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**Studies in the  
Syntax of Mixtecan Languages  
3**

**C. Henry Bradley  
and  
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Editors**

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## Abbreviations

ADD	additive	INTS	intensifier
AFF	affirmative	KNO	known object
AML	animal	LIM	limiter
CAUS	causative	LIQ	liquid
CF	contrafactual	lit.	literally
cf.	compare	ME	male ego
CMP	complementizer	MS	man speaking
COL	collectivizer	NEG	negative
COM	completive	PERF	perfective
CON	continuative	PL	plural
DEI	deity	POT	potential
DER	derivational	Reg. Sp.	regional Spanish
DIR	directional	REP	repetitive
EX	exclusive	RES	respect
FAM	familiar	SG	singular
FE	female ego	Sp.	Spanish
GEN	general	SPEC	specifier
HAB	habitual	SPH	spherical
HORT	hortatory	TAG	tag question marker
IMP	imperative	UN	unspecified third person
IN	inclusive	WOD	wood
INAN	inanimate	WS	woman speaking
INC	incompletive	?	gloss unknown
INT	interrogative		

# **A Syntactic Sketch of Diuxi-Tilantongo Mixtec**

**Albertha Kuiper and Joy Oram**

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# Introduction

## 0.1 Orientation

Diuxi-Tilantongo Mixtec is spoken by about 5,000 people living in and around two municipal centers, San Juan Diuxi and Santiago Tilantongo, in the District of Nochixtlán, Oaxaca, Mexico. Large colonies of speakers of this language are also found in Mexico City, the city of Puebla, and the city of Oaxaca. The speech of Tilantongo differs in minor ways from that of Diuxi; for example, Tilantongo forms are often less contracted than those of Diuxi. This sketch is based on the variety spoken in Diuxi.

According to Caso (1979a, 1979b), based on his study of the *Codex Nuttall* (1902), Tilantongo was the capital of a vast Mixtec city-state. Eight Deer, an eleventh century ruler, subdued one town after another until he controlled almost all of the Mixteca. After his death, however, the empire he built was dissolved, and it never regained its past glory. For more about the history of the Mixtec kings, see Smith (1973) and Spores (1967).

Because both Diuxi and Tilantongo are situated in badly eroded land, at least one member of each family unit spends six or more months each year working in Oaxaca City or Mexico City to supplement the family income; the life of migrants from Tilantongo in Mexico City has been described by Butterworth (1962, 1975). Also, primary schools have been in the area for perhaps five decades. Consequently, many of the men and some of the women have a working knowledge of Spanish. Among themselves, however, they speak Mixtec by preference, and children continue to learn Mixtec as their first language.

This sketch is based on data gathered by the authors during fieldwork in Diuxi beginning in 1965 for Oram and in 1971 for Kuiper. All examples have been checked by Oram with Amelia Martínez de Matías or by Kuiper with Ysauro Martínez Pablo. Both were born in Diuxi and grew up there. The text in chapter seven was dictated to Oram by Arturo Martínez Cruz, also from Diuxi. He learned the story from his grandfather, who had been one of the village storytellers, and dictated it in 1972, when he was sixteen years old. Part of the data base for this sketch consists of a collection of eighty-two texts dictated by Amelia Martínez de Matías and thirty-six texts dictated by Arturo Martínez Cruz (Oram n.d.). These texts were dictated to Oram along with a Spanish translation, and they contain literal and free English translations in the same form as the examples in this sketch.

The preparation of this sketch was aided by a concordance prepared by computer in 1968 at the University of Oklahoma Research Institute, supported by Grant GS-270 of the National Science Foundation.

In this sketch Kuiper was responsible for chapters two, three, and five, and Oram for chapters one, four, six, and seven, and also this introduction. Because of differing analytical perspectives, the parts of this sketch do not always dovetail the way they would if a single author had composed the entire sketch. Without Barbara Hollenbach's excellent work as teacher, writer, and friend, the drawing together of this material into a "finished whole" would not have been possible.

## 0.2 Phonology

Diuxi-Tilantongo Mixtec has the following segmental phonological units: voiceless stops and affricate *t ch k kw*, voiced stops *d g* (only after *n*), voiceless fricatives *s sh x xw*, voiced fricatives *v* (bilabial) *ɟ y*, nasals *m n ñ*, liquids *l r*, laryngeal *h* (glottal stop), oral vowels *i e ɨ a u o*, and nasalized vowels *in en* (rare) *in an un on*. In Spanish loanwords some of the above phonemes have a wider distribution, and the following additional phonemes occur: *p b gw f* (bilabial fricative; some speakers only). The segmental phonemes are described more fully in Oram and Pike (n.d.).

Two analyses have been proposed for the tone system of this language, one by Pike and Oram (1976), and one by Daly (1978). In the Pike and Oram system, there are two levels of tone, high and low, and also a contrastive stress. In the Daly system, there are two tone features, [High] and [Modified], which define four tones in underlying forms. These underlying features undergo a variety of rules that produce the surface tones.

In the chapters for which Kuiper is responsible, surface tone is written, based on a modified version of the Daly analysis. An acute accent is used

for high tone, a macron for mid tone, a circumflex for a high downglide, and a vertical stroke for stress; low tone is unmarked. In the chapters for which Oram is responsible, basic tones are written, using the Pike and Oram system. An acute accent is used for high tone, and a vertical stroke for stress; low tone is unmarked.

Completive aspect is written as *n* followed by a hyphen. Following this proclitic, a number of consonants undergo phonological changes. Voiceless consonants except *t* and *ch* become voiced; *sh*, which is often somewhat retroflexed, becomes a voiced retroflexed alveopalatal affricate; *x* and *xw* become *g* and *gw*; and *y*, which is a voiced alveopalatal fricative, becomes a voiced alveopalatal affricate. In this sketch, however, the underlying forms are written.

Five postclitic pronouns are also written with a hyphen: *-ř* 'I (familiar)', *-ñ* 'you (respect)', *-n* 'you (familiar, man speaking)', *-s* 'he (man speaking)' and *-t* 'it (animal)'. The two second-person forms differ in tone (high versus low) in the analysis used by Kuiper. In the analysis used by Oram, however, the two pronouns both have high tone in their basic forms, but belong to different sandhi classes; both are written *-ñ*.

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# 1

## Basic Sentences

### 1.1 Statements

Verbs fall into three classes—content, equative, and stative. Sentences with content verbs are impersonal, intransitive, or transitive; transitive and intransitive sentences may 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 an equative or content verb. Each of these sentence types may take a peripheral location or time element. They may also have 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. Such verbs are limited to a small set and express meteorological and related concepts.

*n-tnaá*

COM-quake

There was an earthquake.

*n-tú 'ú*

COM-dawn

It dawned.

*ñini*  
 CON:be:late  
 It's late.

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

*kíshí dá*  
 POT:come I:RES  
 I will come.

*kí'dí ún*  
 CON:sleep you:FAM:WS  
 You are sleeping.

*káá-s*  
 CON:lie-he:MS  
 He is lying down.

*kaná dá'ú*  
 CON:call rain  
 It is thundering.

*nda'hí ñá'ñá*  
 CON:cry coyote  
 The coyote is howling.

*kíshí dú'tú*  
 POT:come priest  
 The priest will come.

*n-shí'hí vilú*  
 COM-die cat  
 The cat died.

*ínúndáha nga'lú*  
 POT:marry Charles  
 Charles will marry.

*n-shitá ñádihí*  
 COM-sing woman  
 The woman was singing.

(See also 7.7, 7.19, 7.30, 7.32, 7.39, 7.58, 7.64–65, and 7.72.)

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



*shihí t̥ ndúté*  
 CON:drink it:AML water  
 The animal is drinking water.

*shán 'hnú té yútnú*  
 CON:break he:ws tree  
 He breaks the pole.

*ǎíkó ñá nú 'ní*  
 CON:sell she corn  
 She sells corn.

*ndoñúhú ǎá tvíní*  
 CON:need I:RES money  
 I need money (Sp. *tomín*).

*ǎándéché ró triú*  
 CON:winnow we:IN wheat  
 We are winnowing wheat (Sp. *trigo*).

*ǎákee mushú í 'tú*  
 POT:harvest hired:hand cornfield  
 The hired-hands (Sp. *mozo*) will harvest the cornfields.

*káǎá vá 'há alvañíí véhé*  
 POT:do good mason house  
 The mason (Sp. *albañil*) will build the house.

(See also 7.1, 7.13–14, 7.26, 7.28, 7.47, and others.)

Some verbs have two sense discriminations, one transitive and the other intransitive, as seen by comparing the following pairs of sentences.

*shashí té*  
 CON:eat he:ws  
 He is eating.

cf. *shash konexú ndúchí*  
 CON:eat rabbit bean  
 The rabbit (Sp. *conejo*) is eating the bean plants.

*kunú té*  
 CON:weave he:ws  
 He is weaving.

cf. *kunú té ñadió*  
 CON:weave he:ws strength:belt  
 He is weaving a strength belt.

*kahú dá*  
 CON:read I:RES  
 I am reading.

cf. *kahú dá livrú*  
 CON:read I:RES book  
 I am reading the book (Sp. *libro*).

*kí'kú dí'hí-ř*  
 CON:sew mother-my:FAM  
 My mother is sewing.<sup>1</sup>

cf. *kí'kú ñá shá'tú tá'á-ř*  
 CON:sew she pants father-my:FAM  
 She is sewing my father's pants.

The sentence level direct object interacts in complex ways with the verbal marker *ñáha* 'known object' (see §2.1.3); in compounds this word has a variant form *áhan* following *i*.

To express reflexive object, the specifier *mée* is used before a compound free pronoun of the *mee* series (see §5.4).

*ndehá-ř mée mée-ř*  
 CON:look:at-I:FAM SPEC SPEC-me:FAM  
 I look at myself.

**1.1.4 Sentences with adjuncts.** Both intransitive and transitive sentences may take the following adjuncts: locative, associative, instrument, and referent. In addition, transitive verbs may take an indirect object adjunct. Adjuncts follow the subject in intransitive sentences and usually follow the object in transitive sentences.

The locative adjunct expresses source, destination, or location; this adjunct is normally required with verbs that express placement, position, or change of location.

With transitive verbs that express placement (or occasionally position), the locative adjunct follows the direct object. With intransitive verbs that express position, it follows the subject.

---

<sup>1</sup>Diuxi-Tilantongo 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.

With placement verbs:

*shaxán té dānhmá íchí*  
 CON:spread:out he:ws cloth road  
 They spread clothes out on the road.

*n-chítúú-s í shí'ú ñúnú*  
 COM-put:in-he:MS it:AML stomach net  
 He put it (the rabbit) inside the net carrying bag.

*n-shodó ní-s nté ínhní yá'tá ñá'ñá*  
 COM-pour LIM-he:MS it:LIQ hot back coyote  
 He poured the hot water down the coyote's back.

*dáke'é ní yekó chí'kí íñú*  
 CON:put:in LIM Yeco prickly:pear:fruit thorn

*yúhu ñá'ñá*  
 mouth coyote

Yeco (the mythical opossum) puts a thorny prickly-pear in the coyote's mouth.

*ndádá kútú ñá í'tá tndó'hó vēñu'hú*  
 CON:do:again tied she flower vase church  
 She is putting flowers in the church vases.

*ñúhú té koroná dī'kí té*  
 CON:wear he:ws crown head his:ws  
 They wear crowns (Sp. *corona*) on their heads.

(See also 7.29.)

With position verbs:

*íó dá yúkú*  
 CON:exist I:RES mountain  
 I live in the mountains. *or* I live on the mountain.

*túú ñá véhé*  
 CON:be she house  
 She is at home.

*yíhí dá'hyá dá shkwelá*  
 CON:be:in child my:RES school  
 My child is in school (Sp. *escuela*).

*íó kwé'hé. í'tá yá'tá véhé dá*  
 CON:exist many flower back house my:RES  
 There are many flowers (growing) behind my house.

*túú-s véshkwelá*  
 CON:be-he:MS schoolhouse  
 He is at school.

(See also 7.69.)

With intransitive verbs that express change of location (motion verbs), the locative adjunct occurs after the subject. There is no syntactic distinction between locative adjuncts that refer to source and those that refer to destination. Sometimes the verb makes it clear which is intended, and sometimes the larger context.

*xwándishí ñá ñúkóhyo*  
 INC:return:coming she Mexico:City  
 She is returning from Mexico City.

*xé'hín té ñútnúu*  
 POT:go he:ws Tilantongo  
 He is going to Tilantongo.

*shinó té yúkú*  
 CON:run he:ws mountain  
 He is running from the mountain. *or* He is running to the mountain.

*n-ké'ú ñá'ñá kúralí*  
 COM-enter coyote corral  
 The coyote entered the corral (Sp. *corral*).

*n-ké'é í dó'hó í'dú*  
 COM-enter it:AML ear deer  
 It (the cricket) entered the deer's ear.

*n-kéé dá metrú*  
 COM-leave I:RES subway  
 I left the subway (Sp. *metro*).

The indirect object adjunct usually follows the direct object, and it is usually marked by the locative noun *nú'ú* 'face'.

*díkó té nú'ní nú'ú mariá*  
 CON:sell he:ws corn face Mary  
 He is selling corn to Mary (Sp. *María*).

*n-túndaha ñá telegramá nú'ú kú'hú ñá*  
 COM-send she telegram face sister:FE her  
 She sent a telegram (Sp. *telegrama*) to her sister.

*ká'xán-s yí nú'ú tá'á í*  
 POT:ask-he:MS UN face father UN

He will ask her father for her (hand in marriage). (lit. He will request her from her father.)

There are, however, a number of cases in which *nú'ú* does not occur. In one such case, the absence of *nú'ú* is conditioned by the fact that both subject and indirect object are pronouns. In these sentences the indirect object immediately follows the subject.

*chiyá'hú ðá yá ú'ú sientú*  
 CON:pay I:RES DEI two hundred  
 I pay the priest two hundred (Sp. *ciento*) (pesos).

In other cases, the absence of *nú'ú* is conditioned by the verb. For example, with the verb *ðashá* 'to give', it does not occur.

*ðashá té ñú'ú ñá'yíu*  
 CON:give he:ws palm people  
 He gives palm branches to the people (on Palm Sunday).

Several verbs of giving and speaking are compounds that have the known-object marker *ñáha*, or its variant *áhan*, as their second element (see §5.1.1). Sentences containing these verbs do not need to have an overt indirect object.

*xúñáha ró tkóo*  
 POT:give we:IN tamale  
 We will give him/her/them tamales.

*shía'hán ñá xó'ón*  
 CON:speak she yes  
 She says yes (to someone).

Occasionally they do have an overt indirect object, but in such cases, *nú'ú* does not occur.

*n-shía'hán té ínó tá'á té*  
 COM-give he:ws tobacco father his:ws  
 He gave tobacco to his father.

*n-shiá'hán* *đá tá ndáá marduán*  
 COM-give I:RES it:flower all steward

I gave them (the flowers) to all those in charge of the fiesta (Sp. *mayordomo*).

Occasionally an indirect object occurs in the absence of a direct object.

*shiá'hán ñá* *đá'hyá ñá*  
 CON:speak she child her  
 She speaks to her children.

The indirect object is not expressed in a sentence with *tá'shí* (or its reduced form *tá'á*) 'to give', which is used only when the indirect object refers to first or second person.

*tá'á* *đá* *đí'tá*  
 POT:give I:RES tortilla  
 I will give you the tortillas.

*n-tá'shí* *tá'á-r* *đánhmá*  
 COM-give father-my:FAM cloth  
 My father gave me/you/us the clothes.

The associative adjunct is marked by the preposition *shihín* 'with'. The function of this adjunct is to double some other element of the sentence; in most cases this element is the subject.

*n-shehén* *nshú'á* *núndúa* *shihín* *róbér'tó*  
 COM-go John:ws Oaxaca:City with Robert  
 John went to Oaxaca City with Robert (Sp. *Roberto*).

*n-kisheé* *đá* *ñúkóhyo* *shihín* *đá'hyá* *đá*  
 COM-arrive I:RES Mexico:City with child my:RES  
 I arrived in Mexico City with my child.

*kiáá* *vá'há* *đá* *véhé* *shihín* *ñá'ní* *đá*  
 CON:do good I:RES house with brother:ME my:RES  
 I am building a house with my brother.

When the associative adjunct is contiguous to the subject, the construction is ambiguous; it could be considered to contain an additive noun phrase (see §3.8) as the subject, rather than a subject followed by an associative adjunct.

*xahán* *maría* *shihín* *kú'hú* *ñá*  
 CON:speak Mary with sister:FE her  
 Mary is talking to her sister. *or* Mary and her sister are talking.

*shashí té shíhín áá'hyá té*  
 CON:eat he:WS with child his:WS  
 He is eating with his children. *or* He and his children are eating.

*shikonúú sú'á shíhín nnáhá séyî sí*  
 CON:walk:around John:MS with every man:MS his:MS  
 John is walking around with all his companions. *or* John and all his companions are walking around.

The following example shows an associative adjunct doubling the object, which is in sentence-initial position to indicate focus (see §1.1.8).

*ú'ní ní peshú néhé ró shíhín áí'tá ní*  
 three LIM peso CON:carry we:IN with tortilla LIM  
 We're taking ONLY THREE PESOS (Sp. *peso*) and only tortillas.

The instrument adjunct usually precedes the verb (see §1.1.8). In intransitive sentences, however, it may follow the subject, and in transitive sentences, it may follow the object or come between the subject and the object. This adjunct is normally not marked by any preposition or locative noun.

*kaná ñá'yú ndantú'hú fversá í*  
 CON:shout people all force UN  
 The people shout with all their might (Sp. *fuerza*).

*áákú'chí í ñá'yú nduté*  
 CON:wash it:AML people water.  
 It (the elephant) showers the people with water.

*kuhú-í kwéshitá*  
 CON:be:sick-I:FAM sickness:sing  
 I am sick with singing sickness (caused by the “earth-people”).

*n-téé ñáha té ú'ú tirú pistolá*  
 COM-cast KNO he:WS two shot pistol  
 He shot someone with two shots (Sp. *tiro*) from a pistol (Sp. *pistola*).

*n-kaní ñadú'hú máchítí áí'ké ndáhá-s*  
 COM-hit thief machete head hand-his:MS  
 The thief hit his fingers with the machete (Sp. *machete*).

*n-kaní ñá ndáhá ñá shí'tí í*  
 COM-hit she hand her stomach its:AML  
 She hit the animal in the stomach with her hand.

*n-tétné'í-s kádená í'ná-s*  
 COM-tie-he:MS chain dog-his:MS  
 He tied his dogs up with chains (Sp. *cadena*).

Note that in some of the above examples the semantic instrument is in the position where the direct object normally occurs. (An alternative analysis would be to say that these are direct objects rather than instrument adjuncts, and that the following elements are locative adjuncts rather than direct objects.)

The referent adjunct has a wide variety of meanings: 'on behalf of' or 'on account of', 'for' (by proxy), 'extent', 'in exchange for', and 'than'. Usually, but not always, it is signaled by the complex preposition *shá shé'hé* 'on behalf of' or 'on account of', or by *shá*, which in this context means 'for' (by proxy) or 'in exchange for'. (The word *shá* is basically a prestressed inanimate third person pronoun [see §5.4], but it has a number of special functions. One of the most important is that it serves as a complementizer [see §1.1.9], and it is glossed 'complementizer' in this sketch whenever its function is nonpronominal.) The referent adjunct also occurs with no marker, in which case it means 'extent'.

With *shá shé'hé*:

*má kádá-s ní ñn shá shé'hé tá'á-s*  
 NEG POT:do-he:MS LIM one CMP foot father-his:MS  
 He won't do one (thing) for his father.

*ǎkó té nú'ní shá shé'hé tá'á té*  
 CON:sell he:WS corn CMP foot father his:WS  
 He sells (his) corn on account of his father's need.

*néhé tí tkólelu shá shé'hé kwéchi okei*  
 COM:carry it:AML lamb CMP foot sin Okay  
 The coyote carried off a lamb on account of Okay's (Sp. *okey*, English *okay*) (the dog's) fault (that he was not watching the corral).

*n-xántnáhá té shá shé'hé terenú yúkú*  
 COM-fight he:WS CMP foot land mountain  
 They were fighting over the mountain land (Sp. *terreno*).

With *shá*:

*ǎkó té nú'ní shá tá'á té*  
 CON:sell he:WS corn CMP father his:WS  
 He sells (his father's) corn for his father.



*túndaha dá saludó shá xwání'tó*

CON:send I-RES greeting CMP Johnny

I am sending (you) greetings (Sp. *saludo*) from Johnny (Sp. *Juanito*).

*xwéén ró ná'má shá ñn peshú*

POT:buy we:IN soap CMP one peso

We'll buy soap for a peso.

*xwéén ró ñn kiló ashuká shá ú'ú peshú*

POT:buy we:IN one kilogram sugar CMP two peso

We'll buy one kilogram (Sp. *kilo*) of sugar (Sp. *azúcar*) for two pesos.

With no marker:

*n-ká dákkaka-s barkú ó'hón kiló'métro*

COM-PL POT:make:walk-he:MS boat five kilometer

They rowed the boat (Sp. *barco*) five kilometers (Sp. *kilómetro*).

The comparative subtype of the referent adjunct is introduced by the general adverb *dá* 'thus', used here in the sense of 'than'. It occurs only when the additive *ká* occurs in the verb phrase (see §§2.1.3 and 2.3). (Note that the main verb of the sentence cannot be repeated after *dá*, and so this construction clearly constitutes an adjunct and is not a sentence combination.)

*yá'hú ká vilú yá dá í'ná*

CON:cost ADD cat this thus dog

This cat costs more than a dog.

*vá'há ká shini méé-ñ dá méé-dá*

good ADD CON:know SPEC-you:RES thus SPEC-I:RES

You know better than I (do).

**1.1.5 Equative sentences.** The minimal form of an equative sentence consists of a nominal complement followed by an equative verb inflected for aspect and its subject. The two verbs commonly used in equative sentences are *kúú* 'to be' and *nání* 'to be named'. A third verb, *ndúu* 'to become', is very restricted in its use and requires the order verb—subject—nominal complement.

With *kúú* and *nání*:

*í'ná kúú tí*

dog CON:be it:AML

It's a dog.

*đú'tú kúú té*  
 priest CON:be he:ws  
 He is a priest.

*káreti'ná nání ñá*  
 Kathryn CON:be:named she  
 Her name is Kathryn (Sp. *Catarina*).

(See also 7.24 and 7.41.)

With *ndúu*:

*ndúu-ń chó'kó*  
 COM:become-YOU:FAM:MS turkey:vulture  
 You became a turkey vulture.

A third person inanimate subject may be unexpressed if no specific pronoun corresponds to its gender class (see §5.4), as seen in the second sentence of the following pair.

*ndúté kúú té*  
 water CON:be it:LIQ  
 It is water.

*shá luchi kúú*  
 it:INAN small:SG CON:be  
 (It) is a small thing. *or* (It) is small.

This occasionally happens in intransitive sentences as well, especially in those that contain position verbs, which often have inanimate subjects.

**1.1.6 Stative sentences.** Stative sentences contain a stative verb and may contain another verb as well. The minimal form of a stative sentence consists of a stative verb and its subject. All such sentences are continuative in meaning.

*kánhnú tí*  
 big:SG it:AML  
 The animal is big.

*kánhnú ñá*  
 big:SG she  
 She is fat.

*nyí ñá*  
 very:old she  
 She is very old.

*kaní dú'hán tí*  
 long:SG tail its:AML  
 Its tail is long.

*kwishí shí'tí tí*  
 white stomach its:AML  
 Its underside is white.

(See also 7.33.)

Occasionally a stative verb is used as the predicate of an impersonal sentence, in which case no subject occurs.

*kándá*  
 visible  
 (It) is light.

An equative or content verb is sometimes used to link the stative verb to its subject. These verbs are *kúú* 'to be', *káá* 'to appear', and rarely *íó* 'to exist'. The verb *kúú* tends to convey an intrinsic quality, whereas *káá* tends to convey an external attribute. Many stative verbs, however, conventionally select one, rather than the other.

*vá'há kúú ñá*  
 good CON:be she  
 She is pretty.

*ndahú kúú-s*  
 poor CON:be-he:MS  
 He is poor.

*vilí káá tá*  
 pretty CON:appear it:flower  
 It (the flower) is pretty.

*vilí káá*  
 pretty CON:appear  
 (It) is pretty.

*tukú káá té*  
 different CON:appear he:ws  
 He is different (not the same one).

*kwihá káá-s*  
 ugly CON:appear-he:MS  
 He is ugly.

*ndóó káá ñá*  
 clean CON:appear she  
 She is clean.

In a few cases, a stative verb can occur with any of the three content or equative verbs with no apparent meaning difference.

*kánhnú kúú tá*  
 big:SG CON:be it:flower  
 It (the flower) is big.

*kánhnú káá tá*  
 big:SG CON:appear it:flower  
 It (the flower) is big.

*kánhnú íó tá*  
 big:SG CON:exist it:flower  
 It (the flower) is big.

When a stative verb occurs both with and without a content or equative verb, however, there are usually two distinct sense discriminations involved.

*vá 'há ñá*  
 good she  
 She is good. *or* She is kind.

*vá 'há kúú ñá*  
 good CON:be she  
 She is pretty.

*ndahú té*  
 poor he:ws  
 Poor thing! (lit. He [is] poor.)

*ndahú kúú té*  
 poor CON:be he:ws  
 He is poor.

*kánhnú té*  
 big:SG he:ws  
 He is fat.

*kánhnú kúú tá*  
 big:SG CON:be it:flower  
 It (the flower) is big.

At an earlier stage in the history of the language, the verb *kúú* could apparently precede the stative verb. At the present time, however, such forms have fused, creating derived intransitive verbs (see §5.1.1).

In order to express an aspect other than continuative, it is necessary to inflect the content or equative verb since stative verbs are not inflected for aspect.

*kánhnú n-káá tá*  
big:SG COM-appear it:flower  
It (the flower) was big.

*kánhnú n-kúú í*  
big:SG COM-be it:AML  
The animal was big.

*kánhnú kúkúú í*  
big:SG POT:be it:AML  
The animal will be big.

*kánhnú vásh kúú í*  
big:SG INC:come CON:be it:AML  
The animal is getting big.

The last example above has progressive aspect, formed by using the directional *vásh* (see §§2.1.2 and 5.1.2).

There are two transitive verbs, *shashí* ‘to eat’ and *shehén* ‘to sniff’, that have a second sense discrimination, in which they link a nonagentive subject with a stative verb.

*á 'dí shash í*  
tasty CON:eat it:SPH  
They (the tamales) are delicious.

*vá 'há shashí í 'lá*  
good CON:eat bread  
The bread tastes good.

*vilí shehén tá*  
pretty CON:sniff it:flower  
It (the flower) has a lovely perfume.

There is one further equative verb used in stative sentences, *ndúu* ‘to become’.

*vá 'há ndúu triú ñá*  
good COM:become wheat her  
Her wheat was good (a good crop).

Stative sentences occasionally occur with adjuncts. In the following example, a referent adjunct occurs, and the additive *ká* occurs in the verb phrase.

*duxún ká dá dá méé-ń*  
 tall ADD I:RES thus SPEC-YOU:RES  
 I'm taller than you.

**1.1.7 Peripheral elements.** All sentence types may indicate time and location. Peripheral location describes the setting of the entire predication and so is distinguished from locative adjuncts, which complete the meaning of some verbs. Peripheral elements may be adverbs or adverb phrases (see §4.2), adverbial noun phrases (see §3.6), prepositional phrases (see §4.3), or subordinate sentences (see §6.2). Peripheral elements follow subject, object, and adjuncts.

Time:

*n-tú'ú ká'á í'ńú*  
 COM-dawn metal six  
 Dawn was at six o'clock.

*n-sheé í ikú*  
 COM-arrive UN yesterday  
 He arrived yesterday.

*kíshí-s shá ńíni*  
 POT:COME-he:MS it:INAN late  
 He will come in the afternoon.

*n-kahndí tí ká'á kó'ón*  
 COM-explode it:AML metal four  
 They (the "fire bulls") went off at four o'clock.

*néhé dá íí yarné'shí*  
 CON:carry I:RES candle Friday  
 I took candles (to the church) on Fridays (Sp. *viernes*).

*ńá nání'hí ńá ndí'yé ndé vítná*  
 NEG CON:find she corpse until now  
 She still hasn't found the body.

## Location:

*kídá tnúú dá yúkú*  
 CON:do work I:RES mountain  
 I work in the mountain fields.

*tiú té shí'tí véñu'hú*  
 CON:play:instrument he:ws stomach church  
 They are playing inside the church.

*kídá vá'há té véhé té átóxón*  
 CON:do good he:ws house his:ws Nochixtlán  
 He is building his house in Nochixtlán.

*kídá tnúú té vétniu*  
 CON:do work he:ws town:hall  
 He is working at the town hall.

(See also 7.31 and 7.68.)

Even though manner is usually expressed in the verb phrase (see §§2.1.2 and 2.1.3), a peripheral manner sometimes occurs. The word that most frequently serves in this function is the general quantifier *ítáhú* 'a little'. When *ítáhú* occurs with an intensifier, it loses its basic meaning and serves to further intensify the intensifier.

*shánhnú ká í ítáhú*  
 CON:be:mature ADD UN a:little  
 She is a little older.

*yó ví'shí ítáhú*  
 INTS cold a:little  
 It's cold!

The following sentences show various combinations of peripheral elements and adjuncts.

*nditó yá vítná ándiu*  
 CON:be:alive DEI now heaven  
 He is alive now in heaven.

*kutuú í véhé í shíhín fámiliá í k'í: vakasioón*  
 POT:be UN house UN with family UN day vacation  
 He will be at home with his family (Sp. *familia*) during his vacation (Sp. *vacación*).

*n-kinéhé ñáha í shíhín kúrushi íchí ní'ú*  
 COM-take:out KNO UN with cross road middle:of:night  
 They took it (the image) and the cross (Sp. *cruz*) out to the road at  
 midnight.

**1.1.8 Focus permutations.** In appropriate discourse contexts, one, or occasionally two, elements (subject, object, adjunct, or peripheral element) may be focused by permuting them to pre-verb-phrase position. Focus position is used to introduce new material into the discourse. If the subject of an equative sentence is focused, the nominal complement is moved to a position immediately following the verb. Throughout this sketch focused elements are indicated by CAPITALIZATION in the free translation.

Subject focus:

*ḏá'hyá kwechí ḏá yó ká kuhú*  
 child small:PL my:RES INTS PL sick  
 MY LITTLE CHILDREN are very sick.

*mée ñá n-kí'kú ḏí'ó ñá*  
 SPEC she COM-sew skirt her  
 SHE HERSELF made her skirt.

*ḏá'hyá ḏá n-sheén tá ndé ñúkóhyo*  
 child my:RES COM-buy it:flower until Mexico:City  
 MY DAUGHTER bought them (the flowers) in Mexico City.

*nlí'pé n-túndaha telegramá nú'ú ḏí'hé í*  
 Philip:WS COM-send telegram face mother UN  
 PHILIP sent a telegram to his mother.

*bruxú yíhí shí'tí-ń*  
 witch CON:be:in stomach-your:FAM:MS  
 You are sick BECAUSE OF A CURSE. (lit. A WITCH [Sp. *brujo*] is in your stomach.)

*nú'ní yá'hú ú'shí peshú*  
 corn CON:cost ten peso  
 CORN costs ten pesos.

*nshú'á n-shehen nú'ndúa shíhín róber'tó*  
 John:WS COM-go Oaxaca:City with Robert  
 JOHN went to Oaxaca City with Robert.



*méé* *ḁá* *kíḁá* *vá'há* *véhé* *shíhín* *ñá'ní* *ḁá*  
 SPEC I:RES CON:do good house with brother:ME my:RES  
 I am building the house with my brother.

*ḁañá* *nání* *sélí'á*  
 I:RES CON:be:named Celia  
 MY name is Celia (Sp. *Celia*).

*méé* *té* *kúú* *ḁú'tú*  
 SPEC he:WS CON:be priest  
 HE is the priest.

(See also 7.25, 7.49, 7.60, and 7.62.)

## Object focus:

*tríú* *chíḁoyúú* *ró*  
 wheat CON:pound we:IN  
 We are pounding out THE WHEAT.

*kwé'hé* *ngúú* *n-shó'dó* *té*  
 many bull COM-ride he:WS  
 They rode MANY BULLS.

*kwé'hé* *ḁí'tá* *téé* *ḁá*  
 many tortilla POT:cast I:RES  
 I will make MANY TORTILLAS.

*kúrushí* *nehé* *kantóór* *kampioón*  
 cross CON:carry cantor cemetery  
 The cantor (Sp. *cantor*) is carrying THE CROSS to the cemetery (Sp. *panteón?*).

*ññ* *ññ* *indáku* *xán* *shíá'hán* *té* *chilíḁáá* *kwechí*  
 one one worm that CON:give it:AML bird small:PL  
 The mother bird gives EACH OF THOSE WORMS to the baby birds.

*shínxán* *xwétniu* *ró* *ñíhí*  
 that:thing POT:use we:IN sweatbath  
 We will use THAT (BUCKET) in the sweatbath.

## Locative adjunct focus:

*ínxán* *n-sheé* *niú*  
 over:there COM-arrive Christ:child  
 The Christ child (Sp. *niño*) arrived OVER THERE.

*yěñu 'hú xwándíshí té shíhín noviá*  
 church:door INC:return:coming he:ws with bride  
 He and his bride (Sp. *novia*) return TO THE DOOR OF THE CHURCH.

*kahá tótó yí'hí í*  
 hip boulder CON:be:in it:AML  
 It (the lizard) lives UNDER THE BIG ROCK.

*ñíhí n-ká'ú-ń*  
 sweatbath COM-enter-you:RES  
 You entered THE SWEATBATH.

*shúká íó-ń*  
 far CON:exist-you:RES  
 You live FAR AWAY.

*ndaá yá ndúkútú í'tá*  
 all DEI CON:become:tied flower  
 The flowers are tied to ALL THE CROSSES.

#### Indirect object focus:

*fámiliá ñá n-shiá'hán ñá í'tá*  
 family her COM-give she flower  
 She gave flowers TO HER FAMILY.

#### Instrument adjunct focus:

*yú'chí shanhní nshú'á ngútú*  
 knife CON:kill John:ws bull  
 John kills the bull WITH A KNIFE.

*ká'á káchí sú'á tútnú*  
 axe CON:chop John:MS firewood  
 John is chopping firewood WITH AN AXE.

*yóhó dú'kú ró ndáha í*  
 rope POT:tie we:IN hand its:AML  
 We'll tie its hoofs WITH ROPE.

*tnúshū xátnáhá té*  
 gun CON:fight he:ws  
 They are fighting WITH GUNS.

*shínxán kée ñn dún'hnú*  
 that:thing CON:leave one shirt  
 One shirt will be made WITH THAT (PIECE OF CLOTH).

## Referent adjunct focus:

*shá shé'hé ró n-yá'há yá pasioón*  
 CMP foot US:IN COM-pass DEI passion  
 He suffered (Sp. *pasión*) FOR US.

*shá shé'hé ñíhí n-sheé-ř shá kwaá*  
 CMP foot sweatbath COM-arrive-I:FAM it:INAN blind  
 I arrived at night BECAUSE OF THE SWEATBATH (I HAD TAKEN).

Focused associative adjunct does not occur. However, when at discourse level it is necessary to focus what would ordinarily be the associative adjunct, subject and associative adjunct are reversed; the associative adjunct becomes the focused subject and the subject becomes the associative adjunct. In the discourses from which the following sentences were taken, the topic of the first discourse is I, and the topic of the second discourse is he, but they appear as associative adjuncts rather than as subjects.

*ó'hón mushú dá kídá níú shíhín dá*  
 five hired:hand my:RES CON:do work with me:RES  
 MY FIVE HIRED HANDS work with me.

*radiú ínxán xé'hín shíhín té*  
 radio over:there POT:go with him:ws  
 THAT RADIO (Sp. *radio*) will go with him. (The radio that he stole is to appear with him before the judge.)

Because both time and location are so important in paragraph and discourse linkage, both occur frequently in focus position.

## Location focus:

*nú'ú í'tú dá nátní dá ndí'chí*  
 face cornfield my:RES POT:grasp:again I:RES green:bean  
 I will harvest the green beans IN MY CORNFIELD. (The corn and beans and squash all grow together.)

*yútnú ínxán n-kídá vá'há chilidáá tá'ká té*  
 tree over:there COM-do good bird nest its:AML  
 The bird built her nest IN THE TREE OVER THERE.

(See also 7.52 and 7.70.)

## Time focus:

*vítaná n-shiní dá víkó*  
 now COM-see I:RES fiesta  
 NOW I have seen the fiesta.

*martéshí n-shó' dō té ngútú*  
 Tuesday COM-ride he:ws bull  
 TUESDAY (Sp. *martes*) they rode the bulls.

*shá kwaá kóó ngútú ñú'hú*  
 it:INAN blind POT:exist bull fire  
 AT NIGHT there will be fire bulls (men dancing with cane frameworks of fireworks resembling bulls).

*íkú n-shé xéhén ró tnú*  
 yesterday COM-go POT:carry we:IN it:WOD  
 YESTERDAY we brought it (the table) (back to the village).

*ká'á ú'shí dá'tné shá n-kúhínhni*  
 metal ten morning already COM-be:hot  
 AT TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING it was already hot.

*ká'á shhú'ú n-kúhínhni ndehé*  
 metal twelve COM-be:hot strong  
 AT NOON it was exceedingly hot.

*ká'á ú'ní ká'á shá ñini ñá'tú ká ínhni*  
 metal three metal it:INAN late NEG ADD hot  
 AT THREE O'CLOCK it was no longer hot.

*dómingú kutuú ró ú'shá avrúú*  
 Sunday POT:be we:IN seven April  
 SUNDAY (Sp. *domingo*) it will be the seventh of April (Sp. *abril*). (lit. SUNDAY we will be at the seventh of April.)

(See also 7.24 and 7.45.)

Note that, in the last example given, *ú'shá avrúú* 'the seventh of April' is the locative adjunct of the verb *túú* 'to be', even though it refers to time.

Because of its use in paragraph linkage, location may occur twice in the same basic sentence, once in focus position and once in unfocused position.

*ínxán dákwahá í shkwelá*  
 over:there CON:learn UN school  
 THERE he is learning at school.

Occasionally two elements may be focused in a single basic sentence.

*ndaá país ndaá ñádihi kídá tnúú*  
 all country all woman CON:do work  
 IN ALL THE COUNTRY (Sp. *país*) ALL THE WOMEN WORK.

*yúú ú'shá peshú yá'hú*  
 palm:mat seven peso CON:COST  
 PALM MATS COST SEVEN PESOS.

(See also 7.42.)

It is possible to focus a subject more strongly by inserting a pause after the fronted subject and a coreferential clitic pronoun in the normal subject position.

*tkólinchí / ío tí*  
 lizard CON:exist it:AML  
 As for the lizard, it exists.

*mée té / néhé té pañú ñá*  
 SPEC he:WS CON:carry he:WS shawl her  
 As for him (the bridegroom), he brings (her) her shawl (Sp. *pañó*).

*dá'hyá dá / ñúnuú í tkáchi*  
 child my:RES CON:care:for UN sheep  
 As for my daughter, she herds the sheep.

It is also possible to focus any element more strongly by using a pause after the fronted constituent and the subordinate conjunction *chí* 'because' after the pause. In two of the following examples, all of which come from text material, more than a single basic sentence is included in order to provide a fuller context for this use of *chí*.

*mée dá / chí ndváha dá*  
 SPEC I:RES because CON:become:good I:RES  
 As for me, I am indeed fine again.

*ndaá k'ú káá ró // kó vtná / chí ñá'há*  
 all day POT:eat we:IN but now because NEG  
 EVERY DAY we will eat (meat) (after Lent). But NOW indeed not.

*ñá túú dí'tá vtná // kó tné'é / chí kóó*  
 NEG CON:be tortilla now but tomorrow because POT:exist  
 There aren't (any) tortillas now. But TOMORROW indeed there will be.

