???

Tímə́h, the language of *Shaygų́*

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A grammar

2017

Dedicated to my haters

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1 | Introduction

1.1 | External history

The Timah language (tˀíməh [tˀǐ́məh]; lit. language, speech) is a constructed language (*conlang*) made by me, Mareck (M.M.N.H.). It may further be classified as an artistic language (*artlang*). Its primary goal is simply to be documented entirely in LaTeX (*LaTeX*).

Like most of my constructed languages, it tries to focus balancing between the interesting and the naturalistic, in terms of phonology, grammar, etc. Naturalism, however, is not the primary goal. I have therefore given myself the freedom to take liberties in terms of naturalism.

1.2 | Internal history

The Timah language is spoken by the Khokan people (kʰɔkˀɔtɕɔ̀ʔe [k͡pʰɔ̀k͡pˀɔ̀d͡ʑɔ̀ʔè] lit. many-person). They live on the Saykung Archipelago (sʰajkoɴ [sʰæjg̊b̥ǔŋ̊m] lit. our-place)

TODO all of this

1.2.1 | People

The Khokan people are a largely matriarchal and polyandrous society. The practice of polyandry, wherein a woman may take multiple spouses, is due to limited land and natural resources.

Large communities (consisting of several family clans governed by a single clan) are on or around the more mountainous island centers, where terrace-farming is practiced. On the flatter shores, there are smaller communities (consisting of only a few family clans with no single governing clan).

TODO expand this

1.2.2 | Place

The Saykung Archipelago consists of five main islands and hundreds of smaller islands surrounding the main islands. The main islands are mainly flat, with mountainous centers and forested areas.

TODO expand this

1.2.3 | Beliefs & practices

TODO expand this

1.2.3.1 | Magic

TODO expand this

1.2.4 | Dialects

There are four main dialects of Timah. They are, from northmost to southmost, the *Cliff*, *Far Lake*, *Near Lake*, and *Shore* dialects. The Near Lake dialect is the prestige dialect, and is the one

described here. The Far Lake and Shore dialects are fairly similar to the Near Lake dialect; the Cliff dialect is the most divergent.

2 | Phonology

2.1 | Consonants

	Labial	*Alveolar*	*Palatal*	*Velar*	*Glottal*	*Placeless*
Nasal	m	n				ɴ
Plosive		t^h t $t^ʔ$	$tɕ^h$ tɕ $tɕ^ʔ$	k^h k $k^ʔ$	ʔ	
Fricative		s^h s $s^ʔ$			h	
Approximant	w	l	j			

Figure 2.1: Consonant phonemes

- /n t^h t $t^ʔ$/ are dental; /s^h s $s^ʔ$ l/ are alveolar.
- /$tɕ^h$ tɕ $tɕ^ʔ$/ are alveolo-palatal; /j/ is palatal.
- /h/ is articulated with true frication of the glottis, i.e., it is not a voiceless glottal approximant.
- /ɴ/ is a nasal coda archiphoneme, i.e., not an uvular nasal[1].
- The aspirated obstruents /t^h $tɕ^h$ k^h s^h/ may be accompanied by slight breathy-voice on the following vowel.
- The glottalized obstruents /$t^ʔ$ $tɕ^ʔ$ $k^ʔ$ $s^ʔ$/ are articulated with laryngeal tension, and may be accompanied by slight creaky-voice on the following vowel.

2.1.1 | Consonant allophony

- The nasals /m n/ surface as implosives [ɓ ɗ] word-initally except in clusters.
- The alveolar nasal /n/ surfaces as palatal [ɲ] before [i] word-medially. The cluster /nj/ surfaces as [ɲ].
- The coda archiphoneme /ɴ/ surfaces as [n ɲ ŋ] before alveolar, (alveolo-)palatal, and velar plosives, respectively. It surfaces as nasalization of the preceding vowel before all other consonants. It surfaces as [ŋ] word-finally after non-back vowels, and as [n͡m] word-finally after the back vowels /o ɔ/ and before the labio-velars [k͡p^ʔ k͡p k͡p^h].
- The alveolar plosives /t^h t $t^ʔ$/ surface as trills [r̥ r $r^ʔ$] before [i]. This does not occur after /ɴ/ nor in clusters.
- The aspirated plosives /t^h $tɕ^h$ k^h/ surface as fricatives [θ ɕ x] before /a/. This does not occur after /ɴ/ nor in clusters.

[1] Yes, I say /ən ˈuvjələ˞/. Deal with it.

- The aspirated obstruents /t^h $tɕ^h$ k^h s^h/ are deäspirated to [t tɕ k s] intervocalically and after /m n w j ɴ/.
- The tenuis obstruents /t tɕ k s/ are voiced to [d dʑ g z] intervocalically and after /m n w j ɴ/.
- The velars /$k^ʔ$ k k^h/ surface as labio-velars [$\widehat{kp}^ʔ$ $\widehat{kp}$ $\widehat{kp}^h$] before the back vowels /o ɔ/. [$\widehat{kp}$] is voiced to [$\widehat{gb}$] and [$\widehat{kp}^h$] is deäspirated to [$\widehat{kp}$] intervocalically and after /w j ɴ/.
- The sibilants /s^h s $s^ʔ$/ are palatalized to [$ɕ^h$ ɕ $ɕ^ʔ$] before [i]. [ɕ] is voiced to [ʑ] and [$ɕ^h$] is deäspirated to [ɕ] intervocalically and after /w j ɴ/.
- /w/ surfaces as [ʊ] before [i].
- /l/ surfaces as [ɾ] intervocalically and after /w j ɴ/.

2.1.2 | Dialectal variations of consonants

- In some[*which?*] dialects, the alveolo-palatals /$tɕ^h$ tɕ $tɕ^ʔ$/ may surface as alveolar affricates [ts^h ts $ts^ʔ$], true palatals [c^h c $c^ʔ$], or as non-affricated alveolo-palatals [$ɬ^h$ ɬ $ɬ^ʔ$].
- In some[*which?*] dialects, the glottalized plosives /$t^ʔ$ $tɕ^ʔ$ $k^ʔ$ $s^ʔ$/ may surface as ejectives [t’ tɕ’ k’ (t)s’] or geminates [tt ttɕ kk ss~tts].
- Depending on dialect[*which ones?*] and idiolect, the glottal fricative /h/ may variously surface as any of [x χ ħ h̃].
- In some[*which?*] dialects, the lateral [l] has merged with either /j/ or /n/.
- Depending on dialect[*which ones?*] and idiolect, the lateral /l/ may variously surface as any of [ɪ ɻ ɻ̩ ɭ l̪ ɮ ʐ̩].
- In the Shore dialect, /w/ surfaces as [ɯ^β], i.e., it has lip compression instead of protrusion.

2.2 | Vowels

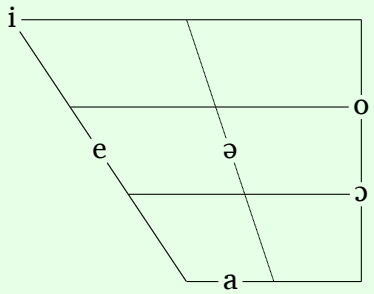

Figure 2.2: Vowel phonemes

- All vowels may occur as long or short (*see § 2.3.1*)
- /e/ is true mid [e̞][2].
- /a/ is near-front [a] (i.e., not central [ä]).

2.2.1 | Vowel allophony

- All vowels are nasalized before nasal consonants.
- /i/ backs to [ɨ] after the velars /k^h k $k^ʔ$/ and before coda [ŋ].
- /a/ fronts to [æ~ɛ] after the palatals /$tɕ^h$ tɕ $tɕ^ʔ$ j/ and before coda /j/.
- /o ɔ/ raise to [u o̜][2] word-finally in open syllables, after the velars /k^h k $k^ʔ$ w/, and before coda [ŋ].

2.2.2 | Dialectal variations of vowels

- Some[*which?*] dialects merge the front vowels /i e/ into [i~ɪ].
- Some[*which?*] dialects merge the central vowels /ə a/ into [a].
- Some[*which?*] dialects merge the back vowels /o ɔ/ into true mid [o̜].
- In the Shore dialect, the back vowels /o ɔ/ (and their allophones) surface as [ɤ^β ʌ^β], i.e., they have lip compression instead of protrusion.

2.3 | Phonotactics

2.3.1 | Syllable structure

$$(\#C)CV(T)(V^3(T)|G|S)$$

G = {ʔ,h}
S = {ɴ,w,j}
T = {◌́,◌̀}

Figure 2.3: Syllable structure

2.3.1.1 | Consonant clusters

In Timah, only the following consonant clusters (in black) are allowed:

[2] [ę o̜] will be transcribed as [e o] for the sake of brevity.
[3] Long vowel morae must be homorganic in vowel quality, but not necessarily in tone.

		C_1										
		m	n	tʰ	t	tˀ	tɕʰ	tɕ	tɕˀ	kʰ	k	kˀ	ʔ
C_2	m	m	n	tʰm	tm	tˀm	tɕʰm	tɕm	tɕˀm	kʰm	km	kˀm	ʔm
	n	m	n	ntʰ	nt	ntˀ	ntɕʰ	ntɕ	ntɕˀ	kʰn	kn	kˀn	ʔn
	tʰ	mtʰ	ntʰ	tʰ	tʰ	t	tɕʰ	tɕʰ	tɕ	kʰtʰ	kʰtʰ	kt	t
	t	mt	nt	tʰ	tˀ	tˀ	tɕʰ	tɕˀ	tɕˀ	kʰtʰ	kt	kˀtˀ	tˀ
	tˀ	mtˀ	ntˀ	t	tˀ	tˀ	tɕ	tɕˀ	tɕˀ	kt	kˀtˀ	kˀtˀ	tˀ
	tɕʰ	mtɕʰ	ntɕʰ	tɕʰ	tɕʰ	tɕ	tɕʰ	tɕʰ	tɕ	kʰtɕʰ	kʰtɕʰ	ktɕ	tɕ
	tɕ	mtɕ	ntɕ	tɕʰ	tɕˀ	tɕˀ	tɕʰ	tɕˀ	tɕˀ	kʰtɕʰ	ktɕ	kˀtɕˀ	tɕˀ
	tɕˀ	mtɕˀ	ntɕˀ	tɕ	tɕˀ	tɕˀ	tɕ	tɕˀ	tɕˀ	ktɕ	kˀtɕˀ	kˀtɕˀ	tɕˀ
	kʰ	mkʰ	nkʰ	tʰkʰ	tʰkʰ	tk	tɕʰkʰ	tɕʰkʰ	tɕk	kʰ	kʰ	k	k
	k	mk	nk	tʰkʰ	tk	tˀkˀ	tɕʰkʰ	tɕk	tɕˀkˀ	kʰ	kˀ	kˀ	kˀ
	kˀ	mkˀ	nkˀ	tk	tˀkˀ	tˀkˀ	tɕk	tɕˀkˀ	tɕˀkˀ	k	kˀ	kˀ	kˀ
	ʔ	ʔm	ʔn	t	tˀ	tˀ	tɕ	tɕˀ	tɕˀ	k	kˀ	kˀ	ʔ
	sʰ	mtʰ	ntʰ	tʰ	tʰ	t	tɕʰ	tɕʰ	tɕ	kʰ	kʰ	k	s
	s	mt	nt	tʰ	tˀ	tˀ	tɕʰ	tɕˀ	tɕˀ	kʰ	kˀ	kˀ	sˀ
	sˀ	mtˀ	ntˀ	t	tˀ	tˀ	tɕ	tɕˀ	tɕˀ	k	kˀ	kˀ	sˀ
	h	m	n	tʰ	tʰ	t	tɕʰ	tɕʰ	tɕ	kʰ	kʰ	k	ʔ
	w	m	nw	tʰw	tw	tˀw	tɕʰw	tɕw	tɕˀw	kʰw	kw	kˀw	ʔw
	l	ml	n	tʰ	t	tˀ	tɕʰ	tɕ	tɕˀ	kʰl	kl	kˀl	ʔl
	j	mj	nj	tɕʰ	tɕ	tɕˀ	tɕʰ	tɕ	tɕˀ	tɕʰ	tɕ	tɕˀ	ʔj

Figure 2.4: Consonant clusters[4]

Clusters may only occur word-initially. If a prefix or proclitic is appended to a word that begins with a cluster, the C_1 of the cluster migrates to the beginning of the word. In fig. 2.4, entries in blue denote the result of C_1-migration (i.e., cluster resolution); i.e., if C_1 forms an illegal cluster after migration, the illegal cluster is resolved by returning the corresponding entry.

