Sumsgiwa

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Util

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`https://www.zompist.com/gen.html`

[Categories are in the source code]

[Syllable types are in the source code]

1 Introduction

2 Typology

2.1 Word Order

The default sentence structure in Sumsgiwa is VAP/VS (VSO). Negative clauses are AVP/SV (SVO), and nouns can be topicalized by moving them to the front of the clause.

2.2 Morphological Typology

2.2.1 Synthesis

Sumsgiwa is a somewhat polysynthetic language, with many morphemes occurring in each word.

2.2.2 Fusion

Sumsgiwa is highly agglutinative, with most morphemes having only one meaning.

2.2.3 Morphological Processes

Sumsgiwa inflects its words mostly through the use of prefixes. There are also a few suffixes and stem modifications.

3 Phonology

3.1 Consonants

	Bilabial		Alveolar		Postalveolar		Palatal	Labiovelar	Velar	
Plosive	[p^{h}] /p/ ⟨p⟩	[b] /b/ ⟨b⟩	[t^{h}] /t/ ⟨t⟩	[d] /d/ ⟨d⟩					[k^{h}] /k/ ⟨k⟩	[g] /g/ ⟨g⟩
Nasal		[m] /m/ ⟨m⟩		[n] /n/ ⟨n⟩						[ŋ] /ŋ/ ⟨ñ⟩
Fricative			[s] /s/ ⟨s⟩	[z] /z/ ⟨z⟩	[ʃ] /ʃ/ ⟨š⟩	[ʒ] /ʒ/ ⟨ž⟩				
Approximant							[j] /j/ ⟨y⟩	[w] /w/ ⟨w⟩		
Affricate			[t͡s] /t͡s/ ⟨c⟩	[d͡z] /d͡z/ ⟨ż⟩	[t͡ʃ] /t͡ʃ/ ⟨č⟩	[d͡ʒ] /d͡ʒ/ ⟨j⟩				

3.2 Vowels

	Front	Back
Close	[i] /i/ ⟨i⟩	[u] /u/ ⟨u⟩
Mid	[e ∼ ɛ] /e/ ⟨e⟩	[o] /o/ ⟨o⟩
Open	[a] /a/ ⟨a⟩	

3.3 Syllable Structure

Syllables in Sumsgiwa consist of an onset, a nucleus, and a rhyme. Most syllables are open. Syllable possibilities:

CV(N)
C = p, b, t, d, k, g, m, n, ñ, s, z, š, ž, y, w, c, ż, č, j
V = i, u, e, o, a
N = m, n, ñ

SPV(N)
S = s, š
P = b, d, g
V = i, u, e, o, a
N = m, n, ñ

3.4 Stress

Stress always falls on the penultimate syllable of the word stem and does not move when prefixes or suffixes are added.

4 Grammar

4.1 Parts of Speech

4.1.1 Nouns

4.1.1.1 Noun Phrases

Noun phrases are structured as follows:

[Adposition]
[Ordinal]
Case-NOUN STEM-[Augmentative/Diminutive]
[Adjective(s)]
[Comparative]
[Cardinal/Quantifier]
[Demonstrative]
[Genitive]
[Relative Phrase]

[] = optional part of noun phrase

4.1.1.2 Noun Cases

There are 5 cases in Sumsgiwa indicated using prefixes:

Nominative nom Subject of an intransitive verb

Ergative erg Agent of a transitive verb

Accusative acc Patient of a transitive verb

Dative dat Indirect object of a verb

Genitive gen Modifier of another noun

Nominative NOM	⟨ja⟩-	
Ergative ERG	⟨di⟩-	
Accusative ACC	⟨ša⟩-	
Dative DAT	⟨šo⟩-	
Genitive GEN	⟨ne⟩-	

4.1.1.3 Gender

There are 3 genders, and nouns are categorized purely through semantics, rather than through phonology or spelling.

Human h Humans, body parts, nouns relating to language

Animate an Animals, thoughts

Inanimate inan Objects, plants, fungi

Both adjectives and verbs must agree with nouns in gender.

4.1.2 Verbs

4.1.2.1 Verb Phrases

Verb phrases are structured as follows:

[Question Particle]
Mood-Aspect-VERB STEM-Gender of S-Gender of A-Gender of P
[Adverb(s)]

[] = optional part of verb phrase

4.1.2.2 Mood

Verbs have 4 moods marked using prefixes:

Indicative ind Default, all realis statements

Optative opt Wishes, hopes, and desires

Deontic deo How things "ought" to be

Subjunctive sjv All other irrealis statements

Indicative IND	Ø- or ⟨s⟩-	
Optative OPT	⟨šd⟩-	
Deontic DEO	⟨šuč⟩-	
Subjunctive SJV	⟨y⟩-	

Imperative statements use the deontic mood. [See 4.3.3 Imperatives]

4.1.2.3 Aspect

Verbs have 4 aspects marked with prefixes:

Perfective pfv Complete action as a single event in time

Habitual hab Habitual actions (repetition over multiple occasions)

Iterative iter Repeated actions (repetition at a single occasion)

Progressive prog Action in progress at a specific time (incl. continuous)

Perfective PFV	-Ø- or -⟨e⟩-	
Habitual HAB	-⟨ini⟩-	
Iterative ITER	-⟨i⟩-	
Progressive PROG	-⟨a⟩-	

4.1.2.4 Agreement with Nouns

Verbs agree with their subject, agent, and patient arguments in gender.

4.1.2.4.1 Subject Gender

Human H	-⟨po⟩	
Animate AN	-⟨žu⟩	
Inanimate INAN	-⟨šbi⟩	

4.1.2.4.2 Agent Gender

Human H	-⟨jo⟩-	
Animate AN	-⟨če⟩-	
Animate AN	-⟨sba⟩-	

4.1.2.4.3 Patient Gender

Human H	-⟨pon⟩	
Animate AN	-⟨šum⟩	
Inanimate INAN	-⟨žo⟩	

4.1.3 Adjectives

Adjectives are structured as follows:

Case-ADJECTIVE STEM-Gender

4.1.3.1 Agreement with Nouns

Adjectives agree with the nouns they modify in case and gender.

4.1.3.1.1 Case

Nominative NOM	⟨ča⟩-	
Ergative ERG	⟨ti⟩-	
Accusative ACC	⟨ša⟩-	
Dative DAT	⟨šo⟩-	
Genitive GEN	⟨ne⟩-	

4.1.3.1.2 Gender

Human H	-⟨po⟩	
Animate AN	-⟨žu⟩	
Inanimate INAN	-⟨šbi⟩	

4.1.4 Adverbs

Adverb structure:

Aspect-ADVERB STEM

or

ADVERB STEM-Gender

4.1.4.1 Agreement with Verbs

Adverbs follow the verbs they modify and agree with them in aspect.

