Modifiers of the Ishiculu language

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Some glossing abbreviations used in this chapter:

1. **Verb**-Object

   (1) *Tse-kiw-ioani-mbi ntało kitabu.*
   1PL-3SG-like-PST   CLF.7 book(7)
   'We used to like the book.'

2. Classifier-**Noun**

   (2) *i   ntochɣ*
   CLF.8 car(8)
   'the car(s)'

3. **Noun**-Adjective

   (3) *ntochɣ i-caca*
   car(8) 8-big
   'big car(s)'

4. Numeral-Classifier-**Noun**

   A numeral modifying a noun requires a classifier, which follows the numeral.

   (4) *nta   ntało kitabu*
   three CLF.7 book(7)
   'three books'

5. Demonstrative-**Noun**

   (5) *laba   ntało kitabu*
   these CLF.7 book(7)
   'these books'

6. **Noun**-Genitive

   (6) *ntało kitabu ce-mama*
        CLF.7 book(7) GEN-mother

        'mother's book(s)'

7. Preposition-**Noun**-Postposition

   Note that the presence of both prepositions and postpositions is uncommon, especially among VO languages.

   (7) *fu   Philadelphia tso*
        PREP.INT Philadelphia POST.ABL

        'from Philadelphia'

8. Preposition-Demonstrative-Numeral-Classifier-**Noun**-Adjective-Possessor-Postposition

   (8) *fu   laba nta u   conkei u-caca ce-John   tso*
        PREP.INT these three CLF.4 house 4-big GEN-John POST.ABL

        'out of these three big houses of John'

   (9) *Fu   u   conkei u-łoko tse-ke-ła-ki   Ari nta   ntało*
        PREP.INT CLF.4 house 4-red   1PL-have-CAUS-3SG Ari three CLF.7

        kitabu   ce-Mel
        book(7) POSS-Mel

        'We will give Ari Mel's three books in the red house.'