

# The Thiguka Language

June 2024

By Lemuria

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## About

Thiguka is a constructed language that Lemuria has continued to develop since April 2024. This contains a full description of Thiguka's grammar, ready for your reading pleasure.

## Glossing abbreviations

AGR ADJ is used for adjective agreement.

- (1) tu~gu-elo          tubi  
     AGR~ADJ-yellow water  
     'urine'

PROX is used for the proximal determiner.

MED is used for the medial determiner.

DIS is used for the distal determiner.

## Acknowledgements

Thank you for reading the Thiguka documentation.

There are some people who have (constructively) criticized Thiguka; the criticism I want and need to make Thiguka a better and more well-documented language.

So far the only person to offer any extensive criticism is Zethar of the Conlangs Discord Network; in June 2024, I took part in a translation relay that Zethar hosted. At the end of the contest I received about a page's worth of criticism, which I used to further improve Thiguka's documentation.

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**Part I**

**Language**



# Chapter 1

## Phonology

Perhaps one of the rarest characteristics of Thiguka phonology is its complete lack of phonemic nasals. Thiguka has 11 consonants, 6 vowels, and 6 diphthongs.

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Dental	Alveolar	Velar
Plosive	p, b			t, d	k, g
Fricative		f	θ	s	
Rhotic				r	
Lateral				l	

Table 1.1: Consonant Phonemes

	Front	Back
Close	i	u
Close-Mid	e	o
Open	a	ɑ

Table 1.2: Vowel Phonemes

Diphthongs	ai	ei	ui	au	ɑi	ia
------------	----	----	----	----	----	----

Table 1.3: Diphthongs

The [r] consonant is realized by Lemuria as the English approximant, however one may also pronounce it as a flap or trill if desired.

Thiguka inserts a glottal stop [ʔ] between vowels.

[ia] is very rare in a priori Thiguka words, being exclusively used for loanwords such as Enya (Elija).

### 1.1 Nasals

Thiguka completely lacks nasals. [n] is an allophone of [l], while [m] is an allophone of [b], and [ŋ] is approximated as any one of [lg g k l ɬ]. The chosen consonant differs depending on the context the velar nasal is in; for example, a speaker would not want to use [g] in for ‘fang’ [faŋ], because then they would be uttering a racial slur.

Table 1.4: Examples of nasal consonant approximations in Thiguka

English	English IPA	Thiguka	Thiguka IPA
Lemuria	[li.ˈmɜɹ.iə]	Liburija	[ˈli.bur.ia]
Enya	[ˈɛn.jə]	Elija	[ˈelia]
Lena Raine	[ˈlɛnə ˈreɪn]	Lela Reyl	[ˈlela reɪl]

## 1.2 Stress

Thiguka places stress on the first syllable of the root word. However, stress is not a phonemic feature in Thiguka, and English speakers speaking Thiguka with English stress rules will be readily understood.

## 1.3 Phonotactics

Thiguka syllable structure is (C)(C)V(C).

Words may not end in [k, r, l]. If due to loanwords, or conjugations the word ends up ending in these three forbidden consonants, either add a dummy -a suffix, or remove the offending consonant.

Words may not end in consonant clusters.

Two diphthongs separated by a single consonant are not allowed — \*aybay.

Vowels next to each other, that are not diphthongs, are pronounced with a glottal stop inserted between them.



## Chapter 2

# Grammar

Thiguka has an agglutinative grammar, a nominative-accusative case marking system, subject-verb-object word order, a tense-aspect system, a single copula with 37 irregular forms that inflect for time, person, and number, and a 38th irregular form that acts as a general-purpose copula.

### 2.1 Plurality

Plurality marking is optional. If the speaker does not know the quantity of a noun, they may simply omit it.

Table 2.1: Plurality

Plurality	Suffix
None (zero)	-pa
Singular	-sa
Dual	-gula
Plural	-elah

### 2.2 Case

Thiguka features six cases, with their own specific uses. Case marking is completely optional. A completely uninflected word is that word's dictionary form.

Table 2.2: Cases

Case	Suffix
Nominative	-pah
Accusative	-tay
Dative	-lay
Genitive	-pafay
Locative	-kala
Instrumental	-kithi

#### 2.2.1 Nominative

Nominative case is used in Thiguka to mark subjects.

- (2) Thaka-**pah** falusaya rifari-tay-elah  
1SG-NOM like music-ACC-PL  
“I like music.”

### 2.2.2 Accusative

Accusative case is used in Thiguka to mark objects.

- (3) Thaka-pah falusaya rifari-**tay**-elah  
 1SG-NOM like music-**ACC**-PL  
 “I like music.”

### 2.2.3 Dative

Dative case is used in Thiguka for the beneficiary of an action.

- (4) Thaka-pah pa-kalath-a Thiguka-tay kake-**lay**  
 1SG-NOM PFV-teach-FUT Thiguka-**ACC** 2SG-**DAT**  
 “I will teach you Thiguka.”

Both *kalaththa* and *kalatha* are valid future tense forms of *kalath* (“to teach”).

### 2.2.4 Genitive

Genitive case has only been used by Lemuria in his Thiguka writings, to indicate posession.

- (5) Kasa-pah gulaya Gahlia-**pafay** gahlirithi.  
 PROX.DET-NOM COP.3SG.PRS Gallia-**GEN** violin  
 “This is Gallia’s violin.”

