A Lexicographic Study of Ulwa

by

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B.S., Massachusetts Institute of Technology (1989)

Submitted to the Department of Linguistics and Philosophy
in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of

Doctor of Philosophy

at the

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

September 1999

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Abstract

In this thesis, I present the beginnings of a reference grammar and dictionary of the Ulwa language of the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua. I first describe the current state of the Ulwa language and people in light of their historical and sociolinguistic context. I then go into some detail regarding the phonological and morphological nature of the language. Finally I touch on the syntactic and semantic issues that most directly affect the design of a lexical database of the language. These include discussion of verbal diathesis and the nature of complex multi-word verbal idioms. The thesis is a lexicographic study because the aim is to present information sufficient for a reasonable understanding of the lexical entries of the language, as represented in the included dictionary.

Thesis Supervisor: Kenneth Hale
Title: Professor
Acknowledgments

Any attempt to express how important Ken Hale has been to my development as a linguist and as a person is doomed to fail. I have had the privilege of being his student now for fourteen years—well over a third of my life (!), and my only regrets are (a) that it took this long, and (b) that I haven’t really proven worthy of all the time and effort he has put into me.

On a more specific level, it was only through Ken that I was able to get involved in the Ulwa Language Project at all, and to enter into such a personally rewarding relationship with the members of the Ulwa Language Committee in Karawala, RAAS, Nicaragua. Leonzo Knight, Lorinda Martínez, Francisco Santiago, Abanel Lacayo, Clementina Abraham, Kandler Santiago and their families welcomed me into their homes and willingly shared every aspect of their lives with me. As the tenth anniversary of my first meeting with the Ulwa Committee members approaches, I find myself looking forward to continued contact with them for at least another ten years.

I am also deeply indebted to Danilo Salamanca for the numerous ways in which he has helped me over the years, in his capacity as an expert in linguistics and Nicaraguan languages, as director of CIDCA in Managua and thus a provider of essential logistic support on the Nicaraguan side, and as a friend who, among other things, took me to baseball games in Managua. I am grateful to the other members of the CIDCA staff both in Managua and Bluefields. Without all their help the Ulwa Project would most certainly have ground to a halt in the face of a million tiny obstacles.

To my classmates, Doug Jones, Toshifusa Oka, Akira Watanabe, and Sigal Uziel, I send my thanks, wherever you are, for all the years of solidarity and friendship that unfortunately seem like so long ago. During my formative grad-school years I was lucky enough have some great housemates, especially Kumiko “Ukmik” Murasugi, Colin /fl1Ps/ (can’t remember how many l’s the real spelling has) and most of all, Hamida Demirdache, who ranks up there with Ken in how much she has influenced my outlook on life. And I mustn’t forget to acknowledge the joy that was Türköiz Köökü.

Marilyn “Slackey” Goodrich has been great to me and to the Project throughout these last ten years. Having her as a confidante has pulled me through many a trying time, and even made most of them seem funny.

Wayne O’Neil is the first professor I remember meeting at MIT, back in 1984, and I guess he is partly responsible for getting me interested in linguistics. I have always relished hearing his take on any issue, and his collaboration, both in Nicaragua, in the writing of this thesis, and on matters entirely unrelated, have been invaluable.

Michael Kenstowicz has been my chief mentor in the field of phonology, my other linguistic passion, and the area in which, as my original committee chair, he almost succeeded in getting me to finish my first thesis about 5 years ago. His encyclopedic knowledge and open mind have been an ideal combination, and now that this thesis is out of the way I look forward to finally being able renew our collaboration in phonological matters.

Although Jim Harris was fortunate enough to retire before being asked to be on my thesis committee, he has been wonderful to know and to work with, and has also taught me a few juicy Spanish expressions, for which I’ll always be in his debt.

I always promised Eugene “Sully” Sullivan that I would put him in my acknowledgements if I ever finished this thesis. Sully was the night custodian on the third floor of the now deceased Building 20, where most of the late-night work on the dictionary took place back in the mid-1990’s. He was always good for some Red Sox talk or griping about the
system or keeping a pot of coffee brewing in one of the biohazard labs.

And of course my mom, Andrea, and dad, Michael, plus my brother Dan and sister Julie all were great in supporting me mentally throughout this whole ordeal. I don’t really need to thank them explicitly, because they’re all more relieved than I am that this is finally finished. My mom taught me about the archaeologists’ practice of first assessing the scope of a site and then being careful not to dig up more than a third of it, saving the rest for posterity. Well, I’ve taken a page from their book and am leaving future linguists (hopefully native Ulwa speaking ones) a veritable blank slate on which to base their investigations of Ulwa.

I also want to thank Matt Fahrner, my best friend since the 6th grade, for being a constant reminder of how weird it is that I haven’t managed to find a better friend than him in 22 years. It has become obvious to me that I never will.

Penultimately, there’s still tons of people I’ve left out because my deadline is fast approaching. Some of them have names like Christian, Linda, Marie, Utpal, D², Carlos, Pilar, Blastula, Brian, Lenny, Tim, and it just keeps going. So I’ll close by thanking Vicki Mountain, who didn’t leave me despite the last few months, for which I am truly grateful.
## Contents

1 The Ulwa Language: Past and Present 10
   1.1 Background .................................................. 10
      1.1.1 Genetic Classification of Ulwa ....................... 10
      1.1.2 Precontact Distribution .............................. 11
      1.1.3 Postcontact Pressures ............................... 14
      1.1.4 Modern demographics ................................. 15
   1.2 Karawala ....................................................... 17
      1.2.1 Census data ............................................ 17
      1.2.2 Origins and early years .............................. 18
      1.2.3 The turning point: 1950 ............................. 21

2 The Ulwa Language Project 23
   2.1 Foundation .................................................. 23
   2.2 Activities of the Ulwa Language Project ............... 24
      2.2.1 The Dictionary ......................................... 24
      2.2.2 Texts .................................................. 25
      2.2.3 Descriptive Grammar .................................. 27
      2.2.4 Education ............................................. 27
   2.3 Conclusion .................................................... 28

3 Segmental Phonology and Syllable Structure 29
   3.1 Segmental phonology ....................................... 29
      3.1.1 Consonants ............................................. 29
      3.1.2 Vowels ................................................ 31
      3.1.3 Orthographic conventions ............................ 33
   3.2 Syllable structure ......................................... 34
      3.2.1 Basic generalizations ................................ 34
      3.2.2 Structural restrictions on consonant distribution .. 34
      3.2.3 Syllable-internal cooccurrence restrictions .......... 35
      3.2.4 Exceptions to the core syllable template ........... 36
   3.3 Phonotactics ................................................ 38
      3.3.1 Consonant clusters .................................... 38
      3.3.2 Phonological processes ................................ 40

4 Prosodic and metrical phonology 43
   4.1 Initial concepts ............................................ 43
      4.1.1 Syllable weight ....................................... 43
7.1.6 The irrealis .................................................. 95
7.1.7 The obviation system ........................................ 96
7.1.8 The negative .................................................. 99
7.1.9 The imperative ............................................... 100
7.1.10 The potentive participle ................................... 101
7.1.11 Other non-finite forms ..................................... 102
7.1.12 Derivational affixes ....................................... 104
7.2 Verbal morphology: the conjugation classes .............. 104
7.2.1 Consonant-themed classes ................................ 105
7.2.2 Zero-themed verb stems .................................... 106
7.2.3 Vowel-themed verb classes ................................. 106
7.3 Special verbs and verbal constructions ...................... 107
7.3.1 The defective verb, 'da-' .................................. 107
7.3.2 The helping verb 'at-' ...................................... 108
7.3.3 The benefactive construction .............................. 110
7.3.4 ‘Raudi’ and ‘raupi’ ......................................... 110
7.4 Verbal diathesis .................................................. 112
7.4.1 Intransitive verbs ............................................. 112
7.4.2 Transitive verbs .............................................. 113
7.4.3 Ditransitive verbs .......................................... 113
7.4.4 Reflexive and reciprocal verbs ............................ 114
7.4.5 Labile verbs .................................................. 115
7.4.6 The ‘transitive–intransitive’ distinction .................. 115
7.5 Complex verbal expressions .................................. 117
7.5.1 ‘Proximate-chain’ verbs ................................... 117
7.5.2 ‘Genitive’ verbs .............................................. 117
7.5.3 The ‘adversative’ verbs .................................... 118

8 Other categories .................................................. 134
8.1 The adjective ..................................................... 134
8.1.1 Free and bound roots ...................................... 134
8.1.2 The distributive form ...................................... 135
8.1.3 The construct or nominalized adjective ................. 135
8.1.4 The adjective as adverb .................................... 136
8.2 Clausal agreement (AGR) ...................................... 136
8.2.1 Clausal agreement and non-verbal predicates .......... 137
8.2.2 Clausal agreement and non-finite and stative verbs .. 137
8.3 The auxiliary (AUX) ........................................... 138
8.4 Sentence particles .............................................. 139
8.5 The stative verb .................................................. 140

A Structure of the dictionary .................................. 143
A.1 The headword ................................................... 143
A.2 The part of speech ............................................. 143
A.3 The morphological class ...................................... 143
A.4 The morphological key form ................................. 143
A.4.1 Nouns ......................................................... 144
A.4.2 Verbs ........................................................ 144
A.4.3 Adjectives .......................................................... 144
A.5 Enumeration of inflected forms .................................. 144
A.6 Usage labels .......................................................... 144
A.7 Etymological information ......................................... 144
A.8 Translations .......................................................... 144
A.9 Example sentences .................................................. 144
A.10 Vernacular definition .............................................. 145
A.11 Cross references .................................................... 145

B Ulwa–English dictionary .............................................. 146
# List of Tables

1.1 Distribution of Ulwa ethnic identity (Karawala) ........................................... 17
1.2 Distribution of Miskitu ethnic identity (Karawala) ...................................... 17
1.3 Principal languages and speakers ............................................................... 18
1.4 Ulwa speakers by age group: ....................................................................... 18
1.5 Ethnic Hierarchy, Karawala ......................................................................... 22
2.1 Ulwa Language Committee, 1988-present .................................................... 23
3.1 Ulwa nonsyllabic phonemes ........................................................................ 29
3.2 Ulwa vowels .................................................................................................. 31
3.3 Coda-Onset Consonant Clusters .................................................................. 38
5.1 Gloss codes: parts of speech ......................................................................... 74
5.2 Gloss codes: cases ......................................................................................... 75
5.3 Gloss codes: grammatical features .............................................................. 76
5.4 Gloss codes: miscellaneous .......................................................................... 77
7.1 wauhdanaka (wauh-) paradigm (V-DA) ......................................................... 119
7.2 ilwanaka (il-) paradigm (V-WA) ................................................................. 120
7.3 wasaranaka (wasa-) paradigm (V-RA) ......................................................... 121
7.4 yulnaka (yul-) paradigm (V-TA) ................................................................. 122
7.5 bungnaka (bung-) paradigm (V-PA) ............................................................. 123
7.6 watnaka (wat-) paradigm (V0) ..................................................................... 124
7.7 talnaka (tal-) paradigm (V0-TAL) ............................................................... 125
7.8 dahnaka (dah-) paradigm (V0-DAH) ............................................................ 126
7.9 dinaka (dih-) paradigm (V0-IH) .................................................................. 127
7.10 duihnaka (duih-) paradigm (V0-UIH) ......................................................... 128
7.11 duhinaka (duih-) paradigm (V0-UHI) ......................................................... 129
7.12 yawanaka (yaw-) paradigm (V0-A) ............................................................ 130
7.13 wănaka (w-) paradigm (V0-WA) ............................................................... 131
7.14 ihwănaka (ihw-) paradigm (V0-IHWA) ...................................................... 132
7.15 yabahnaka (yab-) paradigm (V0-AH) ......................................................... 133
Chapter 1

The Ulwa Language: Past and Present

Ulwa is an indigenous language of Eastern Nicaragua. Today, the only sizable population of Ulwa speakers resides in the community of Karawala, near the mouth of the Río Grande de Matagalpa, along the Caribbean coast of Nicaragua. It is a remote village of some 1000 people, and although it is certainly the last bastion of hope for the continuing survival of Ulwa as a language and people, most of the present-day native speakers are middle-aged or older, and have not used Ulwa as their principal language in decades. The work presented in this thesis is a preliminary product of an ongoing documentation and rescue project referred to as the Ulwa Language Project, described in detail in chapter 2. Before proceeding to the linguistic details of the Ulwa language itself, in this chapter I attempt to put the modern situation into a historical and geographical perspective that is helpful in understanding both why Ulwa is in peril now, and conversely, what factors have kept it alive while many neighboring indigenous languages disappeared more than a century ago.

1.1 Background

1.1.1 Genetic Classification of Ulwa

Ulwa is the southernmost surviving member of the Sumu language subfamily. It is not mutually intelligible with its northern Sumu neighbor, the Mayangna language, whose modern dialects are Panamahka and Tuahka of Nicaragua (see von Houwald 1980, Norwood 1987 and 1997) and Tawahka of Honduras (Benedicto and Hale 1998). The Sumu language group

---

1The material in the first two chapters has appeared previously in various forms, including Green (1995a,b) and most recently in Green and Hale (1998). The current research could not have been conducted without the support and collaboration of Nicaragua’s Center for the Investigation and Documentation of the Atlantic Coast (CIDCA), nor without crucial funding from the National Science Foundation (Grant No. SBR-9308115). Mostly, of course, I am indebted to the Ulwa people of Karawala, RAAS, Nicaragua, for having taken the initiative on this project, for their openness, friendship, and infinite patience in teaching me the language, and ultimately for their generosity in allowing me to participate in such an important and exciting endeavor. The dictionary presented here in appendix B represents many long hours of work on the part of Ulwa Language Committee members as well as Ken Hale, although I assume full responsibility for any and all errors.

2Because the word sumu is said to mean ‘stupid’ in Miskitu, it is becoming fashionable to use the term ‘Mayangna’ as a catch-all for the entire Sumu subfamily. This is incorrect, as the Mayangna language is...
as a whole is a relative of Miskitu, the dominant indigenous language of the Caribbean coastal regions of Nicaragua and Honduras. Miskitu and Sumu, along with the now extinct Matagalpa-Cacaopera,³ comprise the small Misumalpan linguistic family. Misumalpan, in turn, is generally thought to be linked through an ancient protolanguage with the Chibchan family, whose only Nicaraguan member is the moribund Rama (Craig 1987, 1990).

Ulwa appears to have borne a close relationship to its now extinct eastern neighbor Kukra, although the only record we have of the latter language consists of the few dozen words and expressions reported by Conzemius (1929). Ulwa and Kukra (the “southern” Sumu languages) behave alike in exhibiting certain systematic morphological differences with respect to the northern Sumu (Tuahka, Tawahka, and Panamahka) variants. For more extensive discussion of the relations between the various Misumalpan languages, see Hale and Salamanca (1987), Constenla (1987), and Hale (1991a). General material concerning the current linguistic situation in Eastern Nicaragua is provided by Salamanca (1984, 1991).

1.1.2 Precontact Distribution

It is impossible to determine with real accuracy the demographics of the native populations of Nicaragua at the time of European contact. However, from the sparse historical accounts available we can say with confidence that the Ulwa people lived approximately within the shaded region shown in figure 1-1. This territory is in general agreement with the conclusions of Helms (1971), Smutko (1985), and Romero (1992), and the historical references cited in these works. The region is roughly bounded in the north by the Rio Prinzapolka, in the south by the rivers Escondido and Rama, and covers the eastern halves of the modern departments of Matagalpa, Boaco and Chontales. To the east, the territory extended to meet that inhabited by the coastal Kukra tribe, with whom, at least in later centuries, the Ulwa enjoyed peaceful trading relations (Roberts 1966:23, Conzemius 1929). The Kukra lived in the Bluefields and Pearl Lagoon areas, and it seems probable that they ranged north to the mouth of the Rio Grande as well. Roberts (1966:26), however, reports a village of “Prinzapulko” (possibly the now extinct Prinsu) indians near the mouth of this river at the beginning of the nineteenth century. These people were not Miskitu, but paid tribute to the Miskitu king and made frequent slaving raids into the neighboring regions inhabited by Ulwa, Kukra and Tuahka. In any case, it appears that the Ulwa were an inland people, concentrated mainly along the river systems of the rivers Grande and Escondido, and their large and important tributaries, the Iyas, Lisawe, Tuma, Murra, Siquia (or Sikia), Mico and Rama.⁴

We can be reasonably confident about the western boundary as shown in the map in figure 1-1, partly due to some rather precise arguments given by Incer (1991) regarding the eastern limits of the Matagalpa-Cacaopera territory, which formed a buffer zone between

so-named because the first-person plural inclusive pronoun in that language is mayangna. Ulwa clearly does not belong in this group, as the equivalent word in Ulwa is mining. If the ‘Sumu’ designation must go, perhaps the term ‘Muih’ would be an appropriate term for this linguistic group, as this is the word meaning ‘person’ in both (living) languages.

³This language is named after two extremes of the region in which it appears to have been spoken: the department of Matagalpa in the central Nicaraguan highlands, and Cacaopera in northeastern El Salvador (see Brinton 1895; Lehmann 1920:599-623; Campbell 1975).

⁴In addition to the aforementioned “Prinzapulko” settlement at the mouth of the Rio Grande, Roberts (1966:27) also mentions a village of the same “indians” at the mouth of the Prinzapolka. Rather than hunting slaves, this village had established trade relations with the “Woolwas and Tongulas of the interior,” suggesting that there was an Ulwa presence on or near the Prinzapolka as well.
Figure 1-1: Ulwa Territory before European Contact (1500 A.D.)

1. Lehmann (1920)
2. Kiene (1962)
3. Froebel (1859)
4. Palombieri (1967)
5. Kahmi Tingni (Sütak Ulwa)
the Sumu groups and the Mesoamerican civilizations along the Pacific coast. In addition to the historical accounts, there are some direct linguistic records from the nineteenth and twentieth centuries—a handful of wordlists collected along the western fringes of the region shaded in figure 1-1. These records leave no doubt that the language spoken in these areas was, at least during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, an Ulwa strikingly close to the dialect that still exists today in Karawala. Three of the more important wordlists are listed here, and correspond to the locations numbered 1-3 in figure 1-1.

1. The German linguist Walther Lehmann compiled his 1920 Ulwa wordlist based on the speech of an informant from Wanawas, near the junction of the rivers Tuma and Yaoska in northeastern Matagalpa (Lehmann 1920: 492-539).

2. Guillermo Kiene’s (1962) “Gramática Sumu” is a rather substantial wordlist, with sentences, a small text, and grammatical remarks, collected apparently many years earlier along the Olama river on the Matagalpa-Boaco border. The dialect represented is nearly identical to that of Karawala.

3. Julius Froebel’s (1859) wordlist was collected at the source of the Rio Mico (Lóvago, Chontales) in 1851 (as reported by Squier 1989:458, 467-8).

Ecologically speaking, the historical Ulwa territory falls mainly in the vast Caribbean coastal plain, rising into the central highlands along the western fringe. The population was spread sparsely throughout this extremely wet rain-forest region, never very far from one of the hundreds of streams and rivers. They were hunters, fishers, and expert river navigators (Wickham 1872:160; Porta Costas 1990:57). Their agricultural tradition was based on the staple root crops sweet manioc and yautia, but also included maize, beans, and fruit trees such as papaya, avocado, guava, and the pijibay palm. There was no major hierarchical political structure, and the various Ulwa bands lived seminomadically, probably under dozens of different local designations. They followed the game and fish supply while maintaining plantations and dwellings in multiple locations.

