Chanya

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Contents

Chapter 1

Phonology

1.1 Vowels

IPA	Front	Back
Close	i	u
Near-close	ɪ	ʊ
Mid	e	o
Open-mid	ɛ	
Open	a	

Table 1.1: Vowels

Ortho	Front	Back
Close	i	u
Near-close	ì	ù
Mid	e	o
Open-mid	è	
Open	a	

Table 1.2: Vowel Orthography

/ɛ/ is realized as a more central vowel, somewhere between [ɛ] and [ɜ]. /e/ is realized most often as [ẹ], which rounds frequently to [ø] when following a syllable with a rounded consonant or vowel. [ø] is only partially rounded. /o/ is in free variation with [o~ọ~ɔ]. /u/ is realized, more often among natives, as [ʉ]. The dipthongs /oi/ and /ai/ are written <ó> and <í>, repsectively.

1.2 Consonants

	Labial		Alveolar	Postalveolar	Palatal	Velar	
	Regular	**Palatal**				**Regular**	**Palatal**
Nasal	m	mʲ	n ~ ɲ ~ ŋ				
Plosive	p b	pʲ bʲ	t d		ɟ	k g	kʲ gʲ
Fricative	f v		s z	ʃ ʒ	ɕ ʑ	x	xʲ
Affricate			ts	tʃ dʒ	tɕ dʑ		
Lateral			l		ʎ		
Approx					j		
Trill			r				

Table 1.3: Consonants

	Labial		Alveolar	Postalveolar	Palatal	Velar	
	Regular	**Palatal**				**Regular**	**Palatal**
Nasal	m	mj	n				
Plosive	p b	pj bj	t d			c g	cj gj
Fricative	f v		s z	š ž	šj žj	ch	hj
Affricate			ts	tš dž	tšj džj		
Lateral			l		lj		
Approx					y		
Trill			r				

Table 1.4: Consonant Orthography

Chanya has a number of palatal consonants, and has two letters for palatal-related consonants. The first letter is <y>, which is used to represent a /j/ sound, and the second is <j>, which is used to palatalize a sound (<pj> /pʲ/, <py> /pj/). /n/ is used to represent a general non-labial nasal sound. It is usually realized based on the position of the next consonant (/nt/ [nt], /nj/ [ɲj], /nk/ [ŋk]).

Chapter 2

Pronouns

2.1   Personal Pronouns

Chanya's system of personal pronouns is very complex and contains unusual grammatical features. The first unusual thing that pronouns do is mark both the subject and the object of a transitive verb, and the subject of an intransitive verb. The second unusual thing is that pronouns have forms based on definiteness. A definite pronoun acts as a standard pronoun, whereas an indefinite pronoun acts as a general or collective pronoun. Pronouns in Chanya are mostly ambiguous to number, with the exception of first-person indefinite pronouns (see table).

The third person singular indefinite pronoun is more or less equal to English's pronoun "one" ("one would think" or "if one were to _," etc). The first person plural indefinite pronoun acts as a collective pronoun. **1PL.DEF** and **1PL.NDEF** are pairs and have various uses. If one is in a buisness meeting, **1PL.DEF** refers to the members actually attending the meeting. In that same meeting, **1PL.NDEF** would most likely refer to the company as a whole. **1PL.NDEF**'s meaning is essentially always based on context. At a political rally, **1PL.DEF** refers to those participating, but **1PL.NDEF** most likely refers to the political party or nation as a whole.

With the exception of **1PL.NDEF**, pronouns are ambiguous to number but are generally assumed to be singular. A particle "ya" is inserted *before* the pronoun to mark it as specifically plural. Occasionally one might see "yèch" before a pronoun. This is an old-chanyan relic still used in some old stories or documents which marks paucal numbering.

Now, a table of pronouns. Subject on left, object on top:

	1s.def	**1pl.ndef**	**2s.def**	**3s.ndef**	**3s.def**	**3s.m.def**	**3s.f.def**
1s.def	yan	ecya	pan	ùran	marya	chan	chyan
1pl.ndef	yapí	eyc	pec	ùrec	marec	chèc	chyec
2s.def	yapas	epas	pas	ùpar	marpas	chapas	chyapa
3s.ndef	yanùra	era	pùro	ùra	mara	chùra	chjura
3s.def	yanas	eša	paša	ùmar	mar	char	chas
3s.m.def	yacha	echja	pacha	ùchar	mach	chas	chatsa
3s.f.def	yašja	ešja	pjasa	ùmach	mašja	chašj	chja

Table 2.1: Personal Pronouns

Chapter 3

Nouns

3.1   Copula