A digital sketch grammar of Yawarana

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Chapter 1

Introduction

Chapter 2

Phonetics and phonology

2.1 Segmental phonetics and phonemes

The consonant phonemes of Yawarana are shown in Table 2.1, and the vowels in Table 2.2. This is a fairly standard Cariban phoneme inventory, only departing from the mainstream by the addition of /ʧ/.

Table 2.1: Consonant phonemes

	bilabial	alveolar	palatal	velar	glottal
occlusive	/p/	/t/	/ʧ/	/k/	
nasal	/m/	/n/	/ɲ/		
fricative		/s/			/h/
liquid		/r/			
glide	/w/		/j/		

Table 2.2: Vowel phonemes

	front	central	back
close	/i/	/ɨ/	/u/
mid	/e/	/ə/	/o/
open		/a/	

Chapter 3

Distinguishing parts of speech in Yawarana

Chapter 4

Nouns

4.1 Pronouns

· person pronouns

    – full forms

    – reduced forms

Short forms of the first and second person pronouns can only occur as proclitics attaching to nouns to indicate possessor (described below in this chapter), attached to verbs to indicate subject or object (described in Chapter 5), or attached to postpositions to indicate object of the postposition (described in Chapter 8):

(1) Yawarana
uyïwïj yawë usenejkari sukuri jwama

u-y-ïwïj	*yawë*	*u-senejka-ri*	*sukuri*	*jwama*
1-LK-house	LOC	1-remain-IPFV	quietly	***

'I silently stay in my house.'

(2) Yawarana
mënai wëjkase chijpë wararë

më-nai-∅	*wëjka-se*	*chi-jpë*	*?*
?	?	?	?

'se cayó tu cosa'

Table 4.1: Pronouns

	SG	PL
1	*wïrë*	
1+2		*ejnë*
1+3		*ana*
2	*mërë*	*mokontomo*
3	*tëwï*	*tëwïsantomo*

Table 4.2: Demonstrative pronouns / articles

	ANIM		INAN	
	SG	PL	SG	PL
PROX	*kërë*	*kërësantomo*	*eni*	*eni-santomo*
medial? near?	*michi*		*mërë*	*mërë-santomo*
DIST	*mëkï*	*mëkïsantomo*	*mënï*	*mënï-santomo*

(3)   Yawarana
      mëyaruwari, mëpëkëpene
      më-yaruwa-ri më-pëkëpene
      2-laugh-IPFV   2-alone
      'You just laugh.'

· Demonstrative pronouns / articles

    – 4-way distinction? (cf. Ye'kwana?)

None of the demonstrative pronouns become shortened forms or prefixes.

· Nominal Interrogative pronouns:

    – *aniki* 'who? anim'
    – *ati* 'what? inan'
    – *ëjkë* 'which? inan'

· No plural forms for any of these?

4.2   Inflected nouns

Nouns in Yawarana may bear suffixes for possession (Section 4.2.1) and number (Section 4.2.2), and possessed nouns may bear a third person prefix, indexing a third person possessor, or a first or second proclitic (a reduced form of the free pronoun), indexing a first or second person possessor (Section 4.2.3).

4.2.1   Suffixes for possessed (POSS) and non-possessed (NPOSS) nouns

In the possession construction in Yawarana, the possessor noun occurs immediately preceding the possessed noun, which is the head of the possession phrase. Alternatively, the possessor can appear as a bound pronominal clitic (first & second person) or a prefix (third person) on the possessed noun. The possessor noun is never marked (for instance, with genitive case), but the possessed noun (the head) is often marked by a lexically specified 'possessed' suffix, either -ri/-ru 'pos' or -ti/-tï 'pos'. Unpossessed nouns generally are unmarked, but some 15 nouns bear the suffix -të 'npos' when they appear without a possessor. Examples (**??**)unsuffixednouns]onlypossessed illustrate the possible patterns of markedness for nouns when possessed and unpossessed. In the first category, which contains

the vast majority of nouns in our corpus, the unpossessed noun is unmarked, but when possessed the suffix -ri 'pos' occurs (4). A handful of nouns is marked with -ri/-ti 'pos' when possessed and with -të 'npos' when not possessed (5). Another handful is unmarked when possessed and marked with -të when not possessed (6). The fourth logical possibility, in which the noun bears no marker of possession (or non-possession) whether possessed or unpossessed, contains very few members (only one attested so far); in this case, the difference is marked only by the presence or absence of a possessive prefix or free-form possessor (7).