4.1.4.1.1 Aspect

Perfective PFV	Ø-	
Habitual HAB	⟨ni⟩-	
Iterative ITER	⟨neye⟩-	
Progressive PROG	⟨na⟩-	

4.1.4.2 Agreement with Adjectives

Adverbs follow the adjectives they modify and agree with them in gender.

4.1.4.2.1 Gender

Human H	-⟨po⟩	
Animate AN	-⟨šu⟩	
Inanimate INAN	-⟨šbe⟩	

4.1.5 Pronouns

There are different pronoun forms for each of the 5 cases. Pronouns in Sumsgiwa distinguish between 1st person exclusive and 1st person inclusive, and there are 3 politeness levels for 2nd person pronouns. In addition, there are 3 sets of pronouns for each of the 3 genders.

First person exclusive 1ex 1st person, excluding the hearer

First person inclusive 1in 1st person, including the hearer

Second person polite 2pol 2nd person, used in formal or neutral circumstances

Second person humiliative 2hum 2nd person, used when speaking to figures of authority, elders, etc.

Second person familiar 2fam 2nd person, used when speaking to friends and/or family members

Third person 3 3rd person

4.1.5.1 Human

	Nominative NOM	Ergative ERG	Accusative ACC	Dative DAT	Genitive GEN
First person exclusive 1EX	⟨yem⟩	⟨ya⟩	⟨yu⟩	⟨yeżo⟩	⟨yañi⟩
First person inclusive 1IN	⟨žem⟩	⟨ža⟩	⟨žu⟩	⟨żeżo⟩	⟨žiñi⟩
Second person polite 2POL	⟨jišbem⟩	⟨jišba⟩	⟨jišbu⟩	⟨jiżo⟩	⟨jiši⟩
Second person humiliative 2HUM	⟨žešbem⟩	⟨žešba⟩	⟨žešbu⟩	⟨żežo⟩	⟨żeši⟩
Second person familiar 2FAM	⟨šbem⟩	⟨šba⟩	⟨šbu⟩	⟨šbeżo⟩	⟨šbiñi⟩
Third person 3	⟨čem⟩	⟨ča⟩	⟨ču⟩	⟨čužo⟩	⟨čañi⟩

4.1.5.2 Animate

	Nominative NOM	Ergative ERG	Accusative ACC	Dative DAT	Genitive GEN
Second person 2	⟨consi⟩	⟨consan⟩	⟨conso⟩	⟨sonsuče⟩	⟨consuči⟩
Third person 3	⟨si⟩	⟨san⟩	⟨so⟩	⟨suče⟩	⟨suči⟩

4.1.5.3 Inanimate

	Nominative NOM	Ergative ERG	Accusative ACC	Dative DAT	Genitive GEN
Third person 3	⟨yo⟩	⟨zin⟩	⟨je⟩	⟨sayo⟩	⟨zeyo⟩

4.1.6 Adpositions

Sumsgiwa uses prepositions that take uninflected nouns. The prepositional phrases follow the verb. However, some functions usually covered by adpositions in other languages are covered by the dative case.

4.2 Noun and Noun-Phrase Operations

4.2.1 Noun-Noun Compounding

Nouns are compounded by juxtaposition, with the new combined form inflected as one word.

4.2.2 Denominalization

There are two ways nouns can be verbalized, with different meanings. In both cases, morphological changes are applied to the uninflected forms of the nouns.

The prefix ⟨do⟩- converts the noun into a verb meaning "to become [noun]."

(1)
dočuzipo čem
Ø- Ø- do- čuzi -po čem
IND-PFV-VBZ-man-H 3.H.NOM
"He became a man." (e.g. "He transitioned.")

The prefix ⟨ke⟩- changes the noun into a verb that means "to have [noun]."

(2)
sakebišepo čem
s- a- ke- biše -po čem
IND-PROG-VBZ-table-H 3.H.NOM
"They own tables."

4.2.3 Adjectivization

A noun can take adjectival case and gender markings to become an adjective meaning "similar to [noun]."

(3)

jakengo żeši čadezužu
ja- kengo żeši ča- dezu -žu
NOM-action 2HUM.H.GEN NOM.ADJZ-jaguar-AN.ADJZ
"Your actions are jaguar-like!"

4.2.4 Determiners

4.2.4.1 Demonstratives

Demonstratives agree with the nouns they modify in gender, and are split into 3 categories. They go after the nouns they modify.

Proximal prox Close to the speaker

Medial med Close to the listener

Distal dist Far from both the speaker and the listener

	Proximal PROX	Medial MED	Distal DIST
Human H	⟨keši⟩	⟨zišgo⟩	⟨simsbe⟩
Animate AN	⟨gunzin⟩	⟨sgaku⟩	⟨densi⟩
Inanimate INAN	⟨dazo⟩	⟨yezi⟩	⟨šosu⟩

Sumsgiwa does not have demonstrative pronouns, so it uses a demonstrative adjective and a generic noun to specify the same meaning.

4.2.4.2 Distributive Determiners

Distributive determiners agree with the nouns they modify in gender.

See 5.2 D-Quantifiers.

4.2.4.3 Determiners of Difference

Determiners of difference agree with the nouns they modify in gender.

	“another/other”
Human H	⟨dimži⟩
Animate AN	⟨tuže⟩
Inanimate INAN	⟨žosa⟩

4.3 Verb and Verb-Phrase Operations

4.3.1 Negation

When verbs are negated, the first consonant of the verb stem changes from a voiced consonant to an unvoiced one, or vice versa, and the clause-level word order changes from VAP/VS (VSO) to AVP/SV (SVO). If the initial consonant is ⟨y⟩ or ⟨w⟩, it becomes ⟨n⟩, ⟨m⟩, or ⟨ñ⟩, and vice versa. Which one the consonant becomes is unpredictable and must be memorized on a per-word basis.

4.3.2 Interrogatives

4.3.2.1 Yes/No Questions

Yes/no questions are marked by placing the question particle ⟨šgezu⟩ at the beginning of the sentence.