The territory as shown in figure 1-1 covers an area of roughly 20,000 square kilometers. Newson (1987:87-88) estimates that the Caribbean lowlands supported a population of one person per square kilometer at the time of contact, and that a given population exploited approximately half of its available land. According to this formula, her estimate of the population of the entire Caribbean lowlands region of the coast at the time of European

---

5 Given the relentless eastward agricultural expansion of the mestizos from the Pacific side of the country (which ended with the complete extinction or assimilation of the Matagalpa-speaking peoples), I make the assumption that the locations of the Ulwa groups represented in these wordlists were not the result of significant westward migrations out of traditional territory.

6 This area had also been the home of perhaps the most famous and influential Ulwa person of all time, Carlos Matías Yarrinse. Yarrinse had voluntarily converted to Christianity and was baptized in 1769. He was given the rank of “Capitán-Gobernador de los Indios Caribes” (Incer 1990:376) by the Spanish, and was responsible for convincing a great number of his fellow “caribs” (Sumu indians) to come out of the bush and settle near the various missions of Boaco and Chontales. He was, however, ultimately accused of espionage and sent to prison in Guatemala where he died in 1780 (Incer 1990:376, Romero 1993:80, Incer 1995:16).

7 Also, from the earliest historical reports right up to the present day, the banana and plantain have played extremely important subsistence and economic roles; however these crops, like the coconut and citrus fruits, were only introduced to the new world at the time of conquest (Conzemius 1932:61).

8 Among those Sumu subgroups mentioned by Conzemius (1932:15), I consider the Boa group, from which the department of Boaco gets its name, and the Silam of the Kuringwas river, to have been Ulwa speakers. This was Lehmann’s (1920:472) conclusion as well.
contact is 38,148 (Newson 1987:88). If we consider the entire Ulwa territorial region to be homogenous lowland, applying Newson's formula yields a figure on the order of 10,000 people—a tiny population for an area roughly the size of the U.S. state of Massachusetts, but plausible in light of both contemporary and modern estimates of the overall population of the Coast region at the time.\(^9\)

### 1.1.3 Postcontact Pressures

The nature of the European influence on the Ulwa population following the first contact in the 1500’s differed drastically on the Atlantic and Pacific sides of the territory.\(^10\) Newson (1987:105) estimates that in the early years of Spanish conquest, from 1527 to 1542, the conquistadors exported 500,000 slaves from Nicaragua (nearly all from the Pacific or central highland region) to supply labor in the Caribbean islands, Panama, and the newly discovered Peru. The slave trade was then outlawed, and by the time the Spanish were making real incursions into the western part of Ulwa territory, their emphasis was on acquiring land for commercial agriculture and inducing the various roaming bands to accumulate into “reductions,” or settlement camps so they could be more easily catholicized, taxed, and used for labor.

Meanwhile, the settlement of English traders on the Atlantic coast and the subsequent rise of the Miskitu as armed English allies and trading middlemen brought about great changes from the east. By the 18th century, frequent Miskitu slaving raids had forced the Ulwa to retreat far inland, especially those along the major Rio Grande and Escondido systems. Their large expanse of inland territory allowed much of the Ulwa population to escape slavery, death by violence and disease, and Miskitu assimilation, while their Kukra kin along the coast were already approaching extinction by 1800 (Roberts 1966:26). The nineteenth century, however, brought with it the end of the slave trade, the arrival of the Moravian missionaries and the North American banana, lumber, rubber, and chicle companies, and the Coast region became a safer place to live and more attractive economically. At the same time, the pressure of agricultural expansion from the west was becoming too strong to endure. The nonstationary subsistence lifestyle of the Ulwa left settlements and plantations vacant and unguarded during extended periods, making it all the more easy for advancing mestizo farmers to take over their lands. The following paragraph tells the story in the words of an Ulwa man whom Kiene (1962:50) met along the Rio Grande near the Olama River:\(^11\)

\[
\begin{align*}
(1) & \quad \text{Uan andi asán acá tucuicdá. Yan acá malai, uili, waquí, inquini,} \\
& \quad \text{Yang andih asang åka tukwikda Yang åka malai wilis waki ingkinih} \\
& \quad \text{I already land this I worked I this manioc yautia plantain banana}
\end{align*}
\]

\(^9\)In fact, many estimates are much lower. Romero (1992:65), for instance, believes that the pre-Columbian population of the entire Caribbean coast region of Nicaragua was as little as 5000.

\(^10\)In this section, we draw heavily from the studies of Incer (1990), Romero (1992) and especially Newson (1987), as well as from CIDCA (1982) and Holm (1978).

\(^11\)Kiene, rather insensitively, titles this passage “The Nomadic Life of the Sumu Tribe.” The lines of the text are displayed in triplets, with Kiene’s orthography reproduced faithfully on the first line, followed beneath by the equivalent in the Karawala dialect written in CODIUL orthography—the “standard” spelling and diacritic conventions recently adopted by the Ulwa Language Committee (see chapter 2, and for information on the orthography, section 3.1.3). The third line provides loose English glosses. As can be seen, the dialect is nearly identical to the Karawala Ulwa, and some discrepancies can be attributed to errors in Kiene’s transcription.
I used to work this land. I planted manioc, yautia, plantains, bananas, sugarcane, avocados, and pijibay here. I had this land for one year, two years, for many years. One day we all went downriver to look for food. Three months later when we got back, the Spanish had built a house here; you had taken possession of everything we had, without any respect or consideration.

The type of occurrence related in the above text, and certainly many much worse, led some inland Ulwa groups to descend the rivers eastward seeking land and work. Such was the case with the initial settlers of Karawala, for, although it would seem that Karawala is the last stronghold of the Ulwa people, its coastal location is probably not within traditional Ulwa territory, and in any case, the current inhabitants are relative newcomers to the area. The oral history recorded by Knight (1991b) maintains that the founders of Karawala were seven Ulwa families who, fleeing the Spanish, descended from the upper Rio Grande in the 1890's. Palombieri (1967) notes that also at about the same time a parallel migration occurred from the headwaters of the Rio Mico down to Mahogany creek (a small southern affluent of the Escondido—see map location 4, figure 1-1). This group may be the descendents of those encountered in Lovago by Froebel.

### 1.1.4 Modern demographics

While the degree of uncertainty with regard to the historical Ulwa distribution is understandable, it is perhaps surprising that current demographic information should be equally elusive. To my knowledge, the survey by von Houwald and Jenkins (1975) is the most exhaustive attempt to document the distribution and stage of assimilation of the Sumu population. These authors identify specific houses or small settlements (usually fewer than 5 houses) occupied by Ulwa families in various locations along the rivers Mico, Siquia, Rama, Mahogany, and Plata, as well as some of their smaller tributaries. In addition, they document several scattered Sumu groups of unspecified language living along the rivers Iyás, Lisawé, Tuma, Grande, Murra, and their affluents. Since these areas fall within Ulwa territory it is possible that many of these families were Ulwa-speaking.

In addition to the few hundred Ulwa speakers in Karawala, (see section 1.2.1 for explicit census data for the town) I have certain knowledge of only one other substantial Ulwa group, consisting of some ten families living along Kahmi Tingni (a Miskitu term meaning “calabash creek”), one of the tributaries of the Kuringwas River (see map location 5, figure 1-1). These families, which the CODIUL members in Karawala refer to as the
“Sütak” Ulwa (sútak is the Ulwa word for calabash), are however at an advanced stage of assimilation to the mestizo language and culture. I have met one elderly man from this group, who declined to speak Ulwa with me, apparently out of intimidation or shame due to the presence of Karawala people who were more fluent. In fact, members of CODIUL speculate that this is the reason that, during the recent war, the Sütak Ulwa relocated for several years in the nearby Miskitu community Kara instead of in Karawala, although possibly the Sandinista military presence in Karawala was the greater deterrent.

One of the more intriguing of the groups identified in recent literature is that which was visited by Palombieri (1967) at Santa Isabel near the source of Mahogany Creek. Her notes show that the language spoken by the Sumu families of this settlement is clearly a dialect of Ulwa and would be easily mutually intelligible with that spoken in Karawala today. She mentions that the mother of the family with whom she worked was a woman in her fifties and that “elle ne parle et ne comprend que le Sumo.” Even the children of Santa Isabel demonstrated greater proficiency in Ulwa than in Spanish. Much could be learned from further documentation of this dialect, since although it is definitely Ulwa, Palombieri’s careful phonetic transcriptions reveal that it is distinct from the Karawala dialect.

While the presence of Ulwa families along the Mahogany Creek was affirmed by von Houwald and Jenkins in 1975, the current location of these families is unknown. Since 1975 the country has experienced a revolution and a prolonged war in which much of the rural population of the Atlantic coast region was displaced. This severely limits the usefulness of the von Houwald and Jenkins study, and more recent documents are sketchy and not mutually consistent. For instance, CIDCA (1982:25) states that there are 1617 Ulwas, who “live scattered along the rivers Grande and Prinzapolka, as well as their affluents.” The same source also identifies Sumu houses of unknown linguistic group in the Muelle de los Bueyes (8 houses) and Rama (14 houses), along the rivers Mico and Escondido, respectively (CIDCA 1982:25, 49). I assume that these families are Ulwas. Smutko (1985:179), on the other hand, names Karawala as the only location where the Ulwa language is found. And Incer (1991:8) states that “today [the Ulwa] are reduced to a few families along the Sikia.” Official government figures (Gobierno Regional RAAS 1992) state that there are 1023 “sumos” in all of the RAAS (p. 10), although paradoxically the same document reports that 31% of the 3811 (which comes out to 1181) residents of the zone corresponding to the mouth of the Rio Grande are Sumu (p. 69). The government report does not identify a Sumu population component in any other part of the RAAS.

This variation signals a pressing need for a large-scale sophisticated linguistic survey of the coast region. And the remoteness of the settlements, difficulty and expense of transportation (many settlements along smaller rivers are not even accessible by motorboat due to rapids), and lack of government records will make any such endeavor difficult. Until an extensive field study can be done, the most we can say with confidence is that Ulwa is spoken by well under a thousand people, most of whom live in Karawala. And judging from the situation in Karawala and Kahmi Tingni, and the sociolinguistic factors which will be discussed below, we can estimate that the language is in imminent danger of extinction within the next two or three generations.

Of these 1181 possibly as many as 150 correspond to the Sütak group, which was living in Kara at the time. The rest must be attributed to Karawala and to several small settlements and isolated houses along the Rio Grande which are inhabited much of the year by people with a family residence in Karawala. The total population of Karawala is listed as 1453. Compare this to the smaller figures presented in section 1.2.1 provided by a more recent census of Karawala carried out by the CODIUL members.
1.2 Karawala

1.2.1 Census data

The fact that Karawala is the only significant Ulwa population center with a coherent group of speakers suggests that it is the last hope for a revival of the language. However, the language of the town is effectively Miskitu, and moreover the townspeople show strong tendencies of conversion to Creole English. Hale (1991a:31) reports that a survey of Karawala school children determined that fewer than 20% of these use Ulwa to communicate with any of their relatives or friends. According to preliminary results of a comprehensive census of the town taken by CODIUL in 1995, Karawala has 935 inhabitants, 85% of whom have some Ulwa "blood". Table 1.1 shows the distribution of Ulwa ethnicity in terms of the percentage of Ulwa "blood" a given person has.

Table 1.1: Distribution of Ulwa ethnic identity (Karawala)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Ulwa &quot;blood&quot;</th>
<th>People</th>
<th>% tot.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>at least 50%</td>
<td>398</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more than 0%</td>
<td>796</td>
<td>85%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

AS shown in table 1.2 below, the Miskitu ethnicity is just slightly weaker in Karawala, with 73% being able to claim some Miskitu heritage.

Table 1.2: Distribution of Miskitu ethnic identity (Karawala)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>% Miskitu &quot;blood&quot;</th>
<th>People</th>
<th>% tot.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>at least 50%</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>37%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>more than 0%</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>73%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

However, as can be seen in table 1.3, only 38% of the population still speaks Ulwa, while virtually everyone (96%) speaks Miskitu.

Moreover, a look at the levels of Ulwa fluency among the different age cross-sections of the community (table 1.4) shows clearly that the relative linguistic dominance of Miskitu is not simply a static state, but rather, it reflects an on-going shift in the linguistic practices of Karawala. Of those people aged 40 years and over, a full 79% are fluent Ulwa speakers. In contrast, only 18% of the younger population (under 20 years old) speaks Ulwa.

These figures indicate that drastic sociolinguistic changes have occurred in Karawala.
Table 1.3: Principal languages and speakers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Language</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
<th>% tot.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ulwa</td>
<td>351</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miskitu</td>
<td>896</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creole (Eng.)</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spanish</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>20%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayangna</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1.4: Ulwa speakers by age group:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age</th>
<th>Pop.</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
<th>% of age grp.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>570</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20-39</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>141</td>
<td>62%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40+</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>79%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

within only the last few decades. To better understand the current situation, I turn now to briefly summarize the complex linguistic history of Karawala.

1.2.2 Origins and early years

According to Knight (1991b), sometime in the early 1890's seven Ulwa families\(^{16}\) floated their canoes down the Rio Grande from a place known as Mango near the "headwaters" of the river.\(^{17}\) After abandoning settlements in at least three different locations, Dapa, Kara, and Wâlang Was, all near the current location of Karawala, these families finally founded the town of Karawala soon after the turn of the century. Moravian mission documents, on the other hand, attribute the founding of the town to the Jamaican pastor Jacob Lewis in 1903 (Grossmann 1924:78), although CIDCA-Anon (n.d.:1), citing the Karawala parroquial register, begins the list of missionaries in Karawala much earlier, with J. Blair in 1884. It is probable that this early Moravian presence was prior to the occupation of the final Karawala site, but that the records from the previously abandoned settlements were carried over into the town register of Karawala.

The original Ulwa families were joined very early on by a number of Mayangna\(^{18}\) Sumu who had apparently migrated south from the Banbana river at around the same time. Thus, from the beginning, Karawala has been divided community, although the Mayanga

\(^{16}\)These are identified in CODIUL/UYUTMUBAL (1994) as Ramón, Walter, Baspau, Julián, Simón, Palmiston and Laahka.

\(^{17}\)The modern identity of Mango is not known, although it is likely to have been somewhere in eastern or central Matagalpa, far downstream from the true source of the river near the capital of the Department. The voyage from Mango to the destination near the mouth of the river is said to have taken six days and nights.

\(^{18}\)This group and their language are casually referred to as Tuahka in Karawala, although, when pressed, most seem to agree that it is actually Panamahka that is spoken by this small segment of the current population. From my occasional exposure to the language it appears to be a variety of Mayangna close to Panamahka but with certain salient differences which point to a heavy Ulwa influence. To avoid propagating the confusion I will refer to this sector of the Karawala population and their language using the Mayangna cover term.
fraction has probably always been significantly smaller. The Mayangna contingent settled together about one kilometer upstream (north) from the much larger Ulwa neighborhood. Each neighborhood is equipped with its own boat landings, and, in the earlier part of the century, one had to pass through swamp or forest to walk between the two. The forest has long since been cleared away and new houses fill the gap, but still the up-stream (bang kau) vs. down-stream (nauh kau) identity distinction remains strong.

From the very beginning, there were many factors promoting the use of Miskitu in Karawala. Miskitu was, and still is, the principal language of the fairly densely populated zone around the mouth of the Rio Grande, and the dominant indigenous language of the coast as a whole. As discussed by Gurdían and Salamanca (1991:1) and Norwood (1993:56-58), the historical Miskitu association with the English gave them a higher position on the ethnic hierarchy of the Atlantic coast, and use of the Miskitu language would have been a first step toward greater economic mobility for the Sumu, who found themselves at the bottom of the hierarchy along with the Rama and Garifuna. The Moravian missionaries used Miskitu in church and school services, which not only augmented its prestige but provided greater exposure to the language. Finally, as noted in CIDCA-Anon (n.d.), Miskitu could also serve as a lingua franca for internal relations between the Ulwa and Mayangna of Karawala.

However, we know from Moravian records that in 1922, even after twenty years of religious services in Miskitu and active encouragement of its use, the language still had not caught on. Grossmann (1923:66) writes:

The work among the Sumus presents problems of its own. In Karawala, for instance, Brother Heath is puzzled about just what course is the best to pursue in view of the linguistic difficulty that hinders education. The children do not understand Miskito sufficiently to use that Indian tongue as the medium of instruction. Sumu literature does not exist. Would it not be best to teach them Spanish, or possibly English?

This indicates that parents were not using Miskitu with their children. It is certain that at least the adult men of the community had good proficiency in the language, as well as some knowledge of Spanish and/or English, as a result of travel and work in the banana, mining, lumber and rubber industries. However, because (with the exception of the banana industry) this labor took place far from Karawala, there were generally few

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19CIDCA-Anon (n.d.) estimated the Ulwa sector of the modern Karawala population to be as high as 80%, which concurs with Hale's (1991a) figure of 75%. The 1995 CODIUL census found 401 people (43% of the population) with some Mayangna heritage, but only 68 (7%) who have 50% or more Mayangna "blood". Moreover, the survey records only 6 full-blood Mayangna, one of whom has since died at the age of 85. Compare these figures with the information for Ulwa and Miskitu in tables ([xxx]-[xxx]). Considering the dominant status of Ulwa in Karawala, it is curious that the nearly all of the 904 Sumu words and expressions recorded there by the Moravian missionary Jacob Lewis in 1909 are actually Mayangna (what he calls Panamaca; Lehmann 1920:559-569).

20Even the name of the town is of Miskitu origin (kára, 'silkgrass' and wála 'other'), as is that of one of the previous settlement sites, Kara. I have heard no explanation for the fact that the town was given a Miskitu name, but it is an indicator of the Miskitu supremacy in the region at the time.

21Karawala residents say that, up until the hurricane of 1940, the banks along both sides of the Rio Grande were a continuous banana plantation, all the way up river to La Cruz (about 75 km inland). As CIDCA-Anon. (n.d.) notes, "only if a man had an alternative source of income (e.g. as a carpenter) could he have passed up the opportunity to plant bananas on the banks of the Rio Grande and sell them to the banana boats that descended weekly from La Cruz."
men living at home. And after sigatoka disease destroyed the banana crops in the late 30’s, followed by hurricanes in 1940 and 1941, the men had to travel even farther to find work. The situation in 1941 is described by Danneberger (1941:44):

A few years ago thousands of bunches of bananas were shipped but the past year saw the boats and barges stop altogether. [...] Consequently Karawala and the villages of Little Sandy Bay and El Gallo were completely emptied of men who went to the mahogany and mining camps in search of work. The work at Karawala and Little Sandy Bay had to be carried on by the women who remained behind. Christmas was the happiest time of the year as it brought many men home from their work.

The government had established a (Spanish) school in Karawala in 1939 (Danneberger 1940). However, the fact that the schooling was done in Spanish does not at all mean that the children going to these schools became speakers of the language. Conversations with middle-aged and older Karawala inhabitants who attended this school reveal that the situation was hardly conducive to learning Spanish. There were 50 or 60 children of all age groups in a single room with a teacher who knew nothing of Miskitu or Ulwa, and the language instruction was limited to rote memorization of spelling words in a totally foreign and impenetrable language. This concurs with accounts of the Spanish schools in Creole communities in the early part of the century, as reported in Yih and Slate (1985):

Mr. Robert Temple of Pearl Lagoon, born in [1894], recalls, “we read in Spanish and we don’t understand one thing. [...] We get to spell the words and everything in Spanish but we don’t know what the words mean!” (p. 25)

As will be discussed in the following section, the linguistic turning point in Karawala history appears to have been in 1950, when the Nolan lumber company built a sawmill there and caused major alterations in the demographic and economic profile of the town. To better identify the changes that took place in the Nolan era I now present a synthesis of what the linguistic situation in Karawala was probably like on the eve of the American company’s arrival.

