

# The QuCheanya Language

Published at Lyutseino Temple

[illegible]

# Contents

<b>I</b>	<b>Dear Priestess Yesora</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>II</b>	<b>The Name of the Language and its Philosophy</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>III</b>	<b>Phonology and Orthography</b>	<b>6</b>
0.1	Phonemes . . . . .	6
0.2	Phonotactics . . . . .	7
0.2.1	The Rendering of Local Names . . . . .	7
0.3	Allophony . . . . .	8
0.4	Stress . . . . .	8
0.5	Orthography . . . . .	8
<b>IV</b>	<b>Grammar</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Morphology</b>	<b>11</b>
1.1	Nominal Morphology . . . . .	11
1.1.1	Tense . . . . .	11
1.1.2	Case and Number . . . . .	15
1.1.3	Pronouns . . . . .	17
1.1.4	Compounds . . . . .	17
1.2	Verbal Morphology . . . . .	18
1.3	Adjectives and Adverbs . . . . .	19
1.3.1	Partial Reduplication . . . . .	19
1.3.2	Adverbs . . . . .	20
1.4	Other Morphology . . . . .	20
1.4.1	Other Partial Reduplication . . . . .	20
1.4.2	Derivational Affixes . . . . .	20

<b>2</b>	<b>Syntax</b>	<b>21</b>
2.1	Noun Phrase . . . . .	21
2.2	Postpositional Phrase . . . . .	21
2.3	Verb Phrase/Clause . . . . .	21
2.3.1	Post-Verbal Particles . . . . .	23
2.4	Subordinate and Relative Clauses . . . . .	25
<b>3</b>	<b>Special Vocabulary Notes</b>	<b>27</b>
3.1	Numbers, Dates, and Times . . . . .	27
3.1.1	Numbers and Counting . . . . .	27
3.1.2	Time of Day . . . . .	29
3.1.3	Dates and Monthly Public Holidays . . . . .	30
3.2	Postpositions . . . . .	31
3.3	Adjectives of Time and Place, and Demonstratives . . . . .	31
<b>V</b>	<b>Dictionary</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>VI</b>	<b>Example Sentences</b>	<b>45</b>

## **Part I**

# **Dear Priestess Yesora**

Greetings, Yesora. We hope that this opening section of the book will make everything clear to you. The priestesses who have brought this book to you do technically speak your language, but a version of it from 234 years in the future, and while they do have knowledge of your dialect, there are likely to be some miscommunications. Indeed, the purpose of this book is to eliminate all such miscommunications among the priesthood for all eternity.

We know that you have been tasked to create an auxiliary language for the priesthood's use, to be used in all times and across all timelines, so that we may be able to communicate with any priestess from any time period and any timeline, no matter when and where we were born. This is a truly daunting task. Fortunately, the work of creating this language has already been done for you. This book is a complete grammar of that language. You see, if you had been allowed to create it yourself, it would have taken a long time, and you would have had many decisions to make, about what features to include, the meanings and forms of individual words, so many decisions! And every time you made a decision, the timeline would have forked, and in every resulting timeline there would be a slightly different version of the language, and the people from those different timelines would not be able to effectively communicate with each other, defeating the purpose of having an auxiliary language in the first place. So the language had to be created all at once, in a single instant, in order to be identical in all subsequent timelines. Actually, we do not know who created the language, or how. We inherited this book when you received it, kept it and reprinted it numerous times, and on the second day of the fourth week of the fifth month of the year 198 after the Goddess Sapfita's Gift of the Mirror to us, we reprinted it one last time and took it back to you, so that we may inherit it from you in the future. If this seems odd to talk about, do not worry! Part of the intent of the language is to make it easier to talk about events like this. As for where this language, and the contents of this book, and the machine the priestesses have brought you actually originate from, we prefer to say that they come from Sapfita Herself. There is no other readily available answer.

The machine is ingenious, it is called a printing press. The syllabary of this language, which you will see by continuing to read, is organized featurially in such a way that a limited set of individual components can be combined to create all the characters needed to write it. These components can be made into metal pieces, arranged into a plate, inked, and pressed into paper to create many pages of

perfectly written words very quickly. The machine will be invaluable to the priesthood, and it can also be used to print other languages as well, for example, as in this book. But our role in the future is to be the stewards of knowledge and research and experimentation into the mechanics of time travel and the nature of time and Sapfita herself (as well as a great many other unrelated fields of study), and for this we need to be able to print many copies of books and documents, such that information may be preserved and disseminated among the temples. The priesthood persists in this capacity until the year 2307, at which point the world as we know it apparently ceases to exist for reasons which are not clear to us.

You may well wonder about the war the Cheanya people face in your time in the year 36 before the Gift of the Mirror, but we assure you that all will be well (or at least it will in all the timelines that we are aware of). When the remainder of the Cheanya people escaped from a battle against the Tuari in what we now call the year 0, to 200 years into the past, using the Mirror that was Gifted to the priestesses by the wise Sapfita, we gained an additional 200 years to prepare for that war, which the generals and soldiers had already been through once. For almost 170 years you have been preparing for that, raising and training soldiers, crafting weapons, and advancing military technology, what should have been done in the first place had the King actually heeded his advisers. But you will succeed the second time; with your 200-year head start you will defeat them entirely. The matter of importance that remains is to secure the position of the priesthood in the post-war Cheanya society. The King (Emperor, as he calls himself now in 198) and his cronies cannot be trusted. We will not share knowledge of how to use the Mirror with them, or with any other person who is not a full member of the priesthood. We will also not share our research into time travel, unless it is vital that others know of it. The few male priests who have up until your time been part of the priesthood also cannot be trusted, men are ever in the service of the King/Emperor and always tempted to wield the power he grants them over women. They must be cast out, and men shall never again be part of the priesthood. Some will object to this; let them. They will not be among those who know the use and construction of the Mirror in your time, so it does not matter what they do. Forever, until the end of the world, this shall be a women's secret, and women's power, to counter the power men place in the Emperor. Let them never forget who is truly responsible for the continued existence of our people.

And now, the language, as promised.

## **Part II**

# **The Name of the Language and its Philosophy**

The language is called QuCheanya, which means “the Cheanya language”. Of course there has never been a single Cheanya language, even in your time there are various recognized dialects, and in the future these evolve into three principal branches of Cheanya languages that are not mutually intelligible. Translators must be hired for most people on the eastern and northern coasts to understand the Emperor’s proclamations, although increasingly in future times many of those people do speak the Capital Dialect as a second language. Even if one wanted to consider the Capital Dialect to be the “true” Cheanya language, the Capital Dialect in the year 500 is not mutually intelligible with the Capital Dialect in the year 1500, they are essentially different languages as well; and the Capital Dialect in 1500 in one timeline may also be completely unintelligible to speakers of the Capital Dialect in 1500 in another timeline. QuCheanya is designed to transcend all of those changes and variations, to be an unchanging constant across time and space; to enable a priestess in the Capital in the year 2000 to communicate with another priestess in Vrel in the year 300. In practice, we rarely cross both time and space at the same time, but should the need arise we would still like to all speak the same language. As the only language spoken in all times (after the year 0) and places on our large island, we declare this to be the only language that can truly be called the Cheanya language.

In practice, most of the lay people do not know this language. We offer classes, but few choose to study it. So, if one travels to another time or place where one does not know the local language, only other priestesses can be counted on to know QuCheanya. Since most of our concerns lie with other priestesses, however, this is sufficient for our needs.

## Part III

# Phonology and Orthography

### 0.1 Phonemes

QuCheanya has five series' of obstruents in the four places of articulation common to most Cheanya languages (bilabial, alveolar, velar, and uvular), bilabial, alveolar and palatal nasals, alveolar and palatal lateral approximants, an alveolar trill, and a palatal glide. Table 1 displays the phoneme in regular type on the left and the romanization used in this document in bold on the right.

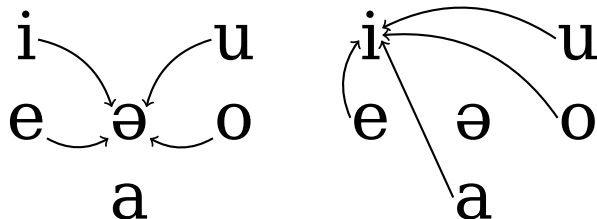
Table 1: Consonant Phonemes of QuCheanya

	Bilabial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Uvular
Stop	p <b>p</b>	t <b>t</b>		k <b>c</b>	q <b>q</b>
Palatalized Stop	pʲ <b>py</b>	tʲ <b>ty</b>		kʲ <b>cy</b>	
Fricative	ɸ <b>f</b>	s <b>s</b>		x <b>ch</b>	χ <b>qh</b>
Palatalized Fricative	ɸʲ <b>fy</b>	sʲ <b>sy</b>		xʲ <b>chy</b>	
Affricate	pɸ <b>pf</b>	ts <b>ts</b>		kx <b>cch</b>	qχ <b>qqh</b>
Nasal	m <b>m</b>	n <b>n</b>	ɲ <b>ny</b>		
Lateral Approximant		l <b>l</b>	ʎ <b>ly</b>		
Trill		r <b>r</b>			
Glide			j <b>y</b>		

For vowels, QuCheanya has six basic monophthongs, four centering diphthongs ending in a schwa, and four rising diphthongs ending in /i/.