**1.1.9 Sentential complements.** Basic sentences occur both as subject complements and as object complements within other sentences, but object complements occur more frequently and with a greater number of verbs. Frequently object complements occur in indirect quotation sentences with verbs of speaking, hearing, thinking, knowing, feeling, or believing. They are often introduced by the prestressed inanimate pronoun *shá*, which functions as a complementizer.

*shání í'ní dá shá n-tnaá*  
 CON:stand insides I:RES CMP COM-quake  
 I think there was an earthquake.

*shání í'ní-ř shá kishí nshú'á*  
 CON:stand insides-I:FAM CMP POT:come John:ws  
 I think John will come.

*n-shiní-ř shá yó ndoñúhú tnuyú'tú yáú*  
 COM-see-you:RES CMP INTS CON:be:necessary stalk maguey  
 You have seen that the stalk of the maguey (century plant) is very useful.

*xahán í shá n-sheén í í'tá*  
 CON:speak UN CMP COM-buy UN flower  
 She says she bought the flowers.

*xahán ñá shá kwechí í*  
 CON:speak she CMP small:PL UN  
 She says they (the “earth-people”) are small.

Sometimes an object complement contains another object complement embedded within it.

*shání í'ní dá shá méé ñá shía'hán méé*  
 CON:stand insides I:RES CMP SPEC she CON:speak SPEC

*té shá má kishí ñá*  
 him:ws CMP NEG POT:come she

I think SHE is telling him that she won't come.

When the object complement occurs with a set of verbs that includes *xwíní* ‘to want’, *kishehé* ‘to begin’, *kwahá* ‘to be able’, or *kunú* ‘to want’ (restricted to occurrence with *kí'dí* ‘to sleep’), the verb within the complement must be in potential aspect. All of these verbs except *xwíní* require that the subject of the complement sentence be coreferential with the subject of the matrix sentence.

*xwíni dá shá kááá dá ñn mishá*  
 CON:want I:RES CMP POT:do I:RES one mass  
 I want to have a mass (Sp. *misa*) said.

*xwíni dá shá kú-ń*  
 CON:want I:RES CMP POT:come-you:RES  
 I want you to come.

*n-kishehé té shá kááá vá'há té véhé*  
 COM-begin he:ws CMP POT:do good he:ws house  
 He began to build the house.

*ñá kwahá dá shá xahán dá*  
 NEG CON:be:able I:RES CMP POT:speak I:RES  
 I am not able to speak.

*kunú-ř shá kí'dí-ř*  
 CON:want-I:FAM CMP POT:sleep-I:FAM  
 I want to go to sleep.

With at least one main verb, *xwíni* 'to want', a construction is possible in which a single noun phrase follows either *xwíni* or the main verb and serves as subject of both.

*ñá xwíni káhní ndí'kó ñáha*  
 NEG CON:want fever POT:leave KNO  
 She still has a fever. (lit. The fever doesn't want to leave someone.)

*ñá xwíni táhú yú'ú dé*  
 NEG CON:want POT:break rock that  
 That rock won't break. (lit. That rock doesn't want to break.)

Sentences containing object complements show three distinct kinds of focus. First, it is possible to focus an element within the complement sentence itself.

*n-tekú tnú'hú-ř shá ikú n-kíshí nshú'á*  
 COM-hear word-I:FAM CMP yesterday COM-come John:ws  
 I heard that YESTERDAY John came.

It is also possible to focus an element other than the object complement in the matrix sentence.

*mée ñá shihín yí ñá shihín tadi'dó ñá /*  
 SPEC she with husband her with father:in:law her

*nahá té shá n-tní ñá radiú*  
 CON:know he:ws CMP COM-grasp she radio

As for her and her husband and her father-in-law, they know that she took the radio.

*íkú n-tekú tnú'hú-ř shá n-kishí nshú'á*  
 yesterday COM-hear word-I:FAM CMP COM-come John:ws  
 YESTERDAY I heard that John came.

Note that these devices serve to eliminate the ambiguity in sentences like the following.

*n-tekú tnú'hú-ř shá n-kishí nshú'á íkú*  
 COM-hear word-I:FAM CMP COM-come John:ws yesterday  
 I heard that John came yesterday. *or* I heard yesterday that John came.

The third kind of focus, which is rare, is to front the entire complement sentence, in which case the complementizer is deleted.

*káshí tē chú'ún xwíní tē*  
 POT:eat it:AML chicken CON:want it:AML  
 It (the coyote) wants TO EAT THE CHICKENS.

When an equative sentence serves as an object complement, the order of elements is usually verb—subject—nominal complement rather than nominal complement—verb—subject (see §1.1.5 above).

*ñá'ú tnáhiní tá'á ñá shá kúú ñá ñadú'hú*  
 NEG CON:be:pleased father her CMP CON:be she thief  
 Her father is not pleased that she is a thief.

Subject complements occur most frequently in stative sentences; the complementizer always occurs.

*vá'há shá n-shehén nshú'á*  
 good CMP COM-go John:ws  
 It is good that John went.

*vá'há n-kúú shá n-ké'ú-ř ñéhé*  
 good COM-be CMP COM-enter-I:FAM sweatbath  
 It's good that I took a sweatbath.



*ndá'á shá ñúhú ñú'ú kúú*  
 true CMP land town CON:be  
 It's true that (it) is town land.

*ñá'tú ú'hú shá káđá vá'há ró tí'lá triú*  
 NEG bad CMP POT:do good we:IN bread wheat  
 It's not difficult to make bread.

Subject complements also occur with several intransitive verbs, including *kíshehé* 'to begin', *ndíhi* 'to be finished', *ndoñúhú* 'to be necessary', and *kwahá* 'to be possible'. No complementizer occurs except with *ndoñúhú*.

*ndíhi shahndé đá*  
 CON:be:finished CON:cut I:RES  
 I've finished harvesting.

*ndíhi n-kúndoo*  
 CON:be:finished COM-be:clean  
 (It [the wheat]) has been threshed well.

*ká'á ú'shí đá'tné n-kíshehé sháshí'áhán kwé'hé đá'hyá*  
 metal ten morning COM-begin CON:hurt sickness child  
 AT TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING labor began.

*ndoñúhú shá ká'đí ñá ndá'kú nú'ú yó'đó*  
 CON:be:necessary CMP POT:grind she dough face metate  
 She has to grind the dough on a metate.

*ñá kwahá kúndéhá ró tú'tú*  
 NEG CON:be:possible POT:look:at we:IN paper  
 It is not possible for us to look at the paper.

Occasionally an element of the complement sentence is focused within its own sentence.

*ndíhi tí'lá káhya ká'á ú'shí ñn*  
 CON:be:finished bread CON:be:toasted metal ten one  
 At eleven o'clock THE BREAD will finish baking.

## 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 marker *á* at the end of the sentence (*ú* is used instead of *á* following a word ending in *a*).<sup>2</sup>

*n-tnaá ú*  
COM-quake INT  
Was there an earthquake?

*kíshí té á*  
POT:come he:WS INT  
Is he coming?

*ni 'hí-ń á*  
COM:gain-you:FAM:MS INT  
Did you get it?

*kásh ká-ń í á*  
POT:eat ADD-you:FAM:MS it:SPH INT  
Will you eat another one (prickly pear fruit)?

*í 'ná kúú-t á*  
dog CON:be-it:AML INT  
Is it a dog?

*ndohó kúú ñadú 'hú á*  
YOU:FAM:MS CON:be thief INT  
Are you a thief?

*ndó 'yó á*  
CON:be:wet INT  
Is (it) wet?

*kánhnú ñá ú*  
big:SG she INT  
Is she fat?

*vá 'túka shá kádá ú 'hú ró-s á*  
right CMP POT:do bad we:IN-him:MS INT  
Is it right that we punish him?

<sup>2</sup>A YES/NO question is occasionally marked by a tone change, rather than by the use of *á* or *ú*, but a precise description of this change awaits further analysis. Furthermore, in alternative questions in which the second part consists simply of *á ñá 'há* 'or not', the *ú* is often omitted, as seen in the examples found in §6.1.1.

*sé yáhá, kúú-s dá'hyá-ń á*  
 he:MS here, CON:be-he:MS child-your:FAM:MS INT  
 As for this man, is he your son?

*mée-ń xahán shá ndááá*  
 SPEC-you:FAM:MS CON:speak CMP POT:do:again

*vá'há-ń nú'ú ú'ní ká'ú á*  
 good-you:FAM:MS face three day INT  
 Do you say you will build it again in three days?

*ká kitihí'ń-ń shá shé'hé tnú'hú-ř á*  
 PL CON:be:angry-you:FAM:MS CMP foot word-my:FAM INT  
 Are you angry because of what I said?

*n-shíá'hán řn ñá'yú shá n-shásh yá ú*  
 COM-give one people it:INAN COM-eat DEI INT  
 Did someone give him something to eat?

*xwíni-ń shá ndváha-ń á*  
 CON:want-you:FAM:MS CMP POT:become:good-you:FAM:MS INT  
 Do you want to be well again?

(See also 7.12, 7.18, and 7.21.)

**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. Occasionally the interrogative marker *ú* used on YES/NO questions occurs together with an interrogative word or phrase.

The interrogative pronoun *xú'ndú* 'who?' is used alone to question subject or object. Sentences in which the object is questioned are invariably ambiguous; they also have a reading in which the subject is questioned.

Questioning subject:

*xú'ndú kishí*  
 who POT:come  
 Who is coming?

*xú'ndú kúú presidenté*  
 who CON:be president  
 Who is the town president (Sp. *presidente*)?

*xú'ndú xwáhán shíhín t'í*  
 who INC:go with it:AML  
 Who went with the animals?

*xú'ndú shánhnú ká*  
 who CON:be:mature ADD  
 Who is older?

*xú'ndú kwahá shá kádá í*  
 who CON:be:able CMP POT:do UN  
 Who is able to do (it)?

*xú'ndú n-tashnuni shá kídá-ń sháhá*  
 who COM-rule CMP CON:do-you:RES this:thing  
 Who told you to do this?

#### Questioning object:

*xú'ndú n-shanhni nshú'á*  
 who COM-kill John:ws  
 Whom did John kill? *or* Who killed John?

To question human adjuncts, *xú'ndú* is used together with a following preposition or locative noun.

*xú'ndú shíhín xí'hín-ń*  
 who with POT:go-you:RES  
 With whom are you going?

*xú'ndú nú'ú n-shiá'hán té í'tá dé*  
 who face COM-give he:ws flower that  
 To whom did he give those flowers?

*xú'ndú nú'ú xí'hín kóyó dá*  
 who face POT:go PL I:RES  
 To whom shall we go?

The interrogative pronoun *násh* 'what?' is used to question subject, object, or nominal complement.

#### Questioning subject:

*násh n-kúú*  
 what COM-be  
 What happened?

## Questioning object:

*násh kááá ró vítná*  
 what POT:do we:IN now  
 What shall we do now?

*násh nēhé sú 'á*  
 what CON:carry John:MS  
 What is John carrying?

*násh xwéén-ń tné 'é*  
 what POT:buy-you:RES tomorrow  
 What will you buy tomorrow?

*násh xahán-ń shá shé 'hē-ń*  
 what CON:speak-you:FAM:MS CMP foot-your:FAM:MS  
 What do you have to say for yourself?

(See also 7.9, 7.31, and 7.41.)

## Questioning nominal complement:

*násh kúú sháhá*  
 what CON:be this:thing  
 What is this?

*násh nání-ń*  
 what CON:be:named-you:RES  
 What is your name?

*násh kúú shá ndó 'yó xán*  
 what CON:be it:INAN CON:be:wet that  
 What is that wet thing?

(See also 7.9.)

The interrogative pronoun *ndásh* 'which one?' is used alone to question a noun phrase, which is usually the object.

*ndásh xwíni-ń*  
 which:one CON:want-you:RES  
 Which one do you want?

The interrogative adverb *ná 'ndá* 'how?' questions a stative verb; it also questions the nominal complement of *nání* 'to be named' when its subject is inanimate.

*ná'ndá kúú ánú-ń*  
 how CON:be heart-your:RES  
 How are you (Sp. *ánima*)?

*ná'ndá nání ñú'ú-ń*  
 how CON:be:named town-your:RES  
 What is the name of your town?

The interrogative adverb *ndeshú* or *ndé* 'where?' is used to question locative adjunct and peripheral location.

*ndeshú vá'shí*  
 where INC:come  
 Where is (it) coming from?

*ndeshú xé'hín*  
 where POT:go  
 Where is (it) going?

*ndé xwáhán té*  
 where INC:go he:WS  
 Where did he go?

*ndé íó*  
 where CON:exist  
 Where is (it)?

*ndé íó-n ú*  
 where CON:exist-you:FAM:MS INT  
 Where do you live?

*ndé íó-s*  
 where CON:exist-he:MS  
 Where does he live?

*ndeshú túú-s*  
 where CON:be-he:MS  
 Where is he?

*ndeshú tavá-ń ndúté vá'há xán*  
 where CON:draw:out-you:FAM:MS water good that  
 Where did you get that good water?

*ndeshú n-đákwhá sé yáhá ndáá sháhá*  
 where COM-learn he:MS here all this:thing  
 Where did this man learn all these things?

*ndeshú xwíni-ń shá xé'hín kóyó dá*  
 where CON:want-you:RES CMP POT:go PL I:RES  
 Where do you want us to go?

Interrogative noun phrases such as *ná k'é'ú* and *ná orá* (Sp. *hora*), both of which mean 'when?', are used to question peripheral time.

*ná k'é'ú nú'hú té*  
 what day POT:return:going he:ws  
 When will he go back?

*ná k'é'ú n-tekú-ř shá n-kíshí nshú'á*  
 what day COM-hear-I:FAM CMP COM-come John:ws  
 When did I hear that John came? *or* I heard that John came when?

*ná orá xé'hín-ń*  
 what hour POT:go-you:RES  
 What time are you going?

*ná k'é'ú n-tnaá ú*  
 what day COM-quake INT  
 When was the earthquake?

(See also 7.34.)

The interrogative adverbs *núda* or *nú* 'why?' and the interrogative noun phrase *ná kwendá* 'why?' question referent adjuncts and subordinate cause and purpose sentences (see §6.2.1).

*nú n-sheé ún*  
 why COM-arrive you:FAM:WS  
 Why have you come?

*núda xúún ní'ńé ún*  
 why CON:be:produced blood your:FAM:WS  
 Why are you bleeding?

*nú ñá xahán-n ú*  
 why NEG CON:speak-you:FAM:MS INT  
 Why won't you talk to me?

*ná kwendá néhé nshú'á ndúté*  
 what account CON:carry John:ws water  
 For whom (Sp. *cuenta*) is John carrying water? *or* Why is John carrying water?

(See also 7.10 and 7.15.)

An equative structure containing the sequence *násh kúú shá* is also used to question referent adjuncts and subordinate cause and purpose sentences. This construction is also used to express displeasure.

*násh kúú shá ndó'yó*  
 what CON:be CMP CON:be:wet  
 Why is (it) wet? (annoyed)

*násh kúú shá kásh ñáha-ń*  
 what CON:be CMP POT:eat KNO-you:FAM:MS  
 What do you mean you're going to eat me?

(See also 7.10 and 7.51.)

Sometimes both an interrogative and another element are focused in the same sentence.

*núda ruhú ñá n-shí'áu*  
 why I:FAM NEG COM-be:tired  
 Why is it that I am not tired?

(See also 7.15.)

**1.2.3 Indirect questions.** Any WH question may occur as the object complement with verbs of speaking, knowing, seeing, or hearing. When an interrogative word introduces the object complement, the complementizer *shá* does not occur.

*shíní dá xú'ndú vá'shí*  
 CON:see I:RES who INC:come  
 I know who is coming.

*shíní da xú'ndú kúú ñá'yíu vá'shí*  
 CON:see I:RES who CON:be people INC:come  
 I know who the person is who is coming.

*n-tekú dá násh n-xahán té*  
 COM-hear I:RES what COM-speak he:ws  
 I heard what he said.

*kúndéhá ró násh ío*  
 POT:look:at we:IN what CON:exist  
 We will see what there is.

*shíní dá násh kídá í*  
 CON:see I:RES what CON:do UN  
 I know what she is doing.



*ñá shiní dá násh kúú*  
 NEG CON:see I:RES what CON:be  
 I don't know what it is.

*ñá shiní dá ná kwé'hé tnahá ñá*  
 NEG CON:see I:RES what sickness CON:struggle she  
 I don't know what illness she has.

*ñá shiní dá ná kwendá n-kidá í*  
 NEG CON:see I:RES what account COM-do UN  
 I don't know why he did it.

*nahá dá násh kúú shá xwáhán í*  
 CON:know I:RES what CON:be CMP INC:go UN  
 I know why he went away.

*shiní dá ndeshú xwáhán í*  
 CON:see I:RES where INC:go UN  
 I know where he went.

Indirect disjunctive questions may be expressed by means of a sentence combination (see §6.1.1).

### 1.3 Commands

Any basic sentence type except impersonal may be made into a command.

To form a second person familiar positive command, a basic sentence with its verb in potential aspect and no subject is used.

*ndónéhé ñáha*  
 POT:raise KNO  
 Lift me up!

*chití'yí shé'hé-í*  
 POT:double:up foot-my:FAM  
 Bend my knees!

*kwedí-t yerú vítná*  
 POT:press-it:AML iron now  
 Brand it with the iron (Sp. *hierro*) now!

*kúndéhá kóyó*  
 POT:look:at PL  
 All of you look!

To form a second person respect command, the subject pronoun is expressed.

*táá-ń*                    *livrú*  
 POT:give-you:RES    book  
 Give (me) the book!

*káá-ń*                    *favoór*  
 POT:do-you:RES    favor  
 Please (Sp. *favor*) do (it)!

A few verbs take the imperative prefix *tá-* (see §5.1.2).

*tákáne*  
 IMP:POT:get:out  
 Get out!

*tánúú*                    *vítná*  
 IMP:POT:descend    now  
 Get down now!

A few verbs have an imperative form that is entirely distinct from the potential aspect of the verb.

*né'hé*  
 IMP:come  
 Come here!

*xwán nahí*  
 IMP:GO INTENT  
 Go on!

*xúhún*    *ndátníú-ń*                    *yá*  
 IMP:take    utensil-your:RES    this  
 Take these things of yours.

A more subtle command is formed by using *íó shá* 'exists that' before a basic sentence with its verb in potential aspect. One of the special imperative verb forms may also be used. In this construction *íó* is the main verb and *shá* introduces a subject complement; *íó shá* is very similar to Spanish *hay que* and may be a loan translation from it.

*íó*                    *shá*    *xí'hín-ń*                    *vítná*  
 CON:exist    CMP    POT:go-you:RES    now  
 You must go now!

*íó*                    *shá*    *xwán*    *nú'hú*                    *ún*                    *vítná*  
 CON:exist    CMP    IMP:go    POT:return:going    you:FAM:WS    now  
 You must go home now!

*íó shá kúníni-ń*  
 CON:exist CMP POT:listen-YOU:FAM:MS  
 You must listen!

To express a negative command, the negative hortatory marker *mash 'kú* precedes the verb. The familiar second person pronoun *ún* 'you (familiar, woman speaking)' does not occur, but the other second person pronouns do.

*mash 'kú ďándoó ñáha*  
 NEG:HORT POT:leave KNO  
 Don't leave me!

*mash 'kú káďá kóyó ká-ń*  
 NEG:HORT POT:do PL ADD-YOU:FAM:MS  
 Don't do that anymore!

First and third person commands are formed by using the hortatory *ná* or the negative hortatory *mash 'kú* with the potential aspect of the verb.

*ná ďáke 'é-ř yúhu-ń*  
 HORT POT:put:in-I:FAM mouth-YOUR:FAM:MS  
 Let me put it in your mouth! (said rabbit to coyote).

*ná n ká 'á-ř đí 'kí-ń*  
 HORT POT:go POT:climb-I:FAM head-YOUR:FAM:MS  
 Let me climb up on your head! (said cricket to deer).

*ná xín ndukú-ř shá káá-ř*  
 HORT POT:go POT:look:for-I:FAM it:INAN POT:eat-I:FAM  
 Let me go look for something to eat!

*ná xí 'hín ró*  
 HORT POT:go WE:IN  
 Let's go!

*vítná yóhó ná đúkú ró ndáhá tí*  
 NOW rope HORT POT:tie WE:IN hand its:AML  
 NOW let's tie its hoofs WITH ROPE!

*ná kúndoo triú*  
 HORT POT:be:clean wheat  
 Let the wheat be clean (from winnowing)!

*ná kundi 'xún vá 'há tí*  
 HORT POT:be:tied good it:AML  
 Let them (the mules and burros) be well tied!

*ná káshí kítí*  
 HORT POT:eat animal  
 Let the animals eat!

*mash 'kú xwéén ró dí'tá*  
 NEG:HORT POT:buy we:IN tortilla  
 Let's not buy tortillas!

*mash 'kú kishí dá'ú ndehé*  
 NEG:HORT POT:come rain strong  
 May the heavy rains not come!

(See also 7.38, 7.67, 7.74, and 7.76.)

A command may occur as the object complement of certain verbs.

*mée té shiá'hán shá ná kú'ú dá'hyá té*  
 SPEC he:WS CON:speak CMP HORT POT:die child his:WS  
 HE says let his child die!

#### 1.4 Vocatives

Vocatives occur sentence initial, sentence final, and occasionally between major constituents of a complex sentence. They are separated from the rest of the sentence by pause.

*yekó / nash kidá-n ú*  
 Yeco what CON:do-you:FAM:MS INT  
 Yeco (mythical opossum), what are you doing?

*sí'nú / ná'dá díkó-ń dé'hén*  
 Tino:MS how:much CON:sell-you:FAM:MS grease  
 Tino, how much do you sell lard for?

*kádá-ń favoór / dí'dí*  
 POT:do-you:RES favor aunt  
 Please do (it), ma'am!

*víná ndó'ó-ń / ná'ná*  
 NOW POT:stay-you:RES Mama  
 NOW you will stay here, Mama (said the sun and moon to the spirit of the sweatbath).

*ndé ío-ń / dí'dí*  
 where CON:exist-you:RES aunt  
 Where do you live, ma'am?

*násh kídá-n*                      *ú / í'đú*  
 what CON:DO-YOU:FAM:MS INT deer  
 What are you doing, deer? (mythical)

*mash 'kú ndú 'híni-ń*                      / *ná 'ná / shá kuhú-ń*  
 NEG:HORT POT:be:anxious-you:RES Mama CMP CON:be:sick-you:RES  
 Don't be anxious, Mama, that you're sick (said the sun and moon to  
 the spirit of the sweatbath).

(See also 7.9, 7.31, and 7.74.)

An initial vocative is occasionally doubled.

*shákwe'e / shákwe'e / né'hé né'hé*  
 Shakwee Shakwee IMP:COME IMP:COME  
 Shakwee, Shakwee (name of mythical deer), come, come!

### 1.5 Sentential Markers

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

*túú-ń*                      *á / dí'dí*  
 CON:be-you:RES INT aunt  
 Are you at home, ma'am?

The solidarity marker *ví* occurs at the end of statements in potential aspect; it indicates either a suggestion or agreement with someone else's suggestion.

*xí'hín ró*                      *ví*  
 POT:GO we:IN SOLIDARITY  
 We'll go then (said the deer to the cricket in agreement).

*kátá-ń*                      *ví*  
 POT:sing-you:FAM:MS SOLIDARITY  
 You sing then (suggested the deer to the cricket).

*ná*    *xí'hín ró*                      *nú'ú n-shítá-ń*  
 HORT POT:GO we:IN face COM-sing-you:FAM:MS

*xán*                      *ví*  
 over:there SOLIDARITY  
 Let's go over there where you sang then (suggested the cricket to  
 the deer).

The quotative marker *né* occurs at the end of statements, questions, and commands that repeat something that someone else has just said. When it occurs with YES/NO questions, it follows the interrogative marker.

*yá'hú tnú ó'hón peshú né*  
 CON:cost it:WOD five peso QUOTATIVE  
 It (the chair) costs five pesos, (she) says.

*íó tuhá-ñ á né*  
 CON:exist ready-you:RES INT QUOTATIVE  
 Are you ready? (she) says.

*kíi-ñ semaná / xí'hín ró né*  
 POT:come-you:RES week POT:go we:IN QUOTATIVE  
 Come in a week (Sp. *semana*), (and) we will go, (he) says.

## 2

# Verb Phrases

### 2.1 Content Verb Phrases

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

**2.1.1 Verb nuclei.** Both simple and complex verb nuclei occur; the latter are idioms composed of a verb plus a modifying word, which may be a noun, a content verb, a stative verb, a general adverb, a locative adverb, an idiom, or a word whose class cannot be determined.

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.

*tekū*        (*áá*)  
CON:hear (I:RES)  
(I) hear.

*ndutê*        (*i*)  
CON:disperse (UN)  
(The people) are dispersing.

*shashī*      (*áá*)  
CON:eat (I:RES)  
(I) eat.

*shuhā* (ǎá)  
 CON:wipe (I:RES)  
 (I) wipe.

*ndoyô* (ǎá)  
 CON:get:wet (I:RES)  
 (I) get wet.

*xahân* (ǎá)  
 CON:speak (I:RES)  
 (I) speak.

*nihî* (ǎá)  
 CON:receive (I:RES)  
 (I) receive.

A verb-plus-noun nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect followed by a noun. The noun is often the logical direct object, but it may also correspond to some other role, such as a locative adjunct.

*kidā* *tníu* (ǎá)  
 CON:do work (I:RES)  
 (I) work.

*tnî* *ndáhá* (ǎá)  
 CON:take hand (I:RES)  
 (I) shake hands.

*xahân* *ǎóho* (ǎá)  
 CON:speak ear (I:RES)  
 (I) exhort.

A verb-plus-content-verb nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect followed by another verb; both verbs may undergo a tone change as part of the process of idiom formation.

*shaxân* *kidî* (ǎá)  
 CON:lay sleep (I:RES)  
 (I) lay (somebody) down. (cf. *shaxân* 'CON:lay', *kidî* 'POT:sleep')

*nêhê* *tnî* (ǎá)  
 CON:carry take (I:RES)  
 (I) carry on the custom. (cf. *nêhê* 'CON:carry', *tnî* 'POT:take')

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



*kidā adí (ǎa)*  
 CON:make tasty (I:RES)  
 (I) make tasty.

*nēhē túhâ (ǎa)*  
 CON:carry prepared (I:RES)  
 (I) carry something extra in case of need.

*ñinī kwū*  
 CON:be:late green  
 (It) becomes dark.

*shinō kúdí (ñá)*  
 CON:run:away lazy (she)  
 (She) runs away from work.

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

*kanā shiün (ñá)*  
 CON:cry:out in:pain (she)  
 (She) cries out in pain.

*shashī ndéē (ñá)*  
 CON:eat around:the:edges (she)  
 (She) eats while walking.

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

*tnaā níhnó (ǎá)*  
 CON:twist within (I:RES)  
 (I) knead.

*shitō nihni (ǎa ñá)*  
 CON:examine inside (I:RES her)  
 (I) visit (her).

*ǎakā níhnó (ǎá)*  
 CON:mix within (I:RES)  
 (I) mix (something inside something with an opening at the top).

A verb-plus-idiom nucleus consists of a verb inflected for aspect followed by two or more words with a lexically specialized meaning. Only one example has been found to date; it requires a plural subject.

*kiđā ïn núú (ro)*  
 CON:do one face (we:IN)  
 (We) do the same thing.

A verb-plus-indeterminate-element nucleus consists of a verb followed by a word whose meaning is not known. Because these words occur in only a few frozen forms, it is not possible to determine their meanings.

*đakā yuhâ (đa)*  
 CON:cause:to:open ? (I:RES)  
 (I) yawn.

**2.1.2 Preverbal elements.** There are eight orders of preverbal elements; from the nucleus out they are: directional, habitual, plural, completive aspect, truth value, hortatory, manner, and temporal.

There are four directionals, which are reduced forms of four verbs of motion and arrival. Three of these verbs occur in a variety of aspect forms. They indicate movement in relation to a base. A fuller description of these verbs and their function is found in Kuiper and Merrifield (1975) and in Macaulay (1985). Directionals occur only with the potential aspect form of the verb nucleus. Prefixes that help to signal potential aspect do not, however, occur following a directional (see §5.1.2). The following table lists the directionals, their meanings, the full forms of the motion verbs that served as sources for them, and their glosses.

Marker		Full form	
<i>ndi</i>	'will return'	<i>ndishi</i>	POT:return
<i>ndī</i>	'returns'	<i>ndishī</i>	CON:return
<i>ndí</i>	'returned'	<i>ndishi</i>	COM:return
<i>xín</i> or <i>n</i>	'will go (away)'	<i>xîhîn</i>	POT:go
<i>shē</i>	'goes (and returns)'	<i>shéhên</i>	CON:go
<i>n-shé</i>	'went (and returned)'	<i>n-shéhên</i>	COM-go
<i>xwān</i>	'went (away)'	<i>xwâhân</i>	INC:go
<i>ki</i>	'will come (and go)'	<i>kishi</i>	POT:come
<i>kī</i>	'comes (and goes)'	<i>kishī</i>	CON:come
<i>n-kí</i>	'came (and went)'	<i>n-kishi</i>	COM-come
<i>vāsh</i>	'is coming'	<i>vâshî</i>	INC:come
<i>nú</i>	'will go home'	<i>núhû</i>	POT:go:home

All except *nú* occur as simple directionals; *nú* occurs only in compound directionals. The following examples show simple directionals used in sentences.

*ndī kotō (ñā chūún ñā)*  
 CON:return POT:examine (she chicken her)  
 (She) returns to look after (her chickens).

*ndí kata (ñā)*  
 COM:return POT:sing (she)  
 (She) returned to sing.

*xín néhe (ǎa tu'tu)*  
 POT:go POT:carry (I:RES paper)  
 (I) will go and take (the paper).

*n-she ndéhâ (ǎa)*  
 COM-go POT:look:at (I:RES)  
 (I) went to look at (it) and came back.

*xwān ndéhâ (ñā)*  
 INC:go POT:look:at (she)  
 (She) went to look at it.

*ki kwēkā ñáha(-s)*  
 CON:come POT:get KNO(-he:MS)  
 (He) comes to get someone.

*n-kí kutu (te itû)*  
 COM-come POT:plow (he:ws cornfield)  
 (He) came to plow (the cornfield) and returned.

(See also 7.2, 7.47, 7.67, and 7.69.)

Compare the reduced potential aspect form of 'to carry' and 'to look at' in the above examples with the full forms with prefixes.

*kanehe (ǎa tu'tu)*  
 POT:carry (I:RES paper)  
 (I) will carry (the paper).

*kundeha (ǎa)*  
 POT:look:at (I:RES)  
 (I) will look at (it).

In addition to its directional meaning, *vāsh* 'is coming' has also developed the aspectual meaning 'progressive' when it occurs with some verb nuclei. In these verbs *vāsh* plus the potential aspect form expresses

progressive action, and the simple continuative form expresses only habitual action. The construction with *vāsh* is also used to signal continuative aspect in verbs that otherwise have homophonous potential and continuative forms.

*vāsh kwenhnu (ḍā)*  
 INC:COME POT:grow (I:RES)  
 (I) am growing.

*vāsh ndīhi (trū)*  
 INC:COME POT:finish (wheat)  
 (The wheat [Sp. *trigo*]) is being consumed.

*vāsh kútnunī ini (ḍá)*  
 INC:COME POT:be:marked insides (I:RES)  
 (I) am advancing in understanding.

The directional *xwān* ‘went’ (away) has developed the aspectual meaning ‘already begun’. It is used in this meaning only with verbs that refer to some kind of movement.

*xwān núu(-s)*  
 INC:go POT:descend:again(-he:MS)  
 (He) entered descending again (and is still inside).

*xwān ndīu(-s)*  
 INC:go POT:enter:again(-he:MS)  
 (He) entered again (and is still inside).

*xwān kââ(-s)*  
 INC:go POT:ascend(-he:MS)  
 (He) went up (and is still up).

In addition to the simple directionals already described there are also four kinds of compound directionals. The first kind contains a simple directional followed by *ndi*. These are: *ki ndī* and *vāsh ndī*. The second kind contains a directional based on the verb ‘to go’ followed by *nú*: *xān nu*, *she nu*, *n-shé nu*, and *xwān nū*. The third kind contains only *vāsh kí*. The fourth kind of compound directional has three parts; it consists of *vāsh kí ndī*. The directional that occurs farthest to the left carries the aspect; other directionals in the compound appear to be in potential aspect, but the aspect of the underlying form is often obscured by tone sandhi.

With directionals followed by *ndi*:

*ki ndī nehe (ñā kíđí ða)*  
 POT:come POT:return POT:carry (she pot my:RES)  
 (She) will return and bring (my pot) back.

*ki ndī nakate (ða dánhma)*  
 POT:come POT:return POT:wash (I:RES clothing)  
 (I) will come back and wash (clothes).

*vāsh ndí nehe (đá tu 'tu)*  
 INC:come POT:return POT:carry (I:RES paper)  
 (I) am coming and bringing (the paper) back.

*vāsh ndí kwíđo (ñā ndatníu ñā)*  
 INC:come POT:return POT:carry:on:back (she thing her)  
 (She) is coming back to get (her things).

*vāsh ndí kúshî(-s) đahyá(-s)*  
 INC:come POT:return POT:bury(-he:MS child-his:MS)  
 (He) is returning to bury (his child).

With directionals followed by *nú*:

*xān nū néhe (ða ndēyu vehe đá)*  
 POT:go POT:go:home POT:carry (I:RES food house my:RES)  
 (I) will go home to take (the food back).

*n-shé nu kíkû (ñā)*  
 COM-go POT:go:home POT:sew (she)  
 (She) went home to sew and returned.

*xwān nū káhnde (te triū te ñúú te)*  
 INC:go POT:go:home POT:cut (he:ws wheat his:ws town his:ws)  
 (He) went home (to his town) to cut (his wheat).

With *vāsh kí*:

*vāsh kí nēhe (ða tu 'tu)*  
 INC:come POT:come POT:carry (I:RES paper)  
 (I) am coming to bring (the paper).

*vāsh kí koto nīhnī ñaha (đá)*  
 INC:come POT:come POT:examine inside KNO (I:RES)  
 (I) am coming to visit you.

*vāsh*      *kí*              *kachūnúhū*      *ñaha* (ǎá)  
 INC:COME POT:COME POT:inform KNO (I:RES)  
 (I) am coming to inform you.

With *vāsh kí ndī*:

*vāsh*      *kí*              *ndī*              *nēhe*      (*ǎa*      *tu 'tu*)  
 INC:COME POT:COME POT:return POT:carry (I:RES paper)  
 (I) am coming back to return (the paper).

*vāsh*      *kí*              *ndi*              *koto*              *nīhnī*      *ñaha* (ǎá)  
 INC:COME POT:COME POT:return POT:examine inside KNO (I:RES)  
 (I) am returning to visit you.

*vāsh*      *kí*              *ndi*              *kachūnúhū*      *ñaha* (ǎá)  
 INC:COME POT:COME POT:return POT:inform KNO (I:RES)  
 (I) am returning to let you know.

The second order of preverbal elements comprises the habitual markers: *sho* 'completive', *ku* 'potential', and *shko*, *sh*, or *shka* 'continuative'. The markers *sh* and *shka* are each restricted to a few distinct classes of verbs, and *shko* occurs with all other continuative verbs. All habitual markers except *sh* agree in aspect with the verb nuclei with which they occur; *sh* occurs with potential nuclei but has continuative meaning. Habitual can express either continuing or habitual action.

*n-shó*              *kikú* (ǎa)  
 COM-COM:HAB sew (I:RES)  
 (I) kept on sewing.

*kū*              *kaka* (ǎá)  
 POT:HAB POT:walk (I:RES)  
 (I) will walk habitually.

*shkó*      *tuū*              (ǎá)  
 CON:HAB CON:exist (I:RES)  
 (I) keep on being here.

*sh*              *kāndaha*              (ǎá      *tvīni*)  
 CON:HAB POT:be:in:charge:of (I:RES money)  
 (I) habitually am in charge of (the money).

*sh*              *kwinhnô* (*ǎa*      *ǎanhma* *kwe 'hé*)  
 CON:HAB POT:wear (I:RES clothing red)  
 (I) habitually wear (red clothing).

*sh kineē (ti nuu itu)*  
 CON:HAB POT:be:inside (it:AML face cornfield)  
 (The animal) is in (the cornfield) habitually.

*shká nehe (dá)*  
 CON:HAB CON:carry (I:RES)  
 (I) habitually carry (it).

The form *sho*, but not the potential or continuative habitual forms, may be repeated to put the action in a larger span of time.

*n-shó sho nēhe (te ití)*  
 COM-COM:HAB COM:HAB carry (he:ws candle)  
 (He) used to habitually carry (candles).

Also, *sho* has developed a use as a completive aspect marker with two classes of verbs (see §5.1.2).

The third order of preverbal elements comprises the plural markers *sh* (continuative) and *ka* (nonpotential), which pluralize the subject. *sh* occurs with verbs that mark potential with a prefix and with some verbs that show segmental changes for aspect. It is the appropriate plural only when no other prenuclear elements occur; *ka* occurs with verbs of all classes, but it occurs with verbs that can occur with *sh* only when other prenuclear elements occur.

*sh ndéha (dá)*  
 PL CON:look:at (I:RES)  
 (We) are looking at (it).

*sh yindushí(-s)*  
 PL CON:be:buried(-he:MS)  
 (They) are buried.

*kā shiitā (dá)*  
 PL CON:sing (I:RES)  
 (We) are singing.

*kā shéhên (ñā inxân)*  
 PL CON:go (she over:there)  
 (She) goes (over there).

*kā kishī (ñá)*  
 PL CON:come (she)  
 (She) comes.

If the subject is a series of nouns, the plural pluralizes each one, except for proper nouns.

*n-ká kahu* (*ñāđihê / téyü / đichī kwéchéi*)  
 COM-PL study (woman man child little:PL)  
 (Women, men, and children) studied.

*kā shūtā* (*nshúâ*)  
 PL CON:sing (John)  
 (John and others) sing.

*kā shūtā* (*nshúâ shihin nchíkû*)  
 PL CON:sing (John with Francis)  
 (John and Francis) sing.

Preverbal plurals do not occur with the motion verbs *xwáhân* 'to go (incompletive)' or *váshî* 'to come (incompletive)'. In these cases the postverbal plural *koio* must be used (see §2.1.3).

The fourth order of preverbal elements comprises only the completive aspect marker *n-*; it occurs with the completive aspect form of the verb (see §5.1.2). (Even though this marker always attaches to the following word, it is treated here as a preverbal element, rather than as a prefix, because any of the preverbal elements already described may occur between *n-* and the verb nucleus.)

*n-xáhân* (*đá*)  
 COM-speak (I:RES)  
 (I) spoke.

*n-shóđô* (*đá*)  
 COM-sprinkle (I:RES)  
 (I) sprinkled.

*n-shíta* (*đá*)  
 COM-sing (I:RES)  
 (I) sang.

(See also 7.3, 7.13, 7.15, 7.22, 7.26, 7.39, 7.45, 7.55, 7.57–58, 7.60, 7.64, and 7.66.)

The fifth order of preverbal elements comprises truth-value markers, which include both the negatives and *na* 'affirmative'.

The negative markers are *mā*, *ñā*, *ñatū*, *ñāđu*, and *ta*. The negative *mā* precedes verbs in potential aspect, and *ñā* and *ñatū* precede verbs in continuative and completive aspects. The negative *ñāđu* precedes verbs in all aspects, and it contrasts two activities by negating the first one and affirming the second one. The negative *ta* precedes verbs in potential aspect, and must occur together with the postverbal additive marker *ka* (see §2.1.3); the combination means 'not yet'.



*mā kadaváhâ* (te vĕhe 'te)  
 NEG POT:make (he:ws house his:ws)  
 (He) won't build (his house).

*ñā kidaváhâ* (te vĕhe 'te)  
 NEG CON:make (he:ws house his:ws)  
 (He) isn't building (his house).

*ñā n-kíðaváhâ* (te vĕhe 'te)  
 NEG COM-make (he:ws house his:ws)  
 (He) didn't build (his house).

*ñā xandísha* (ðá tnúhû-ń)  
 NEG CON:believe (I:RES word-your:RES)  
 (I) don't believe (what you say).