Older residents say that Karawala had a population of approximately 400 people before the arrival of the lumber company, and that at that time the primary language of the community was Ulwa. One of the members of the Ulwa Language Committee, Abanel Lacayo Blanco, provides us with an informative example. Lacayo, born in 1934, is of mixed Ulwa, Mayangna, and Garifuna ancestry. Although his family spoke only Mayangna and Miskitu at home, and he grew up in the Mayangna neighborhood, he had become a fluent speaker of Ulwa before the age of 15, simply due to use of Ulwa in in the course of everyday social contact outside the home. That would have been 1949, immediately before the arrival of Nolan.

Certainly all men were fluent speakers of Miskitu. After a half century of Miskitu religious instruction and exposure to the language in other contexts, most women were fully proficient as well. Ulwa was, however, the dominant household language of the town. As many as 80% of all families used Ulwa as their primary language, and all children in these families spoke Ulwa with native proficiency. The sharp gender-based differences in labor practices and social mobility ensured that girls and women of these families remained strongly Ulwa-dominant, while boys would become proficient in Miskitu probably by the time they reached adolescence. Mayangna had a similar “family language” status for roughly
20% of the town. However, among the two Sumu languages of Karawala, Ulwa clearly prevailed, and its status was strong enough that even boys from non-Ulwa families learned it, as in Lacayo's case. The isolated setting of the community and the fact that the transmission of native language depended primarily on the mother lead us to believe that the situation as it stood before 1950 had reached a more or less stable state of bilingualism, similar to that which still holds today in many Mayangna Sumu villages to the north. The much-documented Sumu tradition of endogamy (Castillo and Zurita 1984; 29) would have helped to maintain the status quo.

1.2.3 The turning point: 1950

In 1950, the Nolan Lumber Company (of U.S. ownership) began an extensive operation in Karawala. A large steam-powered sawmill was set up near the landing of the Mayangna neighborhood, and a Miskitu and Creole labor force was brought in to supplement the local supply of workers. Logs of pine were cut from the large pine forests farther up the Rio Grande and floated down from Makantaka (about 50 km up river) to Karawala, where the sawmill worked 24 hours a day. The cut lumber was then shipped in flatboats out to a small group of islands some 15 km off the coast, known as the Man O'War Cays, to be loaded onto ocean-going vessels too large to enter the river. Karawala quickly became a bustling company town, and according to CIDCA-Anon (n.d.:3), "attracted some ten shops of which eight were of chinese ownership, a cinema, and a constant flow of immigrants, mostly Miskitos and Creoles." An airstrip was cleared and commercial flights landed three times a day; anyone could buy a plane ticket to fly to Karawala on the airline La Nica (Pataky 1956:34).

The town was visited in 1953 by László Pataky, who wrote about it in his Nicaragua Desconocida (1956). As the sawmill was located in the Mayangna neighborhood, Pataky, noting the division, referred to the Ulwa section of the community (downstream) as “Karawala Viejo” (Old Karawala), with a population of 370, and considered the Mayangna end of town (“Karawala Nuevo”) to be simply a product of the lumber business. And this was basically correct, as the neighborhood had swollen to 140 houses and 800 people: “blacks, the so-called Spanish from the interior of Nicaragua, Mosquitos, Sumos and some 60 Chinese merchants, barkeepers and cooks” (Pataky 1956:34). While CIDCA-Anon. (n.d.:3) asserts that the mill employed about 140 workers, it seems that either this figure is too low or that the operation attracted an additional 500 people who did not work for the mill directly.

Let us now consider the linguistic impact of Nolan's arrival. First, the existence of jobs in Karawala caused most of the men to come back home, increasing the younger generation's access to the Miskitu language. Second, and most important, the Sumu-speaking population was now a minority in their own town, and an economically subordinate one at that. The ethnic hierarchy which still holds strongly today in Karawala was probably the same in 1950: The Sumu population of Karawala now had to confront their ethnic inferiority complex inside their own community as well as outside. They were ashamed to be Sumu and to speak their native Sumu (Ulwa or Mayangna) languages, and their incipient bilingualism with Miskitu gave them a choice: become Miskitu and move up in the world, or remain Sumu and stay at the bottom. Many believed that their children would be better off not knowing Ulwa or Mayangna at all. A bilingual situation can remain stable indefinitely, but it also carries with it the potential of instant language death at the whim of the speakers,
Table 1.5: Ethnic Hierarchy, Karawala

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Black North American</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Creole, Mestizo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Miskitu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Sumu (Ulwa, Mayangna)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

and this is basically what happened in Karawala. Miskitu was readily accessible, Creole English and Spanish (the next level higher than Miskitu) were not.

The Nolan era lasted only seven years in Karawala, after which the operation was moved up the Rio Grande to Makantaka.\(^{22}\) The shops\(^{23}\) and cinema closed and the airplanes stopped arriving. Nearly all of the immigrants who had been attracted to the sawmill moved on. But the linguistic damage had been done. The language of the town had become Miskitu and there was no will to turn back. Only in a few exceptional cases did Ulwa continue to be spoken. The younger three members of the Committee, Lorinda Martínez Lacayo, Francisco Santiago William and Leonzo Knight Julián, are examples of this type of exception. All were born during or after the Nolan years, and are strongly native Ulwa speakers. Each grew up either with an exceptionally strong mother figure who insisted on speaking Ulwa with her children, or with an especially monolingual mother who had no choice. And in the few cases that exist today in which children are learning Ulwa, it is likewise through the influence of an exceptional and determined mother.

Today in the same way that the Sumu town of the early 1900's gradually picked up Miskitu, the modern inhabitants of Karawala, always looking to climb to the next rung of the ladder, are slowly but surely acquiring Creole English and Spanish as second languages. Intermarriage with other ethnic groups is now common and desired. In 1994 I witnessed three marriages in Karawala; in each case an Ulwa woman from Karawala married a Creole man from outside. The Miskitu-speaking Moravian and Anglican churches in the town are now receiving stiff competition from a Creole-speaking Evangelical group which arrived recently from the Creole-Miskitu town of Tasba Pauni.\(^{24}\) Ties with Tasba Pauni on the whole are becoming very strong, at the expense of relations with the neighboring Miskitu communities of Sandy Bay Sirpi and Kara.

It was against this backdrop in 1987 that certain members of the Ulwa population of Karawala decided to act. The next chapter describes the Ulwa Language Committee and the projects they have undertaken to prevent the loss of their language.

\(^{22}\)Nolan was followed by two smaller and short-lived lumber enterprises of Nicaraguan ownership.
\(^{23}\)One chinese shopkeeper remained in Karawala and, as of 1996, still ran a very small-scale shop there.
\(^{24}\)Tasba Pauni was, as late as the 1970's (Nietzsche 1973) a Miskitu community. Today, however, the majority of the younger population speaks only Creole.
Chapter 2

The Ulwa Language Project

2.1 Foundation

As Hale (1991a:28) describes, the Ulwa Language Project was first conceived of in light of the autonomy movement of the Atlantic coast region of Nicaragua. The Autonomy Statute was ratified into the Nicaraguan Constitution by the National Assembly in 1987, giving the various ethnic minority groups in the Atlantic Coast region the right to preserve their language and culture and to teach these in the public schools, through the Program of Bilingual and Intercultural Education (PEBI) of Nicaragua’s Ministry of Education. In that year the community of Karawala had sent a spokesman to the Regional Committee of the Sandinista government in Bluefields to solicit assistance in beginning a project to document and help rescue the Ulwa language. The request eventually reached Ken Hale at MIT, who was at the time involved in work on the Miskitu language and its use in bilingual education. Hale became involved, and in early 1988, worked with Abanel Lacayo Blanco in Bluefields to begin investigating the language by assembling material for a preliminary dictionary of 500 words (Hale and Lacayo 1988). Lacayo had been chosen in Karawala in a planning meeting by those members of the community concerned about the future of the Ulwa language, but there was as yet no formal group dedicated to work on the language. However, after many such community meetings over the course of the year 1988, a core group of six especially dedicated individuals emerged. Late in the year, this group officially became the Ulwa Language Committee (CODIUL/UYUTMUBAL);¹ it is still made up of the six original members:

Table 2.1: Ulwa Language Committee, 1988-present

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Leonzo Knight Julián</th>
<th>President</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lorinda Martínez Lacayo</td>
<td>Treasurer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francisco Santiago William</td>
<td>Secretary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abanel Lacayo Blanco</td>
<td>Elder, carpenter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clementina Abraham Simón</td>
<td>Elder</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kandler Santiago Simón</td>
<td>Elder, nature consultant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All Committee members, with the exception of Abanel Lacayo Blanco, are native

¹CODIUL stands for Comité Del Idioma Ulwa, and UYUTMUBAL comes from Ulwah Yulka Tunak Muihka Balna ('leaders of the Ulwa language').
speakers of Ulwa. Lacayo’s background was mentioned in section 1.2.2; he is a linguistically
gifted individual whose perfect mastery of Ulwa is comparable to that of a native speaker.
Although the group functions as a democracy, there is a meaningful division between the
top and bottom three members on the list. Leonzo Knight Julián, Lorinda Martínez La-
cayo and Francisco Santiago William are professional school teachers (although Martínez
now dedicates full-time to the Ulwa project), literate in Miskitu, Ulwa and Spanish, and
otherwise more educated than the three elders. Because of this division, the younger three
work more regular hours and do all the written work in the Project.

2.2 Activities of the Ulwa Language Project

As soon as the Ulwa Language Committee had formed in 1988, they set about collecting
more dictionary entries (which led to the appearance of a greatly expanded dictionary,
Codiul/Uyutmubal et al. 1989), documenting the history of Karawala (of which
Knight 1991b is the first chapter), and collecting stories and ethnographic essays in Ulwa.2
Abanel Lacayo Blanco spent 1990 and 1991 building a house for the Project, which serves
as a meeting and work place as well as a dormitory for collaborators such as Hale and me.
The “office” has proved to be indispensable in the work of the project, since private homes
are extremely short of space and heavily populated by children. Perhaps more importantly,
it has served as a beacon of publicity for the Project; both within the community and
elsewhere, the Ulwa language has earned recognition and respect, simply by virtue of having
an entire building dedicated to it. Even after the office was completed, however, work
continued only sporadically, since funds were scarce and the Committee members had to
worry about survival first.

Finally, in 1993 the Ulwa Language Project received a major two-year grant from the
National Science Foundation. The grant payed travel and equipment expenses, overhead
costs for the Project’s two support institutions, MIT and CIDCA, and provided $400 per
month over the two-year period as compensation for the work done by Committee members
and other Karawala residents who help the project. The hourly wage that the Project
was thus able to pay to the Committee staff and to other consultants was slightly higher
than that received by school teachers in the town; this is by no means extravagant, but to
pay more would have almost certainly caused animosity toward the Committee from other
members of the community, thus severely jeopardizing the Project.

The eventual goal of the Ulwa Language Project is to restore the daily use of the
Ulwa language and thereby ensure its survival for future generations. This goal must be
approached from as many angles as possible, through linguistic documentation, education,
propaganda, and even incentive programs, economic and otherwise. In the remainder of this
chapter I enumerate some of the more specific objectives of the Project and the progress
that has been made in attaining them.

2.2.1 The Dictionary

One of the first goals of the Ulwa Language Project has been to compile a lexical database
of useful size, at least 4000 entries. As a bare minimum, each entry must associate an Ulwa
morpheme, word or expression with its equivalents in the three predominant languages of

2One such story, Nung balna Ampa Bungna ya Yulka ('How the Numerals Appeared'), was published in
Wani (Knight 1991a).
the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua: Miskitu, Spanish and English. A lexical entry must also encode information necessary for successful use of the Ulwa expression, both morphologically and syntactically. Generally this is reinforced by providing one or more example sentences with their translations into the three target languages.

This goal has very nearly been met. A database of some 3600 separate senses has been collected in electronic form, although it is not in final form and not all translations are complete in all target languages. A snapshot of latest version of this database is provided in appendix B, although in this thesis only the Ulwa and English language portions of the dictionary were selected for printing. The 1100 entries from the previous published version (CODIUL/UYUTMUBAL et al. 1989) have been expanded, corrected and generally improved. The single computerized database allows the production of various distinct types of printed dictionaries—one for each of the three target languages, including reverse dictionaries (Miskitu-Ulwa, Spanish-Ulwa and English-Ulwa), abridged “pocket” editions to be distributed among school children, and a large quadrilingual volume. The database has also served to create a 160-page illustrated children’s dictionary, now in its second edition (CODIUL/UYUTMUBAL 1995). Since the Project will not produce dictionaries that associate directly between Miskitu and Spanish or Miskitu and English, this will promote the use of Ulwa by school children even in the process of learning Spanish and English. For example, a child will have access to a Spanish-Ulwa dictionary and an Ulwa-Miskitu dictionary, but none for Spanish-Miskitu; to find the Miskitu translation of an unfamiliar Spanish word, then, the child must first find the Ulwa equivalent of the Spanish term and then look up the Ulwa form to find the Miskitu.

2.2.1.1 Lexicon of Flora and Fauna

In an effort to begin documenting Ulwa speakers’ extensive knowledge of the flora and fauna of the area, several full-day expeditions into the wilderness surrounding Karawala have been undertaken, as well as various shorter excursions. The purpose was to have plant and animal experts from each of the Ulwa, Miskitu and Spanish-speaking ethnic groups present in the field at the same time, to confront the actual subject matter and ensure a correct match between vocabulary items and species in the three languages. The expeditions have so far proved extremely fruitful, especially in the plant and bird domains, and in the future this sort of activity promises to be a great help in exploring this area of the Ulwa cultural and linguistic heritage. Also, during these preliminary excursions over a hundred plant photos were taken, and scores of specimens were collected, 30 of which were later press-dried and taken to the National Herbarium in Managua for positive identification.

2.2.2 Texts

Aside from compiling a dictionary, another objective of the Project has been to create a body of literature in Ulwa as quickly as possible. So far the Committee members have collected

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3We have also made an effort to provide Creole English equivalents where possible.
4In addition to the 3600 computerized lexical entries, there are some 1000 index cards that remain to be entered into the database.
5Besides the Committee’s own Ulwa expert in the area of flora and fauna, Kandler Santiago Simón, the Project is extremely fortunate to have Tomás William (Miskitu) and José Castillo (Spanish) as collaborators. Each possesses an encyclopedic knowledge of the subject matter in his native language.
6I would especially like to thank Milton Castrillo, taxonomist at the Herbarium for instructing me in the techniques of collecting and preserving plant samples and for identifying the specimens brought to Managua.
traditional legends, fables, and oral histories, and have written historical and ethnographic essays and conversational dialogs. Several popular fables and short stories have also been translated from written Miskitu sources. Many of these are of common Miskitu/Sumu or of unknown origin, and have the advantage that children are already familiar with them. Some of the short stories collected are original works conceived by Committee members or solicited from elders in the community. Lorinda Martínez Lacayo in particular has dedicated much of her time to writing stories directly from spoken Ulwa sources collected by herself and two of the elders of the Committee, Clementina Abraham Simón and Kandler Santiago Simón. At some time in the near future, we plan to publish a sizable compilation of short works of Ulwa fiction and non-fiction for use in the Karawala school.

The Project has also completed a larger work of literature translation. Leonzo Knight Julián spent several months of 1994 translating a medium-sized pulp western novel from Spanish into Ulwa. The result, Sau Waska Dikuh ka (‘The Land is Thirsty’—from Keystone 1992) is a draft of 185 hand-written pages, which we have not yet finished typesetting and editing. It represents the first text of this size ever produced in Ulwa. The subject matter is directly accessible to the population, and after reading the Spanish version, committee members were extremely enthusiastic about translating it into Ulwa.

2.2.2.1 Autobiographical recordings

A “linguistic time-capsule” program was initiated in 1994, whereby selected elders of the community were each given one hour of tape time to record a message in Ulwa to their future descendents. The message preferably tells about their life and the lives of their parents and grandparents. I provide here excerpts from one such recording, made by Humberto Simón:

Mádi dislah mülü, buhki balna, manna kau mána yultayang. Yang iwing kau atrang bik, yulki balna yultayang áka daki atramna. Yang ayangki áka Humberto Simón, manna kau dápayang yangna pápanghki ayangka dadang ya Isa Simón. Yang laih alawing áka mambahki kung làwasing; yang baka palka yang kau iwang mambahki. [...] Yang alawing ya dákima disana ya, al as yá alatang alas makun dadang. Alas tukwingka dadang; alas yaka kidak dapi isparah alka dadang. Di lauti malai, wilis, wakisah balna lauti yang yá alatang. [...] Dákima yaka alas ayangka ya Luastin Simón...

This morning, my grandchildren and great grandchildren, I am talking to you. Even if I am dead, you will still hear the words I am saying now. My name is Humberto Simón, and my father’s name was Isa Simón. I did not know my mother as I was growing up; she died when I was very little. [...] I was raised by my grandfather; he was very poor and he raised me. He was a worker, an axe and machete man. He raised me planting crops like manioc, yautia, and bananas. [...] My grandfather’s name was Luastin Simón...

Tukwai dadang ayangka yaka Wiyawas, alas yau kutwai dadang damaska pas yau. Alas yau kutwi di balna, kusih, kataramah, yá balna alati yangna yau (Wiyawas kau) yá alatang. Yaupak yang bik di isau taling baka yang katka. Yangna balna yaka di isau yangna kátang dákima disana yaka, isparah, kidak tusnaka balna; yang kau di wák, ulnaka balna laih yátasa, yá sumaltasa dadang katka, isparah, kidak tukwanaka bitah kauh laih amangka yang kátang bahangh mádi kat bik yang tākit kau yapa yawayang yaka balna yamti. Yapa bik kūkahki
He lived and worked in a place called Wiyawas (lit. 'paca river,' now known as Sáni Tingni). There he raised animals such as pigs and chickens, and he raised us in Wiyawas as well. I had already seen a lot of things even when I was still little. My grandfather showed us many things, clearing land with axe and machete and so forth; he didn’t teach me to read and write, I didn’t get that kind of an education, but he taught me plenty about working in the bush, and that is why I’m still doing that kind of work. My grandmother was also a hard worker; she worked in the bush with my grandfather. [...] She would feed us harvesting the crops such as yautia, and making wabul (beverage from boiled mashed bananas). I am telling you all this today, my grandchildren, so you will hear how we grew up in the old days, how they raised me.

Each tape was made in a (sometimes several hour-long) session in the home of the speaker, in the company of two Committee members of the same sex as the speaker. The speaker was reimbursed for his or her time and promised a copy of the tape, as well as a written transcription in Ulwa. In the event that the speaker’s descendents do not understand Ulwa, written translations in both Miskitu and Spanish will also be provided. One master copy of each tape will be kept in the CIDCA library in Managua, and the speaker’s descendents will be able to get additional copies of the tape from CIDCA by covering the cost of a blank tape. So far, ten such time capsule tapes have been made, and the Committee members have begun the considerable task of transcribing them.

2.2.3 Descriptive Grammar

This thesis represents the beginnings of a reference grammar of the Ulwa language. It provides the first detailed survey of Ulwa phonology, morphology and lexicography. It will be augmented with syntactic and semantic coverage at a later time.

2.2.4 Education

Complementary to the important goal of documenting the Ulwa language is that of actually restoring its use. For the latter objective to be met, the Project faces the difficult, frustrating, and costly task of educating the younger generations. It is not simply a question of creating “another bilingual education program” analogous to PEBI-Miskitu and PEBI-Sumu (Mayangna).7 The unimpeachable rationale of these programs is to facilitate a child’s overall education by carrying it out in his or her own language, at least until Spanish is gradually introduced in higher grades. If there is ever a PEBI-Ulwa in this sense, it will mean that the Project has succeeded.