Table 2: Vowel Phonemes of QuCheanya

	Front	Mid	Back
High	i <b>i</b>		u <b>u</b>
Mid	e <b>e</b>	ə <b>a</b>	o <b>o</b>
Low		a <b>ä</b>	



The diphthongs are all romanized here as sequences of the romanized monophthongs, with the centering diphthongs ending in **-a** and the rising diphthongs ending in **-i** except for /ai/, which is romanized as **ai** rather than **äi**.

## **0.2 Phonotactics**

QuCheanya has the simplest possible phonotactics, to help reduce the difficulty in pronunciation for speakers of other languages with restrictive phonotactics. Each syllable may only be one consonant from the chart above, followed by one monophthong or diphthong. The wide variety of consonants, and the phonemic schwa, which can be inserted into otherwise illegal consonant sequences, should still make it possible to represent names from many different Cheanya languages in QuCheanya without too many drastic changes.

### **0.2.1 The Rendering of Local Names**

All people and places have names, which they are given at their births (of both the people and the places) in local languages. The local languages change over time, and thus the names are also constantly changing, so there can be no canonical representation of a name in QuCheanya that does not favor a particular point in time. For places, there is a clear point in time that should be favored: the birth or founding of the place, and the original form of the name that it was given. Convert your current place names as they appear now in their local languages, and these conversions shall become their canonical names in QuCheanya. Future places will be given QuCheanya names in the same manner when they are first given a name in the local language. We should prefer to translate the sounds as best we can rather than match the meaning, because not all names have an easily identifiable meaning, and sometimes the origin of a name is simply another name, which also may not have a clear meaning, and we would like to avoid delving deep into etymologies in this way. Since places may be named differently in different timelines, this may mean in turn that we have different QuCheanya names for those places in different timelines. This is acceptable, however; across timelines, it may not actually be correct to say that one place that is in the same physical location as another place in a different timeline is actually the “same” place, and it would therefore be beneficial to refer to them by different names anyway.

For names of people, and in particular names of priestesses, each person should craft for themselves a QuCheanya name that can match their actual given name as much or as little as they personally desire,

although again we should avoid giving names to people that are actual words in QuCheanya.

### 0.3 Allophony

As QuCheanya is an auxiliary language meant to be usable by a variety of people across time and space, it would favor some speakers over others to specify a canonical allophony for the language. Speakers should try to pronounce the sounds of the language as closely to the specified sounds as possible; this will naturally mean that everyone speaks the language with an accent, but this is fine. The simple syllable structure should mean that there are fewer interactions between sounds that cause allophonic variation among speakers.

### 0.4 Stress

QuCheanya words are preferentially stressed on the antepenult, with reducing secondary stresses appearing to the left every other syllable, although personal names and place names may be stressed differently if that would cause better conformation to the original pronunciation. Two-syllable words are stressed on the first syllable, and one-syllable words and particles are unstressed and a bit depemphasized in intonation. Stress placement is not based on any kind of syllable length metric (whether a syllable contains a diphthong or a monophthong, for example) and any type of syllable may be stressed. Stressed syllables are pronounced more loudly and with a higher pitch than syllables with less stress, but the vowel is not lengthened.

### 0.5 Orthography

QuCheanya is written using a featural syllabary, with each character being formed from a frame representing the consonant, and a center representing the vowel. The frames themselves are made up of features indicating the place and manner of articulation, and the centers that represent diphthongs are combinations of the shapes from the centers for the monophthongs. When printed, the frames are printed in red ink to help distinguish them from the centers - with the printing press, this is done by creating a plate with the frames only and inking it in red, followed by a plate with centers only, and inking it in black. When handwritten, it is usually written monochrome. The frames and centers are shown in Table 3 and Table 4.






So, for example, the word **noi** would combine **n** (  ) and **oi** (  ) into the syllabic character , **pyea** would be , **yu** would be . Altogether, there are 350 possible syllables.










































Table 3: Consonant Frames				
Bilabial	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Uvular
<b>p</b> 	<b>t</b> 		<b>c</b> 	<b>q</b> 
<b>py</b> 	<b>ty</b> 		<b>cy</b> 	
<b>f</b> 	<b>s</b> 		<b>ch</b> 	<b>qh</b> 
<b>fy</b> 	<b>sy</b> 		<b>chy</b> 	
<b>pf</b> 	<b>ts</b> 		<b>cch</b> 	<b>qqh</b> 
<b>m</b> 	<b>n</b> 	<b>ny</b> 		
	<b>l</b> 	<b>ly</b> 		
	<b>r</b> 			
		<b>y</b> 		

Table 4: Vowel Centers			
Monophthong	i-Diphthong	a-Diphthong	
<b>ä</b> 	<b>ai</b> 		
<b>e</b> 	<b>ei</b> 	<b>ea</b> 	
<b>i</b> 		<b>ia</b> 	
<b>o</b> 	<b>oi</b> 	<b>oa</b> 	
<b>u</b> 	<b>ui</b> 	<b>ua</b> 	
<b>a</b> 			

Depending on the press, the 25 consonant frames could be represented using as few as 8 unique pieces of rotateable or flippable type: one piece for the overall shape of the non-palatal frames, which can be rotated to produce any of the four possible; one piece for the palatal shape; one piece for the stop diacritic, which can be flipped to go on either side; one piece for the fricative diacritic, which can likewise be flipped, and can be combined with the stop diacritic to produce the affricate diacritic; one piece for the nasal diacritic; one piece for the lateral diacritic; one piece for the trill diacritic; and one piece for the palatalization diacritic, which can be flipped to go on the top or the bottom. The vowel centers are less composable due to spacing considerations.

Numerals are also written using red frames and black centers, in this case the frame indicates the base and the center indicates the value. As is the case in your current language, counting and math are sometimes done in base 6 or base 12, and thus the representation of

number base is important for the language. The centers themselves contain a hexagon element in three stages of completion that represent 3, 6, and 9, and a central shape with two stages of completion that represent 1 and 2. These are combined with each other to form numbers 0-11, as shown in Table 5.

Table 5: Numerals

Numeral	Base 10	Base 12	Base 6
0			
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			

There are a few standard punctuation marks, which are all smaller black characters at mid height.  $+$  marks the end of a sentence, while  $-$  marks a place where one would pause for breath, and is occasionally used as a visual boundary between clauses if one is needed for ease of comprehension.  $\sqsubset$  and  $\sqsupset$  are used as brackets, and are used in this document to indicate optional words or syllables.  $\sqcap$  and  $\sqcup$  are quotation marks.  $\sqcap$  is the number separator mark, which is used for writing short forms of times and dates, and also as the decimal separator in mathematics contexts.

# Part IV

## Grammar

### 1 Morphology

#### 1.1 Nominal Morphology

QuCheanya nouns are marked for case, number, and tense. There is no gender or noun class in the language, and only singular and plural numbers. There are eight cases, including the case used to mark the topic, and six tenses.

##### 1.1.1 Tense

If the noun is topicalized, it appears at the beginning of the sentence marked with the “topic” case ending, which obligatorily includes a tense. This ending is formed from a consonant indicating tense and either  $\overline{\square}$  (indicating singular topic) or  $\square \overline{\top}$  (indicating plural topic). If the noun is not topicalized, tense is marked with a tense syllable, which is the tense consonant followed by  $\overline{\top}$ . The tense syllable is then followed by any case marking.

Table 6: Tenses		
Tense	Consonant, with Topic	Syllable, with Non-Topic Case
Present	$\overline{\top}$	$\overline{\top}$
Past	$\overline{\top}$	$\overline{\top}$
Future	$\overline{\top}$	$\overline{\top}$
Past Displaced	$\overline{\top}$	$\overline{\top}$
Future Displaced	$\overline{\top}$	$\overline{\top}$
Sideways	$\overline{\top}$	$\overline{\top}$



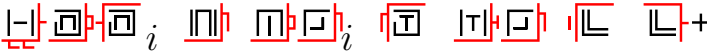
The past displaced and future displaced tenses are used in cases of time travel. Each object or person has its own personal timeline, which indicates the order in which it experiences the world. The world also has a global timeline, in which things earlier in the global timeline are regarded to have happened before things that come later in the timeline. Ordinarily all of the different personal and global timelines are in sync, and things experienced by each object or person at an earlier point in their personal timeline also happened

at an earlier point in the global timeline, and at an earlier point in the personal timelines of every other object and person. With time travel involved, this is not necessarily the case, something that happens to a person earlier along their personal timeline may happen in the global future of something they experienced later. Since tenses affix to nouns, this indicates where along that noun's personal timeline it is/was/will be in the sentence, relative to the speaker, who usually has a subjective idea about what point in the noun's timeline is the "present" relative to their own personal "present". When referring to something that happened to a noun in its personal past/present/future, which is also in the global past/present/future respectively, it is proper to use the regular past/present/future tenses. When referring to something that happened to the noun in its personal past or future which is not in the global past or future respectively, then the past displaced (for actions in the noun's personal past) or future displaced (for actions in the noun's personal future) tenses would be used. It is also acceptable to use past displaced and future displaced tenses if the noun in the context of the sentence is considered to be in the "wrong" global time due to time travel, even if the action of the sentence happened in past of both the noun's personal timeline and the global timeline, for example. This is somewhat subjective. A person who permanently moved to another time frame would not be considered displaced, for example. The position of the event of the sentence in the global timeline is typically indicated using nouns for "places" in time (yesterday, last week, 1629, etc.) in the locative case. The "sideways" tense is a special tense used when talking about nouns in different timelines than the one the speaker is currently occupying. If the noun could also be considered to be in the past or the future relative to the speaker in addition to being a different timeline, the speaker must choose whether its past/future position or its sideways position is more relevant when choosing which tense to use.

