

1. Adjectives follow their nouns.
2. A noun (or the adjective if there is one) gets the marker **-ĕ**, 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 (“˘”).

- 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)
- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <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: *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