2.3.1.2 | Restraints

These phonotactic restraints govern allomorphy.

- The nasal coda /ɴ/ cannot precede a nasal /m n/.
- The glottal codae /ʔ h/ cannot precede another glottal /ʔ h/.
- The glottal coda /h/ cannot precede a sonorant /m n w l j/.
- The glides /w j/ cannot precede another glide /w j/.
- The glide /w/ cannot follow /o ɔ/.

[4] Cells are unmerged for the purpose of clarity.

- The glide /j/ cannot follow /i e/.

In roots, the following coda reductions occur if the former rules are violated. The coda is deleted and lengthens the preceding vowel (if short). It may also apply tone to the long vowel.

ʔ → ◌́
h → ◌̀
ɴ w j → ◌

Figure 2.5: Coda reductions

2.4 | Phonological processes

2.4.1 | Stress

Stress placement in Timah is phonologically determined and is not phonemic.

Stress occurs on the left-most live syllable, wherein a syllable ending in a sonorant /ɴ w j/ or long vowel are grouped as *live* and those ending in /ʔ h/ are grouped as *dead*.

Open syllables (i.e., syllables with a short vowel and no coda) are superseded by live syllables but take precedence over dead syllables in terms of stress hierarchy.

Clitics are ignored by stress placement.

2.4.2 | Vowel harmony

Timah displays vowel harmony based on tongue root position.

Vowels are divided into two classes: [+ATR] and [−ATR], traditionally grouped as *light* and *heavy* vowels.

[+ATR] (light)	i	ə	o
[−ATR] (heavy)	e	a	ɔ

Figure 2.6: Vowel harmony

Vowel harmony is very pervasive; within a word, harmony spreads rightward from a stressed vowel until it is terminated.

Vowel harmony is terminated after dead syllables (i.e., syllables ending in /ʔ h/, represented in fig. 2.7 by $\sigma_{\dagger}$) and non-harmonizing morphemes, such as clitics.

Figure 2.7: Harmony spread

2.4.3 | Obstruent weakening

Initial obstruents in compound words (including verbs with incorporated nouns, *see § 8.6.2*), here represented by $\omega_1\omega_2$, may undergo weakening. If an obstruent is present initially in ω_2, it undergoes one of the following mutations.

tˀ	tʰ		t
tɕˀ	tɕʰ		tɕ
kˀ	kʰ	→	k
sˀ	sʰ		s
ʔ			h

Figure 2.8: Obstruent weakening

2.5 | Obstruent contraction

In non-initial (and therefore cluster-exclusive) sequences of $P^*_1VP^*_2V$, wherein P* represents any obstruent and V represents any vowel, the sequence $P^*_1VP^*_2$ is contracted to P^*_3. This does not apply within roots (but can occur at root boundaries e.g., after inflection and in compounds), and applies after obstruent weakening.

In fig. 2.9, P^h represents the aspirated obstruents /tʰ tɕʰ kʰ sʰ h/, P represents the tenuis obstruents /t tɕ k ʔ[5]/, and $P^ˀ$ represents the glottalized obstruents /tˀ tɕˀ kˀ sˀ ʔ[5]/. The glottals /ʔ h/ only affect contraction when they occur as P^*_2.

P^*_1		P^*_2		P^*_3
P^h, P		P^h, P		P^h
P^h	+	$P^ˀ$	→	P
P, $P^ˀ$		P, $P^ˀ$		$P^ˀ$
$P^ˀ$		P^h		P

Figure 2.9: Obstruent contraction

The specific place and manner of articulation of P^*_3 is dependent on a hierarchy of the obstruents in the positions P^*_1 and P^*_2, i.e., obstruents lower in the hierarchy assimilate to those higher in the hierarchy.

k* > tɕ* > t* > s* > ʔ, h

Figure 2.10: Obstruent hierarchy

If there is a tone associated with the elided vowel, it and all tones left of it are shifted one syllable leftward until a toneless syllable (*see § 2.7.1*).

[5] /ʔ/ is classed as tenuis when it is either P^*_1 or P^*_2, and as both tenuis and glottalized when it is P^*_3

2.6 | Degemination

Timah does not allow gemination of consonants, even across word boundaries. When a coda /ʔ h w j/ precede a word with an identical onset, the onset is elided and the coda takes its place. This occurs on the phonetic level.

sʔáw wíini

/sʔáw wíini/

[sʔáʊ͡ĩĩɲì]

some cats

2.7 | Tone

Timah has two distinct tonemes: *high* and *low*, as well as the option of being unmarked for tone. Tonally unmarked syllables are phonetically realized identically to the low tone, but unlike low tone, it can be affected by various tonological processes such as *tone mobility* and *tone association*.

2.7.1 | Tone mobility

Tones in Timah may move from their inherent position to a different surface position.

2.7.1.1 | Leftward tone shift

At the end of a prosodic unit (PU), all tones are shifted one syllable leftward until a toneless syllable, leaving the final syllable toneless. Unlike tone association (*see § 2.7.2*), tone shift is not blocked by dead syllables. This also occurs when a tonic vowel is elided by obstruent contraction (*see § 2.5*).

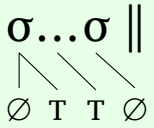

Figure 2.11: Leftward tone shift

2.7.1.2 | Rightward tone movement

If the stressed syllable of a word is toneless, the nearest tone leftward of the stressed syllable moves to the stressed syllable.

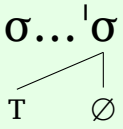

Figure 2.12: Rightward tone movement

2.7.2 | Tone association

Tone association is the process in which the tone of a given syllable may spread to the preceding toneless syllable under certain circumstances. This applies after tone mobility.

In fig. 2.13, S represents a sonorant /ɴ w j/ and G represents a glottal /ʔ h/

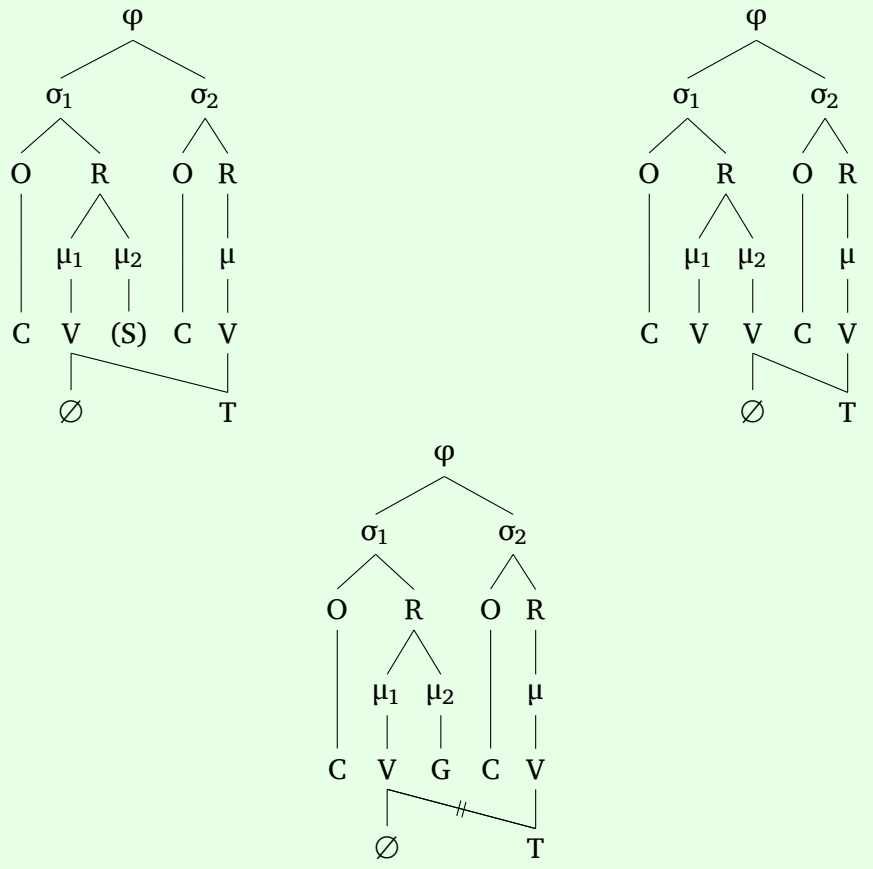

Figure 2.13: Tone association

Floating tones follow similar rules, but associate in the direction in which they moved.

3 | Prosody

3.1 | Isochrony

Timah is a moraically-timed language, i.e., the duration of every mora is approximately equal. Nuclei and live codae both count as one mora; onsets and dead codae do not contribute to mora count (*see § 2.4.1*).

3.2 | Prosodic hierarchy

Prosodic units can be separated into a hierarchy of sub-units. In fig. 3.1, PU represents a prosodic unit, φ represents a prosodic foot, σ represents a syllable, and μ represents a mora. Superscript numbers represent the amount of that to which they are superscripted.

`TODO` all of this

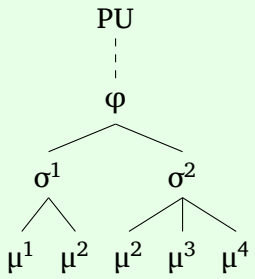

Figure 3.1: Prosodic hierarchy

3.3 | Intonation

`TODO` all of this

4 | Orthography

The Timah language uses the *Loma* script (lɔ́ma [lɔ̋mà] lit. smooth-word), a defective abugida that was borrowed from a neighboring language *Maryu* (Timah májlo [ɓǽjɾò]). It was originally written on the large, durable leaves of the sˀáláw ([sˀəɾəw]) plant, which contributes to the script's curled aesthetic.

TODO native, script, other adaptations; tone markers

4.1 | Other scripts

4.1.1 | Latin

	Labial	*Alveolar*	*Palatal*	*Velar*	*Glottal*	*Placeless*
Nasal	⟨m⟩	⟨n⟩				⟨◌̣⟩[7]
Plosive		⟨th d t⟩	⟨ch j c⟩	⟨kh g k⟩	⟨ḥ⟩[7]	
Fricative		⟨sh x s⟩			⟨h⟩	
Approximant	⟨w⟩	⟨l⟩	⟨y⟩			

Figure 4.1: Latin (consonants)

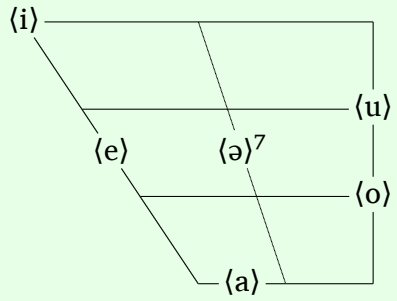

Figure 4.2: Latin (vowels)

Vowels are marked with ⟨◌́⟩ for high tone, ⟨◌̀⟩ for low tone, and unmarked for toneless.

[7] /ɴ ʔ ə/ may alternatively be romanized as ⟨n ' v⟩, respectively.

4.1.2 | Tibetan

	Labial	*Alveolar*	*Palatal*	*Velar*	*Glottal*	*Placeless*
Nasal	⟨མ⟩	⟨ན⟩				⟨ཨཾ⟩[8]
Plosive		⟨བ ད ྟ⟩	⟨ཚ ཇ ཅ⟩	⟨ཁ གྷ ཀ⟩	⟨འ, ཌ⟩[8]	
Fricative		⟨ཧ ཟ ཤ⟩			⟨ཧ, ཨཿ⟩[8]	
Approximant	⟨ཝ, ཬ⟩[8]	⟨ར⟩	⟨ཡ, ྱ⟩[8]			

Figure 4.3: Tibetan (consonants)

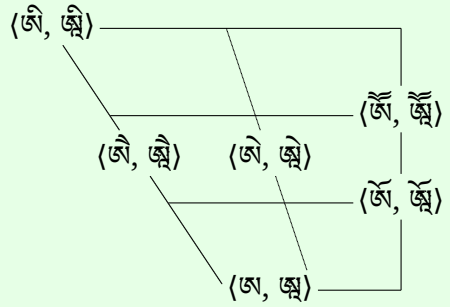

Figure 4.4: Tibetan (vowels)[8]

Tone is not marked.

