow.

kahanx³² / ni³kax² yoh³ chraa³ a³²
 COM:go COM:have that tortilla DEC
 That [one] took tortillas. (Sun 1:19)

In the following example, the construction expressing bring serves as a subject complement (see §1.1.9).

kinawix³ kahanx³² / ni³kax² zhi-h⁴ tinuu⁵
 COM:finish COM:go COM:have grandfather-our:IN brother:ME
zoh³ rex³² shko¹ na³² yahanx² a³²
 his place beyond water divine DEC
 Our grandfather finished taking his brother across the ocean.
 (Brother 156)

In the following example a juxtaposed construction expressing bring is itself juxtaposed with a sentence that precedes it in temporal sequence.

ne² karih³ zoh³ yahan³² / ni³kax² zoh³ / kahnah³
 and COM:get he fire COM:have he COM:come
zoh³ a³²
 he DEC

And he got the fire, [and then] he brought it. (Sun 4:11)

A sentence with *a³nikax¹* ‘to turn’ is sometimes combined with a sentence expressing an action subsequent to the previous full sentence. Even though there is usually a literal change of direction between the two actions, this construction seems to be developing into a marker of temporal sequence.

ne² zix⁵ kuchrux³² rox¹ nika² rox¹ zoh³ wix¹
 and CON:be:complete COM:lay the:DU spouse the:DU he two
shumanh³ yoh³ a³² // gaa¹³ ne² a³nikax¹ rox¹ zoh³ /
 town that DEC when and CON:turn the:DU he
me³ ra⁴ rox¹ zoh³ kuchrux² rox¹ zoh³ shumanh³
 CON:be inside the:DU he POT:lay the:DU he town
kopa³la⁴ / shiaan⁵ nih⁴ a³²
 Copala POS:town our:IN DEC

And he and his wife finished founding those two towns. And then the two of them turned; they wanted to found the town of Copala (Sp. *Copala*), our hometown. (Brother 46–47)

dan³² me³ ze³² zix⁵ kahanx³² zoh³ rex³² rnuu³²
 that CON:be CMP CON:be:complete COM:go he place coast
a³² // a³nikax¹ zoh³ / nazix⁵ uun⁴ zoh³ a³²
 DEC CON:turn he COM:be:complete:again REP he DEC

And then he was finished going to the coast. He turned and arrived back. (Brother 25–26)

(See also 7.10–11.)

Instrument may be expressed by combining a sentence containing *ra⁵zuun³²* ‘to use’ or *ni³kax²* ‘to have’ or ‘to hold’ with another sentence.

ra⁵zuun³² gwaa⁴ agah³ a³cha⁴ / kahneh³ zoh³ chruun³ a³²
 CON:use John metal axe COM:cut he wood DEC
 John cut the tree with an axe (Sp. *hacha*).

ni³kax² gwaa⁴ nee³² / tikawih³ zoh³ skux⁵ a³²
 CON:have John knife COM:kill he ox DEC
 John butchered the ox with a knife.

To express source with a motion verb, a sentence with a verb like *awii³²* 'to come out' or 'to leave' may be juxtaposed to the sentence containing the motion verb.

kawii³² gwaa⁴ ngax³² / kahanx³² zoh³ a³²
 COM:come:out John Putla COM:go he DEC
 John went away from Putla.

kawii² zoh³ makaa⁵ / kahnah¹ zoh³ a³²
 POT:come:out he Mexico:City POT:come he DEC
 He will come from Mexico City.

Peripheral location is infrequent. It is more common to express such a location as a locative adjunct in a separate juxtaposed sentence containing a motion or position verb.

kahanx³² zoh³ shumanh³ / kahmii³² natax⁵ zoh³ a³²
 COM:go he town COM:speak publicly he DEC
 He went to town; he gave a speech. *or* He gave a speech in town.

nuu² noh³ ra⁴ weh³ / otox³² noh³ a³²
 CON2:be:in she inside house CON:sleep she DEC
 She is in the house; she is sleeping. *or* She is sleeping in the house.

kuno³ shkaa³² / taa⁵ zhoh³ raa³¹ chruun³ a³²
 COM:hear raven CON:be:on:top it:AML head wood DEC
 The raven heard [it]; it was on the top of the tree. *or* The raven heard it on the top of the tree. (Fight 186)

ne¹³ sha³na¹ shumanh³ / ananx⁵ noh³ rohno⁴ a³²
 CON2:sit woman town CON:weave she tunic DEC
 The woman is in town; she is weaving a tunic. *or* The woman is weaving a tunic in town.

The number of times an action takes place may be expressed by combining a sentence containing *zix⁵* 'to be complete' or *uun³* 'to become' and a quantifier with another sentence.

kizix⁵ kehee¹ / kano⁴ shihii³¹ man³ zoh³ a³²
 COM:be:complete many COM:grab sickness body his DEC
 He has gotten sick many times. (lit. [It] totaled many [times that] sickness grabbed him.)

*kizix*⁵ *shnuh*² / *chee*⁵ *yawii*³² *shkih*⁴ *a*³²
 COM:be:complete fifteen CON:walk month August DEC
 August fifteenth arrived. (lit. August has finished walking fifteen
 [times].) (Fight 292)

*kizix*⁵ *wix*¹ / *kihayx*³ *ituu*² *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:be:complete two COM:do stealing he DEC
 He has stolen twice.

*guun*³ *kehee*¹ / *tahyunx*³² *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:become many COM:deceive he DEC
 He has deceived [people] many times.

Two juxtaposed sentences may have a shared noun phrase that serves as a pivot between them. Only a few verbs occur in the first sentence of this construction. The most common ones are: *nawix*³ ‘to finish’, *nuwih*³ or *nuwih*³ *wax*² ‘to not be present’, and *dax*³² or *dax*³² *wax*² ‘to not exist’. When the verb in the first sentence is negative, a negative sentential marker often occurs at the end of the juxtaposed construction.

*nawix*³ *weh*³ / *kakaa*³² *a*³²
 COM:finish house COM:burn DEC
 The house burned up. (lit. The house finished; [it] burned.)

*nawix*³ *tuwih*³ *zoh*³ / *kawih*³ *a*³²
 COM:finish companion his COM:die DEC
 His companions all died. (Deluge 18)

*nuwih*³ *wax*² *zoh*¹ / *kuchih*³ *mah*³
 CON:NEG:be:present CON2:move you:SG COM:arrive NEG
 You haven’t arrived. (cf. Fight 272)

*nuwih*³ *wax*² *maan*³¹ / *kamanh*³ *mah*³
 CON:NEG:be:present CON2:move rain COM:rain NEG
 There wasn’t any rain at all. (Openly 26)

*dax*³² *wax*² *zoh*³ / *ne*³ *mah*³
 CON:NEG:exist CON2:move he CON:sit NEG
 He wasn’t home. (Fight 173)

*kinawix*³ *ichix*² *kuchruu*³¹ *tanh*³ *yoh*³ / *kizhix*⁵
 COM:finish seven corncrib corn:ear that COM:be:tucked:in

*shkuu*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 animal indeed PERS

Those seven corncribs [full] of ears of corn were all riddled with insects for sure. (Fight 126)

*kinawix*³ *naa*³¹ / *kiri*³² *noh*³ *a*³²
 COM:finish cornfield COM:take:out she DEC
 She harvested the cornfield thoroughly. (Fight 74)

(See also 7.76 and 7.87.)

The order of elements in these sentences is identical to that in basic sentences in which the subject is modified by a relative clause, but the two constructions are different. Sentence combinations with a shared noun phrase have phrase-final pronouns and the high-tone continuative form of position verbs; while a relative clause is introduced by a non-phrase-final pronoun head and takes the low-tone continuative form of position verbs (see §5.1.2). Compare the following two sentences; the first one contains a shared noun phrase, and the second one contains a relative clause.

*nuwih*³ *noh*³ / *ne*³ *ra*⁴ *weh*³ *a*³²
 CON:NEG:be:present she CON:sit inside house DEC
 She isn't home. (lit. She isn't there sitting in the house.)

*nuwih*³ *nii*⁵ *ne*¹³ *ra*⁴ *weh*³ *a*³²
 CON:NEG:be:present she CON2:sit inside house DEC
 The woman who lives in the house is not there.

6.2 Subordinate Relations

Subordinate relations are usually expressed using conjunctions, but a few relations may be expressed using simple juxtaposition.

6.2.1 Subordinate relations with conjunctions. Conjunctions are used to express cause, result, condition, concession, purpose, negative purpose, time, and comparison of equality.

Cause sentences are introduced by the conjunction *shehe*⁴ *ze*³² 'because'; some speakers prefer the fused form *e*⁵*ze*³², and some use *shehe*⁴ *rex*³², *shehe*⁴ *yan*³², or *kwe*³*nda*⁴ *yan*³² (Sp. *cuenta* 'account'). Sometimes the nominal marker *maan*¹ 'only' precedes one of the above. Cause sentences may precede or follow the main sentence. When they precede, there is a pause at the boundary, and the main sentence is often introduced by the conjunctions *ne*² 'and', *gaa*¹³ *ne*² 'and then', or *don*³ or *duun*³ 'with the result that', or by the complex sentential marker *shehe*⁴ *dan*³² 'therefore'.

*dax*¹³ *katax*³² *noh*³ / *shehe*⁴ *ze*³² *nokoh*³ *ushra*⁴ *shex*³² *man*³
 thus COM:say she feet CMP CON:follow INTS weight body

*noh*³ *a*³²
 her DEC

She said that because prosperity really follows her. (Fight 93)

*ze*² *nano*⁴ *ra*⁴ *zoh*¹ / *shehe*⁴ *rex*³² *guun*⁴ *zoh*¹
 NEG POT:tell inside you:so feet place COM:become you:sg

*chii*³ *nga*¹³ *a*³²
 man old DEC

Don't be sad because you have become an old man!

*shehe*⁴ *ze*³² *nokoh*¹ *ndoho*³² *shex*³² *man*³ *noh*³ / *ne*²
 feet CMP CON2:follow INTS weight body her and

*kawii*³² *ndoho*³² *tanh*³ / *kihyax*³ *noh*³ *a*³²
 COM:come:out INTS corn:ear COM:do she DEC

Because prosperity really follows her, she caused many ears of corn to be produced. (Fight 94)

*shehe*⁴ *ze*³² *dax*¹³ *kiranh*³ *rox*¹ *zoh*³ *gaa*¹³ *naa*⁴ /
 feet CMP thus COM:suffer the:DU he when long:ago

*don*³ *a*³*ta*¹³ *naa*³¹ *ho*² *runh*⁵ *tanh*³
 with:the:result:that CON:carry cornfield one single corn:ear

*kwa*³*no*² *a*³²
 right:now DEC

Because the two of them fared thus long ago, that's why corn plants bear just one ear of corn at present. (Fight 68)

*shehe*⁴ *ze*³² *ranh*³ *zoh*³ / *shehe*⁴ *dan*³² *kahanx*³² *zoh*³ *riaan*³²
 feet CMP CON:suffer he feet that COM:go he face

*totoo*⁴ *a*³²
 doctor DEC

Because he was sick, he went to the doctor (Sp. doctor).

The locative noun *kwe*³*nda*⁴ 'account' sometimes functions as a conjunction meaning 'because'.

*rahanx*⁵ *yuwii*³¹ / *kwe*³*nda*⁴ *niah*¹ *ra*⁴ *yuwii*³¹ *a*³²
 CON:dance person account colorful inside person DEC

People dance because they are happy.

The temporal adverb *yax*¹³ 'now' sometimes functions as a conjunction with the meaning 'now that' or 'given the fact that'.

*me*³ *ki*²*hya-x*⁵ / *yax*¹³ *hna*³ *shu**chee*³² *yoh*³ *ga*²
 which POT:do-I now CON:come hen that INT
 What should I do now that the hen is coming?

Result sentences are introduced by the conjunction *don*³ or *duun*³ 'with the result that'; they always follow the main sentence.

*dax*¹ *ki*²*hya-h*⁴ / *don*³ *kah**wee*¹³
 how POT:do-we:IN with:the:result:that POT:be:possible

*kiri-h*¹ / *cha-h*² *yax*¹³ *onx*³²
 POT:get-we:IN POT:eat-we:IN NOW INT:INSISTENT
 What should we do so that we will be able to get [something] to eat from now on? (i.e., what should I do . . .) (Figure 134)

*man*¹ *ushra*⁴ *tanuu*³ *tume*⁴ *shumi*³¹ /
 CONZ:exist:PL INTS soldier CON:guard world

*don*³ *ah**wee*³ *waa*³² *dinx*⁵ *a*³²
 with:the:result:that CON:be:possible CON:exist calm DEC
 There are a lot of soldiers who guard the world so that it can be peaceful. (Brother 153)

*tyo*³*se*¹ *kihyax*³ / *duun*³ *waa*³² *nih*⁴ *dax*¹³ *a*³²
 god COM:do with:the:result:that CON:exist we:IN thus DEC
 GOD (Sp. *Dios*) made [people] with the result that we are that way.
 (cf. Deluge 41)

Simple condition sentences are introduced by the conjunction *seze*³² 'if' and usually have verbs in potential or continuative aspect. Condition sentences commonly precede the main sentence, which is usually introduced by *ne*² 'and'.

