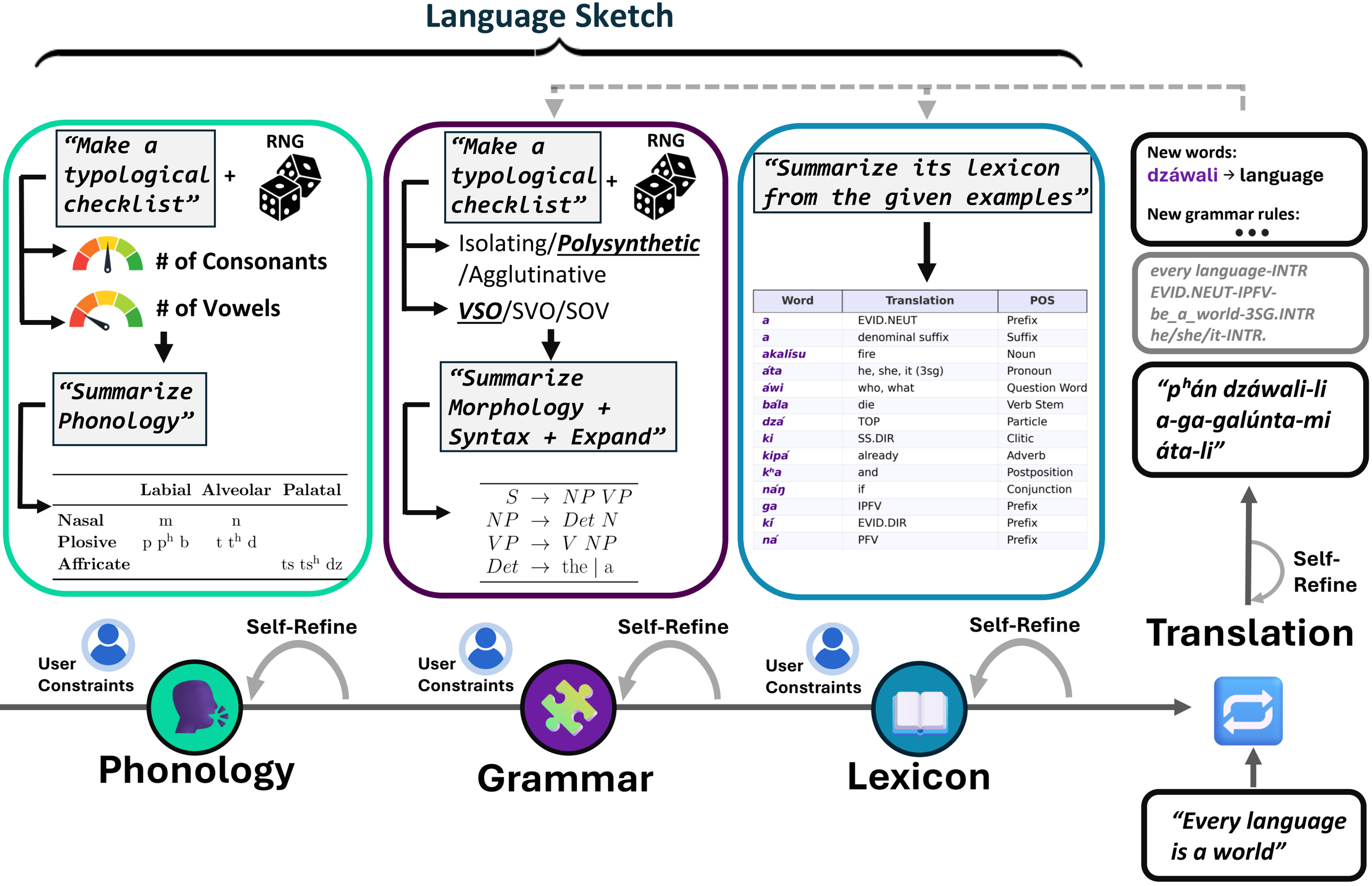
Language Sketch



Language Sketch

"Make a typological checklist" + RNG

# of Consonants

# of Vowels

"Summarize Phonology"