### 2.2.5 Locative

Locative case is used for a location or a time something happened. It can be combined with the preposition *ifil*.

- (6) Pothu-pah pa-teligara-ta ifil Los Algeles-**kala** ifil literidilay-**kala**  
 3SG-NOM PFV-twitch.stream-PST in Los Angeles-**LOC** in yesterday-**LOC**  
 “She streamed on Twitch in Los Angeles yesterday.” (lit. “She streamed on Twitch in Los Angeles, in yesterday”)

### 2.2.6 Instrumental

Instrumental case is used to denote, in general, the methods through which the subject did something.

- (7) Pothu-pah pa-sapakalakesi-ta ka~gu-rifari kalakesi Lipset-**kithi** ifil Los Algeles-kala,  
 3SG-NOM PFV-graduate-PST AGR~ADJ-music school Lipsett-**INS** in Los Angeles-LOC  
 Kaliforlija-kala.  
 California-LOC.  
 “She graduated from the music school under Lipsett in Los Angeles, California.”

In this example, perhaps Lipsett had been “her” primary music teacher the whole time she was at the school.

## 2.3 Adjectives

Adjectives in Thiguka are placed before words. To attach an adjective to a word, the first syllable of the modified word, followed by *-gu-* should be prefixed to the adjective.

There is no enforced adjective order in Thiguka. Speakers may position adjectives as necessary to highlight particularly important qualities.

- (8) ri~gu-gulid      rifari  
 AGR~ADJ-good music  
 ‘good music’

Adjectives can be used as nouns too:

- (9) Pothu-pafay gu-gulid-pah      kufa      pelu-tay-elah      falusaya-sa      pothu-tay  
 3SG-GEN      ADJ-good-NOM allow person-ACC-PL admire-PRS 3SG-ACC  
 ‘Their greatness made them likeable.’ (Their goodness made people like them.)

Speakers may also choose to include additional syllables if multiple words begin with the same syllable.

- (10) Fulafata-sa, pafay-sa thi~gu-sapara thil-elah, alu ara~gu-li-saleyfata      arafat-elah alu  
 hike-PRS,      have-PRS AGR~ADJ-type thing-PL, and AGR~ADJ-NEG-occupation art-PL      and  
 fulahthi      lores      **lisu**~gu-furos li-lahkela li~gu-pera      **lisure**.  
 fun.make.thing-PL COP.3PL.PRS AGR~ADJ-fun NEG-make AGR~ADJ-money fun.activity.  
 ‘Hiking, having themed objects, and non-professional art are fun not-money-making hobbies.’

In this example, *furos* is modifying *lisure*, but to use *\*ligufuros* would have caused ambiguity due to the presence of *lilahkela* and *ligupera* in the sentence.

### 2.3.1 Modifying multiple words

To use a single adjective to modify multiple words, three approaches are possible.

The first method is to use the *gusi-* prefix, from the linking syllable *gu* and the relativizer *si*.

- (11) Si-gu-isa-safi,      thaka-pah ithefali ithere-tay      alu lahkela kolugeyle-tay-elah  
 REL-ADJ-one-th.odd 1SG-NOM browse internet-ACC and make video.game-ACC-PL  
 First, I browse the internet and make video games.

Either syllables of all the words modified can be included, or the adjective can be duplicated for each word that needs to be modified.

If including multiple syllables of the modified words, the order of the syllables must match the order in the sentence.

(Adapted from one of Zethar’s translations)

- (12) fu~gu-dalata      thaka-pah kas-gasari      alu filay-fulafata  
 AGR~AGR~ADJ-two 1SG-NOM CONTEM-action and with.cat-hike  
 Secondly, I practice and hike with the local cats.

In this sentence, *\*fukagudalata* would be incorrect as it is not presenting the adjectives in the order that they are being used in the sentence.

- (13) kagu-dalata thaka-pah kas-gasari alu fu~gu-dalata filay-fulafata  
 AGR~ADJ-two 1SG-NOM CONTEM-act and AGR~ADJ-two with.cat-hike  
 Secondly, I practice, and secondly, I hike with cats.

However, the approach of using the same adjective twice will cause a semantic change in meaning. It may simply be another thing that gets “lost in translation”.

It’s not clear what one needs to do for adjectives modifying more than one thing.

— Zethar, Ambagame<sup>3</sup>

## 2.4 Determiners

Thiguka has proximal, medial, and distal determiners. Determiners are placed before root words.

- (14) ka~gu-parthas kasa kaela  
 AGR~ADJ-pink.purple PROX.DET tree  
 ‘this sakura tree’
- (15) ka~gu-parthas saka kaela  
 AGR~ADJ-pink.purple MED.DET tree  
 ‘that sakura tree near you’
- (16) ka~gu-parthas asila kaela  
 AGR~ADJ-pink.purple DIS.DET tree  
 ‘that sakura tree’

## 2.5 Tense-aspect

Thiguka has a tense-aspect system.

Tense and aspect are optional. If tense and aspect are omitted, the verb becomes infinitive; or the time it took place becomes ambiguous, granting it time-independence.

- (17) katarila  
 outer.space.travel  
 ‘to travel through outer space’
- (18) ras-katarila-ta  
 ACCIDENT-outer.space.travel-PRS  
 ‘to have accidentally traveled through outer space’
- (19) ge-katarila-sa  
 PROG-outer.space.travel-PRS  
 ‘to be currently traveling through outer space’

## 2.6 Pronouns

Thiguka completely lacks gender distinction in pronouns, and has a clusivity distinction in first person pronouns.

