

# Apinayé Grammar

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## 1. Introduction.

The levels in the Apinaye grammatical hierarchy to be discussed in this paper are as follows: Sentence, Clause, Phrase, Word, Stem, Morpheme. Phonologically determined Morpho-Phonemics will be written only within words.

### 1.1. Sentence level.

#### 1.1.1. Definition.

A sentence may be a single clause or a sequence of clauses, ± certain slots relevant only at sentence level. Any such sentence may constitute a complete utterance or fill a slot at some higher level.

#### 1.1.2. There are both simple and complex sentences.

##### 1.1.2.1. Complex sentences.

###### 1.1.2.1.1. Independent + Independent.

iñmã pico ηõ + pa kukrẽ  
me to banana give I it-eat

"Give me a banana and I'll eat it."

###### 1.1.2.1.2. Independent + Dependent.

nã pa ɔmu nẽ ʔapro  
did I it-see and it-buy

"I saw it and bought it."

##### 1.1.2.2. Simple sentences.

###### 1.1.2.2.1. Independent clause.

nã pa pico zapro  
did I banana buy

"I bought a banana."

###### 1.1.2.2.2. Independent clause + certain sentence level spots such as address, quotation.

cΛ nã Sit apumu  
query did Sit you-see

"Did Sit see you?"

## 1.2. Clause level.

### 1.2.1. Definition.

The clause is a unit filling a slot on the sentence level which has as its minimum either a Subject-Predicate, Subject-Complement, or Topic-Comment relationship.

## **1.2.2. There are two major types of clauses.**

### **1.2.2.1. Predicative.**

#### **1.2.2.1.1. Predicative clauses are of two major types.**

##### **1.2.2.1.1.1. Temporal.**

##### **1.2.2.1.1.2. Habitual.**

#### **1.2.2.1.2. Temporal and Habitual clauses.**

Both Temporal and Habitual are further sub-divided into Transitive and Intransitive type clauses.

#### **1.2.2.1.3. Temporal clauses types are of three basic types.**

##### **1.2.2.1.3.1. Indicative.**

##### **1.2.2.1.3.2. Intentive.**

##### **1.2.2.1.3.3. Imperative.**

### **1.2.2.2. Non-Predicative.**

#### **1.2.2.2.1. Equational.**

#### **1.2.2.2.2. Existential.**

## **1.3. Phrase level.**

The phrase is a potential sequence of two or more words, which function as a unit and fill a slot on the clause level. The two types of phrases are:

### **1.3.1. Noun phrases.**

### **1.3.2. Verb phrases.**

## **1.4. Word level.**

A word consists of one or more stems ± affixes filling a slot in a phrase. There are four classes of words.

### **1.4.1. Noun Words.**

### **1.4.2. Verb Words.**

### **1.4.3. Descriptive Words.**

### **1.4.4. Relational Words.**

## **1.5. Stem level.**

A stem consists of one or more morphemes, which form a unit with potential for affixation, filling a slot on the word level. There are four classes of stems:

**1.5.1. Noun stems.**

**1.5.2. Verb stems.**

**1.5.3. Descriptive stems.**

**1.5.4. Relational stems.**

**1.6. Morpheme level.**

Morphemes are minimal meaningful units. They are divided into three classes, each filling slots at different levels,

**1.6.1. Functionals.**

Functional morphemes fill slots on the clause level. They are phonologically free, but do not occur in isolation.

**1.6.2. Affixes.**

Affixes are morphemes which fill slots on the word level.

**1.6.3. Roots.**

Roots are morphemes which fill slots on the stem level. There are four classes of roots.

**1.6.3.1. Noun roots.**

**1.6.3.2. Verb roots.**

**1.6.3.3. Descriptive roots.**

**1.6.3.4. Relational roots.**

**2. The hierarchical structure in detail.**

**2.1. Sentence level structure.**

**2.1.1. Definition.**

A sentence may be a single clause or a sequence of clauses, ± certain slots relevant only at sentence level. Any such sentence may constitute a complete utterance or fill a slot at some higher level.

**2.1.2. Internal structure.**

**2.1.2.1. Simple sentences consist of one independent clause.**

nã	pa	ñĩ	
did	I	sit	"I sat."

**2.1.2.2. Complex sentences consist of:**

**2.1.2.2.1. Independent + Independent clauses.**

kot	iñne	ket	pa	ma	tẽ	
fut.	me-keep	neg.	I	away	go	"If he doesn't keep me, I'll go."

**N.B.** nē clause "being" type marker, only occurs pause group final, therefore when the first clause in a complex sentence is a "being" type (+nē) (the nē then would be pause group medial), the nē disappears. Any two independent clauses can be together in one sentence with the only change being the absence of this nē.

**2.1.2.2.2. Independent + Dependent, joined by connector nē or ñũm.**

iñmã	ʔo	amēckrut	nē	aŋõ	
me-to	with	two	and	it-give	"give me two"
					(lit. "two it and give it to me")

pa	mã	tē	nē	nõ	
I	away	go	and	lie	"I'm going and lie down."

**N.B.** As mentioned in 2.1.2.2.2., Being clause type nē also disappears when followed in the same sentence by a dependent clause. The nē left in this case is the connector "and", which only occurs pause group medial.

**2.1.2.2.3. Independent clause + Sentence Level tagmeme.**

**2.1.2.2.3.1. Address tagmeme.**

This slot always occurs initial in a sentence.

mãz	pa	kape	kapõ	
mother	I	outdoors	sweep	"Mother, I'll sweep outdoors."

**2.1.2.2.3.2. Response tagmeme.**

This always occurs initial also.

ə	nã	pa	ra	ɔmu	
yes	did	I	already	it-see	"Yes, I've already seen it."