4.1.3 | Mkhedruli

	Labial	*Alveolar*	*Palatal*	*Velar*	*Glottal*	*Placeless*
Nasal	⟨მ⟩	⟨ნ⟩				⟨◌ნ⟩
Plosive		⟨თ დ ტ⟩	⟨ც ძ ჭ⟩	⟨ქ ღ კ⟩	⟨ყ⟩	
Fricative		⟨ფ ზ ს⟩			⟨ჰ⟩	
Approximant	⟨ვ⟩	⟨რ⟩	⟨ჲ⟩			

Figure 4.5: Mkhedruli (consonants)

[8] ⟨ཨ⟩ is a filler letter. In slots with two elements, the second element is the coda form for consonants, and the long form for vowels.

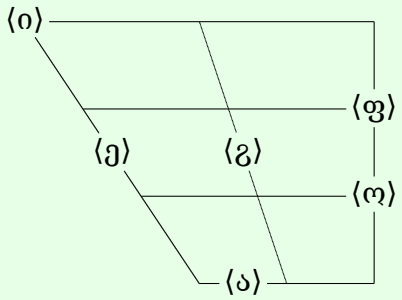

Figure 4.6: Mkhedruli (vowels)

Vowels are marked with ⟨◌ʊ⟩ for high tone, ⟨◌ɔ⟩ for low tone, and unmarked for toneless.

4.1.4 | Hacm

	Labial	*Alveolar*	*Palatal*	*Velar*	*Glottal*	*Placeless*
Nasal	⟨ɒ⟩	⟨n⟩				⟨◌ⁿ⟩
Plosive		⟨ɾʰ ɷ ɾ⟩	⟨ɻʰ ɥ ɻ⟩	⟨ɭʰ ɸ ɭ⟩	⟨ɲ⟩	
Fricative		⟨ɟʰ ɻ ɟ⟩			⟨h⟩	
Approximant	⟨o⟩	⟨l⟩	⟨s⟩			

Figure 4.7: Hacm (consonants)

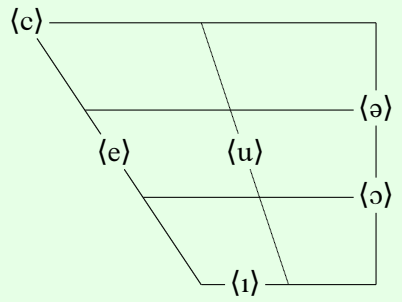

Figure 4.8: Hacm (vowels)

Vowels are marked with ⟨◌́⟩ for high tone, ⟨◌̀⟩ for low tone, and unmarked for toneless.

5 | Syntax

5.1 | Sentence structure & word order

The *subject* is the argument that performs the verb. It consists of one or more noun phrase(s).

The (*direct*) *object* is the argument upon which the verb is directly performed. It, like the subject, consists of one or more noun phrase(s).

The *peripheral*, or indirect/oblique object, is the argument upon which the verb is indirectly performed. It is usually marked with a *postposition* (*see § 7.6*) or *oblique case* (*see § 7.5.2*) and consists of noun or postpositional phrase(s).

The *verb* is the action that is performed within a clause. It consists of one or more verb phrase(s). Some verbs may not take a subject or object (*see § 8.3*). A verb must agree with its subject and object (*see § 8.6.1*).

Timah is *direct-inverse*, so word order in independent and clausal dependent clauses (*see § 5.1.1*) is largely dependent on an *empathy hierarchy*.

The empathy hierarchy is based on both *person* (*see § 7.4*) and *integrity* (*see § 7.2*).

$$1^{st} > 2^{nd} > 3^{rd} > \textit{Cmplt. Anim.} > \textit{Cmplt. Inan.} > \textit{Ncmplt.}$$

Figure 5.1: Empathy hierarchy

If the arguments of a clause differ in rank in the empathy hierarchy, the higher-ranked argument is always placed first. If the arguments are the same in rank, the most proximate argument is placed first. Otherwise, argument placement defaults to *subject-object-peripheral-verb*.

The empathy hierarchy does not apply to partial dependent clauses (*see § 5.1.1*) and copular clauses (*see § 8.9*). Word order is *verb-initial head-final* in partial dependent clauses. Only the verb is obligatory. In copular clauses, the word order is always *subject-copula-attribute*, wherein the *attribute* is what is being associated with the subject of the copular phrase.

Dependents are placed before their head unless noted otherwise.

5.1.1 | Dependent clauses

Dependent clauses in Timah are divided into two types, *partial* and *replete* dependent clauses. They are introduced by one of three clausal conjunctions (a subset of *verbal conjunctions see § 11.1*). All dependent clauses are placed before their head and are deranked (*see § 8.6*).

Partial dependent clauses consist of both *relative* and *adverbial* clauses (i.e., they are not differentiated). They modify a word or phrase and take *verb-initial head-final* word order, wherein the verb is placed initially and the head of the dependent argument is placed finally, with the background argument (i.e., the argument of the dependent clause that is not the head) placed medially. Thus, the word order of a partial dependent clause may be either *verb-object-peripheral-subject* or *verb-subject-peripheral-object*. In the former, the subject is the head; in the latter, the object is the head. Only subjects and objects (i.e., not peripherals) may be relativized, and must take the same role in the relative clause as in the main clause.

Replete dependent clauses consist of content clauses. Word order is the same as in independent clauses, with mandatory introduction by a clausal conjunction.

nəj	*introduces basic dependent clause*
teɴ	*introduces causal dependent clause*
motó	*introduces consecutive dependent clause*
ní	*introduces restrictive dependent clause*

The *restrictive* clausal conjunction limits that which it modifies.
TODO example sentences

5.2 | Alignment

The morphosyntactic alignment in Timah is a type of dually-split-ergative that is dependent of factors of *perfectiveness*, *valency*, and *volition*.

Perfectiveness describes the completeness of the verb (*see § 8.6.6*), *valency* describes the number of arguments of the verb (*see § 8.3*), and *volition* describes the degree of control or intent concerning the verb (*see § 8.4*).

The *ergative-absolutive* alignment is used in perfective clauses; the *active-stative* alignment is used in imperfective clauses.

Within imperfective clauses, monovalent may mark the subject as either *agentive* or *patientive*, depending on volition. In volitional clauses, the subject is marked as *agentive*; in non-volitional clauses, the subject is marked as *patientive*.

In fig. 5.2, S represents the subject of a monovalent verb, A represents the subject of a multivalent verb, O represents the object of a multivalent verb.

		Mval.	*Mtval.*
Pfv.		S=O=ABS, A=ERG	
Npfv.	*Vol.*	S=AGT	A=AGT, O=PAT
	Nvol.	S=PAT	

Figure 5.2: Alignment

Timah is secundative, with the *theme* (object that is directed toward the recipient) of a trivalent verb (i.e., a polyvalent verb that takes three arguments, *see § 8.3*) acting as the peripheral and being marked by a postposition (*see § 7.6*), and the recipient acting as the object.

5.3 | Repeat argument dropping

In ergative-absolutive statements, a repeated absolutive argument can be dropped. In active-stative statements, a repeated subject can be dropped. Switching grammatical voice (*see § 8.6.3*) allows the opposing argument to be dropped.

5.4 | Clitics

What are termed *clitics* in Timah are actually phrasal affixes, i.e., they are affixes that attach to the initial or final component of their head phrase. These are glossed and referred to as clitics, but may also be considered *gruppenflexion* or phrasal affixation.

6 | Lexical categories & stems

6.1 | Lexical categories

There is largely no lexical noun-verb distinction in Timah, i.e., most content words can act either as a noun or as a verb. The exceptions are the closed classes of *nominal limitives*, or true nouns, and *verbal limitives*, or true verbs (*see §§ 7.1 and 8.1*). These are grouped together as *limitives*, and contrast with *formatives*, which consist of content words that can act as either a noun or a verb.

6.2 | Stems

Roots in Timah are divided into two stems based on *perspective*, which is the distinction between *concrete* and *abstract*. This distinction functions inversely, i.e., each root is, by default, unmarked as either being concrete or abstract (the *intrinsic* state); marking inverts this (i.e., to the *extrinsic* state). Some formatives may be both concrete and abstract depending on nominal or verbal function. Pronouns and copulae do not alternate stems.

Concrete	*tangible, physical, actual, real*; CONC
Abstract	*intangible, cognitive, conceptual, unreal*; ABSTR

Alternation of stems functions derivationally as well as morphologically, i.e., some inflections are dependent on stem alternation.

Perspective is marked by applying the following processes in consecutive order until one succeeds:

- internal metathesis (*see fig. 6.1*); this applies to the first syllable and proceeds rightward until success; C_1 of C_1C_2 initial clusters is ignored (until cluster resolution)
- external metathesis; $[^{\sigma}_{1}C_1\ldots][^{\sigma}_{2}C_2\ldots] \rightarrow [^{\sigma}_{1}C_2\ldots][^{\sigma}_{2}C_1\ldots]$ / #_, i.e., the onsets of the first two syllables are metathesized; this fails if C_1 and C_2 are identical; C_1 cannot be a cluster
- suffixial reduplication of the initial syllable, i.e., $|{}_{\sim}\sigma_i|$

Cluster resolution and coda reductions (*see §§ 2.3.1.1 and 2.3.1.2*) apply after these processes.

Intrinsic		*Extrinsic*
C{N[9],w,j}V		CV{ɴ,w,j}
CV{ɴ,w,j}		C{n,w,j}V
P{ʰ,ʔ}V		PV{h,ʔ}
PV{h,ʔ}	→	P{ʰ,ʔ}V
{m,n}V{ʔ,h,w,j}		{ʔ,h,w,j}Vɴ
{ʔ,h,w,j}Vɴ		nV{ʔ,h,w,j}
{w,j}V{ʔ,h}		{ʔ,h}V{w,j}
{ʔ,h}V{w,j}		{w,j}V{ʔ,h}

Figure 6.1: Internal metathesis

[9]The nasals /m n/.

7 | Nouns

7.1 | Nominal limitives

Nominal limitives consist of a set of content words that cannot be used as verbs. See App. A for a list. Some nominal limitives are used as classifiers in tandem with a numeral (*see Ch. 12*) to describe a noun.

7.2 | Integrity

Grammatical class, or *integrity*, in Timah is divided by compositional integrity, or completeness of the entity. The *complete* class is further divided by animacy. Animacy distinction may not always occur in inflections.

Complete	*entity is viewed in its entirety; as sufficient, complete, whole*; CMPLT
Animate	*living, mobile, warm; more prominent*; ANIM
Inanimate	*non-living, immobile, cold; less prominent*; INAN
Incomplete	*entity is viewed partially; as deficient, incomplete, condensed*; NCMPLT

Generally, these refer to the compositional integrity within the context of the situation. With concrete stems, integrity refers to physical composition; with abstract stems, it refers to conceptual composition.

7.3 | Probability

Grammatical number in Timah is divided not by amount, but *probability*, i.e., if the amount is likely or unlikely to change.

Stable	*the amount is not likely to change*; STBL
Unstable	*the amount is likely to change*; NSTBL
Panstable	*probability to change is unknown; generally associated with mass nouns*; PNSTBL

With concrete stems, probability refers to the likeliness to change within the context of the situation; with abstract stems, it refers to the likeliness to change of the entity in general.

7.4 | Pronouns

Pronouns are a subset of nominal limitives that take the function of another noun or noun phrase.

7.4.1 | Personal

Personal pronouns inflect for person, integrity (in the 3rd person), and case.

Personal pronouns in Timah are *absolutely-sequenced* (in contrast to *relatively-sequenced* pronouns, which encode person relative to oneself). That to which a pronoun refers is dependent on the order in which conversation is initiated. 1st refers to the initial speaker(s), 2nd to the initial listener(s), and 3rd to the non-initial participant(s) and/or non-participating referent(s).

While these may overlap with their relatively-sequenced counterparts, this is not always the case. Take the following conversation:

(1) kawmeləhmɔ́ɔ ləhamísʰoh

kaw-	melə	-h	=mɔ́ɔ	lə=	ha=	
CMPLT.INAN.STBL-	bread	-PAT.CMPLT	=REF.VIS.STBL	1.AGT=	3.CMPLT.INAN.PAT=	
∅-	mísʰoh	-∅				
NPFV.REAL-	detest	-AV				

I detest bread

To which the listener might reply:

(2) lətəjə́ teh

lə=	təjə́	teh
1.AGT=	REF.REV	SURPRISE

you do?!