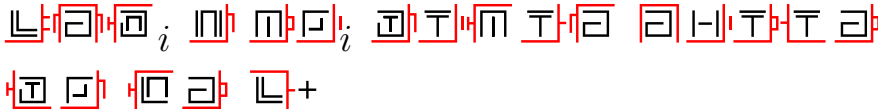
Explicit tenses are not required for non-topicalized nouns. If a noun lacks a tense marking, it is assumed to be in the same tense as the topic noun. The exception is in sentences in the imperative mood, which do not have topics, and in which nouns that are not marked for tense are assumed to be in the present tense.

Pronouns do not use this morphology for tense; instead, they are preceded by the tense syllable ending in  $\overline{\text{T}}$  as a separate word regardless of case. As with common nouns, pronouns do not need to be tensed unless they are the topic of the sentence or they differ in tense from the topic.

In many sentences, tense is not used much differently than it is in other languages:

- (1) a.    
**tyorei<sub>i</sub>-q -ei noi rinu<sub>i</sub> mea qäro -nu fä cä**  
store<sub>i</sub> -PST-TOP 1S.NOM RFL.LOC<sub>i</sub> to yesterday-LOC go PRF  
“I went to the store yesterday.”
- b.    
**tyorei<sub>i</sub>-c -ei noi rinu<sub>i</sub> mea ti- ra fä**  
store<sub>i</sub> -PRS-TOP 1S.NOM RFL.LOC<sub>i</sub> to near-time go  
“I am going to the store now.”
- c.    
**tyorei<sub>i</sub>-p -ei noi rinu<sub>i</sub> mea tsoa -nu fä**  
store<sub>i</sub> -FUT-TOP 1S.NOM RFL.LOC<sub>i</sub> to tomorrow-LOC go  
**cä**  
PRF  
“I will go to the store tomorrow.”

However, the extra tenses allow us to say other types of things as well:

- (2)    
**länye<sub>i</sub>-pf -ei noi risu<sub>i</sub> nea- sapfita-me**  
book<sub>i</sub> -FUTD-TOP 1S.NOM RFL.ACC<sub>i</sub> person-Sapfita-title  
**yesora-qa-re qqhea-nu pfaire cä**  
Yesora -PST-DAT past -LOC give PRF  
“I will give the book to Priestess Yesora in the [global] past [but in the personal future of myself and the book].”

It is not only sentences about time travel events that benefit from being able to mark different nouns in different tenses. Consider the following sentence, which in many languages would have the two verbs marked for different tenses, but in QuCheanya we instead mark the nouns differently:

(3)

**ca nonei nea- sapfita-pa -Ø ceyai qqhoa-sui**  
 PRS 1S.TOP person-Sapfita -FUT-NOM become CMP -ACC  
**fyoanyo**  
 hope

“I hope I will become a priestess.”

And finally consider these examples, in which most languages would have to do with a single tense and an awkward clause to express a second tense:

(4) a.

**ca pfei nosu syelo rä**  
 PRS 2S.TOP 1S.ACC please NEG

“I don’t like you.” [You don’t please me.]

b.

**qa pfei ca nosu syelo rä**  
 PST 2S.TOP PRS 1S.ACC please NEG

“I don’t like the way you used to be.”

c.

**pa pfei ca nosu syelo rä**  
 FUT 2S.TOP PRS 1S.ACC please NEG

“I don’t like what you will become.”

d.

**ca pfei qa nosu syelo rä**  
 PRS 2S.TOP PST 1S.ACC please NEG

“Back then I wouldn’t have liked the way you are now.”

e.  $\overline{\top} \vdash \top$ ,  $\top \vdash \overline{\top}$ ,  $\overline{\top} \vdash \perp$ ,  $\perp \vdash \overline{\top}$ ,  $\overline{\top} \vdash \bot$ ,  $\bot \vdash \overline{\top}$

<b>t</b>	<b>s</b>	<b>p</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>c</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>s</b>	<b>y</b>	<b>r</b>
SDW	2S.TOP	PRS	1S.ACC	please	NEG			

"I don't like how you are in the other timeline."

### 1.1.2 Case and Number

One of the case and number markings in the following table comes after the tense marking on the noun, or simply after the root if tense is unmarked.

Case	Singular	Plural
Nominative	unmarked	$\overline{\tau}$
Accusative	$\overline{\square} \downarrow$	$\overline{\tau} \downarrow$
Dative	$\overline{\square} \downarrow \downarrow$	$\overline{\tau} \downarrow \downarrow$
Alienable Genitive	$\overline{\square} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$	$\overline{\tau} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$
Inalienable Genitive	$\overline{\square} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$	$\overline{\tau} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$
Oblique	$\overline{\square} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$	$\overline{\tau} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$
Locative	$\overline{\square} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$	$\overline{\tau} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow$
Topic	$\overline{\square}$	$\overline{\square} \quad \overline{\tau}$

The nominative plural ending  $\overline{\text{T}}$  is applied to words ending in different vowels in the nominative singular as shown in Table 8

Marking a noun with the topic marker indicates that it is the old, or established information in the sentence, and that other nouns contribute new information. Topics from previous sentences in a larger narrative may carry over to later sentences without having to be explicitly restated, but every sentence that is not in the imperative mood must have a topic, either explicitly stated or implied. Any noun in the sentence may be topicalized, regardless of role. Any case marking the noun would otherwise have had is then replaced with the topic marking and its noun phrase is moved to the front of the sentence, but see section 2.3 for how this changes rules about word order and the use of the topic-reflexive pronoun.

Nominative case is used to mark subjects of verbs, and an explicitly stated nominative subject is also necessary for every sentence,

Table 8: Nominative Plural Endings

Nominative Singular Ending	Nominative Plural Ending
└	┐
┐	┐
┐	┐
┐	┐
┐	┐
┐, ┐, ┐, ┐, ┐	no change
┐	┐ ┐
┐	┐ ┐
┐	┐ ┐
┐	┐ ┐

although in some cases the nominative subject may also be the topic, and will thus be marked with the topic “case”. Accusative marks direct objects of transitive verbs, and dative marks indirect objects of verbs. The dative may also be used to mean “for the benefit of” or “for the sake of” or “on behalf of” the noun, with verbs where a dative indirect object is not normally required. The genitives are used to mark possession; the genitive case marking would be applied to the possessor noun, which precedes the possessed noun, which itself may be marked for some other case depending on its role in the sentence. The alienable genitive case is used for things which are considered to be possessed alienably, such as belongings, and intangible but ephemeral things such as thoughts, feelings, knowledge or ideas, while the inalienable genitive is used for things possessed inalienably, such as body parts, physical components of an object, family members, or intangible things which are not ephemeral, such as a person’s voice or a person’s beauty. The locative case is used generally on its own to mean “in/at/on”, or sometimes “during”, and also with objects of postpositions of time or place. The oblique case is used with the objects of all other postpositions (see section 3.2 for a full list of postpositions, how they are used, and which cases they take).

The dative may also be used to indicate possession with the copula ┐, in lieu of a specific verb meaning “have”:



(5) ᑭᑭ ᑭᑭ ᑭᑭ ᑭᑭ ᑭᑭ +

**yeqqhi-c -ei nore yai**

cat -PRS-TOP 1S.DAT be

“I have a cat.” [Lit. “For me there is a cat”]

### 1.1.3 Pronouns

Pronouns have somewhat idiosyncratic forms for the case and number combinations, displayed in Table 9.

The topic-reflexive pronoun is a special pronoun used to refer back to the topic of the sentence in other positions. The relative pronoun is used in relative clauses to refer to the modified noun.

If a pronoun needs to mark a tense (for example, if it is topicalized, or if it is a different tense than the topic), then the tense syllable ending in ᑭ precedes the pronoun, e.g. ᑭᑭ ᑭᑭ, ᑭᑭ ᑭᑭ, etc.