Thiguka has no T-V distinction in pronouns. Politeness may be achieved by attaching positive adjectives to second-person pronouns, but this is discouraged and goes against Lemuria’s intentions.

Table 2.3: Tense

Tense	Suffix
Past	-ta
Recent past	-tu
Present	-sa
Future	-tha

Table 2.4: Aspect

Aspect	Prefix
Perfective	pa-
Perfect	fe-
Progressive	ge-
Imperfective	sa-
Contemplative	kas-
Accidental	ras-
Intentional	ka-

Table 2.5: Pronouns

person/number	First	Second	Third
singular	thaka	kake	pothu
plural		katake	rafu
inclusive plural	situ		
exclusive plural	pata		

## 2.7 Verbs

### 2.7.1 Morpheme order

For verbs, the order is as follows: Derivational prefixes, Negation or intensifiers, Aspect, Stem, Tense, Ad-verb suffixes

### 2.7.2 Transitivity

Thiguka's verbs will vary in transitivity. Early versions of Thiguka's Anki lexicon may not have sufficient transitivity tagging.

### 2.7.3 Stative verbs

Stative verbs can be expressed through a progressive verb.

A copula here like *gulaya* is optional.

- (20) Pothu-pah (gulaya) ge-parakala-sa gahlirithi-tay.  
 3SG-NOM (COP.3SG.PRS) PROG-learn-PRS violin-ACC  
 "She is learning the violin."

- (21) Pothu-pah ge-parakala-tha gahlirithi-tay.  
 3SG-NOM PROG-learn-FUT violin-ACC  
 "She will soon be learning the violin."

Once she's learned the violin, one can say:

- (22) Pothu-pah ge-kala-sa gahlirithi-tay.  
 3SG-NOM PROG-know-PRS violin-ACC  
 “She knows the violin.”
- (23) Pothu-pah ge-pafay-sa ka~gu-gahlirithi kala-tay.  
 3SG-NOM PROG-know-PRS AGR~ADJviolin knowledge-ACC  
 “She has knowledge of violins.”

## 2.8 Examples

Some examples of verbs will follow.

parakala (“to study; to learn; to receive knowledge”)

- (24) Pothu-pah ge-parakala-sa gahlirithi-tay Olifia-kithi.  
 3SG-NOM PROG-learn-PRS violin-ACC Olivia-INS  
 “She is learning the violin with Olivia.” (transitive, +instrumental)
- (25) Pothu-pah ge-parakala-sa gahlirithi-tay Beti-kithi ifil ka~gu-rifari kalakesi-kala ifil  
 3SG-NOM PROG-learn-PRS violin-ACC Betty-INS in AGR~ADJ-music school-LOC in  
 Sikago-kala.  
 Chicago-LOC  
 “She is learning the violin with Betty at a school in Chicago.” (transitive, +locative, +instrumental)
- (26) Pothu-pah ge-parakala-sa.  
 3SG-NOM PROG-learn-PRS  
 “She is learning.” (intransitive)

## 2.9 Template

Thiguka positions morphemes in a specific order, based on whether it is a noun or verb.

### 2.9.1 Noun

For nouns, the order is as follows: Derivational prefixes, Negation or intensifiers, Stem, Case, Adverb suffixes, Plurality.

### 2.9.2 Verb

For verbs, the order is as follows: Derivational prefixes, Negation or intensifiers, Aspect, Stem, Tense, Adverb suffixes

## 2.10 Derivation

Thiguka has multiple methods of taking in new words into its lexicon; such as compounding and the addition of derivational prefixes.

A few select examples of Thiguka derivational prefixes are:

1. fah-, agent prefix akin to English -er
2. ri-, intensifier
3. li-, negation

## 4. filay-, “in the presence of a cat”

(27) fah-katarila  
 AGT-space.travel  
 ‘space traveler’

(28) fah-filay-katarila  
 AGT-with.cat-space.travel  
 ‘one who travels through space with a pet cat’

(29) fah-filay-li-katarila  
 AGT-with.cat-NEG-space.travel  
 ‘one who does not travel through space with a pet cat’

## 2.11 Copula

Thiguka has a single copula with 38 irregular forms.

Table 2.6: Copula forms

Person	Past	Recent Past	Present	Future
1SG	lasata	lasatu	lasa	lasatha
1DU	lagulata	lagulatu	lagulasa	lagulatha
1PL	lelahtaw	lelahtaw	lelahsa	lelahtha
2SG	kaketa	katu	kasa	katha
2DU	kagulata	kagulatu	kagulasa	kagulatha
2PL	kelahta	kelahtu	kelahsa	kelahtha
3SG	gulata	gulatu	gulaya	gulatha
3DU	poguta	pogutu	pogusa	pogutha
3PL	lotares	lotures	lores	lotheres





## Chapter 3

# Orthography

Thiguka’s orthography is phonetic, and is as follows.

Table 3.1: Thiguka orthography

IPA	Letter
p	p
t	t
k	k
b	b
d	d
g	g
f	f
s	s
r	r
l	l
θ	th
a	a
e	e
i	i
o	o
u	u
ɑ	ah
ai	ay
ei	ey
ui	uy
au	aw
ɑi	auy
ia	ija

Thiguka follows English punctuation conventions.

