

A digital sketch grammar of Yawarana

o.o.2.draft

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Chapter 1

Introduction

- 1.1 The Yawarana people and their language**
- 1.2 Location, historical records**
- 1.3 Current life**
- 1.4 Sociolinguistic vitality**
- 1.5 Previous studies on the Yawarana language**
- 1.6 This project**

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 /tʃ/.

Table 2.1: Consonant phonemes

	bilabial	alveolar	palatal	velar	glottal
occlusive	/p/	/t/	/tʃ/	/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/	

2.1.1 Consonants**2.1.2 Vowels****2.2 Morphophonological Processes****2.2.1 Syllable Reduction****2.2.2 Vowel harmony?****2.3 Prosody****2.3.1 Lexical stress****2.3.2 Intonational Phrases****2.3.3 Intonational Melodies****2.4 Historical Considerations**

Chapter 3

Distinguishing parts of speech in Yawarana

Chapter 4

Nouns

4.1 Pronouns

The personal pronouns of Yawarana are shown in Table 4.1. It shows the usual Cariban inclusive/exclusive (1+2 and 1+3) distinction. Note that the plural marker *-kontomo* appears to usually be restricted to verbs, while *-santomo* is found with third person pronouns and demonstratives.

Short forms of the first and second person pronouns can occur as proclitics attaching to nouns to indicate possessor (Section 4.2.3), attached to verbs to indicate subject or object (described in Chapter 5), or attached to postpositions to indicate object of the postposition (described in Section 8.2):

- (1) Yawarana
 uyīwīj yawē usenejkari sukuri jwama
u-y-īwīj yawē u-senejka-ri suku-ri jwama
 1-LK-house LOC 1-remain-IPFV urine-PERT ***
 ‘I silently stay in my house.’

- (2) Yawarana
 mēnai wējkase chipjē wararē
mē-nai-Ø wējkase chi-jpē wararē
 2-do-IPFV *** COP-PST ***
 ‘se cayó tu cosa’

Table 4.1: Pronouns

	sg	pl
1	<i>wīrē</i>	
1+2		<i>ejnē</i>
1+3		<i>ana</i>
2	<i>mērē</i>	<i>monkontomo</i>
3	<i>tēwī</i>	<i>tēwīsantomo</i>

Table 4.2: Demonstrative pronouns / articles

	anim		inan	
	sg	pl	sg	pl
prox	<i>kërë</i>	<i>kërësantomo</i>	<i>eni</i>	<i>enijne</i>
medial? near?	<i>michí</i>		<i>misi</i> / <i>mërë</i>	<i>michisantomo</i> / <i>michitomo</i>
dist	<i>mëki?</i>	<i>mëkisantomo</i>	<i>mëjni</i>	<i>mëjniyne</i>

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

- (4) Yawarana
 moyochi
moyochi

 ‘la araña’

An open question is whether *ta-* on verbs is a reduction of *tëwü*.

The third person demonstrative pronouns or articles are shown in Table 4.2.

None of the demonstrative pronouns have shortened, phonologically bound counterparts.

- Nominal Interrogative pronouns:

- *aniki* ‘who?’
- *ati* ‘what?’
- *ëjkë* ‘which? inan’

4.2 Nominal inflection

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 and non-possessed 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 *-ru* ‘pert’ or *-ti* ‘pos’. Unpossessed nouns generally are unmarked, but some 15 nouns bear the suffix

-të ‘npert’ when they appear without a possessor. Examples (5-8) 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 (5). A handful of nouns is marked with -ri/-ti ‘pos’ when possessed and with -të ‘npos’ when not possessed (6). Another handful is unmarked when possessed and marked with -të when not possessed (7). 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 (8).