The Karawala school participates in the PEBI-Miskitu program, with partial Spanish instruction beginning in second grade and increasing until sixth grade, when all instruction

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7PEBI refers to the Program in Bilingual and Intercultural Education of the Nicaraguan Ministry of Education.
is done in Spanish. The importance of Spanish for further education prospects is obvious, as is the need to use Miskitu in the earlier years. The question, then, is how to incorporate an additional second language into this already demanding educational sequence. Once a workable scheme can be agreed upon by the community, the teachers, and the Ministry of Education, there will still be the need for new classroom materials and teacher training. These are currently the weakest areas in the Project, not only because of funding and time limitations but also because I have no expertise in the field of education. Our strategy at the moment is to lay the groundwork by creating some teaching materials and making sure there is a good dictionary, grammar, and ample supply of texts ready for publishing by 1996, when the Project will seek new funding exclusively for the purposes of education.

It is worth noting that the Karawala population is convinced that the children are already "almost" speakers of Ulwa, and that the entire Miskitu component of their schooling should simply be switched to Ulwa right away. The Committee members are of the same opinion, and Francisco Santiago dedicated four months in 1994 to translating a first-grade literacy textbook developed by PEBI-Sumu (Mayangna) into Ulwa. Since the Sumu book had been written with a native-speaking audience in mind, it seems unlikely that Santiago's Ulwa translation will be usable without significant alteration and reorganization.

Fuller examination of the problems and prospects of introducing Ulwa into the Karawala classrooms go beyond the scope of this thesis. We close the discussion here, humbly noting that this is the area in which the Ulwa Language Project could most use extra outside help and collaboration.

2.3 Conclusion

It is the conviction of the Project members that the Ulwa language can not only be rescued from extinction, but that it can be made stronger than ever, by instilling pride in its speakers that was absent before. The Ulwa Language Project has begun to create a body of literary, scholarly and educational materials which will be necessary in the fight against the loss of their language. But more importantly, the process of doing this work is creating a trained team of Ulwa speakers who can continue the program of investigating, promoting and rescuing their linguistic heritage.

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8Fortunately, there is a grain of truth to this belief, since the grammars of the two languages are indeed almost identical. For a speaker of Miskitu, the task of gaining reasonable proficiency in Ulwa boils down to memorizing a whole new set of lexical items and morphological paradigms.
Chapter 3

Segmental Phonology and Syllable Structure

This chapter discusses aspects of Ulwa phonetics and phonology that are expressible at the segmental or syllabic level. In chapter 4 we turn to higher level generalizations—those that refer to groupings of syllables and rhythmic alternations that are best described in terms of such units.

3.1 Segmental phonology

3.1.1 Consonants

Table 3.1: Ulwa nonsyllabic phonemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LABIAL</th>
<th>ALVEOLAR</th>
<th>VELAR</th>
<th>GLOTTAL</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PLOSIVE</td>
<td>b</td>
<td>d</td>
<td>(g)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>p</td>
<td>t</td>
<td>k</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FRICATIVE</td>
<td>s</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>NASAL</td>
<td>m</td>
<td>n</td>
<td>η</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>η</td>
<td>η</td>
<td>ŋ</td>
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<tr>
<td>LATERAL</td>
<td>l</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>RHOTIC</td>
<td></td>
<td>r</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SEMICONSONANT</td>
<td>w</td>
<td>y</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ŵ</td>
<td>ŭ</td>
<td>h</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.1 shows the inventory of distinctive nonsyllabic segments found in Ulwa. As can be noted from the table, a voicing distinction is active across nearly all points and manners of articulation. All voiced segments have a corresponding voiceless phoneme, and only /h/, /s/ and /k/ lack voiced counterparts.¹ The Ulwa alveolar consonants are similar in

¹While the voiced velar stop /g/ does in fact appear in a handful of obvious English loanwords, it is found
articulation to their English counterparts; they are not as dental as those of, say, Spanish. In casual speech, the voiceless stops /p, t, k/ are always fully released when followed by /r, l, w, y/, and unreleased in word-final position or when followed by a stop (be it voiced, voiceless, or nasal). They are slightly aspirated before vowels, but not nearly so much as their English counterparts. The voiced stops /b, d/ do not appear in preconsonantal or word-final position. The only fricative in Ulwa is /s/; it has no voiced variant in any environment, and appears to be uniformly alveolar across speakers and in all environments.

The pervasive voicing contrast in the Ulwa segmental inventory is perhaps most striking in the set of sonorant consonants. Here, along with the usual /m, n, η, l, r, w, y/ voiced phonemes, is a parallel series of voiceless segments /m, n, η, l, r, w, y/. Some examples are given in (2).

(2) a. /mp/ kumh-pai /kumpl-pai/ ‘touch-PRES3’
   b. /nb/ sanh /saŋ/ ‘absent’
   c. /ŋl/ kāngh /kaŋŋ/ ‘gripping tightly’
   d. /nl/ nāwalh /naːwaŋ/ ‘demon’
   e. /rl/ sūrh /suːr/ ‘hummingbird’
   f. /wl/ pāuh /paːw/ ‘mojarra (fish)’
   g. /yl/ luīh /luːɣ/ ‘all, every’

The rhotic /r/ is trilled in coda position (i.e. word-finally or preceding a consonant), and surfaces as the flap [ɾ] intervocally. The laterals /l, ɾ/ are clear (non-velarized) in all environments, and the voiceless variant is produced in a breathy but non-fricative manner.

Ulwa has, in addition, what I will treat as a plain /h/ phoneme. As shown in the following examples, /h/ appears in two environments: (3) intervocally (as a syllable onset), and (4) as the sole coda consonant in a syllable. Unlike the orthographic h indicating voicelessness in sonorant consonants and glides (see section 3.1.3), this /h/ is a true segment, and thus the word nāh has the shape [CVVC]. Examples of /h/ in coda position are given in (3):

in at most one Ulwa morpheme, the root āguguh ‘song, sing’. As a monomorphemic verb root, āguguh is anomalous for prosodic reasons as well as segmental (see section 4.2); it is most probably a recent borrowing from an as yet undetermined source. In fact, Lehmann (1920; 536), Conzemius (1929; 103), and Argiello (1938; 13) all report the form un-bau (unknown by modern speakers) as the stem of the verb ‘to sing’. Unlike āguguh, un-bau has a straightforward bimorphemic analysis in Ulwa, and, although its use had died out in the modern language, some Ulwa speakers are now reviving the archaic form as a substitute for āguguh in acknowledgement of the latter’s “un-Ulwa” flavor. We therefore do not consider /g/ to be a native phoneme of Ulwa.

2 But see section 3.2.4 regarding [tr] clusters. In this environment alone, the Ulwa /t/ takes on a markedly dental character.

3 This contrasts with the /s/ in Karawala dialect of Miskitu, which may often be heard in palatal distributed form or in a retroflex variant.

4 The orthography used here is described in section 3.1.3. In this thesis I do not mark the location of primary stress in polysyllabic forms, except in examples which concern stress placement. See section 4.4 for discussion of the stress pattern of Ulwa.

5 Due to distributional constraints on the voiceless sonorants, discussed in section 3.2.2, /l/ does not appear intervocically, so there is no corresponding voiceless flap in Ulwa.

6 When /h/ is immediately preceded by a high vowel it may take on the articulatory features of its neighbor, thus appearing as a kind of voiceless off-glide of the vowel. In other words, if examples like those in (3) were given careful phonetic transcriptions, the /h/ might be replaced with [ŋ] or [ŋ̃] depending on the preceding vowel. I consider this assimilation to be phonologically insignificant, and the phonemic /h/ in these examples is not to be confused with the underlying voiceless glides /w, y/. See section 3.2.3 for discussion of why it would be problematic to assume otherwise.
While exceedingly common in coda position, /h/ occurs intervocally with a fairly low frequency. The flanking vowels are obligatorily short, and generally (though not always) identical. Examples are given in (4):

(4)  
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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>/aha/</td>
<td>bahangh</td>
<td>/bahaŋ/</td>
<td>‘because’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>/ahi/</td>
<td>(unattested)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>/ahu/</td>
<td>tahu</td>
<td>/tahu/</td>
<td>‘outhouse’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td>/iha/</td>
<td>sihari</td>
<td>/sihari/</td>
<td>‘reed sp.’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e.</td>
<td>/ihi/</td>
<td>ihibil</td>
<td>/ihibil/</td>
<td>‘ginger’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f.</td>
<td>/ihu/</td>
<td>bihu</td>
<td>/bihu/</td>
<td>‘fruit sp.’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g.</td>
<td>/uha/</td>
<td>puhang-ka</td>
<td>/puhaŋka/</td>
<td>‘fluffy-ADJ’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h.</td>
<td>/uhi/</td>
<td>dhuhing</td>
<td>/duhing/</td>
<td>‘haul:PERF1’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i.</td>
<td>/uhi/</td>
<td>luhus</td>
<td>/luhus/</td>
<td>‘foam, froth’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.1.2 Vowels

Ulwa has a simple three-vowel system, with contrasting length, as shown in table 3.2. High vowels, both long and short, are tense. The short /a/ is noticeably raised in comparison with its long counterpart, approaching [æ]. That vowel length is distinctive and unpredictable is illustrated by dozens of minimal pairs and hundreds of near-minimal pairs. A few examples are given in (5–7).7

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</table>

Table 3.2: Ulwa vowels

<p>| | | | | | | |</p>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FRONT</td>
<td></td>
<td>BACK</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>i, i:</td>
<td></td>
<td>u, u:</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOW</td>
<td></td>
<td>a, a:</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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7Apart from lexically specified long vowels, there is a process of vowel lengthening in certain strong-stressed open syllables (see section 4.2.4). Because the stress generalization itself is sensitive to underlying vowel quantity, the result is that some of the minimal pairs in (5–7) also exhibit contrasting stress patterns and therefore additional vowel length contrasts on the surface. Examples of actual surface pairs are [akâ]/[á:ka] (5b), [sanâ]/[sâ:na] (5d), and [umâ:na]/[ü:mana] (6b). The CODIUL/UYUTMUBAL orthography does not mark vowels that are lengthened by this rule; in this thesis I represent these lengthened vowels in phonetic (e.g. [umá:na]) but not in phonemic (/umana/) transcriptions.
(5) a. bas /bas/ ‘hair, leaf’
    bās /baːs/ ‘three’
b. aka /aka/ ‘tobacco’
    āka /aːka/ ‘this’
c. w-ak /wak/ ‘come-OBV3’
    wāk /waːk/ ‘other’
d. sana /ساː/ ‘deer’
    sā-na /saːna/ ‘shuck-PERF33’
e. laih /laː/ ‘TOPIC’
    lāih /laːj/ ‘clear’
f. kauh /kaʊ/ ‘towards, instead’
    kāuḥ /kaʊː/ ‘ashes’

(6) a. yul /yuːl/ ‘word, language, story’
    yůl /yuːl/ ‘termite sp.’
b. umana /uːmana/ ‘old (of things)’
    ū-mana /uːmana/ ‘house-CNS22’
c. una /una/ ‘Spanish, mestizo’
    ūna /una/ ‘abnormal growth’

(7) a. wit /wit/ ‘end’
    wít /wit/ ‘be floating, hanging’
b. sik-ka /siːkka/ ‘large-ADJ’
    sīk-ka /siːkka/ ‘anhinga-CNS3’
c. sirh /siːr/ ‘loan’
    sīr /siːr/ ‘pygmy kingfisher’

3.1.2.1 Diphthongs

The glides (both voiced and voiceless) /w, ʍ, y, ʏ/ play an important role in Ulwa, combining with preceding short and long nuclear vowels to create the rich armament of diphthongs that seems to be a common trait of the Misumalpan languages. The only combinations so far unattested are /iːw/ and /uːy/—I am inclined to believe that these are accidental gaps, given the proportionally low numbers of extraheavy ([CVVC]ᵢ) syllables in the first place. Examples are given in (8–10) below.⁸

(8) a. /aʊ/ nau /nau/ ‘law’
    /aːʊ/ nauh /nau/ ‘downriver’
b. /aːw/ tāu /taːw/ ‘coyol palm’
    /aːw/ sāuh /sɑːw/ ‘crane, heron’
c. /aːj/ dai-ka /daɪka/ ‘brother-in-law-CNS3’
    /aːj/ dāih-ka /daɪka/ ‘hot-ADJ’
d. /aːj/ āisau /aɪsaw/ ‘no, none’
    /aːj/ lāih /laːj/ ‘clear, obvious’

⁸The marked phonetic difference in height between long and short /a/ is especially salient in diphthongs: /aː/ and /aʊ/ sound nearly identical to their counterparts in the so-called ‘Canadian raising’ dialects of English, while the long-vowel diphthongs /aːw/ and /aːj/ more closely resemble the drawn-out American English house and ride.
This thesis uses the system of orthographic conventions that have been adopted by CODIUL/UYUTMUBAL, following the long-standing Miskitu orthography established by Moravian missionaries a century ago. These are outlined in (11):

(9) a. /iw/ siulis /siwlis/ 'swallow (bird spp.)'
    /iy/ riuh /riw/ 'shock'

b. /i:w/ (unattested)
    /i:w/ wiuh /wi:w/ 'ouch!

(10) a. /uy/ kui-naka /kuynaka/ 'ask for-INF3'
    /uy/ kuih-naka /kuynaka/ 'reach-INF3'

b. /u:y/ (unattested)
    /u:y/ siiuh /su:y/ 'any bat or nocturnal bird'

3.1.3 Orthographic conventions

This thesis uses the system of orthographic conventions that have been adopted by CODIUL/UYUTMUBAL, following the long-standing Miskitu orthography established by Moravian missionaries a century ago. These are outlined in (11):

(11) a. **Long vowels:**
    written with a circumflex (á, í, û) if the length is unpredictable; otherwise unmarked. See section 4.2.4 for discussion of when vowel length is predictable. For example, both tâ-ka-t ([tâ:kat], 'in front-INF3') and ana-ka-t ([ana:kat], 'below-INF3') contain long vowels, but the vowel of the second syllable in the latter form, ana-ka-t is predictably long, so it is not marked according to the UYUTMUBAL/CODIUL orthography.

b. **Voiced glides (/w, y/):**
    written w, y in intervocalic and word-initial position (e.g., yawah ('go-IMPER2'), and u, i elsewhere. The 'elsewhere' case primarily covers the occurrence of a glide as the second part of a diphthong, as shown in the forms in examples (8-10). However, it also applies in the rare case of a complex onset involving an obstruent-glide cluster.9

c. **Voiceless glides (/v, ÿ/):**
    written as Vh, where V is the vowel that most closely resembles the glide in articulation. Hence, /v/ is written uh and /y/ is ih. These digraphs, which represent one segment, are easily distinguished from the identically written bisegmental sequences, because the former occur only post-vocally (i.e. in coda position, as in nauh, láih), while the latter contain the only vowel in the syllable position (kuh, pih).

d. **The velar nasal (/ŋ/):**
    written ng. As /g/ does not occur in native words, there is no danger of confusing this with the bisegmental sequence /ng/.10

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9The only clear example of such a complex onset is /kw/, which appears in words like kuah ([kwah]) 'hicatee turtle'. See section 3.2 for more discussion of onset clusters.

10Moreover, in borrowings, /n+g/ appears only in intervocalic position (as a coda-onset sequence), and the phoneme /ŋ/ does not occur intervocally (see section 3.3) except in word-final position when followed by a vowel-initial word.
e. **Other voiceless sonorants** (/ɾ, ɾ, ɳ, ɲ, ŋ/): written as h-final digraphs (and trigraph): (lh, rh, nh, mh, ngh). Since, as described in section 3.3, a true segmental /h/ does not occur immediately after a consonant of any sort (not even from a preceding word), and since furthermore the voiceless sonorants do not occur prevocally (i.e., they are restricted to the syllable coda), this convention introduces no ambiguity of interpretation.

### 3.2 Syllable structure

#### 3.2.1 Basic generalizations

Almost without exception, we can schematize the possible Ulwa syllable structure as in (12):

(12) Ulwa syllable template (core)

\[ [(C_1)V(:)(C_2)]_σ \]

We will refer to the optional initial consonant, \( C_1 \), as the **onset** and \( C_2 \) as the **coda** of the syllable, \( V(:) \) being the **nucleus**, which can consist of a single short or long vowel. Glides and \( /h/ \) (the phoneme, not the orthographic symbol) are considered as C's. While it is quite restrictive and admits at most one onset- and one coda-consonant, the template in (12) describes a set of 'core' syllable shapes (from the smallest \([V]_σ \) to the largest \([CV:C]_σ \)) that encompasses nearly all Ulwa words that have been catalogued. The few known exceptions to this template are dealt with in section 3.2.4. Examples are given in (13).

(13) a. \([V]_σ \)  uba  /uba/  'slow(ly)'
    b. \([CV]_σ \)  suba  /suba/  'pot, kettle'
    c. \([VC]_σ \)  ul-pai  /ulpay/  'write-PRES3'
    d. \([CVC]_σ \)  pah  /pah/  'hole, place'
    e. \([V:]_σ \)  ü  /u:/  'house'
    f. \([CV:]_σ \)  pâ  /pâ:/  'equal, level'
    g. \([V:C]_σ \)  īŋgh  /iːŋ/  'tumor'
    h. \([CV:C]_σ \)  wât-di  /waːtdi/  'walk-PROX'

#### 3.2.2 Structural restrictions on consonant distribution

There are two primary generalizations to mention concerning the syllable-internal distribution of consonants in Ulwa:

(14) a. Onset sonorants are [+VOICED]
    b. Coda obstruents are [−VOICED]

As stated in (14) and diagrammed in (15–16), the voiceless sonorants are confined to syllable coda position only, while all voiced sonorants except /ŋ/ occur freely in both onset and coda position (/ŋ/ is not a valid onset—see below). Although obstruents occur both voiced and voiceless in onset position, the voiced variants are not found in coda position.
Additionally, the distributions of /ŋ/ and /h/ are restricted:

(17) a. /ŋ/ occurs in coda position only.

b. /h/ is restricted to post-vocalic position (i.e. it may occur either as the coda consonant or as the onset of a syllable if immediately preceded by short voweled open syllable).

The prohibition against voiceless sonorants in the onset is challenged in one morphological context. The verb roots kuih- (/kuy/ 'reach') and duih- (/duy/ 'carry') each end in the voiceless glide /yl/, and are 'ð-class' stems (see section 7.2.2), in that they do not inflect via a 'thematic' consonant. As table 7.10 shows, the lack of a thematic consonant to augment the stem (/duy-/ in this case) leaves it open to direct suffixation by vowel-initial affixes such as /-iŋ/ (PERF1) and /-am/ (PERF2). This triggers resyllabification and, at least underlyingly, would result in an illicit syllable type (/yiy/ and /ya/). For all speakers that I know of, the primary strategy of resolving this situation is to simplify the /y̞/ to a plain /h/, producing the surface forms duhing ([du.hiu̯]) and duham ([du.ham]). In these cases, the single segment /y̞/ has been expanded to two segments, straddling the syllable boundary, the first of which realizes the glide articulation, and the second the voicelessness. Note that this still violates the restriction (17b) that /h/-initial syllables only follow a light syllable, and perhaps this is why these forms are generally not spontaneously produced.