Loanwords are respelled to fit this orthography. The native spelling can be provided after the loanword in a parenthesis, for example:

Lela Reyl (Ilgis: Lena Raine) gulaya tagu-Arika tarifari.

### 3.0.1 Proper nouns and hyphens

Proper nouns are capitalized, but if they are being attached to a word — treated as an adjective, the prefix that comes before the adjective is usually separated from the adjective by a hyphen: *tagu-Ayris*, not *\*Taguayris* or *\*taguAyris*.

Writers also have the option of placing hyphens between proper nouns and affixes. *Reyl-pah* and *Reylpah* are both correct. However, this should usually not be done for proper nouns: *\*kaela-taygula* outside of glosses.

## Chapter 4

# Lexicon

Thiguka, as of May 2024, has about 350 defined words, with slight bias towards Internet and music-related terminology.

Thiguka's full lexicon is available at <https://github.com/thiguka/lexicon> in both tab-separated values format and an Anki deck. A select few words from Thiguka's lexicon are as follows:

### 4.1 Swadesh-Yakhontov list

Because of the author's laziness and some holes in the lexicon, he is only able to provide a 35-word Swadesh-Yakhontov list below:

- |                          |                         |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. I — thaka             | 19. tooth — tutho       |
| 2. you (singular) — kake | 20. tongue — kageta     |
| 3. this — kasa           | 21. hand — aysi         |
| 4. who — kalisu pelu     | 22. know — kala         |
| 5. what — kalisu         | 23. die — dasay         |
| 6. one — isa             | 24. give — salath       |
| 7. two — dalata          | 25. sun — asalisa       |
| 8. fish — gothi          | 26. moon — luti         |
| 9. dog — aso             | 27. water — tubi        |
| 10. louse — lafauy       | 28. salt — salu         |
| 11. blood — rahsa        | 29. stone — sute        |
| 12. bone — bole          | 30. wind — lufah        |
| 13. egg — logi           | 31. fire — apay         |
| 14. horn — kipi          | 32. year — fasate       |
| 15. tail — taysa         | 33. current year — saro |
| 16. ear — eyla           | 34. full — hakath       |
| 17. eye — fathas         | 35. new — bage          |
| 18. nose — fothes        | 36. name — leyle        |

## 4.2 Unusual roots

Thiguka has some specific roots that many natlangs would need an entire sentence or even paragraph to describe. These roots are an extension of Lemuria's personality, condensing the things and concepts of significance to his life into one word.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. ketala — fear of being banned by a moderator on the Internet while asleep</li> <li>2. filay- — from English feline; prefix to indicate “with cat present”</li> <li>3. katarila — space travel; because Lemuria asked</li> </ol> | <p>someone (Catarina) in the Conlangs Discord Network too many questions about 3SG.GEN far-future world.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4. orielija — to sail away. Combination of Orinoco + Enya (whose name gets loaned as Elija due to Thiguka being a Lo Lasals Lalueg.)</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

## 4.3 Interesting etymologies

Thiguka has some specific roots with interesting etymologies.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. lirisara — to forget something completely obvious; – coined when in the Conlangs Discord Network, Lemuria asked what a “saralang” was in the Hiidaden thread of “projects”, failing to realize that the creator's name was Sarah.</li> <li>2. gahlirithi — a violin; – short form of Gahlirithi-japafay lahrithi (“Gallia's music instrument”),</li> </ol> | <p>from Gallia Kastner, a violinist who appeared in Lemuria's recommended one day.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. ukagahli — to throw a sheep into a river; – because Lemuria observed Gallia throw a sheep into a river while playing a video game in June 2024. This itself is also an unusual root.</li> </ol> |
|--|--|

## 4.4 Twitch

Thiguka has its fair share of Twitch-related terminology. Lemuria knows a lot of indie musicians who sing for their viewers on the site and of course, can't help but have words just for Twitch.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Telits — Twitch</li> <li>2. Telitslisa — n. fem. Female Twitch streamer</li> <li>3. Telitstoli — n. masc. Male Twitch streamer</li> <li>4. Telitspelu — n. epicene; Twitch streamer</li> <li>5. teligara — v. to stream on Twitch</li> <li>6. telufefi — n. a Twitch raid; when a streamer</li> </ol> | <p>moves their viewers to another stream after ending; blend of Telits (“Twitch”) + “ofefi” (“to move”)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>7. teliri — v. to fall asleep while watching a Twitch stream</li> <li>8. telires — n. along a Twitch raid train (directionality)</li> </ol> |
|---|--|

## Chapter 5

# Syntax

### 5.1 Word order

Thiguka always uses a subject-verb-object word order. While hypothetically it may be possible to use alternate word orders due to Thiguka case marking, SVO is the intended order and alternative orders will cause possible confusion.

### 5.2 Questions

Two primary strategies for asking questions in Thiguka are to create declarative statements about the listener and allow the listener to fill in the blanks.

The intonation of these questions is rising; similar to English.

- (30) Kake-pafay leyle las  
2SG-GEN name COP  
'Your name is?'

Thiguka has one single determiner, 'kalisu' (what?).

A noun can be placed after 'kalisu' to further form the other English wh-words.

Table 5.1: Translations of English wh-words

Thiguka	English wh-word
kalisu	what
kalisu pelu	who
kathisa	why
kalisu pasla	where
kalisu tayle	when

'kathisa' is a shortened form of 'kalisu thilpahelah kufa kaketay'.