*ñatū xandísha* (ðá tnúhû-ń)  
 NEG CON:believe (I:RES word-your:RES)  
 (I) don't believe (what you say).

*ñāðu kidā tnú* (ðá / chi ðadíki ðá)  
 NEG CON:do work (I:RES because CON:play I:RES)  
 (I) don't work; (I play).

*ta kádâ kâ* (ðá)  
 not:yet POT:do ADD (I:RES)  
 (I) haven't done (it) yet.

*ta kutnúni ká*  
 not:yet POT:be:marked ADD  
 (It) is not yet known.

(See also 7.10 and 7.61.)

There is a fuller form of *ñā*, *ñáha*, which is used alone as a response to a question or in a reduced sentence (see §6.1.1).

The affirmative marker is *ná*, and it occurs in positive sentences under special discourse conditions, such as in answer to a question regarding the location of an entity. This marker occurs only in sentence-initial position, and the sentence usually contains the locative adverb *yáha* 'here' (or its reduced form *ya*) or is a part of a sentence combination containing a shared noun phrase (see §6.1.2).

*ná yoō* (ðá yáhâ)  
 AFF CON:exist (I:RES here)  
 (I) am (here).

*ná yoō* (ūú yúchí / iō yâ)  
 AFF CON:exist (two knife CON:exist here)  
 (Here) are (two knives). *or* (There) are (two knives here).

*ná yoō* (ḏa / túū yā)  
 AFF CON:exist (I:RES CON:exist here)  
 (I) am (here).

*ná yoō(-n* / *n-kíḏaváhâ vêhe-s xan)*  
 AFF CON:exist(-you:RES COM-make house-his:MS that)  
 It is (you, who built that house of his).

The sixth order of preverbal elements comprises the hortatory markers *na* and *mashku*, which occur only with verbs in potential aspect: *na* is used to create nonsecond person commands, and to make a second person command more polite.

*na xihîn* (rô)  
 HORT POT:go (we:IN)  
 Let (us) go!

*na nuhū náhi* (ḏá)  
 HORT POT:go:home INTENT (I:RES)  
 Let (me) continue to go!

*na kaḏa tniū* (té)  
 HORT POT:do work (he:ws)  
 Let (him) work!

(See also 7.38, 7.67, 7.74, and 7.76.)

The marker *na* is also used in object complements that express a request or an indirect command, in subordinate purpose sentences, and in other subordinate sentences when the speaker does not wish to commit himself to the certainty of a potential event.

The hortatory marker *mashku* is used in negative sentences when the speaker assumes that the actor wishes to or has begun to carry out the action of the verb. When the speaker assumes that the actor does not wish to carry out the action of the verb, *na* is used instead, followed by the negative *ñáha*.

*mashku nduá(-ní)*  
 NEG:HORT POT:fall(-you:RES)  
 Don't fall!

*nā ñáha nduá(-ń)*  
 HORT NEG POT:fall(-you:RES)  
 Don't fall!

*mashku kayú(-ń)*  
 NEG:HORT POT:burn(-you:RES)  
 Don't get burned!

*nā ñáha kayú(-ń)*  
 HORT NEG POT:burn(-you:RES)  
 Don't get burned!

In one example the negative marker following *na* appears to have been deleted, leaving its high tone on the *na*.

*ná ndúa(-n)*  
 HORT POT:fall(-you:RES)  
 Don't fall!

The seventh order of preverbal elements is manner, which is expressed by a large and diverse class of modifiers; they include stative verbs and stative verb phrases (see §2.3) and also adverbs and adverb phrases (see §4.2). There is also a postverbal manner position. Most modifiers can occur in either position, but intensifying elements and some adverbs are restricted to preverbal position, and some other modifiers are restricted to postverbal position. See §2.1.3 for further discussion of the difference between the two.

With stative verbs:

*ndehe n-yúhú(-s)*  
 fierce COM-be:afraid(-he:MS)  
 (He) was very much frightened.

*ndichi xahân (ǵa)*  
 profound CON:speak (I:RES)  
 (I) speak profoundly.

*nunu kikú (ñá ǵió ǵa)*  
 wide CON:sew (she skirt my:RES)  
 (She) sews wide (skirts for me).

*kanda ndehā (té)*  
 visible CON:see (he:WS)  
 (He) sees clearly.

*kanda kiða trnú (té)*  
 visible CON:do work (he:ws)  
 (The viewer can see) clearly (that he) is working.

*yútnú nukóō (mesha áá)*  
 treelike CON:sit (table my:RES)  
 (My table [Sp. *mesa*]) is standing firmly.

*áānā n-kíáaváhá(-s vēhe-s)*  
 distinct COM-make(-he:MS house-his:MS)  
 (He) made (his house) distinct.

*úhú ndūndēē (ti)*  
 evil COM:become:fat (it:AML)  
 It was hard to fatten (the animal).

(See also 7.57.)

With adverbs:

*sheē shitā (ñá)*  
 fast CON:sing (she)  
 (She) sings at a fast pace.

*níhí áukú (shūi 'ti)*  
 tightly CON:be:tied (stomach its:AML)  
 (The animal's stomach) is bound tightly.

*kahú n-trukwéhe (ndāha-s)*  
 seriously COM-be:wounded (hand-his:MS)  
 (His hand) was severely wounded.

*īnī kāndódo (toto)*  
 precariously CON:lie:on:top (rock)  
 (The rock) lies precariously on (something).

*áaná n-kíshi (te)*  
 suddenly COM-come (he:ws)  
 (He) came all of a sudden.

*ku xihîn(-rí)*  
 first POT:go(-you:RES)  
 (You) go first!

(See also 7.2, which contains an adverb phrase.)

The eighth order of preverbal elements is temporal, expressed only by *shá*, which means ‘about to’ or ‘already’, depending on the aspect of the verb.

*shā kashdénhñu (dá)*  
 about:to POT:eat:dinner (I:RES)  
 (I) am about to eat dinner.

*shā shashdénhñú (dá)*  
 already CON:eat:dinner (I:RES)  
 (I) just started to eat dinner.

*shā n-sháshdénhñu (dá)*  
 already COM-eat:dinner (I:RES)  
 (I) have just eaten dinner.

**2.1.3 Postverbal elements.** There are seven orders of postverbal elements. These occur in the following order starting from the nucleus and going to the right: manner, object, intent, scope, plural, repetitive, and incorporated noun.

Postverbal manner is expressed by a large and diverse class of modifiers. They are: stative verbs, nouns, noun phrases, locative adverbs, temporal adverbs, various other kinds of adverbs, and general quantifiers.

With stative verbs:

*ndikō ndáhú (dá)*  
 CON:grind poor (I:RES)  
 (I) grind in exchange for food because of financial necessity.

*shikā tihí (tí)*  
 CON:walk hump-backed (it:AML)  
 (The animal) walks hump-backed.

*xahān déén (te)*  
 CON:speak sharply (he:ws)  
 (He) speaks sharply.

*shikā yakwa (tí)*  
 CON:walk crippled (it:AML)  
 (The animal) is crippled.

*xahán shehíni (té núū dá)*  
 CON:speak disrespectful (he:ws face my:RES)  
 (He) speaks disrespectfully (to me).

*xahān úhú (te)*  
 CON:speak evil (he:ws)  
 (He) curses (people).  
 (See also 7.44.)

With nouns:

*shikā shehe (ro)*  
 CON:walk foot (we:IN)  
 (We) go by foot.

*xahān dínhni(-s)*  
 CON:speak nose(-he:MS)  
 (He) talks through his nose.

With noun phrases:

*shashī diko tkwēē (tílâ)*  
 CON:eat flavor citrus:fruit (bread)  
 (The bread [Sp. *Castilla* 'Castile']) has the flavor of citrus fruit.

With locative adverbs:

*xundii ndéyú(-s)*  
 CON:slide prone(-he:MS)  
 (He) slides headfirst on his stomach.

*kikú kanduā (ñâ)*  
 CON:sew reverse (she)  
 (She) sews on the wrong side of the cloth.

With temporal adverbs:

*n-shéhén núu (te)*  
 COM-go first:time (he:ws)  
 (He) went for the first time.

*kikú ndúú (ñâ)*  
 CON:sew daytime (she)  
 (She) sews during the day.

*nakaka niū (yôô)*  
 CON:walk:again at:night (moon)  
 (The moon) travels at night.

With general adverbs:

*shidō lākwa (nduchī tnūū)*  
 CON:boil with:heavy:plops (legume black)  
 (The black beans) are boiling hard.

*nukóō yōho (mēsha)*  
 CON:sit crooked (table)  
 (The table) is standing crooked.

With general quantifiers:

*n-tée kwehe (ñā díta)*  
 COM-pat many (she tortilla)  
 (She) patted many (tortillas).

*n-shíhi kwehe (ñā ndüte)*  
 COM-drink much (she water)  
 (She) drank a lot (of water).

*kída đává (đá shihin te tnú)*  
 CON:do half (I:RES with he:ws work)  
 (He and I) are (each) doing half (of the work).

*shahndē đáva(-s tviní)*  
 CON:cut half(-he:MS money)  
 (They) divided (the money [old Sp. *tomín*]) into two parts.

Note that the quantifier refers to the direct object of a transitive sentence, even though it occurs as manner in the verb phrase.

Sometimes two elements occur in manner; the order is often fixed. The modifiers in the following examples must occur in the order given below.

*n-sháxan ndodo ndēyu (ñā đahyá ñā)*  
 COM-lay on:top prone (she child her)  
 (She) lay (her child) down prone on top of (something).

*n-sháxan tuu ndeyū(-s lélú-s)*  
 COM-lay on:ground prone(-he:MS hat-his:MS)  
 (He) lay (his hat [Sp. *sombrero*]) on the ground with the brim touching the ground.

*n-sháxan tuu nuū (te véhé té)*  
 COM-lay on:ground borrowed (he:ws house his:ws)  
 (He) built (his house) on rented land.

Many modifiers, such as stative verbs and various kinds of adverbs, can occur in either the preverbal (see §2.1.2) or the postverbal manner position with no apparent change in meaning. Consider the following pairs of sentences.

With stative verbs:

*xahān kóxon (te)*  
 CON:speak thick (he:ws)  
 (He) has a low voice.

cf. *kóxon xahān ('te)*  
 thick CON:speak (he:ws)  
 (He) has a low voice.

*xahān neñúū ('te)*  
 CON:speak false (he:ws)  
 (He) is telling absurd lies.

cf. *neñúū xahān ('te)*  
 false CON:speak (he:ws)  
 (He) is telling absurd lies.

*kikû nunu (ñā ðíó ða)*  
 CON:sew wide (she skirt my:RES)  
 (She) sews wide (skirts for me).

cf. *nunu kikû (ñā ðíó ða)*  
 wide CON:sew (she skirt my:RES)  
 (She) sews wide (skirts for me).

*ndehā kándá (té)*  
 CON:look:at visible (he:ws)  
 (He) sees clearly.

cf. *kanda ndehā (té)*  
 visible CON:look:at (he:ws)  
 (He) sees clearly.

*nukóō yutnu (mēsha ða)*  
 CON:sit treelike (table my:RES)  
 (My table) is standing firmly.

cf. *yútnû nukóō (mesha ðá)*  
 treelike CON:sit (table my:RES)  
 (My table) is standing firmly.



With temporal adverbs:

*n-kíkû niu (ñâ)*  
COM-sew at:night (she)  
(She) sewed at night.

cf. *niu n-kíkû (ñâ)*  
at:night COM-sew (she)  
(She) sewed at night.

*kee nehe (rô)*  
POT:leave early (we:1N)  
(We) will leave early.

cf. *nehe kéē (ro)*  
early POT:leave (we:1N)  
(We) will leave early.

With general adverbs:

*shítā shéé (ñá)*  
CON:sing loud (she)  
(She) sings loudly.

cf. *shēe shítā (ñâ)*  
loud CON:sing (she)  
(She) sings loudly.

*shikā chuchi (te)*  
CON:walk with:little:steps (he:ws)  
(He) walks taking small steps.

cf. *chuchi shikā (té)*  
with:little:steps CON:walk (he:ws)  
(He) walks taking small steps.

*dukū níhí (shítí í)*  
CON:be:tied tightly (stomach its:AML)  
(The animal's stomach) is bound tightly.

cf. *níhí dukú (shítí 'í)*  
tightly CON:be:tied (stomach its:AML)  
(The animal's stomach) is bound tightly.

Some modifiers have different sense discriminations depending on whether they occur as preverbal or postverbal manner. Sometimes the

meaning is dependent on the verb that occurs with the modifier, as well as on its position. Compare the following pairs of sentences.

*chiyáhu kweē ('te)*  
 CON:pay slow (he:ws)  
 (He) waits to pay.

cf. *kweē chiyahû (te)*  
 slow CON:pay (he:ws)  
 (He) uses slow movements (when he) pays.

*ndündéē úhû (tí)*  
 COM:become:fat evil (it:AML)  
 (The animal) became too fat and is ugly.

cf. *úhú ndündéē (tí)*  
 evil COM:become:fat (it:AML)  
 It was hard to fatten (the animal).

*xahān ndáā (te)*  
 CON:speak straight (he:ws)  
 (He) speaks the truth. *or* (He) testifies truly.

cf. *ndáā xahān (te)*  
 straight CON:speak (he:ws)  
 (He) speaks the truth.

*nshee nēē (ñā)*  
 POR:arrive dark (she)  
 (She) will arrive when it is dark (with no artificial lights).

cf. *nēé nshée (ñā)*  
 dark POR:arrive (she)  
 (She) will arrive when it is dark (at night).

*kidā tníu kándá (té)*  
 CON:do work visible (he:ws)  
 (He) does his work in the open (not secretly).

cf. *kanda kidā tníu (té)*  
 visible CON:do work (he:ws)  
 (The viewer can see) clearly (that he) is working.

*kaḍaváhá kanhnu (ro vēhe ró)*  
 POR:make big:SG (we:IN house our:IN)  
 (We) will build (our house) together.

cf. *kanhnu kaðaváhá (ro vêhe ró)*  
 big:SG POT:make (we:IN house our:IN)  
 (We) will make (our house) large.

There are two object markers: the noun *tnáha* ‘companion’ and the verbal marker *ñáha* ‘known object’. Either object marker can refer to first, second, or third person, depending on the context. The marker *tnaha* is used to express reciprocal.

*shemani tnáhâ (ro)*  
 CON:love companion (we:IN)  
 (We) love each other.

*chindee tnáhâ(-ñ shīhin te)*  
 CON:help companion(-you:RES with he:ws)  
 (You and he) help each other.

*chindēē tnaha (te)*  
 CON:help companion (he:ws)  
 (They) help each other.

*chindēē tnāha (ða shíhín-s)*  
 CON:help companion (I:RES with-he:MS)  
 (He and I) help each other.

The marker *ñáha* ‘known object’ must occur if the direct object of a nonreflexive sentence is either first or second person. It always denotes first person when the subject is second person and second person when the subject is first person. When the subject is third person, the object may be expressed by *ñáha*, rather than by a sentence-level element, and *ñáha* can denote any person. The context usually makes the referent of *ñáha* clear, but a sentence-level object may also occur. This is discussed further in §3.1.3.

*n-dākikú ñáha(-ñ ðānhma)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew KNO(-you:RES clothing)  
 (You) made me sew (clothing).

*n-dākikú ñáha (ða ðānhma)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew KNO (I:RES clothing)  
 (I) made you sew (clothing).

*n-dākikú ñáha (ña ðanhmá)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew KNO (she clothing)  
 (She) caused someone to sew (clothing).

(See also 7.49–51, 7.57, 7.60, 7.68, and 7.71.)

The modifier of intent, *náhi*, means ‘as planned’ or ‘anyway’ if the action has not yet started, and ‘still’ or ‘continue’ if the action has already started. The meaning depends on the context and is indeterminate in isolated sentences.

*xihîn náhi (te)*  
 POT:go INTENT (he:WS)  
 (He) is going as (he) planned (to do).

*na ndíko náhi (ñá)*  
 HORT POT:grind INTENT (she)  
 Let (her) continue grinding!

Scope comprises the limiters and the additive. The limiters are *ni* ‘no more’ or ‘just’ and *nga*, which has various meanings, depending on the verb it occurs with and the context. Among its meanings are: ‘without motivation’, ‘without any purpose’, ‘in addition to’, ‘just’, ‘anyway’, and ‘as a gift’. The additive, which extends the scope of an action, is *ka* ‘more’.

With *ni*:

*ndishi ni (dá)*  
 POT:return LIM (I:RES)  
 (I) will just go (and not loiter).

*n-sháshi ni (ñá)*  
 COM-eat LIM (she)  
 (She) just ate (without taking the situation into account).

(See also 7.14, 7.23, 7.43, and 7.56.)

With *nga*:

*kíkû nga (dá)*  
 POT:sew just (I:RES)  
 (I) will sew (but it doesn’t make any difference to me whether or not I do it).

*xwini ngā (dá sha xini dá)*  
 CON:want just (I:RES CMP POT:see I:RES)  
 (I) just want (to see). (I have no other purpose or motive.)

*naxinī ngā (dá tráshiti)*  
 CON:wash just (I:RES dish)  
 In addition (I) wash (dishes [Sp. *traste*]).

*kūndehā* *ngā* (~~á~~ *lívru*)

POT:look:at just (I:RES book)

(I) will look at (the book [Sp. *libro*]) (since there isn't anything better to watch).

*xîhîn* *nga* (~~á~~)

POT:go just (I:RES)

(I) shall go anyway.

*nihî* *nga* (~~á~~ *tilâ*)

CON:receive just (I:RES bread)

(I) receive free (bread).

With *ka*:

*kíkû* *ka* (~~á~~)

POT:sew ADD (I:RES)

(I) will sew longer.

(See also 7.18 and 7.73.)

When the negative markers *ñá* or *ñatū* occur with *nga*, the combined meaning is 'not very'.

*ñatū* *kóxon* *nga* (~~á~~)

NEG CON:be:hungry just (I:RES)

(I) am not very hungry.

When the negative marker *ta* and a verb in potential aspect occur with *ka* 'more', the combined meaning is 'not yet'.

*ta* *katâ* *ka* (*te*)

not:yet POT:sing ADD (he:ws)

(He) hasn't sung yet.

*ta* *kíkû* *ka* (~~á~~)

not:yet POT:sew ADD (I:RES)

(I) haven't sewn yet.

When other negative markers occur with *ka*, the combined meaning is 'no longer'.

*ñā* *shāshi* *ka* (*te* *đitâ*)

NEG CON:eat ADD (he:ws tortilla)

(He) doesn't eat anymore.

*ma kāshi ka ('te)*  
 NEG POT:eat ADD (he:ws)  
 (He) will not eat anymore.

The postverbal plural is *koio*. Unlike the preverbal plurals, which do not occur with potential, *koio* occurs with verbs in any of the three aspects.

*kundeha koiō (dā)*  
 POT:look:at PL (I:RES)  
 (We) shall look at it.

The plural *koio* can occur with a preverbal plural, and when both occur, they give emphasis to the plural subject of a sentence.

*ka kishī kóiō (té)*  
 PL CON:come PL (he:ws)  
 (They) are coming.

*n-ká kīshi kóiō (te)*  
 COM-PL come PL (he:ws)  
 Many (of them) came.

*sh ndeka kóiō(-s tē)*  
 PL CON:take:care:of PL(-he:MS it:AML)  
 (They) take care of (the animals).

*n-ká sho kādoko kóiō (da kīē)*  
 COM-PL COM:HAB carry:on:shoulder PL (I:RES animal)  
 (We) carried (the animals) on our shoulders.

With the motion verbs *xwāhān* 'to go (incomplete)' and *vāshī* 'to come (incomplete)', *koio* occurs instead of a preverbal plural.

*xwāhān kóiō (te)*  
 INC:GO PL (he:ws)  
 (They) went.

*vashī kóiō (te)*  
 INC:come PL (he:ws)  
 (They) are coming.

The repetitive is *ntuku* 'again', which expresses action that is repeated.

*nakatē ntúkú (ñá)*  
 CON:wash REP (she)  
 (She) is washing (clothes) again.

The seventh order of postverbal elements is incorporated noun, expressed mainly by *ini* ‘insides’ and *anu* ‘heart’ (Sp. *ánima* ‘soul’). This element and the verb nucleus together form a potentially discontinuous lexical unit.

*kutnuni*            *ini*        (*ǎá*)  
 POT:be:marked insides (I:RES)  
 (I) am advancing in understanding.

*kukweǎi*           *ini*        (*ǎa*)  
 POT:be:jealous insides (I:RES)  
 (I) am jealous.

*kukaxān*          *ini*        (*ǎá*)  
 POT:ask:for insides (I:RES)  
 (I) desire (it).

*ǎákukōhyo*       *ini*        (*ñá-s*)  
 POT:make:damp insides (she-him:MS)  
 (She) causes (him) to be sad.

Examples of stative verb phrases containing *anu* are given in §2.3.

**2.1.4 Combinations of elements.** Six of the eight preverbal elements combine freely. They are: directional, habitual, plural, completive aspect, truth value, and manner.

*ñā ndahu kēē n-ká sho shē kikú (ñā)*  
 NEG poor ? COM-PL COM:HAB CON:go POT:sew (she)  
 (They) did not habitually go away to sew with serious intent.

(See also 7.56–57.)

Hortatory occurs with truth value, with directional, with directional and manner, or with habitual and manner.

*nā ñáha tñukwéhe(-ñ)*  
 HORT NEG POT:get:hurt(-you:RES)  
 Don’t get hurt!

*néhé na xīn kátā (ro)*  
 early HORT POT:go POT:sing (we:IN)  
 Let (us) go early and sing!

*koxon nā ku katā (ró)*  
 thick HORT POT:HAB POT:sing (we:IN)  
 Let (us) habitually sing low!

(See also 7.67.)

Temporal occurs with directional, habitual, and plural; with directional, plural, and completive aspect; or with manner, completive aspect, and plural.

*shā ka shkó she kátâ (ǎa)*  
 already PL CON:HAB CON:GO POT:sing (I:RES)  
 (We) already have habitually gone and sang.

*shā n-ká she kátâ (ǎa)*  
 already COM-PL CON:GO POT:sing (I:RES)  
 (We) already went and sang.

*shā kunú n-ká shate(-s)*  
 already deep COM-PL dig(-he:MS)  
 (They) already began to dig deeply.

Some items that express various elements show cooccurrence preferences. Habitual does not occur with directionals that express one-way trips. Nonpotential plural does not occur with the directionals *vāsh* and *xwān*, and only a few elements that express manner occur with temporal.

Negative occurs with preverbal manner only when manner is expressed by an intensifying element. When negative is expressed by the simple form *ñā*, it follows manner, but when negative is expressed by a compound like *ñatū*, manner follows negative. (The reason for this difference is that compound negative forms contain an existential verb and are used to express a cleft construction.)

*ndēhē ña yuhú(-s)*  
 fierce NEG CON:be:afraid(-he:MS)  
 (He) isn't very much afraid.

*ñatū ndēhē yuhú(-s)*  
 NEG fierce CON:be:afraid(-he:MS)  
 (He) isn't very much afraid.

Lengthy combinations of postverbal elements can, but rarely do, occur. Common speech uses no more than three elements in the same utterance.

*n-dākíkū vahá ñaha nahi ni ntúkú (ñá)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew good KNO INTENT LIM REP (she)  
 (She) caused someone to just continue to sew well again.

*n-dākíkū vahá ñaha nahi koiō ntúkú (ñá)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew good KNO INTENT PL REP (she)  
 (They) caused someone to continue to sew well again.



Some items show cooccurrence restrictions. Quantifiers that express manner do not occur with plural. The marker *nga*, which expresses scope, is compatible with only a limited number of elements that express manner.

The basic order of the postverbal elements as given in §2.1.3 above is manner, object, intent, scope, plural, repetitive, and incorporated noun, but the following orders also occur. Intent can directly follow manner, plural can directly follow object, and object can directly follow the verb nucleus. The following examples show intent either between manner and object or between object and limiter.

*n-dākíkú*            *vahá nahi ñaha ni ntúkú (ñá)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew good INTENT KNO LIM REP (she)  
 (She) caused someone to continue to just sew well again.

*n-dākíkú*            *vahá ñaha nahi ni ntúkú (ñá)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew good KNO INTENT LIM REP (she)  
 (She) caused someone to continue to just sew well again.

The following examples show plural either between intent and repetitive or between object and intent.

*n-dākíkú*            *vahá ñaha nahi koiō ntúkú (ñá)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew good KNO INTENT PL REP (she)  
 (They) caused someone to continue to sew well another time.

*n-dākíkú*            *vahá ñaha koiō nahi ntúkú (ñá)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew good KNO PL INTENT REP (she)  
 (They) caused someone to continue to sew well another time.

The following examples show object either between a stative verb expressing manner and intent or between the verb nucleus and a stative verb expressing manner.

*n-dākíkú*            *vahá ñaha nahi ni ntúkú (ñá)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew good KNO INTENT LIM REP (she)  
 (She) caused someone to continue to just sew well again.

*n-dākíkú*            *ñaha váha nahi ni ntúkú (ñá)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew KNO good INTENT LIM REP (she)  
 (She) caused someone to continue to just sew well again.

*n-dākíkú*            *kanda ñaha nahi ni ntúkú (ñá)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew visible KNO INTENT LIM REP (she)  
 (She) just continued to make someone sew in plain sight again.

*n-dākíkú            ñaha kanda nahi ni ntúkú (ñá)*  
 COM-cause:to:sew KNO visible INTENT LIM REP (she)  
 (She) just continued to make someone sew in plain sight again.

There are few systematic restrictions between preverbal and postverbal elements. The interaction of preverbal and postverbal plural markers has been discussed in §2.1.3 above, and a few semantically specialized combinations have also been discussed in §§2.1.2 and 2.1.3.

*na x̄n nūtnĩ            ñáha koió(-s)*  
 HORT POT:go POT:arrest:again KNO PL(-he:MS)  
 Let (them) go and arrest someone again!

*n-ká she nūtnĩ            tnáha koió(-s)*  
 COM-PL go POT:arrest:again companion PL(-he:MS)  
 (They) went and arrested one of their members again.

*n-ká she kweka ñáha vahá(-s)*  
 COM-PL go POT:get KNO good(-he:MS)  
 (They) went and picked up someone in a welcoming manner.

*n-ká sho kíkú vaha kōio (ña)*  
 COM-PL COM:HAB sew good PL (she)  
 (They) used to sew well.

*váhá n-ka ðakíkú            ñáha koiō (ñá)*  
 good COM-PL cause:to:sew KNO PL (she)  
 (They) used a good method to show someone how to sew.

*váhá n-ka ðakíkú            ñáha ntúkú (ñá)*  
 good COM-PL cause:to:sew KNO REP (she)  
 (They) used a good method to again show someone how to sew.

*ñatū shko chíyahu ñáha vahá kōio(-s)*  
 NEG CON:HAB CON:pay KNO good PL(-he:MS)  
 (They) haven't paid someone well.

*shā xán ñaha ntúku(-s)*  
 already COM:hit KNO REP(-he:MS)  
 (He) already hit me again.

*n-ká sho kíkú nāhi koiō (ñá)*  
 COM-PL COM:HAB sew INTENT PL (she)  
 (They) used to keep on sewing.

*ka shāsh nīhno tnāha (yuhú-s shihin*  
 PL CON:eat inside companion (mouth-his:MS with

*ñadñh̄-s)*  
 woman-his:MS)

(They) kiss (their wives).

(See also 7.57.)

## 2.2 Equative Verb Phrases

Equative verb phrases are based on the equative verbs *kuu* ‘to be (potential)’, *nduu* ‘to become (potential)’ or ‘to be again’, and *kunani* ‘to be named (potential)’. The verb *kuu* occurs with all the preverbal elements that occur with content verbs, except directional and manner, and with all the postverbal elements, except manner and the object marker *tnāha* ‘companion’. These elements occur in the same order as in content verb phrases.

With *kuu*:

*(yĩ ñá) kuū (té)*  
 (husband her) CON:be (he:ws)  
 (He) is (her husband).

*(ita ndékâ) kúū (ta)*  
 (flower purple) CON:be (it:flower)  
 (It) is (a purple flower).

*(nshúâ) kuū (té)*  
 (John) CON:be (he:ws)  
 (He) is (John).

*(tē tūha vâhâ) kuū (té)*  
 (he:ws knowledgeable good) CON:be (he:ws)  
 (He) is (a knowledgeable person).

*kuū (té 'té tūha vâhâ)*  
 CON:be (he:ws he:ws knowledgeable good)  
 (He) is (a knowledgeable person).

*kuū (í yûû)*  
 CON:be (UN stone)  
 (It) is (a stone).

With *nduu*:

*ndúu* (te taā ñúū)  
COM:become (he:ws father town)  
(He) became (a leader of the town).

*ndúu* (te té vahá)  
COM:become (he:ws he:ws good)  
(He) became (a good man).

(té vahá) *ndúu* (te)  
(he:ws good) COM:become (he:ws)  
(He) became (a good man).

With *nani*:

(*sndóñú*) *nání(-s)*  
(Antonio:MS) CON:be:named(-he:MS)  
(His) name is (Antonio). *or* (Antonio) is (his) name.

### 2.3 Stative Verb Phrases

Stative verb phrases have simple stative verbs as their nuclei.

*kweē* (té)  
slow (he:ws)  
(He) is slow.

*kohyō* (*ndôhō*)  
damp (adobe)  
(The adobe bricks) are damp.

*víñí* (*ñôô*)  
warm (blanket)  
(The blanket) is warm.

*nunu* (*shehe véstído*)  
wide (foot garment)  
(The hem of the garment [Sp. *vestido* 'dress']) is wide.

*kānda*  
visible  
(There) is light.

*kwiñā* (*ñâ*)  
jealous (she)  
(She) is a jealous person.

Stative verbs occur with the following preverbal elements, although members of classes show cooccurrence restrictions: the directional *vāsh*, habitual, plural, negative, and manner.

The directional *vāsh* 'to come (incomplete)' is used to signal progressive meaning (see §2.1.2); it occurs with only a few stative verbs.

*vāsh kwāan (ñā)*  
INC:come yellow (she)  
(She) is becoming pale.

*vāsh víđí(-s)*  
INC:come gray(-he:MS)  
(He) is getting gray (hairs).

The habitual marker is limited to the continuative aspect form.

*shkō veē (đā ūđiko kiló)*  
CON:HAB weigh (I:RES forty kilo)  
(I) have been weighing (forty kilos [Sp. *kilo*]).

*shkó kwaan (trūú yōō mársu)*  
CON:HAB yellow (wheat month March)  
(The wheat) always ripens (in the month of March [Sp. *marzo*]).

The plural is *ūnū*; it is distinct from the plural which occurs with content verbs.

*ūnū nánhnú anū (ñā)*  
PL big:PL heart (she)  
(They) are unafraid.

*ūnū kōhyo (ndôhō)*  
PL damp (adobe)  
(The adobe bricks) are damp.

*ūnū đhíni(-s)*  
PL happy(-he:MS)  
(They) are happy.

*ūnū ínhní(-s)*  
PL hot(-he:MS)  
(They) are braggarts.

The negatives *ñā* or *ñatū* may occur.

*ñatū vetê (te)*  
 NEG untruthful (he:ws)  
 (He) doesn't tell lies.

*ñatū vishî*  
 NEG cold  
 (It) isn't cold.

*ñā vâhâ (te)*  
 NEG good (he:ws)  
 (He) isn't a good man.

*ñatū kwîña (ñâ)*  
 NEG jealous (she)  
 (She) is not jealous.

Manner comprises intensifying adverbs and a few stative verbs that function as intensifying elements.

With intensifying adverbs:

*yó ndayu (yuchi tríû)*  
 INTS coarse (powder wheat)  
 (The wheat flour) is very coarse.

*vîchi ðēén (ñâ)*  
 INTS sharp (she)  
 (She) is a harsh scolder.

*yó vĕé(-s)*  
 INTS heavy(-he:ms)  
 (He) weighs a lot.

With stative verbs:

*kwihá vĕte (te)*  
 ugly untruthful (he:ws)  
 (He's) a vicious liar.

*ndĕhe ðoho(-s)*  
 fierce naughty(-he:ms)  
 (He) is very naughty.

The following combinations of preverbal elements occur: negative and plural; negative and habitual; negative, manner, and habitual; negative and the directional *vāsh*; and manner and plural.

*ñatū unu nánhnú anū (ñá)*  
 NEG PL big:PL heart (she)  
 (They) are not all brave.

*ñatū unu lehvā(-s)*  
 NEG PL missing:teeth(-he:MS)  
 (They) are not missing teeth.

*ña shko uhā (ndeyū ñá)*  
 NEG CON:HAB thick (food her)  
 (Her food) is not usually thick.

*ñatū yo shko uhá (ndeyū ñá)*  
 NEG INTS CON:HAB thick (food her)  
 (Her food) is not usually very thick.

*ñátu vāsh ndíkô (te ā)*  
 NEG INC:COME cold (it:LIQ INT)  
 Isn't (it) getting cold(?)

*vichi ūnū nánhnú anū (ñá)*  
 INTS PL big:PL heart (she)  
 (They) are very brave.

*yó unu ñhíni(-s)*  
 INTS PL happy(-he:MS)  
 (They) are very happy.

The following postverbal elements occur with stative verbs: manner, intent, scope, repetitive, and incorporated noun.

With manner:

*kanda vahá*  
 visible good  
 The visibility is good. *or* (One) can see (it) well.

*kohyō ka (ndóhō)*  
 damp ADD (adobe)  
 (The adobe bricks) are still damp.

With intent:

*kanda náhi*  
 visible INTENT  
 (It) is still light (outdoors).

*kani náhi (yóhó)*  
 long INTENT (rope)  
 (The rope) is still long, anyway.

With scope:

*yivídi nga (ndúte)*  
 lukewarm just (water)  
 (The water) is just lukewarm.

*lehva ngā(-s)*  
 missing:teeth just(-he:ms)  
 (He) is just missing teeth.

*kanda ká*  
 visible ADD  
 (It) is still light (outdoors).

With repetitive:

*koxon ntūku (áitá io vítna)*  
 thick REP (tortilla CON:exist today)  
 Again (today the tortillas) are thick. *or* (The tortillas that there are today) are thick again.

*kanu ntūkū (vīhndé)*  
 slimy REP (nopal)  
 (The prickly pear cactus leaves) are slimy again.

With incorporated noun:

*kanhnu anū (ñâ)*  
 big:SG heart (she)  
 (She) is brave.

Very few combinations of postverbal elements occur. Those that occur with a very limited number of nuclei are: intent and the additive marker *ka*, and intent and repetitive.



*kanda nāhī ká*  
 visible INTENT ADD  
 (It) is still light.

*koxon nāhī ntūku (dítâ)*  
 thick INTENT REP (tortilla)  
 (The tortillas) are thick again, as before.

Some preverbal elements occur with postverbal elements. Preverbal manner and plural occur with postverbal intent, and the preverbal negative *ñatū* and plural occur with the postverbal additive marker *ka*.

*lokō únu kânū nāhi (víhndê)*  
 crazy PL slimy INTENT (nopal)  
 (The prickly pear cactus leaves) were still very (Sp. *loco*) slimy.

*ñatū únu lehvā ká(-s)*  
 NEG PL missing:teeth ADD(-he:Ms)  
 (They) are no longer liars. (lit. [They] are no longer missing teeth.)

*ñā kanda vahá*  
 NEG visible good  
 (It) is not very light (outdoors).

*ñatū ađí vahá (ndēyu)*  
 NEG tasty good (food)  
 (The food) is not very tasty.

Stative verb phrases occur both as the predicate of stative sentences (see §1.1.6) and as manner in content verb phrases (see §§2.1.2 and 2.1.3).

## 2.4 Repetitive Verb Phrases

Repetitive verb phrases are based on either content or stative verbs. This construction indicates repeated or intensified actions or states.

Repetitive verb phrases based on content verbs repeat a simple content verb nucleus; the limiter *ni* optionally follows the second part.

*shikā shika (kái)*  
 CON:walk CON:walk (day)  
 (Many days) passed.

*nuxwĩñi nuxwĩñi ni (te)*  
 CON:stand CON:stand LIM (he:ws)  
 (He) stood for a long time.

(núḏaa) vee vĕé(-n)  
 (how) CON:weigh CON:weigh(-YOU:FAM:MS)  
 (How) heavy (you) are!

Repetitive verb phrases based on stative verbs are of two types. A simple stative verb may be repeated with the limiter *ni* optionally following the second part, or two instances of a stative verb may be linked by the complementizer *sha*. The first type occurs only as a preverbal manner in content verb phrases, and the second type occurs also as the predicate of stative sentences.

ndāā ndāā ni (xwáhân te)  
 straight straight LIM (INC:go he:WS)  
 (He went) straight.

kānhnu kānhnu (kōō anû-ń)  
 big:SG big:SG (POT:exist heart-you:RES)  
 Be brave! (Don't grieve anymore!)

(núḏaa) ñāmā ñāma(-n)  
 (how) light light(-YOU:FAM:MS)  
 (How) light in weight (you) are!

vahā sha vahá (te)  
 good CMP good (he:WS)  
 (He) is very good. *or* (He) is a very good person.

## 2.5 Additive Stative Verb Phrases

Additive stative verb phrases comprise two short stative verb phrases linked by *te* 'and'.

(ḏanhma) kaní te kwińí  
 (clothing) long:SG and narrow  
 (clothing) that is long and narrow

(kídí) kóxon te ndāyu  
 (pot) thick and rough  
 (pot) that is thick and rough in texture

naní te unu ndíka (ḏanhma ḏa)  
 long:PL and PL wide (clothing my:RES)  
 (My clothing) is long and wide.

*ndââ te nanī (yútnú)*  
 true and long:PL (tree)  
 (The poles) are long and straight.

## 2.6 Appositional Verb Phrases

Appositional verb phrases consist of two semantically related parts. The first words of the two parts are usually identical, and the second words are different.

*xwān ndée                      xwān ndú(-s)*  
 INC:go POT:leave:again    INC:go POT:enter:again(-he:MS)  
 (He) went in and out repeatedly.

Sometimes these phrases consist of two derived or compound verb stems (see §5.1.1), the first parts of which are identical.

*kulokō                      kuđúha(-s)*  
 CON:be:crazy    CON:be:in:vain(-he:MS)  
 (He) acts ridiculously.

*xanndāa                      xankwíi(-s)*  
 CON:speak:straight    CON:speak:short(-he:MS)  
 (He) speaks only the truth.

*xankēe                      xanndá 'hú(-s)*  
 CON:speak:humble    CON:speak:poor(-he:MS)  
 (He) pleads over a period of time.

This construction is common in everyday speech, but occurs with even greater frequency in formal and ritual speech.



# 3

## Noun Phrases

### 3.1 Basic Noun Phrases

Basic noun phrases have a noun or pronoun nucleus, which may be expanded by the pronominal quantifier and by the postnominal scope, deictic, and relative clause.

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

<i>đítâ</i>	‘tortilla’
<i>yóđô</i>	‘metate’
<i>núni</i>	‘corn’
<i>tnúhû</i>	‘word’
<i>kîti</i>	‘animal’
<i>ndohó</i>	‘YOU:FAM:MS’

A complex nucleus is a lexical unit that comprises a noun followed by a frozen modifier, which may be a noun, a numeral, a stative verb, or a content verb.

## Noun plus noun:

*nduchi nûû*  
legume face  
eyes

*ndute nûû*  
water face  
tears

*ita vílu*  
flower cat  
a kind of orchid

*ini ndáha*  
insides hand  
palm of the hand

## Noun plus numeral:

*kaa ushî*  
metal ten  
ten o'clock

*kûú óko*  
day twenty  
the twentieth day

## Noun plus stative verb:

*tkwee vídî*  
citrus:fruit sweet  
sweet lime

*ðahyá ndahú*  
child poor  
orphan

## Noun plus content verb:

*makí kíkû*  
machine CON:sew  
sewing machine (Sp. *máquina*)

Occasionally a complex nucleus has three parts.