In both cases, the person in (1) is referred to using agreement for 1.AGT (lə=).

			Agt.	*Pat.*	*Erg.*	*Assoc.*	*Loc.*
1st			lə	ləhi	jə́ɴ	sʰaj	tɕʰɔ̀
2nd			nɔ́	nɔ	nɔ̀		nə
3rd	*Cmplt.*	*Anim.*	tə́ʔ	təhi	tɕàɴ	kéh	té
		Inan.	haɴ				
	Ncmplt.		sə́he		kíɴ		sʔəw

Figure 7.1: Personal pronouns

The *associative* personal pronouns may be used possessively by appending one after the object of possession (i.e., as a suffix). It is sometimes appended as a prefix.

(3) hɔ̀ɴsʰaj

hɔ̀ɴ	-sʰaj
dog	-1.ASSOC

my dog

The *animate-inanimate* distinction in 3rd person pronouns can also be used as a *proximate-obviate* distinction. *Proximate* entities are more prominent, while *obviate* entities are less prominent.

TODO expand; example sentences

7.4.2 | Interrogative

Interrogative pronouns inflect for integrity, probability, and *function*. They are used to mark the specific characteristics of a question (*see § 8.6.6.2*).

		Person	*Location*	*Proportion*	*Manner*	*Reason*
Cmplt.	*Anim.*	ʔəsè	kʰɔ̀naj	silɔ	sáj	sʰèh
	Inan.	taɴsà				
Ncmplt.		ʔehi	kéhe	saʔií	səmɔ́ɔ	sʰɔjna

Figure 7.2: Interrogative pronouns

Person	*person, thing*; WH.PRSN
Location	*place, time*; WH.LOC
Proportion	*extent, degree*; WH.PROP
Manner	*way, method*; WH.MAN
Reason	*reason, rationale*; WH.REAS

7.4.3 | Demonstrative

Demonstrative pronouns inflect for number, proximality, laterality, and deictic position. They express spatial and temporal position relative to the speaker.

They may modify a noun or pronoun, or stand on their own. They are placed after that which they modify.

	Ant.		*Post.*	*Prop.*	*Man.*
	Sin.	*Dex.*			
Prox.	tàá	kò	mɔɴ	jə́	wɔ́j
Med.	sáwhe	kàmeʔ	jéhə	jíɴ	kə̀ɴ
Dist.	kˀitɔ̀				

Figure 7.3: Demonstrative pronouns

Proximal	*able to be seen and heard by speaker*; PROX
Medial	*able to be seen by speaker and/or seen and heard by listener*; MED
Distal	*able to be seen by speaker; may be indistinct or non-visible*; DIST
Anterior	*in front of the speaker; associated with the past*; ANT
Sinister	*to the left of the speaker; associated with volitional events*; SIN
Dexter	*to the right of the speaker; associated with non-volitional events*; DEX
Posterior	*behind the speaker; associated with the future*; POST

Thus, the deictic space may be modeled as such:

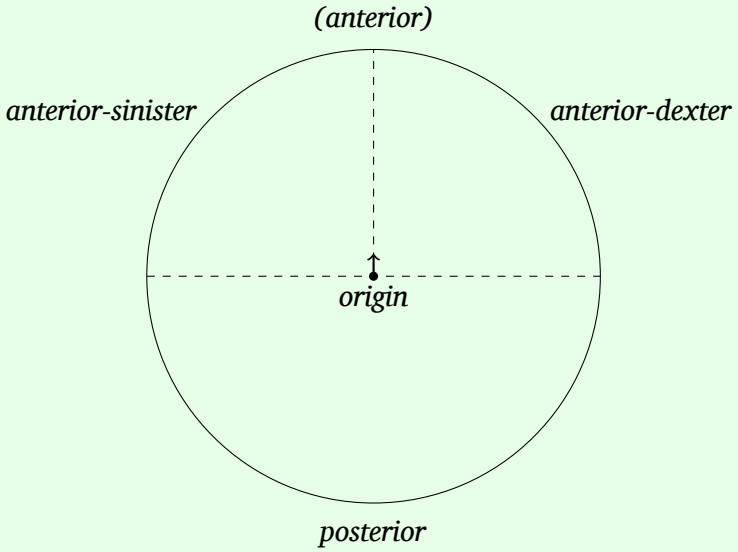

Figure 7.4: Deictic space

The laterally-neutral distal demonstratives kˀitɔ and tekí may be compounded with a medial or proximal sinister demonstrative (that matches in integrity) to form laterally-neutral medial and proximal demonstratives.

(4) tàákˀitɔ
tàá- kˀitɔ
DEM.ANT.SIN.PROX- DEM.ANT.DIST
this (in front of)

7.5 | Nominal inflections

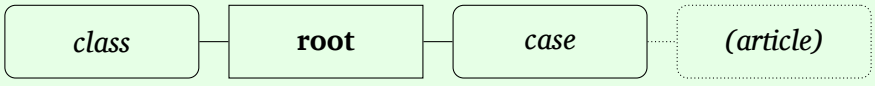

Figure 7.5: Nominal inflection slots

7.5.1 | Noun classes

Noun classes in Timah are separated into the groups *complete* and *incomplete*, which are associated with semantic wholeness or entirety of the noun (*see § 7.2*).

	Cmplt.		*Ncmplt.*
	Anim.	*Inan.*	
Stbl.	∅-	kaw-, kɔ-	wí-
Nstbl.	tɔ-	jé-	
Pnstbl.	na(ɴ)-	∅-	

Figure 7.6: Noun classes

7.5.2 | Cases

Case in Timah expresses syntactic roles and relations.

	Cmplt.	*Ncmplt.*
Agt.	-∅	-ɴ-(◌́)
Pat.	-h	-h-(◌́)
Erg.	-ʔ	-ho
Assoc.	-wɔ	
Loc.	-tɕó	-je

(a) Open

	Cmplt.	*Ncmplt.*
Agt.	-∅	-té
Pat.	-si	-séɴ
Erg.	-kʔi	-kʰo
Assoc.	-kɔ	
Loc.	-tɕó	-se

(b) Closed

Figure 7.7: Cases

Agentive	*In active-stative clauses (see § 5.2), this marks the subject of a multivalent verb (see § 8.3) or the subject of a volitional monovalent verb. In ergative-absolutive clauses, this marks the object of a multivalent verb or the subject of a monovalent verb*; AGT
Patientive	*In active-stative clauses, this marks the object of a multivalent verb or the subject of a non-volitional monovalent verb*; PAT
Ergative	*In ergative-absolutive clauses, this marks the subject of a multivalent verb. This can also be used as an inalienable genitive*; ERG
Associative	*This marks genitive and genitive-like relations, which can be further clarified using postpositions*; ASSOC
Locative	*This marks physical and/or temporal location and movement that can be further clarified using postpositions*; LOC

The *associative* and *locative* cases, collectively called *peripheral cases*, may be accompanied by a postposition (*see § 7.6*). In isolation, the associative takes the meaning of an alienable genitive (in contrast to the ergative, which may have an inalienable genitive meaing) and the locative takes on the meaning of a general locative or temporal (i.e., marking place or time).

7.5.3 | Article enclitics

Article enclitics in Timah inflect for referentiality, visibility, and probability. They attach as enclitics to the final element of their head phrase.

	Ref.		*Nref.*	
	Vis.	*Nvis.*	*Vis*	*Non-visible*
Stbl.	=mɔ́ɔ	=haN	=∅	=tˀéʔ
Nstbl.	=mé			=tɕáá
Pnstbl.	=já			=kʰɔɔ

Figure 7.8: Article enclitics

Referentiality

Referential	*a specific instance of the class comprised of the given entity*; REF
Non-referential	*any instance of the class comprised of the given entity*; NREF

Visibility

Visible	*entity can be seen*; VIS
Non-visible	*entity cannot be seen*; NVIS

7.6 | Postpositions

The two types of *postpositions* in Timah are those of *association* and those of *location*. These types are directly related to the *associative* and *locative* noun cases, as the postpositional peripheral must take the respective case of its postposition.

Associative

lí	*accompaniment/use; basic theme of trivalent verb*; with
kˀe	*lack of accompaniment/use; negatory theme of trivalent verb*; without
kʰɔno	*intent of benefit/purpose; beneficial/purposive theme of trivalent verb*; for
sì	*intent of reference/relation*; for
tɕé	*state of being*; as
kʰò	*change of state; causation*; to
míh	*similarity/comparison*; like

Locative

tí	*movement toward*; toward
sʰì	*movement away from*; from
mí	*movement onto*; onto
tɕɔ̀ɔ	*movement under*; under
tʰìsé	*movement into*; into
siiʔi	*movement out of*; from
kaɴʔɔ	*movement through, by way of, adjacent to*; via
soʔa	*in front of/below/before*; before
sàkə	*behind/above/after*; after
seeʔá	*between, amidst, within*; between
sɔtʰe	*surrounding, around, encompassing*; around

7.7 | Noun reduplication & quantification

Many nouns (including pronouns) may optionally be fully reduplicated and attached to their root (i.e., |~ω|) to indicate plurality or intensity. Reduplication to mark plurality is never used when a numeral is used to quantify the root noun.

(5) tɕɔ̀ʔi
tɕɔ̀ʔi
person
a person

(6) tɕɔ̀ʔitɕɔ̀ʔi
tɕɔ̀ʔi ~tɕɔ̀ʔi
person ~person
people

In some nouns, full reduplication may also be used to derive mass nouns.

(7) hòɴ
hòɴ
dog
a dog

(8) hòɴhòɴ
hòɴ ~hòɴ
dog ~dog
a pack of dogs

Plural reduplication can be used in tandem with integrity (*see § 7.2*) in order to quantify the arguments of a verb. Marking an argument as both plural and complete indicates that all participants performed the action together; marking an argument as both plural and incomplete indicates that each of the participants performed the action separately.

(9) ketehketeh tə́lajkála

∅-	keteh	~keteh	-∅	tə́=	laj-	kála	-∅
CMPLT.ANIM.STBL-	child	~child	-AGT.CMPLT	3.CMPLT.ANIM.AGT=	PFV.REAL-	fish	-AV

the children all went fishing (collectively)

(10) wíketehketehté sálajkála

wí-	keteh	~keteh	-té	sá=	laj-	kála	-∅
NCMPLT-	child	~child	-AGT.NCMPLT	3.NCMPLT.AGT=	PFV.REAL-	fish	-AV

the children each went fishing (individually)

8 | Verbs

8.1 | Verbal limitives

Verbal limitives consist of a set of content words that cannot be used as nouns. See App. B for a list. Some verbal limitives can be used in tandem with other verbs to form a *serial verb construction* (*see § 8.8*).

8.2 | Verbal negation

Verbs are negated by appending a negatory particle (*see § 11.3*) before the negated verb. The verb must be in an irrealis mood (*see § 8.6.6*). As negatory (as well as affirmatory) particles inherently indicate evidentiality, evidential modality (*see § 8.6.6.1*) is dropped.

(11) ləlajkála
lə= laj- kála -∅
1.AGT= PFV.REAL- fish -AV
I went fishing

(12) kə́j ləhajkála
kə́j lə= haj- kála -∅
NEG.BAS 1..AGT= PFV.IRR- fish -AV
I did not go fishing

8.3 | Valency classes

There are four main valency classes in Timah: *avalent*, *monovalent*, *ambivalent*, and *polyvalent*.

Avalent	*zero arguments*; AVAL
Monovalent	*zero or one arguments*; MVAL
Ambivalent	*one or two arguments*; BVAL
Subvalent	*one or two arguments, see § 8.3.1*; SVAL
Polyvalent	*two or more arguments*; PVAL

Ambivalent and polyvalent verbs that take exactly two arguments are grouped as *divalent* (DVAL), polyvalent verbs that take exactly three arguments are grouped as *trivalent* (TVAL), and ambivalent and polyvalent verbs that take two or more arguments are grouped as *multivalent* (MTVAL). These terms (*divalent*, *trivalent*, *multivalent*) are used only in analysis and metagrouping.

Copulae (*see § 8.9*) are considered monovalent.