(4) Nouns that take a suffix only when possessed:

akajra-ri	'X's bow'	*akajra*	'bow'
y-amaka-ri	'X's yucca'	*amaka*	'yucca'
y-ántë-ri	'X's fishhook'	*antë*	'fishhook'
y-ateri-ri	'X's garden/field'	*ateri*	'garden/field'
ënu-ru	'X's eye'	*ënu*	'eye'
y-ëpi-ri	'X's medicine'	*ëpi*	'medicine'

(5) Nouns that take one suffix when possessed and another when unpossessed

yë-ri	'X's tooth'	*yë-të*	'tooth'
pata-ri	'X's place'	*pata-të*	'(part of name) San Juan de Manapiare'
y-ese-ti	'X's name'	*ese-të*	'name'
y-ase-tï	'X's cord'	*ase-të*	'cord'

(6) Nouns that take a suffix only when unpossessed:

yëjpë	'X's bone'	*yëjpë-të*	'bone'
petï	'X's thigh'	*petï-të / pej-të*	'thigh'
y-aponi	'X's stool'	*apon-të*	'stool'

(7) Nouns that never take a suffix, whether possessed or unpossessed:

i-jmëy	'his egg'	*ëjmëy*	'egg'

4.2.2 Number suffixes

There are three plural suffixes that can occur on nouns, apparently freely interchangeable. What conditions the choice of suffix is not clear as of yet.

(8) Yawarana

ti waijtaton nwajtë wejsapë

ti waijta-ton nwajtë-∅ wej-sapë

QUOT mouse-PL dance-IPFV COP-PFV

'The mice were dancing.'

(9)   Yawarana
       tipapëjsejne waijtajne
       tipa-pëj-se-jne   waijta-jne
       go.group-PLUR-PST-PL   mouse-PL
       'the mice went away.'

(10)   Yawarana
       waijtatomo ëjwenakase
       waijta-tomo ëj-wenaka-se
       mouse-PL   DETRZ-vomit-PST
       'The mice vomited.'

4.2.3   Argument prefixes

Person prefixes on nouns are conditioned by the initial segment (Table 4.3). C-initial nouns take third person *i-*, and first and second person are bare *u-* and *më-*. On V-initial nouns, third person is marked by *t-*, and first and second person combine with the linker *y-*. Here are some examples:

(11)   Yawarana
       aaa usukuru morone ta wïrë usujta ta ne
       aaa u-suku-ru   morone ta   wïrë u-suj-ta-∅   ta   ne
       ah   1-urine-PERT painful like 1SG 1-urine-VBZ-IPFV like INTS
       'My urine hurts, I will urinate.'

(12)   Yawarana
       uyïwïj yawë usenejkari sukuri jwama
       u-y-ïwïj   yawë u-senejka-ri   sukuri jwama
       1-LK-house   LOC   1-remain-IPFV quietly ***
       'I silently stay in my house.'

(13)   Yawarana
       mënai wëjkase chijpë wararë
       më-nai-∅ wëjka-se chi-jpë ?
       ?   ?   ?   ?
       'se cayó tu cosa'

(14)   Yawarana
       tïwïj yaka waraijtokomo manikijpë
       t-ïwïj   yaka waraijtokomo maniki-jpë
       3-house ALL   man   ?-PST
       'He went to his house.'

Table 4.3: Possessive prefixes on nouns

	_C	_V
1	*u-*	*u-y-*
2	*më-*	*më-y-*
3	*i-*	*t-*

Table 4.4: Archaic possessive prefixes on nouns

	_C	_V
1	*u-*	*u-y-*
2	*a-*	*a-y-*
3	*i-*	*t-*

(15) Yawarana
pïrarë ti iwenaru wejsapë

pïrarë   ti   i-wena-ru   wej-sapë
nothing QUOT 3-vomit-PERT COP-PFV

'Their vomit was not there.'

The linker also occurs with (pro-)nominal possessors:

(16) Yawarana
ejnë yemekunu

ejnë y-emekunu
1+2   LK-hand

'la mano de uno'

There are some nouns (kinship terms?) that take an apparently older old second person *a-* (Table 4.4).

4.3   Nominal Derivational Morphology

· V -> N

  – *-ri* 'act.nzr'
  – *-jpë*
      * 'past.abs.nzr'
          · 'past.act.nzr?'
  – ?-*në* 'infinitive / generic action nominalizer'
      * Only intransitive verbs? no also *wanumanë* 'gossip, lie' and *wajtënë* 'dance'
  – *-ni* 'a.nzr'
  – *n-* 'o.nzr'

        * n-V-ri 'nonpast?'

        * ?? n-V-jpë 'past?'

    – *-sapë* 'abs.nzr' (contrast with -jpë)

    – *-topo* 'circ.nzr'

    – *-pïnï* 'privative.nzr' ?

· Adv -> N

    – *-mï* 'nzr'

· Postp -> N

    – *-ano* 'nzr'

· What about *-jpë* on AD forms? Does it derive a noun?