	Labial	Alveolar	Palatal
Nasal	m	n	
Plosive	p p^h b	t t^h d	
Affricate			ts ts^h dz

User Constraints

Self-Refine

Phonology

"Make a typological checklist" + RNG

Isolating/***Polysynthetic***/Agglutinative

VSO/SVO/SOV

"Summarize Morphology + Syntax + Expand"

$$
\begin{aligned}
S &\rightarrow NP\ VP \\
NP &\rightarrow Det\ N \\
VP &\rightarrow V\ NP \\
Det &\rightarrow \text{the} \mid \text{a}
\end{aligned}
$$

User Constraints

Self-Refine

Grammar

"Summarize its lexicon from the given examples"

Word	Translation	POS
a	EVID.NEUT	Prefix
a	denominal suffix	Suffix
akalísu	fire	Noun
áta	he, she, it (3sg)	Pronoun
áwi	who, what	Question Word
bála	die	Verb Stem
dzá	TOP	Particle
ki	SS.DIR	Clitic
kipá	already	Adverb
k^ha	and	Postposition
náŋ	if	Conjunction
ga	IPFV	Prefix
kí	EVID.DIR	Prefix
ná	PFV	Prefix

User Constraints

Self-Refine

Lexicon

New words:
dzáwali → language

New grammar rules:
•••

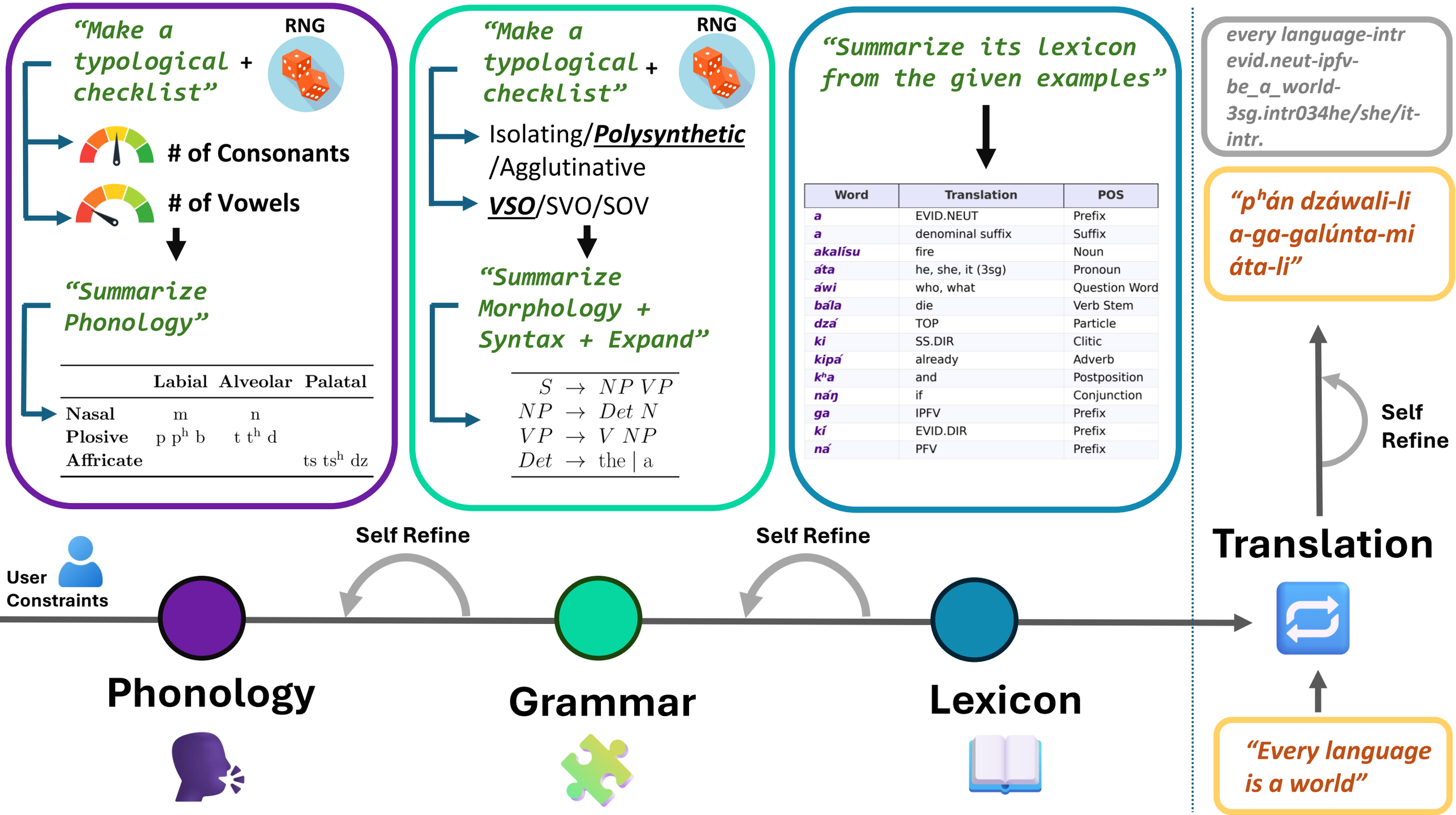
every language-INTR EVID.NEUT-IPFV-be_a_world-3SG.INTR he/she/it-INTR.