4.3.2.2 Content Questions

Content questions use the same interrogative marker as yes/no questions, ⟨šgezu⟩, but also use the following question words in situ:

Nominative Noun	⟨sensu⟩	
Ergative Noun	⟨senyu⟩	
Accusative Noun	⟨senge⟩	
Dative Noun	⟨senbi⟩	
Genitive Noun	⟨senžo⟩	
Time Adverb	⟨šanbi⟩	
Location Adverb	⟨šanzim⟩	
Manner Adverb	⟨šanže⟩	
Purpose/Reason Adverb	⟨šansum⟩	

4.3.3 Imperatives

Imperatives are in the deontic mood and have either the imperative particle ⟨sesum⟩ or the negative imperative particle ⟨dosika⟩ in front of the sentence. When the speaker is telling the hearer to do something, the agent is dropped and the patient goes into the nominative case.

When both the agent and patient are present in the sentence, the speaker is telling the hearer to ask the agent to perform the action.

4.3.3.1 Polite Imperatives

Polite imperatives use the optative mood instead of the deontic mood. Additionally, the agent is explicitly expressed using either the second person polite 2POL or second person humiliative 2HUM pronouns.

4.3.4 Causatives

Causatives in Sumsgiwa are marked with the prefix ⟨kaga⟩- on the fully-inflected verb. The tense/aspect inflections are still for the action itself rather than for causing the action. The causer takes the ergative case while the causee will take either the accusative or dative cases. The dative case is when the causee has little agency in the situation, while the accusative case is when they have some amount of agency.

4.3.5 Possessor Raising

Intransitive verbs with possessed subjects can be expressed as transitive verbs with the possessee as the agent and the possessor as the patient.

4.3.6 Argument Omission

Any argument of a verb can be omitted as long as the omitted noun is clear from context.

4.3.7 Verb Compounding

4.3.7.1 Noun Incorporation

4.3.7.1.1 Subject/Agent Incorporation

Subjects and agents are incorporated by moving their uninflected forms before the verb stem. Any prefixes that go on the verb will move to before the incorporated noun.

4.3.7.1.2 Patient Incorporation

Patients are incorporated by moving their uninflected forms after the verb stem. Any suffixes the verb may take will go after the incorporated patient.

4.3.7.2 Verb-Verb Incorporation

Verbs are compounded by juxtaposition, with inflections applied to the new combined word.

4.3.8 Nominalization

4.3.8.1 Action Nominalization

Action nominalization is achieved by adding case markings onto the uninflected form of the verb.

4.3.8.2 Agent/Subject Nominalization

Sumsgiwa nominalizes the typical agent or subject of a verb by adding the prefix ⟨juzi⟩- to its uninflected form.

4.3.8.3 Patient Nominalization

The typical patients of verbs are nominalized by adding the suffix -⟨sokuñ⟩ to the verbs' uninflected forms.

4.3.8.4 Instrument Nominalization

Sumsgiwa nominalizes the typical instruments of a verb by adding the suffix -⟨sodise⟩ to its uninflected form.

4.3.8.5 Location Nominalization

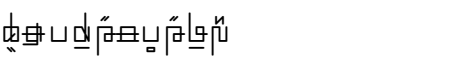
Sumsgiwa nominalizes the typical locations where a verb happens by adding the suffix -⟨gomsa⟩ to its uninflected form.

4.3.8.6 Product Nominalization

Sumsgiwa nominalizes the typical products of the action represented by a verb by adding the suffix -⟨sigo⟩ to its uninflected form.

4.3.9 Adjectivization

A verb can be turned into an adjective that describes nouns that have had the action done to them using the suffix -⟨žuša⟩ on the uninflected form of the verb.

(4) 

jašikunso čažumsežušašbi
ja- šikunso ča- žumse-žuša -šbi
NOM-ball NOM-break -ADJZ-INAN
"The ball is broken."

4.4 Adjective and Adverb Operations

4.4.1 Derivational Morphology

Any adjective can take adverbial grammar markings, and vice versa.

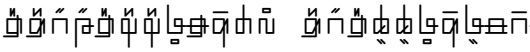
4.4.2 Comparatives and Superlatives

The comparative form of an adjective or adverb is formed by reduplicating the first syllable of the word stem.

(5)
žužušo
žu~ žušo
CMPR~pretty
"prettier"

There are two comparative constructions in Sumsgiwa.

The construction used for both adjectives and adverbs is splitting up the statement into two sentences. The adjective or adverb is in the comparative form, and the second, repeated, verb takes no grammatical markings.

(6) 
siniñizužu nibibišen japode | ñizu nikukuše jašumzan
s- ini- ñizu -žu ni- bi~ bišen ja- pode
IND-HAB-walk-AN HAB-CMPR~quickly NOM-cat

ñizu ni- ku~ kuše ja- šumzan
walk HAB-CMPR~slowly NOM-dog
"Cats walk quicker than dogs do." (lit. "Cats walk quickly, dogs walk slowly.")

The second comparative construction only applies to adjectives. To compare two nouns, the comparative verb ⟨kogu⟩ is used. It is only inflected for the gender of the comparee noun using the ergative suffixes. The comparee noun takes the ergative case and the standard noun takes the dative case and the comparative adjective in question.

(7)
kogujo dikiže šosdandi šožužušopo
kogu -jo di- kiže šo- sdandi šo- žu~ žušo -po
COMP-H ERG-boy DAT-girl DAT-CMPR~pretty-H
"The boy is prettier than the girl."

4.5 Clause Operations

4.5.1 Left-Dislocation

Any argument of a verb can be left-dislocated by adding the suffix -⟨sugu⟩.

4.5.2 Cleft Constructions

Sumsgiwa has cleft constructions consisting of the noun phrase, the predicate nominal copula [See 4.6.2 Predicate Nominals], and a headless relative clause [See 4.7.3 Relative Clauses], in that order.

4.6 Simple Sentences

4.6.1 Simple Declarative Sentences

Simple declarative sentences in Sumsgiwa are expressed with VAP/VS word order. Transitive verbs agree with both the agent and patient, and intransitive verbs agree with the subject [See 4.1.2.4 Agreement with Nouns].

4.6.2 Predicate Nominals

Predicate nominals use a defective copula COP verb, ⟨se⟩, that inflects for mood but not aspect or gender. These constructions encompass proper inclusion, where something is asserted to be among the class specified by the nominal predicate, and equative clauses, where two things are asserted to be the same.

4.6.3 Predicate Adjectives

Predicate adjectives in Sumsgiwa consist of the noun and properly inflected adjective juxtaposed with each other, with no copular verbs or particles.

4.6.4 Predicate Locatives

Predicate locative constructions use the locative adposition, ⟨šim⟩, as a defective verb, inflecting it for mood but not for aspect or gender.

4.6.5 Existentials

Existentials use the same copular verb as predicate nominals, ⟨se⟩, and also only inflect it for mood.