*kinax*² *yohoo*⁵ *riaan*³² *tahnii*⁵ *zoh*³ / *seze*³² *kawih*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 POT:remain earth face child his if POT:die he DEC
 His son will inherit the land if he dies. (lit. The land will stay in the presence of his son . . .)

*dax*¹³ *kihyax*¹³ *zoh*³ / *seze*³² *natuu*² *zoh*³ *makaa*⁵
 thus POT:do he if POT:reenter he Mexico:City

*nianx*⁵ *a*³²
 here DEC

That's what he will do if he comes back here to Mexico.
 (Brother 152)

*kahmi-x*² *ga-x*¹³ / *seze*³² *kahna-x*¹³ *a*³²
 POT:speak-I with-UN if POT:COME-UN DEC
 I will speak with him if he comes. (Fight 241)

*seze*³² *kawih*¹ *zoh*³ / *ne*² *kinax*² *yohoo*⁵ *riaan*³² *tahnii*⁵
 if POT:die he and POT:remain earth face child

*zoh*³ *a*³²
 his DEC

If he dies, his son will inherit the land.

*seze*³² *tikawih*¹³ *nih*⁴ *man*³ *zoh*³ / *ne*² *ze*² *kawih*³ *zoh*³ *mah*³
 if POT:kill we:IN body his and NEG POT:die he NEG
 If we kill him, he won't die. (Brother 145)

*seze*³² *ne*³ *aman*⁴ *ra*⁴ *zox*³ / *ne*² *kahanx*² / *ni*² *hyax*³²
 if NEG CON:arrive inside you:PL and POT:go POT:look

*nih*⁴ *raa*³¹ *kix*³² *a*³²
 we:IN head mountain DEC

If you don't believe [it (what I say)], we will go look on the mountaintop. (Deluge 55)

(See also 7.24.)

A reduced condition with no subject, *seze*³² *dax*³² 'if not', sometimes occurs in appropriate discourse contexts.

*seze*³² *dax*³² / *ne*² *kawih*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 if CON:NEG:exist and POT:die he DEC
 If not, he will die.

Contrafactual condition sentences are also introduced by *seze*³² 'if'. They usually have verbs in completive aspect in both the condition sentence and the main sentence. They often contain the contrafactual sentential marker *zax*² preceding the final sentential marker.

*seze*³² *ne*³ *kahanx*² *zoh*³ / *ne*² *ne*³ *kawih*¹ *zoh*³ *zax*² *mah*³
 if NEG COM:go he and NEG COM:die he CF NEG
 If he hadn't gone, he wouldn't have died.

*seze*³² *kahanx*³² / *kiri*² *zoh*³ *naa*³¹ / *ne*² *dox*¹³ *tsinh*³
 if COM:go POT:take:out he cornfield and some tiny

*tanh*³ *kiri*³² *mahan*¹³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 corn:ear COM:take:out self his DEC

If he had gone to harvest the corn, he himself would have harvested
 VERY FEW EARS OF CORN. (Fight 87)

Concession sentences are introduced by *tah*¹ *ze*³², *ndah*¹ *ze*³², or *nikih*¹ *ze*³² ‘although’. They usually precede the main sentence, which is often introduced by *tsax*² *ne*² ‘but’.

*kawih*³ *zoh*³ / *tah*¹ *ze*³² *kihyax*³ *konoho*⁴ *totoo*⁴ *man*³
 COM:die he although CMP COM:do remedy doctor body

*zoh*³ *a*³²
 his DEC

He died even though the doctor treated him.

*ndah*¹ *ze*³² *kihyax*³ *konoho*⁴ *totoo*⁴ *man*³ *zoh*³ / *tsax*² *ne*²
 although CMP COM:do remedy doctor body his but and

*kawih*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:die he DEC

Even though the doctor treated him, he died.

*nikih*¹ *ze*³² *kihyax*³ *zuun*³² *zoh*³ / *tsax*² *ne*² *ne*³ *kawii*²
 although CMP COM:do work he but and NEG COM:come:out

*zah*¹ *zoh*³ *mah*³
 good he NEG

Even though he worked, he wasn’t successful.

Purpose sentences are sometimes introduced by the non-phrase-final locative pronouns *rex*³² and *yan*³², both of which mean ‘place’, but which function as conjunctions meaning ‘in order that’ in this construction. Purpose sentences usually follow the main sentence, and their verb must be in potential aspect.

*kiranx*⁵ *zoh*³ *chruun*³ *riah*¹ / *yan*³² *tikawih*¹³ *zoh*³
 COM:buy he wood CON:shoot place POT:kill he

*yuwii*³¹ *a*³²
 person DEC

He bought a rifle in order to kill people.

Negative purpose sentences are often introduced by *ze² gaa³² nanx¹³* ‘lest’ or, in commands, by *seze³²* ‘if’, here used to mean ‘or else’. They must follow the main sentence, and their verb must be in potential aspect.

ne³ kahanx² zoh³ / ze² gaa³² nanx¹³ tikawih¹³ nü³ man³
 NEG COM:go he NEG POT:exist thus POT:kill they body

zoh³ a³²

his DEC

He didn’t go lest they kill him.

ra²kwix⁵ zoh¹ man-x³ / seze³² tika²wi-x³ man⁴ zoh¹ a³²
 POR:help you:SG body-my if POT:kill-I body your:SG DEC
 Help me, or else I’ll kill you!

(See also 7.32, 7.41, and 7.51.)

Time sentences are introduced by the conjunctions *gaa¹³* ‘when’, *a³zah¹* ‘when (in the future)’, *azix²* ‘since’, and *ndaa¹³* or *ndaa¹³ ze³²* ‘until’ or ‘since’. They may either precede or follow the main sentence. When they precede, the main sentence is usually introduced by *ne²* ‘and’ or *gaa¹³ ne²* ‘and then’. *a³zah¹* usually introduces a sentence with its verb in completive aspect, and the meaning is often future perfect.

With *gaa¹³*:

kuman⁴ nix³ zoh³ raa³¹ kix³² yoh³ / gaa¹³ kahnah³
 COM:exist:PL the:PL he head mountain that when COM:come

na³² yoh³ a³²

water that DEC

They were all on the top of that mountain when that (flood) water came. (Deluge 50)

ho² tyam³bo⁴ kinakoo³¹ nuh¹ yohoo⁵ / gaa¹³ kahanx³²
 one long:time COM:dry complete earth when COM:go

maan³¹ nanx¹ a⁴

rain indeed PERS

The earth dried up completely FOR A LONG TIME (Sp. *tiempo* ‘time’) when the rain went away for sure. (Openly 27)

*kahanx*³² *nga*³ *kahax*³² *chraa*⁵ / *gaa*¹³ *gaa*³² *rmih*²
 COM:go old:woman Ca'aj river when COM:exist dark

*shumii*³¹ *a*³²
 world DEC

Old woman Ca'aj went to the river when the world was dark.
 (Sun 1:1)

*kawii*³² *ndoho*³² *tanh*³ / *kihyax*³ *noh*³ / *gaa*¹³
 COM:come:out INTS corn:ear COM:do she when

*kirii*³² *noh*³ *a*³²
 COM:take:out she DEC

She caused a lot of ears of corn to be produced when she harvested [them]. (Fight 93)

*gaa*¹³ *ne*³ *kenehe*¹³ *shkaa*³² / *ne*² *kanikunh*³
 when NEG COM:sense raven and COM:stand

*shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *yoh*³ *a*³²
 grandmother-our:IN that DEC

When the raven didn't see [it (her coming)], that grandmother of ours stopped. (Sun 2:27)

(See also 7.57.)

With *a*³*zah*¹:

*a*³*zah*¹ *hna-x*³ / *ne*² *kagwax*² *zoh*¹ / *kuno*¹³
 when CON:come-UN and POT:cry:out you:SG POT:hear

*nih*⁴ *a*⁴
 we:IN PERS

When she will be coming, then cry out so that we can hear [it]!
 (cf. Sun 3:98)

*a*³*zah*¹ *kahanx*³² *yuun*⁴ *zoh*¹ / *ne*² *ni*²*kax*³² *zoh*¹ *ho*²
 when COM:go another:time you:SG and POT:have you:SG one

*runh*⁵ *tanh*³ / *kahanx*² *zoh*¹ *a*³²
 single corn:ear POT:go you:SG DEC

When you go again, you will take just one ear of corn. (Fight 167)

a³zah¹ kahanx³² yuun⁴ zoh¹ / ne² rke-x² yoho⁴
 when COM:go another:time you:SG and POT:give-I another
ra³zuun² / ni²kax³² zoh¹ / kahanx² zoh¹ a³²
 thing POT:have you:SG POT:go you:SG DEC
 When you go again, I will give you something else to take.
 (Fight 191)

With *azix²*:

ho² nano⁴ ra⁴ zoh³ / azix² kawih³ ni³ka² zoh³ a³²
 one CON:tell inside he since COM:die spouse his DEC
 He has been sad continually since his wife died.
azix² kawih³ ni³ka² zoh³ / ne² ho² nano⁴ ra⁴ zoh³ a³²
 since COM:die spouse his and one CON:tell inside he DEC
 Since his wife died, he has been sad continually.

With *ndaa¹³*:

ne³ na²nuu³² ra⁴ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ / ndaa¹³
 NEG COM:get:dressed inside grandmother-our:IN until
ti³gwanx³² kahnah³ a³²
 squirrel:cuckoo COM:come DEC
 Our grandmother didn't wake up until THE SQUIRREL CUCKOO came.
 (Sun 2:116)
ndaa¹³ guun¹³ raan¹ / kuchi-x¹ adonx²
 until COM:become delayed POT:arrive-I certainly
 After a long time has passed, I will certainly arrive. (Fight 275)

With *ndaa¹³ ze³²*:

wee⁴ dax¹³ waa³² / ndaa¹³ ze³² kawih³ zoh³ a³²
 AFF thus CON:exist until CMP COM:die he DEC
 In that way [it] has been since he died. (Brother 182)
na³hwix¹ ndoho³² zoh³ / ndaa¹³ ze³² naman¹ rex³
 CON:wait INTS he until CMP POT:arrive:home:here father
zoh³ a³²
 his DEC
 He is waiting a lot until his father returns home.

*ndaa*¹³ *ze*³² *naman*¹ *rex*³ *zoh*³ / *ne*² *na*³*hwix*¹
 until CMP POT:arrive:home:here father his and CON:wait

*ndoho*³² *zoh*³ *a*³²
 INTS he DEC

Until his father returns home, he is waiting a lot.

Immediate temporal sequence may be signaled by a correlative use of the general quantifier *nuh*¹ ‘complete’ at the beginning of each part; the subordinate sentence comes first.

*nuh*¹ *kahnah*³ *zoh*³ / *nuh*¹ *kahanx*³² *ni*³*ka*² *zoh*³ *a*³²
 complete COM:come he complete COM:go spouse his DEC
 As soon as he came, his wife went away.

Comparison of equality sentences that precede the main sentence are usually introduced by the conjunctions *dax*¹ *ze*³² or *aze*³² ‘as’. The comparison sentence often ends with the topic marker *roh*³, and the main sentence is usually introduced by the general adverb *dax*¹³ ‘thus’ or the complex sentential marker *dax*¹³ *inanx*² ‘likewise’. The same verb must occur in the comparative sentence as in the main sentence. Comparison is frequently expressed by stative sentences with *waa*³² ‘to exist’.

*dax*¹ *ze*³² *waa*³² *ruhwee*³² / *waa*³² *tuhwii*³ *gaa*¹³
 how CMP CON:exist rich:person CON:exist thunder when

*naa*⁴ *a*³²
 long:ago DEC

As a rich person is, the thunder was long ago. (Openly 2)

*dax*¹ *ze*³² *waa*³² *shkwaa*³ / *waa*³² *nih*⁴ *riaan*³²
 how CMP CON:exist ant CON:exist we:IN face

*zhi-h*⁴ *a*³²
 grandfather-our:IN DEC

As ants are, we are to our grandfather. (Brother 40)

*dax*¹ *ze*³² *waa*³² *ni*³*ka*² *zoh*³ *roh*³ / *waa*³²
 how CMP CON:exist spouse his TOPIC CON:exist

*shee*⁵ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 spouse’s:younger:relative his DEC

As his wife was, his sister-in-law was. (Fight 311)

(See also 7.19.)