*ɖičhi lūchi ȳɸ̃*  
 child small:SG male  
 small boy

*ñua ñuñu kwéchi*  
 wax bee small:PL  
 beeswax

*kaā iñú yódo*  
 metal six CON:be:on:top  
 six thirty

**3.1.2 Prenominal elements.** Only the quantifier occurs in prenominal position. Three kinds of quantifiers occur: general quantifiers, numerals (and numeral phrases), and specifiers.

General quantifiers:

*itáhu ndeyú*  
 little food  
 a little bit of food

*ɖava téȳɸ̃*  
 half man  
 some men *or* half the men

*kwehe kítí*  
 many animal  
 many animals

Numerals:

*ɸ̃n kítú*  
 one day  
 one day

*ũú tútú*  
 two paper  
 two pieces of paper

The numeral *ɸ̃n* ‘one’ is often used simply as an indefinite article.

*ɸ̃n ɖúnhnú*  
 one shirt  
 one shirt *or* a shirt

Specifiers comprise *mee* ‘same’ or ‘self’, *tūku* ‘a distinct’, and *đū* ‘the aforementioned’.

*mēē té tashnuni*  
SPEC he:ws CON:rule  
the very man who governs

*tūku ñayú*  
distinct people  
another person (from outside the group)

*đū té*  
the:aforementioned he:ws  
the aforementioned

The word *kwēhe* ‘many’ sometimes occurs in the verb phrase even when it refers to a noun phrase (see §2.1.3).

**3.1.3 Postnominal elements.** Three optional elements follow the noun nucleus: scope, deictic, and relative clause.

Scope comprises the limiters and additive. The limiters are *ni* ‘just’ and *nga* ‘just’ (refers to what remains). The additive is *ka* ‘more’.

*tūtū ní*  
paper LIM  
just paper

*kandū ngá*  
soup just  
just soup (Sp. *caldo*)

*tūtū kâ*  
paper ADD  
more paper

(See also 7.25.)

Three locative adverbs function as deictics: *yaha* or *ya* ‘here’, *điān* ‘there’ (near addressee), and *ínxan* or *xan* ‘over there’. These words are glossed ‘this’, ‘that’ (near addressee), and ‘that’, respectively, when they function as deictics. There is also a nominal marker that functions only as a deictic, *de* ‘that’. The deictic *điān* refers to objects near the addressee, and it often contrasts one referent to some other one, while *de* refers to objects near the addressee, but it does not contrast one object with another. The deictic *de* is also used for an object previously referred to in the discourse context.



The deictic *inxan* or *xan* refers to objects distant from both speaker and addressee.

*vēhē inxān*  
house that  
that house

*ñayíu yāha*  
people this  
these people

*te xān*  
he:ws that  
that man

*tūtū díān*  
paper that:near:addressee  
that paper

*tūtū dé*  
paper that  
that paper

Restrictive relative clauses follow the noun or pronoun nucleus. Relative clauses are usually marked as such by their distribution following nouns or pronouns and by the absence of a noun phrase that is logically supplied by the head. In the case of relative clauses based on a locative adjunct, or on a location or time peripheral element, the locative noun *nūú* 'face' and the subordinate conjunction *na* 'when' function as relative pronouns.

Sentences with content verbs may become relative clauses based on the subject, the object, an adjunct, or a peripheral element.

The head can be coreferential with the subject or the object. The head is coreferential with the subject when the verb of the relative clause is intransitive or when the only nominal of the relative clause is the verbal marker *ñāha* 'known object' (see §2.1.3).

*té n-kuhú*  
he:ws COM-be:sick  
the man who was sick

*té n-shánhni ñāha*  
he:ws COM-kill KNO  
the man who killed someone

*té kundáhu*  
 he:ws CON:be:poor  
 the man who is poor

*ndēyu n-kúhvâ*  
 food COM-be:bitter  
 food that was bitter

(See also 7.41.)

The head is coreferential with the object when the subject of the relative clause is a first or second person pronoun.

*téyĩ ndukū dá*  
 man:ws CON:look:for I:RES  
 the man for whom I'm looking

*téyĩ nduku-ń*  
 man:ws CON:look:for-you:RES  
 the man for whom you are looking

(See also 7.67.)

When the relative clause contains a noun phrase or a third person pronoun, the resulting construction is ambiguous. The head may be coreferential with either the subject or the object. The discourse and/or cultural context, however, usually clarifies the meaning.

*ńá ďakwaha nshúâ*  
 she CON:teach John  
 the woman who teaches John *or* the woman whom John teaches

*sé chindihú ñaďíhê*  
 he:MS CON:put:in:jail woman  
 the man who is putting the woman in jail *or* the man whom the woman is putting in jail

*séyĩ chindihú ña*  
 man:MS CON:put:in:jail she/her  
 the man who is putting her in jail *or* the man whom she is putting in jail

*sé ďakwaha ñā*  
 he:MS CON:teach she/her  
 the man who teaches her *or* the man whom she teaches

If the nominal that functions as a subject of the relative clause is a full noun phrase, rather than a pronoun, and if the speaker wishes to indicate

that the head is coreferential with the object, he uses the verbal marker *ñáha* in the relative clause. Compare the following examples with the first two in the above block of examples.

*ñá ðákwaha ñāha nshúâ*  
 she CON:teach KNO John  
 the woman whom John teaches

*sé chindihú ñāha ñadthí*  
 he:MS CON:put:in:jail KNO woman  
 the man whom the woman is putting in jail

*ñadthí n-dandoō ñāha yñ ña*  
 woman COM:leave KNO husband her  
 the woman whose husband left her

The head may also be coreferential with an adjunct. The locative noun *nūú* 'face' optionally follows the head noun and functions as a relative pronoun.

*yūkū nuu shko shehên ro*  
 mountain face CON:HAB CON:go we:IN  
 the mountain where we habitually go

*ñūú n-shéhên te*  
 town COM-go he:WS  
 the town he went to

(See also 7.59.)

The head may also be coreferential with a peripheral element. When the peripheral element is location, the locative noun *nūú* 'face' optionally follows the head and functions as a relative pronoun. When the peripheral element is time, the subordinate conjunction *na* 'when' optionally follows the head and functions as a relative pronoun.

*ñayú nuu tashnúni ianshūsh*  
 people face CON:rule God  
 people in the place where God reigns

*ñá nuu shīnō kwéchi ða*  
 she face CON:run errand I:RES  
 the woman in the place where I serve

*kāú n-shéhên te nūndúa*  
 day COM-go he:WS Oaxaca  
 the day he went to Oaxaca

*kāú nā n-shéhên te nūndúa*  
 day when COM-go he:ws Oaxaca  
 the day he went to Oaxaca

Sentences with equative verbs may become relative clauses based on the subject or a peripheral element.

*té kuū díto dá*  
 he:ws CON:be uncle my:RES  
 the man who is my uncle

*té kuū yĕ ĩa*  
 he:ws CON:be husband her  
 the man who is her husband

*té kuū präsidenté*  
 he:ws CON:be president  
 the man who is president (Sp. *presidente*)

*té kuū musikâ*  
 he:ws CON:be music  
 the man who is a musician (Sp. *música*)

*kwĭá n-kúu nshŭá präsidenté*  
 year COM-be John president  
 the year John was president

Stative sentences may become relative clauses based on the subject.

*té ðuxún*  
 he:ws tall  
 the tall man

*yŭshā luhlē*  
 corndough thick  
 thick dough

(See also 7.9 and 7.28.)

In relative clauses numerals function like stative verbs to express ordinals; they follow the equative verb *kuū* 'to be'.

*kiū kuū unĭ*  
 day CON:be three  
 the third day

(See also 7.24.)

There are also sequences in which a noun (or complex noun nucleus) modifies another noun that should probably be considered to contain relative clauses with a deleted verb. The second noun may give the material out of which the first is made, the topic of the first noun, what is contained in the first noun, or a specifying characteristic of the first noun.

*dúndú ñuâ*

doll wax

wax doll

*ñunu yohó*

net rope

net made of rope

*vehe ndóhó*

house adobe

an adobe brick house

*vehe tküyêê*

house maguey:leaf

a house made of maguey (century plant) leaves

*ñuhu trüü*

land wheat

wheat (Sp. *trigo*) field

*kwentü konéxó*

story rabbit

a story (Sp. *cuento*) about a rabbit (Sp. *conejo*)

*tnúhú ianshúsh*

word God

the word of God

*shítóho ñúhu*

owner land

owner of the land

*shítóho véhe*

owner house

owner of the house

*yíka tilâ*

basket bread

a basket in which to store bread (Sp. *Castilla* 'Castile')

*yīka ndondohó*  
 basket handle  
 a basket with a handle

(See also 7.6.)

**3.1.4 Combinations of elements.** All four nonnuclear elements (quantifier, relative clause, scope, and deictic) combine freely, although scope and deictic are rare following long relative clauses. Also, subclasses of words and individual words show cooccurrence restrictions. For example, the specifier *mee* does not occur with *nī* 'just' or *nga* 'just'. The order of postnominal elements is: relative clause, scope, and deictic.

*ḍichi lúchí nī*  
 child small:SG LIM  
 just the smaller child

*ñâ n-kíshí xan*  
 she COM-come that  
 that woman that came

*mee ñadíhí n-shéhên xan*  
 self woman COM-go that  
 that very woman who went

*kwēhē ñá ka kundáhú xân*  
 many she PL CON:be:poor that  
 those many poor women

*úú ḍichi lúchí nī xan*  
 two child small:SG LIM that  
 just those two small children

*kwēhē ñá ka kuū maéstrá xân*  
 many she PL CON:be teacher that  
 those many women who are teachers (Sp. *maestra*)

*ñá ka kuū maéstra nī xan*  
 she PL CON:be teacher just that  
 those women who are just teachers

In the last example the limiter forms part of the noun phrase within the relative clause, but the deictic modifies the head noun.

It is also possible for a noun to be modified by two relative clauses. Both may be based on stative verbs, or one may be based on a stative verb and the other on a content verb. When there are two stative verbs, the order

is usually determined by convention. For example, color precedes size, and size precedes gender.

*ānhma kwishí kánhnû*  
 clothing white big:SG  
 large white clothing

*yāka kwechi tkúte*  
 basket small:PL round  
 small round baskets

A relative clause based on a stative verb always precedes one based on a content verb.

*kwēhē sé kwechi kahū lívrú*  
 many he:MS small:PL CON:read book  
 many boys who are reading books (Sp. *libro*)

*kwēhē té vahá n-ká kuu prisidenté*  
 many he:WS good COM-PL be president  
 many good men who were president

A quantifier such as *īn* 'one' may occur in noun phrases with no nucleus expressed; examples are found in 7.12–13, 7.18, and 7.21–22.

### 3.2 Measurement Noun Phrases

Measurement noun phrases consist of a noun phrase expressing a unit of measurement, usually modified by a preposed quantifier and occasionally by a short postposed relative clause. They occur only as quantifiers in other noun phrases, and in the following examples, the higher noun phrase is enclosed in parentheses.

*litrú (petroleú)*  
 liter (kerosene)  
 a liter (Sp. *litro*) (of kerosene [Sp. *petroleo*])

*úní táyu (ndíshâ)*  
 three pair (sandal)  
 three pairs (of sandals)

*úú lítru (petroleú)*  
 two liter (kerosene)  
 two liters (of kerosene)

*ĩn nuhne kánhnú (ĩĩ kwíshí)*  
 one bundle big:SG (candle white)  
 a large bundle (of white candles)

### 3.3 Possessive Noun Phrases

Possessive noun phrases have a possessed noun as their nucleus followed by an obligatory possessor. The nucleus is either an inherently possessed noun, such as a kinship term or a body part, or an optionally possessed noun. The possessor is a full noun phrase.

*ndáhá ñá*  
 hand her  
 her hand

*đanhma maríá*  
 clothing Mary  
 Mary's (Sp. *María*) clothing

(See also 7.14–15, 7.23–24, 7.27, 7.52, 7.62, and 7.74.)

The citation form for an inherently possessed noun is a short possessive noun phrase with *ro* 'first person plural inclusive' as the possessor.

*ndaha ro*  
 hand our:IN  
 hand *or* our hands

*kúhú ro*  
 sister:FE our:IN  
 our sister

This pronoun is also used idiomatically in many vocative forms.

*taā ro*  
 father our:IN  
 father! (lit. 'our father', used to address both God and one's own father)

The possessive noun phrase plus the verb *iō* 'to exist' is one of the chief devices of the language to convey possession of any entity.

*iō vehe đá*  
 CON:exist house my:RES  
 I have a house.



Possessive noun phrases may be expanded by optional elements. A quantifier may precede the nucleus; and a short relative clause, the nominal marker *ka* 'own', the plural marker *koio*, or the limiter *ni* may come between the nucleus and the possessor.

*úú lívru kwéhe nshúâ*  
two book red John  
John's two red books

*taā ka te*  
father own his:ws  
his own father

*đíkí kōio ña*  
head PL her  
their heads

*ñĩ ni t̃*  
skin LIM its:AML  
just the animal's skin

*đanhma ni ñad̃íhí*  
clothing LIM woman  
just clothing for women

A longer relative clause occasionally follows the possessor and refers to the nucleus.

*tnúhú ianshúsh yod̃ōtnúni*  
word God CON:be:written  
the word of God which is written down

*vēhe solndádo n-shānu-s*  
house soldier COM-destroy-he:MS  
the soldier's house which he destroyed

The limiter may follow the possessor and be ambiguous as to whether it refers to the nucleus or to the possessor.

*ndatnú ñad̃íhí ní*  
thing woman LIM  
just things for women *or* things for just women

*ñĩi kíĩ ní*  
skin animal just  
just skins of animals *or* skins of just animals

When the full form of a deictic immediately follows a possessor expressed by a noun, the deictic refers to the possessor.

*úú lívru kwéhe nshúâ yaha*  
two book red John this  
two red books of this John

*úú lívru ðíchī yā inxân*  
two book child male that  
that boy's two books

*tihína ðichi kwēchi inxân*  
dog child small:PL that  
the dog of those small children

*tihína ðichi kwēchi shkwéla inxân*  
dog child small:PL school that  
the dog of the little children of that school (Sp. *escuela*)

*tihína ðichi kwēchi shkwéla yáhâ*  
dog child small:PL school this  
the dog of the little children of this school

When the shortened form of the deictic immediately follows a noun that is a possessor, it is ambiguous as to whether the deictic is part of the possessor or whether it is part of the possessive noun phrase.

*ðitō ñaáíhí xân*  
uncle woman that  
that woman's uncle *or* that uncle of the woman

*lívru kwéhe nshúâ ya*  
book red John this  
the red books of this John *or* these red books of John

*shtoho ngútu ndóyo xan*  
owner ox com:be:lost that  
the owner of that lost ox *or* that owner of the lost ox

When a postnuclear element follows a possessor that is expressed by a pronoun, however, there is no ambiguity. If the possessor is a poststressed pronoun (see §5.4), the postnuclear element refers to the noun nucleus; if the possessor is a prestressed pronoun, it refers to the possessor.

With poststressed pronouns:

*chūún ña inxân*  
 chicken her that  
 that chicken of the woman

*ngutu té xán*  
 ox his:ws that  
 that ox of his

*vehe te iō yáha*  
 house his:ws CON:exist here  
 his house which is here

*chūún ña ni*  
 chicken her LIM  
 just her chicken

With a prestressed pronoun:

*chuūn ñá inxân*  
 chicken her that  
 that woman's chicken

The possessor may itself be a possessive noun phrase.

*đahyá đilō đihí đa*  
 child uncle mother my:RES  
 child of my mother's uncle

*livrū ñani đá*  
 book brother:ME my:RES  
 my brother's book

### 3.4 Interrogative Noun Phrases

Interrogative noun phrases are formed by preposing one of the following interrogative words to a noun phrase: *na* 'what?', *nadáá* 'how many?', *xūndu* 'who?', or *ndēđáá* 'which?'. The interrogative word is always initial in its noun phrase, and an interrogative noun phrase always occurs in focus position in its sentence.

*na đichi*  
 what child  
 what child? (what kind of child?)

*nadáā te*  
 how:many he:ws  
 how many of them?

*xūndu vehé*  
 who house  
 whose house?

*ndéááā iin te*  
 which one he:ws  
 which one of the two?

Certain fixed interrogative phrases function like single-word interrogative pronouns or adverbs. They are:

*na shā*  
 what it:INAN  
 what?

*na hōra*  
 what hour  
 what time (Sp. *hora*)? or when?

*na kīú*  
 what day  
 what day? or when?

*na kwēnda*  
 what account  
 why (Sp. *cuenta*)?

*xūndu nūú*  
 who face  
 to whom?

### 3.5 Truth-Value Noun Phrases

Truth-value noun phrases affirm the locative existence or nonexistence or the presence or absence of an entity. They can be affirmative or negative. They occur only in focus position in the sentence and occur only with nonpotential aspects.

An affirmative truth-value noun phrase comprises *ná* 'affirmative' plus a noun phrase. The locative adverb *yāha* 'here' or its reduced form *ya* usually occurs with *ná*.

*na-r* ( *túū* *ya* )  
 AFF-I:FAM (CON:exist here)  
 (Here) I (am). *or* I (am here).

*ná-s* ( *vashī* *kóio* )  
 AFF-he:MS (INC:come PL)  
 They (are coming).

*na véhe te* ( *iō* *yáhâ* )  
 AFF house his:WS (CON:exist here)  
 (Here is) his house. *or* His house (is here).

Occasionally, the verb of existence is unexpressed.

*nā tátná* ( *yáhâ* )  
 AFF medicine (here)  
 (Here is) the medicine.

A negative truth-value noun phrase comprises a compound negative plus a noun phrase; compound negatives are *ñatū*, *ñayō*, *mayō*, and *ñāđu*. Sometimes the interrogative pronoun *na* 'what?' follows the negative marker and is used in this construction to mean 'any'.

The marker *ñatū* is derived from *ñā* 'nonpotential negative' and *tuū* 'to exist' (in space); *ñatū* occurs when the following noun phrase has an inanimate referent.

*ñatū livru té* ( *néhe té* / *vashī á* )  
 NEG book his:WS (CON:hold he:WS INC:come INT)  
 (Did he) not (bring) his books(?)

*ñatū na livru té* ( *néhe té* )  
 NEG what book his:WS (CON:hold he:WS)  
 (He does) not (have) any of his books (with him).

*ñatū ndishā ña* ( *iō á* )  
 NEG sandal her (CON:exist INT)  
 (Does she) not (have) any sandals(?)

*ñatū ndáá danhma ro* ( *vashī* )  
 NEG all clothing our:IN (INC:come)  
 Not all of our clothing (is coming).

The markers *ñayō* and *mayō* are derived from *ñā* 'nonpotential negative' or *mā* 'potential negative' and *iō* 'to exist (continuative)'. These two forms occur when the following noun phrase has an animate referent.

*ñayō te (sháshi)*  
 NEG he:ws (CON:eat)  
 None of them (is eating). *or* No man who exists (is eating).

*ñayō te (túū)*  
 NEG he:ws (CON:exist)  
 None of them (is here).

*mayō te (kūtúū)*  
 NEG he:ws (POT:exist)  
 None of them (will be here).

*mayō te (káshi)*  
 NEG he:ws (POT:eat)  
 None of them (will eat). *or* No man who exists (will eat).

The marker *ñādu* negates a noun and implies that an alternate noun could substitute for it; *ñādu* is derived from *ñā* 'nonpotential negative' and *kuū* 'to be'.

*ñādu díó (kúú / chi vestidō kúu)*  
 NEG skirt (CON:be because dress CON:be)  
 ([It] is) not a skirt (because [it] is a dress [Sp. *vestido*]).

*ñādu díó (n-kúu / chi vestidō n-kúu)*  
 NEG skirt (COM-be because dress COM-be)  
 ([It] was) not a skirt (because [it] was a dress).

### 3.6 Adverbial Noun Phrases

Adverbial noun phrases are either basic or possessive. The first subtype consists of a basic noun phrase with a locative or temporal noun or pronoun nucleus. They function as locative adjuncts and as location or time peripheral elements.

With a locative noun nucleus:

*ichī kānhnu*  
 road big:sg  
 a big road

*īñ nuu naní yúku kánhnú*  
 one face CON:be:named mountain big:sg  
 a place called Large Mountain

With a temporal noun nucleus:

*kiū kánhnû*  
day big:SG  
an important day

*kiū ii*  
day holy  
a holy day

*kiū ndiyê*  
day dead  
the day of the dead (All Saints' Day)

Adverbial possessive noun phrases consist of a possessive noun phrase with an inherently possessed locative noun as nucleus. These nouns are mainly body-part nouns used with extended meanings, but the Spanish loanword *kwenda* 'account' also occurs. These phrases do not usually contain prenuclear elements or postnuclear elements other than possessor. They function as adjuncts (see §1.1.4) and as peripheral elements (see §1.1.7).

*nūú ña*  
face her  
her face

*đikî yúku*  
head mountain  
top of the mountain

*shiti sēmánâ*  
stomach week  
during the week (Sp. *semana*)

*đikî yōó*  
head moon  
the end of the month

*nuu ñúhu*  
face ground  
on the ground

*nuu mésha*  
face table  
on the table (Sp. *mesa*)

(See also 7.69.)

When the body-part nouns *nūú* ‘face’ and *shiti* ‘stomach’ have specialized meanings, they may be modified by a quantifier.

*ĩn nuu kóhó*  
one face plate  
on a plate

*ɖava shūi véhe*  
half stomach house  
in the middle of the house

### 3.7 Appositional Noun Phrases

Appositional noun phrases consist of two or more coreferential noun phrases in the same structural position joined without a conjunction. They occur in any noun phrase position.

*kúhú ɖa / líndá*  
sister:FE my:RES Linda  
my sister, Linda (Sp. *Linda*)

*ñūū / nuu n-shátashehe te*  
town face COM-dance he:ws  
the town, the place where he danced

*te tashnuni / te kuū prisidenté /*  
he:ws CON:rule he:ws CON:be president

*te xahān tnúhúñuɖāu*  
he:ws CON:speak Mixtec  
he who rules, he who is president, he who speaks Mixtec

*ɖa'ñá / se yakwa*  
I:RES he:MS crippled  
myself, a crippled man

*ɖító-s / sé kuhú*  
uncle-his:MS he:MS sick  
his uncle, the one who is sick

Appositional noun phrases, like appositional verb phrases (see §2.6), often serve as a literary device. The nucleus is repeated, and when it is modified twice, the modifiers are different, but often semantically related.

*ɖanhma váhâ / ɖanhma víta*  
clothing good clothing soft  
fine, soft clothing



*ḏītā kéē / ḏītā ndáhu*  
 tortilla humble tortilla poor  
 a poor man's tortillas

*itáhu nūú / itáhu yátâ*  
 little face little back  
 a little in the front and a little in the back

*nuu ñúhu / nuu ndehyú*  
 face land face mud  
 in the mud

*ḗñ sha ví / ḗñ sha vahá*  
 one it:INAN gentle one it:INAN good  
 a good and pleasant thing

### 3.8 Additive Noun Phrases

Additive noun phrases are coordinate or disjunctive.

There are three ways of coordinating noun phrases within the bounds of a single sentence. They may be linked by *shihin* 'with' or 'along with', by *ḏu* 'also', or by pause.

Additive noun phrases with *shihin* occur in all noun phrase positions. These phrases function as a unit. For example, animate subjects linked by *shihin* perform the action of the verb at the same time in the same place, and inanimate nouns linked by *shihin* often refer to substances mixed together. An additive noun phrase that functions as a subject often occurs with a plural marker in the verb phrase (see §§2.1.2 and 2.1.3). The preposition *shihin* may occur after each item in a series, except the last, it may occur only after the first item in a series, or it may occur only before the last item in a series. No change in meaning is associated with any of these variants.

*(n-shéhên) te shihin ḏahyá te*  
 (COM-go) he:ws with child his:ws  
 He and his child (went).

*(n-ká kida triū) te shihin ñadíhí tê shihin ḏahyá te*  
 (COM-PL do work) he:ws with woman his:ws with child his:ws  
 He and his wife and child (worked).

*(n-ká kida triū) te shihin ñadíhí tê / ḏahyá te*  
 (COM-PL do work) he:ws with woman his:ws child his:ws  
 He and his wife and child (worked).

(*xwáhân*) *tāā i / dīhî i / kúhâ i*  
 (INC:go) father UN mother UN sister:ME UN

*shihin ñanî i*  
 with brother:ME UN

His father, mother, sister, and brother (went).

(*xahân te*) *nuu nshúâ shihin mariâ*  
 (CON:speak he:ws) face John with Mary  
 (He is talking) to John and Mary.

(*n-káda tniū te*) *sha shēhe nshúâ shihin mariâ*  
 (COM-do work he:ws) CMP foot John with Mary  
 (He worked) for John and Mary. *or* (He worked) instead of John and Mary.

(*iō véhe*) *xusēé shihin mariâ*  
 (CON:exist house) Joseph with Mary  
 Joseph (Sp. *José*) and Mary (have a house).

(*n-shíhî dīhî*) *yōó shihin ngándii*  
 (COM-die mother) moon with sun  
 (The mother of) the moon and the sun (died).

(*n-shíhi ña*) *kafeē shihin ashúka*  
 (COM-drink she) coffee with sugar  
 (She drank) coffee (Sp. *café*) and sugar (Sp. *azúcar*).

In some cases an additive noun phrase could be reinterpreted as a simple noun phrase followed by an associative adjunct (see §1.1.4). For example, the first sentence above could also be translated, 'He went with his child.'

Additive noun phrases with *shihin* show attraction when the second of two component noun phrases permits the interpretation that its referent is included in the first one; that is, these phrases are partially coreferential. The first component is a noun phrase with a quantifier.

*ndūú-s shihin ñanî-s*  
 the:two-he:MS with brother:ME-his:MS  
 he and his brother

Some additive noun phrases that are linked with *shihin* have an idiomatic meaning.

*vēhe shihin vehé*  
 house with house  
 from house to house

The marker *đu* 'also' links noun phrases which function as subjects or objects in a series; *đu* follows the last item in a series of nouns. When it links subjects, it links them to a single plural marker in the verb phrase. Nouns linked by *đu* perform the action of the verb at the same time in the same place, but the actions do not need to be as closely related as those where the nouns are linked by *shihin*.

(*n-ká káhu*) *ñadthí* / *téyü* / *đichi kwé'chí* *đu*  
 (COM-PL study) woman man child small:PL also  
 The women, men, and children (studied).

(*nduku ñá*) *gayétá* / *nduchi tnúú* / *ndiu chūún* *đu*  
 (CON:look:for she) cookie legume black egg chicken also  
 (She looked for) cookies (Sp. *galleta*), black beans, and chicken eggs.

(*n-ká sheen ñayú*) *íí* / *ínu* / *ndīđi kwíshi* *đu*  
 (COM-PL buy people) candle cigarette liquor white also  
 (The people bought) candles, cigarettes, and pulque.

Noun phrases linked by pause do not necessarily perform the action of the verb at the same time or in the same place.

(*n-ká káhu*) *ñadthí* / *téyü* / *đichi kwé'chí*  
 (COM-PL study) woman man child small:PL  
 Women, men, and small children (studied).

(*ka shāshi te*) *víhndé* / *nduchi / chāka /*  
 (PL CON:eat he:ws) nopal legume fish

*tílá / đúhân / đítá*  
 bread chocolate tortilla

(They eat) prickly pear cactus leaves, beans, fish, bread, chocolate, and tortillas.

(*shkō đandē* *táhú te*) *ñíhi* /  
 (HAB CON:put:in:again gift he:ws) sweatbath

*yuté / nuu n-káku-s*  
 river face COM-be:born-he:MS

(He places offerings) in the sweatbath, in the river, and where he was born.

A fourth way to link noun phrases involves repeating the verb.

Additive noun phrases that show disjunction are linked by a 'or' or *ni* 'nor' (Sp. *ni*). Any number of noun phrases may be linked by *a* or *ni*: *a* occurs before the last item, and *ni* occurs before each item.

With *a*:

(*káúū tē*) *kwéhé yuchi a kwehe bála*  
 (POT:die he:ws) sickness knife or sickness bullet  
 (He will die from) a knife wound or from being shot (Sp. *bala*).

(*ka tné'né*) *ǎichi kwéché / té shanhnu / ñá shanhnu /*  
 (PL CON:drown) child small:PL he:ws old she old

*ngūtu / a tkāchi*  
 ox or sheep

Children, old men, old women, oxen, or sheep (drown in the current).

With *ni*:

*ni ǎihi te / ni ǎahyá te / ni ñani 'té*  
 nor mother his:ws nor child his:ws nor brother:ME his:ws  
 neither his wife, his child, nor his brother

*ni mée-s / ni mée ña*  
 nor SPEC-he:MS nor SPEC she  
 neither he nor she

### 3.9 Repetitive Noun Phrases

Repetitive noun phrases comprise a repeated noun or a repeated numeral plus noun. The limiter *ni* optionally follows the second noun.

*pēshu pēshu*  
 peso peso  
 in denominations of pesos (Sp. *peso*)

*hōra hōra*  
 hour hour  
 by the hour

*yoho yoho ní*  
 root root LIM  
 only at the roots

*shēhe shéhê ni tnu*  
 foot foot LIM its:WOD  
 only at the foot of the trees

*ĩĩn shío ĩĩn shío íchi*  
 one side one side road  
 each on a side of the road

In the above two examples, the repetitive noun phrase contains a possessed noun, and the two repetitions share a single possessor.

### 3.10 Personal-Name Noun Phrases

Personal-name noun phrases consist of one of four markers that indicate respect followed by a noun nucleus. These markers are: *đi* ‘aunt’ preceding a woman’s name, *to* ‘uncle’ or *ta* ‘father’ preceding a man’s name, and *ndi* ‘deceased’ preceding a name or a kinship term.

*đi tmárta*  
 aunt Martha  
 Mrs. Martha

*to spédrú*  
 uncle Peter:MS  
 Uncle Peter

*to smáarkú*  
 uncle Mark:MS  
 Mr. Mark

*to nmáarkú*  
 uncle Mark:ws  
 Mr. Mark

*ta pédrú*  
 father Peter  
 Mr. Peter

*ndi pédrú*  
 deceased Peter  
 the late Peter

*ndí taā đa*  
 deceased father my:RES  
 my deceased father



## 4

### Other Phrases

#### 4.1 Quantifier Phrases

**4.1.1 Additive numeral phrases.** In additive numeral phrases simple numerals combine to form the numerals eleven through fourteen, sixteen through nineteen, twenty-one through thirty, and thirty-five. The larger numeral always occurs first. When the numeral *shá'hún* 'fifteen' occurs as the nonfinal numeral in additive numeral phrases, a reduced form, *sháún*, occurs.

*ú'shí* *ú'ú*  
ten two  
twelve

*sháún* *ín*  
fifteen one  
sixteen

*ó'kó* *ú'shí*  
twenty ten  
thirty

*ó'kó* *shá'hún*  
twenty fifteen  
thirty-five

Additive numeral phrases may contain more than two elements to form the numerals thirty-one through thirty-four and thirty-six through thirty-nine.

ó 'kó    ú 'shí    ú 'ú  
 twenty ten    two  
 thirty-two

ó 'kó    shá 'hún    kó 'ón  
 twenty fifteen    four  
 thirty-nine

**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, *ǎi 'kó*, occurs.

kó 'ón    ǎi 'kó  
 four twenty  
 eighty

ú 'ná    sientú  
 eight hundred  
 eight hundred (Sp. *ciento*)

ú 'ní    míl  
 three thousand  
 three thousand (Sp. *mil*)

Attributive numeral phrases combine with additive numeral phrases to form all the remaining nonsimple numerals.

ú 'ú    ǎi 'kó    sháún    ǎn  
 two twenty fifteen one  
 fifty-six

ú 'shá    sientú    ú 'ní    ǎi 'kó    ú 'shí    ǎn  
 seven hundred three    twenty ten    one  
 seven hundred seventy-one

ǎn    míl    é 'ǎn    sientú    ú 'ní    ǎi 'kó    sháún    ú 'ní  
 one thousand nine hundred three    twenty fifteen three  
 one thousand nine hundred seventy-eight



**4.1.3 Aggregative numeral phrases.** A numeral (or short numeral phrase) and the numeral classifier *tnáhá* 'companion' combine to form aggregative numeral phrases, which are relatively rare. In this construction *tnáhá* means 'together'; it does not occur with the numeral one. In the following example, an entire noun phrase is given with the part outside the numeral phrase enclosed in parentheses.

*ú'ní tnáhá (té)*  
 three companion (he:ws)  
 the three (of them) together

Aggregative numeral phrases may be questioned.

*ná'dá tnáhá(-ń)*  
 how:many companion(-you:RES)  
 How many (of you) (are there)?

**4.1.4 Expanded numeral phrases.** A simple numeral, an additive numeral phrase, or an attributive numeral phrase may serve as the nucleus of expanded numeral phrases.

*í'ñú (véhé)*  
 six (house)  
 six (houses)

*sháún ú'ní (véhé)*  
 fifteen three (house)  
 eighteen (houses)

*ú'ú dí'kó (véhé)*  
 two twenty (house)  
 forty (houses)

*ú'ní dí'kó ú'shí ñn (véhé)*  
 three twenty ten one (house)  
 seventy-one (houses)

*đává (kiló)*  
 fraction (kilogram)  
 half (a kilogram [Sp. *kilo*])

*đává (nú'ú ndúté)*  
 fraction (face water)  
 midway (across the river)

There is one prenuclear position, which comprises the following elements: *ní* 'not even' (Sp. *ni*); *váá* 'approximately'; *ná'shá* 'what?', used in

this context to mean 'about'; *níná* 'every'; and *ndaá* 'all'. The conjunction *ní* 'not even' occurs only with the numeral nucleus *ńn* 'one'. The general quantifier *ndaá* 'all' fuses with *ú'ú* 'two' and *ú'ní* 'three' to form *nduú* 'both' and *ndruní* 'the three'. In combination with other numerals, *ndaá* is usually reduced to *nh* before a vowel and *n* before a consonant. The combination of *ndaá* and a following numeral functions in the larger discourse context to refer to a previously mentioned number of items or people.

*ní ńn*  
nor one  
not even one

*váá ú'shí (dá)*  
approximately ten (I:RES)  
approximately ten (of us)

*váá kó'ón (yútnú)*  
approximately four (tree)  
approximately four (trees)

*ná'shá ó'kó (ńá'yíu)*  
what twenty (people)  
about twenty (people)

*ntná ú'ná (kí'ú)*  
every eight (day)  
every eight (days)

*nduú (té)*  
both (he:ws)  
both (of them)

*nduú (tnáhá té)*  
both (companion he:ws)  
both (of them together)

*nduú (yá shíhín ńá'ní yá)*  
both (DEI with brother:ME DEI)  
both (of them, the holy one and his brother)

*ndruní (ró)*  
the:three (we:IN)  
the three (of us)

*nhó 'ón(-s)*  
 all:four(-he:MS)  
 all four (of them)

*nshá 'hún (í)*  
 all:fifteen (UN)  
 all fifteen (of them)

*nhó 'kó (ñá)*  
 all:twenty (she)  
 all twenty (of them)

*nhú 'ní dí'kó ú'shí (tí)*  
 all:three twenty ten (it:AML)  
 all seventy (of the animals)

There are two postnuclear positions. The first is expressed by four elements. One of these is the verb *yodó* 'to be on top', which in this context means 'another half'.

*í'ñú yodó (dí'tá)*  
 six CON:be:on:top (tortilla)  
 six and a half (tortillas)

*ñín yodó (orá)*  
 one CON:be:on:top (hour)  
 one and one half (hours [Sp. *hora*])

*ñín yodó (kwiá)*  
 one CON:be:on:top (year)  
 a (year) and a half

*ñín yodó (sientú)*  
 one CON:be:on:top (hundred)  
 one (hundred) fifty (pesos)

*(ká'á) í'ñú yodó*  
 (metal) six CON:be:on:top  
 half past six (o'clock)

In the above example, the expanded numeral phrase follows the noun nucleus because it serves as an ordinal.

The remaining three elements that express the first postnuclear position are the limiter *ní* 'only', the additive *ká* 'more', and *ngá* 'just more'. When the numeral *ñín* 'one' occurs with *ní* or *ngá*, the suppletive allomorph *í'dí* is sometimes used.

*i'đí ní*

one LIM

only one

*i'đí ngá*

one just:more

just one more

*ní ñn ká*

nor one ADD

not even one more

*ñn ká (véhé)*

one ADD (house)

another (house)

*ñn ká (ñá'yíu)*

one ADD (people)

other (people)

*ú'ní ní*

three LIM

only three

*i'ñú ngá*

six just:more

just six more

*ñn ká (ueltá)*

one ADD (time)

another (time [Sp. *vuelta*]) or one more (time)

*ñn ká (kí'ú)*

one ADD (day)

another (day)

*ñn ká (ladú)*

one ADD (side)

the other (side [Sp. *lado*])

*i'đí ní (véhé xéró'ñú)*

one LIM (house Jerry)

only (at Jerry's [Sp. *Gerónimo*] house)

*i'đí ní ueltá (n-kané i'ní té)*

one LIM time (COM-spring:forth insides he:ws)

(He vomited) ONLY ONCE.

*nduú ní(-s) shíhín n̄á 'ní-s)*  
 both LIM(-he:MS with brother:ME-his:MS)  
 only the two (of them, he and his brother)

*kó'ón ní (tvíní)*  
 four LIM (money)  
 only fifty centavos (lit. only four [bits (Sp. *tomín*)])

*ǎává ní (panelá)*  
 fraction LIM (brown:sugar)  
 only half (a block of brown sugar [Sp. *panela*])

(See also 7.22.)

Note that the limiter occurs also at the end of the entire noun phrase (see §3.1.4). When the limiter is part of the numeral phrase, it refers only to the numeral; when it is part of the noun phrase, it refers to the entire noun phrase.

In the following example, two quantifier phrases occur; the second one is an expanded numeral phrase with *ká* 'more', and its meaning is determined by the context provided by the first phrase.

*ǎává (n̄á 'yíu) ... ǎává ká (n̄á 'yíu)*  
 fraction (people) ... fraction ADD (people)  
 some (of the people) ... the rest (of the people)

The second postnuclear position is expressed only by the numeral *ǎává* 'fraction', which occurs only with the numeral nucleus *íín* 'one'. Because *ǎává* follows the nucleus of the noun phrase in which the expanded numeral phrase occurs, the quantifier is discontinuous. The combination occurs only in limited contexts, such as with *ǎí'tá* 'tortilla' as noun nucleus.

*íín (ǎí'tá) ǎává*  
 one (tortilla) fraction  
 half (a tortilla)

The numeral *ǎává* may also occur as a numeral nucleus, as seen in various examples above.

**4.1.5 General quantifier phrases.** Approximate quantities may be expressed by general quantifier phrases. The nucleus consists of a nonnumeral quantifier.

*(tásh) itáhú*  
 (POT:give) a:little  
 (Give [me]) a little!

(ngó 'ó-ń) shakú  
 (POT:sit-you:RES) a:little  
 (Sit down) for awhile!

(ǎkó-ń) shakú  
 (POT:sell-you:RES) a:little  
 (Sell) some!

ítáhú (yó 'ó luchí)  
 a:little (moon small:SG)  
 a crescent (moon)

kwé 'hé (ueltá)  
 many (time)  
 many (times)

kwé 'hé (ítí shíhín í'tá)  
 many (candle with flower)  
 many (candles and flowers)

ndaá (kǎ 'ú)  
 all (day)  
 every (day)

ndaá (yarné 'shí)  
 all (Friday)  
 every (Friday [Sp. viernes])

ndaá (íchí)  
 all (road)  
 the whole (road) or all (the roads)

nitúhú (ñú 'ú)  
 throughout (town)  
 throughout (the town)

nitúhú (inxán)  
 throughout (over:there)  
 everywhere (over there)

nitúhú (ǎé 'hvá kó 'ó yú 'té)  
 throughout (canyon snake river)  
 throughout (River Snake Canyon)

nitúhú (n-shehén ǎá)  
 throughout (COM-go I:RES)  
 everywhere (I went)

*nínáhá* (*ueltá dá n-kídá té*)  
 every (time thus COM-do he:ws)  
 EVERY (TIME he did it like that).

Several compound forms beginning with *náá* 'all' occur in the nucleus of the general quantifier phrase.