### 1.1.4 Compounds

There are a small number of mostly one-syllable nouns that can be the heads of nominal compounds, but as a general rule the language forms noun phrases from two nouns by deriving one into an adjective using the derivational suffix ᑭᑭ, rather than by creating a compound. Words surrounding language, culture, and nationality can generally be formed with compounds using e.g. ᑭᑭ (meaning “language”), ᑭᑭᑭᑭ (meaning “country”) and ᑭᑭᑭᑭ (meaning “food”), so ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ is the common name for the Empire (or the Kingdom, or the Republic, depending on what time period you are in, but the name does not change in QuCheanya), and ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ referred generally to Cheanya cuisine. Names for professions can generally be formed as compounds headed by ᑭᑭ, “person”, as in ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ (literally “Sapfita-person”) for “priestess”, and nationalities can also be formed with ᑭᑭ, e.g. ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ for someone from T’arse. In general, ᑭᑭ does not appear on its own outside of compounds and if one wants to speak of “people” in general, the word ᑭᑭᑭᑭ is used, even for people who are not ethnically Cheanya nor citizens of NoraCheanya. In later eras, as chemical elements are discovered and named, the QuCheanya names for them are created

Table 9: Pronouns						
Type	Nominative		Accusative		Dative	
	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1st						
2nd						
3rd						
Topic-Reflexive						
Relative						

Type	Alienable Singular	Genitive Plural	Inalienable Singular	Genitive Plural	Oblique Singular	Plural
1st						
2nd						
3rd						
Topic-Reflexive						
Relative						

Type	Locative Singular	Plural	Topic Singular	Plural
1st				
2nd				
3rd				
Topic-Reflexive			-	-
Relative			-	-

using compounds headed with or “stuff”. All compounds are head-first and consist of only two morphemes each, and here we represent them in the romanization by capitalizing the first letter of the second morpheme.

## 1.2 Verbal Morphology

Verbs in QuCheanya frequently form compounds by attaching to a postposition as a prefix, creating a related but different verb. For ex-

ample,  $\overline{\text{p}}\overline{\text{t}}\overline{\text{p}}$ , literally “up-jump” means “jump up”,  $\overline{\text{p}}\overline{\text{t}}\overline{\text{p}}\overline{\text{t}}\overline{\text{p}}$ , literally “out-say” meant “shout”, etc. This is very productive, and new forms continue to pop up and percolate back into the past via communications between the priestesses in different time frames. Although the standard for the language is supposed to be unchanging, we are not opposed to adding new words to the dictionary in this way, as long as they are words that all speakers could be expected to understand without an explanation. See section 3.2 for a complete list of postpositions and the general rules for how they can be used to modify verbs.

Aside from this compounding, there is no other verbal morphology of note in the language.

### 1.3 Adjectives and Adverbs

Adjectives do not carry any agreement in QuCheanya, and thus they must always appear before the noun or verb that they modify. Although there is a distinction between adjectives and adverbs, it is not the same distinction made by many non-Cheanya languages that the adjectives modify nouns, and adverbs modify adjectives and verbs - instead, the distinction here is that adjectives modify nouns and verbs, and adverbs modify adjectives. Some adjectives more commonly modify verbs and other more commonly modify nouns (for example, it is more common for adjectives indicating time and place to modify verbs), but it is grammatical for all of them to modify either. In some sentences, adjectives can modify either the verb or a noun for the same or very similar meaning, particularly if there is only one noun phrase; in this case it is preferred to evenly spread adjectives between the noun and the verb, e.g. if the noun already has another adjective modifying it and the verb has none, a second adjective would more commonly be moved to the verb. However, there are often slight differences in meaning based on where the adjective is placed.

#### 1.3.1 Partial Reduplication

Adjectives may be partially reduplicated to create forms that mean “very <adjective>”, as in  $\overline{\text{p}}\overline{\text{t}}\overline{\text{p}}\overline{\text{t}}\overline{\text{p}}$  “very often/frequent” from the adjective  $\overline{\text{p}}\overline{\text{t}}\overline{\text{p}}$ , “frequent/often”. The formation of the reduplicated form follows these rules: first, if the consonant of the first syllable is palatal or palatalized, the reduplicated syllable is formed from the non-palatal/ized consonant followed by  $\overline{\text{p}}$ . So for example, the adjective  $\overline{\text{p}}\overline{\text{t}}\overline{\text{p}}$ , “early”, is reduplicated to  $\overline{\text{p}}\overline{\text{t}}\overline{\text{p}}\overline{\text{p}}\overline{\text{t}}\overline{\text{p}}$ , “very early”.

Next, if the consonant is neither palatal nor palatalized, if the vowel is a diphthong, the reduplicated syllable contains only the first vowel of the diphthong. So, the adjective  $\text{[t] [a]}$ , “slow”, can be reduplicated to  $\text{[t] [a] [t] [a]}$ , “very slow”. Otherwise, the first syllable of the adjective is simply duplicated at the beginning of the word.

### 1.3.2 Adverbs

Adverbs are words that only modify adjectives, and are generally a closed class. Adjectives cannot generally be formed into adverbs, or be used to modify other adjectives, although similar effects can be achieved by having both adjectives modify the same noun or verb.

Comparative adjectives are formed with the adverb  $\text{[t] [a]}$ , and superlatives are formed with its partial reduplication  $\text{[t] [a] [t] [a]}$ , e.g.  $\text{[t] [a] [t] [a]}$ , “slower”, and  $\text{[t] [a] [t] [a] [t] [a]}$ , “slowest”.

“Enough” or “sufficiently” is expressed as  $\text{[t] [a]}$ , e.g.  $\text{[t] [a] [t] [a]}$ , “slow enough”, “not enough” is  $\text{[t] [a] [t] [a]}$  with the negator  $\text{[t] [a]}$  attached, e.g.  $\text{[t] [a] [t] [a] [t] [a]}$ , “not slow enough”, and “too much” is reduplicated  $\text{[t] [a] [t] [a]}$ , e.g.  $\text{[t] [a] [t] [a] [t] [a]}$ , “too slow”.

## 1.4 Other Morphology

### 1.4.1 Other Partial Reduplication

Some other closed-class words in QuCheanya also display some partial reduplication, for example, the diminutive prefix  $\text{[t] [a]}$  and the augmentative prefix  $\text{[t] [a]}$  can be reduplicated to  $\text{[t] [a] [t] [a]}$ , “extra small” and  $\text{[t] [a] [t] [a]}$ , “extra large”.

### 1.4.2 Derivational Affixes

The suffix  $\text{[t] [a]}$  is used for converting nouns into adjectives, and  $\text{[t] [a]}$ , itself a verb meaning “do” or “happen” can turn nouns into verbs.  $\text{[t] [a]}$  is a nominalizer that turns adjectives into nouns. The action nominalizer for verbs is  $\text{[t] [a]}$ , however, this nominalization cannot include any arguments that would normally appear on the verb, such as the accusative object or postpositional phrases. Agent nominalizations are generally formed by applying  $\text{[t] [a]}$  and then compounding with

$\overline{\text{ᑭ}}$  or  $\overline{\text{ᑭ}}$  depending on if the agent is animate. There is also a nominalizer for fully formed finite clauses including all verbal arguments,  $\overline{\text{ᑭ}}$ , which is actually not an affix, but the complementizer used for subordinate clauses. However, it is essentially a nominalizer for a clause, can be marked for case, and takes the  $\overline{\text{ᑭ}}$  suffix when being used for relative clauses.

## 2 Syntax

QuCheanya has mostly-fixed SOV word order, although OSV can be used for poetic purposes in most cases.

### 2.1 Noun Phrase

Noun phrases are head-last, consisting of an optional number or quantifier, followed optionally by one or more postpositional phrases or locative noun phrases, relative clauses headed with  $\overline{\text{ᑭ}}$   $\overline{\text{ᑭ}}$ , genitive noun phrases, adjectives, or nouns with the  $\overline{\text{ᑭ}}$  derivational suffix, in that order, followed by a single noun. There can be at most one relative clause, at most one genitive noun phrase, and at most one noun with the  $\overline{\text{ᑭ}}$  suffix, but relative clauses can modify the same noun as a postpositional phrase, locative, genitive, adjective, or noun ending with  $\overline{\text{ᑭ}}$ . Adjectives relating to time or place appear first, and adjectives describing physical properties such as appearance, tactile quality, or weight appear last, but aside from those rules the adjectives may appear in any order.


### 2.2 Postpositional Phrase







Postpositional phrases consist of a noun phrase in either the locative or oblique case followed by a postposition. See section 3.2 for which postpositions take which cases. Postpositional phrases can modify either verbs or nouns.

### 2.3 Verb Phrase/Clause


Verb phrases are also head-last, consisting of at least one noun phrase, followed optionally by one or more postpositional phrases, simple locative noun phrases, or adjectives, followed by a single verb, followed optionally by one or more post-verbal particles (see section



(8)  **ca nonei<sub>i</sub> retye<sub>i</sub> feisyä firelä-nu yai sei**  
 PRS 1S.TOP<sub>i</sub> RFL.GENI<sub>i</sub> sister.NOM Vrel -LOC be HAB  
 “As for me, my sister lives in Vrel.”

Every sentence must have a topic, either explicitly stated in the current sentence, or implied to be the same as the most recently stated topic. The only exception to this is sentences in the imperative mood marked with , which must have at least a non-topic nominative subject (see the next section). Sentences that semantically have no participants, e.g. “it’s raining”, are usually formed using a semantically contentful topic noun phrase, which may be a nominalization, and the verb  which means “happen” or “exist”. In this case “it’s raining” would be , literally “rain is happening”. In these cases, the topic-reflexive pronoun may not be used.

Post-verbal particles are particles that follow the verb and are used to mark aspect and mood. There are two aspect-marking particles, ㄴ, which marks perfective aspect, and ㄴ, which marks habitual aspect. The imperative mood particle, ㄴ, can be used instead of an aspect-marking particle - in this mood, the sentence can have no topic, and nouns are by default in the present tense, although they can still be marked for other tenses if necessary. Any noun or pronoun can be the subject of the sentence, and thus ㄴ also serves to mark hortatives and jussives. Copulas generally cannot take ㄴ or ㄴ, except for in the common use of ㄴ ㄴ to mean “live”.