- (31) Kalisu thil-pah-elah kufa kake-tay?  
What thing-NOM-PL coerce 2SG-ACC?  
'What made you do it?'

An example of 'kalisu' is as follows:

- (32) Kalisu las kakepafay leyle?  
what COP 2SG-GEN name  
'What is your name?'

### 5.2.1 Polar

Polar questions are marked by the particle *kalu* added to the end of a sentence.

- (33) Kake las pe gu-gulid pelu kalu?  
 2SG-NOM COP AGR~ADJ person POLAR  
 ‘Are you a good person?’

To further specify what is being doubted or asked about, *kalu* can be moved to the end of the word being asked about in question.

- (34) Kake las pe~gu-gulid kalu pe~gu-Arika pelu?  
 2SG-NOM COP AGR~ADJ-good POLAR AGR~ADJ-America person  
 ‘Are you a good American person?’ “(assumes the person is American, but doubts whether they are “good”)”

## 5.3 Possession

Possession is conveyed using the genitive case suffix *-pafay*.

- (35) Thaka-pafay kaela-gula  
 1SG-GEN tree-DU  
 ‘My two trees’

## 5.4 Negation

Negation is conveyed with the morpheme *li*, which can either be a prefix or a particle.

Negation cannot negate negation. Adding more negation only strengthens the negation instead of canceling it out.

- (36) Li! Thaka-pah li kisu-tha pothu-tay  
 No! 1SG-NOM NEG kill-FUT 3SG-ACC  
 ‘No! I will not kill them!’
- (37) Li-thaka-pah kisu-ta pothu-tay,  
 NEG-1SG-NOM kill-PST 3SG-ACC  
 ‘No, I didn’t kill them.’ lit. ‘Not-me killed them.’
- (38) Li-li-li-li-thaka-pah kisu-ta pothu-tay,  
 NEG-NEG-NEG-NEG-1SG-NOM kill-PST 3SG-ACC  
 ‘I definitely did not kill them.’

## 5.5 Relative clauses

Thiguka uses the relative marker ‘*si*’, which begins a clause used as the relative clause. It goes after the noun phrase that is being relativized.

- (39) Kasa pekulugusag-tay, si thaka-pah ri-kala, gulaya ri-gulid.  
 PROX.DET moderator-ACC REL 1SG-NOM INT-know COP.3SG.PRS INT-good  
 “This moderator, who I know, is good.”

- (40) Asila pekulugusag-pah-elah pa-ithesatha-ta kasa pelu-tay-sa si li  
 DIST.DET moderator-NOM-PL PFV-ban-PST PROX.DET person-ACC-PL REL NEG  
 ga~gu-ri-palad gasari  
 AGR~ADJ-INT-bad action  
 “Those moderators banned someone who did nothing wrong.”

## 5.6 Adverbial clauses

Thiguka also uses the relative marker ‘si’ for adverbial clauses. ‘si’ is prefixed to multiple words to further communicate the type of adverbial clause.

Temporal clauses:

- (41) Thaka-pah gulaya li-sifata ifil thaka-pafay laysa-pafay ta~gu-ri-gulid tayle  
 1SG-NOM COP.3SG.PRS NEG-alive in 1SG-GEN mother-GEN AGR~ADJ-INT-good time  
 “I was not alive during my mother’s golden age.”

Causal clauses:

- (42) Kare-pah, si-dasili li-kala kolusute, gulaya li-gu-asaga pafay situ-pafay  
 Karen-NOM REL-reason NEG-know computer, COP.3SG.PRS NEG-ADJ-allow have 1PL.INCL-GEN  
 lahpeled-pafay saleyfata  
 company-GEN occupation  
 “Karen, because she does not know computers, is not allowed to have a job at our company.”

## 5.7 Quantity

To communicate quantity in Thiguka, write a quantifier before the start of a noun phrase.

- (43) elah gahlirithi  
 many violin  
 “many violins”

In this gloss, both *gahlirithi* and *gahlirithielah* can be used. The *-elah* is already redundant due to the quantifier being placed in front of it.

In general, plurality suffixes are optional, even without a quantifier.

- (44) isa gahlirithi-elah  
 many violin-PL  
 “\*one violins”

Of course, mismatching plurality suffixes are still wrong.

### Quantifier words

Some Thiguka quantifiers for vague groups are as follows:

1. elah — many
2. lasat — all; every
3. rali — few
4. alsaf — half
5. tisara — one-third
6. keferi — simple majority (more than 50%)





## **Part II**

# **Examples**



## Chapter 6

# Introduction

A variety of texts have been translated into Thiguka. The first major complete translation, from mid-April 2024, is Wikipedia's article on Lena Raine, an American music composer from Seattle who has made music for Minecraft.

The translation on Lena Raine is subject to errors, being an early text and not having been updated to reflect the latest changes to the Thiguka language as of May 2024.

### 6.1 Smaller examples

#### 6.1.1 Thiguka's endonym

- (45) **thi gu-kageta** thil  
AGR~ADJ-mouth thing  
'mouth thing'

#### 6.1.2 The factory must grow!

- (46) Lahkelakesi-pah fusala laki!  
make.building-NOM must grow  
'The factory must grow!'

#### 6.1.3 Who did it?

- (47) Kalisu pelu pa-gasari-ta?  
what person PFV-action.V-PST  
'Who did it?'

#### 6.1.4 You must make a conlang.

- (48) Kake-pah fusala lahkela lahfisipaka-tay-sa.  
2SG-NOM must make conlang-ACC-SG  
'You must make a conlang.'