4.6.6 Possessive Clauses

Possessive clauses use the same verb as predicate locatives, ⟨šim⟩, also only inflected for mood. The possessor is placed in the genitive case.

4.7 Clause Combinations

4.7.1 Complement Clauses

Sumsgiwa forms complement clauses by adding a case-marking prefix onto the verb.

4.7.2 Adverbial Clauses

Adverbial clauses use an adposition combined with a relative clause. The word expressing the function of the adverbial clause and the relativizer are shortened into one word.

⟨dašo⟩, shortening of ⟨dasbu šužon⟩, is used for temporal clauses meaning "when".

4.7.3 Relative Clauses

Relative clauses come after the head noun. They are introduced with the relativizer ⟨šužon⟩ and use a pronoun retention strategy for case recoverability. All clause elements can be relativized.

4.7.4 Coordination

4.7.4.1 Conjunction

There is no special morphosyntax for conjunction, with clauses simply juxtaposed next to each other. So, any two clauses in Sumsgiwa can be said to be conjoined.

4.7.4.2 Disjunction

Disjunction is expressed with the particle ⟨ziše⟩ inserted between the two clauses.

5 Quantifiers

5.1 Numerals

There are 3 numeral systems in Sumsgiwa, each modifying a different gender of noun. The inanimate numerals are used for counting.

5.1.1 Human

Numerals modifying human nouns are base 8.

Octal	Decimal	Sumsgiwa	
0_8	0_{10}	⟨punžon⟩	
1_8	1_{10}	⟨žaňe⟩	
2_8	2_{10}	⟨šite⟩	
3_8	3_{10}	⟨žoye⟩	
4_8	4_{10}	⟨daži⟩	
5_8	5_{10}	⟨kindu⟩	
6_8	6_{10}	⟨šoku⟩	
7_8	7_{10}	⟨pažu⟩	
10_8	8_{10}	⟨yesa⟩ ⟨žayeša⟩	
11_8	9_{10}	⟨yesa žaňe⟩ ⟨žayeša žaňe⟩	
12_8	10_{10}	⟨yesa šite⟩ ⟨žayesa šite⟩	
...			
20_8	16_{10}	⟨šiyeša⟩	
21_8	17_{10}	⟨šiyeša žaňe⟩	
...			
30_8	24_{10}	⟨žoyeša⟩	
40_8	32_{10}	⟨dayesa⟩	
50_8	40_{10}	⟨kinyesa⟩	
60_8	48_{10}	⟨šoyeša⟩	

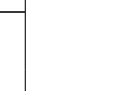
Octal	Decimal	Sumsgiwa	
70_8	56_{10}	⟨payesa⟩	
		...	
100_8	64_{10}	⟨žemdo⟩ ⟨žazemdo⟩	
101_8	65_{10}	⟨žemdo puyesa žaňe⟩ ⟨žazemdo puyesa žaňe⟩	
102_8	66_{10}	⟨žemdo puyesa šite⟩ ⟨žazemdo puyesa šite⟩	
		...	
110_8	72_{10}	⟨žemdo yesa⟩ ⟨žazemdo žayeša⟩	
120_8	80_{10}	⟨žemdo šiyeša⟩ ⟨žazemdo šiyeša⟩	
		...	
200_8	128_{10}	⟨šizemdo⟩	
300_8	192_{10}	⟨zozemdo⟩	
400_8	256_{10}	⟨dažemdo⟩	
500_8	320_{10}	⟨kižemdo⟩	
600_8	384_{10}	⟨sozemdo⟩	
700_8	448_{10}	⟨pažemdo⟩	

5.1.2 Animate

Numerals modifying animate nouns are base 10.

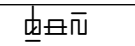
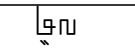
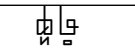
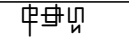
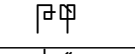
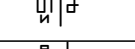
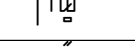
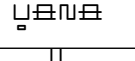
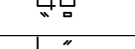
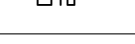
Decimal	Sumsgiwa	
0_{10}	⟨žanžu⟩	
1_{10}	⟨gasdi⟩	
2_{10}	⟨dosde⟩	
3_{10}	⟨šikim⟩	
4_{10}	⟨beku⟩	

Decimal	**Sumsgiwa**	
5_{10}	⟨cinsi⟩	
6_{10}	⟨šasdum⟩	
7_{10}	⟨kišge⟩	
8_{10}	⟨žiso⟩	
9_{10}	⟨zenbe⟩	
10_{10}	⟨kumsgi⟩ ⟨gakumsgi⟩	
11_{10}	⟨kumsgi gasdi⟩ ⟨gakumsgi gasdi⟩	
12_{10}	⟨kumsgi dosde⟩ ⟨gakumsgi dosde⟩	
...		
20_{10}	⟨dokumsgi⟩	
21_{10}	⟨dokumsgi gasdi⟩	
...		
30_{10}	⟨šikumsgi⟩	
40_{10}	⟨bekumsgi⟩	
50_{10}	⟨cikumsgi⟩	
60_{10}	⟨šasgumsi⟩	
70_{10}	⟨kišgumsi⟩	
80_{10}	⟨žikumsgi⟩	
90_{10}	⟨zekumsgi⟩	
...		
100_{10}	⟨dužo⟩ ⟨gadužo⟩	
101_{10}	⟨dužo žakumsgi gasdi⟩ ⟨gadužo žakumsgi gasdi⟩	
102_{10}	⟨dužo žakumsgi dosde⟩ ⟨gadužo žakumsgi dosde⟩	

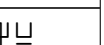
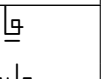
Decimal	Sumsgiwa	
...		
110_{10}	⟨dužo kumsgi⟩ ⟨gadužo gakumsgi⟩	
120_{10}	⟨dužo dokumsgi⟩ ⟨gadužo dokumsgi⟩	
...		
200_{10}	⟨dodužo⟩	
300_{10}	⟨šiduzo⟩	
400_{10}	⟨bedužo⟩	
500_{10}	⟨cidužo⟩	
600_{10}	⟨šaduzo⟩	
700_{10}	⟨kidužo⟩	
800_{10}	⟨židuzo⟩	
900_{10}	⟨zedužo⟩	

5.1.3 Inanimate

Numerals modifying inanimate nouns are base 12.

