

Problem #3. Rules:

1. Adjectives follow their nouns.
2. A noun (or the adjective if there is one) gets the marker **-ě**, unless it is inalienably possessed (body part, kinship term); in the latter case it is preceded by the possessor.
3. Alienable possession is expressed by **á** between the possessor and the possessed.
4. In compound nouns the last syllable has low tone (“˘”).

- (a) **mùsúě á gbòmùě**: the woman’s fish
léŋ kúndúě á nyìmùě: the short child’s snake
gbòmù-lèndè kúndúě: the short boat
- (b) **kándò-lèndè lòdè**: the small airplane
- (c) the eagle’s snake: **kàánjàě á nyìmùě**
the small child’s eye: **léŋ lòdè já**
the tall man’s sister: **kàì jǎŋě lòdè-mùsù**
the small baby-snake: **nyìmù-lèŋ lòdè**

Problem #4. In compound nouns the left-hand part modifies the right-hand one. A noun gets the ending **-tl/li** unless it has one of the suffixes **-capil** (dimin.), **-huah** ‘one who has ...’, **-tlah/lah** ‘place of many ...’, or **-tzintli** ‘revered ...’ (**-li** and **-lah** after **l**, otherwise **-tl** and **-tlah**).

- (a)
- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| a-cal-huah | canoe owner (a-cal-li canoe, “water house”) |
| a-chil-li | water pepper |
| a-tl | water |
| cal-lah | village |
| cal-huah | master of house |
| chil-a-tl | chili water |
| chil-li | chili |
| col-li | grandfather/ancestor |
| col-tzintli | revered grandfather/ancestor |
| cone-huah | mother, “one who has child(ren)” |
| cone-huah-capil | mom(my) |
| cone-tl | child |
| oquich-cone-tl | boy, male child |
| oquich-huah | wife, “one who has a husband” |
| oquich-totol-tzintli | revered turkey-cock |
| te-huah | possessor of stones |
| te-tlah | stony ground |
| totol-te-tl | turkey egg |
- (b) house: **calli** stone: **tetl** possessor of water: **ahuah**
revered man/husband: **oquichtzintli**
- (c) **cacahua-tl**: cocoa **cacahua-te-tl**: cocoa bean
cacahua-a-tl: cocoa drink **cacahua-huah**: possessor of cocoa