# Chapter 7

## Lena Raine

### 7.1 Thiguka

Lela Reyl (Ilgis: Lena Raine; berethata 1984-02-29), leylesathasi Lela Sapel (Ilgis: Lena Chappelle) aluthasi Kureyl (Ilgis: Kuraine) gulaya Taguarika alu Tagukalada tagulikageta tarifari alu lisapahsa lahkelasa kolugeyle-tayelah. Pelupahelah kalasa Reyltay pur pothupafay leyguritu leyboro ifil Selesete alu Maylakraf alu kigugiled kisufetelah dalata. Pothupah lahkelasathasi rifaritay ifil kolugeyletayelah sufadhas Deletarule alu Sikori: Sigukothor Sifothisa.

#### 7.1.1 Siguaga sifata

Reylpah berethata 1984-02-29 ifil Siatel ifil Asiltol. Pothupafay tali tarifari alu pothupafay laysa pelifefi. Fipothupafay tagukuyri tarifagetata alu pothupah fathusita pothutay ifil tarifari. Pothupafay tali-thasi fah-fayolil. Solik Edeog sigupeke pegusifothe peli gilelsa fathusita pothutay ifil pagulidi patefarielah. Reylpah pagulidi patefarikithielah taguisasafi lahkeluta rifaritayelah pothu kalata aludhete lahkelata pothupafay tagubage tarifari. Kuthifafay, pothupah kalata ifil Kornis ogukala ose Arafatelah. Kuthifafay, Kornispah salathta Reyltay lahgurifari lahkelasa oselufasa.

#### 7.1.2 Sifutila

Pelupahelah kalasa Reyltay pur pothupafay leyguritu leyboro ifil Selesete alu Kigugiled Kisufetelah Dalata. Pothupah leyborota ifil Kigugiled Kisufetelah Dalata ArilaLetkala pur fagugati fasatelah gafalu fahpatere-lahkesa alu fahlahkelapahsa ritutay.

Pothupah alu Laklel Diler, gafalu uguifil ose fahlahkelapahgula ritutay ifil geylepafay lisufasa ifil 2015, Kigugiled Kisufetelah Dalata: Arfaspafaysa Thigusapagad Thilelah. Pothupah falgathata ArilaLetay ifil 2016, bulu pogufilar pothupah lahkelata rifaritayelah ifil ArilaLetpafay kolugeylelah.

Ifil 2018, Reylpah fathusita afegurayfathil koguafeltur kolugeyle esektay ifil itisayokala. Reylpah lahkelata rifaritay alu lahkelata kolugeyletay esektay alu Deytaireyspah (Ilgis: Dataerase) lahkelata arafatayelah. Ifil 2019, pothupah fathusita riguisasafi rifari, Isakalasa.

Pothupah lahkelata apay rigubage rifaritayelah ifil Maylakrafapafay 1.16 "Lether Patifekalasa" (Ilgis: Nether Update) ifil 2020. Faguisa fasatefay, pothupah alu tagukolugeyle tarifarisa Kuli Taliokapah lahkelata gati rigubage rifaritayelah ifil 1.18 "Kelefiteh alu Sahlagelah: Pagudalatafasi Parafsa" patifekalasa, Faguisa fasatefay, pothupah lahkelata talo rigubage rifaritayelah ifil 1.19 "Pagufaylata Parafsa".

Reylpah lahkelata rifaritay ifil araguafeltur koguarapigi kolugeylekala Sikori: Sigukothor Sifothisa alu tulorta pelutayelah lahkelata rifaritayelah ifil sagudalatafasi sagdathasa ifil Deletarunekala. Kolugeylepahgula fathusita ifil 2021.

- (49) Ifil 2024-05-28, Reyle-pah pa-fathusi-ta kolugeyle Alotherili-pafay esahla  
 on 2024-05-28, Raine-NOM PFV-distribute-PST video.game Anothereal-GEN existence  
 kala-tay-sa.  
 knowledge-ACC-SG.  
 On May 28, 2024, Raine distributed knowledge of Anothereal's existence.

- (50) Alotherili-pah pafay ko~gu-sutebup-tay alu ko~gu-tugasa thi~gu-kolugeyle  
 Anothereal-NOM has AGR~ADJ-shoot.em.up-ACC and AGR~ADJ-roleplay AGR~ADJ-video.game  
 thil-tay-elah.  
 thing-ACC-PL  
 Anothereal has shoot 'em up and roleplay game things.

### 7.1.3 Sigupelu sifata

Reyguteraseleter Reylpahthasi rayfata aglادتaysa, Siti of Taygers aluthasi rayfasa siguelegibiti sigupeke  
 sifothe ifil pothupafay taygurifeyla tayle.

### 7.1.4 Thiguolota thilelah

Asagata Reyltay pur ologubafata thiguolota thilsa aluthasi pothupafay rifari ifil Selesete risifta Giguarika  
 Giledpafay Tarifarielah, pelupahelah rayfasa aglادتayelah alu pelupahelah fathusisa thiltayelah rigulid  
 rigukolugeyle rifari ifil fasate thiguolota thilsa ifil 2019. Pothupafay rifari ifil Selesetepahthasi risifta rig-  
 urigulid asagurifari asagasa ifil thigukolugeyle thiguolota thilelah ifil 2018.