**2.1.2.2.3.3. Question tagmeme.**

This may be preceded by the Address slot.

**2.1.2.2.3.3.1. Independent clause + question marker.**

cʌ	nã	ka	ɔmu	
query	did	you	it-see	"Did you see it?"

mɔ	kaciv	nã	ka	ʔapro	
why	did	you	it-buy	"Why did you buy it?"	

2.1.2.2.3.3.2. Independent clause in which the Object slot is taken out of the clause and replaced initially with a question word.

mō nā ka ʔapro  
what did you it-buy "What did you buy?"

2.1.2.2.3.4. Quotation tagmeme.

This is composed of a Relational<sub>1</sub> slot (filled by kām) preceded by ± Tense ± Subject slots. The end of the quotation is usually followed by an "end quote" nē.

nā kām nā pa ra ḡōr nē  
did to-her did I already sleep "He said, 'I've already slept.' "

This may be reduced by dropping the Tense and Relational slots, leaving Subject only.

ka nā pa ɔmu nē  
you did I it-see "You say, 'I saw it.' "

Or by dropping the Tense and Subject slots, leaving the Relational slot.

kām nā pa nē nē  
to her did I sit "Tell her, 'I've already sat.' "

2.1.2.2.3.5. Emphasis tagmeme.

A slot may be emphasized by taking it out of its normal place within a sentence and putting it at the beginning in an Emphasis slot. The slots, which may occur in the Emphasis slot, are: Subject, Object, Relational, and occasionally Aspect. Words in this slot are emphatically stressed, and there is a slight break before the rest of the sentence.

kokoz nā pa ɔmu  
monkey did I it-see "It was a monkey that I saw."

2.1.2.2.3.5.1. When the Subject in the Emphasis slot is a pronoun (ka, pa) the Subject is repeated in its normal place after the Tense slot.

pa nā pa ʔapro  
I did I it-buy "I was the one who bought it."

2.1.2.2.3.5.2. When, in a Habitual clause type, the Subject or Object is in the Emphasis slot, certain obligatory slots must occur with it. The occurrence of the additional slots is conditioned by the alternate order (presence of Emphasis slot).

<u>Relat.</u>	<u>Obj.</u>	<u>Pred.</u>	
ictɛ	kaŋʌ	pumuñ	
I	paper	know	"I know paper."

<u>Emp:</u>	<u>Obj.</u>	<u>Tense</u>	<u>Sub.</u>	<u>Relat.</u>	<u>Pred.</u>	
kaŋʌ	nã	pa	ictɛ	ɔmuñ		
paper	do	I	I	know		"Paper is what I know."

<u>Emp:</u>	<u>Sub.</u>	<u>Tense</u>	<u>Relat.</u>	<u>Obj.</u>	<u>Pred.</u>	
pa	nã	ictɛ	kaŋʌ	pumuñ		
I	do	I	paper	know		"I am the one who knows paper."

## 2.2. The clause level structure.

### 2.2.1. Introduction.

#### 2.2.1.1. Definition.

The clause is a unit filling a slot on the sentence level, which has as its minimum either a Subject-Predicate, Subject-Complement, or Topic-Comment relationship.

#### 2.2.1.2. There are two main independent clause types: **Predicative and Non-Predicative.**

##### 2.2.1.2.1. Predicative.

Predicative has as a minimum some type of predication. Predicative clauses are of two types.

##### 2.2.1.2.1.1. Transitive

Transitive clauses, which have an obligatory object. This object may be manifested in one of three ways in any given clause:

##### 2.2.1.2.1.1.1. In a separate object slot.

<u>Tense</u>	<u>Subj.</u>	<u>Obj.</u>	<u>Pred.</u>	
nã	pa	pico	zapro	
did	I	banana	buy	"I bought a banana."

##### 2.2.1.2.1.1.2. As a person prefix object, bound to the verb in the Predicate slot.

<u>Tense</u>	<u>Subj.</u>	<u>Obj.-Pred.</u>	
nã	pa	a-pumu	
did	I	you-see	"I saw you."

2.2.1.2.1.1.3. In the verb itself, when the object is not specifically expressed.

Tense	Subj.	Pred.	
nā	pa	kuka	
did	I	it-roast	"I roasted it."

#### 2.2.1.2.1.2. Intransitive

Intransitive clauses, which never take an object, and which usually repeat the subject as a person prefix on the verb. N.B. It should be noted at this point that in this language there is a difference between first and second person and third person on all levels. This will be explained as relevant.

**N.B.B.** Verb stems usually have two allomorphs. Allomorph 1 is used in Temporal clause types when the verb occurs slot final.

nā	pa	ʔapro	
did	I	it-buy	"I bought it."

Allomorph 2 is used slot medial, and in Habitual clause types.

nā	pa	ʔapror	ket	nē	
did	I	it-buy	neg.		"I didn't buy it."

icte	ʔapror		
I	it-buy		"I buy it."

VS<sub>1</sub> will refer to verb stems with allomorph 1.

VS<sub>2</sub> will refer to verb stems with allomorph 2 of all verbs which have 2 allomorphs, and to allomorph 1 of the others.

#### 2.2.1.2.2. Non-Predicative.

Non-Predicative clause types have as a minimum a Subject-Complement or Topic-Comment relationship. These, as the name states, carry no form of predication, differing in internal structure from the Predicative clause types mainly by the absence of a Predicate slot.