Sometimes comparison is expressed by content verbs, but they are often very generic.

dax¹ ze³² hyax³ shnii³ uun³ yaan² riaan³² tuwih³
 how CMP CON:do boy CON:become first face companion

roh³ / dax¹³ kihyax³ rox¹ zoh³ a³²
 TOPIC thus COM:do the:DU he DEC

As boys do who get ahead of [their] friends, thus they did.
 (Brother 109)

Sometimes a juxtaposed sentence expressing an action is added to a comparison based on a stative sentence.

dax¹ ze³² waa³² zii⁵ kauux⁵ ta³gah³ / waa³² zoh³ /
 how CMP CON:exist he COM:enter jail CON:exist he

katux⁵ zoh³ rke³ chruun³ a³²
 COM:enter he stomach wood DEC

He was like a person that went to jail is in that he went into the tree. (Openly 22)

dax¹ ze³² waa³² sha³na¹ / shee⁵ zoh³
 how CMP CON:exist woman spouse's:younger:relative his

roh³ / dax¹³ waa³² kox³² shnee⁴ / nakutax⁵
 TOPIC thus CON:exist plant bean:plant CON:wrap:around

yoh³ katuun³¹ chruun³ kwa³no² a³²
 it:INAN waist wood right:now DEC

As the woman, his wife's younger sister, was, that's how the bean plant is; it wraps around the pole at the present time. (Fight 321)

When the comparison is expressed by a content verb, the conjunction is often followed by *waa³²* 'to exist', and the adverb *dax¹³* 'thus' at the beginning of the main sentence may also be followed by *waa³²*.

dax¹ ze³² waa³² kawih³ rex³ zoh³ roh³ / dax¹³ waa³²
 how CMP CON:exist COM:die father his TOPIC thus CON:exist

kawih³ mahan¹³ zoh³ a³²
 COM:die self 'his DEC

As it is [the case that] his father died, thus it is [the case that] he himself died.

In the following sentence, there are three comparisons, which are linked together by repeating *dax¹ ze³² waa³²* before each one and also following the last.

*dax*¹ *ze*³² *waa*³² *tahnax*³² / *dax*¹ *ze*³² *waa*³² *shuwee*³ / *dax*¹
 how CMP CON:exist ghost how CMP CON:exist dog how

*ze*³² *waa*³² *shuchee*³² / *dax*³² *ze*³² *waa*³² / *waa*³²
 CMP CON:exist hen how CMP CON:exist CON:exist

*zoh*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 he indeed PERS

As a ghost is, as a dog is, as a hen is, he is for sure. (cf. Brother 143)

Comparison of equality sentences may also follow the main sentence, in which case they may be introduced by the complex conjunctions *ase*³² *waa*³² or *ndaa*¹³ *waa*³² 'as'.

*natux*⁵ *zah*¹ *nehex*³ *ruzhaan*³ / *ase*³² *waa*³²
 COM:reenter good baby cradle as CON:exist

*kahnii*³ *man*³ *nehex*³ *yoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:put:in-UN body baby that DEC

The babies got back in the cradle as she had put those babies in [it].
 (Sun 3:99)

*kihyax*³ *zoh*³ *weh*³ / *ndaa*¹³ *waa*³² *kihyax*³ *rex*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:do he house until CON:exist COM:do father his DEC
 He built the house just as his father did.

Comparison of degree is usually expressed within a single sentence by a referent adjunct (see §1.1.4).

More than one subordinate sentence may occur within a single full sentence. The following example contains both a cause sentence and a comparison sentence, which itself contains a subordinate time sentence, preceding the main sentence.

*tsax*² *ne*² *shehe*⁴ *ze*³² *narii*³² *zhoh*³ *ze*³² *tuhwa*³
 but and feet CMP COM:take:out:again it:AML it:INAN COM:talk

*tuhwii*³ *chii*¹³ / *ne*² *dax*¹ *ze*³² *tuhwa*³ *tuhwii*³ *chii*¹³ /
 thunder male and how CMP COM:talk thunder male

*gaa*¹³ *cha*⁴ *zoh*³ *yume*³² *roh*³ / *dax*¹³ *tuhwa*³ *gee*¹
 when COM:eat he tuber TOPIC thus CON:talk whole

*zhoh*³ *nuh*¹ *kwa*³ *no*² *a*³²
 it:AML complete right:now DEC

But because it imitated the way the male thunder (god) spoke, and as the male thunder (god) spoke when he ate the tubers, that's exactly how it speaks right up to the present. (Fight 234)

6.2.2 Subordinate relations without conjunctions. The subordinate relation most frequently expressed by simple juxtaposition is purpose. Purpose sentences follow the main sentence, and their verb must be in potential aspect. The subjects of the two sentences may be coreferential or noncoreferential.

With coreferential subjects:

kahanx³² zoh³ shumanh³ / kiraan² zoh³ hnuu⁵ a³²
 COM:go he town POT:buy he corn DEC
 He went to town to buy corn.

cha² gwaa⁴ chraa³ / kinarih¹ nukwax³ zoh³ a³²
 POT:eat John tortilla POT:find strength he DEC
 John will eat tortillas in order to be strong.

tuhwex⁵ zoh³ yuhwex³² / kihyax¹³ kanaan⁴ zoh³ sahanx³² a³²
 CON:sell he thread POT:do gain he money DEC
 He sells thread in order to earn (Sp. *ganar*) money.

dax¹ kihyax¹³ nih⁴ / kirih¹ nih⁴ ga²
 how POT:do we:IN POT:get we:IN INT
 What should we do to get [it (the deer)]? (cf. Sun 2:40)

kiri-h¹ / cha-h² a³²
 POT:get-we:IN POT:eat-we:IN DEC
 We will get [something] to eat. (Fight 134)

With noncoreferential subjects:

me³ kihyax¹³ nih⁴ / kawih¹ shkuu³ ga²
 which POT:do we:IN POT:die animal INT
 What should we do in order that the animal will die? (cf. Sun 2:69)

guun¹³ nukwax¹³ kuchruu³¹ tanh³ yoh³ / cha²
 POT:become strong corncrib corn:ear that POT:eat
zoh³ a³²
 he DEC

Those corncribs [full] of ears of corn will be enough for him to eat.
 (cf. Fight 120)

kahneh³ rox¹ zoh³ zuun³² riaan³² neko⁴ / kahanx² shkax²
 COM:cut the:DU he work face opossum POT:go POT:get

zoh³ yahan³² a³²
 he fire DEC

The two of them gave orders to the opossum to go get fire.
 (Sun 4:7)

In the text in chapter 7 there are three examples of a purpose sentence following the idiomatic expression *dax³² ze³² ki²hya-h⁴* 'there is nothing that can be done': 7.36, 7.48, and 7.56.

In the following sentence, a single noun in focus position serves as a locative adjunct in the main sentence and as the object of the purpose sentence.

weh³ ka²ne⁴ zoh¹ / tu²me⁴ zoh¹ a⁴
 house POT:sit you:SG POT:guard you:SG PERS
 You sit IN THE HOUSE to guard [it]! (cf. Fight 71)

When the verb of the first sentence is either *hanx³²* 'to go' or *hnah³* 'to come', its subject may be unexpressed if nothing intervenes between the motion verb and the verb of the purpose sentence.

kahnah³ / kachraa² zoh³ kii³ a³²
 COM:come POT:sing he yesterday DEC
 He came to sing yesterday.

kahanx³² / ni²hyax³² sno⁵ho³² a³²
 COM:go POT:look man DEC
 The man went to look. (Fight 55)

sha³na¹ kahanx³² / kirii² naa³¹ a³²
 woman COM:go POT:take:out cornfield DEC
 THE WOMAN went to harvest the cornfield. (Fight 52)

nii³¹ kahanx³² / kenehen¹³ rox¹ zoh³ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ /
 night COM:go POT:sense the:DU he grandmother-our:IN

kahax³² a³²
 Ca'aj DEC

AT NIGHT the two of them went to see our grandmother Ca'aj.
 (Sun 4:44)

Juxtaposition is used to express the day of the month. An idiom which contains a numeral expressing preverbal manner, the verb *chee⁵* 'to walk', and the name of a month usually precedes the main sentence.

wix¹ chee⁵ yawii³² ka³yahanx³² / kahanx³² zoh³
 two CON:walk month January COM:go he

maka⁵ a³²
 Mexico:City DEC

On January second he went to Mexico City.

shnuh² chee⁵ yawii³² shkih⁴ / kuchi-x¹ a³²
 fifteen CON:walk month August POT:arrive-I DEC

On August fifteenth I will arrive. (Fight 286)

kawih³ noh³ / shnuh² chee⁵ yawii³² a³²
 COM:die she fifteen CON:walk month DEC

She died on the fifteenth of the month.

Various other subordinate relations are occasionally expressed by means of juxtaposition when the relation is clear from the context. If the first part contains an interrogative element, an interrogative sentential marker occurs at the end; and if the first part contains a negative element, a negative sentential marker may occur at the end.

guun³ niah¹ ra⁴ shtax³ / kahngaa³² nehax³ a³²
 COM:become colorful inside deer COM:be:born baby DEC

The deer became very happy [because] the babies were born.
 (Sun 2:19)

kahmaan³ ndoho³² ra⁴ noh³ / kawih³ rex³ noh³
 COM:get:hot INTS inside she COM:die father her

nanx¹ a⁴
 indeed PERS

She became very angry [because] her father died for sure. (Fight 32)

me³ ze³² achün³ man⁴ zoh¹ / hnah⁴ zoh¹ ga²
 which it:INAN CON:lack body your:SG CON:come you:SG INT

What do you need [so that] you come? (lit. What is lacking to you . . . ?) (cf. Deluge 25)

ne³ wex⁵ nih⁴ / nuwee⁴ rex¹³ nih⁴ me³
 NEG CON:jump we:IN NEG father our:IN CON:be

yoh³ shtonx³²
 that AGREEMENT

We don't jump, [and so] that [one] is clearly not our father.
 (Sun 3:129)

kushman⁴ ra⁴ zoh³ / kahmii³² tinuu⁵ zoh³ / zii⁵
 COM:arrive inside he COM:speak brother:ME his he

kunix¹³ a³²

young DEC

He believed [it when] his brother, the young one, spoke.
 (Brother 102)

ne³ katah¹ shrex¹ sno⁵ho³² / kahmii³² sha³na¹ mah³
 NEG COM:be:put:down by:ear man COM:speak woman NEG

The man didn't pay attention [when] the woman spoke. (Fight 80)

It would be possible to analyze some of these examples as sentences containing an object complement (see §1.1.9).

6.3 Direct Quotations

Quotations consist of three parts: the quotation itself, the quotation introducer, and the quotation closer. The quotation is obligatory and consists of one or more sentences or fragments. The closer is also obligatory and sometimes includes only *tax³²* 'to say' plus a subject and a final sentential marker. The verb *tax³²* is usually in continuative aspect.

Sometimes quotations do not contain a sentential marker.

kirih¹ hunx¹ sahanx³² / tax³² gwaa⁴ a³²
 POT:get I money CON:say John DEC
 "I'll get money," said John.

kahwee¹³ / tax³² zoh³ a³²
 POT:be:possible CON:say he DEC
 "All right," he said. (Fight 50, Brother 125)

(See also 7.10 and 7.82.)

It is also possible to use a sentential marker.

kahwee¹³ a³² / tax³² zoh³ a³²
 POT:be:possible DEC CON:say he DEC
 "All right," he said. (Brother 83)

kahna-x³ a⁴ / tax³² zoh³ a³²
 COM:come-I PERS CON:say he DEC
 "I came for sure," he said. (Brother 81)

*me*³ *shehe*⁴ *me*³ *hyax*³ *zoh*³ *dax*¹³ *ga*² / *tax*³² *zii*⁵
 which feet CON:be CON:do he thus INT CON:say he

*kunix*¹³ *dox*³ *a*³²

young more DEC

“Why is [it that] he acts that way?” said the younger one.
 (Brother 70)

(See also 7.16, 7.61, and 7.101.)

Many sentences have a vocative, rather than a sentential marker.

*kannah*⁴ *zoh*¹ / *'ti³nux*¹ / *tax*³² *tinuu*⁵
 COM:come you:SG brother:ME CON:say brother:ME

*zhi-h*⁴ *a*³²

grandfather-our:IN DEC

“You came, Brother,” our grandfather’s brother said.
 (cf. Brother 80)

*nehe*⁴ *zoh*¹ / *'a³tax*¹ / *tax*³² *gwa⁴a*³²
 CON:sense you:SG papa CON:say John DEC

“You know, Papa (Sp. *tata*),” said John.

(See also 7.6, 7.8, 7.9, 7.15, 7.29, 7.30, and various others.)

It is also possible to have both a marker and a vocative.

*ze*² *nano*⁴ *ra*⁴ *zoh*¹ / *man*³² *'na³iin*³² / *tax*³² *rox*¹
 NEG POT:tell inside you:SG NEG mama CON:say the:DU

*zoh*³ *a*³²

he DEC

“Don’t be sad, Mama!” the two of them said. (Sun 2:31)

Sometimes another verb of speech is combined with *tax*³² by means of a sentence combination (see §6.1.2). The expression ‘to speak a lot’, which occurs in two of the examples, connotes anger.