- (5) Nouns that take a suffix only when possessed:

<i>akajra-ri</i>	‘X’s bow’	<i>akajra</i>	‘bow’
<i>y-amaka-ri</i>	‘X’s yucca’	<i>amaka</i>	‘yucca’
<i>y-ántë-ri</i>	‘X’s fishhook’	<i>ántë</i>	‘fishhook’
<i>y-ateri-ri</i>	‘X’s garden/field’	<i>ateri</i>	‘garden/field’
<i>ënu-ru</i>	‘X’s eye’	<i>ënu</i>	‘eye’
<i>y-ëpi-ri</i>	‘X’s medicine’	<i>ëpi</i>	‘medicine’

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

<i>yë-ri</i>	‘X’s tooth’	<i>yë-të</i>	‘tooth’
<i>pata-ri</i>	‘X’s place’	<i>pata-të</i>	‘(part of name) San Juan de Manapiare’
<i>y-ese-ti</i>	‘X’s name’	<i>ese-të</i>	‘name’
<i>y-ase-ti</i>	‘X’s cord’	<i>ase-të</i>	‘cord’

- (7) Nouns that take a suffix only when unpossessed:

<i>yëjpë</i>	‘X’s bone’	<i>yëjpë-të</i>	‘bone’
<i>peti</i>	‘X’s thigh’	<i>peti-të / pej-të</i>	‘thigh’
<i>y-aponi</i>	‘X’s stool’	<i>apon-të</i>	‘stool’

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

<i>i-jmëy</i>	‘his egg’	<i>ëjmëy</i>	‘egg’
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4.2.2 Number suffixes

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

- (9) Yawarana
 waijtatomo ëjwenakase
waijta-tomo ?
 mouse-PL ?
 ‘The mice vomited.’

Table 4.3: Possessive prefixes on nouns

	_C	_V
1	<i>u-</i>	<i>u-y-</i>
2	<i>mě-</i>	<i>mě-y-</i>
3	<i>i-</i>	<i>t-</i>

- (10) Yawarana
tipapějsejne waijtajne
tipa-pěj-se-jne *waijta-jne*
go.in.group-PLUR-PST-PL mouse-PL
‘the mice went away.’

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 *mě-*. On V-initial nouns, third person is marked by *t-*, and first and second person combine with the linker *y-*. Some examples are shown in (11-26).

- (11) Yawarana
aaa usukuru morone ta wërë usuja ta ne
aaa u-suku-ru morone ta wërë u-suj-ta-Ø ta ne
*** 1-urine-PERT hurting like 1PRO 1-urine-VBZ-IPFV like INTS
‘My urine hurts, I will urinate.’

- (12) Yawarana
uyiwij yawë usenejkari sukuri jwama
u-y-iwij yawë u-senejka-ri suku-ri jwama
1-LK-house LOC 1-remain-IPFV urine-PERT ***
‘I silently stay in my house.’

- (13) Yawarana
mënai wëjkase chijpë wararë
më-nai-Ø wëjkase chi-jpë wararë
2-do-IPFV *** COP-PST ***
‘se cayó tu cosa’

- (14) Yawarana
tiwij yaka waraijtokomo manikijpë
t-iwij yaka waraijtokomo maniki-jpë
3-house ALL man ?-PST
‘He went to his house.’

Table 4.4: Archaic possessive prefixes on nouns

	<u>_C</u>	<u>_V</u>
1	<i>u-</i>	<i>u-y-</i>
2	<i>a-</i>	<i>a-y-</i>
3	<i>i-</i>	<i>t-</i>

- (15) Yawarana
 pīrarē ti iwenaru wejsapē
pīrarē ti i-wena-ru ?
 nothing HSY 3-vomit-PERT ?
 ‘Their vomit was not there.’

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

- (16) Yawarana
 ejnē yemekunu
ejnē yemekunu
 1+2PRO ***
 ‘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

· $V \rightarrow N$

- *-ri* ‘act.nzr’
- *-jpē*
 - * ‘past.abs.nzr’
 - ‘past.act.nzr?’
- *?-nē* ‘infinitive / generic action nominalizer’
 - * Only intransitive verbs? no also *wanumanē* ‘gossip, lie’ and *wajtēnē* ‘dance’
- *-ni* ‘a.nzr’
- *n-* ‘o.nzr’
 - * *n-V-ri* ‘nonpast?’
 - * ?? *n-V-jpē* ‘past?’
- *-sapē* ‘abs.nzr’ (contrast with *-jpē*)
- *-topo* ‘circ.nzr’
- *-pīnī* ‘privative.nzr’ ?