3.2.3 Syllable-internal cooccurrence restrictions

In examining the inventory of Ulwa vowel-glide diphthongs in section 3.1.2.1, the reader may have noted that for high vowels of [α BACK] specification, we give only combinations with the [−α BACK] ("dissimilar") glide. I know of no evidence for a contrast between pairs such as /u:/ and putative /uw/, and so, for perspicuity, I assume all surface cases of [u:] and [i:] have the same underlying representation, (/u:/ and /i:/>.\(^{11}\) This simplifies matters descriptively, but is not of much theoretical interest without proposing detailed phonological structures for the two forms. We simply state the prohibition here as (18), assuming the affected glides to be marked for the vocalic features HIGH and BACK, and that long vowels count as one segment for the purposes of the constraint:

\(^{11}\)Insofar as the underlying distinction is theoretically meaningful, the latter (vowel-glide) form could be ruled out as an application of the familiar Obligatory Contour Principle (first proposed in Leben 1973 for tone sequences).
(18) **Condition on tautosyllabic vowel-glide sequences:**

\[
* \left[ \begin{array}{c}
+ \text{HIGH} \\
\alpha \text{BACK}
\end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c}
+ \text{HIGH} \\
\alpha \text{BACK}
\end{array} \right]
\]

While we must independently stipulate a prohibition against triply-long vowels in Ulwa (a fact which we take to follow from some set of near-universal factors), this ‘vowel-glide’ condition also rules out sequences such as /iːy/, which could otherwise simulate triple-length. Another consequence of (18) is to prohibit /iːʃ/ and /uːʃ/ as well. This is internally consistent with our decision to represent words like **yuh** as underlying /yuh/ rather than /yuʃ/, although the phonetic representation may be closer to the latter.

While (18) prohibits tautosyllabic homorganic high vocoids, such sequences are in fact allowable when divided by a syllable boundary:\(^\text{12}\)

(19) a. **wiya** /wi(y)a/ ‘paca (rodent)’
   b. **di-ya** /dɪ:ya/ ‘drink-PRES3’
   c. **muwaka** /mu(w)aka/ ‘croaker (fish)’
   d. **pů-wai** /pů:wai/ ‘load-PRES12’

The condition in (18) also rules out tautosyllabic /yi/ and /wu/, which turns out to be partly correct. No examples of /yi/ have been found, and while we have no cases of tautomorphemic /wu/, there is a morphological context in which this sequence arises, namely when the /u/-initial attemptive or future verb suffixes are preceded by a /w/, either because the verb is of the V-WA conjugation class (see section 7.1), as shown in examples (20a-c), or if it is a V-TA or V-PA verb with first-person plural inclusive (glossed ‘12’) agreement replacing the thematic consonant with /w/ (example (20d)): \(^\text{13}\)

(20) a. **il-w-uti** /ilwuti/ ‘climb-THM-ATTEMPT’
   b. **itu-w-uting** /ituwutil]/ ‘get bigger-THM-FUT3’
   c. **sů-w-uduti** /su:wuduti/ ‘be born-THM-FUT3’
   d. **yam-w-uti** /yamwuti/ ‘do-12-FUT’

### 3.2.4 Exceptions to the core syllable template

Although a [(C)V(:)(C)]\(_σ\) template works extremely well to describe the range of possible Ulwa syllables, there is a small set of exceptions, which can be grouped into two types: complex onsets and complex codas. Taking the latter first, there are two apparently native nouns in which a diphthong is followed by a tautosyllabic consonant, resulting in a syllable of the form [CVCC]\(_σ\):

---

\(^{12}\)Actually (as indicated by the parentheses in the phonemic representations), I know of no independent evidence for the phonemic or phonetic presence of the intervocalic glides in the morphologically simple forms **wiya** (19a) and **muwaka** (19c). To my ear, the glides are present, but some speakers are confused as to how to write these words, generally leaving out the glide. If this is correct, then these forms (along with **diah** and **diamka** mentioned in (22)) are the only examples of hiatus that I know of in the language.

\(^{13}\)Because the verbal inflectional morphology is mildly synthetic, I normally do not try to indicate all the morpheme boundaries in forms such as those in (20). However, even a shallow cross-comparison of the verbal paradigms (see section 7.1) points to a morphological boundary following the initial consonant of the affix in these forms.

\(^{14}\)Compare with forms **yam-t-uti** ('do-THM-FUT3') and **yam-d-uti** ('do-FUT33'). The verbal inflection paradigms of Ulwa are described in section 7.2.
(21) Complex Codas:
   a. taws /taws/ ‘scaled pigeon’
   b. lawk /lawk/ ‘white-faced (capuchin) monkey’

Secondly, there are a small number of forms involving complex onsets—generally consonant-glide clusters, as illustrated in (22). The existence of /dy/ is questionable, and may occur in pronunciation variants of diyah (‘insufficient’) and diymka (‘pretty, nice’). Some literate speakers of Ulwa tend to write these words as diyah and diymka, which, following the CODIUL/UYUTMUBAL orthography, would suggest phonemic forms of [di.ah] and [di.ama], or alternatively, syllable hiatus ([di.ah] and [di.ama]).

(22) Complex Onsets:
   a. kuah /kwah/ ‘hicatee turtle’
   b. kuah /kwa:/ ‘pelvic bone’
   c. ubriskumh /ubriskup/ ‘snake sp.’
   d. diymka /dyamka/ ‘nice, pretty’
   e. diyah /dyah/ ‘negative, insufficient’

The /kw/ cluster appears to be the most fully acceptable complex onset. In fact, some speakers vary in the pronunciation of the verb root kui- (‘ask, invite’) between [kuy] and [kwi]:. A parallel phenomenon is observed with the root kuuih- (‘reach’), with both variants, [kuy] and [kwi] attested. However, in at least some morphological contexts the reanalysis of /k+w/ as a complex onset does not occur: pak-wa-rang ([pákwarang]) ‘exhaust-IRR12’ rhymes with pak-ta-rang ([pákta]).

Another instance in which an obstruent-sonorant sequence can be analyzed as a complex onset is in the inflectional paradigm of the /t/-final 0-class (non-thematic) verb roots (discussed in section 7.2.2) such as at- (‘say, mean’) and wat- (‘catch’). When these bare stems combine with /r/-initial irrealis tense suffixes, as in at-rang (‘say-IRR3’) and watring (‘catch-IRR1’), the resulting pronunciation and stress pattern ([atrâu] and [warçi]) indicate that the preferred syllabification creates a tautosyllabic [tr] cluster: [atrâu].

15Indeed, the exceptional final /k/ in lawk appears to be a rather recent development, as it was perceived neither by Argüello (1938:69) nor by the meticulous Lehmann (1920). The former (p. 69) records the word as “lauj” (=/lawj/), while the latter (p. 508, example no. 376) gives the form “lao”, which has no final consonant at all.

16Some speakers incorporate (through Miskitu) many English loans that involve onset clusters, such as priyxa (‘prayers, church’), trabil (‘trouble’), and trai (‘try’).

17See note 12 in this chapter.

18There are two compelling reasons not to analyze this form as containing a heterosyllabic /b.r/ sequence. First, recall that voiced obstruents such as /b/ are not found in coda position. Second, if this were the case, such a syllabic parsing would yield a heavy initial syllable which would then be expected to attract a strong stress (see section 4.4). Instead, the stress pattern of this word is [ubriskup], consistent with a light initial syllable.

19Notice that in the latter case the vowel is lengthened, thus maintaining the canonical iambic shape of the verb stem (see section 4.2.1).

20The only other consonant-final 0-class verbs terminate in /s/, /l/ or /h/, and do not show the unusual [atrâu] stress pattern, yielding instead normal root-stressed forms: kas-rang (‘eat-IRR3’) is [kásraľ], talrang (‘see-IRR3’) is [táraľ], and dah-rang (‘hear-IRR3’) is [dáhraľ].
say [áh.rang], with stress on the initial syllable, which is now closed, and thus heavy (see section 4.4 for discussion of the stress pattern of Ulwa). Second, as mentioned in footnote 2 in section 3.1.1, in those speakers who do not spirantize the /t/ in these forms, this is precisely the environment that triggers dentalization of /t/. That is, /t/ is realized as [t] when followed by /r/ for these speakers.

3.3 Phonotactics

3.3.1 Consonant clusters

Ulwa has no homorganicity restriction on consonant clusters involving obstruents or nasals (note that it is not generally possible to find clearcut cases of tautomorphemic clusters, given the pervasive iambic shape of morphemes, discussed in section 4.2.1). Table 3.3 illustrates some of the surface clusters that are attested.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LABIAL</th>
<th>ALVEOLAR</th>
<th>VELAR</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>dip-pi ('straighten-PROX')</td>
<td>pápta ('palm sp.')</td>
<td>rip-ka ('cold-ADJ')</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ampa ('how')</td>
<td>yam-tai ('make-PRS3')</td>
<td>panka ('tapir')</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>láp-ma ('board-CNS2')</td>
<td>lapnih ('lightning')</td>
<td><em>[pɡ]</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>tam-ma ('horn-CNS2')</td>
<td>dannah ('may tree')</td>
<td><em>[mɲ]</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALVEOLAR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bit-pi ('sweep-PROX')</td>
<td>sit-ti ('tie-PROX')</td>
<td>dut-ka ('bad-ADJ')</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>laban-payam ('level-PRS2')</td>
<td>dapin-tang ('bend-PERF3')</td>
<td>pan-ka ('tree-CNS3')</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>åtmalh ('authority')</td>
<td>butnih ('brush-finch')</td>
<td><em>[tɡ]</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>panmak ('fruit')</td>
<td>manna ('PRN22')</td>
<td><em>[mɲ]</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VELAR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mukpah ('ant sp.')</td>
<td>intégr ('kiskadee')</td>
<td>sik-ka ('big-ADJ')</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>amangpara ('soon')</td>
<td>nangtak ('catarrh')</td>
<td>tungki ('catfish sp.')</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>umkik ('armadillo')</td>
<td>dak-na ('chop-PERF33')</td>
<td><em>[kɲ]</em></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>angmak ('chili pepper')</td>
<td>kangna ('ADVERS33')</td>
<td><em>[ɲɲ]</em></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3.3: Coda-Onset Consonant Clusters

As observed in section 3.2.2, /ɡ/ does not occur in onset position.

There are homorganic clusters at the surface, but there are many examples of geminates in morpheme boundaries (five such forms are shown in table 3.3). Geminates are unattested, however.\(^\text{21}\) That underlying geminates may also occur morpheme-internally is weakly suggested by one form, kataramah ('chicken').\(^\text{22}\) When this word undergoes the process of infixation of construct state morphology (section 4.3.2), the infixation does not occur where predicted by the surface form of the stem. Instead of *kata-ka-ramah*, the actual location of the CMSG infix is determined as if the stem were /kattaramah/, yielding kat-ka-taramah. If this analysis is correct, then both halves of the underlying geminate are allowed to surface just in case they have been split apart by an invading morpheme. While this may be a compelling explanation for the otherwise irregular

\(^\text{21}\) This could be an accidental gap due to the fact that there are no /r/-initial suffixes and the few /r/-initial affixes apply only to a handful of consonant-final stems (the /ɡ/-class verb roots discussed in section 7.2.2), none of which end in /r/. There is a recent neologism invented by an Ulwa Language Committee member that does exhibit the [II] geminate: kal-là /kalla:/ ('sandals, slippers (lit. foot-pass)'), so even if the gap is historically significant, it may be that these geminates are just now becoming licit in modern Ulwa speech.

\(^\text{22}\) This word may in fact be bimorphemic, as it is one of the longest nouns in the language, and there are two other animals whose names end in -ramah (see section 4.4.8).
construct forms of kataramah, I cannot find any other lexical items that would hint at the presence of underlying (tautomorphemic) geminates.\textsuperscript{23}

3.3.1.1 Excrescent segments

When a syllable ending in a voiceless sonorant is followed by a voiced consonant or glide, the transition from voicelessness to voicing is marked by a brief but unmistakable "excrescent" segment in the form of the voiced syllabic variant of the voiceless consonant:

(23) a. pah-ma [p̪a̞h̪ma] ‘place-CNS2’
  b. pah-ka [p̪ahkan] ‘place-CNS3’
  c. sih-warang [sʰiywarəŋ] ‘send-IRR12’
  d. sih-parang [sʰyparəŋ] ‘send-IRR3’
  e. muh-ma [mu̞ʔmah] ‘face-CNS2’
  f. muh-ki [mu̞ʔki] ‘face-CNS1’
  g. muh-ni [mu̞ʔni] ‘flesh-CNS12’
  h. muh-ka [mu̞ʔka] ‘flesh-CNS3’
  i. taih-dai [tə̞ʔdai] ‘close-PRES33’
  j. taih-pai [tə̞ʔpai] ‘close-PRES3’
  k. pauh-dida [p̪au̞ʔdida] ‘nail-PST33’
  l. pauh-tida [p̪au̞ʔtida] ‘nail-PST3’
  m. kumh-naka [ku̞ʔnaka] ‘touch-INF’
  n. kumh-pah [ku̞ʔpah] ‘touch-IMPER2’
  o. palanh-ma [pal̪a̞ʔma] ‘guarumo-CNS2’
  p. palanh-ka [pal̪a̞ʔka] ‘guarumo-CNS3’
  q. aidingh-ma [aʔdiʔma] ‘watchamacallit-CNS2’
  r. aidingh-ka [aʔdiʔka] ‘watchamacallit-CNS3’
  s. tulh-ni [tul̪ni] ‘machete-CNS12’
  t. tulh-ka [tul̪ka] ‘machete-CNS3’
  u. karh-dida [kaʔdida] ‘scrape-PST33’
  v. karh-pida [kaʔpida] ‘scrape-PST3’

This phenomenon, while completely general\textsuperscript{24} and quite noticeable, does not appear to be of any phonological significance; it does not affect syllable-counting generalizations such as stress placement, for instance (see section 4.4 for discussion of Ulwa stress).

3.3.1.2 Non-vocalic syllable peaks

At the far end of the spectrum of syllable structure in Ulwa is a set of forms from the demonstrative system. These ‘gesticulatory’ demonstratives are marginal semantically in

\textsuperscript{23}The compound modifiers mak-un (‘poor, wretched-CNS3’) and mak-auh (‘fatigue, sleepiness-CNS3 (lit. eye-fat)’) behave in a similar fashion—with a plural genitive antecedent, the resulting construct appears to split a geminate /kk/: mak-na-kun (CNS33), mak-na-kauh (CNS33). While fascinating in their own right, these cases are not quite parallel to the kataramah form, because there is certainly a morpheme boundary at the /k/ of mak-, a staple morpheme of Ulwa compounds (see sections 6.1.2 and 6.3).

\textsuperscript{24}All voiceless obstruents produce excrescent segments in the mentioned environment. A parallel, though less general, effect can be seen in some obstruent-initial sequences, the most notable being the /kd/ boundary in forms such as w-ikda (‘come-PST1’), which comes out as something like [wɪkdə] (as noted in section 3.1.1, voiceless obstruents are unreleased when followed by a stop).
that they must be accompanied by some physical indication on the part of the speaker, and phonologically as well, as they contain an initial long syllabic (and in fact stressed) nasal consonant, as shown in (24):  

(24) a. ng-ka ['ŋ:ka] ‘this (pointing)’  
b. ng-kau ['ŋ:kaw] ‘here (pointing)’  
c. ng-kaupak ['ŋ:kawpak] ‘from here (pointing)’  
d. m-pa ['ŋ:pa] ‘like this (demonstrating)’

Incidently, this paradigm demonstrates one of the very few examples in which a nasal consonant appears to have assimilated to a following stop.

3.3.2 Phonological processes

There are actually very few, if any, examples of what one might call a ‘productive phonological rule’ in Ulwa. Those that are productive are either severely morphologically bound or vary widely across speakers. Others are semiproductive or merely suggestive of historical alternations that no longer apply.

3.3.2.1 Vowel harmony

There is a limited vowel harmony in which short /a/ assimilates to a following /i/, but this alternation has a decidedly morphological spin on it. It is triggered only by two affixes from the construct state inflectional family: -ki(na)- ('cns1(1)') and -ni- ('cns12'). The rule appears to be non-iterative, applying to a single short vowel in an open syllable to the immediate left of the triggering affix (or infix). Examples are given in (25):

\[\text{25 The lack of a vowel in the stressed syllable of these forms is no doubt convenient in light of the habit among Ulwa speakers (observed among other Central American peoples as well) of pointing with pursed lips!}\]
Vowel harmony:

a. ma-ka-lnak /makalnak/ 'wage, price-CNS3'
   ma-ma-lnak /mamalnak/ 'wage, price-CNS2'
   mi-ki-lnak /mikiilnak/ 'wage, price-CNS1'
   mi-ni-lnak /minilnak/ 'wage, price-CNS12'

b. ta-ka-pas /takapas/ 'mouth-CNS3'
   ta-ma-pas /tamapas/ 'mouth-CNS2'
   ti-ki-pas /tikipas/ 'mouth-CNS1'
   ti-ni-pas /tinipas/ 'mouth-CNS12'

c. ta-ka-t /takat/ 'top, above-CNS3'
   ta-ma-t /tamat/ 'top, above-CNS2'
   ti-ki-t /tikit/ 'top, above-CNS1'
   ti-ni-t /tinit/ 'top, above-CNS12'

d. da-ka-t /dakat/ 'throat-CNS3'
   da-ma-t /damat/ 'throat-CNS2'
   di-ki-t /dikit/ 'throat-CNS1'
   di-ni-t /dinit/ 'throat-CNS12'

e. ta-ka-ng /takau/ 'vomit-CNS3'
   ta-ma-ng /tamau/ 'vomit-CNS2'
   ti-ki-ng /tikiU/ 'vomit-CNS1'
   ti-ni-ng /tiniU/ 'vomit-CNS12'

There are no examples of assimilation of a long vowel (even one lengthened by rule as discussed in section 4.2.4):

(26) a. ta-ki-t [ta:kit] 'front-CNS1'
    *ti-ki-t

Finally, in the case of the verbal inflected infinitive (also subject to this rule, as it is actually a construct form of a nominalized verb—see section 7.1.1.2), we see that the rule does not iterate leftward, since even when two appropriate target syllables precede the affix, only the adjacent one undergoes the change in vowel quality:

(27) a. wasa-raniki [wasá:raniki] 'bathe-INFI'
    *wasa-riniki

b. wauh-daniki [wáwydaniki] 'fall-INFI'
    *wauh-diniki

The only word in which the harmony appears to iterate is makdaka ('eye'), which has forms mikdiki (CNS1) and mikdini (CNS12). This is actually a compound: mak-da (see sections 6.1.2 and 6.3). It appears that in these forms, each root of the compound undergoes its own separate inflection process (m-ik+di-ki is CNS1-CNS1). The form mik-dini ('eye-CNS12') is still a slight mystery, since here the two halves of the compound have inflected differently (CNS1-CNS12)—under the double inflection analysis this should actually be *minik-dini. However, there is independent support for the possibility of this kind of mismatched double-construct inflection from within the same paradigm: mik-diki (CNS1-CNS1) has an alternate form mik-daka (CNS1-CNS3). In any case, if these are instances of double-construct marking, then the forms mikdiki and mikdini do not pose a counterexample to the non-iterativity of the vowel harmony in discussion.
3.3.2.2 h-Augmentation

There is at least one morpheme in the language, the negation particle sa (‘NEG’), that appears to alternate between an unstressed, enclitic of ‘subminimal’ [CV] shape (see section 4.2.2) and an ‘augmented’ form ending in [h] (sah):

   b. yaw-anaka sah ka [yawá:naka sáh ka] ‘go-INF3 NEG CKA’

It is possible that this h-augmentation is an effort to satisfy the minimal word constraint (see section 4.2.2 in just those cases in which sa has not (optionally) encliticized and must therefore form its own prosodic word. Other potential alternations of this type are da(h) (‘yet, still’) and the ‘default complementizer’ ka(h) (‘CKA’) (see section 8.4), although these need to be investigated further.
Chapter 4

Prosodic and metrical phonology

4.1 Initial concepts

4.1.1 Syllable weight

Ulwa exhibits various metrical generalizations that motivate a crucial distinction between light and heavy syllable types. Light syllables (indicated by L in the discussion) have the structure \([C_0V]\), while a syllable containing a long vowel and/or coda consonant—\([C_0VC]\) or \([C_0V:C]\)—is heavy (H). The nature of the onset, or whether one is present at all, has no bearing on the weight of a syllable. This distinction underlies many generalizations to be discussed in this chapter, including those governing stress placement, infixation and reduplication processes, as well as constraints on word and morpheme shape.