*ndantu 'hú* (*shá xwéén dá*)  
 all (it:INAN POT:buy I:RES)  
 every(thing that I'll buy)

*ndantu 'hú* (*fversá í*)  
 all (force UN)  
 all (their might [Sp. *fuerza*])

*ntakántu 'hú* (*kíí*)  
 all (animal)  
 all kinds (of animals)

*ntakántu 'hú* (*shá kuyahú*)  
 all (it:INAN CON:be:sold)  
 all the kinds (of things that are sold)

*nánditu 'hú* (*shá kuyahú*)  
 all (it:INAN CON:be:sold)  
 all parts (of that which is sold)

The specifier *mée* also occurs as the nucleus of the general quantifier phrase.

*mée* (*ianyúúsh*)  
 SPEC (God)  
 (God [Sp. *Dios*]) Himself

One other word occurs as a general quantifier, *đavá 'hángá* 'whatever'.

*đavá 'hángá* (*ñá 'yúu*)  
 whatever (people)  
 whoever

*đavá 'hángá* (*kí 'ú*)  
 whatever (day)  
 whenever

*đavá 'hángá* (*nú 'ú*)  
 whatever (face)  
 wherever

There is one prenuclear element, expressed only by the intensifying elements *yó* 'very' and *lokó* 'crazy' (Sp. *loco*). This prenuclear element is rare and occurs only with *ítáhu* 'a little' and *kwé'hé* 'many'.

*yó ítáhu (kosechá)*  
 INTS a:little (harvest)  
 very few (crops [Sp. *cosecha*])

*yó kwé'hé (mi'hí)*  
 INTS many (garbage)  
 a whole lot (of garbage)

*lokó kwé'hé (káí)*  
 crazy many (animal)  
 a great many (animals)

Occasionally both intensifiers occur together.

*yó lokó kwé'hé (tvini)*  
 INTS crazy many (money)  
 an awful lot (of money)

There are three postnuclear elements: the limiter *ní*, the additive *ká*, and *ngá* 'just more'. They occur only with *ítáhu* 'a little', *shakú* 'a little', *kwé'hé* 'many', and the specifier *méé*, except that *ká* does not occur with *méé*.

*ítáhu ní (triú nú'ní)*  
 a:little LIM (wheat corn)  
 only a little bit (of wheat [Sp. *trigo*] and corn)

*shakú ní (yó'ó)*  
 a:little LIM (moon)  
 only a few (months)

(*tásh*) *ítáhu ní*  
 (POT:give) a:little LIM  
 (Give [me]) only a little bit!

(*tásh*) *ítáhu ká*  
 (POT:give) a:little ADD  
 (Give [me]) a little bit more!

(*tásh*) *ítáhu ngá*  
 (POT:give) a:little just:more  
 (Give [me]) just a little bit more!



*méé ní (tníú)*  
 SPEC LIM (work)  
 only (work)

*méé ngá (chudí'ni kwechtí)*  
 SPEC just:more (star small:PL)  
 just (little stars), nothing more

*méé ngá (dá'ú víí)*  
 SPEC just:more (rain gentle)  
 just (gentle rain), nothing more

The following example shows both prenuclear and postnuclear positions.

*yó lokó kwé'hé ká*  
 INTS crazy many ADD  
 an awful lot more

**4.1.6 Distributive numeral phrases.** A repeated numeral, which is usually grammatically simple, constitutes a simple distributive numeral phrase; the limiter *ní* may follow the second numeral or both numerals. This phrase expresses the meaning 'each' or 'in groups of'.

*íín íín (véhé)*  
 one one (house)  
 each (house)

*íín íín (ladú)*  
 one one (side)  
 (on) each (side [Sp. *lado*])

*íín íín(-ní)*  
 one one(-YOU:RES)  
 each (of you)

*íín íín ní*  
 one one LIM  
 only one by one

*íín ní íín ní (xwáhán té)*  
 one LIM one LIM (INC:GO he:WS)  
 ONE AT A TIME (they went).

*íín sientú íín sientú (í)*  
 one hundred one hundred (UN)  
 by hundreds (one hundred people in each group)

ú'ú dí'kó ú'shí ú'ú dí'kó ú'shí (í)  
 two twenty ten two twenty ten (UN)  
 by fifties (fifty people in each group)

ǎvǎ ǎvǎ ní  
 fraction fraction LIM  
 by halves

**4.1.7 Alternative numeral phrases.** Two numerals of limited complexity, with the second expressing a somewhat larger quantity than the first, combine to form alternative numeral phrases. The numerals are simply juxtaposed and express an approximation.

ɛn ú'ú (tú'tú)  
 one two (paper)  
 some (papers)

ú'ú ú'ní (kwí'hí)  
 two three (banana)  
 a few (bananas)

ú'ní kó'ón (ńá'yíú)  
 three four (people)  
 several (people)

ú'shí shá'hún (kí'ú)  
 ten fifteen (day)  
 a week or two<sup>3</sup>

**4.1.8 Repetitive quantifier phrases.** There are two ways to form repetitive quantifier phrases, which intensify the meaning of a numeral or general quantifier. In the first way, the quantifier is simply repeated; the limiter *ní* may follow the second one.

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<sup>3</sup>It is possible to combine two numeral phrases, rather than two simple numerals, in an alternative relation, but it appears to be necessary to have a noun nucleus after each one, as seen in the following example.

nmá shá'hún (kí'ú) nmá ó'kó (kí'ú)  
 every fifteen (day) every twenty (day)  
 every two or three weeks

Because of the repeated noun, this example has the structure of an alternative noun phrase.

*ḁává ḁává (yúkú)*  
 fraction fraction (mountain)  
 the very middle (of the mountain)

*ítáhú ítáhú ní (káká ḁá)*  
 a:little a:little LIM (POT:walk I:RES)  
 LITTLE BY LITTLE (I'll walk).

Note that the form *ḁává ḁává* occurs in both repetitive quantifier phrases and in distributive numeral phrases. The ambiguity is resolved by context.

In the second way, the complementizer *shá* occurs between the repetitions; in the present data this construction occurs only with *kwé'hé* 'many'.

*kwé'hé shá kwé'hé (ñá'yíu)*  
 many CMP many (people)  
 multitudes (of people)

*kwé'hé shá kwé'hé (ítí shodó té)*  
 many CMP many (candle CON:hang he:ws)  
 (He will hang) MANY MANY (CANDLES).

## 4.2 Adverb Phrases

**4.2.1 Basic adverb phrases.** The nucleus of basic adverb phrases may be a locative, temporal, or general adverb.

*víná (kunú ḁá shá kí'ḁí ḁá)*  
 now (CON:want I:RES CMP POT:sleep I:RES)  
 NOW (I want to go to sleep).

*ḁáá (n-shó'dó té ngútú)*  
 that:time (COM-ride he:ws bull)  
 AT THAT TIME (he rode the bulls).

*ndú'shí (má kutúú ḁá)*  
 next:year (NEG POT:be I:RES)  
 NEXT YEAR (I won't be [here]).

*ḁáḁá (ndíshí ntúku ḁá)*  
 then (POT:return:coming REP I:RES)  
 THEN (I'll come back again).

*ínxán (túú té)*  
 over:there (CON:be he:ws)  
 (He lives) OVER THERE.

(*ndaá nã'yú ðákeshio vinú vá'há ká kinhnánu*  
 (all people CON:distribute wine good ADD) first  
 (EVERYBODY gives out the better wine [Sp. *viño*] first).

*ðadá (ðákeshio i vinú ndahú ká)*  
 then (CON:distribute UN wine poor ADD)  
 THEN (they give out the poorer wine).

*shíká (xí'hín ðá)*  
 far (POT:go I:RES)  
 (I'm going) FAR (up the mountain).

These phrases have an optional prenuclear intensifier, expressed only by the intensifying elements *yó* 'very' and *lokó* 'crazy'.

(*ðichí luchí yó ní'hí (shinó)*  
 (unmarried:person small:SG) INTS fast (CON:run)  
 (THE LITTLE GIRL runs) very fast.

(*ðichí luchí yó ya'chí (ndíkó)*  
 (unmarried:person small:SG) INTS quickly (CON:grind)  
 (THE LITTLE GIRL grinds) very quickly.

*lokó vilí (shitá-ń)*  
 crazy pretty (CON:sing-you:RES)  
 (You sing) awfully pretty. *or* (You sing) very nicely.

They also have an optional postnuclear element expressed by the limiter *ní*, the additive *ká*, and *ngá* 'just more'.

*yáhá ní*  
 here LIM  
 just here

*ðíkó ngá*  
 only just:more  
 the only (thing)

*ðá ní*  
 thus LIM  
 just thus *or* also

*ínxán ní*  
 over:there LIM  
 just over there

*đíkó ní (ndetú ró)*  
 only LIM (CON:wait we:IN)  
 (We're) just (waiting).

*kinhnánu ká*  
 first ADD  
 at the very first

(See also 7.2.)

**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, prepositional phrases, or subordinate sentences. Appositional adverb phrases may be locative or temporal.

Locative:

*inxán / véhé marđuán shánhnú*  
 over:there house steward CON:be:mature  
 over there at the head steward's (Sp. *mayordomo*) house

*inxán ní / mersé*  
 over:there LIM Merced  
 just over there at the Merced (Sp. *Merced*) market

*nú'ú íó-ń xán / yá'tá véhé-ń*  
 face CON:exist-you:RES over:there back house-your:RES  
 over there where you live, behind your house

*nú'ú kúrushi kúú ú'ú / inxán*  
 face cross CON:be two over:there  
 at the second cross (Sp. *cruz*), over there

Temporal:

*tné'é / sabá'đú*  
 tomorrow Saturday  
 tomorrow, Saturday (Sp. *sábado*)

*né'hé / đá'tné*  
 early morning  
 early in the morning

*tné'e / đá'tné*  
 tomorrow morning  
 tomorrow in the morning

*ḍá'tné xán / ká'a ú'shá ḍá'tné*  
 morning that metal seven morning  
 that morning, at seven o'clock in the morning

*ó'kó ó'hón fébrerú / ḍáá*  
 twenty five February that-time  
 the twenty-fifth of February (Sp. *febrero*), on that day

*ḍisiembré sháún ú'ní / ḍáá*  
 December fifteen three that:time  
 December (Sp. *diciembre*) eighteenth, on that day

*ké'ú ó'kó ú'shí ín otubrí / ḍáá*  
 day twenty ten one October that:time  
 on the thirty-first of October (Sp. *octubre*), on that day

*ké'ú ó'hón xán / ḍáá*  
 day five that that:time  
 on the fifth day, on that day

*ké'ú kúú ú'shí ú'ú ḍisiembré / ké'ú shuhún*  
 day CON:be ten two December day CON:?

*gwaḍalupé / ḍáá*  
 Guadalupe that:time  
 on the twelfth day of December, on Guadalupe (Sp. *Guadalupe*)  
 Day, on that day

*ká'á ú'shá shá kwaá / shá*  
 metal seven it:INAN blind already  
 already, at seven o'clock in the evening

*ndé shá kwaá / ká'á ú'shá shá kwaá*  
 until it:INAN blind metal seven it:INAN blind  
 until in the evening, at seven o'clock in the evening

*ndé kwiá ká / ndé ná káká ká í shkwelá*  
 until year ADD until HORT POT:walk ADD UN school  
 until later, until he has been able to finish his schooling (Sp. *escuela*)

**4.2.3 Additive adverb phrases.** There are two ways to form additive adverb phrases. Two noncoreferential adverbs, adverb phrases, or adverbial noun phrases (see §3.6) may be simply juxtaposed.

*ndíúú shá kwaá*  
 day it:INAN blind  
 in the daytime and at night

In the second way, two noncoreferential adverbs, adverb phrases, adverbial noun phrases, or prepositional phrases with *ndé* 'until' are linked by *shihín* 'with'.

*yáhá shihín ndé nundúa*  
 here with until Oaxaca:City  
 from here to Oaxaca City

**4.2.4 Alternative adverb phrases.** Two noncoreferential adverbs may be juxtaposed to form alternative adverb phrases. This construction is therefore identical in structure with the additive adverb phrase. Each of these constructions is limited to a handful of examples, however, and so a particular example can be assigned to one or the other largely by convention.

*tné' é idá*  
 tomorrow day:after:tomorrow  
 tomorrow or the next day

*yáhá ínxán*  
 here over:there  
 here or there *or* wherever

**4.2.5 Repetitive adverb phrases.** There are two ways to form repetitive adverb phrases, which intensify the meaning of an adverb. In the first way, the adverb is simply repeated; the limiter *ní* may occur after each part, or rarely after only the second.

*đánaa đánaa*  
 suddenly suddenly  
 very suddenly

*vítná vítná*  
 now now  
 immediately

*kweé ní kweé ní*  
 slow LIM slow LIM  
 slowly slowly *or* little by little

(See also 7.45.)

In the second way, the complementizer *shá* occurs between the repetitions. In the present data, only *shiká* 'far' and *yátní* 'near' occur in this construction.

*shíká shá shíká (xwáhán té)*  
 far CMP far (INC:go he:ws)  
 (He went) AWFULLY FAR AWAY. (as to the United States)

*yátní shá yátní (vá 'shí tí)*  
 near CMP near (INC:COME it:AML)  
 (The animal's getting) AWFULLY CLOSE.

Occasionally the second adverb is not identical to the first one, but is closely related to it. In the following example, *vítná dí* is a complex temporal adverb.

*vítná vítná dí*  
 now now INTS  
 immediately right now

Both simple repetition, and repetition with the complementizer *shá* between the two parts, are mechanisms used to intensify words that belong to various parts of speech. In addition to adverbs, they are used with quantifiers (see §4.1.8) and with stative verbs (see §2.4). The same two mechanisms are also used in restatement sentences (see §6.1.2).

### 4.3 Prepositional Phrases

Prepositional phrases consist of a preposition followed by its object, which is expressed either by a noun phrase or 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 *shíhín* 'with'; *ndé* 'until', 'as far as', or 'even'; *đó* 'direction' (perhaps a shortened form of Spanish *lado* 'side'); *mén 'hñú* 'among'; and *shá shé 'hé* 'on behalf of' or 'on account of'. Prepositional phrases occur mainly as adjuncts and as peripheral elements.

With *shíhín*:

*shíhín tá 'á í*  
 with father UN  
 with his father

*shíhín ñádíhí dá shíhín ndáá dá 'hyá dá*  
 with woman my:RES with all child my:RES  
 with my wife and all my children



*shíhín tnú'hú yá (n-kidá vá'há yá ndaá shá íó)*  
 with word DEI (COM-do good DEI all it:INAN CON:exist)  
 By His word (He made everything that there is).

With *ndé*:

*ndé vítná*  
 until now  
 until now

*ndé yáhá*  
 until here  
 even to here

*ndé tné'é / tné'é yarné santú / dáá*  
 until tomorrow tomorrow Friday holy that:time  
 until tomorrow, Good (Sp. *santo*) Friday (Sp. *viernes*), that day

*ndé santú mingú*  
 until Santo Domingo  
 as far as (the town of) Santo Domingo (Sp. *Domingo*)

*ndé nú'ú túú sí*  
 until face CON:be he:MS  
 as far as where he lives

*ndé dá'hyá kwechí tá kakú ká*  
 until child small:PL not:yet POT:be:born ADD  
 even children not yet born

(See also 7.27.)

With *đó*:

*đó ñúkóhyo*  
 direction Mexico:City  
 in the direction of Mexico City

*đó đí'kí*  
 direction head  
 from the mountain (west)

*đó ní'ná*  
 direction ?  
 from the valley (east)

*đó nú'ú kané tá'chí đá'ú*  
 direction face CON:blow wind rain  
 in the direction of the place from which comes the rain wind (the  
 gentle wind, south, from Monte Negro)

*đó nú'ú kané tá'chí yú'há*  
 direction face CON:blow wind ice  
 in the direction of the place from which comes the icy wind (the  
 harsh wind, north, from Tidaa)

With *mén'hñú*:

*mén'hñú ñá'yú ñútnúu*  
 among people Tilantongo  
 in the midst of the people of Tilantongo

With *shá shé'hé*:

*shá shé'hé tá'á té*  
 CMP foot father his:ws  
 on account of his father

*shá shé'hé ñúhú*  
 CMP foot land  
 on account of the land

*shá shé'hé ró*  
 CMP foot us:IN  
 on our account

# 5

## Parts of Speech

### 5.1 Content and Equative Verbs

**5.1.1 Derivation.** Content verbs may be formed either by prefixation or by compounding.

There are two derivational prefixes, *ɗa-* ‘causative’ and *na-* or *nu-* ‘repetitive’.

The causative prefix *ɗa-* adds an agent; it combines with content verbs and also occasionally with nouns. It is attached to a stem that contains the segments of the potential aspect form, but sometimes differs from it in tone. Verbs that take the prefix *ku-* in potential aspect do not have it in causative forms.

*ɗā-ndōó*

CAUS-POT:remain

to abandon, to leave as is

*ɗā-ndoo*

CAUS-POT:be:clean

to erase

*ɗā-xihin*

CAUS-POT:go

to lose

*ḏā-xahan*

CAUS-POT:say  
to tempt

*ḏā-ndeha*

CAUS-POT:look:at  
to show (something) to (someone)

*ḏā-tnuni*

CAUS-mark  
to mark off (as boundaries)

The repetitive prefix *na-* combines with content verbs; it is also added to the potential aspect form.

*nā-xaan*

REP-POT:open  
to open again

*nā-nduku*

REP-POT:look:for  
to look for something lost

*nā-chihi*

REP-POT:cast:into  
to put (something) inside (something that opens on the side) again

*nā-kahnde*

REP-POT:cut  
to distribute (something that requires a payment)

*nā-kate*

REP-POT:scatter  
to wash

*nā-xāni*

REP-POT:hit  
to tell, to hit again

When *nā-* precedes stem-initial *k*, the resulting sequence may be *nd*, rather than the expected *nak*.

*ndaada* 'to make again' (cf. *kada* 'to do')

*ndee* 'to leave again' (cf. *kee* 'to leave')

*ndēē* 'to enter going down again' (cf. *keē* 'to enter going down')

*ndaa* 'to ascend again' (cf. *kaa* 'to ascend')

*nduu* 'to become' (cf. *kuu* 'to be')

The verb *ndaada* occurs only as the first element in compounds.

The prefix *nā-* also becomes *nd* before stative verbs with initial *v*.

*nd-víáí*

REP-warm

to become warm again (as a solid)

When *nā-* precedes the potential prefix *ku-*, the sequence *nuko* occurs, rather than the expected *naku*.

*nū-kondeha*

REP-POT:look:at

to see again (a blind person)

Both prefixes may occur on a single verb, with the causative prefix closer to the stem in most cases.

*nā-ḏa-ndeha*

REP-CAUS-CON:look:at

to show (something) to (someone) again

*nā-ḏa-xihin*

REP-CAUS-POT:go

to lose again

*nā-ḏa-kate*

REP-CAUS-POT:scatter

to cause to wash (clothes) again

*ḏā-nd-vidi*

CAUS-REP-warm

to warm up (something that was heated before)

*ḏā-na-nitáhu*

CAUS-REP-POT:receive:pardon

to cause to be saved

In compounding, which is very common, a complex verb nucleus (see §2.1.1) fuses to become a single word. The first part of the compound is a verb, and the second part can be any of various parts of speech. The verb in the first part is in continuative aspect, but it usually occurs in a reduced form. Sometimes a given verb has been reduced to a compound for some speakers, but not for others.

The verbs of existence *kuū* 'to be' (in time), *tuū* 'to exist' (in space), and *nduū* 'to become' all have shortened forms that combine with words from various parts of speech to create content verbs.

With *kuū*:

*ku-ndéhé*

CON:be-fierce

to be fierce

*ku-ndándú*

CON:be-ambitious

to be ambitious

*ku-duxun*

POT:be-tall

to become tall

*ku-vahá*

CON:be-good

to be good

*ku-kweđi*

*iní*

POT:be-POT:press:on insides

to be jealous

*kū-kaxān*

*ini*

POT:be-POT:ask:for insides

to have a desire for

*ku-điká*

POT:be-head

to be responsible (for something one has borrowed)

*ku-kwenda*

POT:be-account

to be the possession of (Sp. *cuenta* 'account')

*ku-ñuhu*

POT:be-ground

to be muddy (as water)

*ku-kahu*

POT:be-grave

to be gravely ill

*n-kú-naha*  
 COM:be-long:in:time  
 to have become a long time

*ku-~~d~~ava*  
 POR:be-half  
 to share equally (something given as a gift)

With *tuū*:

*tu-~~d~~úha*  
 CON:exist-thus  
 to stay without paying, to live together without marrying

*tu-ndáhu*  
 CON:exist-poor  
 to live with another family because of poverty

*tu-néé*  
 CON:exist-dark  
 to live without artificial lights, to live in ignorance

With *nduū*:

*ndū-ndéhé*  
 COM:become-fierce  
 to become fierce

*ndú-kanhnu*  
 COM:become-big:SG  
 to become large again

*ndū-vidí*  
 POR:become-warm  
 to become warm again

*ndū-~~d~~ahyá*  
 POR:become-child  
 to adopt

A number of position verbs occur as the first part of compounds, usually in a reduced form. They are *ka-* (*kaā*) ‘to lie’, *ke-* (*kêê*) ‘to enter going down’, and *shan-* (*shanī*) ‘to stand something up’.

With *ka-*:*ka-ndāá*

CON:lie-straight  
to be level full (not heaping over)

*kā-ndee*

CON:lie-POT:guard  
to watch and sleep

*kā-ndetāú*

CON:lie-CON:rest  
to lie slanted (as a hill)

*kā-ndihi*

CON:lie-on:top  
to lie on top of (as on a mat)

*kā-ndodō*

CON:lie-on:top  
to lie on top of (as on a bed)

With *ke-*:*ké-yahú*

CON:enter:going:down-value  
to be priced at

*ké-nuu*

CON:enter:going:down-CON:descend:again  
to go down to go to a destination

*ké-hini*

COM-enter:going:down-insides  
to understand

With *shan-*:*shan-yukū*

CON:stand-mountain  
to place in a pile

*shan-tuū*

CON:stand-erect  
to place in an erect position



Many other verbs occur as the first part of compounds, some of them in a reduced form. Some of the most common ones are: *chi-* (*chihī*) ‘to cast’ (into), *yī-* (*yihī*) ‘to be in’, *ke-* (*keē*) ‘to leave’, *nde-* (*ndeē*) ‘to leave again’, *tash-* (*tashī*) ‘to give’, *te-* (*teē*) ‘to shoot’, *xan-* (*xanī*) ‘to hit’, *kā-* (*kaā*) ‘to appear’, *kidā* ‘to do’, *ndada* ‘to make again’, *shekō* ‘gloss unknown’, and verbs that indicate motion and arrival.

With *chi-*:

*chī-nee*

CON:cast-dark

to put (something) inside (something else)

*chī-ndushī*

CON:cast-POT:be:buried

to bury (something), but not permanently

*chī-~~do~~*

CON:cast-blanket

to cover in order to protect

*chī-tuu*

CON:cast-erect

to put (something) inside (something else) in an erect position

*chī-ndeyu*

CON:cast-prone

to put (a container) upside down, to tip over and to spill accidentally

With *yī-*:

*yī-nee*

CON:be:in-dark

to be inside (something)

*yī-truū*

CON:be:in-POT:take

to hold (something else) up

*yī-trunī*

CON:be:in-mark

to be apportioned

*yī-ndeyū*

CON:be:in-prone

to be upside down (as a basket)

With *ke-*:*kē-ndōó*CON:leave-POT:remain  
to keep*kē-shiō*CON:leave-side  
to be distributed*n-ké-ndoŋo*COM-leave-on:top  
to be left overWith *nde-*:*nde-ndāá*POT:leave:again-straight  
to be redacted*ndē-nuu*CON:leave:again-POT:descend:again  
to shed (as skin)*ndē-ndaha*CON:leave:again-hand  
to drop*ndé-tkohí*COM:leave:again-swaybacked  
to be swaybackedWith *tash-*:*tash-ndetū*CON:give-CON:wait  
to cause (someone) to wait*tásh-kweē*CON:give-slow  
to cause (someone) to be delayed*tash-nuū*CON:give-borrowed  
to loan

With *te-*:

*tē-ndixûn*

CON:shoot-POT:be:tied

to tie (someone) to (something)

*tē-ñuhû*

CON:shoot-fire

to set on fire

With *xan-*:

*xān-yohō*

CON:hit-rope

to hit with a rope

*xān-tnaha*

CON:hit-companion

to fight

With *kaā-*:

*kā-ndandu*

CON:appear-pretty

to be pretty and healthy

*kā-nduyu*

CON:appear-stake

to look healthy (animals)

*kā-ñad̄hí*

CON:appear-woman

to be feminine

*kā-visha*

CON:appear-?

to be good looking and clean (people, clothing), to be without blood (meat)

With *kidā-*:

*kidā-vahá*

CON:do-good

to make, to write

*kida-yatâ*

CON:do-back

to reject (someone)

*kida-dává*

CON:do-half

to divide in half (as work)

With *ndāda*:

*ndāda-kanhnu*

POT:remake-big:SG

to make (something) larger, to worship

With *shekō*:

*shekō-vahá*

?-good

to be hiding

*shekō-daká*

?-CON:be:mixed

to be being mixed

*n-shéko-tuū*

COM-?-CON:exist

to become established (as a town)

With motion verbs:

*she-ndío*

CON:go-over

to move over to the side (when lying)

*she-xúhûn*

CON:go-IMP:hold

to spend money

*she-sheē*

CON:go-POT:arrive

to climb

*ki-tuhā*

POT:come-CON:be:prepared

to come closer

*n-kí-shēé*COM-COME-CON:arrive  
to arrive and stay

A compound verb may contain three parts.

*ki-nde-tnáhâ*CON:COME-POT:leave-companion  
to come apart

Sometimes the causative or repetitive prefix occurs with a compound verb.

*ɬa-kū-tnunī*CAUS-POT:be-mark  
to cause to be lit*ɬā-ku-kōhyo ini*CAUS-POT:be-damp insides  
to cause to be sad*nā-xun-ñahâ*CON:REP-?-KNO  
to give again*nā-chi-yahû*CON:REP-POT:cast-value  
to pay back

Some pairs of verbs that are transitive-intransitive counterparts differ in form only in their initial syllable, and sometimes also in tone.

Transitive

*kánhnû* 'will break'*kanu* 'will break into pieces'*kahnde* 'will cut'*kani* 'will hit'*chido* 'will cause to be on top'

Intransitive

*tnáhnû* 'will be broken'*tnánû* 'will be broken into pieces'*táhnđê* 'will be cut'*ñaní* 'will be hit'*kođo* 'will be on top'

Some verbs that differ in transitivity differ only by tone.

## Transitive

*đuku* 'will tie up'*tahu* 'will split'

## Intransitive

*đúkû* 'will be tied up'*táhû* 'will be split'

The verb *iō* 'to exist' has two continuative forms: *yoō* and *iō*. The form *yoō* occurs with *ná* 'affirmative' and with negatives; *iō* occurs elsewhere. When a negative occurs with *yoō*, the subject must be animate (see §2.1.2).

*iō*            *ñayú*  
CON:exist    people  
There are people.

*iō*            *kīi*  
CON:exist    animal  
There are animals.

*iō*            *úâ*  
CON:exist    flower  
There are flowers.

*ná yoō*        *đa yáhâ*  
AFF CON:exist I:RES here  
I am here.

*ná yoō*        *ūú yúchí* / *iō*        *yâ*  
AFF CON:exist two knife    CON:exist here  
Here are two knives. *or* There are two knives here.

*ñá yoō*        *ñayú*  
NEG CON:exist people  
There aren't any people.

*ñá yoō*        *kīi*  
NEG CON:exist animal  
There aren't any animals.

The verb *tuū* 'to exist' (in space) also makes an animacy contrast contingent on the truth value of a construction: *tuū* occurs with animate subjects when the truth value is positive, and it occurs with inanimate subjects when the truth value is negative.

*tuū*            *đá*  
CON:exist    I:RES  
I am (here).

*ñā tuū ndúte*  
 NEG CON:exist water  
 There isn't any water.

One pair of verbs is in a suppletive relationship that depends on the person of the indirect object: one verb is used when the indirect object is first or second person, and the other one is used when it is third person. The third person form includes a fused known-object marker. The potential aspect forms of these verbs are:

*tashi* 'to give' (nonthird object)  
*xunñáha* 'to give' (third object)

Three verbs in their continuative aspect indicate a singular or plural subject by a stem change.

	SG	PL
appear	<i>kaā</i>	<i>sh ndáā</i>
lie	<i>kaā</i>	<i>sh ndáā</i>
exist	<i>iō</i>	<i>sh nda shío</i>

Sometimes, however, *iō* occurs even when the subject is plural.

**5.1.2 Inflection.** Content and equative verbs are inflected for three aspects: potential, continuative, and completive. The potential aspect form provides the best basic form for predicting the others. Aspect is marked by tone changes and sometimes also by segmental changes. Completive aspect is also marked by the preverbal element *n-* (see §2.1.2). When the basic form of the verb begins with *n-*, however, the preverbal aspect marker does not occur, nor does it occur in some verbs with initial *x*.

Verbs that mark aspect by tone changes alone have any of three tone patterns in the potential aspect form. If they have high high-glide, they retain this tone pattern in completive, but change to low high-glide in continuative.

	POT	CON	COM
cry	<i>ndáhî</i>	<i>ndahî</i>	<i>ndáhî</i>
get wet	<i>ndóyô</i>	<i>ndoyô</i>	<i>ndóyô</i>
ask for back	<i>ndáxân</i>	<i>ndaxân</i>	<i>ndáxân</i>

boil	<i>ndúhâ</i>	<i>nduhâ</i>	<i>ndúhâ</i>
speak	<i>xáhân, káhân</i>	<i>xahân, kahân</i>	<i>n-káhân</i>
burn	<i>káyû</i>	<i>kayû</i>	<i>n-káyû</i>
choose	<i>káshî</i>	<i>kashî</i>	<i>n-káshî</i>
pass	<i>yáhâ</i>	<i>yahâ</i>	<i>n-yáhâ</i>

Verbs that have low mid in potential retain this pattern in completive, but change to a sequence of two high-glides in continuative.

	POT	CON	COM
enter going down	<i>keē</i>	<i>kêê</i>	<i>n-keē</i>
enter (as a house)	<i>kiū</i>	<i>kîū</i>	<i>n-kiū</i>
be exposed (as guilt)	<i>tuū</i>	<i>tûū</i>	<i>n-tuū</i>
perish	<i>tiū</i>	<i>tîū</i>	<i>n-tiū</i>

Verbs that have low low in potential change to low mid in continuative, and high low in completive.

	POT	CON	COM
scratch	<i>ñehe</i>	<i>ñehē</i>	<i>n-ñéhe</i>
tear out	<i>tnuhu</i>	<i>tnuhū</i>	<i>n-tnúhu</i>
weave	<i>kunu</i>	<i>kunū</i>	<i>n-kúnu</i>
be afraid	<i>yuhu</i>	<i>yuhū</i>	<i>n-yúhu</i>
spread	<i>chido</i>	<i>chidō</i>	<i>n-chído</i>
be stolen	<i>ndoyo</i>	<i>ndoyō</i>	<i>ndóyo</i>
grind	<i>ndiko</i>	<i>ndikō</i>	<i>ndíko</i>
be punished	<i>ndoho</i>	<i>ndohō</i>	<i>ndóho</i>
be awake	<i>ndoto</i>	<i>ndotō</i>	<i>ndóto</i>
drag	<i>ñuhu</i>	<i>ñuhū</i>	<i>ñúhu</i>
return	<i>ndishi</i>	<i>ndishī</i>	<i>ndíshi</i>
mistake	<i>đana</i>	<i>đanā</i>	<i>n-đána</i>
get thin	<i>yoho</i>	<i>yohō</i>	<i>n-yóho</i>
be blind	<i>kwaa</i>	<i>kwaā</i>	<i>n-kwáa</i>



There is a very small class of verbs with initial *x*. The completive form of these verbs does not contain *n-* 'completive'; instead, the completive aspect is marked by high tone on the first syllable. The other tones may or may not follow regular patterns.

	POT	CON	COM
fall from above	<i>xūnngava</i>	<i>xūnngavā</i>	<i>xúnngava</i>
fall in pieces	<i>xūnkoio</i>	<i>xūnkoiō</i>	<i>xúnkoio</i>
charge	<i>xēnyáhû</i>	<i>xēnyahû</i>	<i>xényáhû</i>
grab	<i>xīndee</i>	<i>xīndeē</i>	<i>xіндеe</i>

Some irregular verbs show tone patterns that do not fit any of the above categories.

	POT	CON	COM
take away	<i>đita</i>	<i>đitā</i>	<i>n-đítá</i>
sell	<i>điko</i>	<i>điko</i>	<i>n-đíkó</i>
wash	<i>nākate</i>	<i>nākatē</i>	<i>nákate</i>
become clean	<i>ndoō</i>	<i>ndóo</i>	<i>ndóo</i>
melt	<i>ndute</i>	<i>ndúté</i>	<i>ndúte</i>
arrive (at base)	<i>nsheē</i>	<i>nsheē</i>	<i>nshée</i>

Many verbs show segmental changes in addition to tone changes. A class of very common verbs has two stem forms, which differ in the shape of the first syllable. The potential aspect form begins with a velar (*k*, *kw*, or *x*), and the continuative and completive aspect form begins with a palatal (*sh*, *ñ*, or *y*). The tone patterns may be regular or irregular.

	POT	CON	COM
eat	<i>kashi</i>	<i>shashī</i>	<i>n-sháshi</i>
sing	<i>kata</i>	<i>shitā</i>	<i>n-shíta</i>
walk	<i>kaka</i>	<i>shikā</i>	<i>n-shíka</i>
get sour	<i>kwíâ</i>	<i>shíâ</i>	<i>n-shíâ</i>
rotate	<i>kwiko</i>	<i>shikō</i>	<i>n-shíko</i>
examine	<i>koto</i>	<i>shitō</i>	<i>n-shító</i>
bathe	<i>kuchi</i>	<i>shichī</i>	<i>n-shíchi</i>

carry on the back	<i>kwido</i>	<i>shidō</i>	<i>n-shido</i>
make a mistake	<i>kwidō</i>	<i>shidō</i>	<i>n-shidō</i>
press on	<i>kwédí</i>	<i>shédí</i>	<i>n-shédí</i>
wear (as a hat)	<i>xuhun</i>	<i>ñuhu</i>	<i>n-ñúhú</i>
be on top	<i>kodo</i>	<i>yodo</i>	<i>n-yódō</i>

Compound verbs whose first member is a verb from the above group also show segmental changes.

	POT	CON	COM
love	<i>xwenmaní</i>	<i>shemaní</i>	<i>n-shémaní</i>
take care of	<i>xunnūú</i>	<i>ñunūú</i>	<i>n-ñūnuū</i>
carry under the arm	<i>kídehe</i>	<i>yídehe</i>	<i>n-yídehe</i>

Some compound verbs have a potential aspect form that begins with *kwi* or *ka*, a continuative aspect form that begins with *n*, and a completive aspect form that begins with *shi*.

	POT	CON	COM
rain hard	<i>kwitane 'ne</i>	<i>ntane 'ne</i>	<i>n-shítane 'ne</i>
be a follower of	<i>kwitāndixún</i>	<i>ntāndixún</i>	<i>n-shítāndixún</i>
dance	<i>katashéhe</i>	<i>ntāshéhe</i>	<i>n-shítashéhe</i>

In another class of verbs, potential aspect is signaled by the prefix *ku-*. When a directional occurs with verbs of this class, however, *ku-* does not occur. The tone patterns in these verbs may be regular or irregular. The preverbal habitual marker *sho* usually occurs to mark completive aspect. There is, however, another way to express completive aspect with these verbs. A motion verb in completive can occur at the end of the sentence, in which case neither *n-* nor *sho* occurs, and the simple continuative form is used instead as the main verb. (In chapter six this construction is analyzed as a sentence combination; see §6.2.2.) There are two completive aspect forms for a few of these verbs; *sho* occurs in only one of these forms.

With two completive forms:

	POT	CON	COM 1	COM 2
look at be closed off, be sealed	<i>kū-ndeha</i> <i>kū-ndíhû</i>	<i>ndeha</i> <i>ndihû</i>	<i>ndéhâ</i> <i>ndíhû</i>	<i>n-shó ndeha</i> <i>n-sho ndíhû</i>

With one completive form:

	POT	CON	COM
be tied	<i>ku-đúkû</i>	<i>đukû</i>	<i>n-shō đúkû</i>
be leashed	<i>ku-ndixûn</i>	<i>ndixûn</i>	<i>n-sho ndixûn</i>
be seated	<i>kū-nukoō</i>	<i>nukoō</i>	<i>n-shō nukoō</i>
take care of	<i>kū-ndeka</i>	<i>ndeka</i>	<i>n-shō ndeka</i>
hold (in hand)	<i>kū-nehe</i>	<i>nehe</i>	<i>n-shó nehe</i>
exist (in space)	<i>ku-tuū</i>	<i>tuū</i>	<i>n-shō tuū</i>
be assembled	<i>ku-yuku</i>	<i>yuku</i>	<i>n-shō yúkû</i>

The following sentence shows a verb of this class together with a motion verb to mark completive aspect.

*ndixûn*            *tihína* / *n-shéhên*  
 CON:be:leashed    dog            COM-go  
 The dog was tied as it went.

Another class of verbs that shows segmental changes has the prefix *ka-* in the potential and completive forms. However, when a directional occurs with these verbs, *ka-* (like *ku-* above) does not occur. As in the verb class above, the tone patterns may be regular or irregular. There are two completive aspect forms for each of these verbs, one with the preverbal habitual *sho*. As in the class above, completive aspect can be expressed by a motion verb at the end of the sentence. Unlike the above class, however, when *sho* does not occur in the completive form, the construction must be negative.

	POT	CON	COM 1	COM 2
carry on the shoulder	<i>kā-đoko</i>	<i>đoko</i>	<i>n-kā-đoko</i>	<i>n-shó kā-đoko</i>

carry	<i>kā-nehe</i>	<i>nehe</i>	<i>n-kā-néhe</i>	<i>n-shó kā-nehe</i>
follow	<i>kā-ndixun</i>	<i>ndixun</i>	<i>n-ka-ndíxún</i>	<i>n-shó kā-ndíxún</i>

The following sentences show verbs of this class together with a motion verb to mark completive aspect.

*ǎoko*                      *ǎa* *yútnu* / *n-shéhên*  
 CON:carry:on:shoulder I:RES tree COM-go  
 I carried the pole on my shoulder as I went there and came back (with it).

*nehe*      *ñā* *tūū* / *xwáhân*  
 CON:carry she paper INC:go  
 She took the paper and she went (with it).

A few highly irregular verbs do not fit into any of the above groups.

	POT	CON	COM
die	<i>kuū</i>	<i>shíhí</i>	<i>n-shíhí</i>
be (in time)	<i>kuu</i>	<i>kuū</i>	<i>n-kúu</i>
lie (SG)	<i>kavā</i>	<i>kaā</i>	<i>n-kaā</i>
appear (SG)	<i>kavā</i>	<i>kaā</i>	<i>n-kāa</i>
drink	<i>koho</i>	<i>shihí</i>	<i>n-shíhi</i>
do	<i>kada</i>	<i>kidā</i>	<i>n-kída</i>
exist (SG)	<i>koo</i>	<i>iō, yoō</i>	<i>n-shío</i>
run away	<i>kunu</i>	<i>shinō</i>	<i>n-shíno</i>
stand in file	<i>xwīnyuxun</i>	<i>ūnyuxūn</i>	<i>n-shínyúxun</i>

Two motion verbs have an incomplete aspect form in addition to the other three forms. (It is also possible to consider the two incomplete forms to be separate verbs that express one-way trips and have only one form, which serves as both continuative and completive.)

	POT	CON	COM	INC
go	<i>xíhîn</i>	<i>shéhên</i>	<i>n-shéhên</i>	<i>xwáhân</i>
come	<i>kishi</i>	<i>kishī</i>	<i>n-kíshi</i>	<i>váshî</i>

Compound verbs with a reduced motion verb as the first part mark aspect by segmental changes that reflect the irregularity of the source verb.