- Adv → N
 - *-mĩ* ‘nzt’
- Postp → N
 - *-ano* ‘nzt’
- What about *-jpě* on AD forms? Does it derive a noun?

4.3.1 Misc

predicative negation of nominalized verb:

- (17) Yawarana
 ĩ tari%ĩ yarikasemĩjra
 ? *yarikasemĩjra*
 ? ***
 ‘Oh, there’s nothing to laugh about.’

Chapter 5

Verbal inflection

Are chapter introductions handled properly?

5.1 Person prefixes

- Absolutive proclitics

–

– *u-* ‘1S/O’

– *mě-* ‘2S/O’

* one example of (mẽ=) ‘2A’ on imperative verb

- Third person

– \emptyset - ‘3S’ with intransitive verbs

– · exception: *ij-tě-ri* ‘he goes’ plus 2 more

– \emptyset - ‘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

Table 5.1: Person marking prefixes on verbs

	intr	tr
1	<i>u-</i>	<i>u-</i>
2	<i>mě-</i>	<i>mě-</i>
3	\emptyset	<i>ta-</i>

Table 5.2: Verbal TAM suffixes

Suffix	Function
<i>-ri</i>	imperfective
<i>-jpě</i>	past
<i>-se</i>	past 2?
<i>-sapě</i>	perfective?
<i>-sarě</i>	imminent future
<i>-těpěkě</i>	prog.intr
<i>pěkě</i>	prog.tr
<i>-sarě</i>	imminent future

- 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 inflectional prefixation — is there any? Probably not?

- *t-V-se* is no more — the *t-* is gone (except with *těněse* ‘eat’ and *tenise* ‘drink’)
 - Any divergent forms with the negative?
 - * *i-* with intransitive negatives?
 - * *an-* with transitive negatives?

5.3 Tense-aspect-mood-polarity suffixes

- *-ja* ‘neg’
- *-jrama* ‘proh’
- *-tojpano* ‘fut’
- *-se=pano* ‘pst=concl’
- *-saj=pano* ‘pfv=concl’
- imperatives:
 - *-kě* / *-tě-kě* ‘imp / imp.pl’
 - *-ta* / *-tantě-kě* ‘imp.mot / imp.mot.pl’

5.3.1 *-ri*

- allomorphy:
 - \emptyset , phonetic loss
 - *-ru*, assimilation
 - what about *-ri*? Looks like the original one...
- diachrony: related to other *-ri*
- combines with *-jra*:

- (18) Yawarana
wîrë yaruwarijra###
wîrë yaruwa-ri-jra
 1PRO laugh-IPFV-NEG
 'I don't laugh.'

5.3.1.1 Semantics

not specified for tense, just imperfective aspect:

- (19) Yawarana
irëjpë tēwî wajtatomo nwajtëri
irëjpë tēwî wajta-tomo nwajtë-ri
 then 3PRO mouse-PL dance-IPFV
 'Then the mice were dancing.'

- (20) Yawarana
ɛ kwase ejnë yaruwari?
kwase ejnë ?
 how 1+2PRO ?
 'How will we laugh?'

- (21) Yawarana
wîrë yaruwarijra###
wîrë yaruwa-ri-jra
 1PRO laugh-IPFV-NEG
 'I don't laugh.'

- (22) Yawarana
 uyīwīj yawē usenejkari sukuri jwama
u-y-īwīj yawē u-senejka-ri suku-ri jwama
 1-LK-house LOC 1-remain-IPFV urine-PERT ***
 ‘I silently stay in my house.’