8.3.1 | Subvalency & salience

Some verbs are classed as *subvalent*. Although these verbs may take up to two arguments, the argument that would prototypically be the object is demoted to the peripheral argument, called the *subvalent peripheral*. This demotion is motivated by the property of *salience*, or how much the object is affected by the subject. Verbs with less salient objects tend to be subvalent.

The subvalent peripheral is put in the locative case (*see § 7.5.2*) and takes the postposition tí (*see § 7.6*). When negated, the postposition s^{h}ì is used instead. There is no verbal agreement for the subvalent peripheral.

Colloquially, the subvalent peripheral may be treated as the object (i.e., as if the verb *were not* subvalent) to express that it *was* strongly affected. Inversely, the object of an ambivalent verb may be treated as the subvalent peripheral (i.e., as if the verb *were* subvalent) to express that it *was not* strongly affected.

(13) *tɕɔ̀ʔihmɔ́ɔ lətéhk^{h}ajtè

*∅-	tɕɔ̀ʔi	-h	=mɔ́ɔ	lə=	téh=	
*CMPLT.ANIM.STBL-	person	-CMPLT.PAT	=REF.VIS.STBL	1.AGT=	3.CMPLT.ANIM.PAT=	
∅-	k^{h}ajtè	-∅				
NPFV.REAL-	see	-AV				

*I see the person (*colloq.* and the person was affected)

(14) tɕɔ̀ʔitɕó tímɔ́ɔ lək^{h}ajtè

∅-	tɕɔ̀ʔi	-tɕó	tí	=mɔ́ɔ	lə=	∅-	k^{h}ajtè
CMPLT.ANIM.STBL-	person	-CMPLT.LOC	toward	=REF.VIS.STBL	1.AGT=	NPFV.REAL-	see
-∅							
-AV							

I see (toward) the person

8.4 | Volitional classes

Verbs are inherently classed as either *volitional* or *non-volitional*. These classes determine the case of the subject in monovalent verbs in active-stative-aligned clauses. They denote inherent intent of the agent, regardless of the situational intent. They directly affect alignment (*see § 5.2*).

Volitional	*denotes an action that is intentionally performed*; VOL
Non-volitional	*denotes an action that is unintentionally performed*; NVOL

8.5 | Verbal reduplication

Reduplication is more prominent in verbs than in nouns. Full reduplication of the root can optionally be used to indicate greater intensity, but partial reduplication is used in verbal paradigms.

`TODO` example sentences

|σ_{i}~| indicates prefixial reduplication of the initial syllable, and |~σ_{f}| indicates suffixial reduplication of the final syllable.

8.6 | Verbal inflection

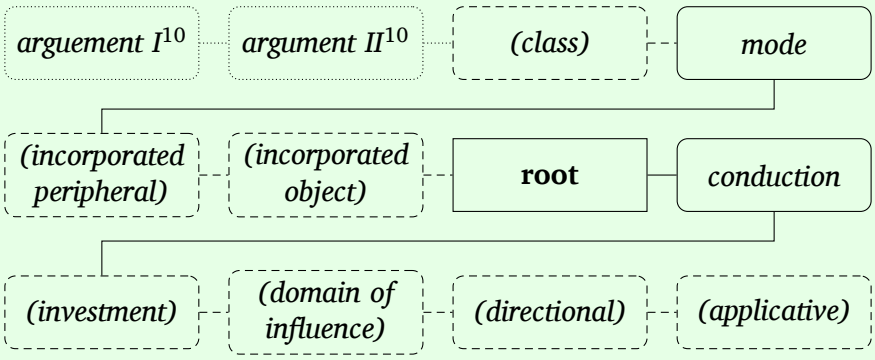

Figure 8.1: Verbal inflection slots

In dependent clauses, verbs are *deranked*—they take a more limited inflection template.

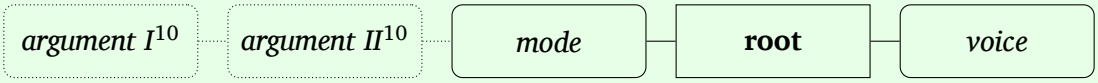

Figure 8.2: Deranked inflection slots

Copulae also take more limited inflection.

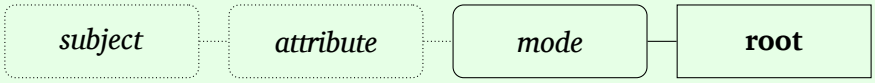

Figure 8.3: Copular inflection slots

8.6.1 | Pronominal proclitics

Pronominal proclitics are obligatorily appended to verb phrases and must agree with their respective argument. Pronouns are dropped when pronominal proclitics are present.

			Agt.	*Pat.*	*Erg.*
1st			lə=	le(h)=	jə́(ɴ)=
2nd			nɔ́=	nɔ=	
3rd	*Cmplt.*	*Anim.*	tə́=	té(h)=	tɕà(ɴ)=
		Inan.	ha(ɴ)=		
	Ncmplt.		sá=		kí(ɴ)=

Figure 8.4: Pronominal proclitics

[10]The role (subject or object) of an argument slot is dependent on the empathy hierarchy (*see § 5.2*). Additionally, pronominal proclitics are optional when the corresponding argument is not present.

Additionally, there is a set of pronominal proclitics that fuse 1st and 2nd persons. In fig. 8.5, AGT›PAT and ERG›AGT.

		Agt.	
		1st	*2nd*
Pat.	*1st*	×	nə̀ə̀=
	2nd	lo(ɴ)=	×
Erg.	*1st*	×	jə̀w=, jú=
	2nd	naa=	×

Figure 8.5: Polypersonal pronominal proclitics

8.6.2 | Noun incorporation

In certain verbs, object and peripheral nouns may be *incorporated*, or attached, onto the verb. The incorporated noun may be phonologically reduced or even undergo suppletion.

When an object noun is incorporated, the meaning of the phrase becomes more general, e.g., he chops the tree (a specific tree) vs. he chops trees (as a profession, in general). Furthermore, an incorporated noun is never in focus, allowing other parts of the statement to be emphasized.

Likewise, incorporated peripheral nouns are never in focus, but do not necessarily generalize the phrase. Incorporation of peripheral nouns, especially instruments, is common.

Additionally, the incorporated noun may optionally be marked with a noun class prefix (*see § 7.5.1*). If it is a peripheral object, it may take an associative or locative case marker. The incorporated noun is not marked for anything else.

TODO example sentences

8.6.3 | Conduction

The property of *conduction* in Timah expresses both *voice* and *bias*. Voices are symmetric, i.e., they do not alter the valency of the verb, only the arguments' roles. *Bias* describes the arguments' roles in relation to their rank in the empathy hierarchy (*see § 5.2*).

	Dir.	*Inv.*
AV	-∅	-jì
UV	-tá	-tɕè
CV	-mɔ́tè	

Figure 8.6: Conduction

Voice

Actor voice	*the subject is the agent, the object is the patient*; AV
Undergoer voice	*the subject is the patient, the object is the agent*; UV
Correlative voice	*the agent/patient distinction of the subject (and object) is reduced*; CV

Bias

Direct	*the subject outranks the object*; DIR
Inverse	*the object outranks the subject*; INV

The *correlative* voice is often used for reflexive constructs, but can also be used for reciprocal constructs.

TODO explain

(15) ləmólámɔ́tè
lə= ∅- mólá -mɔ́tè
1.AGT= NPFV.REAL- wash -CV
I wash myself

(16) lələmólámɔ́tè
lə= lə= ∅- mólá -mɔ́tè
1.AGT= 1.AGT= NPFV.REAL- wash -CV
we wash ourselves

(17) ləlemólámɔ́tè
lə= le= ∅- mólá -mɔ́tè
1.AGT= 1.PAT= NPFV.REAL- wash -CV
we wash each other

8.6.4 | Investment

The property of *investment* indicates that the subject has or does not have some sort of interest or stake pertaining to the action, e.g., give (uninvested) vs. loan (invested). With concrete stems, investment indicates an interest in the result of the action; with abstract stems, it indicates an interest in the action itself.

-∅	*uninvested*
-tɕà	*invested*; INVST

8.6.5 | Domain of influence

In Timah, *domain of influence* describes the area in which the object is able to be affected by the subject. With certain verbs this is fairly straightforward, e.g., sensory verbs—the domain of influence describes the area in which the subject can sense the object.

Verbs inflect for the presence of the object inside or outside the domain of influence of the subject.

◌́-N, -náʔ	*inside the domain of influence*; ∈DOI
-lɔ́ɔ̀	*outside the domain of influence*; ∉DOI

Only multivalent verbs in either the actor or undergoer voices may be marked for domain of influence, i.e., avalent and monovalent verbs, and verbs in the correlative voice may not take domain of influence marking.

When verbs in which the object is understood to be inherently inside or outside the domain of influence take domain of influence marking, it indicates the success or failure of the verb.

(18) hòɴmɔ́ɔ jáɴtálajʔanálɔ́ɔ̀

∅- hòɴ -∅ =mɔ́ɔ jə́ɴ= tá=
CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- dog -CMPLT.AGT =REF.VIS.STBL 1.ERG= 3.CMPLT.ANIM.AGT=
laj- ʔaná -∅ -lɔ́ɔ̀
PFV.REAL- hit -AV -∉DOI

I (tried to) hit the dog (and failed)

In abstract stems, the domain of influence instead describes the perceived attainability of the object (i.e., the subjective probability of it being able to enter the domain of influence).

(19) hòɴsi lətéhɔnɔ́ɴ

∅- hòɴ -si =∅ lə= té= hɔnɔ́
CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- dog -CMPLT.PAT =NREF.VIS.STBL 1.AGT= 3.CMPLT.ANIM.PAT= want
-∅ -ɴ
-AV -∈DOI

I want a dog (and believe this to be attainable)

(20) hòɴsi lətéhɔnɔ́lɔ́ɔ̀

∅- hòɴ -si =∅ lə= té= hɔnɔ́
CMPLT.ANIM.STBL- dog -CMPLT.PAT =NREF.VIS.STBL 1.AGT= 3.CMPLT.ANIM.PAT= want
-∅ -lɔ́ɔ̀
-AV -∉DOI

I want a dog (and believe this to be unattainable)

8.6.6 | Modals

Mode (which expresses both *mood* and *aspect*) are obligatorily marked on a verb using prefixes. All moods (expressive, basic, and evidential) are collectively called *modals*.

	Imperfective	*Habitual*	*Perfective*	*Experiential*	*Iterative*
Realis	∅-	kˀa(ʔ)-	laj-, le-	jíhi-	σ_i~kˀa(ʔ)-
Affirmative	~σ_f	kˀa(ʔ)-√~σ_f	laj-√~σ_f, le-√~σ_f	jíhi-√~σ_f	σ_i~kˀa(ʔ)-√~σ_f
Irrealis	tɔ(ʔ)-	tew-, tə-	haj-, he-	já-	σ_i~tew-, σ_i~tə-
Conditional	ʔo-		né(h)-		
Hypothetical	tàj-, tè-		kʰà-		σ_i~tàj-, σ_i~tè-

Figure 8.7: Mode

The *realis* and *affirmative* moods, and *evidential* modals are classed as *realis*; the *irrealis*, *conditional*, and *hypothetical* moods, and *expressive* modals are classed as *irrealis*.

With realis modals, concrete stems are prototypically used; with irrealis modals, abstract stems are prototypically used. This trend may be inverted to indicate TODO reasons.

Mood

Realis	*event is known to be real*; REAL
Affirmative	*event is emphasized as being real*; AFF
Irrealis	*event is unknown or unreal*; IRR
Conditional	*event is dependent upon other events*; COND
Hypothetical	*event is unknown or unreal, but possible*; HYP

Aspect

Imperfective	*event is incomplete*; NPFV
Habitual	*event is repeated within multiple timeframes*; HAB
Perfective	*event is complete*; PFV
Experiential	*event is experienced*; EXP
Iterative	*event is repeated within a single timeframe*; ITER

8.6.6.1 | Evidential modals

Evidential modals optionally mark four levels of evidentiality (as well as a *quotative*), which express how the information was gathered. Evidentiality markers are placed before their head verb. They are classed as *realis*.

TODO example sentences

kʰekʰì	**Witness**; *knows of event directly*; WIT
sə́sɔɴ	**Evidential**; *knows of event via evidence*; EVID
tɔɴke	**Anecdotal**; *knows of event via prior experience(s)*; ANEC
mɔ́hɔ	**Reportative**; *knows of event indirectly*; REP
ʔaj	**Quotative**; *marks quoted speech, dialogue; can be used with other evidentials*; QUOT

8.6.6.2 | Expressive modals

There are five moods in Timah that are independent from basic moods. These are called *expressive moods*, and are placed at the beginning of a clause. They are classed as *irrealis*.