## 7.2 Translation notes

As Lemuria works on Thiguka, his knowledge of linguistics grows ever-larger. Here is a translation of  
 the first sentence of Wikipedia's article on Lena Raine, in two versions; the old version from April 2024 and  
 the new one from June 2024.

### April 2024

- (51) Lela Reyl (beretha-ta 1984-02-29), leyle-sa-thasi Lela Sapel alu-thasi Kureyl  
 Lena Raine (born.V-PST 1984-02-29) name-PST-also Lena Chappelle and-also Kuraine  
 gulaya Ta~gu-arika alu Ta~gu-kalada ta~gu-li-kageta tarifari alu  
 COP.3SG.PRS AGR~ADJ-America and AGR~ADJ-Canada AGR~ADJ-NEG-mouth musician and  
 lah~gu-lisa fah-lahkela-pah kolugeyle-tay-elah.  
 AGR~ADJ-woman AGT-make-NOM video.game-ACC-PL.  
 Lena Raine (born February 29, 1984), also known as Lena Chappelle and Kuraine, is an American and  
 Canadian instrumental musician and woman making video games.

**June 2024**

- (52) Lela Reyl (beretha-ta 1984-02-29), pafay-sa=thasi leyle Lela Sapel o Kureyl, gulaya Lena Raine (born.V-PST 1984-02-29), have-PRS=also name Lena Chappelle or Kuraine COP.3SG.PRS fah~gu-Arika alu fah~gu-Kalada fahlahpeyrifari-tay-sa alu fah~gu-kolugeyle AGR~ADJ-America and AGR~ADJ-Canada composer-ACC-SG and AGR~ADJ-video.game fah-lahkela.  
AGT-make

Lena Raine (born February 29, 1984), who has also the name Lena Chappelle or Kuraine, is an American and Canadian composer, and video game maker.





## Chapter 8

# Mid-sized translations

### 8.1 Fun activities

This was the sample passage for Conlang Ambassadors 3, a translation activity from May–June 2024.

#### English

There are many forms of fun activities in general. For example, there are hobbies which such as hiking, collecting themed objects, or non-professional creative arts and crafts. Some people like to play games or sports, or just like to enjoy looking at people's pictures, listen to other people's music, or watch other people perform. So long as someone enjoys the activity it is a reasonable recreational pastime.

#### Thiguka

Elah lisure saparapahelah esahlasa. Fulafatasa, pafaysa thigusapara thilelah, alu aragulisaleyfata arafat lores lisugufuros lilahkela ligupera lisure. Pelupah falusaya geyletayelah, gasari isi fathasa lipothu pelu-pafay kurakatayelah, rififeyla lipothu pelutayelah, fathas pegulipothu pegusiligara pelutayelah, fathas pegulipothu pegusiligara pelutayelah. Kula pelupah falusaya lisuretay, pothu gulaya ligurigulid lisure.

#### Gloss

- (53) Elah lisure sapara-pah-elah esahlasa.  
many fun.activity kind-NOM-PL exist.V-PRS  
'Many fun activity types exist.'
- (54) Fulafata-sa, pafay-sa thi gu-sapara thil-elah, alu ara gu-li-saleyfata arafat-elah alu  
hike-PRS, have-PRS AGR ADJ-type thing-PL, and AGR ADJ-NEG-occupation art-PL and  
fulahthi lores lisu gu-furos li-lahkela li gu-pera lisure.  
fun.make.thing-PL COP.3PL.PRS AGR ADJ-fun NEG-make AGR ADJ-money fun.activity.  
'Hiking, having themed objects, and non-professional art are fun not-money-making hobbies.'
- (55) Pelu-pah falusaya geyle-tay-elah, gasari isi fatha-sa pe gu-li-pothu pelu-pafay  
person-NOM like game-ACC-PL, action of see.V-PRS AGR ADJ-NEG-3SG person-GEN  
kuraka-tay-elah, rififeyla li-pothu pelu-tay-elah, fathas pe gu-li-pothu  
image-ACC-PL, listen.to.music NEG-3SG person-ACC-PL, see.V AGR ADJ-NEG-3SG  
pe gu-siligara pelu-tay-elah.  
AGR ADJ-perform person-ACC-PL.  
'An unspecified amount of people like games, the act of seeing others' pictures, listening to others' music, or watching performing people.'

- (56) Kula pelu-pah falusaya lisure-tay, pothu gulaya li gu-ri-gulid lisure.  
 If person-NOM enjoy fun.activity-ACC, it COP.3SG.PRS AGR ADJ-INT-good fun.activity.  
 ‘If a person enjoys a fun activity, it is a good fun activity.’

## 8.2 C418

To finish off all the Minecraft composers, here’s C418.

### English original (Wikipedia)

Daniel Rosenfeld (born 9 May 1989), better known as C418 (pronounced ”see four eighteen”),[4] is a German musician, producer and sound engineer. He is best known as the former composer and sound designer for the sandbox video game Minecraft. He is a co-founder of independent video game developer Ivy Road with Davey Wreden and Karla Zimonja, which is developing Wanderstop.

He has also written and produced the theme for Beyond Stranger Things and the Steam release of Cookie Clicker. He has also DJed for American rock band Anamanaguchi.

### English literal

Daniel Rosenfeld (born May 9, 1989) also named C418, is a German musician in the video game Minecraft. He is known because he is the past composer and sound maker in the video game Minecraft. He, with Davey Wreden and Karla Zimonja’s help, made the video game development organization Ivy Road.