4.1.2 The foot

The generalizations presented in this chapter appeal to the notion of the metrical foot, a prosodic unit which groups syllables into higher units. In traditional terms explored exhaustively by Hayes (1985, 1995), Ulwa can be described as preferring to parse its phonological representations into iambic feet, or iambcs. That is, certain rhythmic generalizations that hold in Ulwa seem to make reference to a specific subclass of possible syllable groupings (feet), those of the form \([LH]\), \([LL]\), or \([H]\). Iambic feet are right-headed, since in those containing two syllables, it is only the rightmost one which may be heavy; the rightmost syllable receives higher prominence. This is primarily visible in the realm of stress, but we will see that headedness plays a role in reduplication as well.

The counterpart to the iamb in metrical theory is the trochaic foot. This type of foot can be made up of either a [LL] or [H] syllable pattern, and is characterized by left-headed prominence. Note, however, that the trochee is not a direct mirror image of the iamb—there is no [HL] trochaic foot. The distinction between the tendency for trochaic feet to be evenly rhythmic while the iamb’s weight pattern prefers the lop-sided [LH] shows itself in Ulwa phonology in its effect on vowel length, as discussed in section 4.2.4.
4.2 Prosodic constraints on morpheme shape

4.2.1 Canonical roots

With only a handful of known exceptions, all verbal and adjectival roots in Ulwa have the metrical shape of an iambic foot. That is, they fall into three classes, with syllabic profiles of H, LL, and LH. These classes are illustrated in (29) for adjectives and in (30) for verbs:¹

(29) Canonical roots (adjectival):

[H]  ing /iŋ/ 'light'
dam /dam/ 'sweet'
pih /pih/ 'heavy'
wiuh /wiw/ 'messy'
yai /yay/ 'sharp'
ti /ti:/ 'heavy'
bāngh /baːŋ/ 'sharp-pointed'
yūh /yuːh/ 'long, tall'

[LL]  uru /uru/ 'hunched'
suyu /suyu/ 'pretty'
bara /bara/ 'dark'
biri /biri/ 'adhesive'
dasi /dasi/ 'strong, hard'

[LH]  abal /abal/ 'erroneous'
ipirh /ipiɾ/ 'encrusted'
lakat /lakat/ 'baggy'
putumh /putumh/ 'fleecy'
pituk /pituk/ 'inside out'
wawai /waway/ 'long'

¹The distinction between adjectival and verbal roots is sometimes blurred, since most adjectival roots also have verbal usages, as discussed in section 7.4.5.
(30) Canonical roots (verbal):

[**H**]
uk /uk/ ‘suck’
alh /al/ ‘perforate’
å /a:/ ‘insert, give’
i /i:/ ‘kill’
sing /siŋ/ ‘cure’
bau /baw/ ‘hit, punch’
pû /pu:/ ‘load, pile’
yaih /yaŋ/ ‘bring closer to’

[**LL**]
aana /ana/ ‘gather’
alala /ala/ ‘raise (child)’
usu /usu/ ‘urinate’
kara /kara/ ‘melt’
kuru /kuru/ ‘dismantle’
naka /naka/ ‘wound self’

[**LH**]
isik /isik/ ‘quake’
umit /umit/ ‘dive’
urup /urup/ ‘breathe’
tulup /tulup/ ‘roll’
kapit /kapit/ ‘nod off’
silamh /si:lp/ ‘glare’

Though the class of postpositions in Ulwa is quite small (due to the language’s heavy use of so-called ‘relational’ nouns, discussed in section 6.1.3.2), all the core roots in this class have the canonical iambic shape as well:

(31) Canonical roots (postpositional):

[**H**] kau /kaw/ LOC (‘in, on, at, when’)
kat /kat/ LOC (‘at, until, when’)

[**LH**] manah /manah/ PERL (‘through, along’)
karak /karak/ COM/INST (‘with’)

Other postpositions, such as kaupak (‘EL (from, since)’) and karakpah (‘as soon as’) are clearly compound in structure, and based on one of the core members of the class.

The majority of nominal roots also have the canonical iambic shape, as shown in (32). However, many nouns do not fit this pattern, as discussed below in section 4.2.3.

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2 Even proper names often have a diminutive form which corresponds to the initial iamb of the name. Thus three of the members of UYUTMUBAL, whose names are Lorinda, Abanel, and Clementina, are often addressed in informal situations as Lorin, Aba, and Clemen.
(32) Canonical roots (nominal):

[H]  
\[uh\] /u:/   'house'
\[di\] /di:/   'thing, animal'
al /al/   'man'
bil /bil/   'snake'
kuh /kuh/   'fire, firewood'
was /was/   'water'
rangh /raŋ/   'motmot'
dāuh /daːw/   'nocturnal bird of prey'

[LL]  
anā /ana/   'tooth'
ulu /uli/   'oropendola Montezuma'
duri /duri/   'balsa (tree)'
sawi /sawi/   'javalina'
yapu /yapu/   'crocodile'
wayu /wayu/   'smoke, vapor'

[LH]  
asang /asəŋ/   'hill, town'
iluk /iluk/   'garlic'
nawah /nawah/   'jaguar'
kuring /kuriŋ/   'canoe'
tibur /tibur/   'wrist, ankle'
kubah /kubaŋ/   'bird sp.'
palannah /palanŋ/   'trumpet tree'
wanaiah /wanaŋ/   'covenant friend'

4.2.2 Prosodic minimality and subminimal roots

In addition to the tendency for roots in Ulwa to have an iambic metrical shape, the language appears to have an independent minimal size requirement on surface words—all Ulwa words are either polysyllabic or (if monosyllabic) consist of a heavy syllable. This requirement applies to all lexical categories N, V, A, P, and all complementizers, pronouns, pronominal object proclitics, adverbials and other particles as well. There are only three forms in the language that are consistently written as separate words but have subminimal (L) size: the negative particle sa, the distal determiner ya, and the default (unmarked) complementizer ka (CKA). These forms are unstressed enclitics and thus become part of the phonological word that precedes them.\(^3\) In the parlance of the current phonological literature, Ulwa exhibits a minimal word constraint, as proposed by McCarthy and Prince (1986), which mandates that a prosodic word be at least large enough to contain a metrical foot.

The preponderance of canonical roots in Ulwa helps to satisfy the minimal word requirement, in that any word derived from such a root will necessarily contain a single heavy syllable or two light syllables. However, there do exist a handful of subminimal lexical roots, having a C- or CV- segmental profile. Since these roots fail to satisfy the minimal word constraint in and of themselves, it is significant to note that in each case, morphological augmentation conspires so that no subminimal surface words are formed.

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\(^3\)The first two have stressed variants which are augmented to minimal size: sah and yā or yaka. There is some evidence that the final form may have a kah alternant as well, although more research is needed to determine this for certain.
The first subminimal root, the adjectival ba- ('small'), does not appear in isolation—unlike the many ‘strong’ adjective roots, ba- is morphologically bound, surfacing only as ba-ka ([baká:] ‘small-ADJ’) and has the irregular distributive (DISTRIB) form ba-ka-na (see section 8.1.2 for more discussion of the adjectival distributive form). One could make a case that the affixed form ba-ka has been reanalyzed as a lexical item in modern speech. There is a verbal stem baka- ('make smaller') and a noun baka ('child'), each of which behaves normally for a root of this shape within its lexical category. However, there are reasons to believe that the form [baká:] is not itself a free adjective root. First, if the root were baka, then although it is morphologically free, one would also expect to find a bound version with the -ADJ marking *baka-ka, but none exists. Second, the distributive form *ba-ka-ka ([bakaka:]) should exist, but does not—instead, this is the only adjective in the language to form the distributive with the addition of the nominal pluralizer -na: ba-ka-na ([bakána]). Finally, there is cross-linguistic evidence from Mayangna, where the corresponding form bin(i) is exactly what one would expect given the fascinating historical ‘flip-flop’ of the -ni- and -ka- morphemes of the two languages (see Hale 1988). While not synchronically admissible, this last fact at least shows that the root was historically ba and not *baka.

The defective verb root da-, as discussed in section 7.3.1, inflects as a normal V-PA verb stem and is the source of the two Ulwa ‘conjunctions’ (actually verbal forms) dapi and dapak. The bare root form never surfaces without the presence of some affix, and thus this root does not participate in words that are of subminimal size. Furthermore, the use of this root may be giving way to the canonically-shaped dat-, which is apparently identical in meaning, although both roots coexist today—it is not uncommon to hear a single speaker use forms of both within the same discourse.

The verb root meaning ‘come’ appears to be simply w- (or possibly wa-). As shown in table 7.13 in chapter 7, despite the subminimal nature of this root, all its surface morphological forms, such as w-ak (‘come-OBV3’) and w-i (‘come-PRox’) begin with a heavy syllable. The latter form is of special interest, since in all other verbs of the language, the PROX affix is realized as the short vowel -i. For this verb alone the vowel of the proximate surfaces long (/wi:/), and this is presumably related to the fact that the unlengthened form (*/wi/) would be of subminimal size. Indeed, when the root w- appears in the compound ih-w- (‘bring (lit. have-come)’), the PROX form is ih-w-i (/ihwi/) and not *ih-w-i (*/ihwi:/), since in this case no vowel-lengthening is required in order for the word to reach minimal size.

Finally, there are three forms, da-, ma-, ta-, discussed in sections 3.3.2.1 and 4.3.2, which may be nominal roots (or parts thereof) but only surface in the construct state. The mandatory addition of the construct morphology, plus additional stem material, ensures that all words built on these items achieve minimal size.

4.2.3 Oversized roots

I know of three adjectival stems that are of supermaximal shape. These are the bound stems minisih (‘dirty’), yabasik (‘scary’) and makasik (‘abundant’). Although these stems are indeed oversized, and do appear to act as adjectives both morphologically (by requiring the ADJ suffix -ka) and syntactically, each has a probable historical analysis as a
compound. As there is a great deal of semantic overlap between adjectives and so-called compound nominal modifiers (predicates which are morphologically compound nouns), it is possible that these stems (especially makasik-, under its nominal reading 'multitude, crowd') are actually members of the latter category, and that the -ka suffix which they bear is a construct inflection.

In the case of verbs, the search for oversized roots is complicated by the apparent fact that almost any word or expression makes a suitable verbal stem in the right circumstances. For instance, as discussed in section 7.4.5 many adjectives and nouns can do double duty as derived verb stems in Ulwa. This includes oversized adjective and noun stems such as kubalamh and minisih:

(33) a. Kubalamh-pah!
    butterfly-IMPER2
    'Act like a butterfly!'

b. Minisih-pi tung yang.
    dirty-PROX go around-SING AGR1
    'I'm going around getting dirty.'

And in at least one case, a whole phrase can form a suitable base for verbal morphology:

(34) Yang ayangka ai dai -pi lau yang dai
    I name what was -PROX sitting AGR1 was
    'I was sitting doing whatchamacallit.'

Here, the phrase ayangka ai dai ('what was its name'), forms the stem for the proximate verbal suffix, yielding the verbal interpretation 'do whatchamacallit'.

In contrast with the relative paucity of adjectival and verbal oversized stems, there are vast numbers of nouns that do not fit into the mold of a single iamb. Most of these are compounds that are formed of two or more iambic roots (as described in section 6.3). However, there is also a substantial residue of oddly shaped words with no apparent synchronic compositionality. Many members of this latter class do at least bear the phonological profile of compounds (i.e. they can be parsed exhaustively into iambic feet), which means they may still turn out have compound structure as the study of the language progresses. Examples of this type are given in (35).5

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4In the first form, minisih-ka, the sequence mini- corresponds to CNS12 form of the common compounding element mak, discussed in sections 6.1.2 and 6.3 (cf. alternations such as makalnak ('his wages') vs. minilnak ('our incl. wages')), and the fact that the equivalent term in the Mayangna language (maisihni) also bears that language's CNS12 (mai-) prefix indicates that the compound nature of this form was semantically valid even after the two languages had diverged. The second item, yabasik-ka, is an obvious compounding of the roots yab(ah) ('fear') and sik ('great, huge'). The final form, makasik-ka, probably also contains the same ma(k) element, this time frozen in its CNS3, rather than CNS12, form. Another analysis of this word is as a compounding of the adjectives mah-ka ('numerous-ADJ') and sik ('great, huge').

5In fact, many of the nouns listed in (35) are composed of parts whose phonological strings do coincide with known lexical roots of the language, but they are listed here because their modern-day meanings do not appear to be composed from the meanings of these roots.
(35) **Oversized nouns shaped like compounds:**

a. ak-su /aksuk/ 'opossum sp.'

b. lih-wan /lihwan/ 'money, silver'

c. mâ-kauh /ma:kaw/ 'laughing falcon'

d. ala-kumh /alakum/ 'Muscovy duck'

e. lamai-nah /lamaynah/ 'tree sp.'

f. itik-muk /itikmuk/ 'termite sp.'

Secondly, there are many oversized nouns which consist, metrically, of an iambic foot (or sequence of iambic feet) plus a “stray” light syllable. Words of this shape do not suggest a compound analysis because of the scarcity of roots consisting of a single light syllable (see section 4.2.2):

(36) **Nouns with a stray light syllable:**

a. ahsa /ahsa/ 'black river turtle'

b. kusma /kusma/ 'vulture'

c. kuru /ku:ru/ 'wild cacao'

d. sulu /su:lu/ 'dog'

e. langwa /laqwya/ 'cockroach'

f. liuhi /liwki/ 'osprey'

g. malaka /malaka/ 'agouti'

h. wamalu /wamalu/ 'crested guan'

i. kurasi /kuras/ 'turtle sp.'

j. kisauri /kisawri/ 'fitweed'

k. warahuwa /warawwa/ 'yellow-naped parrot'

It is unclear how many nouns such as those in (36) have (at least diachronically) bimorphemic analyses in which the second root has subsequently been truncated in some way (e.g. by shortening of a long vowel or deletion of a final /h/). I know of at least two examples that strongly suggest such a historical explanation:

(37) **Historical analysis of oversized nouns:**

a. wing-ta [wiŋta] 'breath, respiration' (cf. wing-ta ‘air-path’)

b. dara-ba [daraba] 'liquid part of chicken excrement' (cf. dara-ba ‘viscous-excrement’)

4.2.4 Long vowels and ‘iambic lengthening’

The reader may have noticed that the examples in section 4.2.1 lack any cases of LH roots in which the final (head) syllable contains a long vowel. It is not that long vowels do not occur in this position, but rather, as hinted in section 3.1.3, vowels in this configuration are predictably long. As will be examined in greater detail in section 4.4, vowel length, strong stress, and the iambic foot shape are closely correlated in Ulwa:
Strong iambic stress and vowel length:

All long vowels are strongly stressed and all iambically\textsuperscript{6} stressed vowels in open syllables are long.

For verbal and adjectival roots, which are uniformly iambically stressed, this means that there are actually no roots of these lexical categories that surface with the LL shape—thus, those listed in (29–30) as suyu and kara in fact surface as [suyú:] and [kará:], respectively. Because of the predictability of the length in these cases, we uniformly represent the underlying forms as having short vowels in these roots, and assume the surface form has undergone a process of ‘iambic lengthening’\textsuperscript{7}. The qualification that this iambic lengthening occurs only in the stressed head of an iambic foot is motivated by the behavior of LL-shaped noun roots. As illustrated in (39), such nouns often have two surface realizations:

(39)

\begin{itemize}
  \item a. ati [áti] [atí:] ‘squash’
  \item b. anu [ámú] [ánú:] ‘coconut’
  \item c. sana [sána] [saná:] ‘deer’
  \item d. muku [múku] [mukú:] ‘toad’
  \item e. tisi [tisi] [tisí:] ‘falsehood’
\end{itemize}

The first phonetic form in each row of (39) represents the trochaic alternant and the second represents the same stem realized in an iambic rhythm. What is important to note is that in the iambic case, the stressed vowel surfaces as long, while both vowels in the trochaic parse remain short. Note that iambic lengthening applies in open syllables only—vowel length is distinctive in a closed syllable no matter where it is located in the metrical parse of the word, as in the pair bilamh (/bila:mp/ ‘blink (eyes)’) vs. silámh (/sila:mp/ ‘glare’).

Whether or not iambic lengthening applies beyond the first foot in a word is a more complicated matter, and the evidence is rather meager, due to a lack of sufficiently long words in Ulwa, as well as the fact that the strong stress rule generally ignores inflectional morphology. Because this discussion relies on more detailed examination of the stress generalization, it is postponed to section 4.4.

4.3 Infixation and reduplication

Ulwa has recently been the object of much theoretical interest (see Kenstowicz 1994), as it provides a striking case in which the location of an infixed morpheme is determined by the metrical properties of its stem. To date, the only published source material concerning such (morpho)phonological issues in Ulwa are the brief but insightful discussions provided in the introduction to Hale and Lacayo Blanco (1988) (which reappears in CODIUL/UYUTMUBAL et al. 1989) and in Hale (1991). These observations were narrowly focused and necessarily preliminary in nature, given that they were based on data collected in the earliest stages in the study of the language. In this section I describe in detail two aspects of Ulwa prosodic morphology, adjectival reduplication and nominal construct state infixation, in which the prosodic structure of a word is vital to determining the locus of morphological activity.

\textsuperscript{6}It is necessary to exclude words with the so-called ‘trochaic’ stress contour from this generalization, as illustrated in example (39) below, and discussed further in section 4.4

\textsuperscript{7}This corresponds to the philosophy behind the UYUTMUBAL/CODIUL orthography used in this thesis. That is, vowels that are long by virtue of the iambic lengthening generalization are not marked as long in the written form of the language.
4.3.1 Adjectival reduplication

The ‘distributive’ form of a canonical adjective (described in section 8.1.2) is the result of reduplication of the CV part of the head syllable of the iambic root. The reduplicated material is prefixed to the head syllable, thus becoming an infix if the root is bisyllabic. Examples are shown in 40.8

(40) H-
   a. yam-ka [yámka] ‘good-ADJ’
   b. pa-pau-ka [páwka] ‘red-ADJ’
   c. pí-ka [pí:ka] ‘extinguished-ADJ’
   d. ru-ruih-ka [ruyúka] ‘brittle-ADJ’
   e. ba-báng-ka [babá:jka] ‘pointed-ADJ’

   f. bara-ka [bará:ka] ‘dark-ADJ’
   g. bi-sí-sí-ka [bisí:ka] ‘small-ADJ’
   h. ta-ri-ri-ka [tarí:ka] ‘serpentine-ADJ’
   i. su-yuy-ya-ka [suuyú:ka] ‘pretty-ADJ’
   j. ya-ha-ha-ka [yahá:há:ka] ‘crumbly-ADJ’

   k. ihir-ka [ihírka] ‘erect-ADJ’
   l. u-lá-lang-ka [ulá:ŋka] ‘mucky-ADJ’
   m. ba-ra-ras-ka [baráska] ‘black-ADJ’
   n. bu-ri-rim-ka [burírímka] ‘firm-ADJ’
   o. wa-la-lang-ka [wálalángka] ‘corpulent-ADJ’

Interestingly, distributive reduplication is blocked in monosyllabic, vowel-initial roots such as ing (‘light’), where there is no onset consonant in the syllabic base of reduplication.