5.3.2 *-jpě*

- allomorphy: none?
- diachrony: from other *-jpě*

5.3.3 *-se*

- allomorphy: *-se/-che*
- diachrony: from participle

5.3.4 *-sapě*

- diachrony and distribution: only occurs on the copula?
- allomorphy: *-sapě* and *-saj*
- negation: with *-ja* on lexical verb (23-25)

- (23) Yawarana
 irě wejtane mujyampe patakaja wejsapě
irě wej-tane mujyampe patakaja wej-sapě
 DEM COP-CNCS *** *** COP-PFV
 ‘a pesar de eso no salió embarazada’

- (24) Yawarana
 apatakaja pīnika wejsapě
apatakaja pīnika wej-sapě
 *** PROB COP-PFV
 ‘tal vez no salió (embarazada)’

- (25) Yawarana
 tayakījtēja pīnika wejsapě
tayakījtēja pīnika wej-sapě
 *** PROB COP-PFV
 ‘tal vez no se acostó con ella’

- what about (26)? is that existential negation?

- (26) Yawarana
 p̄rarē ti iwenaru wejsapē
p̄rarē ti i-wena-ru ?
 nothing HSY 3-vomit-PERT ?
 ‘Their vomit was not there.’

5.3.5 -sarē

- (27) Yawarana
 irējpē ta ti ta konopo wejsarē konopo wejsarē
irējpē ta-Ø ti ta konopo wej-sarē konopo wej-sarē
 then say-IPFV HSY like rain COP-IMN rain COP-IMN
 ‘Then they said: “it’s raining, it’s raining.”’

- (28) Yawarana
 moyochi tasarē, moyochi chipokono kojpaye p̄nika warotari
moyochi ta-sarē moyochi chipokono kojpaye p̄nika warotari
 *** say-IMN *** *** *** PROB ***
 ‘le dicen araña, tal vez porque la araña trabaja de noche’

5.4 Subordinate Clause markers

- Nominalizations
- Adverbial Clauses
 - -se ‘supine’
 - -tojpe ‘purpose’
 - (-jpē)=tērē ‘after’
 - -tane ‘concessive’
 - -sarē ‘converb’
 - yawē ‘simult’
 - -yapo ‘neg.purp’
 - others?

What about -po?

5.5 Number

- *-ri=kontomo*
- *-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

6.1 Deriving verbs

- denominal verbalizers: *-ta*, *-jtě?*
- detransitivizers: *s-*, *ěj-*

Chapter 7

Adverbs

.

7.1 Inflection

- presumably no prefixation
- negation:

- (29) Yawarana
; tari%_i yarikasemijra
? *yarikasemijra*
? ***
'Oh, there's nothing to laugh about.'

7.2 Simple adverbs

7.3 Derived adverbs

Chapter 8

Postpositions

.

8.1 Defining the category

8.2 Inflectional morphology

Postpositions take the same inflectional prefixes as nouns (Section 4.2.1).

- 1 *u-*
- 2 *mě-*
- 3 *i-/t-?*

8.3 Locative Postpositions

- Clear bipartite Ground+Path
- Unproductive Bipartite X+Path?
- Other forms
- *poye*
- *po*
- *yatě*

Table 8.1: Locative postpositions

	all	loc
inside	<i>yaka</i>	<i>yawě</i>
aquatic	?	?

- *yapo*

- (30) Yawarana
 tichikimuru, peti warë patakasapë Yakucho pana
tichikimuru peti warë patakasapë yakucho pana
 *** *** thus *** *** DAT
 ‘su rodilla, su pierna, salió (llaga) hacia Ayacucho’

8.4 Nonlocative Oblique Postpositions

- *ya ya* ‘erg’ ?)
- *ke* ‘instr’
- *wanai*

8.5 Propositional Postpositions

- =se ‘desiderative’
- others?