He has written also and made also music for Beyond Stranger Things, and Cookie Clicker’s Steam release. He has DJed also for Anamanaguchi, which is an American rock band.

### Thiguka

Deylijel Roselfeldpah (berethata 1989-05-09), leylesathasi C418, gulaya tagu-DuyIslald tarifari ifil kolugeyle Maylakraflay. Pothu-tay pakalasa dasili pothupah gulaya fahguifiltatayle fahlahpeyrifaritaysa alu fahgu-ritu fahlahkela ifil kolugeyle Maylakrafkala. Pothu-pah pafay Deifi Redele-pafay alu Karla Sibolapafay talit, palahkelata gigulahkelakolugeyle giled Aifi Rod-tay.

Pothupah ferayfatathasi alu felahkelatathasi rifaritaysa Biold Stereysere Thillayelah alu Kuki Klikere-pafay fagu-Sti fathusilaysa. Pothupah fediseytathasi Alabalagusi-lay, si gulaya rigu-Arika rigusutefari ri-falagiled.

**Gloss**

- (57) Deylijel Roselfeld-pah (beretha-ta 1989-05-09), leyle-sa=thasi C418,  
Daniel Rosenfeld-NOM (born-PST 1989-05-09) name-PRS=also C418.PR  
Daniel Rosenfeld (born May 9, 1989) also named C418,
- (58) gulaya ta~gu-DuyIslald tarifari ifil kolugeyle Maylakraf-lay.  
COP.3SG.PRS AGR~ADJ-Germany musician in video.game Minecraft-DAT  
is a German musician in the video game Minecraft.
- (59) Pothu-tay pa-kala-sa dasili pothu-pah gulaya fah~gu-ifil-tatayle fahlahpeyrifaritay-sa  
3SG-NOM PFV-know-PST because 3SG-NOM COP.3SG.PRS AGR~ADJ-in-past composer-ACC-SG  
alu fah~gu-ritu fah-lahkela ifil kolugeyle Maylakraf-kala  
and AGR~ADJ-sound AGT-make in video.game Minecraft-LOC  
He is known because he is the past composer and sound maker in the video game Minecraft.
- (60) Pothu-pah pafay Deifi Redele-pafay alu Karla Sibola-pafay talit, pa-lahkela-ta  
3SG-NOM with Davey Wreden-GEN and Karla Zimonja-GEN help, PFV-make-PST  
gi~gu-lahkela-kolugeyle giled Aifi Rod-tay, si gulaya ge-lahkela-sa  
AGR~ADJ-make-video.game group Ivy Road.PR-ACC REL COP.3SG.PRS PROG-make-PRS  
kolugeyle Alderstop-tay  
video.game Wanderstop-ACC  
He, with Davey Wreden and Karla Zimonja's help, made the video game development organization  
Ivy Road, which is making Wanderstop.
- (61) Pothu-pah fe-rayfa-ta=thasi alu fe-lahkela-ta=thasi rifari-tay-sa Biold Stereysere  
3SG-NOM PERF-write-PST=also and PERF-make-PST=also music-ACC-SG Beyond Stranger  
Thil-lay-elah alu Kuki Klikere-pafay fa~gu-Sti fathusi-lay-sa  
Thing-DAT-PL and Cookie Clicker-GEN AGR~ADJ-Steam release-DAT-SG  
He has written also and made also music for Beyond Stranger Things, and Cookie Clicker's Steam  
release.
- (62) Pothu-pah fe-disey-ta=thasi Alabalagusi-lay, si gulaya ri~gu-Arika  
3SG-NOM PERF-dj-PST=also Anamanaguchi-DAT REL COP.3SG.PRS AGR~ADJ-America  
ri~gu-sutefari rifalagiled  
AGR~ADJ-rock.music band  
He has DJed also for Anamanaguchi, which is an American rock band.

**8.3 Bee Movie script****English**

According to all known laws of aviation, there is no way a bee should be able to fly. Its wings are too small to get its fat little body off the ground. The bee, of course, flies anyway because bees don't care what humans think is impossible.

## Thiguka

Lafad fagulufah lugufahofefi tharasagpahelah fiasaga bigulufahta bitaysa. Pothupafay lirukpahelah parilitisi suf ofefi dogufalatha dogurilitisi doros okulusat gawralay. Bipahsa lufahta alu likolaga pelupafayelah udiltayelah las asaga.

## Gloss

- (63) Lafad fa gu-lufah lu gu-fahofefi tharasag-pah-elah fi-asaga bi gu-lufah-ta bi-tay-sa.  
 all AGR ADJ-air AGR ADJ-vehicle law-NOM-PL NEG-allow AGR ADJ-fly-PRS bee-ACC-SG.  
 All airplane laws do not allow flying bees.
- (64) Pothu-pafay liruk-pah-elah pari-litisi suf ofefi do gu-falatha do gu-rilitisi doros  
 3SG-POS wing-NOM-PL excessive.INT-small to move AGR ADJ-fat AGR ADJ-little body  
 okulusat gawralay.  
 off ground  
 Its wings are too small to move a fat little body off the ground.
- (65) Bi-pah-sa lufah-ta alu li-kolaga pelu-pafay-elah udil-tay-elah las asaga.  
 Bee fly.V-PRS and NEG-comply person-GEN-PL think-ACC-PL COP allow.ADJ  
 Bees fly and do not comply with people's thoughts of what is allowed.