"p^hán dzáwali-li a-ga-galúnta-mi áta-li"

Self-Refine

Translation

"Every language is a world"


"Make a typological checklist" +
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Self Refine
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User Constraints
Self Refine
Self Refine
Phonology
Grammar
Lexicon
"Every language is a world"

"Make a typological checklist" + RNG

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# of Vowels

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"Make a typological checklist" + RNG

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VSO/SVO/SOV

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"Every language is a world"

User Constraints

Self Refine

Self Refine

Phonology

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"p^hán dzáwali-li a-ga-galúnta-mi áta-li"

"Make a typological checklist" + RNG

- # of Consonants
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"Make a typological checklist" + RNG

- ***Isolating***/Agglutinative/ Polysynthetic
- SVO/VSO/***SOV***

"Summarize Morphology+Syntax +Expand"

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"Summarize its lexicon from the given examples"

lexicon

Word	Translation	Part of Speech	Notes
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á	denominal suffix	Suffix	creates verb from noun
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ki	SS.DIR (same-subject	Clitic	direct evidence)
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k^a	and	Postposition	coordinating postposition; ...
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kí	EVID.DIR (direct evidential)	Prefix	inherently accented; verbal...
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tsú	EVID.REP (reported/inferred evidential)	Prefix	inherently accented; verbal...

"Every language is a world"

User Constraints

Refine → **Phonology**

Refine → **Grammar**

Refine → **Lexicon**

Translation

"p^hán dzáwali-li a-ga-galúnta-mi áta-li"

"Make a typological checklist"

1. # of consonants
2. # of vowels
3. Syllable structure
4. ...

RNG + "Summarize its morphology"

Consonants

Manner/Place	Bilabial	Dental/Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Stop	p b	t d		k g	ʔ
Fricative	ɸ β	s z			h
Nasal	m	n			
Liquid		l r	j		

Vowels

	Front	Central	Back
High	i y		ɯ u
Mid	e ø		ɤ o
Low		a	

"Make a typological checklist"

1. Isolating/Agglutinative/ Polysynthetic?
2. SVO/SOV/VSO/...
3. ...

RNG + "Summarize its morphology and syntax + expand description"

Grammar

Morphology

The language is polysynthetic and mostly agglutinative. Verbs are the morphological center of the clause, capable of incorporating a vast array of affixes including polypersonal agreement markers, tense, aspect, mood, evidentiality, and incorporated noun roots. The morphological technique is primarily agglutinative, with morphemes having clear boundaries and meanings, though some fusional patterns exist, particularly in the pronominal affix system.