TODO example sentences

tɕɔ́	**Imperative**; *commands, wishes, desires*; IMP
sʰa	**Interrogative**; *questions, requests*; INT
təj	**Polar**; *yes/no questions; tag questions*; POL
kì	**Precative**; *polite requests and commands*; PREC
tˀɔ́ɴ	**Suggestive**; *suggestions, admonitions, warnings*; SUG

The *interrogative* marker sʰa may be used in tandem with an interrogative pronoun (*see § 7.4.2*).

8.6.6.3 | Conditionals

Conditionals are formed by using a statement in the conditional mood (the *consequence*) in tandem with a statement in another mood (the *condition*). The statements are always separated by a conjunction (*see § 8.6*), and may be in either order depending on topic and focus (*see § 16.1*).

Implicative	REAL + teɴ; *basic factual conditional*
Emphatic	AFF + teɴ; *the consequence is emphasized*
Counterfactual	IRR + motó; *the condition is considered unlikely*
Predictive	HYP + motó; *the condition is considered likely*

8.6.7 | Directional specifiers & applicatives

The *venitive* and *andative* suffixes, collectively called *directional specifiers*, are commonly used with verbs of movement, such as wə́ move, walk, sʰɔj carry, give/take, and others.

TODO example sentences

-tí	**Venitive**; *motion toward, with*; VEN
-sʰì	**Andative**; *motion away from, against*; AND

Applicatives are argument-affecting operations that switch the syntactic position of the peripheral with that of the object. They are formed by appending an applicative suffix after the verb, which can be used in tandem with a directional specifier in order to express direction or efficiency.

TODO example sentences

-lí	**Relational**; *accompaniment*; REL
-kʰòɴ	**Beneficial**; *intent of benefit/purpose or reference/relation*; BEN
-tˀɔʔ	**Causal**; *causation, final causation*; CAUS
-mîì	**Complemental**; *similarity/comparison, state of being*; COMP
-tɕò	**Locational**; *physical or temporal location and movement*; LOCL

The applicatives -lí and -kʰòɴ may be used to invert the secundative construction (*see § 5.1*), making it indirective. This allows the theme to be relativized (*see § 5.1.1*).

Further specifications can be made by supplementing the applicative suffix with a postposition (*see § 7.6*) placed after the object.

8.7 | Verbal classifiers

Verbal classifiers are used with certain verbs to describe characteristics of the object, specifically integrity as well as *category*. It is most often used with verbs of handling.

TODO example sentences

	Complete		*Incomplete*
	Animate	*Inanimate*	
Standing	ʔi-	tàj-, tè	sahi-
Sitting	maa-		mií-
Lying	tɕè-	tí(ɴ)-	
Generic	kˀə́j-, kˀí-		ʔɔj-, ʔə-

Figure 8.8: Verbal classifiers

Standing	*entity is taller than it is wide*; STA
Sitting	*entity is as tall as it is wide*; SIT
Lying	*entity is wider than it is tall*; LNG
Generic	*unspecified category*; GEN

8.8 | Serial verb constructions

A *serial verb construction* (SVC) in Timah is a verb phrase that contains two or more verbs that, within the context of their clause, share the same inflections and one or more arguments. They may be *continuous* (the constituent verbs are placed adjacent to each other) or *discontinuous* (the constituent verbs are separated by an argument.)

Continuous SVCs obligatorily share the same subject and object, while *discontinuous* SVCs only obligatorily share the same subject (i.e they may take different objects).

TODO expand on specific SVCs

8.8.1 | Perceptive

Perceptive SVCs are always discontinuous, and express sensory interaction.

8.8.2 | Directive

Directive SVCs may be either continuous or discontinuous, and express movement or position.

8.8.3 | Capacitive

Capacitive SVCs are always continuous, and express ability, attitude, or causality.

8.9 | Copulae

Timah *copulae* are a subset of verbal limitives that are used to connect arguments.

Copulae only inflect for person and mode (*see §§ 8.6.1 and 8.6.6*). The constituent arguments within a copular phrase (i.e., the subject and attribute) both take the (unmarked) agentive case (the attribute agrees as the object in copular person agreement).

As noted in § 5.1, all copular phrases have *Subject-Copula-Attribute* word order. Copulae are always considered monovalent, although pronominal proclitics agree identically as in multivalent verbs (i.e., the attribute is treated as the object in terms of agreement).

Copulae are divided into three classes: *essential* (ESSNT), *existential* (EXIST), and *referential* (REF). These are further divided into the subclasses *assertive* (ASSRT), *negative* (NEG), and *revelatory* (REV).

	Essential	*Existential*	*Referential*
Assertive	kew	nénɴ	tʰə̀h
Negatory	kəlé	néjé	tʰə̀né
Revelatory	ʔowó		təjə́

Figure 8.9: Copulae

The essential copulae express nominal predication (be). The existential copulae express locational, existential, and possessive predication (be at, have). The location of existential copulae take the locative case; the verb does not agree for location (i.e., it is considered a peripheral).

The referential copulae, while traditionally classed as such due to how they pattern, do not act like the other two classes of copula. They may either refer to the inherent action of the subject or, if present, to the directly preceding verb (do). Additionally, referential copulae cannot refer to preceding copulae.

The assertive subclass expresses the basic form of the copula. The negatory subclass negates the copula. The revelatory subclass expresses surprise, doubt, and/or interest, and suppletes the assertive form of a copula when any irrealis modal is present (*see §§ 8.6.6, 8.6.6.1 and 8.6.6.2*).

9 | Descriptives

There are twelve descriptives (which function as adjectives or adverbs, or independently as formatives) in Timah. They are placed before their head. All descriptives may optionally be fully reduplicated to indicate greater intensity.

tɕʰànέ	*good, positive; full*
sìɴkà	*bad, negative; empty*
semɔ́ʔ	*fast; loud; hard, rough*
lɔ́	*slow; quiet; soft, smooth*
kʰɔkʔɔ	*big, strong; many*
tɕʰi	*small, weak; few*
sɔɴ	*short, wide; feminine*
ʔiɴ	*long, narrow; masculine*
tɕósʰa	*white, light; fresh, new*
káj	*warm (color); hot, dry*
sɔ̀tɕe	*cool (color); cold, wet*
tʰawsá	*black, dark; stale, old*

Order of descriptives is as listed from top to bottom, i.e., *quality-agility-magnitude-length-color*.

9.1 | Dyadic color terms

In addition to the four main color terms, there exists a set of terms that describe the transition from one color to another, called *dyadic color terms*.

		A			
		white	*warm*	*cool*	*black*
Ω	*white*	×	kétɕɔ́h	sɔ̀tɕʔáh	sʰátɕʰá
	warm	tɕókʰáj	×	sɔ̀kʔáj	sɔ́ké
	cool	tɕósə̀	kétɕʔə̀	×	tʰɔ́sɔ̀h
	black	tɕɔ́tʰɔ́	kétɕá	sɔ̀tɕʰéw	×

Figure 9.1: Dyadic color terms

9.2 | Comparison

Comparative constructions are formed by appending a postposition after the descriptive in a copular clause. The recipient of comparison is placed after the subject, i.e., *Subject-Recipient-Copula-Attribute*.

sʰì	*positive comparison*
míh	*equative comparison*
tí	*negative comparison*

(21) ketehmɔ́ɔ tɕɔ̀ʔitɕó sʰìmɔ́ɔ tə́kew tɕósʰa

∅-	keteh	-∅	=mɔ́ɔ	∅-	tɕɔ̀ʔi		
ANIM.STBL.CMPLT-	child	-AGT.CMPLT	=REF.VIS.SG	ANIM.STBL.CMPLT-	person		
-tɕó	sʰì	=mɔ́ɔ	tə́=	kew	tɕósʰa		
-LOC.CMPLT	from	=REF.VIS.SG	3.CMPLT.ANIM.AGT=	COP.ESSNT.ASSRT	new		

the child is younger than the man

Superlative constructions are formed by placing the quantifier séè all, every (*see § 11.4*) before the recipient, or using it in place of the recipient. Excessive constructions are formed by omitting the recipient entirely.

(22) ketehmɔ́ɔ séè (tɕɔ̀ʔitɕó) sʰì(mɔ́ɔ) tə́kew tɕósʰa

∅-	keteh	-∅	=mɔ́ɔ	séè	(∅-	tɕɔ̀ʔi	
ANIM.STBL.CMPLT-	child	-AGT.CMPLT	=REF.VIS.SG	all	(ANIM.STBL.CMPLT-	person	
-tɕó)	sʰì	=(mɔ́ɔ)	tə́=	kew	tɕósʰa		
-LOC.CMPLT)	from	=(REF.VIS.SG)	3.CMPLT.ANIM.AGT=	COP.ESSNT.ASSRT	new		

the child is the youngest of all (men)

(23) ketehmɔ́ɔ sʰì tə́kew tɕósʰa

∅-	keteh	-∅	=mɔ́ɔ	sʰì	tə́=		
ANIM.STBL.CMPLT-	child	-AGT.CMPLT	=REF.VIS.SG	from	3.CMPLT.ANIM.AGT=		
kew	tɕósʰa						
COP.ESSNT.ASSRT	new						

the child is very/too young

10 | Word formation

Word formation in Timah is achieved through the processes of *derivation* and *compounding*.

10.1 | Derivation

Derivation is possible by appending a descriptive onto a noun or verb as a prefix. Additionally, there exists a small closed class of various derivational affixes, as well as specific processes that utilize sound symbolism.

Prefixes

tɔ̀j-, tə-	*opposite, reverse*
tɕʰà(ʔ)-	*person, profession*
lə(h)-(◌́)	*place; time*
kósó-	*homorganic group/mass*
kʰe-	*heterorganic group/mass*
tɕá(ɴ)-(◌̀)	*prevent, stop, interrupt*
sáj-, sé-	*pretend, mimic, falsify*
sóo-	*cause, source*
ʔikà-	*expected accompaniment*

Suffixes

-tɕʔə́	*attempt, try*
-tàj	*product, result*
(◌́)-sɔ́h	*container, captivity, portation*
-kʔə́ʔ	*tool, instrument*
(◌̀)-sʔoo	*abstraction, mass*
-tɕáh	*animals, inedible plants*
-jə́h	*edible plants, food*
-kʔée	*pejorative, derogatory*

10.1.1 | Sound symbolism

Sound symbolism can also be used as a means of derivation, using processes of alteration.

Magnitude is associated with the process of *strength alteration*, wherein certain consonants are classed as either *strong* or *weak*. Strong forms are associated with greater magnitude, while weak forms are associated with lesser magnitude.

Strong		*Weak*
t*	↔	s*
tɕ*	→	
k*	↔	tɕ*
ʔ	↔	h

Figure 10.2: Magnitude

Movement is associated with the process of *nasal alteration*, wherein certain consonants are classed as either *oral* or *nasal*. Oral forms are associated with slower movement, while nasal forms are associated with faster movement.

Oral		*Nasal*
w	↔	m
l	↔	n
j	→	
-w, -j[11]	→	-N[11]
◌͡◌	←	

Figure 10.3: Movement

10.2 | Compounding

Compounding in Timah is divided into *coördinating* and *subordinating* compounding.

10.2.1 | Coördinating

In coördinating compounds, the elements are equal and may be in any order. These are formed by appending one word onto another.

TODO example

10.2.2 | Subordinating

In subordinating compounds, elements are order-dependent; each element is a subset of the following element. These are formed by appending the reduced form (if one exists) of a word before the word by which it is subordinated.

TODO example

[11] These are the coda phonemes /w j ɴ/.

11 | Function words

11.1 | Conjunctions

The two groups of conjunctions in Timah are *nominal* and *verbal*. *Nominal* conjunctions connect nouns, noun phrases, and descriptives; *verbal* conjunctions connect verbs and verb phrases, and can be used to introduce clauses.