Some of these verbs also occur with the directional *vāsh* or the compound directional *vāsh kí* (see §2.1.2). In the following examples the motion verbs are combined with *tuha* ‘closer’, *-ndío* ‘over’ (when sitting or lying), and *-ndehe* ‘over’ (when standing).

	POT	CON	COM	INC
go closer	<i>xíntúha</i>	<i>shētúha</i>	<i>n-shētúha</i>	<i>xwantúha</i>
come closer	<i>kituha</i>	<i>kítuha</i>	<i>n-kítuha</i>	<i>vāsh kituha</i>
return closer	<i>ndituha</i>	<i>ndítuha</i>	<i>ndítúha</i>	<i>vāsh kí ndituha</i>
go over	<i>xínndíó</i>	<i>shēndíó</i>	<i>n-shēndíó</i>	<i>xwanndíó</i>
come over	<i>kindiō</i>	<i>kīndiō</i>	<i>n-kīndiō</i>	<i>vāsh kindiō</i>
return over	<i>ndindiō</i>	<i>ndīndiō</i>	<i>ndīndiō</i>	<i>vāsh ndīndiō</i>
go over	<i>xínndehe</i>	<i>shēndehe</i>	<i>n-shēndehe</i>	<i>xwanndehe</i>
come over	<i>kindehe</i>	<i>kīndehe</i>	<i>n-kīndehe</i>	<i>vāsh kindehe</i>
return over	<i>ndindehe</i>	<i>ndīndehe</i>	<i>ndīndehe</i>	<i>vāsh ndīndehe</i>

With some verbs which have a continuative aspect form that is homophonous with potential, continuative aspect is signalled by *vāsh* or *vāsh kí*. When, however, potential and continuative have distinct forms, *vāsh* signals progressive action, leaving the continuative form to express only habitual action. Examples in which *vāsh* marks aspect are given in §2.1.2.

With verbs that express movement, the directional *xwān* signals the aspectual meaning ‘already begun’; examples are given in §2.1.2.

Some verbs are defective. For example, *kúú* ‘to say’ has only a continuative form; *nkóō* ‘to sit down (potential)’ has no continuative form; the completive form is *nūkoō*.

For most verbs the potential aspect form is used for imperatives (see §1.3). There are, however, three kinds of verbs that have other imperative forms. Some verbs with the derivational prefix *ku-*, which is a reduced form of *kuu* ‘to be’, add the prefix *ku-* to the potential aspect form.

*kū-kūnshánhnu*  
IMP-POT:behave  
behave!

*ku-kuñūkashi 'ní*  
IMP-POT:behave  
behave!

A few verbs add the imperative prefix *ta-* to the potential aspect form.

*tā-núū*

IMP-POT:descend  
get down!

*tā-kéē*

IMP-POT:leave  
leave!

*tā-kítuha*

IMP-POT:approach  
come closer!

Three verbs have special suppletive imperative forms.

*néhê*

IMP:come  
come! (familiar)

*xwáhân*

IMP:go  
go away!

*xuhun*

IMP:hold  
take (it)! *or* hold (it)!

The interplay of these devices, plus whether or not a subject pronoun is expressed, allows the speaker to make a distinction between familiar and respect and also between immediate action required and delayed action permitted. A detailed treatment of these distinctions is, however, beyond the scope of this sketch.

## 5.2 Stative Verbs

Stative verbs differ from content and equative verbs in that they are not inflected for aspect. Stative verbs are either basic or derived from nouns by means of a tone change. They also differ in that they can occur in the postnuclear manner position in verb phrases, and content verbs cannot.

Basic stative verbs:

*kweē* 'slow'

*kōhyo* 'damp'

<i>vídf</i>	‘warm’
<i>nunu</i>	‘wide’

Derived stative verbs:

Stative verb		Noun	
<i>chuun</i>	‘reckless’	<i>chūún</i>	‘chicken’
<i>yútnû</i>	‘stiff’	<i>yūtnu</i>	‘tree’
<i>yahu</i>	‘costly’	<i>yáhû</i>	‘price’

A few stative verbs have two different forms, one for singular referents and the other for plural referents.

	SG	PL
big	<i>kānhnu</i>	<i>nānhnu</i>
long	<i>kaní</i>	<i>naní</i>
small	<i>luchī</i>	<i>kwechī</i>

Some stative verbs function as intensifying elements.

<i>ndehé</i>	‘fierce’
<i>loko</i>	‘crazy’ (Sp. <i>loco</i> )

The prefix *t-*, denoting roundness, is used with two stative verbs.

<i>t-kute</i>	‘disk-shaped’
<i>t-ndúú</i>	‘spherical’

### 5.3 Nouns

**5.3.1 Derivation.** Many compound nouns are formed by the fusion of complex noun nuclei (see §3.1.1) into single words. A large number of nouns that name animals, plants, fruit, etc., consist of a prestressed pronoun (see §5.4) plus a noun or an indeterminate element.

<i>ia-nshúsh</i>
DEI-god
God (Sp. <i>Dios</i> )

*té-yǎi*

he:ws-male

man

*ñá-díhí*

she-female

woman

*tí-tríñí*

it:AML-fingernail

mouse

*tí-híná*

it:AML-dog

dog

*t-káchi*

it:AML-cotton

sheep

*sha-ñúhu*

it:INAN-respect

respect

*sha-ñukúñu*

it:INAN-?

statue (cf. *ñúhu* 'respect')*tru-yáa*

it:WOD-music

oak

*tru-tíchi*

it:WOD-avocado

avocado tree

*n-te-ndēyu*

it:LIQ-food

juice of food

*t-nána*

it:SPH-?

tomato

*t-núu*

it:SPH-?

crabapple



*t-véa*

it:SPH-?

maguey (century plant) blossom

**5.3.2 Classification.** Nouns can be classified by gender, possessibility, distribution, or countability.

Nouns fall into nine gender classes according to the third person pronouns that can substitute for them: masculine, feminine, deity, animal, wood, liquid, flower, spherical, and unspecified.

Masculine nouns:

*téyü* 'man'*đítô* 'uncle'

Feminine nouns:

*ñadîhî* 'woman, wife'*đíđí* 'aunt'

Deity nouns:

*ianshúsh* 'god'*đutú* 'priest'

Animal nouns:

*ítñíñí* 'mouse'*chudîní* 'star'

Wood nouns:

*tnutíchi* 'avocado tree'*radíú* 'radio' (Sp. *radio*)

Liquid nouns:

*nteñúhú* 'flood'*ndūte* 'water'

## Flower nouns:

*tavĩó* 'a kind of flower'

*tayĩđĩ* 'a kind of flower'

## Spherical nouns:

*tnána* 'tomato'

*tnúu* 'crabapple'

## Unspecified nouns:

*tniũ* 'work'

*víkô* 'cloud'

*vĩko* 'party'

*yũtnu* 'tree'

*đichĩ* 'child'

*yũũ* 'stone'

Nouns may also be divided into those that can be possessed and those that cannot. The unpossessible nouns refer to topographical and meteorological phenomena.

*kũũ* 'day'

*yũku* 'mountain'

*ngándii* 'sun'

*yôô* 'moon'

Words in the above category may have more than one meaning, one of which is possessible.

*táchĩ* 'wind'

*táchĩ ro*

wind our:IN

our breath

Possessible nouns are those that can occur as the nucleus of a possessive noun phrase (see §3.3). They are either inherently or optionally possessed. Inherently possessed nouns characteristically occur in this position; they are usually kinship terms or body parts, but also include a few others, like the word for 'name'.

## Inherently possessed nouns:

<i>ááhi</i>	‘mother’
<i>yátá</i>	‘back’
<i>áü</i>	‘name’

## Optionally possessed nouns:

<i>ñūhu</i>	‘land’
<i>ñúhú</i>	‘fire’
<i>yūku</i>	‘mountain’
<i>ítú</i>	‘cornfield’
<i>kīti</i>	‘animal’
<i>vēhe</i>	‘house’

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 occur as independent utterances, or loosely connected to sentences (see §1.4). They include a special set of vocative kinship terms.

<i>táta</i>	‘father’
<i>nána</i>	‘mother’
<i>kwálí</i>	‘comother, cofather’ (of woman) (Sp. <i>comadre</i> )
<i>mbáa</i>	‘cofather’ (of man) (Sp. <i>compadre</i> )

Personal names are also used as vocatives; to show respect they are preceded by a kinship term. See the table given below for some examples of vocative forms.

Proper nouns include personal names, nicknames, and place names. Personal names are usually Spanish loanwords; an initial consonant is often added to the Spanish form. For a man’s name, this initial consonant is *s* if the speaker is a man, and *n* or *m* if the speaker is a woman. For a woman’s name, the initial consonant is *t*. These consonants may be the remnant of a classifier system; note the resemblance between the initial *s* and the masculine prestressed pronoun *sé* ‘he’. The following table illustrates these forms.

	MS	WS	Vocative	Spanish
Peter	<i>speḍrú</i>	<i>mpeḍrú</i>	<i>péḍru</i>	<i>Pedro</i>
Paul	<i>spalú</i>	<i>mpalú</i>	<i>pálu</i>	<i>Pablo</i>
Matthew	<i>stēú, shtēú</i>	<i>nteú</i>	<i>téu</i>	<i>Mateo</i>
Francis	<i>nchikú</i>	<i>nchikú</i>	<i>chiku</i>	<i>Chico</i>
Eugenia	<i>tkéña</i>	<i>tkéña</i>	<i>xéña</i>	<i>Eugenia</i>
Paula	<i>tvalá</i>	<i>tvalá</i>	<i>tvála</i>	<i>Paula</i>
Frances	<i>tshiká</i>	<i>tshiká</i>	<i>shika</i>	<i>Chica</i>

Derogatory nicknames consist of the prestressed masculine pronoun *t-* and a stative verb denoting a denigrating characteristic. Even though this pronoun is used only by women, the nicknames are used by speakers of both sexes.

*t-véte*

he:ws-untruthful  
liar

*t-láhle*

he:ws-gossipy  
gossiper

*t-léhva*

he:ws-toothless  
gossiper

Place names are often compound words.

*yu-yau-yíhi*

mouth-hole-tiger  
Edge of the Tiger's Hole

*tnū-yaa-vikó*

tree-piece:of:music-party  
Tree of the Music Party

*ta-díkô*

flower-fragrance  
Fragrant Flower

*ñu-kóhyo*

town-damp  
Mexico City

Locative nouns occur as the 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 names for topographical features.

<i>īchi</i>	‘road’
<i>ñûû</i>	‘town’
<i>yûte</i>	‘river’

The second category includes mainly body-part nouns that are used in an extended sense. The most common ones are:

*nûú*  
face  
on, in front of

*đíkê*  
head  
on top of

*shéhê*  
foot  
at the foot of

*yûhu*  
mouth  
edge of

*shiti*  
stomach  
within, underside

*yâtâ*  
back  
behind, in back of

*kwenda*  
account  
pertaining to

The noun *nûú* also serves as a prestressed pronoun that means ‘place where’ and as a relative pronoun that means ‘where’ (see §3.1.3). See 7.59 for an example of this use.

Temporal nouns are also divided into these two categories. The first category includes names for units of time and calendric sequences.

<i>kāú</i>	‘day’
<i>kwi'á</i>	‘year’
<i>yôô</i>	‘moon’
<i>ndúshî</i>	‘next year’

The second category includes two body-part nouns that are used in an extended sense.

<i>shiti</i>	stomach	within
<i>ááké</i>	head	end of

Measurement nouns express units of weight or measurement; they occur as the nucleus of measurement noun phrases (see §3.2).

<i>núhnê</i>	‘bunch’
<i>chíhô</i>	‘from shoulder to fingertip’

Common nouns are those not included in any of the above distribution classes.

<i>ítú</i>	‘cornfield’
<i>lihí</i>	‘rooster’
<i>áákú</i>	‘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:

<i>ndúte</i>	‘water’
<i>yúsha</i>	‘tortilla dough’
<i>ndēyu</i>	‘some types of food’

Count nouns:

- túú* 'paper'
- tilâ* 'bread (Sp. *Castilla* 'Castile', probably by reduction from a phrase like *đita tila* 'Castilian tortilla')
- ndūchi* 'legume'

**5.4 Pronouns**

Pronouns are personal, interrogative, or demonstrative.

Personal pronouns are either free or reduced, and free pronouns are basic or compound.

In first and second person pronouns, there is a contrast between familiar and respect forms. Number is not marked except that there is a first person plural form with an inclusive meaning. Familiar forms for second person contrast sex of speaker. Familiar pronouns are used to speak to persons younger than the speaker and to persons who are of approximately the same age as the speaker and with whom the speaker has a close or an intimate relationship. Males, and some females, use these to speak to their mates. The inclusive pronouns are used in soliloquy to refer to oneself; an example is found in 7.67.

The basic free first and second person pronouns are:

	FAM	RES	PL
first	<i>rúhú</i>	<i>đáñã</i>	<i>rōo</i>
second			
MS	<i>ndohó</i>	<i>ndishí</i>	—
WS	<i>yohó</i>	<i>ndishí</i>	—

Basic free pronouns occur as subjects of verbs, possessors of nouns, and objects of prepositions, either in normal position or in focus position. They occur as objects of verbs, however, only in focus position. When these pronouns occur in focus position, they focus the participant in contrast to the action. Second person pronouns occur also as vocatives; the familiar forms *ndohó* and *yohó* are reduced to *ndō* and *yō* to express greater familiarity. The second person respect form shows more respect than the respect form of the compound free pronouns described below.

The reduced first and second person pronouns are shortened forms of the basic free pronouns described above; they are:

	FAM	RES	PL
first	-r	ɖa	ro
second			
MS	-n	-ń	—
WS	ũn	-ń	—

Reduced first and second person pronouns occur as subjects of verbs, possessors of nouns, and objects of prepositions. They do not occur alone as objects of verbs, nor do they occur in focus position or as vocatives.

In third person there are no basic free pronouns, but there are two series of reduced pronouns: poststressed and prestressed. They show a number of different gender classes, which follows from the fact that they are often reduced forms of very general nouns. These two sets, and the nouns that served as their sources, are:

	Poststressed	Prestressed	Source noun
masculine			
MS	-s, sɨ	sɨ	—
WS	te	tɛ, t-	—
feminine	ńa	ńa	—
deity	ía	ya, ia	—
animal	-t, tɨ	tɨ, kũ	kũtɨ
wood	tnu	tnu	yũtnu
liquid	tɛ	nɛ	ndũtɛ
flower	ta	tâ	ítâ
spherical	-t, tɨ	t-	—
unspecified	i	ɖich	ɖichi
inanimate	—	shá, sh-	—

Reduced third person poststressed pronouns occur as subjects of verbs, objects of verbs, possessors of nouns, and objects of prepositions. They do not occur alone in focus position or as vocatives.

The specifically human pronouns indicate respect. The distribution of the unspecified pronoun *i* referring to people is determined by marital and social status. It refers to people in general when gender and social status are not indicated. It is always the appropriate pronoun when referring to a mixed group of people and to unmarried females. In women's speech, *i*



refers to unmarried persons of both sexes, but in men’s speech the respect third person masculine pronoun refers to both unmarried and married males. An unmarried person may be referred to by a respect pronoun instead of *i*, if he or she is a stranger or if he or she has high social status. The pronoun *i* also refers to baby animals, to spirits, to the deceased, to some plants, and to inanimate objects.

Reduced third person prestressed pronouns must be followed by some other element in the noun phrase, most often a relative clause (see §3.1.3). They also frequently serve as the first part of complex noun nuclei (see §3.1.1) and of compound nouns (see §5.3.1). Noun phrases containing prestressed pronouns occur in all syntactic functions.

The pronoun *sha* functions as a complementizer (see §1.1.9); and as a conjunction meaning ‘in order that’ (see §6.2.1). In addition it enters into the formation of complex prepositions and conjunctions.

There are two sets of compound free pronouns. One set is formed by combining the specifier *mee* with reduced poststressed pronouns.

	FAM	RES	PL
first	<i>meē-r</i>	<i>mee đā</i>	<i>mee rō</i>
second			
MS	<i>mēē-n</i>	<i>mēē-ń</i>	
WS	<i>mee ūn</i>	<i>mēē-ń</i>	
third			
masculine			
MS		<i>meē-s,</i> <i>meē sġ</i>	
WS		<i>meē tē</i>	
feminine		<i>meē ñā</i>	
deity		<i>mēē íá</i>	
animal		<i>mēē tġ</i>	
wood		<i>mēē tnū</i>	
liquid		<i>mēē tē</i>	
flower		<i>mēē tá</i>	
unspecified		<i>mēē i</i>	

When these pronouns occur in object position together with the known-object marker *ñáha* in the verb phrase, they clarify the referent of *ñáha*. When they occur in object position without *ñáha*, or when they occur in other positions, they are emphatic in meaning and contrast the referent of the pronoun with any other possible referent. They occur as subjects of

verbs, objects of verbs, possessors of nouns, and objects of prepositions. They may occur in normal position or in focus position, which is more emphatic. The second person forms also occur as vocatives.

The second set of compound free pronouns appears to be an older formation, which consists of the indeterminate element *a-* and a fused pronoun.

	FAM	RES	PL
first	<i>arū</i>	<i>aḍāī</i>	<i>arō</i>
second			
MS	<i>andō</i>	<i>andīsh</i>	
WS	<i>ayō</i>	<i>andīsh</i>	
third			
masculine			
MS		<i>asē</i>	
WS		<i>atē</i>	
feminine		<i>añā</i>	
deity		<i>ayā</i>	
animal		<i>atī, akī</i>	
wood		<i>atnū</i>	
liquid		<i>antē</i>	
flower		<i>atā</i>	
unspecified		<i>aḍich</i>	

These pronouns have a restricted distribution. They occur only as subjects of verbs and only in focus position. They express emotion, often disagreement, and they are used to answer a question beginning with *ndēshu* 'where?' if the discourse requires the pronoun to occur in focus position.

Position distinguishes the grammatical function of a third person pronoun when two or three poststressed or compound pronouns are contiguous. The first position is the subject, the last position is the object, and the middle position is the indirect object. When one third person pronoun is in focus position and another one follows the verb, it is ambiguous whether they function as subjects or as objects.

*ndīdo*    *méé* *iē*    *ñā*  
 COM:carry SPEC he:WS her  
 He carried her.

*n-dándeha*            *tē*        *ñā tã*  
 COM-cause:to:see he:ws her it:flower  
 He showed her the flower.

*n-dándeha*            *tē*        *mée ñā tã*  
 COM-cause:to:see he:ws SPEC her it:flower  
 He showed her the flower.

*mée te*                *n-chīndīhú*        *ñā*  
 SPEC he/him:ws COM-put:in:jail she/her  
 HE jailed her. *or* She jailed HIM.

*nshúa n-chīndīhú*    *te*  
 John COM-put:in:jail he/him:ws  
 JOHN jailed him. *or* He jailed JOHN.

There are three interrogative pronouns. They are:

*xūndu*        ‘who?’  
*na*            ‘what?’  
*nāsh*        ‘what?’ (cf. *na* ‘what?’, *shá* ‘it:INAN’)

The demonstrative pronouns are formed by combining the prestressed inanimate pronoun *shá* with the locative adverbs *yāha* ‘here’ and *īnxan* ‘over there’. They are:

*shāha*        ‘this thing’  
*shīnxan*      ‘that thing’

## 5.5 Adverbs

Adverbs are locative, temporal, general, intensifying, and interrogative. See §§2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.3, and 4.2 for a description of the constructions in which adverbs commonly occur.

Locative adverbs include all locational words that are not nouns.

*yāha* or *ya*        ‘here’ (near speaker)  
*đīan*                ‘there’ (near addressee)  
*īnxan* or *xan*      ‘over there’ (not near speaker or addressee)  
*ndēyu*              ‘prone, headfirst’  
*ndūa*                ‘supine’

<i>ndúū</i>	‘around’
<i>nīhni</i>	‘through, inside’

(See also 7.31, 7.41, 7.52, 7.69, and 7.70.)

The first three adverbs in the above list have an additional function as deictics in noun phrases (see §3.1.3); in this use they are glossed as ‘this’ and ‘that’, rather than as ‘here’ and ‘there’.

Temporal adverbs include all temporal words that are not nouns, and also some complex expressions.

Simple temporal adverbs:

<i>nshakansháā</i>	‘all day’
<i>nīnīū</i>	‘throughout the night’
<i>đanúđangwēé</i>	‘every once in a while’
<i>sabāđu</i>	‘Saturday’ (Sp. <i>sábado</i> )
<i>tnéé</i>	‘tomorrow’
<i>vítina</i>	‘today, now’
<i>đáā</i>	‘at that time’
<i>īđa</i>	‘day after tomorrow’
<i>ndushi</i>	‘next year’

Complex temporal adverb:

<i>niū</i>	<i>đáva</i>
at:night	half
around	midnight

General adverbs include manner words that are not stative verbs; they are simple or complex.

Simple:

<i>đáā</i>	‘so’ (so much)
<i>đāa</i> or <i>đuha</i>	‘thus’ (as shown or said)
<i>ñukúūn</i>	‘on purpose’
<i>kwāan</i>	‘without supports’
<i>đaa</i> or <i>đāna</i>	‘in vain’

Complex:

*sháku ngā*  
few just  
almost

There are two intensifying adverbs.

*yóō* 'very'  
*vīchī* 'very'

See §5.2 for stative verbs that also function as intensifying elements.

Interrogative adverbs are simple or complex; they occur in direct and indirect questions (see §§1.2.2 and 1.2.3).

Simple:

*ndēshu* or *nde* 'where?'  
*xānda* or *nānda* 'how?'

Complex:

*ndē ndáa*  
until ?  
up to where?, how far?, up to when?, how long?

See §3.4 for a description of interrogative noun phrases that function like interrogative adverbs.

## 5.6 Quantifiers

Quantifiers include both numerals and general quantifiers; both occur in quantifier phrases (see §4.1) and as pronominal elements in noun phrases (see §3.1.2); and general quantifiers occasionally occur as postverbal manner in verb phrases (see §2.1.3). Sometimes a noun nucleus is not expressed, in which case a quantifier appears to function as a noun; examples are found in 7.12–13, 7.18, and 7.21–7.22.

The simple numerals are:

*īñ* 'one'  
*úú* 'two'  
*úní* 'three'  
*kóôn* 'four'

<i>óhôn</i>	'five'
<i>íñú</i>	'six'
<i>úshâ</i>	'seven'
<i>únâ</i>	'eight'
<i>ñn</i>	'nine'
<i>úshî</i>	'ten'
<i>shánhûn</i>	'fifteen'
<i>ókô</i>	'twenty'
<i>díko</i>	'twenty' (as the nucleus of attributive numeral phrases)
<i>sientú</i>	'hundred' (Sp. <i>ciento</i> )
<i>mîl</i>	'thousand' (Sp. <i>mil</i> )

There are also definite numerals formed by combining *nin* or *n-* with a numeral.

<i>nduu</i>	'the two'
<i>ndruni</i>	'the three'
<i>nin óhon</i>	'the five'

General quantifiers include a number of less precise quantifying words. The most common ones are:

<i>nūúhû</i>	'all'
<i>ntakantúhu</i>	'every single one of many'
<i>túñê</i>	'several of many'
<i>ñdanditúhu</i>	'every single one of many'
<i>shaku</i>	'few'
<i>đaváhangā</i>	'whatever' (cf. <i>đāa</i> 'thus', <i>váhâ</i> 'good', <i>nga</i> 'just')
<i>ññāha</i>	'every'
<i>ñdōndoo</i>	'much, many'
<i>kwehé</i>	'much, many'
<i>īáhu</i>	'little, a little bit of'
<i>đava</i>	'half of, part of'
<i>ñđāa</i>	'all'
<i>ñdoko</i>	'all of'
<i>nshāka</i>	'all of'

Some quantifiers are restricted to certain nouns; for example, *nshāka* occurs only with words that pertain to days.

*nshāka* (*kāū*)  
 all:of (day)  
 all of one (day)

### 5.7 Prepositions

There are five simple prepositions and two complex prepositions.

Simple:

*shihin* 'with'  
*nde* 'until'  
*ḏō* 'toward'  
*méhñū* 'between, among'  
*nikandūū* 'around the circumference' (cf. *ndūū* 'around')

Complex:

*sha nde*  
 CMP until  
 up to  
*sha shēhe*  
 CMP foot  
 for, on account of, on behalf of

### 5.8 Conjunctions

Conjunctions link combinations of sentences in a coordinate or subordinate relationship (see §§6.1.1 and 6.2.1); they also link combinations of stative verb phrases (see §2.5) or noun phrases (see §3.8). Subordinate conjunctions may be simple or complex.

Coordinate conjunctions:

*te* 'and'  
*ko* 'but'  
*a* 'or'

<i>o</i>	'or' (Sp. <i>o</i> )
<i>ni</i>	'nor' (Sp. <i>ni</i> )

## Simple subordinate conjunctions:

<i>chi</i>	'because'
<i>nāni</i>	'while'
<i>xwini</i>	'even though'
<i>nadā</i>	'lest'
<i>nūū</i>	'if' (in an unreal condition)
<i>nūsha</i> or <i>nush</i>	'if' (cf. <i>nūū</i> 'if', <i>shá</i> 'CMP')
<i>na</i> or <i>nu</i>	'when' (with completive aspect)
<i>na</i>	'as'
<i>nani</i>	'as' (cf. <i>na</i> 'as', <i>ni</i> 'LIM')
<i>ora</i>	'when' (Sp. <i>hora</i> ) (with continuative aspect)
<i>dada</i>	'than'

## Complex subordinate conjunctions:

<i>ora</i>	<i>na</i>
when	when
when	(with potential aspect)
<i>sha</i>	<i>shéhe</i> <i>shá</i>
CMP	foot CMP
because	
<i>ndē</i>	<i>na</i>
until	when
until	
<i>kwēnda</i>	<i>kiū</i>
account	CON:enter
like, as	

The conjunction *na* 'when' also functions as a relative pronoun (see §3.1.3).



## 5.9 Markers

Markers include all words that form part of sentences or phrases but are not included in the parts of speech already described. They are verbal, nominal, numerical, general, or sentential.

Verbal markers are preverbal or postverbal. The preverbal markers are: directionals, habituals, plurals, completive aspect, negatives, temporal, and hortatory. The directionals are:

<i>ndi</i>	‘will return’
<i>ndī</i>	‘returns’
<i>ndí</i>	‘returned’
<i>xín</i>	‘will go (away)’
<i>shē</i>	‘goes (and returns)’
<i>n-shé</i>	‘went (and returned)’
<i>xwān</i>	‘went (away)’
<i>ki</i>	‘will come (and go)’
<i>kī</i>	‘comes (and goes)’
<i>n-kí</i>	‘came (and went)’
<i>vāsh</i>	‘is coming’
<i>nú</i>	‘will go home’

The habitual markers are:

<i>ku</i>	‘potential habitual’
<i>shko</i> or <i>shkā</i> or <i>sh</i>	‘continuative habitual’
<i>sho</i>	‘completive habitual’

The other preverbal markers are:

<i>sh</i>	‘plural’ (with continuative aspect)
<i>ka</i>	‘plural’ (with continuative and completive aspects)
<i>ūnū</i>	‘plural’ (with stative verbs)
<i>n-</i>	‘completive’
<i>mā</i>	‘not’ (with potential aspect)
<i>ñā</i>	‘not’ (with continuative and completive aspects)
<i>ta</i>	‘not yet’ (when combined with postverbal <i>ka</i> )

<i>na</i>	‘hortatory’
<i>shá</i>	‘about to, already’

The postverbal markers are:

<i>ñáha</i>	‘known object’
<i>nāhi</i>	‘intent’

See §§2.1.2, 2.1.3, 2.2, 2.3, and 2.5 for a discussion of how these markers are used in verb phrases.

Nominal markers occur as prenominal or postnominal elements in noun phrases; they are:

<i>di</i>	‘aunt’
<i>to</i>	‘uncle’
<i>ta</i>	‘father’
<i>ndi</i>	‘deceased’
<i>ka</i>	‘own’ (as his very own)
<i>de</i>	‘that’ (does not indicate contrast)
<i>mee</i>	‘same, self’
<i>diū</i>	‘the aforementioned’
<i>ndeḏaa</i>	‘which?’
<i>mayō</i>	‘not’
<i>ñayō</i>	‘not’
<i>du</i>	‘also’

Numerical markers occur as prenuclear elements in quantifier phrases (see §4.1).

<i>nīn</i> or <i>n-</i>	‘those’
<i>ndī</i>	‘in sets of’

General markers are the scope markers, the repetitive, one negative, and the affirmative.

<i>ka</i>	‘more’
<i>ni</i>	‘just’
<i>nga</i>	‘just, anyway’ (cf. <i>ni</i> ‘just’, <i>ka</i> ‘more’)

<i>koio</i>	‘plural’
<i>ntúku</i>	‘another, again’
<i>ñatū</i>	‘not’
<i>ñādu</i>	‘not’ (contrasts)
<i>ná</i>	‘affirmative’

Sentential markers are either sentence initial or sentence final. Sentence-initial markers are simple or complex.

Simple:

<i>ḏáā</i>	‘at that time’
<i>nūnsha</i>	‘according to what someone says’
<i>vāa</i>	‘probably’
<i>ḏiko</i>	‘only’ (excludes any other reason)

Complex:

<i>ḏāā</i>	<i>ni</i>	
thus	just	
in the same manner		
<i>ḏū</i>		<i>ni</i>
the:forementioned	just	
also, thus also		
<i>mēē</i>	<i>ni</i>	
SPEC	just	
only (excludes any other action)		
<i>shínxān</i>	<i>kūū</i>	<i>shá</i>
that:thing	CON:be	CMP
that is why		
<i>shaha</i>	<i>kuu</i>	<i>shá</i>
this:thing	CON:be	CMP
this is why		
<i>ḏáā</i>	<i>nga</i>	
thus	just	
always, and so, anyway		

*sha shēhe shinxán*  
 CMP foot that:thing  
 because of that

*sha shēhe sháha*  
 CMP foot this:thing  
 because of this

Some common sentence-final markers are:

*vi* 'then (logical), agreement'  
*ne* 'I repeat' (when not heard the first time)  
*ka* 'for proof of it'  
*nda* 'in conclusion'  
*a or u* 'interrogative'

The sentential marker *vaa* 'probably' can occur either sentence initial or sentence final.

See §§1.5 and 6.4 for examples of sentences containing some of these markers.

### 5.10 Interjections

Interjections are words used outside of sentences; they express emotions and acknowledgement in response to an act or statement. They are simple or complex.

Simple:

*ūn* 'oh, I heard what you said, but I doubt it.'  
*āsháā* 'shucks!'  
*xái* 'what did you say?'  
*ūun* 'response to a command one does not want to carry out'  
*xūn* 'see! It's just as I told you.'  
*xóôn* 'yes'  
*ñáhâ* 'no'  
*tnóō* 'what's wrong?'  
*áte* 'shucks!, pause form'

## Complex:

*ñáha nga*  
 NEG just  
 not much

*ǎǎ ní*  
 thus just  
 oh, is that right?

*ñahá ve*  
 NEG ?  
 nothing important

*vĩna nsha*  
 now COM:occur  
 accomplished

*nash nāni*  
 what CON:be:named  
 pause form

The two interjections glossed as pause forms occur medially when the speaker is considering what to say next.



## 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, and disjunction.

Coordinate sentences with *té* ‘and’ are relatively infrequent in Diuxi-Tilantongo Mixtec. The text in chapter seven, for example, contains no examples of this construction. When coordinate sentences with *té* occur, the first component sentence is central to the discourse context, and the sentences following *té* are usually peripheral to the discourse context.

*n-tnúndáha té / té xwáhán té*  
COM-marry he:ws and INC:go he:ws  
He married, and he went away.

*nditó ñá / té shó shitá ñá*  
CON:be:awake she and HAB CON:sing she  
She awakens, and she continually sings.

*ká'á ú'shí shtashéhé moró / té kwé'hé*  
 metal ten CON:dance moro:dancers and many

*ñá'yú n-kíshí*  
 people COM-come

ATTEN O'CLOCK the Moors (Sp. *moro*) were dancing, and MANY PEOPLE came (to see them).

*téyìi xán / kwaán ídí ðí'kí í / té ñútílu ðí'hé /*  
 man:ws that yellow hair head UN and earth:people female

*kwehé ídí ðí'kí í*  
 red hair head UN

As for those men, their hair is blond, and as for the “earth-people” women, their hair is red.

*kwé'hé ueltá kádá té / té kádá té víkó*  
 many time POT:do he:ws and POT:do he:ws fiesta

*kánhnú xuñú*  
 big:SG June

He will make (them) MANY TIMES (Sp. *vuelta*), and he will make them at the big fiesta in June (Sp. *junio*).

*n-kí'ú ñá'ñá kúralí ró / té n-shanhni tí*  
 COM-enter coyote corral our:IN and COM-kill it:AML

*tkáchi ró / té néhé tí ðn tkólelu luchí*  
 sheep our:IN and COM:carry it:AML one lamb small:SG

The coyote entered our corral (Sp. *corral*), and it killed our sheep, and it took a little lamb.

Two common leave-takings also fall into this pattern.

*ná xín dá / té kúí dá*  
 HORT POT:go I:RES and POT:come I:RES  
 Goodbye! (lit. Let me go, and I will come.)

*xwán-ñ / té kíí-ñ*  
 IMP:go-YOU:RES and POT:come-YOU:RES  
 Goodbye! (lit. Go, and come!)

Another use of *té* is seen in additive noun phrases in which the two parts form a conceptual unit (see the first example in §6.3 below). The same notion of pairing seems to underlie the use of *té* ‘and’, rather than *kó* ‘but’, in the following example, which forms part of an extended riddle.



*íó shé'hé dá / té ñá kwahá*  
 CON:exist foot my:RES and NEG CON:be:possible

*káká dá*  
 POT:walk I:RES  
 I have feet, and I can't walk.

The antithetical conjunction *kó* 'but' connects two sentences that express a contrast. This contrast is often shown by using a negative in one sentence but not in the other.

*n-shítá ñá / kó ñá n-tnáhíni dá*  
 COM-sing she but NEG COM-be:pleased I:RES  
 She sang, but I didn't like (it).

*íó éé'kí í nú'ú í yúhu í ndáha í shé'hé í /*  
 CON:exist head UN face UN mouth UN hand UN foot UN

*kó ñá túú éé'kí shé'hé í*  
 but NEG CON:be head foot UN  
 They (the "earth-people") have heads, faces, mouths, hands, (and) feet, but they don't have toes.

*n-kíshehé #n ká gerá kwentá kristianú /*  
 COM-begin one ADD war narrative Christian

*kó ñá'tú n-shí'hí té*  
 but NEG COM-die he:ws  
 Another war (Sp. *guerra*) in the narrative (Sp. *cuenta*) of the Christians (Sp. *cristiano*) began, but they did not die (were not killed).

Usually the positive side of the contrast occurs first, but occasionally the negative side occurs first.

*ñá túú éí'tá vítná / kó tné'é / chí kóó*  
 NEG CON:be tortilla now but tomorrow because POT:exist  
 There aren't (any) tortillas now, but TOMORROW indeed there will be.

Sometimes no negative occurs.

*yá'hú tnú ó'kó ú'shí peshú / kó vilí káá tnú*  
 CON:cost it:WOD twenty ten peso but pretty CON:appear it:WOD  
 It costs thirty pesos (Sp. *peso*), but it's pretty. (The table is expensive, but it's nice; let's take it.)

*luchí í / kó kídá í tríú*  
 small:SG UN but CON:do UN work

She's little (only six years old), but she (can) do chores.

The second part of an antithetical sentence is sometimes not a complete sentence; it is possible to omit information that can be inferred from the first part.

*ni'hí dá / kó úáhú ní tríú nú'ní*  
 CON:gain I:RES but a:little LIM wheat corn

I gain (a crop), but only a little wheat (Sp. *trigo*) (and) corn.

*káá ró kú'nú / kó vúná / chí ñá'há*  
 POT:eat we:I meat but now because NEG

We will eat meat (when Holy Week is over), but indeed not now.

*ndíshí í / kó ndé kwiá ká /*  
 POT:return:coming UN but until year ADD

*ndé náka.a ká í shkwelá*  
 until POT:walk:again ADD UN school

He will return (home), but not until more years have passed, not until he has gone to school (Sp. *escuela*) more. (lit. He will return, but until more years, until he walks more to school.)

Disjunction is expressed by the conjunction *á* 'or'. This conjunction is rare, and I have found no examples in text material where it serves as a link between two statements that together make up a compound sentence. It does occur, however, between the two parts of disjunctive questions. In the examples I have found, the two sentences either contain the same verb, or the second sentence consists of the fixed expression *á ñá'há* 'or not'.

*machú ká-ń / á machú ká-ř á*  
 male ADD-YOU:FAM:MS OR male ADD-I:FAM INT

Are you more of a man (Sp. *macho*), or am I more of a man?

*tá'hndé-ń / á tá'hndé-ř á*  
 POT:jump-YOU:FAM:MS OR POT:jump-I:FAM INT

Will you jump, or shall I jump?

*kíshí ñá / á ñá'há*  
 POT:come she OR NEG

Will she come or not?

*shaní í'nú-ń shá kishí yá / á ñá'há*  
 CON:stand insides-YOU:FAM:MS CMP POT:come DEI OR NEG

Do you think He will come or not?

(See also 7.11 and 7.77.)

It is possible to form an indirect disjunctive question by using the conjunction *nú* 'if' as a complementizer.

*ñá shiní dá nú xahán ndá'á ñá / á ñá'há*  
 NEG CON:know I:RES if CON:speak true she or NEG  
 I don't know if she is speaking truthfully or not.

*ná xán ndukú-ř nú nání'hí-ř / á ñá'há*  
 HORT POT:go POT:look:for-I:FAM if POT:find-I:FAM or NEG  
 Let me go look (and see) if I can find it or not.

**6.1.2 Coordinate relations without conjunctions.** It is possible to simply juxtapose two (or rarely three) independent sentences that share the same verb aspect, often with a slight pause at the boundaries. This construction is used only to link sentences that are closely related in the mind of the speaker.

In one important subtype, the sentences refer to the same event and thus show a restatement relation. The use of more than one sentence to describe an event serves to highlight it in the discourse. Sometimes the same verb is used in both parts of the sentence.

*ni'hí dá / ni'hí dá / (kó úáhú ní triú nú'ní)*  
 CON:gain I:RES CON:gain I:RES (but a:little LIM wheat corn)  
 I gain; I gain, (but only a little wheat [and] corn).

*ió yó'ó / ió yó'ó víkó íí*  
 CON:exist moon CON:exist moon fiesta holy  
 There is a moon; there is a moon during Holy Week.

*xwáhán / xwáhán*  
 IMP:go IMP:go  
 Go on!

*n-yá'há víkó íí / n-yá'há ú'shá pasioón xesús*  
 COM-pass fiesta holy COM-pass seven passion Jesus  
 Holy Week passed; the seven sufferings (Sp. *pasión*) of Jesus (Sp. *Jesús*) passed.

*xwéén ró ñí'í / xwéén ró íín aruá*  
 POT:buy we:IN salt POT:buy we:IN one measure

*yá'hú ó'hón kándodó kó'ón*  
 CON:cost five POT:carry four

We'll buy salt; we'll buy a measure (Sp. *arroba*) (of salt) that costs \$5.50. (lit. five pesos carrying four bits)

Occasionally the complementizer *shá* occurs between the two parts.

*xúnehe í / shá xúnehe í*  
 CON:have:diarrhea UN CMP CON:have:diarrhea UN  
 She has more and more diarrhea.

Sometimes the verbs are different, or one is the negative counterpart of the other.

*ñá kándá vá'há / ñá túú ká chudí'ní kánhrú*  
 NEG visible good NEG CON:be ADD star big:SG  
 There isn't enough light; the planet is no longer (shining).

*ná kóó shá má'ní / mash'kú kóó pletú*  
 HORT POT:exist it:INAN love NEG:HORT POT:exist quarrel  
 Let there be peace; let there not be quarreling (Sp. *pleito*)!