Chapter 9

Particles and Ideophones

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Chapter 10

Phrases

TBD

Chapter 11

Nonverbal predications

Chapter 12

Simple verbal clauses

Chapter 13

Negation

Probably relevant morphemes:

- *-ja*
- *-jra*
- *-jnari*
- *-kempinirë*
- *pïninrë*
- *pïrarë*

Chapter 14

Questions

Chapter 15

Multiclausal

Chapter 16

Word order variation

Chapter 17

Pragmatically marked constructions

Chapter 18

For testing and demonstration purposes

18.1 Some unparsable forms with derivational morphology

- combination of verb with *-kempinirë* results in what? always used as predicate

(31) Yawarana

wirë yaruwakempinirë, mëkisantomo a-ja-ja tajtane

wirë yaruwakempinirë mëkisantomo ajaja taj-tane

1PRO ***

DIST.ANIM.PL hahaha say-CNCS

‘I don’t laugh, but they are saying “hahaha”.

- deverbal from *tunami* to an adverb, right?

(32) Yawarana

tëwî neke ne, tajne yakarama pokono nwarë tajne iri mintë, tunampe

tëwî neke ne ta-jne yakarama-Ø pokono nwarë ta-jne i-ri mintë tunam-pe

3PRO CONTRAST INTS 3-PL tell-IPFV on.surface-NMLZ thus 3-PL do-IPFV there.LOC hide-ESS

‘Yes indeed, they tell what they are doing there on the down-low.’

- deverbal nominalizer:

(33) Yawarana

pïrarë, seneja ejnë yarikatopo

pïrarë sene-Ø-ja ejnë yarika-topo

nothing sec.self-IPFV-NEG 1+2PRO laugh-CIRC.NMLZ

‘Nothing, there’s nothing for us to laugh.’

- probably special handling needed (copula + *pëkë* + ? ‘because of that’)

- (34) Yawarana
 nope seneja chipokono ejnë pana nope seneja chipokono ejnë yaruwatopo pîrärë
nope sene-Ø-ja chipokono ejnë pana nope sene-Ø-ja chipokono ejnë
 good see.self-IPFV-NEG *** 1+2PRO DAT good see.self-IPFV-NEG *** 1+2PRO
yaruwa-topo pîrärë
 laugh-CIRC.NMLZ ***
 ‘We don’t see anything good, so we don’t laugh.’

- MCM has *narë* as emphatic particle... is this a adverbialization?

- (35) Yawarana
 aniki narëpe yakërë ejnë përemekîrî, ejnë pëkëpene, wanene
aniki narëpe yakërë ejnë përemekî-rî ejnë pëkëpene wanene
 who *** *** 1+2PRO talk-IPFV 1+2PRO alone aunt
 ‘Who are we gonna talk to? We’re alone, aunt.’

18.2 Inline linked entities

18.2.1 Single

1. morph: *-jne*¹
2. morpheme: *-jnë*
3. wordform: (asamo-o-ri-jraneg)
4. text: “Conversación sobre la risa entre GrMe y ElPe”

18.2.2 Multiple

1. morph: *-jne*, and *-i*
2. morpheme: *-jnë*, and *-ru*
3. wordform: (asamo-o-ri-jraneg,asamo-o-ri-zero)
4. text:

¹This is what a footnote looks like.

18.3 Examples

18.3.1 Interlinear

single:

- (36) Yawarana
 ëkëtë mërë ëkï
ëkëtë mërë ëkï
 where MED.INAN manioc.beer
 ‘Where is the chicha?’

multiple:

- (37) a. Yawarana
 ëkï ta rë pïrarë wenarupjë 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-Ø ti wej-saj ti tëwï
 say-IPFV HSY COP-PFV HSY 3PRO
 ‘...he said.’

18.3.2 Other

single:

- (38) *yaka* root
 -*se* suffix

double:

- (39) a. Hello -*se* ‘PST’
 b. World
and more

You can even mix them:

- (40) a. Some random text in combination with an example from the corpus.
 b. Yawarana
 wenaru pïrarë
wena-ru pïrarë
 vomit-PERT nothing
 ‘There was no vomit.’

18.3.3 Example references

(36)

(37) or (37b) or even (37a-b)

(38)

(39)

(38-39)