### 2.2.2. Description of clause types.

#### 2.2.2.1. Predicative clause types are sub-divided into two main types.

##### 2.2.2.1.1. Temporal clause types.

This type has the idea of a single action, completed in time. These are further divided into three classes;

###### 2.2.2.1.1.1. Indicative.

###### 2.2.2.1.1.2. Intention - intention to carry out an action.

###### 2.2.2.1.1.3. Imperative.

Each of the above sub-classes is further sub-divide into two sub classes:

action

being - this type has an obligatory nē clause marker, occurring final in the clause.

### 2.2.2.1.2. Habitual clause types.

This type carries the idea of a continual action, or something that always occurs,

### 2.2.2.2. Non-Predicate clause types.

These carry no form of predication. There are two types.

#### 2.2.2.2.1. Equational.

#### 2.2.2.2.2. Existential.

## 2.2.3. Formulas

### 2.2.3.1. Temporal Indicative

#### 2.2.3.1.1. Two classes of Temporal Indicative clauses

##### 2.2.3.1.1.1. Action Indicative. Formulas for this type are:

	<u>TRANSITIVE</u>					<u>INTRANSITIVE</u>			
1.	Tense	Subj.	Obj.	Pred. <sub>1</sub>		Tense	Subj.	Pred. <sub>1</sub>	
	nã	pa	pico	zapro		nã	pa	icprõt	
	did	I	banana	buy		did	I	I-run	
	"I bought a banana."					"I ran."			
2.	Tense	Subj.	Relat. <sub>1</sub>	Obj.	Pred. <sub>1</sub>	Tense	Subj.	Relat. <sub>1</sub>	Pred. <sub>1</sub>
	nã	pa	kãm	pico	ŋõ	nã	pa	kãm	ickato
	did	I	to-him	banana	give	did	I	to-it	I-find
	"I gave him a banana."					"I found it."			

##### 2.2.3.1.1.2. Being Indicative. Formulas for this type are:

1.	Tense	Subj.	Obj.	Pred. <sub>2</sub>		Tense	Subj.	Pred. <sub>2</sub>	
	nã	pa	Sit	kamñic nē		nã	pa	iñgrik nē	
	did	I	Sit	suspect		was	I	I-mad	
	"I suspected Sit."					"I was mad."			
2.	Tense	Subj.	Relat. <sub>2</sub>	Obj.	Pred. <sub>2</sub>	Tense	Subj.	Relat. <sub>2</sub>	Pred. <sub>2</sub>
	nã	pa	iñmã	pico	cañ nē	nã	pa	iñmã	kri nē
	do	I	me-to	bananas	like	am	I	me-to	cold
	"I like bananas."					"I'm cold."			

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>3. Tense Subj. Obj. Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/> nã pa pico zapror ket nẽ<br/> do I banana buy neg.<br/> "I didn't buy the banana."</p>                                 | <p>Tense Subj. Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/> nã pa icprõt ket nẽ<br/> do I I-run neg.<br/> "I didn't run."</p>                                   |
| <p>4. Tense Subj. Relat.<sub>1</sub> Obj. Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/> nã pa kãm pico ñõr ket nẽ<br/> did I to-her banana give neg.<br/> "I didn't give her a banana."</p> | <p>Tense Subj. Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/> nã pa kãm ickatør ket nẽ<br/> did I to-it find neg.<br/> "I didn't find it."</p> |

### 2.2.3.1.2. Reduced Minimums.

These clauses may be reduced by dropping the Subject and/or Object slots.

#### 2.2.3.1.2.1. Action.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>TRANSITIVE<br/> 1. Tense Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/> nã ʔapro<br/> did it-buy<br/> "He bought it."</p>                                    | <p>INTRANSITIVE<br/> Tense Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/> nã ʔprõt<br/> did he-run<br/> "He ran."</p>                                |
| <p>TRANSITIVE<br/> 2. Tense Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/> nã kãm kuḡõ<br/> did to-her it-give<br/> "He gave it to her."</p> | <p>INTRANSITIVE<br/> Tense Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/> nã kãm katõ<br/> did to-it find<br/> "He found it."</p> |

#### 2.2.3.1.2.2. Being.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>TRANSITIVE<br/> 1. Tense Pred.<sub>2</sub><br/> nã ʔkamñĩc nẽ<br/> did her-suspect<br/> "He suspected her."</p>               | <p>INTRANSITIVE<br/> Tense Pred.<sub>2</sub><br/> nã ɳrik nẽ<br/> did mad<br/> "He's mad."</p>                                   |
| <p>TRANSITIVE<br/> 2. Tense Relat.<sub>2</sub> Pred.<sub>2</sub><br/> nã kãm ʌñ nẽ<br/> did to-her like<br/> "She liked it."</p> | <p>INTRANSITIVE<br/> Tense Relat.<sub>2</sub> Pred.<sub>2</sub><br/> nã kãm kri nẽ<br/> did to-her cold<br/> "She was cold."</p> |

TRANSITIVE  
 3. Tense Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 nã ʔapror ket nẽ  
 did it-buy neg.  
 "He didn't buy it."

INTRANSITIVE  
 Tense Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 nã ʔprõt ket nẽ  
 did he-run neg.  
 "He didn't run."

TRANSITIVE  
 4. Tense Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 nã kãm õr ket nẽ  
 did to-her give neg.  
 "He didn't give it to her."

INTRANSITIVE  
 Tense Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 nã ʔã karõ ʔket nẽ  
 did on it picture neg.  
 "He didn't order it."

### 2.2.3.2. Temporal Intentive clause types.

#### 2.2.3.2.1. These are divided into two classes.

##### 2.2.3.2.1.1. Action. Formulas are:

TRANSITIVE  
 1. Subj. Obj. Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 pa kuveñ pumu  
 I bird see  
 "I'm going to see the bird."

INTRANSITIVE  
 Subj. Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 pa icprõt  
 I I-run  
 "I'm going to run."