Dozenal	Decimal	Sumsgiwa	
0_{12}	0_{10}	⟨kamda⟩	
1_{12}	1_{10}	⟨šudo⟩	
2_{12}	2_{10}	⟨kiše⟩	
3_{12}	3_{10}	⟨češin⟩	
4_{12}	4_{10}	⟨sgonti⟩	
5_{12}	5_{10}	⟨žago⟩	
6_{12}	6_{10}	⟨pižu⟩	
7_{12}	7_{10}	⟨šdeke⟩	
8_{12}	8_{10}	⟨semdum⟩	
9_{12}	9_{10}	⟨cuše⟩	
χ_{12}	10_{10}	⟨šodu⟩	

Dozenal	**Decimal**	**Sumsgiwa**	
ξ_{12}	11_{10}	⟨žudan⟩	
10_{12}	12_{10}	⟨boša⟩ ⟨šubosa⟩	
11_{12}	13_{10}	⟨boša šudo⟩ ⟨šubosa šudo⟩	
12_{12}	14_{10}	⟨boša kiše⟩ ⟨šubosa kiše⟩	
...			
20_{12}	24_{10}	⟨kiboša⟩	
21_{12}	25_{10}	⟨kiboša šudo⟩	
...			
30_{12}	36_{10}	⟨čeboša⟩	
40_{12}	48_{10}	⟨sgoboša⟩	
50_{12}	60_{10}	⟨žabosa⟩	
60_{12}	72_{10}	⟨piboša⟩	
70_{12}	84_{10}	⟨šdeboša⟩	
80_{12}	96_{10}	⟨semposa⟩	
90_{12}	108_{10}	⟨cubosa⟩	
$\chi 0_{12}$	120_{10}	⟨šobosa⟩	
$\xi 0_{12}$	132_{10}	⟨žubosa⟩	
...			
100_{12}	144_{10}	⟨košim⟩ ⟨šukošim⟩	
101_{12}	145_{10}	⟨košim kamposa šudo⟩ ⟨šukošim kamposa šudo⟩	
102_{12}	146_{10}	⟨košim kamposa kiše⟩ ⟨šukošim kamposa kiše⟩	
...			
110_{12}	156_{10}	⟨košim boša⟩	

Dozenal	**Decimal**	**Sumsgiwa**	
		⟨šukošim šubosa⟩	
120_{12}	168_{10}	⟨košim kiboša⟩ ⟨šukošim kiboša⟩	
...			
200_{12}	288_{10}	⟨kigosim⟩	
300_{12}	432_{10}	⟨čekošim⟩	
400_{12}	576_{10}	⟨sgokosim⟩	
500_{12}	720_{10}	⟨žakosim⟩	
600_{12}	864_{10}	⟨pikošim⟩	
700_{12}	1008_{10}	⟨šdegesim⟩	
800_{12}	1152_{10}	⟨semgošim⟩	
900_{12}	1296_{10}	⟨cukosim⟩	
$\chi 00_{12}$	1440_{10}	⟨šokošim⟩	
$\xi 00_{12}$	1584_{10}	⟨žukosim⟩	

5.2 D-Quantifiers

D-quantifiers agree with nouns in gender.

	Human H	Animate AN	Inanimate INAN
none/zero	⟨zosi⟩ 	⟨sodi⟩ 	⟨šugi⟩
some/a few	⟨diñšu⟩ 	⟨pošu⟩ 	⟨čogi⟩
many/most	⟨šesbun⟩ 	⟨sbeso⟩ 	⟨šbase⟩
each/every	⟨žiže⟩ 	⟨kašo⟩ 	⟨žešo⟩

5.3 A-Quantifiers

Explicit A-quantifiers are not applicable to perfective and progressive aspects.

Meaning	**TAM**	**Adverb**	
usually/often	Positive Habitual	⟨tindu⟩	
usually doesn't/ only rarely	Negative Habitual	⟨kupišo⟩	
always	Positive Habitual	⟨siyuži⟩	
never	Negative Habitual	⟨kežin⟩	
Specified number of repetitions	Positive Iterative	⟨žedun⟩ + INAN numeral	

6 Lexicon

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1W3hW0CICs0Jzt5hmA5ESsOZLXcQeZ_dRlPPZJA39RSg/edit?usp=sharing

piše /piʃe/ *adj.* • sad.

pode /pode/ *an. n.* • cat.

biše /biʃe/ *inan. n.* • table.

bišen /biʃen/ *adv.* • quickly.

tiñzim /tiŋzim/ *inan. n.* • flower.

tunžu /tunʒu/ *adj.* • happy.

težuñ /teʒuŋ/ *inan. n.* • everywhere.

dizuža /dizuʒa/ *v.* • to lose (an object).

dugaša /dugaʃa/ *inan. n.* • rainwater.

duzo /duzo/ *adj.* • wild, barbaric.

dušam /duʃam/ *h. n.* • person, human.

dem /dem/ *adp.* • inside.

denžu /denʒu/ *v.* • to write.

desige /desige/ *adv.* • again.

dese /dese/ *adv.* • probably, likely.

dezu /dezu/ *h. n.* • jaguar.

do /do/ *adp.* • toward.

došbi /doʃbi/ *v.* • to stop, to finish.

dožešo /do͡ʒeʃo/ *v.* • to jump.

kiken /kiken/ *adj.* • neat.

kiši /kiʃi/ *inan. n.* • light.

kiže /kiʒe/ *h. n.* • boy.

ku /ku/ *v.* • to go.

kuše /kuʃe/ *adv.* • slowly.

kengo /kengo/ *an. n.* • action.

keñ /keŋ/ *adv.* • now.

kešde /keʃde/ *inan. n.* • there (medial, near listener). Can refer to specific place or anywhere near speaker depending on context. In contrast to ⟨sbiža⟩and ⟨žanti⟩.

kešgi /keʃgi/ *v.* • to roll.

keše /keʃe/ *adv.* • in the past, a long time ago.

keša /keʃa/ *adj.* • good; well.

kon /kon/ *v.* • to eat.

ginsbu /ginsbu/ *v.* • to rise.

getu /getu/ *adv.* • soon.

gošbi /goʃbi/ *adj.* • black.

gažesu /gaʒesu/ *an. n.* • animal.

ñizu /ŋizu/ *v.* • walk (of an animal).

ñeke /ŋeke/ *an. n.* • mist, fog.

s- /s/ *aff.* • indicative verb.

sbiža /sbiʒa/ *inan. n.* • here (proximal). Can refer to specific place or anywhere near speaker depending on context. In contrast to ⟨kešde⟩and ⟨žanti⟩.

sbo /sbo/ *adp.* • facing; across from.

sdandi /sdandi/ *h. n.* • girl.

sinzi /sinzi/ *v.* • to come.

sukin /sukin/ *adj.* • bright.

sedo /sedo/ *h. n.* • woman.

sožašbe /soʒaʃbe/ *v.* • to cooperate.