*me*³ *rex*³² *karaa*¹³ *nih*⁴ *tanh*³ *ga*² / *tax*³² *sha³na*¹ /
 which place POT:put:in we:IN corn:ear INT CON:say woman

*kachiin*⁵ *nahanx*² *noh*³ *tuhwa*³ *sno⁵ho*³² *a*³²

COM:ask wordlike she mouth man DEC

“Where will we store the ears of corn?” the woman said; she inquired of the man. (Fight 76)

*me*³ *shehe*⁴ *me*³ *cha*⁴ *zoh*¹ *nix*³² / *tax*³² *nga*³
 which feet CON:be CON:eat you:SG hominy CON:say old:woman

*kahax*³² / *kahmii*³² *tihunh*³ *yoh*³ *riaan*³² *shkwax*³² *a*³²
 Ca'aj COM:speak INTS that face fish DEC

“Why is [it that] you are eating the hominy?” the old woman *Ca'aj* said; that [one] spoke a lot to the fish. (Sun 3:73)

*me*³ *shehe*⁴ *kuchrux*³² *uun*⁴ *zoh*¹ *nehex*³ *ga*² / *tax*³² *chii*³
 which feet COM:lay REP you:SG baby INT CON:say man

*tahnix*¹ / *ahmii*³² *ushra*⁴ *yoh*³ *a*³²
 child:related CON:speak INTS that DEC

“Why did you also give birth to babies?” said the father; that [one] spoke a lot. (cf. Sun 3:18)

(See also 7.15 and 7.98.)

Quotations with two or more complete sentences are infrequent because speakers prefer to break up long quotations by including a quotation closer after every sentence of reported speech. This can be seen in the text in chapter 7 in 7.23 and 7.24, and also in 7.80, 7.81, and 7.82. Quotations that are two sentences long are found in 7.60–61 and 7.100–101.

The addressee may be expressed by a locative adjunct (see §1.1.4) or by a sentence combination containing *uno*³ or *no*³ ‘to hear’ (see §6.1.2).

With a locative adjunct:

*kahwee*¹³ / *tax*³² *wichix*³² *riaan*³² *shnii*³ *a*³²
 POR:be:possible CON:say old:woman face boy DEC

“All right,” the old woman said to the boy.

*yahan*³² *ra*⁴ *a*³² / *tax*³² *zoh*³ *riaan*³² *ni*³*ka*² *zoh*³ *a*³²
 fire CON:think DEC CON:say he face spouse his DEC

“THE FIRE thought [of it],” he said to his wife. (i.e., it was the fire’s idea) (Fight 36)

(See also 7.6, 7.9, 7.10, 7.16, 7.32, and various others.)

With a sentence combination containing *no*³:

*kahwee*¹³ / *tax*³² *noh*³ / *no*³ *nix*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 POR:be:possible CON:say she CON:hear the:PL he DEC

“All right,” she said to them.

*ndaa*¹³ *man*³² *kani*²*kunh*⁴ *zoh*¹ / *tax*³² *tuhwii*³ / *no*³
 until there POT:stand you:SG CON:say thunder CON:hear

*zoh*³ *a*³²
 he DEC

“Stand OVER THERE!” the thunder said to him. (cf. Openly 77)

(See also 7.29, 7.67, and 7.68.)

The verb *ra*⁴ ‘to think’ occurs in direct quotations, as well as in indirect quotations (see §1.1.9).

*dax*¹ *ki*²*hya*-*h*⁴ / *don*³ *kahwee*¹³
 how POT:do-we:IN with:the:result:that POT:be:possible

kiri-*h*¹ / *cha*-*h*² *yax*¹³ *onx*³² / *ra*⁴
 POT:get-we:IN POT:eat-we:IN now INT:INSISTENT CON:think

*zoh*³ *a*³²
 he DEC

“What should we do so that we will be able to get [something] to eat from now on?” he thought. (i.e., what should I do . . .)

(Fight 134)

Further examples of direct quotations with *ra*⁴ are found in 7.23, 7.24, and 7.26; and some examples of indirect quotations with *ra*⁴ are found in 7.17, 7.54, and 7.92. In 7.15 and 7.61, an indirect quotation with *ra*⁴ is embedded in a direct quotation with *tax*³².

Quotation introducers are optional and infrequent for many speakers. Sometimes a quotation opener consists solely of a conjunction, an initial sentential marker (see §6.4), or both.

*ne*² / *nu*²*wi*-*x*⁵ / *shu*³*kwa*²*han*-*h*⁴ / *tax*³² *zhoh*³ *a*³²
 and CON:be:cold-I grandmother-our:IN CON:say it:AML DEC
 And, “I’m cold, Grandmother,” it said. (Sun 2:51)

*gaa*¹³ *ne*² / *nuwee*⁴ *re*-*h*⁴ *me*³ *mah*³ / *tax*³²
 when and NEG father-our:IN CON:be NEG CON:say

*zoh*³ *a*³²
 he DEC

And then, “[It] is not our father,” he said. (Sun 2:38)

*gaa*¹³ *ne*² / *me*³ *kihyax*¹³ *nih*⁴ *ga*² *yoh*³ *yax*¹³ *onx*³² /
 when and which POT:do we:IN with that now INT:INSISTENT

*tax*³² *sha*³*na*¹ *yoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:say woman that DEC

And then, “What should we do with those [ones (the babies)] now?”
 that woman said. (Sun 3:53)

*dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³² / *kinax*⁵ *tuwih*³ *nih*⁴ *a*³² / *tax*³²
 that CON:be CMP COM:remain companion our:IN DEC CON:say

*zoh*³ *a*³²
 he DEC

And then, “Our companions remained,” he said. (Deluge 20)

*ne*² *ndaa*¹³ *nanx*¹³ / *ze*² *guun*³ / *seze*³² *sha*³*na*¹
 and until thus NEG POT:become if woman

*n-ahwex*³² *mah*³ / *tax*³² *mahan*¹³ *zii*⁵ *tahnix*¹
 NEG-CON:be:willing NEG CON:say self he child:related

*yoh*³ *rah*²
 that QUOTATIVE

And this also, “[It] will not happen if THE WOMAN doesn’t want to,”
 said the parent of that [one], they say. (cf. Sun 3:8)

(See also 7.8, 7.23, and 7.41.)

Sometimes a quotation introducer is a sentence containing a verb of speech. Such a sentence may lack a direct object, which is logically supplied by the quotation itself, as seen in 7.5–6 and 7.38–39, or it may contain an object, as seen in 7.50–51.

6.4 Relations Across Sentence Boundaries

One important way in which a sentence is related to its discourse context is by the use of certain linking expressions in sentence-initial position. These expressions include certain coordinate conjunctions and initial sentential markers.

The conjunctions that link full sentences are *ne*² ‘and’, *gaa*¹³ *ne*² ‘and then’, and *tsax*² *ne*² ‘but’.

With *ne*²:

kahaan⁻³ *ra*⁴ *chraa*⁵ / *kahaan*⁻³ *a*³² // *ne*² *nuu*³²
 COM:GO-UN inside river COM:GO-UN DEC and CON:be:in

*shkwax*³² *yoh*³ *ra*⁴ *na*³² *a*³²
 fish that inside water DEC

She went to the river; she went. And those fish were in the water.
 (Sun 1:2–3)

*yoho*² *zoh*³ *roh*³ / *guun*³ *yaan*² *ushra*⁴ *a*³² // *ne*²
 one he TOPIC COM:become first INTS DEC and

*yoho*⁴ *zoh*³ *kinax*⁵ *shko*¹ *a*³²
 another he COM:remain beyond DEC

As for one of them, [he] got way ahead. And THE OTHER ONE stayed behind. (Brother 106–107)

(See also 7.83–84 and 7.93–94.)

With *gaa*¹³ *ne*²:

*dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³² *katux*⁵ *zoh*³ *ra*⁴ *weh*³ *a*³² // *gaa*¹³ *ne*²
 that CON:be CMP COM:enter he inside house DEC when and

*tanix*³² *zoh*³ *nanx*³ *yume*³² / *kuchrux*³² *zoh*³ *ra*⁴
 COM:lower he net:bag tuber COM:lay he inside

*weh*³ *a*³²
 house DEC

And then he entered the house. And then he lowered the net bag [full] of tubers; he laid [it] in the house. (Fight 209–210)

*maan*¹ *dan*³² *kunuu*¹³ *ihnah*¹ *uun*⁴ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴ // *gaa*¹³
 only that POT:become:again alive REP indeed PERS when

*ne*² *guun*¹³ *kehee*¹ *ndoho*³² *nix*³ *zoh*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴ //
 and POT:become many INTS the:PL he indeed PERS

*gaa*¹³ *ne*² *nawix*¹³ *yuwü*³¹ / *cha*² *nix*³ *zoh*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 when and POT:finish person POT:eat the:PL he indeed PERS

ONLY THAT will come back to life again for sure. And then they will multiply a lot for sure. And then they will eat people all up for sure. (Brother 149–151)

(See also 7.7–8, 7.24–25, 7.27–28, 7.63–64, 7.70–71, 7.71–72, and various others.)

With *tsax*² *ne*²:

*kahmii*³² *zoh*³ *ga*² *tanh*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴ // *tsax*² *ne*² *ne*³
COM:speak he with corn:ear indeed PERS but and NEG

*cha*² *zoh*³ *tanh*³ *yoh*³ *mah*³
COM:eat he corn:ear that NEG

He spoke with the ear of corn for sure. But he didn't eat that ear of corn. (Fight 182–83)

*nawix*³ *uwih*³ *zoh*³ / *kawih*³ / *tax*³² *zoh*³ *a*³² //
COM:finish companion his COM:die CON:say he DEC

*tsax*² *ne*² *ne*³ *ho*² *runh*⁵ *weh*³ *ta*³ *nuu*² *taa*³ *a*³²
but and CON:sit one single house middle plain DEC

He said HIS COMPANIONS HAD ALL DIED. But one solitary house was in the middle of the plain. (Deluge 18–19)

(See also 7.11–12, 7.19–20, 7.60–61, 7.64–65, 7.68–69, 7.92–93, and 7.100–101.)

Note that there is a final sentential marker for each sentence of these two-sentence sequences. This fact distinguishes them from the constructions described in §6.1.1, which have only a single marker at the end.

Discourse linkage is also provided by a set of sentence-initial sentential markers.

The markers *dax*¹³ *inanx*² 'likewise', and *ndaa*¹³ *nanx*¹³ or *tananax*¹³ 'in addition' or 'on the other hand' are used in expository discourse to introduce additional information.

*yoo*¹³ *unanx*⁵ *gwaa*⁴ *a*³² // *dax*¹³ *inanx*² *yoo*¹³ *unanx*⁵ *tahnii*⁵
fast CON:run John DEC thus just fast CON:run child

*zoh*³ *uun*⁴ *a*³²
his REP DEC

John runs fast. Likewise, his son runs fast too.

*n-ahwex*³² *zoh*³ *kahanx*² *zoh*³ *mah*³ // *tananax*¹³
NEG-CON:be:willing he POT:go he NEG in:addition

*n-ahwex*³² *zoh*³ *kinax*² *zoh*³ *uun*⁴ *a*³²
NEG-CON:be:willing he POT:remain he REP DEC

He doesn't want to go. On the other hand, he doesn't want to stay, either.

nano-x³ *yanx³* / *ne²* *kachen⁴* *yoh³* *yanx³* *a³²* // *ndaa¹³*
 COM:look:for-UN paper and COM:pass that paper DEC until

nanx¹³ *yoho⁴* *yoh³* *nanoh³* *chruun³* *a³²*
 thus another that COM:look:for wood DEC

He looked for bark fiber, and that [one] twisted it. In addition, THE OTHER OF THOSE [ones] looked for wood. (cf. Sun 3:144–45)

The marker *maan¹* *ze³²* ‘only’ or ‘it’s only that’ introduces some new fact of lesser magnitude. It often follows a negative.

ne³ *uhyah³* *rke³* *nehex³* *mah³* // *maan¹* *ze³²*
 NEG CON:have:diarrhea stomach baby NEG only CMP

wehee³¹ *rke³* *zoh³* *a³²*
 CON:hurt stomach his DEC

The baby doesn’t have diarrhea. It’s only that his stomach aches.

ne³ *kawih¹* *zoh³* *mah³* // *maan¹* *ze³²* *kinahax⁵*
 NEG COM:die he NEG only CMP COM:become:weak

ndoho³² *zoh³* *a³²*
 INTS he DEC

John didn’t die. He only got very weak.

(See also 7.75–76.)