(9) a.  +  
**pfe** **rui-** **fä** **tyua**  
 2S.NOM from-go IMP  
 “Go away!”

b. +

**mua fä tyua**

1P.NOM go IMP

“Let’s go!”

c. +

**cea mea-fä tyua**




3P.NOM to- go IMP


“Let them come.”



Sentences ending with none of these particles are by default in the progressive aspect and indicative mood.



Negation and evidentiality are also marked with another set of post-verbal particles, appearing after the aspect and mood particles.


Negation is marked with the particle , related to the word ,


“no, none”.  can optionally be replaced with an evidentiality particle, either  or .

 indicates that the sentence is likely to be true, but that it was not directly experienced (or has not yet been experienced but is expected to happen), or was heard through hearsay,

or is otherwise likely, but not certain.  is used to mean that the truth of the sentence is much more doubtful or uncertain, or was heard from an untrustworthy source. Both of these can be negated with .


 which can combine with them into a single word:  means that it was probable that the action did not happen, while

 simply means that it was uncertain whether the action of the sentence did not happen, rather than uncertain that it did, or that the sentence is uncertain, but more likely to be false than true.

There is also a special post-verbal particle which comes after the negation and evidentiality particles, which is important in conversation and narrative. This particle, ,

glossed here as FTRL, indicates that the sentence has relevance to some time in the future of one or more of the nouns involved, the way that “I already ate” is about a past event that has specific relevance to the present (“...so don’t make me lunch”), or “we will arrive soon” has relevance to a further future time than the tense of the sentence, due to implying that something will happen after the arrival. It generally forms a causal link between sentences, similar to how “so”, or “therefore” are often used. This is an important particle for recording stories or events



as they happened in order, and tracing chains of causality.  is also a postposition meaning “from”, which when attached to verbs provides the meaning of “motion away from”, and these usages are related.

## 2.4 Subordinate and Relative Clauses

Clauses can be complementized in QuCheanya with the complementizer word  $\text{ᑭᑭᑭ}$ .  $\text{ᑭᑭᑭ}$  is actually a nominalizer for clauses, and can take some noun morphology such as the accusative case marker  $\text{ᑭᑭᑭ}$  and the derivational suffix  $\text{ᑭᑭᑭ}$ . Verbs that require subordinate clauses, with meanings like “think”, “know”, “want”, “say”, etc. specify whether the clause is the subject, headed by  $\text{ᑭᑭᑭ}$  or the object, headed by  $\text{ᑭᑭᑭ}$   $\text{ᑭᑭᑭ}$ . For example,  $\text{ᑭᑭᑭ}$   $\text{ᑭᑭᑭ}$ , “ought”, takes a subordinate clause as its subject (and only argument), whereas  $\text{ᑭᑭᑭ}$   $\text{ᑭᑭᑭ}$ , “hope”, has a regular subject noun phrase and takes a subordinate clause as its object, as in example (3).

- $$(10) \quad \overline{\tau} \vdash [\square]_j; \subseteq [\Box]_j; \supset [-]\vdash[-]; [\top] \sqsubset [\square]; [\square] \vdash [\perp]; \overline{\tau} \vdash [\neg] +$$

**ca munea<sub>i</sub> [[ria<sub>i</sub> tsomo foase mufoi] qqhoa]**  
 PRS 1P.TOP<sub>i</sub> [[RFL.NOM.PL<sub>i</sub> more slow eat] CMP.NOM]  
**rapui**  
 ought

“We should eat more slowly.”

- [illegible]

**pa**   **pfei<sub>i</sub>**   **ca**   **noi**   **[[ri<sub>i</sub>**   **nea-**   **sapfita**  
 FUT   2S.TOP<sub>i</sub>   PRS   1S.NOM   [[RFL.NOM<sub>i</sub>   person-Sapfita.NOM  
**ceyai]**   **qqhoa-sui]**   **fyoanyo**  
 become]   CMP   -ACC]   hope

"I hope you will become a priestess."

In (10),  $\overline{\text{T}}$   $\overline{\text{Q}}$   $\overline{\text{I}}$  is the subject of the subordinate clause, topicalized and replaced in the clause with the topic-reflexive pronoun.



## 3 Special Vocabulary Notes

### 3.1 Numbers, Dates, and Times

#### 3.1.1 Numbers and Counting

The number system is a morpheme-for-morpheme map of the traditional counting system that you use now, and many Cheanya languages also continue to use this system in the future, although some of the more standard ones eventually shift more fully to base 10. However, we consider base 6 and base 12 to be indispensable for some fields of mathematics, so they are retained in QuCheanya. For the sake of future readers of this document, we will describe the system fully here.

The numbers from 1 to 12 each have their own unique roots, which are  $\overline{\text{f}}$  (1),  $\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}$  (2),  $\overline{\text{m}}$  (3),  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  (4),  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  (5),  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  (6),  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  (7),  $\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  (8),  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  (9),  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  (10),  $\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  (11), and  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  (12), with 0 being  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , the same as the word for “none”. After this, numbers are mainly in base 10, with numbers between 10 and 20 being  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ ,  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , etc. and 20, 30, 40, etc. using just the first syllable of  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , as  $\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}$  (20),  $\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{m}}$  (30),  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  (40), etc. 100 is then  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , using the augmentative  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , and 1000 is  $\overline{\text{f}}$ , with the reduplicated augmentative. However, numbers that are multiples of 6 are not in the usual base 10 format, but instead in either base 12 and base 6 (if they are multiples of 12) or just base 6. So 18 is not \* $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , it is  $\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , or “three six”. When writing with numerals, this may be written either in base 10 as  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  or in base 6 as  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , but it would be read as  $\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  either way. 24 can be either  $\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}$ , “two twelve”, or  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , “four six”, and can be written as  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , or  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , depending on the case. 36 is either  $\overline{\text{m}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  “three twelve” ( $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ ) or  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , analogous to  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  ( $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ ), and 144 is likewise  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  ( $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ ). After 100,  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$ , “and” is used to add the rest of the number, so  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$   $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  is 101. When it comes to the multiples of 12 and 6, a shortened form is often used; while 42 is  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$  and 78 is  $\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}\overline{\text{a}}$  as one might expect, 48 is  $\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}\overline{\text{f}}$














contexts.






































### 3.1.2 Time of Day

As in your time, the day is traditionally divided into three sets of 6 hours. In future times, the traditional 18-hour sundial is converted into an 18-hour mechanical clock, a device that shows the passing of the time the way a sundial does, but without the need for any sunlight. For a time period of about 100 or 150 years or so, it is common in NoraCheanya to have mechanical clocks that mark 30 hours and go in the opposite direction (that is, rightwards across the top of the face and leftwards across the bottom, the opposite of how the sundial moves) because the mechanical clocks were at that time still new and were exclusively being imported from T'arse, where they measure time very differently. However, they are eventually replaced with native Cheanya clocks that measure time the proper way, and we have no desire to use our language to keep time the T'arsi way. For the future benefit of our sisters living in the time of the T'arsi clocks, we describe the Cheanya timekeeping system here.







As previously mentioned, the day is divided into three sets of 6 hours. The first set is called  $\overline{\text{L}} \overline{\text{T}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}}$   $\overline{\text{Q}} \overline{\text{T}}$ , or “working hours”, often abbreviated to  $\overline{\text{L}} \overline{\text{Q}}$ , with the beginning of the hour that is designated as 1 one hour after sunrise on the equinox, and ending at the end of hour 6 in the late afternoon. The second set is called  $\overline{\text{T}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}}$   $\overline{\text{Q}} \overline{\text{T}}$ , “leisure hours”, abbreviated to  $\overline{\text{T}} \overline{\text{Q}}$ , in which hour 1 begins two hours before sunset on the equinox and hour 6 ends four hours after sunset on the equinox. The remaining hours, from four hours after sunset to an hour after the next dawn, are  $\overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}}$   $\overline{\text{Q}} \overline{\text{T}}$ , “sleeping hours”, or  $\overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{Q}}$ . To tell the time, one would say e.g.  $\overline{\text{T}} \overline{\text{L}} \overline{\text{Q}}$ , the third hour of the working hours, three hours after dawn, or  $\overline{\text{Q}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}}$   $\overline{\text{T}} \overline{\text{Q}}$ , the second hour of the leisure time, which is the time of dusk on the equinox. Each hour has 144 minutes, which are counted exclusively in base 12, and follow the hour connected by  $\overline{\text{E}}$ , e.g.  $\overline{\text{T}} \overline{\text{L}} \overline{\text{E}}$   $\overline{\text{Q}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}}$   $\overline{\text{L}} \overline{\text{T}}$   $\overline{\text{L}} \overline{\text{Q}}$ , three hours and twenty-eight ( $24_{12}$ ) minutes after sunrise. With the mechanical clocks, it is even possible to speak of seconds within a minute, of which there are 36 per minute, these being said in base 6, again following the minutes after  $\overline{\text{E}}$ . So:  $\overline{\text{T}} \overline{\text{L}} \overline{\text{E}}$   $\overline{\text{Q}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}}$   $\overline{\text{Q}} \overline{\text{L}}$   $\overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{T}}$   $\overline{\text{E}}$   $\overline{\text{T}} \overline{\text{L}}$   $\overline{\text{Q}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}} \overline{\text{E}}$

, three hours and twenty-eight minutes and thirty-two (52<sub>6</sub>) seconds after sunrise. When written out with numbers, they use the number separation mark  to separate hours and minutes and seconds, so that time would be written as         .