-šbi /ʃbi/ *aff.* • verb with inanimate subject.

šbedim /ʃbedim/ *adv.* • tomorrow.

šdimša /ʃdimʃa/ *inan. n.* • place, location.

šikunso /ʃikunso/ *inan. n.* • ball.

šinže /ʃinʒe/ *adj.* • very young; child.

šumzan /ʃumzan/ *an. n.* • dog.

šebe /ʃebe/ *v.* • to sleep.

šede /ʃede/ *h. n.* • child.

šemdin /ʃemdin/ *h. n.* • baby.

šo /ʃo/ *v.* • to look, to see.

šonyu /ʃond͡ʒu/ *v.* • to fall.

šožidu /ʃoʒidu/ *v.* • to play.

žika /ʒika/ *adv.* • very; too.

-žu /ʒu/ *aff.* • verb with animate subject.

-žu /ʒu/ *aff.* • animate adjective.

žumse /ʒumse/ *v.* • to break; to cut.

žušo /ʒuʃo/ *adj.* • pretty, beautiful, handsome.

žege /ʒege/ *inan. n.* • sky.

žojem /ʒod͡ʒem/ *inan. n.* • sun.

žam /ʒam/ *adp.* • to (a location).

žanti /ʒanti/ *inan. n.* • there (distal, far from both listener and speaker). Can refer to specific place or anywhere near speaker depending on context. In contrast to ⟨sbiža⟩and ⟨kešde⟩.

ci /t͡si/ *adp.* • away from.

že /d͡ze/ *v.* • to give.

čuzi /t͡ʃuzi/ *h. n.* • man.

čo /t͡ʃo/ *adp.* • surrounded by, inside.

čošdaže /t͡ʃoʃdaʒe/ *v.* • to shout, to yell.

ča- /t͡ʃa/ *aff.* • nominative adjective.

ja- /d͡ʒa/ *aff.* • nominative noun.

i- /i/ *aff.* • perfective verb.

gaši /gaʃi/ *v.* • to run.

bu /bu/ *adp.* • following.

gošo /goʃo/ *adv.* • be able to; can.

dasbu /dasbu/ *inan. n.* • point in time.

žuñ /ʒuŋ/ *adp.* • after.

tikodo /tikodo/ *v.* • to leave.

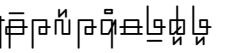
cižoñ /t͡siʒoŋ/ *inan. n.* • school.

a- /a/ *aff.* • progressive verb.

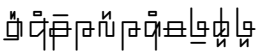
7 Translations

7.1 Conlang Syntax Test Cases

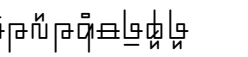
`https://web.archive.org/web/20130603121930/http://fiziwig.com/conlang/syntax_tests.html`

(CSTC.1) 

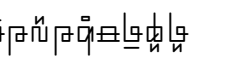
siniżesbažo dižojem šakiši
s- ini- że -sba -žo di- žojem ša- kiši
IND-HAB-give-INAN-INAN ERG-sun ACC-light
“The sun shines.” (lit. “The sun gives light.”)

(CSTC.2) 

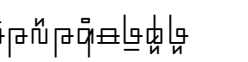
šgezu siniżesbažo dižojem šakiši
šgezu s- ini- że -sba -žo di- žojem ša- kiši
YN HAB-PROG-give-INAN-INAN ERG-sun ACC-light
“Does the sun shine?” (lit. “Does the sun give light?”)

(CSTC.3) 

sežesbažo dižojem šakiši
s- e- że -sba -žo di- žojem ša- kiši
IND-PFV-give-INAN-INAN ERG-sun ACC-light
“The sun shone.” (lit. “The sun gave light.”)

(CSTC.4) 

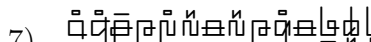
yežesbažo dižojem šakiši
y- e- że -sba -žo di- žojem ša- kiši
SJV-PFV-give-INAN-INAN ERG-sun ACC-light
“The sun will shine.” (lit. “The sun will give light.”)

(CSTC.5) 

sażesbažo dižojem šakiši
s- a- że -sba -žo di- žojem ša- kiši
IND-PROG-give-INAN-INAN ERG-sun ACC-light
“The sun has been shining.” (lit. “The sun has been giving light.”)

(CSTC.6)

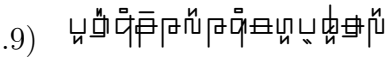
sažesbažo nadesige dižojem šakiši
s- a- że -sba -žo na- desige di- žojem ša- kiši
IND-PROG-give-INAN-INAN PROG-again ERG-sun ACC-light
“The sun is shining again.” (lit. “The sun is giving light again.”)

(CSTC.7) 

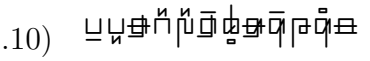
yežesbažo šbedim dižojem šakiši
y- e- że -sba -žo Ø- šbedim di- žojem ša- kiši
SJV-PFV-give-INAN-INAN PFV-tomorrow ERG-sun ACC-light
“The sun will shine tomorrow.” (lit. “The sun will give light tomorrow.”)

(CSTC.8)

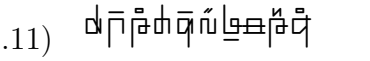
siniżesbažo nasukin dižojem šakiši
s- ini- że -sba -žo na- sukin di- žojem ša- kiši
IND-HAB-give-INAN-INAN PROG-bright ERG-sun ACC-light
“The sun shines brightly.” (lit. “The sun gives light brightly.”)

(CSTC.9) 

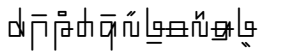
siniżesbažo dižojem tisukinšbi šakiši
s- ini- że -sba -žo di- žojem ti- sukin -šbi ša- kiši
IND-HAB-give-INAN-INAN ERG-sun ERG-bright-INAN ACC-light
“The bright sun shines.” (lit. “The bright sun gives light.”)

(CSTC.10) 

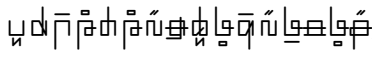
sasinzišbi nakeñ jažojem
s- a- sinzi -šbi na- keñ ja- žojem
IND-PROG-come-INAN PROG-now NOM-sun
“The sun is rising now.” (lit. “The sun is coming now.”)

(CSTC.11) 

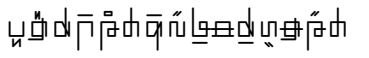
čošdažepo jadušam žiže
Ø- Ø- čošdaže-po ja- dušam žiže
IND-PFV-shout -H NOM-person all.H
“All the people shouted.”