*kéé té ðeklarasioón / xahán té shá ñá'há*  
 CON:leave he:ws declaration CON:speak he:ws CMP NEG  
 He makes a declaration (Sp. *declaración*); he says that it isn't so (the accusation made before the judge).

*n-kinéhé té íín karíl / íín liñá ndá'á*  
 COM-take:out he:ws one track one line straight

*n-shantuu énxíñerú*  
 COM-place engineer

He made a track (Sp. *carril*); A STRAIGHT LINE (Sp. *línea*) the engineer (Sp. *ingeniero*) laid out.

Sometimes the verb of the first sentence is a motion verb, and the second sentence contains the corresponding directional, in which case the directional agrees with the first verb in aspect, and the main verb of the second sentence is in potential aspect. Note that the semantic relationship between the two sentences is restatement, and the relationship between the directional and the verb nucleus of the second sentence is purpose.

*xí'hín ró / xín ndehá ró*  
 POT:go we:IN POT:go POT:look:at we:IN  
 We'll go; we'll go see.

*xí'hín dá / xín núkáte dá dánhma dá'hyá dá*  
 POT:go I:RES POT:go POT:wash I:RES cloth child my:RES  
 I will go (to the river); I'll go to wash my children's clothes.

*n-shehén té / n-shé ndehá té núndúa*  
 COM-go he:WS COM-go POT:look:at he:WS Oaxaca:City  
 He went; he went to see Oaxaca City.

In the next two examples, the directional is *n*, the reduced form of *xín* 'to go (potential)' that precedes a stem with initial *k* or *x*.

*xí'hín ró / n xéhén ró ú'shí ú'ú yútnú indí'yé*  
 POT:go we:IN POT:go POT:carry we:IN ten two tree rafter  
*véhé ró*  
 house our:IN

We'll go; we'll go bring the twelve poles (we will use for) the rafters of our house.<sup>4</sup>

*xí'hín ró / n ká'hndé ró ndáhá yáú / shá*  
 POT:go we:IN POT:go POT:cut we:IN hand maguery it:INAN  
*kinéhé ró pédasú / shá kúdu'kú yútnú*  
 POT:take:out we:IN piece it:INAN POT:be:tied tree

*shihín náha tnúyú'tú ínxán*  
 with rib maguery:stalk over:there  
 We'll go; we'll go cut maguery (century plant) leaves, the ones from which we will tear off pieces (Sp. *pedazo*), the ones with which the lengths of maguery stalk will be tied to those poles (of the rafters).<sup>5</sup>

In the following example, the focused subject serves for both parts.

<sup>4</sup>The form *xéhén* appears to be a special potential-aspect form of *néhé* 'to carry' that occurs following directionals (see §2.1.2).

<sup>5</sup>This sentence has a second reading, in which both instances of *shá* function as conjunctions that introduce subordinate purpose sentences (see §6.2.1 below); the free translation for the purpose reading is: 'We'll go; we'll go cut maguery leaves in order that we may tear off pieces in order that the lengths of maguery stalk may be tied to those poles.'

*mée n̄á xwáhán / xwán xéhén ndúté*  
 SPEC she INC:GO INC:GO POT:carry water  
 SHE went; SHE went to get water.

In the following example, a restatement sentence occurs as the second part of a coordinate sentence.

*n-shé xéhén dá shá'tnú / té n-shehén dá / n-shé*  
 COM-go POT:carry I:RES trunk and COM-go I:RES COM-go  
*núnéhé dá*  
 POT:carry:again I:RES

I went to bring the boxes (home), and I went; I went to return (them to the church).

In the following example, a restatement sentence occurs as the subject complement of *ndoñúhú* 'to be necessary'.

*ndoñúhú shá xí'hín ró / n xéhén*  
 CON:be:necessary CMP POT:go WE:IN POT:go POT:carry  
*ró ndúté*  
 WE:IN water

It is necessary that we go; we go to get water.

In the following example, a restatement sentence occurs as the second part of another restatement sentence.

*kée tí / shehén tí / shé ndukú*  
 CON:leave it:AML CON:go it:AML CON:go POT:look:for  
*tí shá káshí tí*  
 it:AML it:INAN POT:eat it:AML

It leaves; it goes; it goes to look for something to eat.

In other juxtaposed coordinate sentences, the component sentences describe different, but closely related, events. Sometimes the relationship is primarily temporal because the actions are simultaneous or occur in close sequence. In many of these sentences, the subjects are coreferential, but they need not be. Sometimes, however, the relationship between the component sentences is primarily logical in that each describes a part of some conceptual whole. In these sentences, the subjects are usually non-coreferential.

With coreferential subjects:

*tnúé té nduté ñú'á / shoóó té íí*  
 CON:grasp he:ws water wax CON:pour he:ws candle  
 He takes the liquid wax, (and) he pours (it) over the candles.

*shínxán kí'ú dá / ndváha dá*  
 that:thing CON:enter I:RES CON:become:good I:RES  
 I enter THAT, (and) I am healed.

*shitá í / shtashéhé í*  
 CON:sing UN CON:dance UN  
 They sing, (and) they dance.

*xé'hín ró / ní'hí ró ñú'ú íí*  
 POT:go we:IN POT:gain we:IN palm holy  
 We go, (and) we get the blessed palm.

*kíshí tí / káshí tí tkáchi ró*  
 POT:come it:AML POT:eat it:AML sheep our:IN  
 It (the coyote) will come, (and) it will eat our sheep.

*n-sheé ní'pé / núndee í tá'á í*  
 COM-arrive Philip:ws COM:hug UN father UN  
 Philip arrived, (and) he hugged his father.

*násheé yá / shiá'hán yá shá káshí dt'hé yá*  
 COM:arrive DEI CON:speak DEI CMP POT:eat mother DEI  
 They arrived, (and) they told their mother to eat (it).

*xé'hín-ñ / xínéhé-ñ shá káshí tá'á-ñ*  
 POT:go-you:RES POT:take-you:RES it:INAN POT:eat father-your:RES  
 Go, (and) take that which your father will eat!

*kinéhé tí ndáhá tí / tnúé tí /*  
 CON:take:out it:AML hand its:AML CON:grasp it:AML

*shashí tí*  
 CON:eat it:AML

It (the squirrel) puts out its paw, (and) takes (it [the peanut], and) eats (it).

With noncoreferential subjects:

*kúníní / ná náxani-ř kwentú*  
 POT:listen HORT POT:relate-I:FAM story  
 Listen, (and) let me tell (you) the story (Sp. *cuento*)!

*shá n-shíó dá'hyá ñá / dadá n-tnúndáha ñá*  
 already COM-exist child her then COM-marry she  
 She already had children, (and) then she was married. (lit. Her children already existed; THEN she was married.)

*íñ-s kwikó yú'té / íñ-s daká ndé'hyú*  
 one-he:MS POT:make:a:turn river one-he:MS POT:mix mud  
 ONE OF THEM will carry water, (and) ONE OF THEM will mix the mud.

*kándé ká'á / kahndé tirú*  
 POT:sound metal POT:explode fireworks  
 The bell will ring, (and) the fireworks (Sp. *tiro*) will explode. (to signal the beginning of the fiesta)

*ínxán tíú musiká / vá'shí meshá*  
 over:there CON:play band:member INC:come table  
 THERE the band (Sp. *música*) plays, (and) the table (Sp. *mesa*) comes. (a new table bought by the people of the town for the church)

In the following three-part example, the first two parts describe two closely related events, which together enter into a restatement relationship with the third part.

*íó shá nánhnú / íó shá kwechí /*  
 CON:exist it:INAN big:PL CON:exist it:INAN small:PL

*ndaá shá íó*  
 all it:INAN CON:exist

There are big ones; there are small ones; ALL THESE there are.

In the following example, the relationships are more complex. Four sentences together constitute the object complement of *xahán* 'to speak'. The first of the four sentences appears to be in a restatement relation with the last three, and the second one appears to be in a restatement relation with the last two, which are closely related events.

*xahán ñá shá dúhá káá shé'hé í / íó*  
 CON:speak she CMP thus CON:appear foot UN CON:exist

*kwadradú shé'hé í / ñá túú shédéyu í /*  
 squared foot UN NEG CON:be ankle UN

*ñá túú dí'kí shé'hé í*  
 NEG CON:be head foot UN

She says that their feet are like this: they are squared (Sp. *cuadrado*); they don't have ankles; they don't have toes.



In the following example, a juxtaposed coordinate sentence with coreferential subjects occurs as the object complement of *xahán* 'to speak'.

*xahán*    *í*    *shá*    *xí'hín*    *í*    *ó'hón*    *kwiá* /  
 CON:speak UN CMP POT:go UN five year

*kutúú*    *í*    *ñúkóhyo*  
 POT:be UN Mexico:City

He says that he will go for five years, (and) he will live in Mexico City.

There is also a highly restricted juxtaposed coordinate construction that involves two verbs of existence and a shared noun phrase.<sup>6</sup> In the following examples, the solidus that signals the break between the two parts is arbitrarily placed after the shared noun phrase.

*ñá*    *túú*    *káféé* / *íó*  
 NEG CON:be coffee CON:exist  
 There is no coffee (Sp. *café*).

*ñá*    *túú*    *ndúté* / *íó*  
 NEG CON:be water CON:exist  
 There is no water.

*ñá*    *túú*    *násh* / *íó*  
 NEG CON:be what CON:exist  
 There isn't anything.

*ñá*    *yó'ó*    *prinsesá*    *xán* / *túú*  
 NEG CON:exist princess that CON:be  
 That princess (Sp. *princesa*) is not here.

Sometimes this construction contains other elements, such as a peripheral location, as seen in the following examples.

*ñá*    *túú*    *tá*    *yáhá* / *íó*    *ñú'ú*    *ró*  
 NEG CON:be it:flower here CON:exist town OUR:IN  
 There are none of this (kind of) flower in our town.

*ñá*    *túú*    *ná*    *mólinú* / *íó*    *yáhá*  
 NEG CON:be what mill CON:exist here  
 There aren't any flour mills (Sp. *molino*) here.

<sup>6</sup>It would also be possible to analyze examples of this construction as simple sentences in which the first element is a noun phrase containing a negative quantifier *ñá'tú*, *ñáyó*, or *máyó* 'no'.

## 6.2 Subordinate Relations

Subordinate relations are usually expressed by using conjunctions, but some relations may be expressed by simple juxtaposition.

**6.2.1 Subordinate relations with conjunctions.** Conjunctions are used to express cause, condition, concession, purpose, negative purpose, simultaneous action, and comparison.

Cause sentences are introduced by the conjunction *chí* 'because', or simply by the complementizer *shá* with the extended meaning 'because'. Cause sentences usually follow the main sentence. The following examples show cause sentences with *chí*.

*xí'hín tí yúkú vítná /*  
 POT:go it:AML mountain now

*chí ñá túú shá káshí tí*  
 because NEG CON:be it:INAN POT:eat it:AML

They (the oxen) will go to the mountain (pastures) now because there isn't anything for them to eat (here).

*ínxán kóǎó kóyó té ngútú / chí*  
 over:there POT:ride PL he:WS ox because

*víkó karnavaál kúú*  
 fiesta Carnival CON:be

OVER THERE they will ride the bulls because it is Carnival (Sp. *carnaval*) (pre-Lenten celebration).

*vété kúú-ř / chí shá kúyátní kí'ú*  
 happy CON:be-I:FAM because already CON:be:near day

*nú'hú ró*  
 POT:return:going we:IN

I'm happy because already the day is near that we will go back (home).

*ná kúndoo trúú / chí ndíkó ró*  
 HORT POT:be:clean wheat because POT:grind we:IN

Let the wheat be clean because we are going to grind (it).

Sometimes two or more subordinate sentences introduced by *chí* 'because' occur in the same sentence. In most cases a *chí* sentence that follows another one depends on the preceding subordinate sentence, rather than the main sentence.

*vúná vá'há tiempú n-sheé dá'ú / chí yó*  
 now good time COM-arrive rain because INTS

*kúndáhu ró yáhá / chí ñá túú ndúté*  
 CON:be:poor we:IN here because NEG CON:be water  
 NOW IN GOOD TIME (Sp. *tiempo*) the rain has arrived because we are  
 very poor here because there is no water.

*pí'ná ñá tnáhíni / chí shiá'hán ñá shá ñúhú*  
 Pina NEG CON:be:pleased because CON:speak she CMP land

*mée ñá kúú / chí ñúhú tá'á ñá kúú*  
 SPEC her CON:be because land father her CON:be  
 PINA (Sp. *Agripina*) isn't pleased because she says that it is her land  
 because it was her father's land.

In the next example, there are three *chí* sentences. The third one seems to depend on the second one, while the first and second ones both seem to depend on the main sentence.

*kúduhíni dá / chí shínxán ni'hí ró*  
 CON:be:happy I:RES because that:thing POT:gain we:IN

*shá káá ró / chí dá'ú xán dadá túú*  
 it:INAN POT:eat we:IN because rain that then CON:be

*ró / chí yáhá kúú ñúhú yichí*  
 we:IN because here CON:be land CON:be:dry

I am happy because WITH THAT (RAIN) we will get that which we will eat because WITH THAT RAIN THEN, we live because HERE it is dry land.

Occasionally the *chí* sentence precedes the main sentence.

*chí íó yó'ó / mash'kú yuhú*  
 because CON:exist moon NEG:HORT POT:be:afraid  
 Because there is a moon, don't be afraid!

The following examples show cause sentences with *shá*; in two of these sentences the word *shá* also occurs in another use, namely, as part of the complex preposition *shá shé'hé* 'on behalf of' or 'on account of'.

*n-shó ndító dá / shá nda'hí í*  
 COM-HAB be:awake I:RES CMP CON:cry UN  
 I was awake because he (the baby) was crying.

*n-kí'ú*    *ñá'ñá kúralí ró* / *té*    *n-shanhní tí*  
 COM-enter coyote corral our:IN and COM-kill it:AML

*tkáchì ró* / *té*    *néhé*    *tí*    *ñn*    *tkólelu luchi*  
 sheep our:IN and COM:carry it:AML one lamb small:SG

*shá*    *shé'hé kwéchéi okeí dé*    *shihín parís dé* /  
 CMP foot fault Okay that:near with Paris that:near

*shá*    *ñá*    *n-shó*    *ndi'xún tí*  
 CMP NEG COM-HAB be:tied it:AML

The coyote entered our corral, and it killed our sheep, and it took a little lamb on account of the fault of that Okay (Sp. *okay*, English *okay*) and that Paris (Sp. *París*) (the dogs) because they weren't tied up (at the corral).

*tnáu'híní*    *dá*    *shá*    *shé'hé í* / *shá*    *ñá'tú*    *n-shó*    *túú*  
 CON:be:sad I:RES CMP foot UN CMP NEG COM-HAB be

*í*    *ñúñá'yúu*  
 UN world

I am sad on her account because she did not live in the world. (the baby lived only a month)

Occasionally the sentence introduced by *shá* precedes the main sentence, in which case *té* 'and' may introduce the main sentence. In the following example, the first instance of *shá* functions as a conjunction, and the second one forms part of a repetitive stative verb phrase (see §2.4).

*mée*    *ñá*    *shá*    *kuhú*    *ñá* / *té*    *kóhyo*    *shá*    *kóhyo*    *shitá*    *ñá*  
 SPEC she CMP CON:be:sick she and sad CMP sad CON:sing she  
 AS FOR HER, because she is sick, SADLY, SADLY she sings.

Simple condition sentences are introduced by the conjunctions *nushá* (or *núsh*) and *nú*, both of which mean 'if'. Subordinate sentences with *nushá* or *núsh* may precede or follow the main sentence.

*xánñáhá té / nushá má xú'ñáha dá shá*  
 POT:hit he:WS if NEG POT:give I:RES it:INAN

*káshéini kóyó dá'hyá dá*  
 POT:eat:supper PL child my:RES  
 He will hit me if I don't give my children their supper.

*ndoñúhú ró ú'shá ðosená náha /*  
 CON:need we:IN seven dozen rib

*nushá ndíhi ní'hí ró*  
 if POT:be:finished POT:gain we:IN  
 We need seven dozen (Sp. *docena*) ribs (of maguey stalk) if we finish getting (all we will need).

*xú'ñáha-ñ shá ñíhi n-kí'ú-ñ /*  
 POT:say-you:RES CMP sweatbath COM-enter-you:RES

*núsh xú'ndú shi'xán tnú'hú ñáha*  
 if who CON:ask word KNO  
 Say you entered THE SWEATBATH if ANYONE asks you.

*núsh xwíni ró / kánéhé ró siyá nánhnú dává*  
 if CON:want we:IN POT:carry we:IN chair big:PL fraction

*ðosená té dává ðosená siyá kwechí*  
 dozen and fraction dozen chair small:PL  
 If we want to, we can take a half dozen big chairs (Sp. *silla*) and a half dozen small chairs.

*núsh ñá ní'hí ró / té ndú ró /*  
 if NEG CON:gain we:IN and COM:return:coming we:IN

*té kishí té véhé ró*  
 and POT:come he:WS house our:IN  
 If we don't get (the blessed palm), and we return home (without it), he will come to our house (with it).

Subordinate sentences introduced by *nú* are less frequent; in the present data they only precede the main sentence.

*nú yó machú-ñ / xwán ká'á /*  
 if INTS male-you:FAM:MS IMP:go POT:climb

*tavá-ñ ndí'ú ntá'dú*  
 POT:take:out-you:FAM:MS egg eagle  
 If you're so much of a man, climb up (and) take the eagle's egg!

There are two ways of expressing a contrafactual condition. In one way, the subordinate sentence is introduced by *nushá* or *núsh* 'if', and it is closed by *n-kúú* 'to be (completive)'. The *n-kúú* serves as the main verb of the subordinate sentence, and the rest of the subordinate sentence functions as a subject complement. The main sentence follows the subordinate sentence, and it is introduced by *té* 'and'.

*nushá ndoñúhú ñáha xéró 'ñú n-kúú / té*  
if CON:need KNO Jerry COM-be and

*xahán dá shá ná nú 'hú-ñ*  
POT:speak I:RES CMP HORT POT:return:going-you:RES  
If it were that Jerry (Sp. *Gerónimo*) needs you, then I would tell you to go.

*nushá ndoñúhú ñáha xéró 'ñú n-kúú / té*  
if COM:need KNO Jerry COM-be and

*n-xahán dá shá xwán nú 'hú-ñ*  
COM-speak I:RES CMP IMP:go POT:return:going-you:RES  
If Jerry had needed you, I would have told you to go.

In the second way, the subordinate sentence is introduced by *nushá* 'if', and its verb is in completive aspect. The main sentence follows the subordinate sentence, it is not introduced by *té* 'and', and its verb must either be in potential aspect, or it must be the verb *íó* 'to exist' in continuative aspect.

*nushá n-kótó yá 'tá chilidáá / má kááá tnú vá 'há ró*  
if COM-turn back bird NEG POT:do work good we:IN  
If the bird had turned its back to us, we wouldn't work well.

*nushá n-shánhnú xwán / íó í shá 'hún kwiá vítná*  
if COM-be:mature John CON:exist UN fifteen year now  
If John (Sp. *Juan*) had lived, he would be fifteen years old now.

Concession sentences are introduced by the conjunction *xwiní* 'although', and they usually precede the main sentence, in which case *kó* 'but' introduces the main sentence.

*xwiní yá 'hú tnú / kó meshá vá 'há kúú tnú*  
although CON:cost it:WOD but table good CON:be it:WOD  
Even though it costs (is expensive), it's a good table. (so let's take it)

*xwini ú'hú / kó dáhá kí'kú dá*  
 although difficult but thus CON:sew I:RES  
 Even though (it) is difficult, that's the way I sew.

*xwini kwé'hé vidá yá'há dá / shá túú dá*  
 although many life CON:pass I:RES CMP CON:be I:RES

*yúkú / kó ni'hí dá shá káá dá*  
 mountain but CON:gain I:RES it:INAN POT:eat I:RES  
 Even though I suffer because I live in the mountains (backwoods), I  
 make a living. (lit. Even though I pass through MUCH LIFE [Sp. *vida*]  
 because I live in the mountains, but I gain that which I will eat.)

Sometimes the material that follows *xwini* is less than a full sentence  
 because it is possible to omit information that can be inferred from  
 context.

*xwini kwé'hé tvini / kó dá xwini dá*  
 although many money but thus CON:want I:RES

*shá káá dá ñn mishá*  
 CMP POT:do I:RES one mass  
 Even though (it's) a lot of money (Sp. *tomín*), I want to have a mass  
 (Sp. *misa*) said.

*xwini ndé dá'hyá kwechí tá kakú ká /*  
 although until child small:PL not:yet POT:be:born ADD

*kó naxini í shá shínxán n-kidá defenderí*  
 but POT:recognize UN CMP that:thing COM-do defend

*salvadoór shíhín sílvés'tré shíhín pabló*  
 Salvador with Silvester with Paul  
 Even though children not yet born (don't exist), they will recognize  
 that IN THAT WAY Salvador (Sp. *Salvador*) and Silvester (Sp. *Silvestre*)  
 and Paul (Sp. *Pablo*) defended (Sp. *defender*) (their rights).

Sometimes a concession sentence will be embedded within another sub-  
 ordinate sentence; in the following example the first concession sentence  
 modifies the main sentence, and the second one modifies a cause sentence  
 that in turn modifies the main sentence.

*xwiní dá'hyá té / kó ñá tnáhíní té / chí*  
 although child his:ws but NEG CON:be:pleased he:ws because

*xwiní kúndáhu té / kó ñá'tú ðuhú té*  
 although CON:be:poor he:ws but NEG CON:steal he:ws

Even though (it is) his daughter (that is being tortured), he does not like it (that she is a criminal and will not defend her), because even though he is poor, he doesn't steal.

When the concession sentence is not focused, *kó* 'but' does not occur.

*ná ka'xán ñú'hú nahí ró / xwiní n-kúneé*  
 HORT POT:spread:out fire INTENT we:IN although COM-be:night  
 Let's go on building up the fire even though it is night.

Purpose sentences are sometimes introduced by the complementizer *shá*, which functions as a conjunction meaning 'in order that'. The verb of the purpose sentence must be in potential aspect, and the sentence sometimes contains the preverbal marker *ná* 'hortatory' (see §2.1.2). (The complementizer *shá* also sometimes means 'because', but the two uses can be distinguished by aspect restrictions: a subordinate cause sentence with *shá* never occurs in potential aspect.)

*kinéhé dá tvíní / shá xí'hín dá yá'hú*  
 CON:take:out I:RES money CMP POT:go I:RES market

I get (from my hard work) money in order that I (can) go to market.

*chiyá'hú dá yá ú'ú sientú /*  
 POT:pay I:RES DEI two hundred

*shá ndááá kánhnú yá santú*  
 CMP POT:do:again big:SG DEI saint

I will pay the priest two hundred (Sp. *ciento*) (pesos) in order that he may celebrate (the fiesta of) the saint (Sp. *santo*).

*n-sheén dá ñú'á / té n-dándaá dá ítí /*  
 COM-buy I:RES wax and COM-make I:RES candle

*shá káká dá véñu'hú yarné'shí shihín dómingú*  
 CMP POT:walk I:RES church Friday with Sunday

I bought beeswax, and I made candles in order that I might go to church Fridays (Sp. *viernes*) and Sundays (Sp. *domingo*) (for a year).



ágotó shá íó ndídi í'tú dá /  
 August already CON:EXIST sweet:corn field my:RES

shá káshí dá'hyá dá  
 CMP POT:eat child my:RES

IN AUGUST (Sp. agosto) there is already sweet corn in my fields in order that my children may eat (it).

ó'hón mushú dá kídá tniú shíhín dá /  
 five hired:hand my:RES CON:DO work with me:RES

shá dákee dá shíhín-s í'tú dá  
 CMP POT:harvest I:RES with-him:MS field my:RES

MY FIVE HIRED HANDS (Sp. mozo) work with me in order that with them I may harvest my fields.

néhé ká ñá í / shá ná ndó'yó vá'há ká í  
 CON:carry ADD she UN CMP HORT POT:be:wet good ADD UN  
 She carries it (the baby) further (in the rain) in order that it may get good and wet. (being baptized by the rain)

xí'hín té shíhín radiú / shá ná xúñáha té  
 POT:go he:WS with radio CMP HORT POT:give he:WS

radiú xúshishiá  
 radio authority

He will go with the radio (Sp. radio) in order that he may give the radio to the authorities (Sp. justicia).

nlí'pé túndaha ñn telegramá nú'ú tá'á í shíhín dí'hé  
 Philip:WS CON:send one telegram face father UN with mother

í / shá ná kúndetu té nú'ú ndíshí treén  
 UN CMP HORT POT:wait he:WS face POT:return:coming train  
 PHILIP sends a telegram (Sp. telegrama) to his father and his mother in order that they will be waiting (for him) at the train (Sp. tren) station.

n-shó shí'xán níhná té / shá ná kóó shá  
 COM-HAB CON:ask ? he:WS CMP HORT POT:EXIST it:INAN

má'ní / mash'kú kóó pleú  
 love NEG:HORT POT:EXIST quarrel

He was continually asking (their help) in order that there might be peace in order that there might not be quarreling.

(See also 7.5.)

Purpose is also expressed without the use of a conjunction, as described in §6.2.2. Such a purpose sentence occurs at the end of the last example above, following the purpose sentence introduced by *shá*.

Negative purpose sentences are introduced by the conjunction *ná'ḍá* 'lest', and the verb must be in potential aspect.

*tétní'té í'hína / ná'ḍá kishí té /*  
 POT:tie:up dog lest POT:come it:AML

*káshí té tkáchi ró*  
 POT:eat it:AML sheep OUR:IN

Tie up the dogs lest it (the coyote) come, (and) it eat our sheep.

*ná kúndí'xún vá'há té / ná'ḍá kúnú okeí ḍé*  
 HORT POT:be:tied good it:AML lest POT:flee Okay that  
 Let them (the dogs) be well tied lest that Okay run away.

*ñúnú'ú í / ná'ḍá káshí té tríú*  
 CON:care:for UN lest POT:eat it:AML wheat  
 He is herding lest they (the sheep) eat the wheat.

*mée ḍá kánéhé ḍí'tá kóhó káḍí ndúté / ná*  
 SPEC I:RES POT:carry tortilla plate spoon water HORT

*kóhó mushú ḍá / ná'ḍá yí'chí té ndúté*  
 POT:drink hired:hand my:RES lest POT:thirst he:ws water  
 I will carry the tortillas, the plates, the spoons, (and) the water in  
 order that my hired-hands may drink lest they thirst for water.

Negative purpose is also expressed without the use of a conjunction, as described in §6.2.2.

Simultaneous action sentences are introduced by the conjunction *níní* 'while'. When a simultaneous action sentence introduced by *níní* precedes the main sentence, *té* 'and' introduces the main sentence.

*ná kwíáó ḍá yútnú / níní nayichí*  
 HORT POT:carry I:RES tree while CON:be:dry:again

Let me carry poles, while they (the adobes) are drying (on the other side).

*níní ḍá nakuyichí ñíñí ḍá / té ndukú*  
 while thus CON:be:dry:again corn:ear my:RES and POT:look:for

*ḍá mushú ná ḍákoyó ñíñí ḍá*  
 I:RES hired:hand HORT POT:shell corn:ear my:RES

While the harvested corn is drying, I will look for hired hands in order that (they) can shell my corn.

Another kind of subordinate time sentence is introduced by *ndé ná* ‘until’.

*kááá kumplirí té kúkúú té musiká /*  
 POT:do complete he:ws POT:be he:ws band:member

*ndé ná kú'ú té*  
 until when POT:die he:ws

He will fulfill (Sp. *cumplir*) (his job as) a member of the town band until he dies.

Other subordinate time sentences are introduced by the conjunctions *ná*, *orá* (Sp. *hora*), and *nú*, all of which mean ‘when’. All may precede the main sentence, and those with *ná* or *orá* may follow the main sentence as well. In the present data, *té* ‘and’ may introduce a main sentence following a subordinate sentence with *orá*, and *ááá* ‘then’ may introduce a main sentence following a subordinate sentence with *ná*.

With *ná*:

*ná yó kwaá / násheé ró*  
 when INTS blind POT:arrive we:IN  
 When it is very dark, we will arrive (at home).

*ndónéhé áá / ná yí'chí vá'há*  
 POT:lift:up I:RES when CON:be:dry good  
 I will lift up (the adobe bricks) when (they) are well dried.

*ná sheé ú'ná k'ú / áómingú pashkwá /*  
 when POT:arrive eight day Sunday Easter

*shínókava víkó íí*  
 POT:be:complete fiesta holy

In eight days, on Easter (Sp. *pascua*) Sunday, Holy Week is finished.

*ná nsheé áá ó'kó mayú / ááá / kóóó*  
 when POT:arrive I:RES twenty May that:time POT:pour

*áá íí / shá ndúkánhnú santú yó'ó xuñú*  
 I:RES candle it:INAN POT:become:big saint moon June

When it's May (Sp. *mayo*) 20th, that day, I will dip candles, the ones that celebrate the images in the month of June.

*ná kishí dá'ú ndehé / ndoñúhú ró ñn*  
 when POT:come rain strong CON:need we:IN one

*đichí luchí xũñáha ró ñú'ú ú / ná*  
 unmarried:person small:SG POT:give we:IN palm holy HORT

*tnú'ú í / mash'kú kishí dá'ú ndehé*  
 POT:light UN NEG:HORT POT:come rain strong

When the heavy rains come, we need a little girl to whom to give the blessed palm in order that she may light (it) in order that the heavy rains will not come.

*íó í ú'shí kwiá / ná n-kéé í véhé dá*  
 CON:exist UN ten year when COM-leave UN house my:RES  
 He was ten years old when he left home.

*té inxán n-đákwahá musiká / ná kwechí í*  
 he:ws over:there COM-learn music when small:PL UN  
 THOSE MEN learned music (began to play in the town band) when they were young.

*íó ó'kó ú'ú kwiá / ná n-shó kúú dá kwechí*  
 CON:exist twenty two year when COM-HAB be I:RES small:PL  
 That was twenty-two years ago when we were young.

*ná tú'ú kí'ú ú'shí ñn sétiembré /*  
 when CON:dawn day ten one September

*đadá xwándishí kamiá ndé véhé té đúú'shí*  
 then INC:return:coming cot until house his:ws Diuxi  
 When it was dawning on the eleventh of September (Sp. *septiembre*), THEN the stretcher (Sp. *camilla*) was returning (was being carried) to his house in Diuxi.

With *orá*:

*ténee ró yá yéhé ró / mash'kú kíkúú*  
 POT:lean we:IN DEI door OUR:IN NEG:HORT POT:enter

*tá'chí véhé ró / orá kí'đí ró*  
 wind house OUR:IN when CON:sleep we:IN

We will lean it (the blessed palm) against our door in order that evil spirits will not enter our house when we are sleeping.

*ndaá kúú íó yúkú kánhni té /*  
all animal CON:exist mountain POT:kill he:ws

*orá ndíí yó'ó*  
when CON:shine moon

ALL THE ANIMALS THAT THERE ARE IN THE MOUNTAINS they will kill when the moon shines.

*orá ndó'yó shá ndó'yó ñá'yú / ñá'tú kúú'hini*  
when CON:be:wet CMP CON:be:wet people NEG CON:be:angry

*í / chí kúvété í*  
UN because CON:be:happy UN

When people (get) very wet (in the rain), they aren't angry, because they are happy. (being baptized by the rain)

*orá xúún dá'ú íchí / té ndó'yó*  
when CON:be:produced rain road and CON:be:wet

*đichí yixín / xahán ñá shá n-yí'chí*  
unmarried:person tender CON:speak she CMP COM-thirst

*í ndúté íí*  
UN water holy

When the rain falls on the trail, and the infant gets wet (in the rain), she says that the baby was thirsty for holy water (the rain).

*orá násheé ñá véhé ñá / náchídú'kú ñá í đánh má*  
when POT:arrive she house her POT:wrap:again she UN cloth

*íó ndóó / té vá'há kí'đí í / ndóó í ndé*  
CON:exist clean and good POT:sleep UN POT:waken UN until

*ñn ká kí'ú*  
one ADD day

When she arrives home, she will wrap the baby in clean clothes, and he will sleep WELL; he will (not) awake until the next day.

*orá ndéé tahu ñá / té xúnehe í /*  
when CON:offer debt she and CON:have:diarrhea UN

*shá xúnehe í*  
CMP CON:have:diarrhea UN

When she makes her offering (to the earth spirit), then she has more and more diarrhea. (lit. it gives diarrhea)

*orá túú dá ínxán / té xéro'ńú n-shó kídá*  
 when CON:be I:RES over:there and Jerry COM:HAB CON:do

*tnúú*  
 work

When we were there, JERRY was working.

With *nú*:

*nú n-tú'ú / dá nú'ú mí'hí káá í*  
 when COM-dawn thus face garbage CON:lie it:AML  
 When it dawned, THUS (as we said) it (the dog) was lying IN THE  
 GARBAGE.

*nú shishá tnúyú'tú ínxán /*  
 when CON:mature maguey:stalk over:there

*xúún tndíí*  
 CON:be:produced maguey:flower

When that maguey stalk matures, maguey flowers will be produced.  
 (to use as food)

*nú n-kúkwéché / ńn metrú shíhín ńn kwartá kúú*  
 when COM-be:small:PL one meter with one span CON:be

*ndáhá dún'hnú*  
 hand blouse

When it (the cloth) was cut in pieces, one meter (Sp. *metro*) with  
 one hand's breadth (Sp. *cuarta*) was (became) the sleeves of the  
 blouse.

Comparison of likeness sentences are introduced by the conjunction *ná* 'when', used in this construction to mean 'as', or the conjunction *nání* 'as'. The same verb must occur in both the comparison sentence and the main sentence, but they need not agree in aspect. The comparison sentence may either follow the main sentence or precede it. When it follows, the verb is sometimes not expressed in the comparative sentence. When it precedes, the main sentence is often introduced by *dá* 'thus' (or *dání*, if the subordinate sentence has *nání*).

*ká nda'hí í / ná ká nda'hí tkáchi*  
 PL CON:cry it:AML when PL CON:cry sheep  
 They are crying as sheep cry.

*nánhnú shé'hé t̄ / ná shé'hé elefanté*  
 big:PL foot its:AML when foot elephant  
 Their feet are big like elephants' (Sp. *elefante*) feet.

*ná kúú ndúú / kúú shá kwaá*  
 when CON:be day CON:be it:INAN blind  
 The night is as the day is (it's so light).

*ná káá nú'ú ñá'yú / káá nú'ú changú*  
 when CON:appear face people CON:appear face monkey  
 The monkey's (Sp. *chango*) face is like a person's face. (lit. The monkey's face appears as a person's face appears.)

*ná káá nchí'vá luchí / káá t̄*  
 when CON:appear goat small:SG CON:appear it:AML  
 It looks like a little goat (Sp. *chiva*). (lit. It appears as a little goat appears.)

*nání shaá dá / ní'hí dá*  
 as CON:eat I:RES CON:gain I:RES  
 As I eat, I gain. (I make a living)

*ná kúú tá'tá xúngava íchí / dá kúú dává ñá'yú*  
 when CON:be seed CON:fall road thus CON:be fraction people  
 As is seed (that) falls on the trail, so are some people.

Sometimes a sentence that contains a subordinate comparative sentence is embedded in another sentence.

*xó'ón / ví'shí / kó ñá ví'shí / ná ví'shí vítná*  
 yes cold but NEG cold when cold now  
 Yes, it was cold (then), but not as cold as it is now.

*xahán ñá shá kúú í / ná kúú xwání'tó estelá*  
 CON:speak she CMP CON:be UN when CON:be Johnny Stella  
 She says that they (the "earth-people") are as Johnny (Sp. *Juanito*) and Stella (Sp. *Estela*) are.

Hypothetical comparison is expressed by the complex conjunctions *kwendá kúú* or *ná kúú shá*, both of which mean 'as if'. The verb of the subordinate sentence must be in complete aspect.

*shá 'tú shá shá 'tú yúhu dá / kwendá kúú*  
 CON:burn CMP CON:burn mouth my:RES account CON:be

*n-shashí dá yáhá*  
 COM-eat I:RES chili

My mouth burns awfully as if I had eaten chili peppers.

*shá 'tú shá shá 'tú yúhu dá / ná kúú shá*  
 CON:burn CMP CON:burn mouth my:RES when CON:be CMP

*n-shashí dá yáhá*  
 COM:eat I:RES chili

My mouth burns awfully as if I had eaten chili peppers.

**6.2.2 Subordinate relations without conjunctions.** Some subordinate relations can be expressed by simply juxtaposing the subordinate sentence to the main sentence, without any conjunction. The relation is signaled instead by some formal feature within the subordinate sentence. In the material collected to date, three kinds of juxtaposed subordinate sentences have been observed: purpose, time, and location.

There are two kinds of juxtaposed sentences that express purpose, both of which are characterized by having potential aspect in the subordinate purpose sentence. In the first kind, the purpose sentence is introduced by the hortatory marker *ná* or the negative hortatory marker *mash 'kú*. If the sentence is a command, the main sentence may also be introduced by a hortatory marker. The purpose sentence usually follows the main sentence.

*káádá vá 'há dá ndéyú / ná káshdíní dá 'hyá dá*  
 POT:do good I:RES meal HORT POT:eat:supper child my:RES  
 I will make the meal in order that my children may eat supper.

*ná dayaá ró yóhó / ná ndókoó-t*  
 HORT POT:release we:IN rope HORT POT:stand-it:AML  
 Let's untie the ropes in order that it (the ox) may get up!

*ténéé ró yá yéhé ró /*  
 POT:lean we:IN DEI door our:IN

*mash 'kú kákúú tá 'chí véhé ró*  
 NEG:HORT POT:enter wind house our:IN

We will lean it (the blessed palm) against our door in order that evil spirits will not enter our house.

Occasionally a purpose sentence precedes the main sentence; in the following example, the main sentence is a restatement sentence that begins



with the hortatory marker *ná* because it functions as a third person command.

*ná kwahá tekú dó'hó tí / ná xí'hín*  
 HORT POT:be:possible POT:hear ear its:AML HORT POT:go

*tí n kává tí yá'tá kúralí*  
 it:AML POT:go POT:lie:down it:AML back corral

In order that its (the dog's) ears may be able to hear, let it go lie down behind the corral!

Sometimes two or more purpose sentences occur in a single sentence. In the first example below, the second purpose sentence is subordinate to the first purpose sentence, which is subordinate to the main sentence. This example also contains two juxtaposed sentences which together form a subordinate cause sentence. In the other two examples below, the two purpose sentences are in a restatement relation with each other, and both are subordinate to the main sentence.

*kwé'hé tútnú kiú / ná kokó vá'há /*  
 many wood POT:put:on HORT POT:burn good

*ná naááá vá'há / chí shinxán kí'ú*  
 HORT POT:be:hot good because that:thing CON:enter

*dá ndváha dá*  
 I:RES CON:become:good I:RES

Put A LOT OF WOOD on in order that it may burn well in order that it may be good and hot because WITH THAT (SWEATBATH) that I enter I am healed.

*xí'hín dá shíhín kwali dá sélí'á / ná chindéé*  
 POT:go I:RES with comadre my:RES Celia HORT POT:help

*ñáha ñá / ná kánéhé ñá ndéyú*  
 KNO she HORT POT:carry she meal

I will go with my child's godmother (Sp. *comadre*) Celia (Sp. *Celia*) in order that she may help me in order that she may carry the dinner.

*katundéé ró té shévé'hé ró / ná kí'dí*  
 POT:sprinkle we:IN it:LIQ house:wall our:IN HORT POT:sleep

*vá'há ró / mash'kú kachishé'né lokó ró*  
 good we:IN NEG:HORT POT:dream crazy we:IN

We will sprinkle it (the holy water) on the walls of our house in order that we may sleep well in order that we will not have bad (Sp. *loco*) dreams.

When the purpose sentence follows the main sentence, and the subjects are coreferential, the *ná* is occasionally omitted.

*ndú'híní dá / téé dá dí'tá*  
 CON:be:anxious I:RES POT:cast I:RES tortilla  
 I am in a hurry to make the tortillas.

*xín sheé ró / kúndéhá ró ná*  
 POT:go POT:arrive we:IN POT:look:at we:IN what

*íó ñú'ú ínxán*  
 CON:exist town over:there

We are going to arrive to see what there is in the town over there.

