

Problem #3. Rules:

1. Adjectives follow their nouns.
2. A noun (or the adjective if there is one) gets the marker -é, 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) mÙsÙé á gbòmÙé: the woman’s fish
 léj kÙndÚé á nyÌmÌé: the short child’s snake
 gbòmÙ-lÈndÈ kÙndÚé: the short boat
- (b) kÁndò-lÈndÈ lÒdÉ: the small airplane
- (c) the eagle’s snake: kòánjàé á nyÌmÌé
 the small child’s eye: léj lÒdÉ já
 the tall man’s sister: kÀí jÀgÉ lÒd-mÙsÙ
 the small baby-snake: nyÌmÌ-lÈnÉ lÒdÉ

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*).

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