The marker *taa⁵* *ze³²* ‘let me suggest that’ introduces a suggestion or proposal.

ne² *nehex³* *yoh³* *naman⁴* *uun⁴* *weh³* *rah²* //
 and baby that COM:arrive:home:here REP house QUOTATIVE

ne² / *taa⁵* *ze³²* *ni²hyax³²* *zoh¹* *nokoh³*
 and CON:be:on:top CMP POT:look you:SG CON:follow

kanee³² / *ne²* *shkax²* *zoh¹* / *ta²nix³²* *zoh¹* *a³²*
 landslide and POT:take you:SG POT:lower you:SG DEC

And THOSE BABIES came back home, they say. And, “Let me suggest that you observe [that] there is a landslide, and take [them and] drop [them there]. (lit. . . a landslide is hanging . . .) (Sun 3:47–48)

The marker *ho²* *ze³²* ‘consider that’ introduces supporting evidence.

zii⁵ yahaan¹³ ra⁴ me³ gwaa⁴ a³² // ho² ze³² ax¹
 he hot inside CON:be John DEC one CMP already

tikawih³ zoh³ kahanx¹³ yuwii³¹ a³²
 COM:kill he four person DEC

John is a hothead. Consider that he has already killed four people.

The markers *shehe⁴ dan³²* and *shehe⁴ dan³² me³* ‘therefore’ express a causal relation between a sentence and the previous context.

nuwih³ wax² tahngah³ shex³² / nokoh³ man³
 CON:NEG:be:present CON2:move measure weight CON:follow body

zoh³ mah³ // shehe⁴ dan³² tax³² zoh³ dox¹³ tsinh³ tanh³
 his NEG feet that CON:say he some tiny corn:ear

kawii³² a³²
 COM:come:out DEC

There wasn’t much prosperity that followed him. Therefore he said [that] VERY FEW EARS OF CORN were produced. (Fight 88–89)

ne² / ze² cha-h⁴ nee³¹ ni³ka-h² / tax³² ri³kix¹³
 and NEG POT:eat-we:IN flesh spouse-our:IN CON:say frog

yaa³² yoh³ a³² // shehe⁴ dan³² me³ kahmii³² rahngah³
 tongue that DEC feet that CON:be COM:speak snare

shu³kwa²an-h⁴ yoh³ shehe⁴ ri³kix¹³ yaa³² adonx² //
 grandmother-our:IN that feet frog tongue certainly

shehe⁴ dan³² cha⁴ nih⁴ ri³kix¹³ yaa³² yoh³ kwanh³ a³²
 feet that CON:eat we:IN frog tongue that today DEC

And, “We shouldn’t eat the meat of our spouse,” said those leopard frogs. Therefore that grandmother of ours certainly spoke a curse about the leopard frog. Therefore we eat those leopard frogs today. (Sun 2:62–64)

There are also a number of markers used commonly to mark sequence in narrative; some common ones are: *zix⁵ gaa¹³ ne², ndaa¹³ zix⁵ gaa¹³ ne², yoh³ gaa¹³ ne³, or dan³² gaa¹³ ne²* ‘and after that’, *wee⁴ dan³² ne²* ‘and in addition to that’, ‘and after that’, or ‘and as a result of that’; *wee⁴ dax¹³ waa³², wee⁴ dax¹³, or nanx¹³ waa³²* ‘in that way’ or ‘and so it is that’; and *dan³² me³ ze³² or dan³² me³* ‘and then’, ‘it happened that’, or ‘and so it is that’. *dan³² me³ ze³²* and *dan³² me³* usually indicate larger breaks in narrative discourse than the other markers; they are often used to signal a return to the eventline after a digression by the narrator.

With *zix*⁵ *gaa*¹³ *ne*²:

*nuh*¹ *stanh*³ *sha*³*na*¹ / *nuh*¹ *stanh*³ *sno*⁵*ho*³²
complete POS:corn:ear woman complete POS:corn:ear man

*nakihyax*³ *chreh*² *rox*¹ *zoh*³ *a*³² // *zix*⁵
COM:remake compact the:DU he DEC CON:be:complete

*gaa*¹³ *ne*² *kuchrah*³ *tahax*² *rox*¹ *zoh*³ *tanh*³ *a*³²
when and COM:split part the:DU he corn:ear DEC

The two of them gathered together ALL OF THE WOMAN'S EARS OF CORN [and] ALL OF THE MAN'S EARS OF CORN. And after that the two of them divided up the ears of corn. (Openly 11–12)

With *dan*³² *gaa*¹³ *ne*²:

*ne*³ *kano*¹ *zah*¹ *yahan*³² / *tsax*² *ne*² *tukwahanx*³² *uun*⁴
NEG COM:grab good fire but and COM:cause:to:go REP

*yoh*³ / *ne*² *kano*⁴ *zah*¹ *yahan*³² *adonx*² // *dan*³² *gaa*¹³
that and COM:grab good fire certainly that when

*ne*² *yuun*¹ *shehe*¹ *kirii*³² *yoh*³ / *kunanx*⁵ *ushra*⁴ *yoh*³ /
and once based COM:take:out that COM:run INTS that

*kahanx*³² *yoh*³ *a*³²
COM:go that DEC

The fire didn't catch well, but that [one] put [it (its tail)] back in, and the fire certainly caught well. And after that that [one] took [it] out FOR GOOD; that [one] ran very fast; that [one] went away. (Sun 3:165–66)

With *wee*⁴ *dan*³² *ne*²:

*kanuu*³¹ / *ne*² *kitamanh*³ *nuh*¹ *nee*³¹ *man*³ *shkwaa*⁵
COM:explode and COM:sprinkle complete flesh body snake

*rkax*² *yoh*³ *gaa*¹³ *naa*⁴ *a*³² // *wee*⁴ *dan*³² *ne*²
lizardlike that when long:ago DEC AFF that and

*ku*³*rianx*¹ *tuhwii*³ / *kahanx*³² *zoh*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
COM:appear thunder COM:go he indeed PERS

It exploded, and all the flesh of that dragon was scattered long ago. And after that the thunder came out; he went away for sure. (Openly 81–82)

*kishrah*³ *shawii*³¹ *rke*³ *hnuu*⁵ *a*³² // *wee*⁴ *dan*³² *ne*²
 COM:be:split moth stomach kernel DEC AFF that and

*kinawix*³ *ichix*² *kuchruu*³¹ *tanh*³ *yoh*³ / *kizhix*⁵
 COM:finish seven corncrib corn:ear that COM:be:tucked:in

*shkuu*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 animal indeed PERS

Moths hatched in the corn. And after that those seven corncribs [full] of ears of corn were all riddled with insects for sure.
 (Fight 125–26)

(See also 7.18–19, 7.26–27, 7.33–34, 7.34–35, 7.45–46, and 7.54–55.)

With *wee*⁴ *dax*¹³ *waa*³²:

*ku*³*rianx*¹ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ / *kahax*³² / *koshro*³ *yoh*³
 COM:appear grandmother-our:IN Ca'aj COM:slap that

*riaan*³² *nux*³ *shtax*³ *a*³² // *wee*⁴ *dax*¹³ *waa*³² *tamanh*³
 face skin deer DEC AFF thus CON:exist COM:sprinkle

*kunudax*¹³ *shkuu*³ *a*³²
 all animal DEC

Our grandmother *Ca'aj* showed up; that [one] slapped the face of the deerskin. And so it was that all the insects were scattered.
 (Sun 4:32–33)

(See also 7.56–57 and 7.72–73.)

With *wee*⁴ *dax*¹³:

*neko*⁴ *me*³ *zii*⁵ *rih*³ *yahan*³² *a*³² // *wee*⁴ *dax*¹³ *kihyax*³
 opossum CON:be he CON:get fire DEC AFF thus COM:do

*zoh*³ / *ne*² *kanuh*³ *zoh*³ *tuneh*³ *zoh*³ *riaan*³²
 he and COM:wedge:in he tail his face

*yahan*³² *a*³²
 fire DEC

THE OPOSSUM was the one who got fire. In that way he did, and he stuck his tail in the fire. (Sun 4:9–10)

*dax*³² *wax*² *shiaan*⁵ *nih*⁴ *kizix*⁵ /
 CON:NEG:exist CON2:move POS:hometown our:IN COM:be:complete
*kihyax*³ *zoh*³ *mah*³ // *wee*⁴ *dax*¹³ *waa*³² *nda*¹³ *ze*³² *kawih*³
 COM:do he NEG AFF thus CON:exist until CMP COM:die
*zoh*³ *a*³² // *wee*⁴ *dax*¹³ *waa*³² *nih*⁴ *kwa*³ *no*² *a*³²
 he DEC AFF thus CON:exist we:IN right:now DEC

He caused our hometown not to be completed. In that way [it] has been since he died. In that way we exist right now. (Brother 181–83)

(See also 7.74–75 and 7.108–109.)

With *nanx*¹³ *waa*³²:

*nukwih*³ *zoh*³ *a*³² // *nanx*¹³ *waa*³² *ne*³ *zoh*³
 COM:arrive:home he DEC thus CON:exist CON:sit he
*weh*³ *a*³²
 house DEC

He arrived home. And so it was that he was living in the house

(See also 7.58–59.)

With *dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³²:

*ne*² *uruun*³ *tuhwii*³ *sno*² *ho*³² *kinax*⁵ *tukwa*⁴ *zoh*³
 and the:only thunder male COM:remain POS:home his
*a*³² // *dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³² *nano*⁴ *ra*⁴ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 DEC that CON:be CMP CON:tell inside he DEC

And ONLY THE MALE THUNDER (god) stayed in his house. And then he was sad. (Fight 138–39)

*kinahax*⁵ *zoh*³ *a*³² // *dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³² *tinuu*⁵
 COM:become:weak he DEC that COM:be CMP brother:ME
*zoh*³ *me*³ *ze*³² *kihyax*³ *kinahax*⁵ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 his CON:be CMP COM:do COM:become:weak he DEC

He got weak. And so it was that his brother was the one who made him get weak. (Brother 61–62)

(See also 7.1, 7.37–38, and 7.49–50.)

The following example contains five sentences. The last sentence shows the use of *dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³² ‘and so it is that’ to signal a return to the eventline after a three-sentence digression.

dan³² me³ ze³² hyax³ zuun³² nix³ zoh³ a³² // tsax² ne²
 that CON:be CMP CON:do work the:PL he DEC but and
tuhwii³ me³ nix³ zoh³ a³² // tuhwii³ me³ sha³na¹ /
 thunder CON:be the:PL he DEC thunder CON:be woman
ne² tuhwii³ me³ sno⁵ho³² a³² // tuhwii³ kunix¹³ me³
 and thunder CON:be man DEC thunder young CON:be
yoho⁴ zii⁵ hnah³ kachiin⁵ man³ tahnii⁵ rox¹ nika²
 another he CON:come COM:ask body child the:DU spouse
rox¹ zoh³ a³² // dan³² me³ ze³² chee⁵ nix³ zoh³ /
 the:DU he DEC that CON:be CMP CON:walk the:PL he
hyax³ zuun³² nix³ zoh³ a³²
 CON:do work the:PL he DEC

And so it was that they were working. But they were thunder (gods). The woman was a thunder (god), and the man was a thunder (god). The other one who came and asked for the daughter of him and his wife was the young thunder (god). And so it was that they were walking [and] working. (Fight 7–11)

It is possible to combine a conjunction and a sentential marker at the beginning of the same sentence.

ne² yax¹³ ahyux³ tume⁴ shkuu³ / ne² ne³ guun¹³
 and now tomorrow CON:guard animal and NEG COM:become
nukwax¹³ shkuu³ kutu²me⁴ yoh³ mah³ // ne² wee⁴ dax¹³
 strong animal POT:guard that NEG and AFF thus
ne³ shkuu³ / otox³² yoh³ rah²
 CON:sit animal CON:sleep that QUOTATIVE

And the animals were watching DAY AFTER DAY, and they weren't strong enough to [keep] watch[ing]. And so it was that the animals were sitting; those [ones] were sleeping, they say. (Sun 3:103–104)

*dax*³² *wax*² *naa*³¹ *awii*³² *zah*¹ *rex*³²
 CON:NEG:exist CON:2:move cornfield CON:come:out good place

*tax*¹ *zoh*³ *mah*³ // *tsax*² *ne*² *dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³²
 CON:2:be:on:top he NEG but and that CON:be CMP

*karakwix*⁵ *sha*³ *na*¹ *man*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 COM:help woman body his DEC

There weren't any cornfields that were yielding well in the place where he was. But it happened that the woman helped him. (Openly 9–10)

*naman*⁴ *nee*³¹ / *kirih-ix*³ *nee*³¹ *shkuu*³ / *dax*¹³
 COM:arrive:home:here flesh COM:get-I flesh animal thus

*tax*³² *uun*⁴ *shnii*³ *a*³² // *ne*² *wee*⁴ *dax*¹³ *waa*³²
 CON:say REP boy DEC and AFF thus CON:exist

nawii⁻³ *a*³²
 CON:finish-UN DEC

“Meat has come home; I got the meat of an animal,” thus the boy said also. And that's how it ends. (Sun 3:190–91)

(See also 7.4–5 and 7.16–17.)