(CSTC.12) 

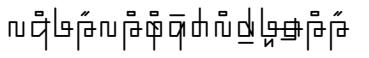
čošdažepo jadušam diñšu
Ø- Ø- čošdaže -po ja- dušam diñšu
IND-PFV-shout -H NOM-person some.H
“Some of the people shouted.”

(CSTC.13) 

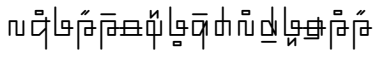
sičošdažepo žedun kiše jadušam šesbun
s- i- čošdaže-po žedun kiše ja- dušam šesbun
IND-ITER-shout -H times two.INAN NOM-person many.H
“Many of the people shouted twice.”

(CSTC.14) 

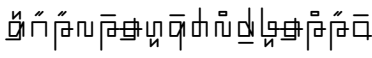
siničošdažepo jadušam čatunžupo
s- ini- čošdaže-po ja- dušam ča- tunžu -po
IND-HAB-shout -H NOM-person NOM-happy-H
“Happy people often shout.”

(CSTC.15) 

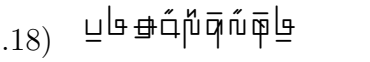
dožešožu dožege japode čašinžežu
Ø- Ø- dožešo-žu do- žege ja- pode ča- šinže -žu
IND-PFV-jump -AN toward-sky NOM-cat NOM-very_young-AN
“The kitten jumped up.”

(CSTC.16) 

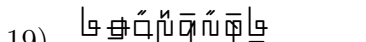
dožešožu žambiše japode čašinžežu
Ø- Ø- dožešo-žu žam-biše ja- pode ča- šinže -žu
IND-PFV-jump -AN to- table NOM-cat NOM-very_young-AN
“The kitten jumped onto the table.”

(CSTC.17) 

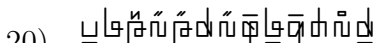
ñizužu dožanti japode čašinžežu yañi
Ø- Ø- ñizu -žu do- žanti ja- pode ča- šinže -žu
IND-PFV-walk-AN toward-there_DIST NOM-cat NOM-very_young-AN
yañi
1EX.H.GEN
“My little kitten walked away.”

(CSTC.18) 

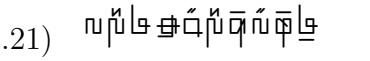
sašonyušbi jadugaša
s- a- šonyu-šbi ja- dugaša
IND-PROG-fall -INAN NOM-rainwater
“It’s raining.” (lit. “Rainwater is falling.”)

(CSTC.19) 

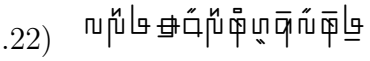
šonyušbi jadugaša
Ø- Ø- šonyu-šbi ja- dugaša
IND-PFV-fall -INAN NOM-rainwater
“The rain came down.” (lit. “Rainwater fell.”)

(CSTC.20) 

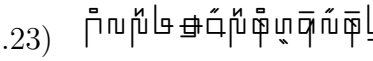
sašožidužu čodugaša japode čašinžežu
s- a- šožidu-žu čo- dugaša ja- pode ča šinže -žu
IND-PROG-play -AN surrounded_by-rainwater NOM-cat NOM-very_young-AN
“The kitten is playing in the rain.”

(CSTC.21) 

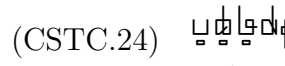
došbišonyušbi jadugaša
Ø- Ø- došbi-šonyu-šbi ja- dugaša
IND-PFV-stop- fall -INAN NOM-rainwater
“The rain has stopped.”

(CSTC.22) 

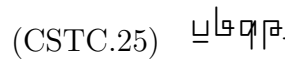
došbišonyušbi getu jadugaša
Ø- Ø- došbi-šonyu-šbi Ø- getu ja- dugaša
IND-PFV-stop- fall -INAN PFV-soon NOM-rainwater
“Soon the rain will stop.”

(CSTC.23) 

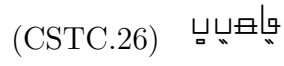
šdedošbi-šonyušbi getu jadugaša
šd- e- došbi-šonyu-šbi Ø- getu ja- dugaša
OPT-PFV-stop- fall -INAN PFV-soon NOM-rainwater
“I hope the rain stops soon.”

(CSTC.24) 

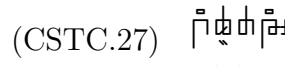
se keše čosbiža jagažesu čaduzožu
Ø- se Ø- keše čo- sbiža ja- gažesu ča- duzo-žu
IND-COP PFV-in_the_past inside-here_PROX NOM-animal NOM-wild-AN
“Once wild animals lived here.”

(CSTC.25) 

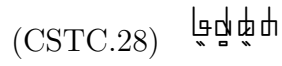
sašojožo nakuše ča šatežuñ
s- a- šo -jo-žo na- kuše ča ša- težuñ
IND-PROG-look-H -INAN PROG-slowly 3.H.ERG ACC-everywhere
“Slowly she looked around.” (lit. “Slowly she looked at everywhere.”)

(CSTC.26) 

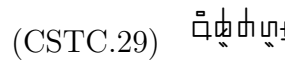
sesum šučekupo
sesum šuč- e- ku-po
IMP DEO-PFV-go-H
“Go away!”

(CSTC.27) 

šdekupo žem
šd- e- ku-po žem
OPT-PFV-go-H 1IN.H.NOM
“Let’s go!”

(CSTC.28) 

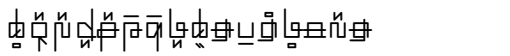
šučekupo jišbem
šuč- e- ku-po jišbem
DEO-PFV-go-H 2POL.H.NOM
“You should go.”

(CSTC.29) 

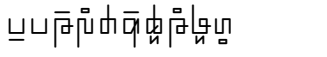
yekupo tunžu
y- e- ku-po Ø- tunžu
SBJV-PFV-go-H PFV-happily
“I will be happy to go.” (lit. “I will go happily.”)

(CSTC.30)

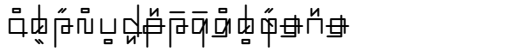
yesinzipo getu čem
y- e- sinzi -po Ø- getu čem
SBJV-PFV-come-H PFV-soon 3.H.NOM
"He will arrive soon."

(CSTC.31) 

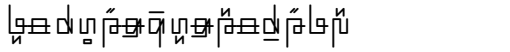
kešgišbi cisbiža jašikunsa nešemdin
Ø- Ø- kešgi-šbi ci- sbiža ja- šikunsa ne- šemdin
IND-PFV-roll -INAN away_from-here_PROX NOM-ball GEN-baby
"The baby's ball has rolled away."