In the second kind of purpose sentence, a shared noun phrase occurs at the seam between the main sentence and the following purpose sentence. This noun phrase must be the final element in the main sentence, which means that it may be the subject only if the main verb is intransitive. It is most often the object, but it may be an adjunct or a peripheral element. The shared noun phrase may have any function in the purpose sentence.<sup>7</sup> In the following examples, the solidus that signals the break between the two parts is arbitrarily placed after the shared noun phrase.

*téé ró dí'tá / káá ró*  
 CON:cast we:IN tortilla POT:eat we:IN  
 We are making tortillas to eat.

<sup>7</sup>Occasionally a juxtaposed sentence with a shared noun phrase has completive aspect rather than potential in the second part, as in the following example.

*yó'ó n-shíá'hán chí'kí / n-shashí í*  
 moon COM-give prickly:pear:fruit COM-eat UN  
 The moon gave him prickly pear fruit to eat.

It seems likely that such sentences express a result, i.e., an accomplished purpose, and that the main sentence must be in completive aspect as well.

*té nsheé dá / xándóó dá káfèé /*  
and POT:arrive I:RES POT:put:on I:RES coffee

*káshdíní dá 'hyá dá*  
POT:eat:supper child my:RES

And (when) I arrive, I will put on the coffee for my children to eat supper.

*té ínxán ndukú dá alvañíí /*  
and over:there POT:look:for I:RES mason

*kááá vá 'há véhé dá*  
POT:do good house my:RES

And THERE I will look for masons (Sp. *albañil*) to build my house.

*ínxán ááá kwikonuú ró nuyáhu /*  
over:there then POT:walk:around we:IN marketplace

*kúndéhá ró*  
POT:look:at we:IN

THERE THEN we will walk around the marketplace to see (what there is to see).

*kááá vá 'há ró méé ní kú 'ñú vá 'há /*  
POT:do good we:IN SPEC LIM meat good

*ké 'é shí 'tí tkóo*  
POT:enter stomach tamale

We will make (them) with purely good (breast) meat to put inside the tamales.

*tátnú áichí ínxán xín ndukú*  
errand:boy unmarried:person over:there POT:go POT:look:for

*í 'tá / ndúkútú kúrushi*  
flower POT:become:tied cross

THE TOWN ERRAND BOY, THAT BOY, will go to look for flowers to be tied on the crosses (Sp. *cruz*).

*dá kááá ró ñn í 'tá / xantuú ró altáár xesús*  
thus POT:do we:IN one flower POT:put:on we:IN altar Jesus  
Thus we will make a flower to put on the altar (Sp. *altar*) of Jesus.

A juxtaposed subordinate time sentence gives a temporal setting for the main sentence. Its verb must be in continuative aspect, while the verb of the main sentence must be in some other aspect. In most cases the subject of the subordinate sentence is coreferential with the subject of the main

sentence. A subordinate time sentence can either follow or precede the main sentence.

With subordinate sentence following:

*n-kishí sán xoséé shíhín mariá / shíxán yá posadá*  
 COM-come St. Joseph with Mary CON:ask:for DEI lodging  
 St. (Sp. *san*) Joseph (Sp. *José*) and Mary (Sp. *María*) came asking for  
 lodging (Sp. *posada*). (part of the Christmas celebration in Mexico)

*inxán xwáhán tí / shé ndukú tí*  
 over:there INC:go it:AML CON:go POT:look:for it:AML

*shá káshí chilibáá kwechí n-tá'hú*  
 it:INAN POT:eat bird small:PL COM-break  
 THERE it (the mother bird) went looking for food for the newly  
 hatched little birds.

*n-sheé ñá véhé / dashá ñá í'tá*  
 COM-arrive she house CON:give she flower  
 She arrived at the house giving out flowers.

*kává í shá'hún ké'ú / yí'chí í*  
 POT:lie:down UN fifteen day CON:be:dry UN  
 They (the adobe bricks) will be laid out for fifteen days drying.

*yáhá kútúú í / yá'há í vakasioón*  
 here POT:be UN CON:pass UN vacation  
 He will be HERE for his vacation (Sp. *vacación*).

(See also 7.8 and 7.40.)

With subordinate sentence preceding:

*nda'hí dé'hí í / n-shiní ñáha ñá*  
 CON:cry mother UN COM-see KNO she  
 His mother was crying (when) she saw him.

*kúdúhíni tá'á í / n-shé'tnáha ñáha té*  
 CON:be:happy father UN COM-meet KNO he  
 His father was happy (when) he met him (his son).

*xúún ñíí dókó / n-chidú'kú dá delantári dá*  
 CON:be:produced skin vapor COM-wrap I:RES apron my:RES  
 The placenta having been passed, I wrapped (it) in my apron (Sp.  
*delantal*).

The following examples show various embeddings.

*ndukú yá tndáka / n-kídá vá'há yá kulambrá /*  
 CON:look:for DEI bee COM-do good DEI hive

*n-kinéhé yá kú'ñú*  
 COM-take:out DEI meat

Looking for bees, they made a hive (Sp. *enjambre*) (of the deer's carcass), (and) they took out the meat.

*shiká ñá / xwáhán ñá / nánduku ñá*  
 CON:walk she INC:go she POT:look:for:again she  
 Walking she went to look again (for him).

A juxtaposed subordinate location sentence contains a motion verb that expresses the direction of the action in the main sentence; the two verbs agree in aspect. The location sentence invariably follows the main sentence, and no subject is expressed, but it is always construed as having a subject coreferential with that of the main sentence.

*néhé yá kú'ñú / xwánú'hú nú'ú dt'hí yá*  
 CON:carry DEI meat INC:return:going face mother DEI  
 They were bringing the meat to their mother.

*néhé í tá / xwándíshí ndé yáhá*  
 CON:carry UN it:flower INC:return:coming until here  
 She was bringing the flowers here.

*kánéhé dá tá / xí'hín véñu'hú dtómingú*  
 POT:carry I:RES it:flower POT:go church Sunday  
 I will take the flowers to church on Sunday.

*kúdtúhíni í / xwándíshí íchí*  
 CON:be:happy UN INC:return:coming road

*shíhín tá'á í shíhín dt'hí í*  
 with father UN with mother UN

He was happy returning (home) on the road with his father and his mother.

*ndéká ñáha navóór nú'ú kídá tníú-s / n-shehén*  
 COM:take KNO Nabor face CON:do work-he:MS COM-go  
 Nabor (Sp. *Nabor*) took me to where he works.

(See also 7.27.)

The location sentence usually expresses a destination, as in the above examples, but if the destination is clear from the context, it may be unexpressed.

*kú'dú 'kú té / xí'hín*  
 POT:be:tied he:ws POT:go  
 He will go (to prison with his hands) tied (behind him).

In the following example, the direct object of the main sentence, which is a long indirect quotation, follows the subordinate location sentence.

*shíá'hán nlí'pé / xwándíshí / shá kutuú í véhé í*  
 CON:say Philip:ws INC:return:coming CMP POT:be UN house UN

*shihín fámiliá í ká'ú vakasioón*  
 with family UN day vacation

Philip says returning (home on the road) that he will be at home with his family (Sp. *familia*) during his vacation.

### 6.3 Direct Quotations

Direct quotations consist of three elements: the quotation itself, the quotation introducer, and the quotation closer. The quotation, which consists of one or more full sentences or fragments, must occur. Both the introducer and the closer are optional. Note that in the text in chapter seven no introducers or closers occur. Both the introducer and the closer consist of a verb of speaking, usually *xahán* 'to speak' or *shíá'hán* 'to speak', its subject, and sometimes an addressee. Occasionally other information is included. The following sentences have a quotation introducer.

*xahán té / orá n-tá'shí té / xúhún*  
 CON:speak he:ws when COM-give he:ws IMP:take

*ndátníú-ń yá / ó'hón vasú té ñn indó'hó*  
 possession-your:RES this five glass and one pitcher  
 He was saying when he gave (it to me), "Take this prize of yours, five glasses (Sp. *vaso*) and a pitcher."

*shíá'hán dí'hí yó'ó / xí'hín-ń /*  
 CON:speak mother moon POT:go-you:RES

*xínehé-ń shá káshí tá'á-ń*  
 POT:take-you:RES it:INAN POT:eat father-your:RES

The moon's mother says to him, "Go, (and) take your father's food (to him)."

*ngándii shíhín yó'ó xahán / xó'ón / xí'hín dá*  
 sun with moon CON:speak yes POT:go I:RES  
 THE SUN AND THE MOON say, "Yes, we will go."

*ndátnú'hú ngándii shíhín yó'ó / kánhni ró*  
 CON:chat sun with moon POT:kill we:IN  
 The sun and the moon say to each other, "We will kill (him)."

*n-xahán kú'nú / shásh ún yí' ún*  
 COM-speak meat CON:eat you:FAM:WS husband your:FAM:WS  
 The meat said, "You are eating your husband."

*shí'ántnaha í / í'dí ní véhé xéro'nú n-ká ni'hí ró*  
 CON:converse UN one LIM house Jerry COM-PL gain we:IN

*piñatá*  
 piñata

They were saying to each other, "ONLY AT JERRY'S HOUSE did we have a piñata (Sp. *piñata*)."

*orá íó dá'ú / xahán ñá'yú /*  
 when CON:exist rain CON:speak people

*vá'shí ndúté ianyúúsh*  
 INC:come water God

When the rains come, the people say, "The water of God is coming."

Several sentences may follow a single quotation introducer.

*n-sheé ñá ínxán / kaná ñá / shákwe'e / shákwe'e /*  
 COM-arrive she over:there CON:call she Shakwee Shakwee

*né'hé / né'hé // ñá yó'ó ún // násh kúú shá*  
 IMP:come IMP:come NEG CON:exist you:FAM what CON:be CMP

*ñá yó'ó ún*  
 NEG CON:exist you:FAM:WS

She arrived there, calling, "Shakwee (mythical deer), Shakwee, come, come! You aren't (here). Why is it that you aren't (here)?"

A direct quotation may be embedded within another direct quotation.

*shíá 'hán nǎ dá 'hyá nǎ / ná kwendá xahán kú 'nū /*  
 CON:speak she child her what account CON:speak meat

*shásh ún yǐ ún // mash 'kú dá*  
 CON:eat you:FAM:WS husband your:FAM:WS NEG:HORT thus

*kásh ún*  
 POT:eat you:FAM:WS

She says to her children, “Why does the meat say, ‘You are eating your husband. Don’t eat this way!’?”

Occasionally the quotation introducer is less than a complete sentence; in the following example, only a subordinate time sentence (see §6.2.2) occurs.

*násheé nǎ véhé nǎ / ná kwendá n-shanhní*  
 COM:arrive she house her what account COM-kill

*ún tá 'á ún*  
 you:FAM:WS father your:FAM:WS

Having arrived at her house, (she said,) “Why did you kill your father?”

In the present data, quotation closers are less frequent than quotation introducers, and some speakers use them more often than others.

*ná yá 'há sémaná santá / nákádá tnú ró /*  
 when POT:pass week holy POT:do work we:IN

*xahán dú 'tú*  
 CON:speak priest

“When Holy (Sp. *santa*) Week (Sp. *semana*) is over, we will work again,” says the priest.

*xó 'ón / vilí káá / ká xahán nǎdihí xán*  
 yes pretty CON:appear PL CON:speak woman that

“Yes, (it) is pretty,” say those women.

Sometimes the closer contains a reduced equative sentence identifying the speaker. In the first example below, a verb of speech occurs as a relative clause modifying the subject of *kúú* ‘to be (continuative)’, and in the second one, a juxtaposed sentence occurs, with a verb of speech in the second part.



*násh kúú nã'há / núsh xwéén-ń ñn ngútú /*  
 what CON:be no if POT:buy-you:FAM:MS one ox  
*ná káá-ř shíhín ðí'hí-ř / té nakandeká*  
 HORT POT:eat-I:FAM with mother-my:FAM and POT:take:again  
*nãha-ř / xí'hín / kúú nã'ú yú'té shiá'hán*  
 KNO-I:FAM POT:go CON:be eagle river CON:speak  
 "Why not, if you will buy an ox, so that I may eat (it) with my  
 mother, and (then) I will take you," (it) was the river eagle that said  
 (it).

*ná túú ná shá n-kídá-ř / kúú í / shiá'hán í*  
 NEG CON:be what it:INAN COM-do-I:FAM CON:be UN CON:speak UN  
 "I didn't do anything;" he was (the one); he said.

The following example contains both an introducer and a closer.

*shiá'hán nã'ú yú'té xán kuné'né-ń / chí*  
 CON:speak eagle river that POT:shut:eye-you:RES because  
*đánaa xúngava-ń / kúú tē / shiá'hán tē*  
 suddenly POT:fall:off-you:RES CON:be it:AML CON:speak it:AML  
 The river eagle said, "Shut your eyes because you might suddenly  
 fall," it was (the eagle); it said (it).

#### 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 coordinate conjunctions, adverbs, one subordinate conjunction, and complex sentential markers.

The coordinate conjunctions that occur in sentence-initial position are *té* 'and', *kó* 'but', *ó* (Sp. *o*) 'or', *á* 'or', and *ní* (Sp. *ni*) 'nor'.

When *té* occurs in this position, it often signals temporal sequence, and I have translated it 'and then', but it may also introduce information that is not central to the discourse context, in which case I have translated it 'and'.<sup>8</sup>

<sup>8</sup>The native speaker who dictated this text consistently distinguished these two uses when she provided a Spanish translation. She left the temporal sequence use untranslated, and used *y* for information not central to the discourse context.

*nóviembré ú'shí / ké'ú ú'shí nóviembré / dáá /*  
 November ten day ten November that:time

*n-kakú dá'hyá dá // té ké'ú ú'shí ú'ú ðisiembré /*  
 COM-be:born child my:RES and day ten two December

*ké'ú shuhún gwadalupé / dáá / n-shéndute í*  
 day CON:? Guadalupe that:time COM-be:baptized UN

NOVEMBER (Sp. *noviembre*) TENTH, THE TENTH OF NOVEMBER, THAT DAY, my child was born. And then ON THE TWELFTH OF DECEMBER (Sp. *diciembre*), GUADALUPE (Sp. *Guadalupe*) DAY, THAT DAY, she was baptized.

*nú n-tú'ú / dá nú'ú mí'hí káá tí // té*  
 when COM-da:wn thus face garbage CON:lie it:AML and

*n-ká'ú ñá'ñá kúralí ró / té n-shanhní tí*  
 COM:enter coyote corral our:IN and COM-kill it:AML

*tkáchi ró / té néhé tí ùn tkólelu luchí shá*  
 sheep our:IN and COM:carry it:AML one lamb small:SG CMP

*shé'hé kwechí okeí dé shihín parís dé / shá*  
 foot fault Okay that:near with Paris that:near CMP

*ñá n-shó ndi'xún tí*  
 NEG COM-HAB be:tied it:AML

When it dawned, THUS (as we said) it (the dog) was lying IN THE GARBAGE. And a coyote (had) entered our corral, and it (had) killed our sheep, and it (had) taken a little lamb on account of the fault of that Okay and that Paris (dogs), because they weren't tied up (at the corral).

In the following example, which comprises a significant fragment of a text about making tortillas, both uses of *té* occur. The sequential use is found only in the sentences that are central to the discourse context.

*kááá vá'há dá ndéyú ná káshdénhñú dá'hyá dá //*  
 POT:do good I:RES meal HORT POT:eat:dinner child my:RES  
*té náxíní dá trashtí dá // té natihú dá*  
 and POT:wash I:RES dish my:RES and POT:sweep I:RES  
*véhé dá kushiná dá // té xí'hín dá / xín*  
 house my:RES kitchen my:RES and POT:go I:RES POT:go  
*núkate dá dánhmá dá'hyá dá // té nsheé dá /*  
 POT:wash I:RES cloth child my:RES and POT:arrive I:RES  
*xándóóó dá káfee / káshdíní dá'hyá dá / ná'dá*  
 POT:put:on I:RES coffee POT:eat:supper child my:RES lest  
*yó kúneé / té má'yó í káshdíní í // kí'dí*  
 INTS CON:be:dark and no UN POT:eat:supper UN POT:sleep  
*kóyó í // té nsheé yí dá // té xánñáhá*  
 PL UN and POT:arrive husband my:RES and POT:hit  
*té / nushá má xúñáha dá shá káshdíní*  
 he:WS if NEG POT:give I:RES it:INAN POT:eat:supper  
*kóyó dá'hyá dá*  
 PL child my:RES

I will make the dinner in order that my children may eat. And I will wash the dishes (Sp. *traste*). And I will sweep the house (and) the kitchen house (Sp. *cocina*). And I will go wash my children's clothes. And then (when) I get back (home), I will put on the coffee in order that my children may eat supper, lest it be very dark, and none of them will eat. They will go to sleep. And my husband will come home. And then he will hit me if I don't give my children their supper.

The antithetical conjunction *kó* 'but' also occurs in sentence-initial position when the sentence expresses contrast with the preceding discourse context. The following text fragment contains two instances of *kó*. The contrast expressed in the first instance is found in the cultural context, rather than in the discourse context. A baptized baby that has died is believed to be safe in heaven, as stated in the final sentence of the fragment, and the mother's sadness is in contrast to this, rather than to the mere fact of the child's death.

té n-shí'hí í // kó tnáu'híní dá shá shé'hé í /  
and COM-die UN but CON:be:sad I:RES CMP foot UN

shá ñá'tú n-shó túú í ñúñá'yú // ñá túú ká  
because NEG COM-HAB be UN world NEG CON:be ADD

ná mudú // tnáu'híní dá shá shé'hé í // kó ádi'chí  
what way CON:be:sad I:RES CMP foot UN but she

shá n-shí'hí // shá xwánú'hú í ándiú  
already COM-die already INC:return:going UN heaven

And then she died. But I am sad on her account because she didn't ever live in the world. There's nothing (that I can do) (Sp. *modo*). I am sad on her account. But SHE has already died. Already she is returning to heaven.

In the present data the Spanish loan conjunction *ó* 'or' occurs only twice in sentence-initial position, and for some speakers, the native *á* 'or' does not occur there. Compare this situation with the use of these conjunctions in sentence-medial position, described in §6.1.1, where *á* is rare, and *ó* does not occur.

ndaá shá kwaá íó yó'ó ká shehén téyíi yúkú //  
all it:INAN blind CON:exist moon PL CON:go man:WS mountain

ó xwiní ñá túú yó'ó / kó ndíi chudí'ní  
or although NEG CON:be moon but CON:shine star

EVERY NIGHT (THAT) THERE IS (A) MOON, the men go to the mountains. Or even though there isn't (a) moon, the stars are shining.

vá'há kandú tló'tí shá kóhó ñá'yú ndúlokó //  
good soup buzzard CMP POT:drink people COM:become:crazy

ó káshí í kú'ñú té // ó kóhó í ndúté tavakú  
or POT:eat UN meat its:AML or POT:drink UN water tobacco

shíhín ndúté axú / ndúté minó ñúdaú  
with water garlic water specific:herb land:rain

Buzzard soup (Sp. *caldo*) is good for people who have rabies to drink. Or they (can) eat its (the buzzard's) meat. Or they (can) drink an infusion of tobacco (Sp. *tabaco*) with an infusion of garlic (Sp. *ajo*) and an infusion of a specific herb (that grows) in the land of the rain (the land of the Mixtec people).

(See also 7.11–12, 7.17–18, and 7.20–21.)

The conjunction *ní* 'nor' sometimes occurs in sentence-initial position.

*vítná n-shiní dá víkó ñú'ú dá // ndú'shí má kutuú*  
 now COM-see I:RES fiesta town my:RES next:year NEG POT:be

*dá // xí'hín dá ñú'kóhýo // ní má xí'ní ká dá*  
 I:RES POT:go I:RES Mexico:City nor NEG POT:see ADD I:RES  
 now I have seen my town's fiesta. NEXT YEAR I will not be (here). I  
 am going to Mexico City. Nor will I see (the fiesta then).

*nání sháá dá / ní'hí dá // ní ñá túú ná*  
 as CON:eat I:RES CON:gain I:RES nor NEG CON:be what

*tvini dá // ñá túú ná dánh má vá'há dá //*  
 money my:RES NEG CON:be what cloth good my:RES

*ní ñá túú ná sápatú dá*  
 nor NEG CON:be what shoe my:RES

As I eat, I gain. (I get only enough to eat from my fields.) Nor do I  
 have any money. I don't have any good clothes. Nor do I have shoes  
 (Sp. *zapato*).

The adverbs in focus position (see §1.1.8) that commonly occur with a  
 discourse-linking function are: *vítná* 'now', *dadá* 'then', and *ínxán* 'over  
 there', which sometimes means 'and then'.

With *vítná*:

*vítná vá'shí dá'ú // kaná dá'ú // kishí dá'ú ñíñí //*  
 now INC:come rain CON:call rain POT:come rain hail

*n-kaná yá dó dé'kí // n-kaná yá dó ní'ná //*  
 COM-call DEI direction head COM-call DEI direction ?

*té vásh xúún dá'ú // vítná vá'há tiempú /*  
 and INC:come CON:be:produced rain now good time

*vá'shí dá'ú / chí kishí kosechá ró // vítná kádá*  
 INC:come rain because POT:come crop our:IN now POT:do

*kosecharí ró // dáke'é ró tá'tá dá'ú*  
 reap we:IN POT:plant we:IN seed rain

NOW the rain is coming. It is thundering. The hail will come. It  
 thundered in the west. It thundered in the east. And the rain will  
 fall. NOW the time is good; the rain is coming because our crops (Sp.  
 *cosecha*) will come. NOW we will reap (a harvest) (Sp.  *cosechar*). We  
 will plant rainy-season seed.

(See also 7.72–74.)

With *dadá*:

*xí'hín dá / xín ndukú níú dá //*  
 POT:go I:RES POT:go POT:look:for work I:RES

*dadá ndíshí níúku dá ndé shá kúú*  
 then POT:return:coming REP I:RES until it:INAN CON:be

*karnavaál ndú'shí*  
 Carnival next:year

I'm going to look for work. THEN I will return again even at next year's Carnival.

*kááá kumplirí té kúkúú té músíká / ndé ná*  
 POT:do complete he:WS POT:be he:WS band:member until when

*kú'ú té // dadá dándoo té*  
 POT:die he:WS then POT:leave he:WS

He will fulfill (his job as) a member of the town band until he dies. THEN he (can) leave (it).

With *inxán*:

*n-sheén dá ñn míil texá // inxán n*  
 COM-buy I:RES one thousand roof:tile over:there POT:go

*kwidó dá // inxán n-sheén dá ú'ní sientú*  
 POT:carry I:RES over:there COM-buy I:RES three hundred

*ñn míil xán / shá kááá vá'há dá véhé //*  
 one thousand that CMP POT:do good I:RES house

*ndukú dá machú mulá burú /*  
 POT:look:for I:RES he:mule she:mule donkey

*shá n kwidó tí texá*  
 CMP POT:go POT:carry it:AML roof:tile

I bought a thousand (Sp. *mil*) roof tiles (Sp. *teja*). THERE I will go to carry (them home). THERE I bought for three hundred (Sp. *ciento*) (pesos) a thousand of those (tiles) in order that I may build a house. I will look for mules (Sp. *macho*, *mula*) and donkeys (Sp. *burro*) in order that they may carry the tiles.

*n-sheé prinsesá // ínxán ndátnúhú*  
COM-arrive princess over:there CON:chat

*sé kúú dvehú xán shíhín prinsesá xán*  
he:MS CON:be owner that with princess that  
The princess arrived. Then the one who was the owner (Sp. *dueño*)  
was chatting with that princess.<sup>9</sup>

*íó dá'hyá dá // ín dichí nání*  
CON:exist child my:RES one unmarried:person CON:be:named

*paskwal // íó í ú'shí kwiá ná n-kéé í véhé*  
Pascual CON:exist UN ten year when COM-leave UN house

*dá // vítná íó ú'ní kwiá túú í ñúkóhoyo //*  
my:RES now CON:exist three year CON:be UN Mexico:City

*ínxán kídá tnúú í ñúkóhoyo // ínxán yíhí*  
over:there CON:do work UN Mexico:City over:there CON:be:in

*í shkwelá nú'ú nání kalsadá xaviér mexiá //*  
UN school face CON:be:named Calzada Xavier Mejía

*ínxán yíhí dá'hyá dá shkwelá*  
over:there CON:be:in child my:RES school

I have children. One son is named Pascual (Sp. *Pascual*). He was ten years old when he left home. NOW for three years he has been in Mexico City. THERE he is working in Mexico City. THERE he attends a school in (the place) called Calzada Xavier Mejía (Sp. *Calzada Xavier Mejía*). THERE my son attends school.

(See also 7.68–70.)

The subordinate conjunction that occurs in sentence-initial position is *chí* 'because'. An example of this use of *chí* is found in 7.51–52, where the sentence introduced by *chí* gives a reason for the prohibition in the previous sentence, which is expressed indirectly by means of a question. Note that the sentence with *chí* also has a focused locative adjunct expressed by the adverb *ínxán* 'over there'.

There are a number of complex sentential markers that commonly occur in sentence-initial position: *shínxán kúú shá* or *shínxán shá* 'therefore', *méé ní shá* 'it's purely that', *méé ngá shá* 'it's just that', *díki shá* 'it's only that',

<sup>9</sup>The native speaker who dictated this text consistently distinguished between the locative and temporal uses of *ínxán* when he provided a Spanish translation. He left the locative use untranslated, and he used *y* or *luego* for the temporal use.

and *vítná kúú shá* 'now it is that'. Occasionally two markers occur in the same sentence.

*n-kí kaní té té áú'shí // méé ní trúshii*  
COM-come POT:hit he:WS he:WS Diuxi SPEC LIM gun

*xántráhá té // shínxán kúú shá / orá n-káá*  
CON:fight he:WS that:thing CON:be CMP when COM-do

*té pás / té n-shántuu té ín moxonera*  
he:WS peace and COM-place he:WS one boundary:marker  
They (the men of Tidaa) came to fight the men of Diuxi. PURELY WITH GUNS they were fighting each other. Therefore when they made peace (Sp. *paz*), they put up a boundary marker (Sp. *mojonera*) (on the line between the two towns).

*n-káá xanarí áá // ndó'ó ká áá shíhín shá'hún*  
COM-do gain I:RES CON:remain ADD I:RES with fifteen

*sentáu // shínxán kúú shá ndáá tiempú névahá áá*  
centavo that:thing CON:be CMP all time CON:guard I:RES

*ndó'hó / chí shínxán kúú ín sverté vá'há /*  
pitcher because that:thing CON:be one luck good

*chí ni'hí áá ndátnúú áá / xahán*  
because COM:gain I:RES possession my:RES CON:speak

*tó'hó xán*  
stranger that

I won (Sp. *ganar*)! I still had fifteen cents (Sp. *centavo*)! Therefore I have ALWAYS kept the pitcher because that was good luck (Sp. *suerte*) because I got my possession (prize), that stranger said.

*méé í shiá'hán shá kúú níá // shínxán shá níá*  
SPEC UN CON:speak CMP lazy she that:thing CMP NEG

*túú káféé // ní níá koxón ká í*  
CON:be coffee NOR NEG CON:be:hungry ADD UN

HE says that she is lazy. Therefore there isn't (any) coffee. Nor is he hungry (any) more.



*ñá'tú kúyođó / shá kwahá vá'há / méé ní tndú'ú /*  
 NEG CON:be:flat CMP POT:be:able good SPEC LIM hill

*méé ní đé'hvá // méé ní shá náchítñí*  
 SPEC LIM canyon SPEC LIM CMP CON:gather:again

*đá yú'ú yútnú*  
 I:RES rock tree

(This land) isn't level in order that (it) may produce well; (it's) purely hills, purely canyons. It's purely that I terrace (it) with rocks (and) trees.

*n-shó shiká shé'hé tá'á đá yáhá shihín ndé*  
 COM-HAB CON:walk foot father my:RES here with until

*núndúa // ñá túú kareterá / ñá túú kamióón //*  
 Oaxaca:City NEG CON:be highway NEG CON:be truck

*shínxán kúú shá méé ní shá*  
 that:thing CON:be CMP SPEC LIM CMP

*n-shó shiká shé'hé té*  
 COM-HAB CON:walk foot he:ws

My father traveled on foot from here to Oaxaca City. There were no highways (Sp. *carretera*); there were no trucks (Sp. *camión*). Therefore it's purely that he traveled on foot.

(See also 7.32–33, 7.43–44, and 7.49–50.)



## 7

### Text

- 7.1 *shásh konexó ndúchí*  
 CON:eat rabbit bean  
 The rabbit (Sp. *conejo*) was eating beans.<sup>10</sup>
- 7.2 *áúhá ní shé kotó-s*  
 thus LIM CON:go POT:examine-he:MS  
 And so he (the man) went to look at (his beanfield).
- 7.3 *té n-sheé-s*  
 and COM-arrive-he:MS  
 And he arrived.
- 7.4 *ñutuú konexó*  
 CON:be:in rabbit  
 The rabbit had been in (the beanfield).
- 7.5 *té shehén-s / shá xantuú-s soldadó*  
 and CON:go-he:MS CMP POT:place-he:MS soldier  
*ñú 'á ñú 'ñú kwechí*  
 wax bee small:PL  
 So he went in order to set up a soldier (Sp. *soldado*) (made of) beeswax (the “tar baby”).

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<sup>10</sup>Note that many of the sentences in the following text are relatively short and very few begin with *té* ‘and’. Note also the absence of quotation introducers and closers. For a fuller discussion of this narrative style, see Oram and Todd (n.d.)

- 7.6 *té n-sheé-s / shántuu-s solndadó*  
and COM-arrive-he:MS CON:place-he:MS soldier  
And he arrived, putting the tar baby in place.
- 7.7 *té n-sheé konexó*  
and COM-arrive rabbit  
And the rabbit arrived.
- 7.8 *n-sheé konexó / shiá'hán tí*  
COM-arrive rabbit CON:speak it:AML  
The rabbit arrived, speaking (to the tar baby).
- 7.9 *násh kídá-n ú / sé luchí*  
what CON:do-you:FAM:MS INT he:MS small:SG  
“What are you doing, little one?”
- 7.10 *nú ñá xahán-n ú*  
why NEG CON:speak-you:FAM:MS INT  
Why don't you talk?
- 7.11 *xahán-ń / á ñá'há ú*  
POT:speak-you:FAM:MS OR NEG INT  
Will you talk or not?
- 7.12 *á kwé'ñí-ř ñn á*  
or POT:kick-I:FAM one INT  
Or shall I give you a kick?”
- 7.13 *n-shé'ñí konexó ñn*  
COM-kick rabbit one  
The rabbit gave (him) a kick.
- 7.14 *n-tñí ní í shé'hé tí*  
COM-grasp LIM UN foot its:AML  
It grabbed his foot!
- 7.15 *núda shé'hé-ř n-tñí-n ú*  
why foot-my:FAM COM-grasp-you:FAM:MS INT  
“Why are you holding MY FOOT?”
- 7.16 *ḍayaá*  
POT:release  
Let go!
- 7.17 *ḍayaá shé'hé-ř*  
POT:release foot-my:FAM  
Let go of my foot!

- 7.18 *á kwé'ñé ká-ř íñ á*  
 or POT:kick ADD-I:FAM one INT  
 Or shall I give you another kick?"
- 7.19 *n-shé'ñé té*  
 COM-kick it:AML  
 The rabbit gave him a kick.
- 7.20 *dayaá shé'hé-ř*  
 POT:release foot-my:FAM  
 "Let go of my foot!"
- 7.21 *á kaní-ř íñ á*  
 or POT:hit-I:FAM one INT  
 Or shall I sock you one?"
- 7.22 *n-kaní té íñ ngá*  
 COM-hit it:AML one just  
 The rabbit socked him one for the last time.
- 7.23 *n-tníí ní í ndáhá té*  
 COM-grasp LIM UN hand its:AML  
 It grabbed his hand!
- 7.24 *ké'ú kúú ú'ú n-sheé stóhó ndúchí*  
 day CON:be two COM-arrive owner bean  
 THE NEXT DAY the owner of the beanfield arrived.
- 7.25 *ndohó ní shásh ndúchí-ř*  
 YOU:FAM:MS LIM CON:eat bean-my:FAM  
 "YOU are the one who is eating my beans!"
- 7.26 *n-tníí-s konexó*  
 COM-grasp-he:MS rabbit  
 He grabbed the rabbit.
- 7.27 *ndéká-s té / xwáhán ndé véhé-s*  
 CON:take-he:MS it:AML INC:go until house-his:MS  
 He took him to his house.
- 7.28 *xándóá-s nté ínhní*  
 CON:put-he:MS it:LIQ hot  
 He put water (on the fire) to boil.
- 7.29 *n-chítuú-s té shí'tí ñúnú*  
 COM-put:in-he:MS it:AML stomach net  
 He put (the rabbit) in a net bag.

- 7.30 *n-sheé*      *ñá'ñá*  
COM-arrive    coyote  
The coyote arrived.
- 7.31 *násh kídá-ń*                      *yá ú / sé*      *luchí*  
what CON:do-you:FAM:MS here INT he:MS small:SG  
“What are you doing here, little one?”
- 7.32 *tnúndáha-ř*  
POT:marry-I:FAM  
“I’m getting married.
- 7.33 *đíkó shá shánhnú*              *ñádíhí-ř*  
only CMP CON:be:mature woman-my:FAM  
It’s only that my woman is an old one.”
- 7.34 *ndé kí'ú tnúndáha-n*              *ú*  
which day POT:marry-you:FAM:MS INT  
“When are you getting married?”
- 7.35 *tné'é*  
tomorrow  
“Tomorrow!
- 7.36 *kúníní shá kándé*  
POT:listen it:INAN CON:sound  
Listen; it (the bell) is ringing (for the wedding fiesta)!”
- 7.37 *tákáné*  
IMP:POT:get:out  
“Get out!
- 7.38 *ná sheé*              *méé-ř*  
HORT POT:arrive SPEC-I:FAM  
Let me go (in your place)!”
- 7.39 *n-ké'é*      *ñá'ñá*  
COM-enter coyote  
The coyote got in (the net bag).
- 7.40 *n-sheé-s*              / *néhé-s*              *nté ínhní*  
COM-arrive-he:MS CON:carry-he:MS it:LIQ hot  
He (the owner of the beanfield) arrived carrying the hot water.
- 7.41 *násh kúú shá ñutuú*              *yá*  
what CON:be it:INAN CON:be:in here  
“What do we have here?”

- 7.42 *ḁá ñá'ñá ñutuú*  
 thus coyote CON:be:in  
 It was THE COYOTE.
- 7.43 *n-shodó ní-s nté ínhní yá'tá ñá'ñá*  
 COM-pour LIM-he:MS it:LIQ hot back coyote  
 He poured the boiling water down the coyote's back.
- 7.44 *méé ngá shá kaná shíún t́*  
 SPEC just CMP CON:call loud it:AML  
 Did the coyote howl!
- 7.45 *vítná vítná n-sháhnde t́ yóhó ñúnú*  
 now now COM-break it:AML rope net  
 IMMEDIATELY the coyote broke the net.
- 7.46 *xwán lokó t́*  
 INC:go crazy it:AML  
 Wildly (Sp. *loco*) it fled.
- 7.47 *n-shé núnduku t́ konexó*  
 COM-go POT:look:for it:AML rabbit  
 He went to look for the rabbit.
- 7.48 *náníñá'há t́*  
 COM:find it:AML  
 He found (him).
- 7.49 *ndohó n-ḁándahú ñáha*  
 you:FAM:MS COM-deceive KNO  
 "YOU deceived me!
- 7.50 *vítná kúú shá káshí áhan-í*  
 now CON:be CMP POT:eat KNO-Í:FAM  
 NOW it is that I'll eat you."
- 7.51 *násh kúú shá káshí áhan-ń*  
 what CON:be CMP POT:eat KNO-you:FAM:MS  
 "What do you mean you're going to eat me?"
- 7.52 *chí ínxán katúú ḁ́'kí tkáchi*  
 because over:there CON:lie head sheep  
 BECAUSE OVER THERE lies a sheep's head (for you to eat)."
- 7.53 *xwáhán ñá'ñá*  
 INC:go coyote  
 The coyote went (over to look).

- 7.54 *n-sheé* *tí*  
COM-arrive it:AML  
He arrived.
- 7.55 *n-ǎá 'xínyuhu* *tí*  
COM-grab it:AML  
He grabbed it in his mouth.
- 7.56 *n-ká* *núú* *ní* *yó'kó*  
COM-PL descend LIM wasp  
Wasps came out!
- 7.57 *lokó* *n-ká* *túú* *ñáha* *tí*  
crazy COM-PL puncture KNO it:AML  
They stung him TERRIBLY!
- 7.58 *n-kéndava* *ñá'ñá*  
COM-run coyote  
The coyote ran away.
- 7.59 *n-sheé* *tí* *nú'ú* *nukóó* *konexó*  
COM-arrive it:AML face CON:sit rabbit  
He arrived where the rabbit was sitting down.
- 7.60 *ndohó* *n-ǎándahú* *ñáha*  
YOU:FAM:MS COM-deceive KNO  
“YOU deceived me!”
- 7.61 *ñá* *shiní* *ǎá*  
NEG CON:know I:RES  
“I don’t know (anything about it).”
- 7.62 *ú'shá* *ñá'ní* *ǎá* *íó*  
seven brother:ME my:RES CON:exist  
I have SEVEN BROTHERS.
- 7.63 *ñá* *shiní* *ǎá*  
NEG CON:know I:RES  
I don’t know (anything about it).”<sup>11</sup>
- 7.64 *n-shí'hí* *ñá'ñá*  
COM-die coyote  
The coyote died.

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<sup>11</sup>Rabbit shifted from the familiar first person singular pronoun to the respect pronoun in order to convince coyote that he was not the rabbit who had tricked him previously.



- 7.65 *kúvete* *konexó*  
 CON:be:happy rabbit  
 The rabbit was happy.
- 7.66 *n-kakú-ř*  
 COM-escape-I:FAM  
 ‘I’ve escaped!’
- 7.67 *ná xín ndukú ró shá káá ró*  
 HORT POT:go POT:look:for we:IN it:INAN POT:eat we:IN  
 Let’s go look for something to eat.”<sup>12</sup>
- 7.68 *chidó ndixún ñáha ñá’ú yú’té*  
 CON:spread:out behind KNO eagle river  
 An eagle chased him to the river.
- 7.69 *ínxán xwán ndí’ú tí ká yú’ú*  
 over:there INC:go POT:enter:again it:AML hip stone  
 THERE the rabbit hid under a rock.
- 7.70 *ínxán yukú kó’ó*  
 over:there CON:be:piled:up snake  
 THERE a snake was coiled.
- 7.71 *n-tní ñáha tí*  
 COM-grasp KNO it:AML  
 The snake grabbed him.
- 7.72 *n-shí’hí konexó*  
 COM-die rabbit  
 The rabbit died.<sup>13</sup>
- 7.73 *n-sheé ká tí*  
 COM-arrive ADD it:AML  
 Another rabbit arrived.
- 7.74 *vítná / ñá’ní-ř / ná xí’hín-ř*  
 now brother:ME-my:FAM HORT POT:go-I:FAM  
 ‘NOW, my brother, let me go!’

<sup>12</sup>Note the use of the we inclusive pronoun for soliloquy; some speakers do not, however, accept this. It is rather like the joking form used in English, “me, myself, and I.”

<sup>13</sup>Note that not only the villain but also the hero is punished in some way. This is typical of Diuxi-Tilantongo folktales.

7.75 *n-shí 'hí-ń*

COM-die-you:FAM:MS

You have died.

7.76 *ná kwikonuú-ń*

HORT POT:walk:around-I:FAM

Let me wander!

7.77 *nú n-shí 'hí-ń / á n-kakú-ń*

if COM-die-I:FAM OR COM-escape-I:FAM

If I die, I die; if I live, I live."<sup>14</sup> (lit. If I died or I escaped.)

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<sup>14</sup>This sentence does not fit the analysis developed in this sketch. It appears to be a formulaic proverbial saying. Compare it with the contrafactual construction described in §6.2.1.