TRANSITIVE  
 2. Subj. Relat.<sub>1</sub> Obj. Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 pa ʔo apa kukõ  
 I with it your arm rub  
 "I'm going to rub your arm with it."

INTRANSITIVE  
 Subj. Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 pa kãm akiz  
 I to-her call  
 "I'm going to call her" "I call her."

##### 2.2.3.2.1.2. Being. Formulas are:

TRANSITIVE  
 1. Subj. Obj. Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 pa kuveñ pumuñ ket nẽ  
 I bird see neg.  
 "I'm not going to see the bird."

INTRANSITIVE  
 Subj. Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 pa icprõt ket nẽ  
 I I-run neg.  
 "I'm not going to run."

TRANSITIVE  
 2. Subj. Relat.<sub>1</sub> Obj. Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 pa kãm pico ñõr ket nẽ  
 I to-her banana give neg.  
 "I'm not going to give her a banana."

INTRANSITIVE  
 Subj. Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 pa kãm icakzer ket nẽ  
 I to-her I-call neg.  
 "I'm not going to call her."

**N.B.** It is possible that there are two more possibilities of formulas in both "temporal Intentive" above and also in "Temporal Imperative" below. Two possibilities in action and being both are probable, and need checking.

### 2.2.3.2.2. Reduced Minimums.

These clauses may be reduced by dropping the Object slot. (Transitive only)

#### 2.2.3.2.2.1. Action clauses.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1. Subj. Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/>         pa ɔmu<br/>         I it-see<br/>         "I'm going to see it."</p> | <p>2. Subj. Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/>         pa ʔɔ kukõ<br/>         I with it it-rub<br/>         "I'm going to rub it with it."</p> |
|---|--|

#### 2.2.3.2.2.2. Being clauses.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>1. Subj. Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/>         pa omũ ket nẽ<br/>         I it-see neg.<br/>         "I'm not going to see it."</p> | <p>2. Subj. Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/>         pa kãm õr ket nẽ<br/>         I to her it-give neg.<br/>         "I'm not going to give it to him."</p> |
|---|---|

### 2.2.3.3. Temporal Imperative clause types.

#### 2.2.3.3.1. There are two classes:

##### 2.2.3.3.1.1. Action.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1. TRANSITIVE<br/>         Obj. Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/>         kaŋΔ pumu<br/>         paper see<br/>         "Look at the paper."</p>                               | <p>INTRANSITIVE<br/>         Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/>         aprõt<br/>         aprõt<br/>         "Run!"</p>                                      |
| <p>2. TRANSITIVE<br/>         Relat.<sub>1</sub> Obj. Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/>         kãm pico ŋõ<br/>         to-him banana give<br/>         "Give him a banana."</p> | <p>INTRANSITIVE<br/>         Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/>         kãm akiz<br/>         to-her you-call<br/>         "Call her."</p> |

##### 2.2.3.3.1.2. Being

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>1. TRANSITIVE<br/>         Obj. Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/>         pico zapror ket nẽ<br/>         banana buy neg.<br/>         "Don't buy a banana."</p> | <p>INTRANSITIVE<br/>         Pred.<sub>1</sub><br/>         aprõt ket nẽ<br/>         you-run neg.<br/>         "Don't run."</p> |
|--|--|

TRANSITIVE  
 2. Relat.<sub>1</sub> Obj. Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 ?ɔ icpa kukō ket nē  
 with my-arm rub neg.  
 "Don't rub my arm with it."

INTRANSITIVE  
 Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 kām scakzer ket nē  
 to-her you-call neg.  
 "Don't call her."

#### 2.2.3.3.2. Reduced Minimums.

These clauses may be reduced by dropping the Object slot. (Transitive only)

##### 2.2.3.3.2.1. Action.

1. Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 umĩ  
 it bake  
 "Bake it."

Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 kām aŋō  
 to her it-give  
 "Give it to her."

##### 2.2.3.3.2.2. Being.

1. Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 umĩr ket nē  
 it-bake neg.  
 "Don't bake it."

2. Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 kām ōr ket nē  
 to-her it-give neg.  
 "Don't give it to her."

#### 2.2.3.4. Expansions.

Temporal clause types may be expanded by adding an Aspect slot, which usually follows the Subject; a Number slot which may follow the Subject or precede the Object, Relational, or Predicate slot (precedes Aspect following Subject), a Directional slot which precedes the Predicate or Object, and up to two relational slots which normally precede the object.

Tense	Subj.	Number	Aspect	Relat.	Relat.	Obj.	Pred.
nā	pa	nē	ra	zaʔā	ape	pico	zapro
did	I	pl.	already	today	you-from	banana	buy

"We've already bought a banana from you today."

#### 2.2.3.5. Habitual clause types.

TRANSITIVE  
 1a. Relat.<sub>2</sub> Obj. Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 ictē pico zapror  
 I bananas buy  
 "I buy bananas."

INTRANSITIVE  
 1b. Relat.<sub>2</sub> Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 ictε ?ɔ ic peñ  
 I with-it I-work  
 "I work it."

TRANSITIVE  
 2. Relat.<sub>2</sub> Relat.<sub>1</sub> Obj. Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 icte kām pico ñōr  
 I to-them bananas give  
 "I give them bananas."

INTRANSITIVE  
 3. Predicate<sub>2</sub>  
 iññrik  
 I-mad  
 "I'm mad."

TRANSITIVE  
 4a. Relat.<sub>2</sub> Obj. Pred.<sub>2</sub>  
 iñmā pico cañ  
 me-to bananas like  
 "I like bananas."

INTRANSITIVE  
 4b. Relat.<sub>2</sub> Pred.<sub>2</sub>  
 iñmā kri  
 me-to cold  
 "I am cold."