8In the dictionary in appendix B, the distributive form of an adjectival headword is given as the ‘morphological key’ field of the entry (see section A.4)
9The orthographic conventions adopted by UYUTMUBAL would seem to dictate that the vowel of the second syllable of the form pipika not be marked with the circumflex for vowel length, since in a word of this shape such a vowel is predictably long. This practice serves to considerably reduce the clutter of the written language, but is slightly misleading in alternations of this type.
If the process were to occur in these roots, the resulting form would exhibit hiatus of two identical vowels (e.g. *i-ing). Since such forms do not surface, one must conclude either that roots of this phonological shape simply have no distributive form, or that the resulting hiatus configuration is repaired by deleting one of the adjacent vowels, rendering the reduplication undetectable.\(^\text{10}\)

### 4.3.2 Construct state infixation

As described in section 6.1, nouns in Ulwa display a morphological alternation between a bare (or absolute) form and an affixed variant (actually a family of variants, according to the person and number features of an associated genitive argument) that is referred to as the construct state. The construct morphology itself appears as either an infix or suffix, depending on various factors including the length of the stem and its morphological makeup. In many cases there are two possible surface realizations of a given construct state form, since sufflication is generally possible even if there is also a valid infixed form. Moreover, even when infixation would seem to be called for (given a stem’s shape) the infixed form is sometimes rejected in favor of plain sufflication. Due to the influence of these poorly-understood factors, it is not possible given our current understanding of the language to simply predict the form of a given construct state noun—the best we can say is that when the construct affix is infixed, the locus of infixation is predictable based on the metrical structure of the stem (with some exceptions). The core generalization for locating the construct infix is simple enough:

\[(41) \text{Location of construct state infix:} \]

The infixed form of the construct state morphology is located immediately following the first iambic foot of the stem.

Rule (41) describes the basic data set that has been discussed in the literature:

\(^{10}\)This differs from Ulwa’s closest neighbor, the Mayangna language, in which a parallel reduplication occurs, and any resulting hiatus is repaired by insertion of an /h/ between the two vowels. Thus, according to Norwood (1997; 66) the ‘plural’ form of ing-ni (‘light’) is i-h-ing-ni.
The primary exception to the generalization stated in (41) consists of a small set of words in which the ‘base’ of infixation is a subminimal CV- sequence.}

(43) a. ta-ka-pas ‘mouth-CNS3’
b. ta-ka-t ‘top-CNS3’
c. ta-ka-ng ‘vomit-CNS3’
d. da-ka-t-suru ‘throat-CNS3’
e. da-ka Iah- ‘frighten-CNS3’
f. ma-ka-lah- ‘payment-CNS3’

It is precisely these exceptional construct bases which participate in the vowel harmony process discussed in section 3.3.2.1; if the infix is -ki(na}- or -ni-, then the preceding vowel assimilates:

(44) a. ti-ki-pas ‘mouth-CNS1’
b. ti-ki-t ‘top-CNS1’
c. ti-ki-ng ‘vomit-CNS1’
d. di-ki-t-suru ‘throat-CNS1’
e. di-ki Iah- ‘frighten-CNS1’
f. mi-ki-lah- ‘payment-CNS1’

Note that in several forms in (43–44), the construct infix not only attaches to a subminimal CV- base, but also appears to split what would otherwise be heavy syllable. That is, if absolute forms of ta-ka-ng and ma-ka-lah- existed (they apparently do not),

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11 These bases, da-, ma-, ta- are apparently independent lexical roots. Construct forms like da-ka appear preverbally (as a separate phonological word, but syntactically dependent on the following verb), and also in combination with the -t of relational nouns (see section 6.1.3.2). ta- combines with -t as the relational noun (e.g. ta-ka-t ‘top-CNS3’), and ta-ka-pas (‘mouth-CNS3’) and ta-ka-ng (‘vomit-CNS3’) appear to be related enough in meaning to posit a common root. See section 4.4.9 for discussion of the stress pattern of these words.
one would expect them to begin with a heavy syllable: *tang, *malnak. While this intrusion into the syllable structure of the stem is possible with the single-syllable construct forms, if the construct affix is bisyllabic (containing the pluralizer -na-, as in -kana-, -kina-, -mana-), then the person and number components are realized discontinuously—the person-marking initial syllable of the construct infixes as usual, but the pluralizing -na portion either suffixes to the entire word (as in ma-ka-alnak-na) or affixes after the -t or -ng consonant which immediately follows the base in the stem:

(45)  
| (45)  |  
| a. ta-ka-t-na | 'top-CNS33' | (*ta-kana-t)  
| b. ta-ka-ng-na | 'vomit-CNS33' | (*ta-kana-ng)  
| c. da-ka-t-na-sur | 'throat-CNS33' | (*da-kana-t-suru)  
| d. ma-ka-lnak-na | 'payment-CNS33' | (*ma-kana-lnak)  

This 'split construct' behavior is in fact found in all relational nouns in which the locus of infixation precedes a final -t, as discussed further in section 6.1.3.2. There are a small number of additional exceptions to the rule for determining the placement of the construct morphology, not relevant to this discussion but described in section 6.1.2.

As indicated at the beginning of this section, while it is generally possible to predict where the construct infixation may occur, it is not always clear in what stems infixation will be possible at all. The clearest trend is that most or all nouns with a reduplicated structure, as shown in (46), resist the infixed form and thereby force suffixation:

(46)  
| (46)  |  
| a. kililih | 'cicada' | kililih-ki, *kili-ki-lih, kililih-kina, *kili-kina-lih  
| kulilingh | 'tanager sp.' | kulilingh-ki, *kuli-ki-lingh, kulilingh-kina, *kuli-kina-lingh  
| kululuk | 'lineated woodpecker' | kululuk-ki, *kulu-ki-luk, kululuk-kina, *kulu-kina-luk  
| pululuh | 'fish sp.' | pululuh-ki, *pulu-ki-luh, pululuh-kina, *pulu-kina-luh  
| b. māmah | 'mother' | māmah-ki, *mā-ki-mah, māmah-kina, *mā-kina-mah  
| pāpangh | 'father' | pāpangh-ki, *pā-ki-pangh, pāpangh-kina, *pā-kina-pangh  
| titingh | 'grandmother' | titingh-ki, *ti-ki-tingh, titingh-kina, *ti-kina-tingh  
| kūkungh | 'grandfather' | kūkungh-ki, *kū-ki-kungh, kūkungh-kina, *kū-kina-kungh  
| c. āguguh | 'song' | āguguh-ki, *ā-ki-guguh, āguguh-kina, *ā-kina-guguh  
| pisisih | 'duck sp.' | pisisih-ki, *pī-ki-sisih, pisisih-kina, *pī-kina-sisih  

The apparent reduplication in these forms was probably never a fully productive process in the language, and synchronically these are frozen lexical items (there are no corresponding non-reduplicative forms). Moreover, several of these stems are apparent borrowings: māmah and pāpangh bear striking resemblance to the 'mama' and 'papa' of English,
Spanish, etc. (and now in common use in Miskitu); pisísih is almost definitely related to (probably borrowed from) the Nahuatl pixixi(l) (Mántica 1973), and águguh is assumed to be a loanword simply because it is the only form in the language containing the phoneme /g/ (see footnote 1 in chapter 3). However, speakers seem to recognize them as reduplicative in form, making these stems resist the infixation process.

To show that it is not a simple matter to predict which forms allow infixation and which do not, (47) shows an excerpt from an actual elicitation session:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(47)</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>wasala</td>
<td>'opossum'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*wasala-ki, wasa-ki-la,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*wasala-kina, wasa-kina-la</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>parubi</td>
<td>'lastborn'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>parubi-ki, paru-ki-bi,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>parubi-kina, paru-kina-bi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>alakumh</td>
<td>'Muscovy duck'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>alakumh-ki, ala-ki-kumh,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>alakumh-kina, ala-kina-kumh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td>akapan</td>
<td>'pipe'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>akapan-ki, aka-ki-pan,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*akapan-kina, aka-kina-pan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e.</td>
<td>awita</td>
<td>'birthmark'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*?awita-ki, awi-ki-ta,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*awita-kina, awi-kina-ta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f.</td>
<td>áwas</td>
<td>'blood'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ñáwas-ki, á-ki-was,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*ñáwas-kina, á-kina-was</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g.</td>
<td>biriwat</td>
<td>'adhesive tape'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*?biriwat-ki, biri-ki-wat,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>?biriwat-kina, biri-kina-wat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h.</td>
<td>ihibili</td>
<td>'ginger'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ihibili-ki, ihi-ki-bili,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>*ihibili-kina, ihi-kina-bili</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i.</td>
<td>kalamatah</td>
<td>'anise piper'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>kalamatah-ki, *?kala-ki-matah,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>kalamatah-kina, kala-kina-matah</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j.</td>
<td>kiriti</td>
<td>'small fish sp.'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>kiriti-ki, ?kiri-ki-ti,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>kiriti-kina, kiri-kina-ti</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k.</td>
<td>kisauri</td>
<td>'fitweed'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>kisauri-ki, kisau-ki-ri,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>kisauri-kina, *kisau-kina-ri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l.</td>
<td>kubalamh</td>
<td>'butterfly'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>kubalamh-ki, kuba-ki-lamh,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>kubalamh-kina, kuba-kina-lamh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m.</td>
<td>mulukus</td>
<td>'collared peccary'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mulukus-ki, mulu-ki-kus,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>mulukus-kina, mulu-kina-kus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n.</td>
<td>sikiringh</td>
<td>'locust'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>sikiringh-ki, *siki-ki-ringh,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>sikiringh-kina, *siki-kina-ringh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o.</td>
<td>wakari</td>
<td>'pingwing'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wakari-ki, *waka-ki-ri,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wakari-ma, waka-ma-ri,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wakari-kina, *waka-kina-ri,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wakari-mana, waka-mana-ri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>p.</td>
<td>wamalu</td>
<td>'crested guan'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wamalu-ki, wama-ki-lu,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wamalu-ma, *wama-ma-lu,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wamalu-kina, wama-kina-lu,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wamalu-mana, wama-mana-lu</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4.4 Stress placement

For a non-native speaker, stress in Ulwa is at times hard to hear and difficult to ask native speakers about. As stress and vowel length are somewhat intertwined, I base most of the discussion here on the speech of Lorinda Martínez, who (to my ear) more clearly differentiates short and long vowels. I dwell primarily on what might be called 'strong stress', of which there is generally one per word, but there may be two or more, depending on the morphological structure of the (prosodic) word. In these more complex cases I cannot venture any definitive statement as to which of the 'strong' stresses is actually the primary stress of the word, as this distinction appears to rely on syntactic and higher-level intonational factors that are not well-studied. In the discussion I use the unqualified term 'stress' to refer to strong stress as described above, unless specifically noted.

4.4.1 Preliminary observations

The stress pattern of an Ulwa word depends not only on its phonological makeup, but also on its the morphological structure. This fact is suggested by the forms in (48), although this example is not intended to be a systematic survey. The comparison is also not as clear one would prefer, since vowel length is generally obscured in an open syllable if it is the head of canonical verb or adjective root (recall section 4.2.4).

| (48) | LL | ADJ | suyu | [suyú:] | 'pretty' |
|      |    | VERB | wat-i | [wáti] | 'catch-PROX' |
|      |    | NOUN | sana | [sána] or [saná:] | 'deer' |
| LLL  | ADJ | suyu-ka | [suyú:ka] | 'pretty-ADJ' |
|      | VERB | yaw-ada | [yawá:da] | 'go-PST3' |
|      | NOUN | sana-ka | [saná:ka] | 'deer-CNS3' |
| LLH  | ADJ | ba-ra-rang | [bararáŋ] | 'correct.DISTRIB' |
|      | VERB | yaw-arang | [yawá:raŋ] | 'go-IRR3' |
|      | NOUN | alakumh | [alá:kuŋ] | 'Muscovy duck' |
| LLHL | ADJ | ba-ra-rang-ka | [bararáŋka] | 'correct.DISTRIB-ADJ' |
|      | VERB | yaw-ayamna | [yawá:yamna] | 'go-PRES22' |
|      | NOUN | alakumh-ka | [alá:kuŋka] | 'Muscovy duck-CNS3' |
|      |      | tiwiliski | [tiwiliski] | 'sandpiper' |

While the above examples demonstrate the complexity of the stress pattern of Ulwa, it is helpful to begin by listing a few general observations, which will be recurring themes in the course of the discussion:

(49) a. All long vowels receive stress.
   b. One of the first three syllables receives stress. Syllable weight is crucial in determining the precise localization.
   c. Word-final syllables are generally unstressed.
   d. Inflectional morphemes (including reduplication) receive stress only in exceptional circumstances.

Because stress is sensitive to the lexical category of the stem, I will examine adjectives, verbs, nouns, and other words in turn. Moreover, since compound words are more complicated (they may have multiple stress domains), I exclude them from the general discussion, returning to words of this type in section 4.4.11.

56
4.4.2 Stress in canonical adjectives

Stress is completely predictable in adjectives whose root is of the canonical iambic shape, as described in section 4.2.1. Without exception, stress in these words falls on the head (rightmost) syllable of the root:

\[(50)\]
\[
a. \text{dam-ka} \quad [dámkə] \quad \text{‘sweet-ADJ’} \\
  báng-ka \quad [báŋkə] \quad \text{‘sharp-pointed-ADJ’} \\
  wiuh-ka \quad [wįhkə] \quad \text{‘messy-ADJ’} \\
  \]
\[
b. \text{suyu-ka} \quad [suyú:kə] \quad \text{‘pretty-ADJ’} \\
  yaha-ka \quad [yahá:kə] \quad \text{‘crumbly, granular-ADJ’} \\
  \]
\[
c. \text{da-rau-ka} \quad [daráwkə] \quad \text{‘viscous-ADJ’} \\
  si-ri-rih-ka \quad [siriyihkə] \quad \text{‘fast, quick-ADJ’} \\
  ru-bü-bük-ka \quad [rubübükə] \quad \text{‘short-ADJ’} \\
\]

As discussed in section 8.1.1, some adjective roots are capable of appearing without the normal augmentation of the ubiquitous -ka (ADJ) morpheme. In these words as well, stress is located on the head syllable, which is now word-final. That is, presence of the ADJ morpheme has no effect on stress in adjectives:

\[(51)\]
\[
a. \text{pui} \quad [púy] \quad \text{‘lukewarm’} \\
  b. \text{suyu} \quad [suyú:] \quad \text{‘pretty’} \\
  c. \text{abuk} \quad [abúk] \quad \text{‘face-down’} \\
\]

4.4.3 Stress and adjectival reduplication

Adjectival distributive reduplication, as described in section 4.3.1, effectively adds a light syllable before the head of the foot. This light syllable never receives stress—stress remains on the final syllable of the (now possibly discontinuous) root. This is illustrated in (52) for bound forms (containing the ADJ suffix) and in (53) for reduplicated free stems.

\[(52)\]
\[
a. \text{da-dam-ka} \quad [dadaḿka] \quad \text{‘sweet.DISTRIB-ADJ’} \\
  ba-báng-ka \quad [babáŋkə] \quad \text{‘sharp-pointed.DISTRIB-ADJ’} \\
  wi-wiuh-ka \quad [wiwįhkə] \quad \text{‘messy.DISTRIB-ADJ’} \\
  \]
\[
b. \text{su-yu-yu-ka} \quad [suyuyu:kə] \quad \text{‘pretty.DISTRIB-ADJ’} \\
  ya-ha-ha-ka \quad [yahahą:kə] \quad \text{‘crumbly, granular.DISTRIB-ADJ’} \\
  \]
\[
c. \text{da-ra-ru-ka} \quad [darárukə] \quad \text{‘viscous.DISTRIB-ADJ’} \\
  si-ri-rih-ka \quad [siririhkə] \quad \text{‘fast, quick.DISTRIB-ADJ’} \\
  ru-bu-bu-ku-ka \quad [rubübükə] \quad \text{‘short.DISTRIB-ADJ’} \\
\]

\[(53)\]
\[
a. \text{pu-pui} \quad [pupúy] \quad \text{‘lukewarm.DISTRIB’} \\
  b. \text{su-yu-yu} \quad [suyuyu:] \quad \text{‘pretty.DISTRIB’} \\
  c. \text{a-bu-buk} \quad [abúbuk] \quad \text{‘face-down.DISTRIB’} \\
\]
4.4.4 Stress in noncanonical adjectives

As noted in section 4.2.2, the subminimal adjectival root ba- ('small'), is morphologically bound, and thus does not appear as a standalone word. While in all other adjectives the ADJ suffix -ka is ignored for purposes of the iambic parse of the word (it falls outside the first iambic foot), in the ADJ-affixed surface form ba-ka, the suffix is treated exactly as if it were part of the root itself: it receives strong stress and undergoes iambic lengthening ([baka:]) just like a free adjective such as suyu (51b). As for the three putative oversized adjective roots, these have the same stress pattern as reduplicated adjectives:

(54)  
   a. minisih-ka [minisithka] ‘dirty-ADJ’  
   b. makasik-ka [makasikka] ‘abundant-ADJ’  
   c. yabasik-ka [yabasikka] ‘scary-ADJ’

4.4.5 Stress in canonical verbs

The stress pattern of words built on canonical verb roots is more complex than that of adjectives, due to the vast array of inflectional and derivational morphological processes in which verb roots participate. As with adjectives, the primary generalization is for stress to fall on the rightmost syllable of the root; in other words, on the head of the iambic foot that makes up the root. This rule holds true for all forms of all canonical verbs whose stem is augmented by a consonantal thematic morpheme (verbal morphology is discussed in section 7.1). The examples in (55) illustrate the stress in a few relevant verbal forms:

(55)  
   a. yam-ti [yamti] ‘make-PROX’  
      á-wanikina [á:wanikina] ‘enter-INF11’  
   b. wasa-ratikna [wasá:ratikna] ‘bathe-POT11’  
      tari-pak [tarí:pak] ‘enclose-OBV3’  
   c. upur-tang [upúrtang] ‘gather-PERF3’  
      silāmh-dasamanna [silá:mdasamanna] ‘glare-NEG22’

Note that strong stress does not iterate over the inflectional material following the stem, nor does iambic lengthening take place beyond the initial foot:

(56)  
   a. wasa-raduti [wasá:raduti] ‘bathe-FUT33’  
   b. bala-dadida [balá:dadida] ‘rumble-PST33’  
   c. lá-nikina [lá:nikina] ‘translate-INF11’  
   d. kawa-ranakana [kawá:ranakana] ‘laugh-INF33’  
   e. pura-danamana [purá:danamana] ‘get wet-INF22’

In the verbal forms shown so far, the stress has been invariably located on the head syllable of the canonical root. However, when consonant-final l-class verb stems (see section 7.2.2) combine with vowel-initial verbal inflection morphology, resyllabification occurs, and the construction of an initial iambic foot places stress outside the root, on the initial vowel of the suffix:
Moreover, the inflectional paradigms of the vowel-themed roots and the degenerate INCH verb da- can give rise (after possible resyllabification) to forms with a (C)V.CV-initial suffix, yielding not only stress, but also iambic lengthening on the affix-initial vowel:

(58)  
<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>yaw-arang</td>
<td>[yawá:raŋ]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>law-adida</td>
<td>[lawá:dida]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>am-akutimna</td>
<td>[amá:kutimna]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td>da-p-aringna</td>
<td>[dapa:riŋna]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

So far, the examples have shown forms in which the inflectional affixes consist either of multiple syllables or (at least) a heavy syllable. An interesting situation arises when the abovementioned Ø-class, vowel-themed, and defective verb roots are inflected with the PROX suffix -i. Since this morpheme (and no other) has the minimal shape -V, the resulting verb form will have the shape (C)VCV, and, under iambic rhythm similar to an adjective of the same pattern, one would predict stress and concomitant iambic lengthening of the second vowel. However, in these cases only, the word obligatorily switches to a trochaic rhythm, resulting in initial stress and no vowel-lengthening:

(59)  
<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>at-i</td>
<td>[áti]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>wat-i</td>
<td>[wáti]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>kas-i</td>
<td>[kási]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td>tal-i</td>
<td>[táli]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e.</td>
<td>duh-i</td>
<td>[dúhi]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f.</td>
<td>kuh-i</td>
<td>[kuhi]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>g.</td>
<td>dak-i</td>
<td>[dáki]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>h.</td>
<td>dat-i</td>
<td>[dáti]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>i.</td>
<td>ih-i</td>
<td>[ihi]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>j.</td>
<td>dih-i</td>
<td>[dihí]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>k.</td>
<td>yaw-i</td>
<td>[yawí]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>l.</td>
<td>law-i</td>
<td>[lawí]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>m.</td>
<td>am-i</td>
<td>[ámi]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>n.</td>
<td>yab-i</td>
<td>[ýabí]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>o.</td>
<td>da-p-i</td>
<td>[dápi]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thus, in verbs, it appears that the prospect of stressing a final light syllable containing non-root material is sufficiently undesirable to trigger retraction of stress onto the root, thereby yielding a stress pattern that is trochaic in character.