Sometimes such a combination occurs between the parts of a coordinate sentence, as seen in 7.76 and 7.89.

The following example contains six sentences. The final sentence containing a conjunction and a complex sentential marker returns to the eventline following a four-sentence digression.

*kahanx*³² / *ni*²*hyax*³² *sno*⁵*ho*³² *a*³² // *ne*² *gaa*¹³ *naa*⁴ / *ne*²
 COM:go POT:look man DEC and when long:ago and
*ichix*² *ka*³*ta*¹³ *naa*³¹ *tanh*³ *a*³² // *ho*² *kawii*³²
 seven COM:carry cornfield corn:ear DEC one COM:come:out
*tanh*³ *ndaa*¹³ *takoo*⁵ *naa*³¹ / *ne*² *kizix*⁵
 corn:ear until foot cornfield and COM:be:complete
*tanh*³ *ndaa*¹³ *raa*¹³ *naa*³¹ *a*³² // *ichix*² *tanh*³
 corn:ear until head cornfield DEC seven corn:ear
*ka*³*ta*¹³ *naa*³¹ *gaa*¹³ *naa*⁴ *a*³² // *tsax*² *ne*² *mahan*¹³
 COM:carry cornfield when long:ago DEC but and self
*yahanx*³² *tuhwii*¹³ *shana*¹ *roh*³ / *zah*¹ *ushra*⁴ *nokoh*³
 god of:thunder female TOPIC good INTS CON:follow
*shex*³² *man*³ *noh*³ *a*³² // *ne*² *dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³² *kini*³²
 weight body her DEC and that CON:be CMP COM:take:out
*sha*³*na*¹ *naa*³¹ *a*³²
 woman cornfield DEC

The man went to look. And as for long ago, corn plants used to bear seven ears of corn [each]. The ears of corn were borne continuously from the base of the corn plants, and they arrived up to the top of them. Corn plants used to bear SEVEN EARS OF CORN [each] long ago. But as for the thunder goddess herself, prosperity follows her very well. And so it was that the woman harvested the cornfield. (Fight 55–60)

It is also possible to combine two sentential markers at the beginning of the same sentence.

*otox*³² *kuwix*⁵ / *ne*³ / *ne*² *otox*³² *shkaa*³² / *ne*²
 CON:sleep nighthawk CON:sit and CON:sleep raven and
*ho*² *runh*⁵ *shahwaa*⁵ *roh*³ / *ne*³ *otox*³² *zhoh*³ *a*³² //
 one single macaw TOPIC NEG CON:sleep it:AML DEC
*maan*¹ *ze*³² *dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³² *hna-x*³ *rah*²
 only CMP that CON:be CMP CON:COME-UN QUOTATIVE

The nighthawk was sleeping [as it] sat, and the raven was sleeping, and as for only the macaw, it was not sleeping. It's only that it happened that she was coming, they say. (Sun 3:105–106)

7

Text

7.1 *dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³² *waa*³² *yoho*⁴ *na*³*na*¹ *shehe*⁴ *uun*⁴ *zhoh*³
 that CON:be CMP CON:exist another word feet REP it:AML

*ga*² *yuwii*³¹ *uun*⁴ *a*³²
 with person REP DEC

And then there's another story about it (the rabbit) and people too.¹⁴

7.2 *shnaa*³¹ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ / *kuyux*⁵ *nax*³ / *gaa*¹³ *ne*²
 POS:cornfield grandmother-our:IN Cuyúj CON:lie when and

*atux*⁵ *tuku*³*ya*³² / *cha*⁴ *zhoh*³ *a*³²
 CON:enter rabbit CON:eat it:AML DEC

Grandmother *Cuyúj* had A CORNFIELD, and then the rabbit was going in and eating [it].¹⁵ (lit. THE CORNFIELD OF OUR GRANDMOTHER *CUYUJ* was lying, and then ...)

¹⁴This story was dictated immediately after other stories about the rabbit. 7.1 links the story to the earlier stories and is therefore not a typical discourse-initial sentence. Also, at the end of the story, sentences 7.103–109 summarize the entire cycle of rabbit stories, not only the tar baby story.

¹⁵Grandmother *Cuyúj* is a prominent figure in Trique oral literature. She is the sister of Grandmother *Ca'aj*, who is a major character in the myth explaining the origin of the sun and moon (see Hollenbach 1977a). The two sisters live together inside the snow-capped mountains, and they send wind and frost because they are envious of people.

- 7.3 *gaa*¹³ *ne*² *ne*³ *kenehe*¹³ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *me*³ *shkuu*³
 when and NEG COM:sense grandmother-our:IN which animal
*cha*⁴ *mah*³
 CON:eat NEG
 And then our grandmother didn't know which animal was eating [it].
- 7.4 *tume*⁴ *ushra*⁴ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *yoh*³ *shnaa*³¹
 CON:guard INTS grandmother-our:IN that POS:cornfield
*shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *yoh*³ *a*³²
 grandmother-our:IN that DEC
 Our grandmother was guarding her cornfield very carefully.
- 7.5 *gaa*¹³ *ne*² *dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³² *tax*³² *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *riaan*³²
 when and that CON:be CMP CON:say grandmother-our:IN face
*mane*⁴ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *yoh*³ *a*³²
 comadre:FE grandmother-our:IN that DEC
 And then it happened that our grandmother said to her comadre
 (child's godmother; Sp. *comadre*).
- 7.6 *cha*⁴ *ushra*⁴ *shkuu*³ *shna-x*³ / *ma*³*ne*³² / *tax*³²
 CON:eat INTS animal POS:cornfield-my comadre:FE CON:say
*shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *riaan*³² *mane*⁴ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *a*³²
 grandmother-our:IN face comadre:FE grandmother-our:IN DEC
 "An animal is eating my cornfield a lot, Comadre," our grandmother
 said to her comadre.
- 7.7 *ne*³ *kenehe*¹³ *rox*¹ *ma*²*ne*⁴ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *me*³
 NEG COM:sense the:DU comadre:FE grandmother-our:IN which
*shkuu*³ *cha*⁴ *mah*³
 animal CON:eat NEG
 Our grandmother and her comadre didn't know which animal was
 eating [it].
- 7.8 *gaa*¹³ *ne*² / *dax*¹ *kihyax*¹³ *nih*⁴ / *ma*³*neh*³² / *tax*³²
 when and how POT:do we:IN comadre:FE:INT CON:say
*shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *yoh*³ *a*³²
 grandmother-our:IN that DEC
 And then our grandmother said, "What should we do, Comadre?"

- 7.9 *ki²hyaa⁵ zoh¹ tahnax³² tuhwa³ shnaa⁴ zoh¹ /*
 POT:do you:SG ghost mouth POS:cornfield your:SG
ma³ne³² / tax³² mane⁴ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ riaan³²
 comadre:FE CON:say comadre:FE grandmother-our:IN face
shu³kwa²han-h⁴ a³²
 grandmother-our:IN DEC
 “Make scarecrows at the edge of your cornfield, Comadre,” our grandmother’s comadre said to her.
- 7.10 *kahwee¹³ / tax³² shu³kwa²han-h⁴ yoh³ riaan³²*
 POT:be:possible CON:say grandmother-our:IN that face
mane⁴ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ yoh³ a³²
 comadre:FE grandmother-our:IN that DEC
 “All right,” our grandmother said to her comadre.
- 7.11 *ka³nikax¹ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ / kuneh³ noh³ tahnax³² tuhwa³*
 COM:turn grandmother-our:IN COM:seat she ghost mouth
shnaa³¹ noh³ a³²
 POS:cornfield her DEC
 And then our grandmother turned and placed scarecrows at the edge of her cornfield.
- 7.12 *tsax² ne² nuwee⁴ tahnax² yatsex⁵ me³ yoh³ mah³*
 but and NEG ghost clothing CON:be it:INAN NEG
 But they weren’t scarecrows made out of clothing.
- 7.13 *tahnax³² yanx⁵ me³ yoh³ a³²*
 ghost wax CON:be it:INAN DEC
 They were wax scarecrows.
- 7.14 *kuneh³ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ tahnax³² a³nikax¹ tuhwa³*
 COM:seat grandmother-our:IN ghost CON:turn mouth
shnaa³¹ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ a³²
 POS:cornfield grandmother-our:IN DEC
 Our grandmother placed scarecrows all around the edge of her cornfield.

- 7.15 *dax¹ waa³² ho² shkuu³ chree¹³ cha⁴ shna-x³ /*
 how CON:exist one animal evil CON:eat POS:cornfield-my
ra-x³ / ma³ne³² / tax³² rox¹ ma²ne⁴
 CON:think-I comadre:FE CON:say the:DU comadre:FE
nga³ / kahmü³² rox¹ noh³ a³²
 old:woman COM:speak the:DU she DEC
 “I wonder what sort of an evil animal is eating my cornfield, Comadre,” the two old comadres said [as] they spoke.
- 7.16 *nawix³ kune-x³ sinduh³ yanx⁵ tuhwa³ shna-x³*
 COM:finish COM:seat-I doll wax mouth POS:cornfield-my
a³² / tax³² shu³kwa²han-h⁴ riaan³² mane⁴
 DEC CON:say grandmother-our:IN face comadre:FE
shu³kwa²han-h⁴ a³²
 grandmother-our:IN DEC
 “I’ve finished placing the wax dolls at the edge of my cornfield,” our grandmother said to her comadre.
- 7.17 *gaa¹³ ne² wee⁴ dan³² ne² ku³rianx¹ uun⁴ tuku³ya³² /*
 when and AFF that and COM:appear REP rabbit
wax³² zhoh³ / cha² uun⁴ zhoh³ / ra⁴ zhoh³ a³²
 CON:move it:AML POT:eat REP it:AML CON:think it:AML DEC
 And then after that the rabbit showed up again moving along thinking it would eat [it (the cornfield)] again.
- 7.18 *ax¹ nawix³ kuneh³ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ tahnax³² yanx⁵*
 already COM:finish COM:seat grandmother-our:IN ghost wax
tuhwa³ shnaa³¹ noh³ a³²
 mouth POS:cornfield her DEC
 Our grandmother had already finished placing the wax scarecrows at the edge of her cornfield.
- 7.19 *wee⁴ dan³² ne² aze³² waa³² yuwii³¹ / waa³² yoh³ a³²*
 AFF that and as CON:exist person CON:exist it:INAN DEC
 And in addition to that, they were just as people are.
- 7.20 *tsax² ne² ne³ naskih³ yoh³ / dinx⁵ ne³ yoh³ a³²*
 but and NEG CON:wiggle it:INAN still CON:sit it:INAN DEC
 But they weren’t moving; they sat still.

- 7.21 *ku³rianx¹ tuku³ya³² / wax³² zhoh³ a³²*
 COM:appear rabbit CON:move it:AML DEC
 The rabbit showed up; it was moving along.
- 7.22 *cha² uun⁴ zhoh³ naa³¹ kwa³no² a³²*
 POT:eat REP it:AML cornfield right:now DEC
 It was going to eat the cornfield again just then.
- 7.23 *kahanx³² zhoh³ / ne² / me³ shehe⁴ ne³ naskih³ zii⁵*
 COM:go it:AML and which feet NEG CON:wiggle he
nianx⁵ / ra⁴ tuku³ya³² yoh³ a³²
 this CON:think rabbit that DEC
 The rabbit went along and wondered, “Why doesn’t this person move?”
- 7.24 *seze³² yuwii³¹ me³ yoh³ / ne² kaoh¹ yoh³ man-h⁴ /*
 if person CON:be it:INAN and POT:hit it:INAN body-our:IN
ra⁴ zhoh³ a³²
 CON:think it:AML DEC
 If it’s a person, then it will shoot me,” it thought.
- 7.25 *gaa¹³ ne² ne³ naskih³ yoh³ mah³*
 when and NEG CON:wiggle it:INAN NEG
 And then it (the scarecrow) wasn’t moving.
- 7.26 *me³ shehe⁴ ne³ naskih³ zii⁵ ne¹³ nianx⁵ / ra⁴*
 which feet NEG CON:wiggle he CON2:sit here CON:think
zhoh³ a³²
 it:AML DEC
 “Why doesn’t the person sitting here move?” it wondered.
- 7.27 *wee⁴ dan³² ne² kahanx³² zhoh³ / ne² kaoh³ zhoh³ kushruh³*
 AFF that and COM:go it:AML and COM:hit it:AML fist
shree⁵ yoh³ a³²
 ear its:INAN DEC
 And after that it went, and it hit it in the ear with [its] fist.
- 7.28 *gaa¹³ ne² kaoh³ zhoh³ kushruh³ / ne² kuta³ nuh¹ ze³²*
 when and COM:hit it:AML fist and COM:stick complete POS
kushruh² zhoh³ man³ yanx⁵ a³²
 fist its:AML body wax DEC
 And then it hit [it] with [its] fist, and its fist got completely stuck in the wax.