### 2.2.3.5.1. Reduced Minimums.

Habitual clause types may be reduced by dropping the Object slot. (Transitive only)

1. Relat.<sub>2</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 icte ʔapror  
 I it-buy  
 "I buy it."

2. Relat.<sub>2</sub> Relat.<sub>1</sub> Pred.<sub>1</sub>  
 icte kām òr  
 I to-her it-give  
 "I give it to her."

3. Relat.<sub>2</sub> Pred.<sub>2</sub>  
 iñmā añ  
 me-to like  
 "I like it."

### 2.2.3.6. Non-Predicative Clause types.

#### 2.2.3.6.1. Equational.

1. Relat.<sub>2</sub> Compl.  
 icpe rəp  
 I dog  
 "I am a dog."

2. Subj. Tense Compl.  
 pico nā za  
 "That is a banana."

#### 2.2.3.6.2. Existential

Relat.<sub>1</sub> Comment  
 icpur kām pāi

"There is corn in my field."

## 2.2.4. Slot fillers

### 2.2.4.1. Tense slot is filled by time markers.

nã "non future"	nã pa ʔapro did I it-buy	"I bought it."
kõt "future"	kõt paz ʔapro fut. I it-buy	"I will buy it."

### 2.2.4.2. Subject slot is filled by:

#### 2.2.4.2.1. Noun phrases.

Subj.	Tense	Obj.	Pred.	Subj.	Tense	Pred.
Sit	nã	pico	zapro	pico rac	nã	tẽm
Sit	did	banana	it-bought	banana big	did	fall
"Sit bought a banana."				"The big banana fell."		

#### 2.2.4.2.2. Pronouns

pa "I"	ka "you"
--------	----------

##### 2.2.4.2.2.1. Person pronouns have two allomorphs.

###### 2.2.4.2.2.1.1. Allomorph 1 occurs in non-future clauses.

nã pa ʔapro did I it-buy "I bought it."	nã ka azarĩ did you you-jump "You jumped."
---	--

###### 2.2.4.2.2.1.2. Allomorph 2 (+-z) occurs with future tense marker.

kõt paz ɔmu fut. I it-see "I will see it."	kõt kaz aprõt fut. you you-run "You will run."
--	--

##### 2.2.4.2.2.2. There are two classes of pronouns:

###### 2.2.4.2.2.2.1. Person pronouns.

pa "I"	ka "you"
--------	----------

When a person pronoun fills the Subject slot, it always follows the Tense slot.

###### 2.2.4.2.2.2.2. Non-person pronouns.

za "this"	mũz "that"
-----------	------------

When non-person pronouns fill the Subject slot, the Subject may either precede or follow the Tense slot.

Subj.	Tense	Pred.
mũz	nã	tẽm
that	did	fall
"That fell."		

Tense	Subj.	Pred.
nã	mũz	tẽm
did	that	fall
"That fell."		

**2.2.4.3. Aspect slots are filled by a series of aspect markers.**

ra	"already"	ãm	"only"	te	"vainly"
pre	"completive"	ʔãm	"just now"	ʔte	"always"

nã	ka	ra	ɔmu
did	you	already	it-see
"You've already seen it."			

**2.2.4.4. Number slots are filled by dual and plural markers.**

va	"dual"	Tense	Num.	Pred.
mẽ	"plural"	nã	va	ɔmu
		did	2	it-see
"They two saw it."				

**2.2.4.5. Relational slots are filled by a series of relational markers ± a Noun Phrase. These are subdivided into three classes.**

**2.2.4.5.1. Location markers - either physical or temporal location.**

ʔã	"on"	mər	"over"
ʔipɨ	"on top of"	mẽ	"along with"
ʔirop	"over"	pe	"on"
ʔɔ	"with, by means of"	ri	"with"
kamã	"inside"	rũm	"away from"
kãm	"in"	tar	"there"
kot	"with"	vər	"toward"
mã	"on"	zar	"here"

**2.2.4.5.1.1. The ʔɔ and ʔã markers above may occur in an intransitive clause type in a pseudo-transitive construction, the relator occurring with object-like logic.**

Tense	Subj.	Pred.	Tense	Subj.	Relat.	Pred.
nã	pa	amũcu	nã	pa	ʔɔ	amũcu
did	I	hide	did	I	with it	hide
"I hid."			"I hid by means of it." (I hid it.)			

#### 2.2.4.5.2. Indirect Objects (Relational<sub>1</sub>).

kālm	"for, to her, him"	Tense	Subj.	Relat.	Pred.
kep	"from her, him"	nā	pa	kālm	kuṇō
		did	I	to-him	it-give
					"I gave it to him."

#### 2.2.4.5.3. Semantic subject (Relational<sub>2</sub>).

This relational repeats the Subject in this clause type. In another clause type (Habitual) the separate Subject slot doesn't occur, and the R<sub>2</sub> is semantically the subject.

kālm	"to him, her"	Tense	Subj.	Relat. <sub>2</sub>	Obj.	Pred.
		nā	pa	iñmā	pico	cañ nē
		do	I	me-to	banana	like
						"I like bananas."

#### 2.2.4.6. Directional slots are filled by directionals.

mā	"away"	Subj.	Direct.	Pred.
akupin	"returning"	pa	mā	tē
		I	away	go
				"I'm going away."

#### 2.2.4.7. Object slots are filled by Noun Phrases.

	Tense	Subj.	Obj.	Pred.
	nā	pa	kuveñ pumu	
	did	I	bird	see
				"I saw the bird."

#### 2.2.4.8. Predicate slot fillers.

##### 2.2.4.8.1. Verb phrases. There are two classes.

2.2.4.8.1.1. Class 1 verbs may occur alone in Predicate slot of Action Clause type, and as Head of a Verb Phrase in the Being Clause type.