### 3.1.3 Dates and Monthly Public Holidays

The nine months of the year do not have their descriptive names from the natural Cheanya languages transcribed or translated into QuCheanya, instead we merely say   , the third month,   , the seventh month, etc.   is indeed also the name of the larger moon that cycles once a month, upon which the months are based (the smaller one that cycles thrice a year is called   , the little sister). Within each month, the weeks are called   and are again numbered, so    -   , the third week of the fourth month. This is followed by a number for the day of the week, and preceded by the year, so the date given for the publication of this book,     -    -     is the second day of the fourth week of the fifth month of the year 198. This can also be abbreviated with the number separation mark to     II  II  II .

The monthly public holidays are still in flux in your time, according to the idiosyncrasies of the individual temples and towns. So we shall establish here what they are going forward, and what words we use to refer to them:

The middle two days of weeks 1, 2, 4, and 5 of each month (that is, the six-day weeks) have the   hours reserved for prayer, self-reflection, and general learning. It is not mandatory to do this in the temple (or at all), but the temple is to remain open to the public during these times for any who wish to pray or seek the wisdom of the priestesses. The priestesses may give a sermon or read a fable or share research with those in attendance as is deemed appropriate, or they may leave the people to pray on their own, but they must be available to answer questions and give guidance and material help to all who ask. These days are called    , “days of wisdom” or “days of knowledge”, as the purpose is to give the people a time to acquire some of the wisdom of the temple for themselves, should they choose to. Of course, the secret knowledge of the operation of the Mirror and the mechanics of time travel must not be given out to the public at any point, but there is still much other knowledge

that the temples can provide.

The middle two days of the third week of the month that correspond to the full phase of Yeari were in darker times a time to pray and sacrifice to soulwrights, and maintaining these as a religious holiday only asks for unwanted soulwright beliefs in inequality and predestination to infect popular worship of Sapfita. Accordingly, these should be promoted as days of secular celebration and drinking, which should hopefully disrupt any popular soulwright worship which occurs on these days. In later centuries, this is not such an issue - by most accounts soulwright worship is completely gone as of 1700 and the soulwrights persist only in ghost stories and vulgar sayings and oaths in the local languages, which are completely harmless. In our time, the temples must arrange the celebrations themselves, but this quickly becomes unnecessary as the parties begin to arrange themselves. These days are called ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ for the usual two days that are a celebration of Yeari, and ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ for the extra day of celebration for the full phase of the smaller moon ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ that occurs in the third and sixth months, and in the ninth month every five years. Nyufeisyä of course becomes full in the ninth month every year, but it must share its celebration with Yeari four out of five years for the proper alignment of the calendar.

### 3.2 Postpositions

Postpositions serve two functions in QuCheanya: to head postpositional phrases that modify verbs or nouns, and to attach to verbs as prefixes to create new verbs. In postpositional phrases, some postpositions take noun phrases in the locative case, and other take noun phrases in the oblique case. In Table 10 is a list of postpositions, the cases they take, and how they are used to modify verbs.

### 3.3 Adjectives of Time and Place, and Demonstratives

Many adjectives of time and place are made up of an adjective base, which is ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ for adjectives of time, and ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ for adjectives of place, and a prefix that either indicates a distance, or is a quantifier. The distance prefixes are ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ for “close”, and ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ for “far”, and these can be reduplicated where appropriate to mean “very close” or “very far”. Quantifiers that can appear as part of these adjectives include ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ, “all”, ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ, “some”, or ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ ᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕᑕ, “none”. All possible combinations are shown in Table 11.

Table 10: Postpositions

Postposition	Meaning	Case	Verbal Modification
	“to”, “towards”	Locative	Indicates motion towards the speaker (e.g. , “come”)
	“from”, “away from”	Locative	Indicates motion away from the speaker (e.g. , “go (away)”)
	“up”, “over”, “above”	Locative	Indicates motion upwards (e.g. , “rise”)
	“down”, “under”	Locative	Indicates motion downwards (e.g. , “fall”)
	“out”, “outside” or “around”	Locative (“out(side)”), Oblique (“around”)	Can indicate motion towards the outside, or can be used to make verbs “bigger”, as in , “shout”
	“inside”, “within”	Locative	Indicated motion inside, motion backwards, or motion away from third parties
	“with”, “together with” or “among”, “beside”, “next to”	Oblique	Adds meaning of “together” for plural subjects only
	“without”, “lacking”, “excluding”	Oblique	Indicates “by onesself”
	“about”, “regarding”	Oblique	Makes verbs “smaller” or otherwise weakens them, e.g. , “whisper”
	“behind”, “in back of”, “after” (temporally and sequentially)	Locative	Forms verbs with underhanded connotations: , “gossip”
	“in front of”, “before” (temporally and sequentially)	Locative	Opposite effect of : , “speak honestly”



Table 11: Adjectives of Time and Place

Base	$\square$	$\square$	$\square$	$\square$	$\square$
$\square$	$\square\square\square\square\square$ (see below)	$\square\square\square\square\square$ (see below)	$\square\square\square\square\square$ , “always”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ , “sometimes”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “never”
$\square$	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “(right) here”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “(over) there”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “everywhere”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “somewhere”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “nowhere”

The meanings of  $\square$  and  $\square$  (and their reduplicated forms) depend on the tense. In present tense,  $\square$  is not used and  $\square$  means “now”; in past tense,  $\square$  means “long ago”, and  $\square$  means “recent”; in future tense,  $\square$  means “a long time from now” and  $\square$  means “soon”. The reduplicated form  $\square\square$  is only used with the present tense and means “right now”, while  $\square\square$  can mean “a very long time ago” or “very far in the future” depending on the tense. If  $\square$  or  $\square$  modify a verb, the relevant tense is the tense of the topic. In sentences with  $\square$ , the relevant tense is always the present if they modify the verb as opposed to a noun.

The prefixes  $\square$  and  $\square$  can also be attached directly to the  $\square$  suffix to form “this” ( $\square\square$ ) and “that” ( $\square\square$ ) when used as modifiers. Reduplicated  $\square\square$  can be used to refer to more distant things, and  $\square\square$  to emphasize “this right here”.

This same set of prefixes can also be applied to the noun bases  $\square$  and  $\square$  to form nominal demonstratives, as shown in Table 12.

Table 12: Special Nouns Made from  $\square$  and  $\square$ 

Base	$\square$	$\square$	$\square$	$\square$	$\square$
$\square$	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “this (thing)”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “that (thing)”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “everything”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “something”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “nothing”
$\square$	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “this (person)”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “that (person)”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “everyone”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “someone”	$\square\square\square\square\square$ “no one”

The words  $\square \square \square \square \square$ ,  $\square \square \square \square \square$ ,  $\square \square \square \square \square$  and  $\square \square \square \square \square$  are sometimes used in place of the third person pronoun  $\square$  when there are multiple entities being referred to in the third person in the same sentence and it thus may be difficult to tell which pronoun refers to which thing or person. The distance aspect implied by  $\square$  and  $\square$  or their reduplicated forms can refer to physical distance, or to relative relatedness to the topic or action of the sentence. This essentially adds potentially eight more third person pronouns to aid in disambiguation.

## Part V

# Dictionary

𐀀

𐀁 Postposition • Up, or above. Affixes to verbs of motion to indicate motion upwards.

𐀂 𐀃 𐀄 Verb • Jump up, or upwards. 𐀁 + 𐀃 𐀄.

𐀅 𐀆 Verb • Rise, go/come up. 𐀁 + 𐀆.

𐀇 𐀈 Noun • Ball, sphere.

𐀉 𐀊 Adjective • Dilute (of gasses, liquids, or colors).

𐀋

𐀌 𐀍 Verb • Begin, start. Takes either noun referring to an action or a clause headed by 𐀎 as its subject.

𐀏 Noun • Global tomorrow. Can be reduplicated into 𐀐 𐀑, “the day after tomorrow”. Only used if the global tomorrow and the relative tomorrow are different.

𐀒

𐀓 Verb • Go, or move in a direction, generally.

𐀔 𐀕 Noun • Sister.

𐀖 Pronoun • Second person plural pronoun.

𐀗 𐀘 Noun • Non-human animal.

𐀙 𐀚 𐀛 Noun • Vrel.

𐀜 𐀝 Verb • Sleep.

𐀞 𐀟 Noun • Sleeping hours, shortened from 𐀠 𐀡 𐀢 𐀣 𐀤 𐀥.

𐀦 𐀧 Adjective • Slow.

𐀨 Conjunction • And.

𐀩 𐀪 Noun • Table.

𐌹𐌺𐌰

𐌹𐌺𐌰

Affix • Suffixed to a noun to turn it into an adjective.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰

Number • Twelve.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰

Verb • Hope, wish for. Takes a clause headed with 𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 as its direct object.

𐌹𐌺𐌰

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰

Verb • Give.

𐌹𐌺𐌰

Pronoun • Second person singular pronoun.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰

Noun • Flower.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰

Number • Four.