Nominal

ní	*presents non-contrast*; NCNTRST.NML
ʔika	*presents contrast*; CNTRST.NML
teh	*presents alternative*; ALTRN.NML

Verbal

nəj	*presents non-contrast; introduces basic (dependent) clause*; NCNTRST.VRBL
teɴ	*presents rationale, causality; introduces causal (dependent) clause*; RATNL.VRBL
motó	*presents consequence; introduces consecutive (dependent) clause*; CNSQN.VRBL
ʔihi	*presents contrast*; CNTRST.VRBL
kàh	*presents alternative*; ALTRN.VRBL

11.2 | Satellite conjunctions

Conjunctions may be used initially or finally in a statement as discourse markers.

ní	*indicates weak affirmation of the statement*; WEAK_AFFIRM
ʔika	*inquires weak affirmation of the listener's experience*; WEAK_AFFIRM_LISTNR
teh	*indicates surprise, doubt, or interest toward the statement*; SURPRISE
nəj	*indicates strong affirmation and/or discourse-completion of the statement*; STRONG_AFFIRM
teɴ	*indicates agreement with the listener*; AGREE
motó	*inquires strong affirmation of the listener's experience*; STRONG_AFFIRM_LISTNR
ʔihi	*inquires contrast of the listener's experience to the speaker's statement*; CONTRAST
kàh	*requests more information from the listener*; INQUIRY

11.3 | Affirmatory & negatory

Affirmatory and *negatory* particles in Timah are used to affirm and negate statements, e.g., when answering a polar question. Various levels of evidentiality are expressed in them.

Affirmatory

sén	**Affirmatory-basic**; *affirms with no regard to evidence*; AFF.BAS
sʰè	**Affirmatory-witness**; *affirms via visual evidence*; AFF.WIT
sʰɔ̀	**Affirmatory-sensory**; *affirms via non-visual evidence*; AFF.SNS
sˀó	**Affirmatory-evidential**; *affirms via direct evidence*; AFF.EVID
tɕˀén	**Affirmatory-anecdotal**; *affirms via prior experience(s)*; AFF.ANEC
jɔ́n	**Affirmatory-reportative**; *affirms via indirect evidence*; AFF.REP

Negatory

káj	**Negatory-basic**; *negates with no regard to evidence*; NEG.BAS
kʰàj	**Negatory-sensory**; *negates via sensory/direct evidence*; NEG.SNS
sə́j	**Negatory-inferential**; *negates via direct evidence/prior experience(s)*; NEG.INF
wáj	**Negatory-reportative**; *negates via indirect evidence*; NEG.REP

11.4 | Quantifiers

Quantifiers are particles that indicate or delimit the amount of that which they modify.

kii	*none, no*
séè	*all, every*
sˀáw	*some, few*
notˀe	*many, most*
hakʰìn	*countable, finite*
sə̀ntóʔ	*uncountable, infinite*

11.5 | Extension

Extension in Timah describes temporal limitation on the two axes of *locus* and *restraint*. Extension particles may apply to formatives, limitives, descriptives (*see Ch. 9*), and conjunctions (*see § 8.6*). They are placed directly before their head.

	Retro.	*Protr.*	*Delim.*
Antmp.	né	kəsí	tɔ́
Postmp.	liísʰi	tɔ̀je	ʔɔjke
Cistmp.	tɕə́tì	sʰə̀ɴ	×

Figure 11.1: Extension

Locus defines the temporal beginning and end.

Retroäctive	*beginning is focused*; RETRO
Protractive	*end is focused*; PROTR
Delimitive	*both beginning and end are focused*; DELIM

Restraint describes the the point at which the locus is defined.

Antemporal	*locus is defined before the point of reference*; ANTMP
Postemporal	*locus is defined after the point of reference*; POSTMP
Cistemporal	*locus is defined during the point of reference*; CISTMP

When applied to limitives, formatives, and descriptives, extension is used to express when the entity starts and/or ends relative to the time of reference.

TODO example sentences

11.5.1 | Use with conjunctions

When applied to conjunctions, extension expresses the temporal relation between that which the conjunction modifies.

TODO example sentences

12 | Numerals

Timah uses a base-60 numeral system. This is not a pure base-60 system orthographically, as it uses base-12 as a sub-base to construct the constituent numeric symbols. There is no overt difference between cardinal and ordinal numbers. All numerals may be used as descriptives or as formatives.

0	ʔi	*12*	tɕíha	*24*	síɴ	*36*	sekɔ́	*48*	tʰàse
1	tʰè	*13*	tɕˀəə	*25*	koɴ	*37*	hino	*49*	sʰii
2	niɴ	*14*	náʔah	*26*	ʔəəha	*38*	sʰəə	*50*	sˀóo
3	kɔ	*15*	sʰa	*27*	tʰaà	*39*	tè	*51*	kʰɔ̀j
4	kʰì	*16*	sʰɔh	*28*	tòo	*40*	kˀɔ̀ʔ	*52*	lɔ́ʔeɴ
5	tɕʰajá	*17*	kʰeé	*29*	tɕəɴ	*41*	sómáɴ	*53*	tʰòɴ
6	soo	*18*	jo	*30*	sʰìh	*42*	hasʰè	*54*	tɕɔh
7	sə́h	*19*	tàɴʔa	*31*	sˀə	*43*	kè	*55*	sò
8	ʔɔsə	*20*	tɕʰà	*32*	nɔ́j	*44*	kʰo	*56*	taloh
9	kʰii	*21*	təkˀo	*33*	sàtɕíí	*45*	lato	*57*	jíli
10	tɕé	*22*	ʔətɕˀó	*34*	satɕaʔ	*46*	tɕəh	*58*	tʰɔ̀
11	ləha	*23*	tɔkʰo	*35*	tɕʰoɴ	*47*	sìitʰɔ	*59*	heɴtʰe

Figure 12.1: Numerals

12.1 | Higher & lower numerals

Higher numerals in Timah are formed by using a positional numbering system, wherein each consecutive slot ***n*** contains a numeral ***x*** and indicates $60nx$.

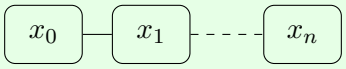

Figure 12.2: Higher numerals

12.1.1 | Numeric distributors

Numeric distributors may also be used to form higher numerals as well as *lower numerals*. They multiply or divide the numeral they are appended to by a set value.

-nii	*2*×	-jih	*2*÷
-kˀɔ́	*3*×	-kʰà	*3*÷
-kì	*4*×	-té	*4*÷
-tɕé	*5*×	-sì	*5*÷
-sˀo	*6*×	-hɔ	*6*÷

Numerals may be added and subtracted using the postpositions lí and kˀe (which are placed after their arguments), respectively.

13 | Units of measure

13.1 | Time

13.1.1 | Seasons

A year is divided into eight main seasons.

mólɔ́ló	*spring*
mii?ló	*late spring/early summer*
tɕii?ló	*midsummer*
kʰə̀?oló	*late summer/early autumn*
lóo?ló	*autumn*
níjɔ̀?ló	*late autumn/early winter*
wo?ɔ̀ló	*midwinter*
hə̀ló?ló	*late winter/early spring*

14 | Register terms & personal names

14.1 | Register terms

Register terms in Timah are used to describe the social relationship between people using the three properties of *status*, *age*, and *formality*.

	Inferior			*Equivalent*			*Superior*		
	Younger	*Equal*	*Elder*	*Younger*	*Equal*	*Elder*	*Younger*	*Equal*	*Elder*
Formal	tèhah		waj	kátɕʰè	sʰò	sʰəw	létɕaʔ	jóʔoh	sako
Polite	lɔj	tɕʰaw	tɕoo	sə́hkəh		woʔɔ	kʰemé	miiʔí	
Familiar		tɕʰɔsʰə	toʔa	kʰa		tʰìiʔɔj	tʰìtɕíɴ		tʰè
Pejorative		kəj		ketɕʰɔ̀			kʰèle		

Figure 14.1: Register terms

These terms can also be used to describe familial relations. Status corresponds to the position of kin in relation to one's generation, i.e., *inferior* corresponds to kin below one's generation, *equivalent* to kin within one's generation, and *superior* to kin above one's generation. Age corresponds to relative age, while formality corresponds to relative social status.

14.2 | Personal names

A *personal name* in Timah consists of many elements.

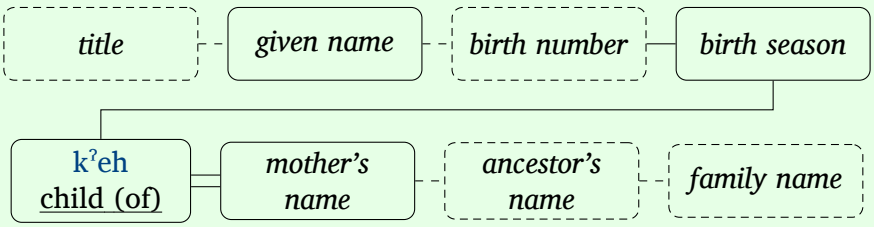

Figure 14.2: Personal name structure

Title	*an optional social title, often a register term and/or profession*
Given name	*one's given name*
Birth number	*an optional number corresponding to the birth order of oneself in relation to one's siblings (if one has siblings)*
Birth season	*the season of one's birth (see § 13.1.1)*
Mother's name	*one's mother's given name, always preceded by k[ʔ]eh*
Ancestor's name	*an optional ancestor's given name, real or mythical*
Family name	*an optional word or phrase that describes the family (e.g., a common family profession or a family descriptor)*

The elements «k[ʔ]eh (*mother's given name*)» may be repeated an arbitrary amount of times, each consecutive matriarch applying to the previous one.

15 | Ideophones

15.1 | Ideophonemes

There exists a set of phonemes in Timah that can appear only in ideophones. These are called *ideophonemes*, and they cannot cluster (i.e., codae /ʔ h ɴ w j/ may not precede them). Basic consonants can appear in ideophones, but ideophones are restricted to a reduced vowel inventory.

	Labial	*Alveolar*	*Dorsal*
Nasal	ᵐb	ⁿd	ᵑg~ŋ
Liquid	ʙ̥ ʙ		ʀ̥~χ ʀ~ʁ

(a) Pulmonic

	Dental	*Alveolar*	*Lateral*
Tenuis	ǀ	!	ǁ
Aspirate	ǀʰ	!ʰ	ǁʰ
Nasal	ᵑǀ	ᵑ!	ᵑǁ
Glottal	ᵑǀʔ	ᵑ!ʔ	ᵑǁʔ

(b) Non-pulmonic

Figure 15.1: Ideophonemes

Another notable feature of ideophones is that they are vocalically underspecified, i.e., ideophone roots consist only of consonants. Vowels may be inserted (respecting phonotactics) in order to convey meaning.

15.2 | Ideophones

There are three types of ideophones in Timah: *phonomimes*, *phenomimes*, and *psychomimes*. See App. D for a list of ideophones. Ideophones may function as descriptives or as formatives.

Phonomimes	*imitate sounds directly*; PHON
Phenomimes	*imitate sounds associated with tangible states and conditions*; PHEN
Psychomimes	*imitate sounds associated with intangible states and conditions*; PSYCH

Certain patterns of reduplication and vowel insertion have certain connotations when applied to ideophone roots.

Light vowels /i ə o/	*light, sharp, soft*
Heavy vowels /e a ɔ/	*heavy, blunt, rough*
Front vowels /i e/	*order, uniformity*
Central vowels /ə a/	*natural structure, innate form*
Back vowels /o ɔ/	*chaos, disformity*
Initial reduplication $\lvert\sigma_{i\sim}\rvert$	*reductive, diminutive, negative*
Final reduplication $\lvert\sim\sigma_{f}\rvert$	*casual, informal, playful*
Full reduplication $\lvert\sim\omega\rvert$	*intensive, augmentative, affirmative*
Lengthening	*general, associative*
Toneless	*natural measure, innate size*
High tone	*narrow, shallow; thin, tall*
Low tone	*wide, deep; fat, squat*

16 | Pragmatics

16.1 | Topic & focus

Topic and *focus* are important elements of discourse in Timah. Under certain circumstances (*see § 5.2*), the presence of explicit topic-fronting and/or focus-marking can change which alignment is used. Variably-aligned statements default to the active-stative alignment, but take the ergative-absolutive alignment when the speaker wishes to emphasize or topicalize the subject.

In general, the topic marks known or old information, while the focus marks unknown or new information.

16.1.1 | Topic & focus marking

The *topic* of a clause can be explicitly marked by changing the alignment of a variably-aligned clause to ergative-absolutive. In invariably-aligned clauses, the topic is explicitly marked by fronting the topicalized argument.