	Tense	Subj.	Pred.		Tense	Subj.	Pred.
	nā	pa	?apro		nā	ka	?apror ket nē
	did	I	it-buy		did	you	it-buy neg.
			"I bought it."				"You didn't buy it."

2.2.4.8.1.2. Class 2 verbs occur in the Predicate slot of a Being clause type.

Tense	Subj.	Obj.	Pred.	
nã	ka	Sit	kamnic nẽ	
did	you	Sit	suspect	"You suspected Sit."

2.2.4.8.2. In addition, certain verbs require the presence of an R<sub>1</sub> slot. This adds an obligatory Relational slot to the formula, as shown in 2.1.3.1.1.1., etc.

2.2.4.8.2.1. Transitive verbs requiring R<sub>1</sub> slot:

karõ	"to order" (+ʔã)	kukõ	"to rub" (+ʔɔ)	kuɲõ	"to give" (+kãm)
------	------------------	------	----------------	------	------------------

2.2.4.8.2.2. Intransitive verbs requiring R<sub>1</sub> slot:

+ ʔã:	prã	"to do without"	+ kãm:	akiz	"to call"
+ ʔɔ:	ak	"to shake" (agitate)		ʔikra	"to arrange"
	añipa	"to exchange"	+ ri:	pa	"to walk"
	ackẽ	"to show off"			

2.2.4.9. Complement slot is filled by a Noun Phrase or Pronoun

Relat. <sub>2</sub>	Complement			
icpe pico	zapror	cvãñ		
I	bananas	buy	always	"I am a banana buyer."

2.2.4.10. Comment slot if filled by a Noun Phrase

Topic	Comment		
icpur kãm	pãi		
my-field in	corn		"There is corn in my field."

2.2.4.11. Connecting slots are filled by connectors.

Tense	Subj.	Pred.	Connector	Pred.
nẽ	"and"			
nũm	"subject changer"			
nã	ka	òmu	nẽ	nĩ
did	you	it-see	and	sit
				"You saw it and sat down."

### 2.2.5. Dependent clauses

2.2.5.1. Any independent clause may be a dependent clause with certain obligatory modifications.

2.2.5.2. The obligatory zero allo-tagmas in the Dependent Clause type are: Subject, Tense, Aspect slots.

Tense	Subj.	Obj.	Pred.	Connector	Relat. <sub>1</sub>	Obj.	Pred.
nã	pa	rɔp	pumu	nẽ	<u>kãm</u>	<u>ʔi</u>	<u>ŋõ</u>
did	I	dog	see	and	to-it	bone	give

"I saw the dog and gave it a bone." (Dependent clause underlined)

2.2.5.3. The reduced minimum of a Dependent clause is a Predicate slot.

Subj.	Directional	Pred.	Connect.	Pred.
pa	mã	tẽ	nẽ	<u>ʔapro</u>
I	away	go	and	it-buy

"I'm going away and buy it." (Dependent clause underlined)

### 2.3. Phrase level structure.

The phrase is a potential sequence of two or more words which function as a unit and fill a slot on the clause level. There are two kinds of phrases.

#### 2.3.1. Noun phrases

Noun phrases occur in Subject and Object slots on the clause level. Noun phrase tagmemes are:

##### 2.3.1.1. Head filled by noun

<u>pico</u>	nã	tẽm	
banana	did	fall	"The banana fell."

##### 2.3.1.2. Modifier filled by noun + Head filled by noun

<u>rɔp</u>	<u>kra</u>	nã	muv	
dog	child	is	cry	"The dog's child is crying."

##### 2.3.1.3. Head filled by noun + Modifier filled by Descriptive

<u>pico</u>	<u>rac</u>	nã	tẽm	
banana	big	did	fall	"The big banana fell."

##### 2.3.1.4. Modifier filled by Possessive + Head filled by Noun.

<u>iñõ</u>	<u>pico</u>	nã	tẽm	
my	banana	did	fall	"My banana fell."



### 2.4.1.1.2. Noun stem + possessive prefix, composing Noun stem class 2.

#### 2.4.1.1.2.1. Class 2 noun stems are inalienably possessed.

icpa	"my arm"	ʔakva	"his mouth"
apa	"your arm"	azakva	"your mouth"

N.G. There are some noun stems which may be either Class 1 or 2. If the word refers to an object which was made by the speaker, to him it is inalienable, but to another person it is alienable.

ickavΛ	"my basket" (I made it.)	iñõ kavΛ	"my basket" (I bought it.)
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#### 2.4.1.1.3. Verb Stem<sub>2</sub> (VS<sub>2</sub>).

acapeñ	"your work"	mər	"crying"
--------	-------------	-----	----------

#### 2.4.1.1.4. Verb stem + nominalizers.

ʔapror cvən	"buyer"	(cvəñ - "er")
ʔipec cΛ	"making thing"	(cΛ - thing)

ate	əmuñ	cΛ	
you	it-know	thing	"your knowledge"

### 2.4.2. Verbs.

Verb words fill head slots on the phrase level.

#### 2.4.2.1. Internal Construction.

##### 2.4.2.1.1. Verb stem.

##### 2.4.2.1.1.1. Transitive VS.

nã	<u>ʔapro</u>	"He bought it."	nã	<u>kuma</u>	"He heard it."
----	--------------	-----------------	----	-------------	----------------

##### 2.4.2.1.1.2. Intransitive VS

nã	<u>ʔarĩ</u>	"He jumped."	nã	<u>cva</u>	"He bathed."
----	-------------	--------------	----	------------	--------------

##### 2.4.2.1.2. Subject prefix + VS.

##### 2.4.2.1.2.1. Intransitive VS.

nã	ka	<u>aprõt</u>	
did	you	you-run	"You ran."