(CSTC.32) 

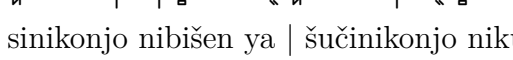
sasožašbepo jakiže šite
s- a- sožašbe -po ja- kiže šite
IND-PROG-cooperate-H NOM-boy two.H
"The two boys are working together."

(CSTC.33) 

yekužu dese cisbiža jañeke gunzin
y- e- kužu Ø- dese ci- sbiža ja- ñeke
SBJV-PFV-go-AN PFV-probably away_from-here_PROX NOM-mist
gunzin
DEM.PROX.H
"This mist will probably clear away." (lit. "This mist will probably go away from here.")

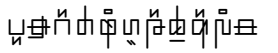
(CSTC.34) 

šim čotežuñ jatiñžim čažušošbi
Ø- šim čo- težuñ ja- tiñžim ča- žušo šbi
IND-COP.LOC inside-everywhere NOM-flower NOM-pretty-INAN
"Lovely flowers are growing everywhere." (lit. "Pretty flowers are everywhere.")

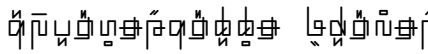
(CSTC.35) 

sinikonjo nibišen ya | šučinikonjo nikuše
s- ini- kon-jo ni- bišen ya
IND-HAB-eat -H HAB-quickly 1IN.H.ERG

šuč- ini- kon-jo ni- kuše
DEO-HAB-eat -H HAB-slowly
"We should eat more slowly." (lit. "We eat quickly, we should eat slowly.")

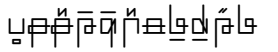
(CSTC.36) 

sinzipo getu žika jišbem
Ø- Ø- sinzi -po Ø- getu Ø- žika jišbem
IND-PFV-come-H PFV-soon PFV-very 2POL.H.NOM
"You have come too soon."

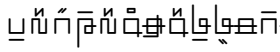
(CSTC.37) 

jišba sinitenžujo nikiken | šučinidenžujo nikiken
jišba s- ini- tenžu -jo ni- kiken
2POL.H.ERG IND-HAB-NEG\write-H HAB-neatly

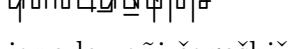
šuč- ini- denžu-jo ni- kiken
DEO-HAB-write -H HAB-neatly
"You must write more neatly." (lit. "You do not write neatly, you should write neatly.")

(CSTC.38) 

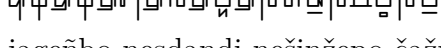
se sbosbiža jašdimša čažušo
Ø- se sbo- sbiža ja- šdimša ča- žušo
IND-COP across_from-here_PROX NOM-place NOM-beautiful
"Directly opposite stands a wonderful place." (lit. "Across from here there is a beautiful place.")

(CSTC.39) 

sadizuža diyenyi šašumzan
s- a- dizuža-jo-šum di- yenyi ša- šumzan
IND-PROG-lose -H -AN ERG-Henry ACC-dog
"Henry's dog is lost." (lit. "Henry lost [his] dog.")

(CSTC.40) 

japode yañi čagošbižu
ja- pode yañi ča- gošbi -žu
NOM-cat 1EX.H.GEN NOM-black-AN
"My cat is black."

(CSTC.41) 

jageñbo nesdandi nešinžepo čažumsežušašbi
ja- geñbo ne- sdandi ne- šinže -po ča- žumse-žuša -šbi
NOM-doll GEN-girl GEN-very_young-H NOM-break -ADJZ-INAN
"The little girl's doll is broken."

(CSTC.42)

sinišebepo nikešapo nitindupo
s- ini- šebe -po ni- keša ni- tindu
IND-HAB-sleep-H HAB-well HAB-usually
“I usually sleep soundly.”

(CSTC.43)

gašipo bujako jašede
Ø- Ø- gaši-po bu- jako ja- šede
IND-PFV-run -H following-Jack NOM-child
“The children ran after Jack.”

(CSTC.44)

yašožidupo nagošo žuñdašo yinitikodopo šocižoñ yem
y- a- šožidu-po na- gošo žuñ- dašo- y- ini- tikodo -po
SBJV-PROG-play -H PROG-able_to after-time_when-SBJV-HAB-leave -H
šo- cižoñ yem
DAT-school 1EX.H.NOM
“I can play after school.”

(CSTC.45)

kupo žamkože jišgomzi yem
Ø- Ø- ku-po žam-kože ji- šgomzi yem
IND-PFV-go-H to- village for-visit 1EX.H.NOM
“We went to the village for a visit.”

(CSTC.46)

kupo panšogo yem
Ø- Ø- ku-po pan-šogo yem
IND-PFV-go-H at- river 1EX.H.NOM
“We arrived at the river.”

(CSTC.47)

sasezapo nakeñ nademzu yem
s- a- seza-po na- keñ na- demzu yem
IND-PROG-wait-H PROG-now PROG-already 1EX.H.NOM
“I have been waiting for you.”

(CSTC.48) 𑄥𑄢𑄨𑄪𑄚𑄬𑄢𑄧𑄮𑄘𑄚𑄪𑄴𑄬

sadempo zigedanšu jajuzižokaki

s- a- dem-po zige- danšu ja- juzi- žokaki

IND-PROG-sit -H around-fire NOM-NMLZ-live_in_wilderness

“The campers sat around the fire.”

Glossary

agent The argument of a transitive verb that is performing the action 6

irrealis A certain situation or action that is not known to have happened at the moment the speaker is talking 8

patient The argument of a transitive verb that is receiving the action 7

realis A statement of fact 7

subject The sole argument of an intransitive verb 6, 26, 27

Acronyms

TAM tense-aspect-mood 25

Glossing Abbreviations

1EX	first person exclusive
1IN	first person inclusive
2FAM	second person familiar
2HUM	second person humiliative
2POL	second person polite
2	second person
3	third person
ACC	accusative
ADJZ	adjectivizer
AN	animate
CMPR	comparative
COMP	complementizer
COP	copula
DAT	dative
DEM	demonstrative
DEO	deontic
DIST	distal
ERG	ergative
GEN	genitive
H	human
HAB	habitual
IMP	imperative
INAN	inanimate
IND	indicative
ITER	iterative
LOC	locative
MED	medial
NEG	negative
NMLZ	nominalizer
NOM	nominative

OPT	optative
PFV	perfective
POS	positive
PROG	progressive
PROX	proximal
SBJV	subjunctive
SJV	subjunctive
VBZ	verbalizer
YN	yes/no question