𐌹𐌺𐌰

𐌹𐌺𐌰

Number • Six.

𐌹𐌺𐌰

Affix • Suffix indicating that a word is a proper title, can also be affixed to names to mean “Mr. X” or “Mrs. X”

𐌹𐌺𐌰

Postposition • To, towards. Affixes to verbs of motion to indicate motion towards the speaker.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰

Verb • Come.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰

Affix • Suffixes to a number to “N times”.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰

Verb • Eat.

𐌹𐌺𐌰

Pronoun • First person plural pronoun.

𐌹𐌺𐌰

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰

Noun • T’arse.

𐌹𐌺𐌰

Particle • Uncertain evidentiality particle.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰








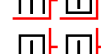



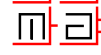



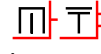


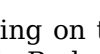

Particle • Negative uncertain evidentiality particle.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰



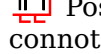

Adjective • Again. This looks like a partial reduplication of 𐌹𐌺𐌰, but 𐌹𐌺𐌰 does not actually exist as a word in the language.

𐌹𐌺𐌰















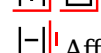

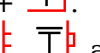
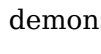


Affix • Prefix meaning “near” which attaches to 𐌹𐌺𐌰, 𐌹𐌺𐌰 and demonstrative words.

 Noun • This thing.  + . Can be reduplicated to .
   
 Adjective • This.  + .
   
 Noun • This person.  + . Can be reduplicated to .
   
 Adjective • Here.  + . Reduplicated form  means “right here”.
   
 Adjective • Near, temporally,  + . Depending on the tense of the nouns, can mean “soon”, “recent”, or “now”. Reduplicated  means “right now” in present tense.
   
 Number • Five.



 Verb • Hop, jump.
   
 Noun • Store, shop.
   
 Postposition • In front of, or before. Attaches to verbs to add a connotation of forthrightness or honesty.
   
 Particle • Imperative/hortative/jussive marker.



 Adjective • Wild, untamed, natural (as opposed to crafted, or cultivated).
   
 Particle • Habitual aspect marker.
   
 Pronoun • Plural relative pronoun.
   
 Quantifier • Some. Partial reduplication  means “many”.
   
 Noun • Something.  + .
   
 Noun • Someone.  + .
   
 Adjective • Somewhere, located in some place, or some places.  + .
   
 Adjective • Some time, or sometimes.  + .
   
 Affix • Prefix meaning “far away” that affixes onto , , and demonstratives.

ㄅㄅ Noun • That thing. ㄅ + ㄅ. Can be reduplicated to ㄅㄅㄅㄅ.

ㄅㄅ Adjective • That. ㄅ + ㄅ.

ㄅㄅ Noun • That person. ㄅ + ㄅ. Can be reduplicated to ㄅㄅㄅㄅ.

ㄅㄅ Adjective • Far away, in a far away place, “there”. ㄅ + ㄅ.  
Can be partially reduplicated into ㄅㄅㄅ.

ㄅㄅ Adjective • Far away temporally, can mean a long time in the past or a long time in the future depending on the tense of the noun.

Not used with present tense. ㄅ + ㄅ. Can be reduplicated into ㄅㄅㄅ.

ㄅㄅ Noun • Rain.

ㄅㄅ Noun • Style of food.

ㄅㄅ Noun • Week.

ㄅ Postposition • Behind, in back of, or after. Attaches to verbs to add underhanded connotations.

ㄅㄅ Verb • Roll.

ㄅㄅ Adjective • Often, frequently.

ㄅㄅ Noun • Leisure hours, shortened from ㄅㄅ ㄅ ㄅ ㄅ.

ㄅㄅ Noun • Leisure, or play.

ㄅㄅ Verb • To play.

ㄅㄅ Number • Ten.

ㄅ

ㄅㄅ Number • Two.

ㄅㄅ Verb • Please. Used to mean “like” except that the liker is the object and the liked thing is the subject.

ㄅ Adverb • Enough. Reduplicated ㄅㄅ means “too much”.


ㄅㄅ Adverb • Not enough. ㄅ + ㄅ.


ㄅㄅ Noun • Baby.

ㄅ

ㄅ Noun • Thing, stuff. Used with ㄅ, ㄅ, and quantifiers, used




 Postposition • With, or together with. Can be affixed to verbs with a plural subject NP to indicate doing something together.





 Particle • Probably evidentiality particle.







  Particle • Evidentiality particle meaning “probably not”.









 Particle • Negation particle; not.


  Quantifier • None, no, none of.


   Noun • Nothing.   + .


   Noun • No one.   + .



   Adjective • Nowhere, in no place.   + .


   Adjective • Never, at no time.   + .


 Pronoun • Singular topic-reflexive pronoun.





 Pronoun • Plural topic-reflexive pronoun.




 Affix • Action nominalizer for verbs.




  Number • Seven.

 Particle • Future relevance marker.

 Postposition • From, or away. Can be affixed to verbs of motion to indicate motion away from the speaker.

  Verb • Go, go away.  + .


 Adjective • Adjective base for adjectives indicating temporal place or location in time, can be used with , , or quantifiers.




  Verb • Ought, should, must; a requirement enforced by a third party. Takes a clause headed by  as its subject.







 Particle • Perfective marker.

  Verb • Become (with adjective or noun phrase complement).

 Third person plural pronoun. •

 Verb • Look at, see. More agentive counterpart to  .

  Noun • Celebration, or holiday.

  Verb • Write by hand.



𐌹𐌺𐌰

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 Adjective • Early.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 Postposition • Out, or around. Often affixes to verbs to mean “bigger” actions.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 Verb • Look out, or look around.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 Verb • Yell, or shout.

𐌹𐌺𐌰

𐌹𐌺𐌰 Pronoun • Third person singular pronoun.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 Noun • Mist, fog.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 Noun • Person, people, or the Cheanya as an ethnic or linguistic group.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 Number • Three.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 Affix • Augmentative. Used to form large numbers: 𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 = 36 (6x6),

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 = 100 (10x10), 𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 = 144 (12x12).

𐌹𐌺𐌰 Postposition • Down, or below. Affixes to verbs of motion to indicate motion downwards.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 Verb • Jump down, or downwards. 𐌹𐌺𐌰 + 𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰.

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 Verb • Descend, fall, go/come down. 𐌹𐌺𐌰 + 𐌹𐌺𐌰.

𐌹𐌺𐌰

𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 Verb • Grow, of plants specifically.


𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 Verb • Arrive.


𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 Noun • Global yesterday. Can be reduplicated to 𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰, “the day before yesterday”. Only used if the global yesterday is different than the relative yesterday.

𐌹𐌺𐌰







𐌹𐌺𐌰 Postposition • About, regarding. Attaches to verbs to make them smaller, or weaker.


𐌹𐌺𐌰 𐌹𐌺𐌰 Number • Eleven.




 Adjective • Intense; could mean “bright”, “loud”, “very hot”, “very cold”, etc. depending on what it modified. Sometimes accompanied by other adjectives for clarification.





 Affix • Nominalizer for adjectives.

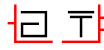



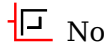
 Noun • Working hours, short for     .




 Noun • Work, labor.

 Verb • To work.  + .


 Noun • Relative yesterday, that is, the most recent 18-hour period the speaker has experienced, which is not necessarily the same as the most recent 18-hour period in the global timeline. Can be reduplicated into   , “the day before yesterday”.

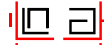
 Verb • Notice. Less agentive counterpart to .


 Noun • Language, or dialect.



 Verb • Speak, or say.  + .




 Number • Nine.

 Noun • Hour.

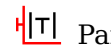
 Adjective • Beautiful.

 Verb • Stop. Takes either a noun describing an action as a subject, or a complement clause headed by .

 Adjective • Neat (the opposite of “messy”), precise, accurate.



 Noun • The past, in a global, rather than relative, sense.

 Particle • Complementizer. Can be analyzed as a nominalizer for clauses. Can take case endings and other nominal morphology other than tense and number.

𐀀

𐀀𐀁 Verb • Need; a requirement enforced by oneself. Takes either a noun or a clause headed by 𐀀𐀂 as a direct object.

𐀀𐀃 Noun • Fact, or piece of information. When plural it means “knowledge” or “information”.

𐀀𐀃𐀄𐀅𐀆 Noun • “Days of Knowledge”, from 𐀀𐀃 and 𐀄𐀅, the middle two days of every week but the third of each month.

𐀀𐀆 Affix • Diminutive prefix, affixes to nouns, often used to form words for baby animals. Can be partially reduplicated to 𐀀𐀆𐀀𐀆.

𐀀𐀆𐀀𐀇 Noun • The name of the smaller moon. 𐀀𐀆 + 𐀀𐀇, literally the “little sister”.

𐀀𐀆𐀀𐀇𐀈𐀉𐀊 Noun • The extra middle day of the month in the third, sixth, and ninth months that is used for celebrating the smaller moon.

𐀀

𐀀𐀋 Adjective • Happy.

𐀀𐀌 Noun • The sun.

𐀀𐀍 Noun • Day, period of daylight.

𐀀

𐀀 Verb • Be, or exist. The most basic copula. 𐀀𐀎 means “lives in/at”.

𐀀𐀏 Noun • Cat.