### 2.4.3. Descriptives.

Descriptive words fill Modifier slots in Noun and Verb phrases and occur as Head of Predicate slots in a "being" type Temporal Clause.

#### 2.4.3.1. Internal construction.

##### 2.4.3.1.1. Descriptive stem.

Tense	Subj.	Obj.		Pred.
nã	pa	pico	<u>mɛc</u>	zapro
did	I	banana	good	buy

"I bought a good banana."

Tense	Subj.	Relat.		Pred.
nã	pa	ʔo	mɛc	nẽ
did	I	with it	good	

"I made it good."

Tense	Subj	Predicate	
nã	pa	ʔapror	<u>mɛc</u> nẽ
did	I	it-buy	well

"I bought it well."

##### 2.4.3.1.2. Descriptive stem + Person prefix

iñmɛc  
I-good  
"I'm good."

atik  
you-dirty  
"You're dirty."

### 2.4.4. Relationals

Relational words fill Relator slots ± Noun phrases on a clause level,

#### 2.4.4.1. Internal Construction.

##### 2.4.4.1.1. Relational stem

Tense	Relat.	Pred.
nã	<u>ʔipɪ</u>	tẽm

"It fell on top of it."

##### 2.4.4.1.2. Person prefix + Relational stem.

ickutep ca  
me-wait stand

"Wait for me."

## 2.5. Stem level structure.

Stems are morphemes with potential affixation which fill slots on the word level. There are four classes of stems.

### 2.5.1. Noun stems.

#### 2.5.1.1. Internal construction.

##### 2.5.1.1.1. Simple stems - composed of 1 morpheme.

pico "banana"

##### 2.5.1.1.2. Compound stems - composed of 2 morphemes.

krãʔi		pĩʔpə
seed-head	"comb" (of rooster)	wood-wide "stool"

#### 2.5.1.2. Noun stems are divided into two classes:

##### 2.5.1.2.1. Class I - Alienable stems.

pico "banana"

##### 2.5.1.2.2. Class 2 - Inalienable stems, which occur with possessive prefix

icpa "my arm"

### 2.5.2. Verb stems.

#### 2.5.2.1. Internal construction.

##### 2.5.2.1.1. Simple - 1 morpheme.

muv	"to cry"	ʔapro	"to buy"
-----	----------	-------	----------

##### 2.5.2.1.2. Compound stems - composed of two morphemes.

pi kunə "to be lost"

#### 2.5.2.2. Verb Classes.

There are two classes of verb stems, classified according to the prefixes which occur with them.

##### 2.5.2.2.1. Transitive verbs.

Transitive verb stems occur only with ± object prefixes.

icpumu  
me-see "Look at me."

#### 2.5.2.2.2. Intransitive verbs.

Intransitive verb stems occur only with subject prefixes.

##### 2.5.2.2.2.1. Intransitive stems which occur with person prefixes.

aprōt  
you-run "Run!"

##### 2.5.2.2.2.2. Intransitive stems which occur with reflexive prefixes.

amnĩ-aʔta  
reflex-experiment "experiment"

#### 2.5.2.2.3 Transitive/Intransitive verbs.

There is in addition a limited number of stems, which may be either Transitive or Intransitive. In this set, VS<sub>1</sub> is Intransitive, VS<sub>2</sub> is Transitive.

TRANSITIVE - VS <sub>2</sub>		INTRANSITIVE - VS <sub>1</sub>	
ñĩr	"sit"	ñĩ	
tər	"fly"	tə	
kətər	"let out"	kato	
cãm	"stand"	ca	

#### 2.5.3. Descriptive Stems.

rac	"large"	kamrek	"red"
mēc	"good"	pici	"one"

#### 2.5.4. Relational stems.

ʔã	"on"	ʔo	"with"
ʔipĩ	"on top of"	mər	"over"

## 2.6. Morpheme level structure.

Morphemes are minimal meaningful units, divided into three classes which fill slots at different levels.

### 2.6.1. Morpheme classes.

2.6.1.1. Function Morphemes are items which fill slots on a clause level. They are phonologically free, but do not occur in isolation. The underlined morphemes below are function morphemes.

nā kām kuṇḍ  
"He gave it to her."

nā ām mē omu  
"He only saw them."

2.6.2.1. Affixes are morphemes which fill slots on the word level. There are both prefixes and suffixes.

2.6.1.2.1. Prefixes are confined to person markers. 1st and 2nd person markers may occur on any class of word. 3rd person prefixes occur initially or are inherent within the stem.

ic- i- 1st person (i- before words beginning with c, ñ, z., ic- elsewhere)

a- 2nd person

i? ? 3rd person (i?- pause group initial before stops, ?- elsewhere)

apa "your arm"

icpītī "I'm heavy."

i?pa "his arm"

2.6.1.2.2. Suffixes are divided into two classes, those which occur with all classes of words, and those which occur only with verbs.

2.6.1.2.2.1. Suffixes which occur on all words are size suffixes.

picotī "big banana" (-tī -augmentative)

picorē "little banana" (-rē - Diminutive)

2.6.1.2.2.2. Suffixes which occur only on verb words are further sub-divided as to occurrence on VS<sub>1</sub> or VS<sub>2</sub> or Verb II.

2.6.1.2.2.2.1. Suffixes which occur only with VS<sub>1</sub>.

mān "desiderative"

pa omu mān  
"I want to see it."