The topic strongly correlates to the subject of the clause, but this is not always the case. If the speaker wishes to emphasize the object, the arguments must be switched and the verb put into the undergoer voice (*see § 8.6.3*).

The *focus* of a clause can be explicitly marked by appending one of three *focus markers* before the head of the phrase containing the focus.

`TODO` example sentences, expand on topic/focus stuff

kˀitɔ̀	*focuses the entire phrase*
tàá	*focuses the head of the phrase*
kò	*focuses the dependents of the phrase*

The specific focus will always be intonationally emphasized.

17 | Speech registers

There exists many special *speech registers* in Timah. While identical in grammar, these registers differ in lexicon content and size.

Nuptial registers	*used by people who are or have been in an intimate relationship*
Internal subregister	*used when speaking directly to one's intimate partner*
External subregister	*used by people who are or have been in a relationship, with no regard to the status of the listener*
Avoidance subregister	*used when speaking to and around one's previous intimate partners*
Foreign registers	*used when around foreigners, i.e., non-Khokan people*
Positive subregister	*used when speaking to foreigners that are considered favorable by the speaker*
Negative subregister	*used when speaking to foreigners that are considered hostile by the speaker*
Vital registers	*used when hunting, gathering, and/or observing certain animals or plants*
Shallow subregister	*used when hunting and observing inherently terrestrial animals*
Deep subregister	*used when hunting and observing inherently aerial and/or aquatic animals*
Passive subregister	*used when gathering plants and collecting spoils*

`TODO` all of this

| Appendices

Within these dictionary appendices, entries are notated as «*word, (reduced form) : (inherent inflections/classes), function, definition*». Items in parentheses may not appear for all entries.

Entries followed by a superscript *NI NX NA FP FN VS VD VP* correspond to the nuptial internal, nuptial external, nuptial avoidance, foreign positive, foreign negative, vital shallow, vital deep, and vital passive registers, respectively (*see Ch. 14*).

TODO all of this

A | Nominal limitives

• tɕɔ̀ʔi (tɕʔè) : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* person, human, humanoid creature ‡ *cl.* people, all humanoids

• koɴ : (CONC, INAN, PNSTBL) *n.* place, location, area ‡ *cl.* places, locations

• keteh (kʔeh), tɕatih^{FP} : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* baby, offspring; child, young person ‡ *cl.* young (of an animal), offspring, products

• mɔwɔ : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* parent, guardian; elder person ‡ *cl.* parent, producers

• sisì (sʔiì) : (CONC, ANIM, PNSTBL) *n.* water, air; liquid, fluid; motion, movement ‡ *cl.* all fluids

• neh : (CONC, INAN) *n.* rock, stone, solid; immobility, inactivity ‡ *cl.* rocks, stones, natural solids; rigid body parts e.g., shells, bone, teeth, nails

• tɕì : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* animal, creature, beast ‡ *cl.* all wild terrestrial animals excluding insects

• tɕasí : (CONC, INAN) *n.* tree, plant; foliage, vegetation ‡ *cl.* all non-edible plants

• sóósa : (CONC, INAN) *n.* container, vessel, receptacle ‡ *cl.* all containers; all foods that can contain other food

• kʔə́ʔe : (CONC, INAN) *n.* tool, instrument, weapon ‡ *cl.* all tools, instruments, weapons; functional body parts e.g., appendages, sensory organs

• tʰìlɔ́ : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* body; flesh, meat (living); physical form; body language, behavior

• tʰèʔ : (CONC, INAN) *n.* corpse; flesh, meat (dead/raw); death ‡ *cl.* soft body parts e.g., flesh, hair, skin; all animal-derived foods

• kʰàtí : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* flesh, meat (cooked); meal, feast

• jə́hɔ : (CONC, INAN) *n.* fruit; edible plant; the flesh of a fruit; flower ‡ *cl.* all plant-derived foods; all flowers

• ʔolowí (ʔoló) : (ABSTR, ANIM) *n.* season, the division of a year; time ‡ *cl.* time, all temporal concepts

• ma : (ABSTR, INAN) *n.* word, symbol, name; writing ‡ *cl.* all symbols, names

B | Verbal limitives

• wə́ : (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *n.* move, walk, come/go

• mə́ : (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *n.* run, move quickly; jump, leap

• sʰɔj : (CONC, VOL, PVAL) *n.* carry, give/take

• niwi : (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *n.* consume, eat, drink

• tɕɔ́j : (ABSTR, VOL, PVAL) *n.* speak, write, communicate

• kʰajtè : (ABSTR, VOL, SVAL) *n.* hear, see, directly sense; read, understand

• hasì : (ABSTR, VOL, SVAL) *n.* smell, taste, indirectly sense

• jékɔ : (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) *n.* feel, sense; know

• seʔmɔ́ : (ABSTR, VOL, PVAL) *n.* make, cause, do

• kʰo : (ABSTR, NVOL, AVAL) *n.* occur, happen, exist

• hɔnɔ́ : (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) *n.* want, desire, wish

| m

• mísʰoh : (ABSTR, ANIM) *n.* aversion, repulsion, disgust ‡ (ABSTR, NVOL, BVAL) *v.* be averse, repulsed, disgusted

• melə (mii) : (CONC, INAN) *n.* bread; food made from grain; grain ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v.* prepare/eat bread; prepare grain

• mtóósa (máh) : (CONC, INAN) *n.* book, writing; collection of words ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* read; write

• mólá : (CONC, INAN) *n.* wave, gust; flow, movement, direction ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* make wet; wash, clean; push, move

| n

• níjò : (ABSTR, ANIM) *n.* awareness of something dangerous, premonition; warning, caution, advice; omen, prophecy; foresight ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) *v.* warn, caution, advise; prophesize, foresee, predict

• ntɕè : (CONC, INAN) *n.* solid food ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v.* prepare solid food

• nɔ́mɔ (nɔ́ɴ) : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* tooth; bite ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* bite, chew

| tʰ, t, tˀ

• tʰaʔwá (tʰáw) : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* yak, cow, dzo; wisdom, strength, power; work, effort ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* be a yak, cow, dzo; be wise, strong, powerful; (do) work, put effort into

• tkisʰáj (tiʔsé) : (CONC, INAN) *n.* hardness, durability, endurance ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* be/make hard, durable, enduring; improve, enhance, fix

• tɔɴlá : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* voice, sound; song, music ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, MVAL) *v.* make sound, music; sing

• tətɕìɴ (tɕˀîɴ) : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* eye, pair of eyes; sight ‡ (ABSTR, NVOL, SVAL) *v.* see, visually sense

| tɕʰ, tɕ, tɕˀ

• tɕʰàsˀah (tɕʰàʔ) : (CONC, INAN) *n.* that which is contained; injury ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* contain (within); incapacitate, debilitate

• tɕii : (CONC, INAN) *n.* sand, dust, gravel, grain; sugarcane, sugar, sweetness ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) *v.* separate, crumble; be particulate, granular; be sweet

• tɕóhkʰə̀ (tɕoh) : (CONC, INAN) *n.* milk, fat ‡ (CONC, NVOL, MVAL) *v.* be/have/drink milk; be fat

| kʰ, k, kˀ

• kʰə̀ : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* breast; fat ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* produce milk; nurture, care (for)

• tɕʰkʰòo : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* fingers, hand, arm ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) *v.* touch, interact (with)

• kiʔəj (kˀii) : (CONC, INAN) *n.* boat, method of travel; transportation; trade, commerce; goods, cargo, something to be transported ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, PVAL) *v.* travel (by boat); transport; trade (goods)

• któhiᶠᴾ (mii) : (CONC, INAN) *n.* any grain, cereal or pulse; bread ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v.* grow/harvest grain

• kála (kɔ́ɔ) : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* fish; conspiracy, scheme ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v.* fish, go fishing; conspire, scheme

• kˀètɕˀè (jáɴ), jáɴ[NI] : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* friend, spouse; expected accompaniment; friendship, relationship ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) *v.* accompany; be in a relationship

| ʔ

• ʔelə́w (lóo) : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* squamate reptile, lizard, snake; tail; self-amputation (of an appendage) ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* be a squamate reptile, lizard, snake; have/move/be a tail; self-amputate (an appendage)

• ʔəhee : (CONC, INAN) *n.* cold food; raw food; something to be made cold ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v.* prepare cold food; cool, make cold

• ʔaná : (CONC, INAN) *n.* injury, damage; sickness; immobility, laziness; rope ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* injure, damage; make immobile; be lazy; tie (up), bind, restrain

• ʔaɴko : (CONC, INAN) *n.* bed, place of rest; sleep, rest; dream, hallucination ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, MVAL) *v.* sleep, rest; dream, hallucinate

| sʰ, s, sˀ

• sènə́j (sə́j) : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* bear; fear ‡ (CONC, NVOL, MVAL) *v.* be a bear; be afraid

• setˀoʔ : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* river, moving body of water; narrow portion of material, strip ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* travel by river, moving body of water; make into narrow portions, strips

• sələn : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* intestines, that which is digested ‡ (CONC, NVOL, BVAL) *v.* digest, break down (naturally); dissolve

• sˀə́lə́w : (CONC, INAN) *n.* saraw plant, a squat wide-leafed plant used as material on which to write; the leaf of the saraw plant; any material on which one writes ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v.* harvest (the leaves of) a saraw plant; write

• sóo : (CONC, INAN) *n.* excrement, waste ‡ (CONC, NVOL, MVAL) *v.* excrete, produce waste

• sɔ̀jsi : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* hot food; cooked food; something to be made warm ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v.* prepare hot food; heat, make warm

| h

• hə̀lóo : (CONC, INAN) *n.* root; source, origin, cause; stability ‡ (ABSTR, NVOL, BVAL) *v.* be a source, origin; cause; be stable; stabilize

• hòɴ : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* dog, wolf, canine; any domesticated animal ‡ (CONC, NVOL, BVAL) *v.* be a dog; domesticate

• hój (hoj) : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* number, numeral; amount, quantity; group, collection ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, BVAL) *v.* count, enumerate, quantify; collect, amass

| w

• wìɴ : (CONC, ANIM, PNSTBL) *n.* rain, precipitation; tears ‡ (CONC, NVOL, AVAL) *v.* rain, precipitate; fall, come down, descend; cry, weep

• míɴwo : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* bird; flight; gossip ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v.* be a bird; fly; gossip

• wítɕʰə : (ABSTR, INAN) *n.* weakness, laziness ‡ (ABSTR, NVOL, MVAL) *v.* be weak, lazy

• wíini (wíi) : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* cat; cleverness, wit ‡ (CONC, NVOL, MVAL) *v.* be a cat; be clever, witty

• wíkən (wéɴ) : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* mouth, opening, orifice ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* hold in one's mouth, suck; fellate

• wə́wkʰo (wó?) : (CONC, INAN) *n.* that which is broken; breakage, damage, injury ‡ (CONC, NVOL, BVAL) *v.* break, damage, injure; be broken, damage, injured

• wónəj (wój) : (CONC, INAN) *n.* small amount; poverty ‡ (ABSTR, NVOL, MVAL) *v.* have few; be poor

• wolòh : (CONC, INAN) *n.* snow, ice, frost, cold water ‡ (CONC, NVOL, AVAL) *v.* snow, hail, rain coldly

| l

• lìjókʔo (lìjó?) : (CONC, INAN) *n.* face, flat surface; table ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* flatten, make flat; be flat; lay flat

• letʰitɕa (litɕʰa) : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* liquid food ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v.* prepare liquid food

• ləneh : (CONC, INAN) *n.* mountain, collection of rock/stone ‡ (CONC, VOL, BVAL) *v.* be/climb a mountain; stop, prevent

• lɔtɕʔə́ : (CONC, ANIM) *n.* rain ceremony ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v.* perform a rain ceremony

• lɔ́ɴlə (lɔ́ɴ) : (CONC, INAN) *n.* dumpling, dough; smallness, roundness; cuteness ‡ (CONC, VOL, MVAL) *v.* have/eat/prepare/be (a) dumpling(s), dough; be small and round; be cute

| j

• jon : (CONC, INAN) *n.* cave, dwelling; quiet, silence ‡ (ABSTR, VOL, MVAL) *v.* live in a cave; be quiet, silent

D | Ideophones