Verbal Morphology

Verbs are constructed around a root, following a template. A typical finite verb complex can be a complete sentence. The affix order is strictly: **(NEG) - Evidential - Tense/Aspect - Verb Root - (Noun Incorporation / Overt Mood) - Agent Agreement - Patient Agreement**. The Noun Incorporation slot and the overt Mood slot are mutually exclusive.

Many verbal prefixes (such as evidential and tense/aspect markers) are inherently accented. When attached to a verb, they retain their accent, and any lexical accent on the verb root is deleted. This results in polysynthetic words that can have multiple accented syllables, overriding the "one accent per word" rule that applies to simpler lexical items. If a verb complex contains no inherently accented morphemes (e.g., it is composed only of `à-`, `gà-`, and an unaccented root), a default accent is placed on the verb root. For example, the verb `à-ga-gudá-sa` ("EVID.NEUT-IPFV-walk-1SG.INTR", "I am/was walking") shows the default accent on the root `gudá` because neither `à-` nor `gà-` are inherently accented.

"Summarize its lexicon from the given examples"

Lexicon

Adverbs

Word	Translation	Notes
kìpá	already	
pʰù	quickly	
tʰa	slowly	

Clitics

Word	Translation	Notes
ki	SS.DIR (same-subject	direct evidence)
pʰa	DS (different-subject)	switch-reference clitic; neutral to evidentiality
su	Q (yes/no question)	attaches to verb to form yes/no question
tsu	SS.REP (same-subject	reported evidence)

Conjunctions

Word	Translation	Notes
nàg	if	
ni	but	

Nouns

Word	Translation	Notes
akalìsu	fire	vowel-final stem
bìta	food	vowel-final stem
brùmi	child	vowel-final stem
bùna	sky	vowel-final stem
dùmp	egg	coda cluster /mp/
dwàli	night	vowel-final stem
dzagalàmpi	ancestor	four syllables

"Translate the English sentences based on the language specifications"

Example 2

Where is my book?

gìna a-ga-ná-mi dàŋa-i pʰrìnt-lì?

where EVID.NEUT-IPFV-be_located-3SG.INTR 1SG.PRON-GEN book-INTR

NEW WORDS:

ná- — to be located (stative intransitive verb stem) | dàŋa — I/me (1st person singular independent pronoun)

NEW GRAMMAR RULES:

Locational and existential 'to be' is expressed with the stative intransitive verb stem `ná-`. Like other stative verbs, it requires an overt subject in main clauses when the subject is 3rd person.

The language lacks a copula. A dedicated stative verb for location/existence is a common linguistic feature and fits the verb-centric nature of the grammar. This rule follows the established pro-drop constraint for 3rd person intransitive subjects, which requires an overt subject (e.g., 'àta-lì' or a full NP) in main clauses, making it consistent with existing syntactic patterns.

Independent personal pronouns exist for use in non-affixal contexts (e.g., as possessors, standalone answers). The 1st person singular pronoun is `dàŋa`.

The grammar specifies pronominal affixes but not independent pronouns, which are necessary for constructions like the genitive noun phrase ('my book'). The form `dàŋa` is phonologically valid and is created to be distinct from the 1SG verbal affixes ('-da', '-sa', '-gu').

Example 3

She will give him water.

a-pi-dzanta-um-ŋa áta-nɯ gli-ka áta-wa.

EVID.NEUT-FUT-give-3SG.AGT-3SG.PAT she-AGT water-PAT him-DAT

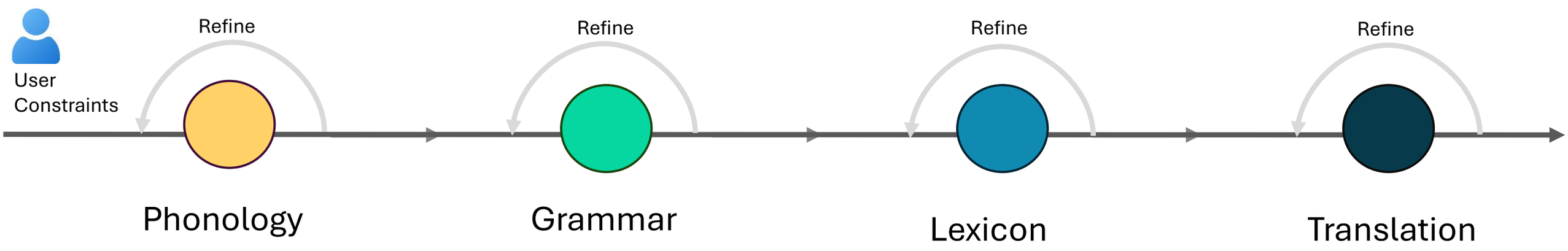
NEW GRAMMAR RULES:

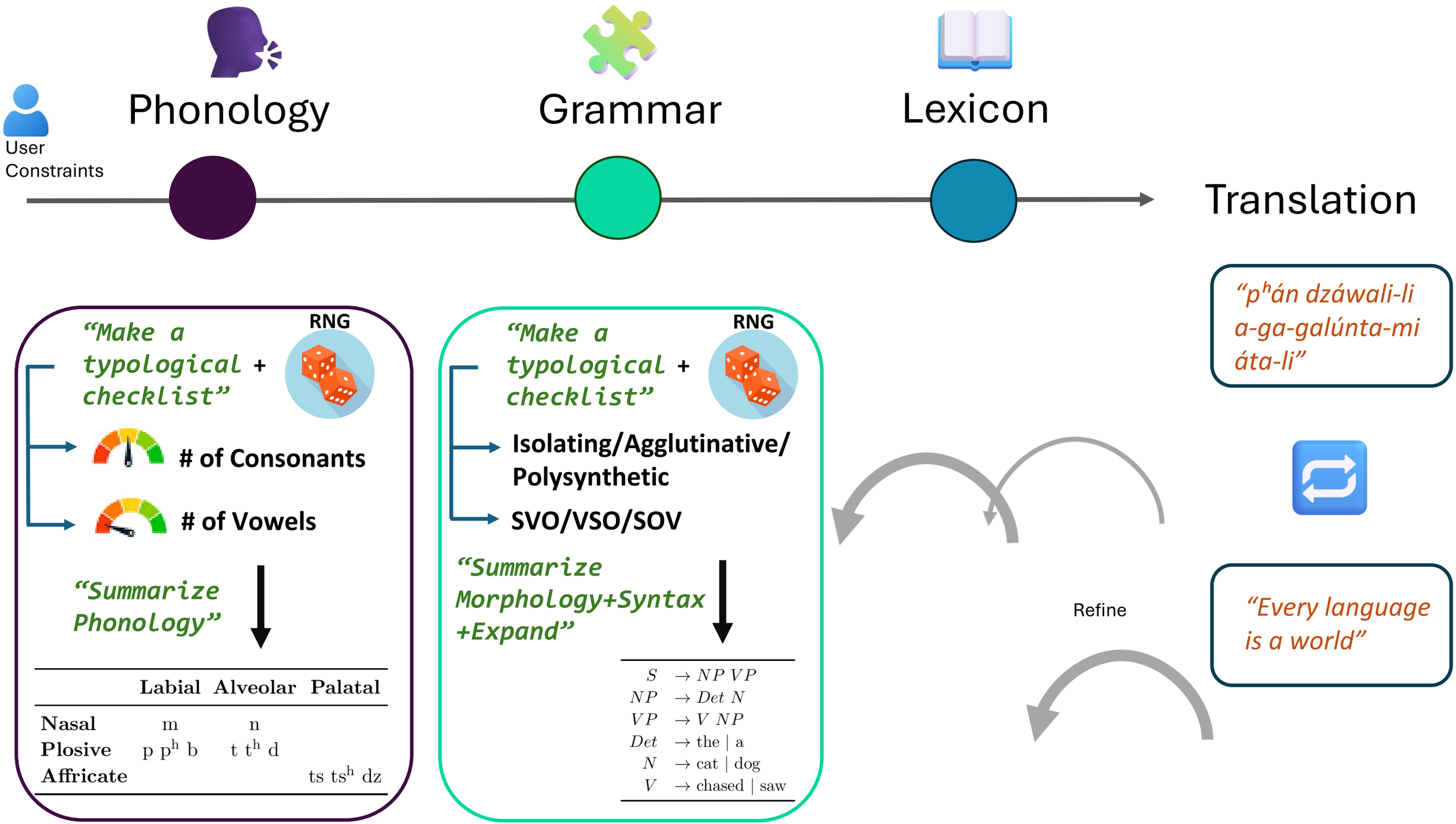
Future Tense Prefix `pi-`: A future tense is marked by the inherently accented prefix `pì-`, which occupies the Tense/Aspect slot in the verbal template.