2.6.1.2.2.2.2. Suffixes which occur only with VS<sub>2</sub> and Verb Class II.

2.6.1.2.2.2.2.1. Nominalizer.

kuvī nīpeccā  
fire make thing

"fire making thing"

2.6.1.2.2.2.2.2. Clause type marker (Mark Being clause).

nã	pa	iñmã	pico	cañ	<u>nẽ</u>	
do	I	me-to	bananas	like		"I like bananas."

2.6.1.2.2.2.2.3. Modals.

ɲi	"stop"	aceeñi
ñi	"always"	you-lie-always
		"you habitually lie"

2.6.1.3. Roots are morphemes which fill slots on the stem level. There are four classes of roots.

2.6.1.3.1. Noun roots.

pĩ	"stick"
----	---------

2.6.1.3.2. Verb roots.

muv	"to cry"
-----	----------

2.6.1.3.3. Descriptive roots.

rac	"big"
-----	-------

2.6.1.3.4. Relational roots.

kep	"from"	?ipi	"on top of"
-----	--------	------	-------------

2.6.1.3.2. There is within and cutting thru the above classes a class of morphemes which change shape on a Morpho-Phonemic basis according to the following rules:

2.6.1.3.2.1. When two morphemes of this class meet, the 1st being an "explicit specifier" (either separate stem or prefix) relationship to the 2nd, the 2nd morpheme changes shape initially. This change may be the addition or change of the initial phoneme, or the drop or change of the initial syllable. The chart below shows each different type of possibility of change in each class. This change may occur between: Object and Predicate, Possessor and Head, Noun and Modifier, Noun and Relational. (The underscored words change shape initially)

		<u>Phoneme change</u>		<u>Syllable change</u>	
		+ ʔ	+	+	
		-	-	ʔ ~ z	~
Noun	f	ʔkra	ãm "chin"	ʔakva "mouth"	
	b	- kra "child"	Sit ñãm "Sit's chin"	Sit zakva "Sit's mouth"	
Descr.	f	ʔkamrek	oʔto "many"	ʔaka "white"	utĩ "heavy"
	b	- kamrek "red"	pico coʔto "banana many"	pico zaka "banana white"	pico pitĩ "banana heavy"
Relat.	f	ʔkutep	aʔ~ "wait"	ʔipi "on top of"	kuri "with"
	b	- kutep "wait for"	Sit caʔã "Sit wait for"	Sit ñĩpi "Sit on top of"	Sit ri "Sit with"
Verb	f	ʔkapa	ãm "cook"	ʔapro "buy"	kuka "roast"
	b	- kapa "remove"	ʔaroz cãm "rice cook"	pico zapro "banana buy"	pico ka "banana roast"
					omu "see" pico pumu "banana see"

Key: f - free stems (specifier "it" is implicit in the stem)  
b - bound stems (specifier is explicitly named)

2.6.1.3.2.2. In addition to initial changes, there are a few words which, when they occur word finally, drop or change the final syllable. This class is very limited, so far only four words have been noted.

<u>ʔõcpĩ</u>	"to kill another one"	<u>nõpcΔ</u>	"sore eye"
ʔõ	"another "	nõ	"eye"
<u>ʔockãm</u>	"in the creek"	<u>mãmñi</u>	"whiner"
ʔo	"water"	mər	"cry" (VS <sub>2</sub> )

2.6.1.3.3. There is also some phonologically determined Morpho-Phonemics which occurs when two consonants come together at a morpheme juncture. For complete write-up on this occurrence, see the following Linguistic Report of November 1960, Section I.

LINGUISTIC REPORT OF NOVEMBER 1960,  
SECTION I.  
BY PAT HAM

I. Morpho-Phonemics: Consonant + Consonant.

A. Compensatory Length.

When stops and nasals meet consonants or a glottal stop plus another consonant at the same point of articulation, and when 2 r's meet, the vowel immediately preceding these consonants is lengthened and the first of the 2 consonants drops out unless it is a nasal preceding a stop or a z. The nasal under these conditions is retained.

['ton]	+	[ndiv]	=	[to•'ndiv]	"tatú novo"
[ tɛp]	+	[mbɛc]	=	[tɛ•'mbɛc]	"good fish"
['pur]	+	[rac]	=	[pu•'rac]	"big field"
['peñ]	+	[cet]	=	[pe•ñ'cet]	"burned ball"

Note: /k/ acts like a homo-organic consonant to all consonants except /r/ and /ʔ/, and freely fluctuates as a homo-organic consonant with /v/ and /z/.

['kok]	+	[pic]	=	[ko•'pic]	"just wind"
['kok]	+	[mbɛc]	=	[ko•'mbɛc]	"good wind"

Exceptions:

m + v = mv	['tɔm]	+	[vɛr]	=	['tɔm'vɛr]	"to the frickle"
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t + r:

Vt + r = Vdr	['krit]	+	[rac]	=	['krid'rac]	"big bug"
Ũt + r = Ũnr	['prɔt]	+	[rac]	=	['prɔn'rac]	"big run"

n + r = nr	['ton]	+	[rac]	=	['ton'rac]	"big armadillo"
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B. Assimilation.

At different points of articulation:

1.	Stop	+	Nasal	=	Nasal + Nasal	
	[mboc]	+	[ndiv]	=	[mboñ'ndiv]	"new calf"

2. Stop + Stop = Vl. Stop + Vl. Stop  
[mboc] + [bici] = [mbocpɨ'ci] "just one cow"

3. Stop + v/z/r = Vd. Stop + v/z/r  
[mboc] + [rac] = [mboj'rac] "big cow"

Exceptions:

$\check{V}c + r = \check{V}\check{n}r$  [ictõc] + [rac] = [ictõñ'rac] "my big sister"

Both consonants retaining original point of articulation.