- 7.29 *nahnex¹ zoh¹ man-x³ / 'ti³nux¹ / tax³² zhoh³ /*
 POT:let:go you:SG body-my brother:ME CON:say it:AML
no³ yanx⁵ a³²
 CON:hear wax DEC
 “Let me go, Brother!” it said to the wax.
- 7.30 *nahnex¹ zoh¹ man-x³ / 'ti³nux¹ / tax³² zhoh³ a³²*
 POT:let:go you:SG body-my brother:ME CON:say it:AML DEC
 “Let me go, Brother!” it said.
- 7.31 *ne³ ahmii³² tahnax³² yanx⁵ a¹ mah³*
 NEG CON:speak ghost wax NEG NEG
 The wax scarecrow really wasn’t speaking.
- 7.32 *nahnex¹ zoh¹ man-x³ / seze³² kaoh¹ hunx¹ yoho⁴ kushruh³*
 POT:let:go you:SG body-my if POT:hit I another fist
shree⁵ zoh¹ / 'ti³nux¹ / tax³² zhoh³ riaan³² tahnax³²
 ear your:SG brother:ME CON:say it:AML face ghost
yoh³ a³²
 that DEC
 “Let me go, or else I’ll hit you in the ear with [my] other fist, Brother!” it said to the scarecrow.
- 7.33 *ne³ ahmii³² ushra⁴ yoh³ a¹ mah³*
 NEG CON:speak INTS it:INAN NEG NEG
 It (the scarecrow) really wasn’t speaking at all.
- 7.34 *wee⁴ dan³² ne² kaoh³ zhoh³ ni⁵chrex² ze³² kushruh² zhoh³ a³²*
 AFF that and COM:hit it:AML other:side POS fist its:AML DEC
 And after that it hit [it] with its other fist.
- 7.35 *wee⁴ dan³² ne² kuta³ uun⁴ yoh³ nanx¹ a⁴*
 AFF that and COM:stick REP it:INAN indeed PERS
 And after that it (the second fist) got stuck [to it] too for sure.

- 7.36 *zix*⁵ *wix*¹ *kushruh*³ *kano*⁴ / *ne*² *dax*³²
 CON:be:complete two fist COM:grab and CON:NEG:exist
*ze*³² *ki*²*hya-h*⁴ / *shihnee*² *yoh*³ *a*¹ *mah*³
 it:INAN POT:do-we:IN POT:be:taken:away it:INAN NEG NEG
 That made two fists that were stuck, and there really wasn't any way
 for them to get free.¹⁶
- 7.37 *yuun*¹ *shehe*¹ *kuta*³ *yoh*³ *a*³²
 once based COM:stick it:INAN DEC
 They were stuck [to it] FOR GOOD.¹⁷
- 7.38 *dan*³² *me*³ *ze*³² *katax*³² *uun*⁴ *zhoh*³ *a*³²
 that CON:be CMP COM:say REP it:AML DEC
 And then it said again.
- 7.39 *nahnex*¹ *zoh*¹ *man-x*³ / *'ti*³*nux*¹ / *tax*³² *uun*⁴
 POT:let:go you:SG body-my brother:ME CON:say REP
*zhoh*³ *a*³²
 it:AML DEC
 "Let me go, Brother!" it said again.
- 7.40 *ushra*⁴ *ne*³ *ahmii*³² *zii*⁵ *ne*¹³ *yoh*³ *a*¹ *mah*³
 INTS NEG CON:speak he CON2:sit there NEG NEG
 The person sitting there really wasn't speaking at all.
- 7.41 *gaa*¹³ *ne*² / *nahnex*¹ *zoh*¹ *raha-x*³ / *seze*³² *shux*²
 when and POT:let:go you:SG hand-my if POT:shove
*shehe-x*³ *shree*⁵ *zoh*¹ / *'ti*³*nux*¹ / *tax*³² *zhoh*³ *a*³²
 feet-I ear your:SG brother:ME CON:say it:AML DEC
 And then, "Let my hands go, or else I'll kick you in the ear,
 Brother!" it said.
- 7.42 *shux*³² *shehe*⁴ *zhoh*³ *ho*² *takanx*³ *zhoh*³ *uun*⁴ *a*³²
 COM:shove feet it:AML one hoof its:AML REP DEC
 It kicked [it] with one of its hoofs too.

¹⁶*dax*³² *ze*³² *ki*²*hya-h*⁴ is a frozen expression that always takes the generalized inclusive postclitic pronoun (see §5.4). It means 'there is nothing that can be done', and it is followed by a purpose sentence with its verb in potential aspect. See 7.48 and 7.56 for further examples.

¹⁷*yuun*¹ *shehe*¹ is an idiom that means 'for good' or 'permanently'.

- 7.43 *kuta³ takanx³ zhoh³ uun⁴ a³²*
 COM:stick hoof its:AML REP DEC
 Its hoof got stuck too.
- 7.44 *dax¹ yanee⁵ takanx³ zhoh³ waa³² yahnux⁵ nanx¹ a⁴*
 only other:side hoof its:AML CON:exist open indeed PERS
 ONLY ITS OTHER HOOF was [still] free for sure.
- 7.45 *nahnex¹ zoh¹ man-x³ / 'ti³nux¹ / tax³² zhoh³ a³²*
 POT:let:go you:SG body-my brother:ME CON:say it:AML DEC
 "Let me go, Brother!" it said.
- 7.46 *wee⁴ dan³² ne² kaoh³ zhoh³ yoho⁴ takoo⁵ zhoh³ uun⁴*
 AFF that and COM:hit it:AML another foot its:AML REP
nanx¹ a⁴
 indeed PERS
 And after that it hit [it] with its other foot too for sure.
- 7.47 *zix⁵ kano⁴ wix¹ raha³ zhoh³ ga² wix¹ takoo⁵*
 CON:be:complete COM:grab two hand its:AML with two foot
zhoh³ a³²
 its:AML DEC
 Its two hands and its two feet finished getting stuck.
- 7.48 *dax³² ze³² ki²hya-h⁴ / shihnee² yoh³*
 CON:NEG:exist it:INAN POT:do-we:IN POT:be:taken:away it:INAN
a¹ mah³
 NEG NEG
 There really wasn't any way for them to get free.
- 7.49 *yoho² dyo⁴ kuta³ yoh³ a³²*
 one season COM:stick it:INAN DEC
 They were stuck FOR A LONG TIME (Sp. *tiempo* 'time').
- 7.50 *dan³² me³ ze³² tax³² zhoh³ yoho⁴ na³na¹ uun⁴ a³²*
 that CON:be CMP CON:say it:AML another word REP DEC
 And then it said something else too.
- 7.51 *nahnex¹ zoh¹ man-x³ / seze³² kushianh¹³ tuhwa-x³ man⁴*
 POT:let:go you:SG body-my if POT:bite mouth-I body
zoh¹ / 'ti³nux¹ / tax³² uun⁴ zhoh³ a³²
 your:SG brother:ME CON:say REP it:AML DEC
 "Let me go, or else I'll bite you with [my] mouth, Brother!" it said too.

7.52

ushra⁴ ne³ ahmii³² zii⁵ ne¹³ yoh³ a¹ mah³
 INTS NEG CON:speak he CONZ:sit there NEG NEG
 The person sitting there really wasn't speaking at all.

7.53 *dax¹ ho⁴ runh⁵ tuhwa³ zhoh³ taa⁵ yahnux⁵*
 only another single mouth its:AML CON:be:on:top open

narx¹ a⁴
 indeed PERS

ONLY ITS (the rabbit's) ONE MOUTH was [still] free for sure.

7.54 *kano¹ zhoh³ / shianh¹³ zhoh³ man³ zii⁵ ne¹³ yoh³ /*
 POT:grab it:AML POT:bite it:AML body he CONZ:sit there

ra⁴ zhoh³ a³²
 CON:think it:AML DEC

It would grab the person sitting there [and] would bite him, it thought.

7.55 *wee⁴ dan³² ne² kuta³ tuhwa³ zhoh³ uun⁴ a³²*
 AFF that and COM:stick mouth its:AML REP DEC
 And after that its mouth got stuck too.

7.56 *dax³² ze³² ki²hya-h⁴ / shihnee² tuhwa³*
 CON:NEG:exist it:INAN POT:do-we:IN POT:be:taken:away mouth

zhoh³ a¹ mah³
 its:AML NEG NEG

There really wasn't any way for its mouth to get free.

7.57 *wee⁴ dax¹³ waa³² no⁴ zhoh³ katuun³¹ tahnax³² /*
 AFF thus CON:exist CON:be:attached it:AML waist ghost

gaa¹³ rangah³ a³²
 when COM:dawn DEC

And so it was that it was stuck to the middle of the scarecrow when dawn came.

7.58 *ku³rianx¹ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ yan³² ne¹³ tahnax³² / hyax³*
 COM:appear grandmother-our:IN place CONZ:sit ghost CON:do

shu³kwa²han-h⁴ a³²
 grandmother-our:IN DEC

Our grandmother showed up at the place where she had placed the scarecrows. (lit. ... where she was causing the scarecrows to be sitting.)

- 7.59 *nanx*¹³ *waa*³² *no*⁴ *shkuu*³ *chree*¹³ *a*³²
 thus CON:exist CON:be:attached animal evil DEC
 And so it was that the evil animal was stuck.
- 7.60 *tuhwa*³ *luu*⁵ / *tuhwa*³ *taan*⁵ / *zoh*¹ *me*³ *zii*⁵ *cha*⁴
 mouth worm mouth fly you:SG CON:be he CON:eat
*shna-x*³ / *ra-x*³ *a*³²
 POS:cornfield-my CON:think-I DEC
 “YOU, DISGUSTING CREATURE, are the one who is eating my cornfield, I think.
- 7.61 *tsax*² *ne*² *nanx*¹³ *waa*³² *dih*¹ / *cha*⁴ *dih*¹
 but and thus CON:exist you:SG:FAM CON:eat you:SG:FAM
*shna-x*³ *a*¹ *zhix*³² / *tax*³² *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴
 POS:cornfield-my ? CHEERFUL CON:say grandmother-our:IN
*yoh*³ *a*³²
 that DEC
 But you are like this, yes indeed, you who are eating my cornfield,”
 our grandmother said.
- 7.62 *kahnex*⁵ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *tuku*³*ya*³² *katuun*³¹ *tahnax*³²
 COM:take:away grandmother-our:IN rabbit waist ghost
*kwa*³*no*² *a*³²
 right:now DEC
 Our grandmother took the rabbit off of the middle of the scarecrow
 just then.
- 7.63 *ni*³*kax*² *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ / *kahanx*³² *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *a*³²
 COM:have grandmother-our:IN COM:go grandmother-our:IN DEC
 Our grandmother took [it] along with her.
- 7.64 *gaa*¹³ *ne*² *kuchih*³ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *weh*³ *a*³²
 when and COM:arrive grandmother-our:IN house DEC
 And then our grandmother arrived at the house.
- 7.65 *tsax*² *ne*² *ne*³ *kawih*¹ *tuku*³*ya*³² *mah*³
 but and NEG COM:die rabbit NEG
 But the rabbit hadn't died.
- 7.66 *waa*³² *ihnah*¹ *zhoh*³ / *kahanx*³² *zhoh*³ *weh*³ *a*³²
 CON:exist alive it:AML COM:go it:AML house DEC
 It was alive [as] it went to the house.

7.67 *nanx*¹³ *waa*³² *shkuu*³ *chree*¹³ / *tuhwa*³ *luu*⁵ / *tuhwa*³ *taan*⁵ /
 thus CON:exist animal evil mouth worm mouth fly

*cha*⁴ *shna-x*³ / *ma*³*ne*³² / *tax*³²
 CON:eat POS:cornfield-my comadre:FE CON:say

*shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ / *no*³ *mane*⁴
 grandmother-our:IN CON:hear comadre:FE

*shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *a*³²
 grandmother-our:IN DEC

“The evil animal, the disgusting creature who was eating my cornfield is like this, Comadre,” our grandmother said to her comadre.

7.68 *cha-h*² *maan*⁻³ / *gaa*¹³ *ne*² *kene*²*he-h*⁴ /
 POT:eat-we:IN body-UN when and POT:sense-we:IN

*ma*³*ne*³² / *tax*³² *mane*⁴ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ /
 comadre:FE CON:say comadre:FE grandmother-our:IN

*no*³ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *a*³²
 CON:hear grandmother-our:IN DEC

“Let’s eat it, and then we’ll know, Comadre,” our grandmother’s comadre said to her.

7.69 *tsax*² *ne*² *ne*³ *kawih*¹ *tuku*³*ya*³² *mah*³
 but and NEG COM:die rabbit NEG
 But the rabbit hadn’t died.

7.70 *waa*³² *ihnah*¹ *zhoh*³ / *kahanx*³² *zhoh*³ *weh*³ / *kihyax*³
 CON:exist alive it:AML COM:go it:AML house COM:do

*shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *a*³²
 grandmother-our:IN DEC

Our grandmother took it to the house alive.