The grammar specifies perfective ('ná-') and imperfective ('ga-') aspect prefixes but lacks a future tense marker, which is necessary for the translation. Creating `pì-` as an inherently accented prefix is consistent with the existing pattern where the perfective marker `ná-` is also accented, while the imperfective `ga-` is not, showing that tense/aspect prefixes can be either. The phonological form /pi/ is valid.

Word Order with Dative Objects: In a ditransitive clause with overt noun phrases, the dative object follows the patientive object, resulting in a V-A-P-IO (Verb-Agent-Patient-Indirect Object) order.

The grammar specifies a VSO (Verb-Agent-Patient) order for transitive clauses. A common and typologically plausible extension for ditransitive verbs is to place the additional object (the dative recipient) after the core patient object. This maintains the verb-initial structure and provides a consistent ordering for arguments.

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Refine
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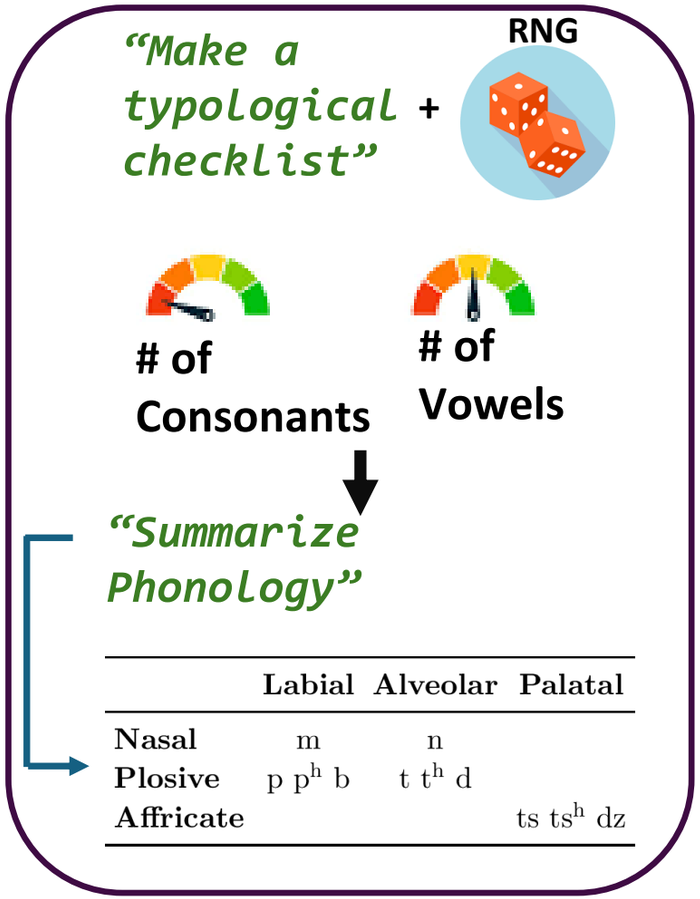
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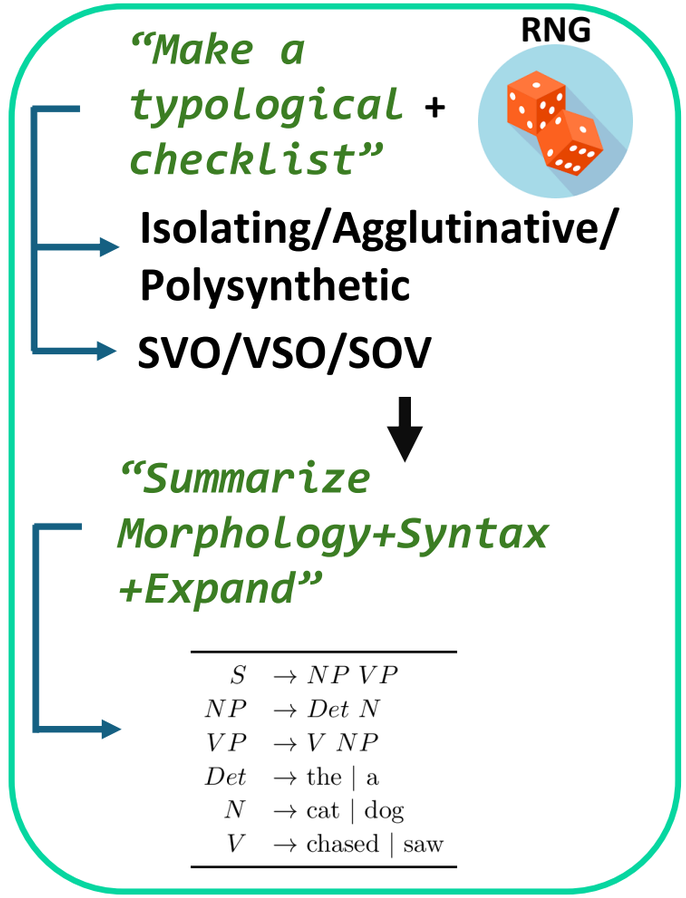
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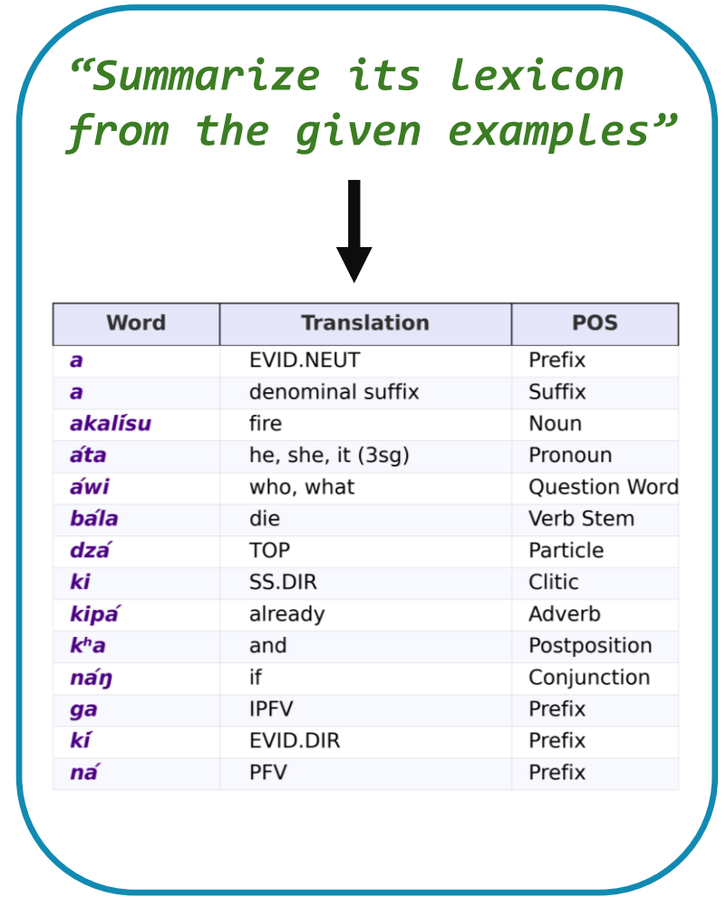
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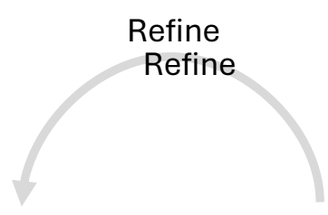
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