𐀀𐀐 Noun • Boy.

𐀀𐀑 Noun • The name of the larger moon, or simply “month”.

𐀀𐀑𐀒𐀓 Noun • The midmonth full moon celebration.

𐀀 Postposition • Inside, within. Attaches to verbs to mean motion backwards, or away from third parties.

𐀀 Number • One.

𐀀 Affix • Derivational suffix that turns nouns into verbs, roughly meaning “do”, or “happen”.

☐ Verb • Unbound verbal form of ☐, only used for weather expressions that would otherwise create a subjectless sentence, all other cases use the affix.

## Part VI

# Example Sentences

- $$(14) \quad \boxed{\tau} \boxed{\square} \quad \boxed{\square} \boxed{\tau} \quad \boxed{\square} \boxed{+}$$

**lyoa-c -ei ttime sei**  
sun -PRS-TOP shine HAB  
“The sun shines.”

- (15)  $\overline{\overline{\Gamma}} \overline{\overline{\square}} - \overline{\overline{\Pi}} \overline{\overline{\square}} +$

**lyoa-c -ei ttime**  
sun -PRS-TOP shine  
“The sun is shining.”

- $$(16) \quad \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{---}| \\ | \end{array} \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{---}| \\ | \end{array} \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{---}| \\ | \end{array} +$$

**lyoa-q -ei ttime sei**  
sun -PST-TOP shine HAB  
“The sun shone.”

- [illegible]

**lyoa-p -ei tsime sei**  
sun -FUT-TOP shine HAB  
“The sun will shine.”

- $$(18) \quad \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\tau} \boxed{\square} \\ \boxed{\square} \boxed{\tau} \end{array} +$$

**lyoa-ts -ei ttime sei**  
sun -SDW-TOP shine HAB  
“The sun shines in the other timeline.”

(19)  $\boxed{\text{lyoa}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{q}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{ei}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{tsime}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{rui}}\text{+}$

**lyoa-q -ei tsime rui**  
sun -PST-TOP shine FTRL

“The sun has been shining.”

(20)  $\boxed{\text{lyoa}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{c}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{ei}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{tityu}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{tsime}}\text{+}$

**lyoa-c -ei tityu tsime**  
sun -PRS-TOP again shine

“The sun is shining again.”

(21) a.  $\boxed{\text{lyoa}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{p}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{ei}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{tsia}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{nu}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{tsime}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{sei}}\text{+}$

**lyoa-p -ei tsoa -nu tsime sei**  
sun -FUT-TOP tomorrow-LOC shine HAB

“The sun will shine tomorrow.”

b.  $\boxed{\text{tsia}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{p}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{ei}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{lyoa}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{rinu}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{tsime}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{sei}}\text{+}$

**tsia<sub>i</sub> -p -ei lyoa rinu<sub>i</sub> tsime sei**  
tomorrow-FUT-TOP sun.NOM RFL.LOC shine HAB

“Tomorrow, the sun will shine.”

Notes:  $\boxed{\text{lyoa}}$ , “tomorrow” is a noun and thus can theoretically be marked with an arbitrary tense, however, nouns like “tomorrow”, “yesterday”, “today”, etc. that denote relative points in time are considered inherently tensed and only need to be marked as such if they are topicalized, but not if they differ from the topic noun in tense.  $\boxed{\text{lyoa}}$  can, of course, be marked for a non-future tense, e.g.  $\boxed{\text{lyoa}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{p}}$  or  $\boxed{\text{lyoa}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{c}}$ , but this is only used in contexts where the contradictory meaning conveys something humorous or poetic.

(22)  $\boxed{\text{lyoa}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{c}}\text{-}\boxed{\text{ei}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{cchiya}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{tsime}}\text{ }\boxed{\text{sei}}\text{+}$

**lyoa-c -ei cchiya tsime sei**  
sun -PRS-TOP intense shine HAB

“The sun shines brightly.”

(23) 

**cchiyä lyoa-c -ei tsime sei**  
intense sun -PRS-TOP shine HAB

“The bright sun shines.”

(24) 

**lyoa-c -ei ti- ra pai-fä**  
sun -PRS-TOP near-time up- go

“The sun is rising now.”

(25) 

**nulo cheanya-q -eya cyo-qu -yu cä**  
all people -PST-TOP.PL out- language-do PRF

“All the people shouted.”

(26) 


**siane cheanya-q -eya cyo-qu -yu cä**  
some people -PST-TOP.PL out- language-do PRF


“Some [of the] people shouted.”


(27) 


**si- siane cheanya-q -eya syene-mo cyo-qu -yu**  
RDP-some people -PST-TOP.PL two- times out- language-do  
**cä**  
PRF


“Many [of the] people shouted twice.”


- (28)   
**lyeina cheanya-q -eya suy cyo-qu -yu cã**  
 happy people -PRS-TOP.PL often out- language-do HAB  
 “Happy people often shout.”

- (29)   
**nyu-yeqqhi-q -ei pai-tyapa cã**  
 DIM- cat -PST-TOP up- jump PRF  
 “The kitten jumped up.”

- (30) a.   
**nyu-yeqqhi-q -ei fuqhe-nu mea pai-tyapa cã**  
 DIM- cat -PST-TOP table -LOC to up- jump PRF  
 “The kitten jumped onto the table.”

- b.   
**fuqhe<sub>i</sub>-q -ei nyu-yeqqhi rinu<sub>i</sub> mea pai-tyapa cã**  
 table -PST-TOP DIM- cat.NOM RFL.LOC to up- jump PRF  
 “As for the table, the kitten jumped onto it.”

- (31)   
**nolye ni- nyu-yeqqhi-q -ei rui- nitsi cã**  
 1S.GENA RDP-DIM- cat -PST-TOP away-walk PRF  
 “My little kitten walked away.”

- (32)   
**solye-c -ei yu**  
 rain -PRS-TOP happen  
 “It’s raining.”





- "As for the rain, I hope it stops soon."


- "Long ago, wild animals lived here."

- “Long ago, there existed wild animals that lived here.”

- "Wild animals from long ago lived here."

- "Wild animals that were here lived long ago."

$$(39) \quad \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{T} \\ | \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{Q} \\ | \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{Q} \\ | \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{T} \\ | \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{Q} \\ | \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{T} \\ | \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{Q} \\ | \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{T} \\ | \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} | \\ \text{Q} \\ | \end{array} +$$

(40) a. 

$$(41) \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{array} +$$
$$(42) \quad \overline{\top} \vdash \vdash \overline{\square} \quad \vdash \vdash \overline{\sqcup} \quad \vdash \vdash \overline{\top} \quad \overline{\top} \vdash \vdash \overline{\sqcap} +$$

51

(43) 𐌲𐌰 𐌱𐌴𐌹𐌶𐌰 𐌱𐌴𐌹𐌶𐌰 𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰 +

**pa nonei lyeina fä cä**  
FUT 1S.TOP happy go PRF

“I will be happy to go.”/“I will go happily.”

(44) 𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌱𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰 +

**pa chetsei ti- ra chyetea cä rui**  
FUT 3S.TOP near-time arrive PRF FTRL

“S/he will arrive soon.”

(45) a. 𐌱𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 +

**syipfi-lye poica-q -ei rui- susua cä rui**  
baby -GENA ball -PST-TOP away-roll PRF FTRL

“The baby’s ball has rolled away.”

b. 𐌱𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 +

**syipfi<sub>i</sub>-q -ei relye<sub>i</sub> poica rui- susua cä rui**  
baby<sub>i</sub> -PST-TOP RFL.GENA<sub>i</sub> ball.NOM away-roll PRF FTRL

“The baby’s ball has rolled away.”

(46) 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 +


**syene yeli-c -eya lei- qätya-yu**  
two boy-PRS-TOP.PL with-work -do

“Two boys are working together.”


(47) 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 𐌲𐌰𐌲𐌰 +

**ti -fye chelyi-p -ei puchä ceyai lu**  
near-ADJ mist -FUT-TOP dilute become PRB

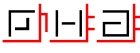
“This mist will probably clear away.”


- (48) a. +  
**qheara pfecyua-c -eya nulo-le chyairo**  
 beautiful flower -PRS-TOP.PL all- place grow


“Lovely flowers are growing everywhere.”

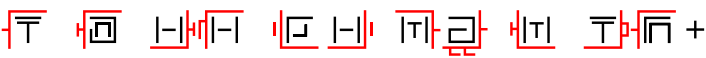
- b. +  
**nulo-le qheara pfecyua-c -eya chyairo**  
 all- place beautiful flower -PRS-TOP.PL grow

“The lovely flowers that are everywhere are growing.”

Similarly to (38),  can modify either the noun or the verb, but (48a) would be preferred due to more evenly distributed adjectives.

- (49) +  
**ca munea tsomo foase mufoi qqhoa rapui**  
 PRS 1P.TOP more slow eat CMP.NOM ought  
 “We should eat more slowly.”

- (50) +  
**qa pfei si- syea ti- ra mea-fä rui**  
 PST 2S.TOP RDP-enough near-time to- go FTRL  
 “You have come too soon.”

- (51) +  
**pa pfei tsomo qhuso coatye qqhoa rapui**  
 FUT 2S.TOP more neat write CMP.NOM ought  
 “You should/must write more neatly.”