7.71 *gaa*¹³ *ne*² *katux*⁵ *zah*¹ *zhoh*³ *ra*⁴ *ro*³*kohoo*¹³ / *kihyax*³
 when and COM:enter good it:AML inside gourd:bowl COM:do

*shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *a*³²
 grandmother-our:IN DEC

And then our grandmother put it away in a gourd bowl.

- 7.72 *gaa*¹³ *ne*² *waa*³² *ihnah*¹ *zhoh*³ / *nuu*³² *zhoh*³ *ra*⁴
 when and CON:exist alive it:AML CON:be:in it:AML inside

*ro*³*kohoo*¹³ *a*³²
 gourd:bowl DEC

And it was alive [as] it was in the gourd bowl.

- 7.73 *wee*⁴ *dax*¹³ *waa*³² *nuu*³² *zhoh*³ *a*³²
 AFF thus CON:exist CON:be:in it:AML DEC
 And so it was that it was in [there].

- 7.74 *gaa*¹³ *ne*² *kahnee*⁵ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *ro*³*kohoo*¹³ *ra*⁴
 when and COM:put:in grandmother-our:IN gourd:bowl inside

*yoo*⁴ *a*³²
 palm:basket DEC

And then our grandmother put the gourd bowl in a palm basket.

- 7.75 *wee*⁴ *dax*¹³ *waa*³² *ihnah*¹ *zhoh*³ / *nuu*³² *zhoh*³ *ra*⁴
 AFF thus CON:exist alive it:AML CON:be:in it:AML inside

*ro*³*kohoo*¹³ *shtah*¹ *a*³²
 gourd:bowl high DEC

And so it was alive [as] it was in the gourd bowl up high.

- 7.76 *maan*¹ *ze*³² *kahnee*⁵ *uun*¹ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *yoh*³ *man*³
 only CMP COM:put:in LIM grandmother-our:IN that body

*zhoh*³ / *ne*² *wee*⁴ *dan*³² *ne*² *kawii*³²
 its:AML and AFF that and COM:come:out

*shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *ho*² *suun*³² / *ne*² *kahanx*³²
 grandmother-our:IN one work and COM:go

*shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ / *gaa*¹³ *ne*² *nuwih*³ *wax*²
 grandmother-our:IN when and CON:NEG:be:present CON2:move

*shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ / *ne*³ *weh*³ *a*¹ *mah*³
 grandmother-our:IN CON:sit house NEG NEG

It's only that our grandmother just put it in [there], and after that our grandmother left on an errand, and she went away, and then she really wasn't in the house.

- 7.77 *ho² runh⁵ tuku³ya³² nuu³² ra⁴ yoo⁴ nokoh¹*
 one single rabbit CON:be:in inside palm:basket CON2:follow
wax² shtah¹ a³²
 CON2:move high DEC
 ONLY THE RABBIT WAS in the palm basket that was hanging up high.
- 7.78 *ku³rianx¹ shu³nee³ a³²*
 COM:appear fox DEC
 The fox showed up.
- 7.79 *nianx⁵ nuu³² zoh¹ / 'ti³nux¹ / tax³² shu³nee³ riaan³²*
 here CON:be:in you:SG brother:ME CON:say fox face
tuku³ya³² a³²
 rabbit DEC
 “HERE you are, Brother,” the fox said to the rabbit.
- 7.80 *nianx⁵ nu-x³² / 'ti³nux¹ / tax³² tuku³ya³² riaan³²*
 here CON:be:in-I brother:ME CON:say rabbit face
shu³nee³ a³²
 fox DEC
 “HERE I am, Brother,” the rabbit said to the fox.
- 7.81 *hee¹ ushra⁴ ra⁴ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ man-x³ / 'ti³nux¹ /*
 heavy INTS inside grandmother-OUR:IN body-my brother:ME
tax³² tuku³ya³² riaan³² shu³nee³ a³²
 CON:say rabbit face fox DEC
 “Our grandmother is very fond of me, Brother,” the rabbit said to the fox.
- 7.82 *kuwah² zoh¹ / ku²nuu³² zoh¹ nianx⁵ / tax³² tuku³ya³²*
 IMP:come you:SG POT:be:in you:SG here CON:say rabbit
riaan³² shu³nee³ a³²
 face fox DEC
 “Come get in here,” the rabbit said to the fox.
- 7.83 *kushman⁴ ra⁴ shu³nee³ / kihyax³ tuku³ya³² a³²*
 COM:arrive inside fox COM:do rabbit DEC
 The rabbit convinced the fox.

- 7.84 *ne² katux⁵ shu³nee³ ra⁴ yoo⁴ nuu² tuku³ya³²*
 and COM:enter fox inside palm:basket CON2:be:in rabbit

kwa³no² a³²
 right:now DEC

And the fox got into the palm basket where the rabbit was just then.

- 7.85 *gaa¹³ ne² nayon⁴ shu³nee³ riaan³² tuku³ya³² a³²*
 when and COM:be:in:again fox face rabbit DEC
 And then the fox took the rabbit's place.

- 7.86 *nanix³² tuku³ya³² / kahanx³² zhoh³ a³²*
 COM:go:down rabbit COM:go it:AML DEC
 The rabbit got down [and] went away.¹⁸

- 7.87 *nuwih³ wax² zhoh³ / nuu³² ra⁴*
 CON:NEG:be:present CON2:move it:AML CON:be:in inside

yoo⁴ a¹ mah³
 palm:basket NEG NEG

It really wasn't there in the palm basket.

- 7.88 *maan¹ shu³nee³ nuu³² ra⁴ yoo⁴ nanx¹ a⁴*
 only fox CON:be:in inside palm:basket indeed PERS
 ONLY THE FOX was in the palm basket for sure.

- 7.89 *kahanx³² shu³kwa²han-h⁴ ho² zuun³² / ne² wee⁴ dan³² ne²*
 COM:go grandmother-our:IN one work and AFF that and

naman⁴ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ / ne² nuu²
 COM:arrive:home:here grandmother-our:IN and CON2:be:in

tuku³ya³² ra⁴ yoo⁴ / ra⁴ shu³kwa²han-h⁴
 rabbit inside palm:basket CON:think grandmother-our:IN

yoh³ a³²
 that DEC

Our grandmother had gone on an errand, and after that she returned home, and she thought the rabbit was in the palm basket.

¹⁸The narrator apparently forgot to mention the fact that the rabbit needed the fox's help to get safely down from the hanging palm basket.

- 7.90 *gaa¹³ ne² kutah³ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ na³² yahaan¹³*
 when and COM:place:on:top grandmother-our:IN water hot
ruwax³ / ne² kuyanx³² na³² yahaan¹³ / taa⁵
 fireplace and COM:boil water hot CON:be:on:top
yoh³ ruwax³ / kihyax³ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ a³²
 it:INAN fireplace COM:do grandmother-our:IN DEC
 And then our grandmother put hot water on the fireplace, and she
 boiled the hot water [as] it was on the fireplace.
- 7.91 *gaa¹³ ne² tanix³² shu³kwa²han-h⁴ yoo⁴ nokoh¹*
 when and COM:lower grandmother-our:IN palm:basket CON2:follow
shtah¹ riaan³² yohoo⁵ kwa³no² a³²
 high face earth right:now DEC
 And then our grandmother lowered the palm basket that was
 hanging up high to the ground just then.
- 7.92 *tuku³ya³² nuu³² ra⁴ yoo⁴ / ra⁴*
 rabbit CON:be:in inside palm:basket CON:think
shu³kwa²han-h⁴ a³²
 grandmother-our:IN DEC
 Our grandmother thought THE RABBIT was in the palm basket.
- 7.93 *tsax² ne² nuwee⁴ tuku²ya³² me³ yoh³ mah³*
 but and NEG rabbit CON:be that NEG
 But that [one] wasn't the rabbit.
- 7.94 *ne² kuneh³ shu³kwa²han-h⁴ yoo⁴ riaan³² yohoo⁵ /*
 and COM:seat grandmother-our:IN palm:basket face earth
gaa¹³ ne² kirii³² shu³kwa²han-h⁴ ro³kohoo¹³
 when and COM:take:out grandmother-our:IN gourd:bowl
nuu² ra⁴ yoo⁴ a³²
 CON2:be:in inside palm:basket DEC
 And our grandmother placed the palm basket on the floor, and then
 she took out the gourd bowl that was in the palm basket.
- 7.95 *ne³ ni²hyax³² shu³kwa²han-h⁴ seze³² tuku³ya³² me³*
 NEG COM:look grandmother-our:IN if rabbit CON:be
yoh³ mah³
 that NEG
 Our grandmother didn't observe whether that [one] was the rabbit.

- 7.96 *gaa*¹³ *ne*² *kutax*⁵ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *na*³² *yahaan*¹³
 when and COM:pour:over grandmother-our:IN water hot
*shraa*⁵ *shu*³*nee*³ *a*³²
 back fox DEC
 And then our grandmother poured the hot water over the fox.
- 7.97 *kagwax*⁵ *ndoho*³² *zhoh*³ / *kihyax*³ *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *a*³²
 COM:cry:out INTS it:AML COM:do grandmother-our:IN DEC
 Our grandmother made it cry out a lot.
- 7.98 *'wa*³*oo*³² / *tax*³² *zhoh*³ / *agwax*⁵ *zhoh*³ *a*³²
 ouch CON:say it:AML CON:cry:out it:AML DEC
 It said “ouch” [as] it was crying out.
- 7.99 *ku*³*rianx*¹ *zhoh*³ / *kahanx*³² *zhoh*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 COM:appear it:AML COM:go it:AML indeed PERS
 It came out [of it (the gourd bowl) and] went away for sure.
- 7.100 *mayon*⁴ *ndoho*³² *kwene*³*xo*⁴ *cha*⁴ *shna-x*³ *a*³²
 tricky INTS rabbit CON:eat POS:cornfield-my DEC
 “The rabbit (Sp. *conejo*) that was eating my cornfield is very tricky
 (cf. Sp. *maña* ‘cleverness’).¹⁹
- 7.101 *tsax*² *ne*² *cha-x*² *maan*⁻³ / *ra-x*³ / *tsax*² *ne*² *doh*¹
 but and POT:eat-I body-UN CON:think-I but and merely
*shu*³*nee*³ *me*³ *yoh*³ / *ne*² *nuwee*⁴ *tuku*²*ya*³² *me*³ *yoh*³
 fox CON:be that and NEG rabbit CON:be that
*mah*³ / *tax*³² *shu*³*kwa*²*han-h*⁴ *a*³²
 NEG CON:say grandmother-our:IN DEC
 But I was thinking I would eat it, but that [one] was just a fox, and
 that [one] wasn’t a rabbit,” our grandmother said.
- 7.102 *gaa*¹³ *ne*² *kunanx*⁵ *shu*³*nee*³ / *kahanx*³² *zhoh*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 when and COM:run fox COM:go it:AML indeed PERS
 And then the fox ran [and] went away for sure.
- 7.103 *kinanii*³² *uun*⁴ *tuku*³*ya*³² *a*³²
 COM:escape REP rabbit DEC
 The rabbit escaped again.

¹⁹*kwene*³*xo*⁴ is not an established loanword in Trique; the narrator apparently used it for variety.

- 7.104 *guun*³ *nukwax*¹³ *zhoh*³ *kinanii*³² *uun*⁴ *zhoh*³ *nanx*¹ *a*⁴
 COM:become strong it:AML COM:escape REP it:AML indeed PERS
 It was able to escape again for sure.
- 7.105 *dax*³² *ushra*⁴ *zii*⁵ *kahwee*¹³ *cha*² *man*³ *zhoh*³
 CON:NEG:exist INTS he POT:be:possible POT:eat body its:AML
 *a*¹ *mah*³
 NEG NEG
 There really isn't anyone at all who can eat it.
- 7.106 *inanx*² *shkuu*³ *tiah*³ *nuh*¹ *kahnah*³ *me*³ *zhoh*³ *a*³²
 just animal CON:deceive complete COM:come CON:be it:AML DEC
 It's just an animal that has been deceiving forever.²⁰
- 7.107 *dax*¹³ *waa*³² *ze*³² *kwendo*¹ *zhoh*³ *a*³²
 thus CON:exist POS story its:AML DEC
 That's how its story (Sp. *cuento*) is.
- 7.108 *shkuu*³ *zhax*³² *me*³ *zhoh*³ *a*³²
 animal tricky CON:be it:AML DEC
 It's a tricky animal.
- 7.109 *wee*⁴ *dax*¹³ *nawix*³ *ze*³² *kwendo*¹ *nix*³ *zoh*³ *a*³²
 AFF thus CON:finish POS story the:PL his DEC
 And so their story ends.

²⁰*nuh*¹ *kahnah*³ is an idiom that means 'forever (in the past)'.