Chapter 5

Verbal inflection

5.1 Personal prefixation(?)

· Absolutive proclitics

    – (Check: appears that they are reduced forms, with long vowel?)

    – *wï= /u=* '1S/O'

    – *më= / mo=* '2S/O'

         * one example of (më=) '2A' on imperative verb

· Third person

    – Ø- '3S' with intransitive verbs

    – · exception: *ïj-të-ri* 'he goes' plus 2 more

    – Ø- '3O' with transitive verbs with 1A or 2A; also sometimes 3A

    – *ta=* '3A3O'

         * Not required, but possible

             · Check: not in alternation with preceding O NP?

         * *ta=* '3O' attested on one V in the pan-Cariban "progressive" construction w/ 2nd person A

· Note that all transitive verbs are consonant-initial, whether etymologically or not because *y-* 'rel' is added to all vowel-initial roots

    – the *y-* disappears when preceded by the detransitivizer

5.2 Non-personal prefixation — is there any? Probably not?

· t-V-se is no more — the t- is gone (except with tënëse 'eat' and tenise 'drink')

    – Any funny forms with the negative?

         * *i-* with intransitive negatives?

         * *an-* with transitive negatives?

5.3   Tense-aspect-mood-polarity suffixes

- *-ri* 'imperf'

- *-se* 'PST'

(17)   Yawarana
       waijtatomo ëjwenakase
       waijta-tomo   ëj-wenaka-se
       mouse-PL   DETRZ-vomit-PST
       'The mice vomited.'

- *-sapë* "perf1?'

- *-jpë* 'perf2? remote.past?'

- *-sarë* 'imminent future'

- *-se=pano* 'past=concl'

- *-saj=pano* 'perf=concl'

- *-ja* 'neg'

- *-ri=-jra* 'ipfv=neg'

- *-se=-jra* 'past=neg'

- *-jrama* 'prohibitive'

- *-kë -të-kë* 'imper / imper.pl'

- *-ta | -tantë-kë* 'imper.mot / imper.mot.pl'

- *-tojpano* 'future'

- *-tëpëkë | -pëkë* 'prog.intr / prog.tr'

5.4   Subordinate Clause markers

- Nominalizations

- Adverbial Clauses

    – *-se* 'supine'
    – *-tojpe* 'purpose'
    – (-jpë)=tërë 'after'
    – *-tane* 'concessive'

  – *-sarë* 'converb'

  – *yawë* 'simult'

  – *-yapo* 'neg.purp'

  – others?

5.5 Number

· -rï=komtomo

· -se=jne=kontomo

· -se=jne=pano (-se=jne=kontom=pano?)

5.6 Copula / Auxiliary

⬚ Paradigm ⬚ Any particles? Man, wai, manai, etc? ⬚ Past/Perfect particles? nahkë, etc. chijpë , wejsapë

Chapter 6

Verbal roots and stems

Chapter 7

Adverbs

Chapter 8

Postpositions

8.1   Defining the category

8.2   Locative Postpositions

- Clear bipartite Ground+Path

- Unproductive Bipartite X+Path?

- Other forms

8.3   Nonlocative Oblique Postpositions

- ya 'erg'

- ke 'instr'

- wanai

- etc.

8.4   Propositional Postpositions

- =se 'desiderative'

- others?

Chapter 9

Particles and Ideophones

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Chapter 18

For testing purposes

18.1 Inline linked entities

18.1.1 Single

1. morph: *-jne*

2. morpheme: *-jnë*

3. wordform: asamo-ri-jra

4. text: "Historia personal por AnFo"

18.1.2 Multiple

1. morph: *-jne*, and *-i*

2. morpheme: *-jnë*, and *-ru*

3. wordform:

4. text:

18.2 Examples

18.2.1 Interlinear

(18) Yawarana
ëkëtë mërë ëkï
ëkëtë   mërë   ëkï
where 3IN:MD manioc.beer
'Where is the chicha?'

(19)   a.   Yawarana
              ëkï ta rë pïrarë wenarujpë ta rë pïrarë

              ëkï   ta   rë   pïrarë   wena-ru-jpë   ta   rë   pïrarë
              manioc.beer   like   EMP   nothing   vomit-PERT-PST   like   EMP   nothing

              'The chicha was gone and so was the vomit.'

        b.   Yawarana
              ta ti wejsaj ti tëwï

              ta-∅   ti   wej-saj   ti   tëwï
              say-IPFV   QUOT   COP-PFV   QUOT   3SG

              '...he said.'

18.2.2   Other

(20)   *konopo*   root
        -se   suffix

(21)   a.   Hello *-se* 'PST'

        b.   World
              and more

18.2.3   Example references

(18)
        (**??**) or (19b) or even (**??**a-b)
        (20)
        (21)
        (**??**)multiparttest]test1