Two morphemes in the verbal paradigm have the effect of adding a strong stress to the verbal word: the auditive suffix (see section 7.1.11.3) -i (‘-AUD’) and plural negative imperative morpheme -ninah (‘-IMPER22NEG’) (section 7.1.9). These morphemes are unique
in that they each contain an underlying long vowel. As noted in (49a), all long vowels receive strong stress. In addition to the stress on the root, then, verbs bearing these features contain an extra stress:

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>yam-tì</td>
<td>[yámtì:]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>yam-tanìnah</td>
<td>[yamtnìnah]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>á-wì</td>
<td>[á:wi:]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>á-wanìnah</td>
<td>[awánínah]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c.</td>
<td>wasa-rì</td>
<td>[wásá:ri:]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>wasa-ranìnah</td>
<td>[wásá:ranínah]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d.</td>
<td>tari-pì</td>
<td>[tari:pi:]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>tari-panìnah</td>
<td>[tari:panínah]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e.</td>
<td>upur-tì</td>
<td>[upúrtì:]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>upur-tanìnah</td>
<td>[upúrtanínah]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>f.</td>
<td>silåmh-di</td>
<td>[silá:mdì:]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>silåmh-danìnah</td>
<td>[silá:mdanínah]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note that in the auditive forms, a 'stress clash' occurs, in which adjacent syllables are stressed. To my ear, this clash is not resolved, and both stresses remain, although in all multi-stressed verbal forms such as those in (60) it is generally the rightmost stress that seems more prominent, especially if the initial (root) stress is not located on a long vowel, as in [yámtì:] in (60a).

4.4.6 Stress in derived verbs

Derived verb stems are generally inflected as p-themed verbs (in the V-PA class). Since in the inflectional paradigm of a consonant-themed verb all suffixes are consonant-initial (see section 7.2), a stem-final consonant is never subject to resyllabification, and thus stress of the stem is no different than it would be in its non-verbal usage (61a). As in ordinary verbs, the inflectional affixes remain unstressed unless there is an underlying long vowel (61b):

<p>| | | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>kubalamh-nakana</td>
<td>[kubá:laṃnakana]</td>
<td>'act like butterfly-INF33'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>minisih-putimma</td>
<td>[minisihputimma]</td>
<td>'get dirty-FUT22'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>kubalamh-pì</td>
<td>[kubá:lampì:]</td>
<td>'act like butterfly-AUD'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>minisih-panìnah</td>
<td>[minisihpanínah]</td>
<td>'get dirty-IMP22NEG'</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.4.7 Stress in canonical nouns

While nouns of the shape [H] are obviously unproblematic, it is more difficult to characterize stress in a bisyllabic canonical ([LL] or [LH]) noun. Recalling the examples in (39) from section 4.2.4, many [LL] nouns actually have two possible realizations, corresponding to trochaic and iambic rhythms. Regarding [LH] nouns (in which the final syllable is [CVC]e) the stress pattern is difficult to discern, and nouns of this shape seem to waver between initial and final stress in different environments, with final stress being perhaps the more common. It appears that the trochaic parse is definitely possible for these forms as well, despite the heaviness of the final syllable. Examples are given in (62):

<p>| | | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a.</td>
<td>kubalamh-nakana</td>
<td>[kubá:laṃnakana]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>minisih-putimma</td>
<td>[minisihputimma]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b.</td>
<td>kubalamh-pì</td>
<td>[kubá:lampì:]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>minisih-panìnah</td>
<td>[minisihpanínah]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Why bare (unsuffixed) nouns and adjectives of the same bisyllabic canonical shape should have such markedly different stress patterns (compare these forms with those in example (50)) could be explained if one assumes that nouns have a prohibition against word-final stress that adjectives do not have. This prohibition can sometimes be overridden (due to factors that are not yet understood), but if it is not, the grammar must resort to a marked trochaic parse of the noun. 12

In nouns of canonical shape, the construct state is realized as a suffix, and in these cases, there is no alternation; the pattern is uniformly iambic, with stress on the final syllable of the stem, as shown in (63). Note that the affix does not bear any stress.

(63) Canonical noun stress—construct state:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lí-</th>
<th>a. al-ka</th>
<th>[álka]</th>
<th>‘man-CNS3’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>b. ú-mana</td>
<td>[ú:mana]</td>
<td>‘house-CNS22’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>c. wauh-kana</td>
<td>[wáwkana]</td>
<td>‘owl-CNS33’</td>
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<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>d. káuh-ni</td>
<td>[ká:wni]</td>
<td>‘ash-CNS12’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lll-</td>
<td>e. awa-ki</td>
<td>[áwä:ki]</td>
<td>‘silkgrass-CNS1’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>f. abu-ka</td>
<td>[abú:ka]</td>
<td>‘stingray-CNS2’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>g. yapu-kana</td>
<td>[yápú:kana]</td>
<td>‘crocodile-CNS3’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>h. wiya-ka</td>
<td>[wi(y)ák[a</td>
<td>‘paca-CNS3’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>i. suru-kina</td>
<td>[surú:kina]</td>
<td>‘log-CNS11’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LH-</td>
<td>j. wahai-ni</td>
<td>[wähayni]</td>
<td>‘M’s brother-CNS12’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>k. irik-ma</td>
<td>[irikma]</td>
<td>‘parakeet sp.-CNS2’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>l. kasa-ka</td>
<td>[kásáwma]</td>
<td>‘cashew-CNS22’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>m. saring-kì</td>
<td>[sáriñki]</td>
<td>‘avocado-CNS1’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>n. sinak-kana</td>
<td>[sinakkana]</td>
<td>‘bean-CNS33’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----</td>
<td>o. wilih-ni</td>
<td>[wilihni]</td>
<td>‘green sea turtle-CNS12’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

12 Here it is helpful to compare the adjectival and nominal uses of the word baka. The morphological structure of this form was discussed in section 4.2.2. As noted in section 4.4.4, as an adjective, ba-ka (‘small-ADJ’) is obligatorily parsed as an iamb, receiving final stress and undergoing iambic lengthening: [baka]. However, in its use as a noun, meaning ‘child’, baka behaves exactly as any noun stem of this shape—in its absolute form it oscillates between [báka] and [baká], while in the construct it is uniformly iambic: [báka:ka]
It is instructive to compare the stress pattern of bisyllabic canonical nouns in (62) with the patterns of the same stems when affixed by construct morphology in (63). While an unaffixed LL or LH stem generally exhibits both an iambic and a trochaic metrical pattern, once the stem bears a suffix, the iambic pattern becomes obligatory. This fact could be explained along the following lines: (a) the iambic parse is preferred, and (b) word-final stress is avoided. In bisyllabic words, the two factors are in direct conflict, and thus the surface patterns oscillate between two different forms. The suffixed forms can satisfy both conditions, because the head of the iambic foot is no longer word-final, and thus these forms have only one possible stress pattern.

4.4.8 Stress in oversized nouns

Oversized nouns (those which contain extra material after parsing an initial iambic foot) appear to behave in a reasonably regular fashion with respect to stress. The study is hampered by the scarcity of oversized roots that are truly monomorphemic, as the morphological structure of the word is sometimes relevant (see section 4.4.11). The examples in (64) may not all be morphologically simple, but the pattern that emerges is nonetheless suggestive:
Stress in oversized nouns:

(a)  H́L  súlu  [sú:lu]  ‘dog’
    kahma  [ká:ma]  ‘iguana’
    pápta  [pá:pta]  ‘palm sp.’

(b)  H́H  návalh  [ná:val]  ‘demon’
    aitak  [áytak]  ‘paper’
    ásbumgh  [ás:bu:ŋ]  ‘grasshopper’

(c)  ĹL  kiriti  [kiri:ti]  ‘fish sp.’
    wamalu  [wamá:lu]  ‘crested guan’

(d)  ĹH  alakumh  [alá:ku:ŋ]  ‘duck’
    kululuk  [ku:lu:lk]  ‘lineated woodpecker’

(e)  Ĺ́L  kisaúri  [kí:sa:ri]  ‘fitweed’
    arahti  [ará:hti]  ‘crab’
    warauhwa  [wa:ra:hywa]  ‘yellow-naped parrot’

(f)  H́LL  pundana  [púnda:na]  ‘wild ginger’
    iktiki  [íktiki]  ‘great kiskadee’
    kuhkali  [ku:ku:li]  ‘mullet’

(g)  Ĺ́H  lamainah  [lama:ni:ah]  ‘tree sp.’
    yamahtak  [yama:htak]  ‘exertion, effort’

(h)  H́L  ingkinih  [Íngkinih]  ‘banana’
    ákusah  [á:kusah]  ‘needle’
    ungkiwai  [úŋkiwai]  ‘little tinamou’
    rustubuk  [rústubuk]  ‘fly sp.’

(i)  H́HL  másahti  [ma:sáhti]  ‘pineapple’

(j)  H́HH  wákumbaih  [wá:ku:mba:ŋ]  ‘mythical being’
    áwaktah  [á:waktah]  ‘boat-billed heron’

(k)  H́́H  tasláwan  [taslá:wan]  ‘needlefish’
    pisbåluk  [pisbá:lu:k]  ‘ani’


(m)  ĹLH  kalamatah  [kalá:ma:ta:ŋ]  ‘anise piper’

(n)  LĹL  tiwiliski  [tiwi:li:ski]  ‘sandpiper’

(o)  ĹLL  tiriskima  [tíri:skíma]  ‘tree sp.’

(p)  H́LL  sikakaira  [sí:ka:ka:íra]  ‘sweet basil’

(q)  H́ĹL  wangkaramah  [waŋkará:ma:ŋ]  ‘great tinamou’

The core of the generalization appears to be to iteratively parse the word into iambic feet, ignoring the final syllable. This yields two stresses in long words like sikakaira (64p), wangkaramah, and kásiramah (64q). Note that in these cases, the data are idealized slightly, since to my ear, long-vowel stress is markedly more prominent than strong stress on other heavy syllables. I have used a grave accent in forms like [sí:ka:ka:íra] to indicate this asymmetry, but for the purposes of identifying the core stress generalization I consider both stresses in the word to be equal. The latter two words (64q) are in fact the only forms in the language which appear to show iambic lengthening beyond the initial foot. Unfortunately, both contain the sequence -ramah at the same point in the metrical parse, making it hard
to eliminate the possibility that this is simply a morpheme with an underlying long vowel (rāmah /ra:mah/). However, the sequence occurs in katarāmah [katá:ramah] with a short vowel, suggesting that iambic lengthening has indeed taken place in the forms in (64q).

Forms like ingkinih [iŋkinih] in (64h) illustrate that the final syllable is ignored for purposes of metrical parsing, since otherwise, the stress pattern of this word would be expected to be [iŋkinih]. A kind of stress clash effect can be seen in the examples in (64i–k). In these cases (ignoring the final syllable), the adjacent heavy syllables at the beginning of the word should each yield a stressed iambic foot. However, it appears that in the HH configuration one of the stresses is deleted. The available examples do not show any directionality in resolution of this clash, since in these cases it is the stronger long-vowel stress that wins out (cf. [á:waktah] vs. [taslā:wan]). Unfortunately I know of no monomorphemic HH-initial forms in which neither or both the initial syllables have long vowels.

The final quirk of the stress pattern is illustrated by the form tiwiliski [tiwiliski] (64n). Here a ‘double upbeat’ results as two initial light syllables are passed over in favor of placing stress on the third syllable, which is heavy and (crucially) non-final (the same does not happen in three-syllable LLH words such as alakumh (64d)). It is unclear what the actual foot structure of a form like tiwiliski is, and whether it represents a parsing strategy or a stress clash resolution. If the latter is the case, and if there was an initial footing of [LL][H]L, then this shows that the language forgoes iambic lengthening when resolving these configurations as well.

In summary, the oversized nouns in (64) present a stress pattern that is basically iambic, with evidence (from three forms only) that the parsing is iterative throughout the stem. Stress clashes are resolved, with long vowels taking precedence over stressed closed syllables. Word-final syllables remain unstressed.

4.4.9 Stress and the construct state

Generally, in oversized nouns the construct state morphology does not interact with the computation of the metrical properties of a word. If the construct is infixed, then the regular base for this infixation (the initial iamb), conspires to place the construct morphology immediately after the first stressed syllable. As for stresses beyond the initial foot, the construct morphology itself does not receive stress, and does not cause shifts in the stresses of the material which follows it:
Inflected words like warauh-kana-wa and warauhwa-kana show that stress does not itself iterate into the construct morphology. If it did, we would expect an additional stress and iambic lengthening of the fourth syllable: *[waráwkaná:wa], *[waráwkanákaka]. Moreover, in the construct forms of kásiramah (65e), the insertion of both one- and two-syllable infixes has no effect on the stress and lengthening of the following portion of the word [-sirá:mah]. Thus, it appears that even when the construct is realized through infixation, it is as if the infixation takes place at a point in the derivation after the metrical structure of the word has been determined.

Another interesting way in which the construct morphology fails to interact with the stress and vowel-lengthening generalization can be seen by comparing the suffixed construct form alakumh-ka (65c) with tiwiliski (64o). Although, with regard to syllable weight, both words have the same contour, the inflected form alakumh-ka does not have the double upbeat metrical pattern of tiwiliski (compare [tiwiliski] vs. [alákúŋka], not *[alakúŋka]). It therefore appears the suffixation of a construct morpheme does not in this case rescue the stem-final syllable -kumh from its word-final status with respect to metrical parsing.

There are interesting exceptions to the inertness of the construct state morphology in the realm of stress. First, as illustrated by example (63) in section 4.4.7, the addition of a construct suffix does resolve the iambic/trochaic uncertainty in these forms, in favor of the iambic parse. There is a related effect in oversized nouns, specifically in some of the same reduplicated forms that resist the construct infixation (see examples in (46a) in section 4.3.2).

a. kililih [kilí:lih] ‘cicada’
kililih-ka [kilílihka], *[kilí:lihka] ‘cicada-CNS3’
kililih-kana [kilílihkana], *[kilí:lihkana] ‘cicada-CNS33’
b. pululuh [pulú:luh] ‘fish sp.’
pululuh-ka [pululuhka], *[pulú:luhka] ‘fish sp.-CNS3’
pululuh-kana [pululuhkana], *[pulú:luhkana] ‘fish sp.-CNS33’

These reduplicated examples can be seen as related to those in (62–63) by observing that in each case there is a strong motivation to stress the final syllable of the stem, but not to stress the final syllable of the word. The construct state nouns in (63) bear uniform stem-final (but not word-final) stress, in contrast to their absolute counterparts in (62), because
the construct suffix renders the stem-final syllable non-word-final, allowing these words to reconcile iambic parsing with the prohibition against word-final stress. In the reduplicated forms in (66), it is not the desire for strictly iambic parsing that motivates stem-final stress, but rather the tendency to treat the word analogously to a reduplicated free adjective stem like si-ri-rih ([siririh] ‘fast-DISTRIB’), which has final stress (in adjectives the reduplicated syllable never receives stress). In the unsuffixed absolute form, these reduplicated nouns are unable to mimic their adjectival counterparts because of the constraint against word-final stress in nouns (again, adjectives do not obey any such condition), and thus kililih (‘cicada’) surfaces as [kili:lih]. However, once a suffix is present, the stem-final syllable is no longer word-final and no conflict arises; thus kililih-ka (‘cicada-cNs3’) surfaces as [kililihka], exactly parallel to a bound distributive adjective of the same shape such as si-ri-rih-ka (‘fast-ADJ’ [siririhka]), and, incidentally also in line with the ‘double upbeat’ contour observed in tiwiliski above. Thus there is an important three-way distinction to be made between the roots alakumh, kililih, and tiwiliski:

\[ \text{(67)} \]

a. **Ordinary LLH root**
   
   Both infixation and suffixation possible, no stress shift in construct: alakumh: [ala:kum], [ala:kakum], [ala:kumka].

b. **Reduplicated LLH root**
   
   Only suffixation possible, construct induces rightward stress shift: kililih: [kili:lih], *[kili:kalihi], [kililihka].

c. **Ordinary LLHL root**
   
   Only suffixation possible,\(^{13}\) double-upbeat stress in absolute, no stress shift in construct: tiwiliski: [tiwiliski], *[tiwi:kaliski], [tiwiliskika].

The generalization is rather complex, but can be stated as follows: In LLH nouns of any morphological structure, stress is obligatorily iambic, with lengthening of the stressed vowel ([alá:kum], [kililihi]).\(^{14}\) In LL\(_1\)HL\(_2\) nouns, stress is of the double-upbeat pattern if and only if L\(_1\) is an apparent CV-reduplication of the following syllable ([kililihka]), or L\(_2\) is part of the root (i.e. not a suffix, as in [tiwiliski]). Otherwise, stress is iambic, and lengthening occurs ([alá:kumka]).\(^{15}\)

The second case of exceptional interaction between the construct morphology and stress occurs in those forms mentioned in section 4.3.2 in which the base of the construct infixation is of the subminimal CV- shape. In these words, as shown in (68), the construct infix may actually receive the strong stress, and, moreover, the vowel of this stressed syllable undergoes iambic lengthening. In other words, it is as if these words are metrically reparsed from scratch, with no heed of the morphological structure.\(^{16}\)

\(^{13}\)tiwiliski is one of those nouns for which infixation is consistently rejected in favor of suffixation in the construct. Unfortunately, as we have not yet catalogued any other roots of this shape, it is impossible to tell whether there is any deep generalization behind this fact.

\(^{14}\)This generalization is strong enough to hold even when the stressed (and lengthened) syllable is the construct infix itself, as in the irregular form ta-ka-pas ([taka:pas] ‘mouth-cNs3’) (see example (68) below).

\(^{15}\)Certain relational nouns (section 6.1.3.2) exhibit the LLHL shape in their ‘split’ construct forms: ana-ka-t-na ([ana:katna] ‘beneath-cNs33’). This form does not meet either of the conditions of the generalization for double-upbeat stress, and so is stressed iambically.

\(^{16}\)This may be too strong a statement, since in (68d), the form da-ka-t-suru does retain its compound stress pattern—as a compound word, both roots are stressed independently in this case (see section 4.4.11).
4.4.10 ‘Pre-accenting’ enclitics

The enclitic particle sa (‘NEG’) serves to negate phrasal constituents, and is not to be confused with the -sa of the negative verbal inflection paradigms (although the two are certainly related). This enclitic optionally causes strong stress (and vowel-lengthening in an open syllable) on the syllable which precedes it:

(69) a. yam-ka sa [yámká:sa] ‘not good (good-ADJ NEG)’
   b. sū-ki-lu sa [sū:kílú:sa] ‘not my dog (dog-CN1 NEG)’
   c. á-awanama sa [á:wanamá:sa] ‘you shouldn’t enter (enter-INF2 NEG)’

This prestressing (and lengthening) is apparently never obligatory, and for at least one speaker there seem to be cases in which it is not permitted at all, such as when directly following a negative finite verb form:17

(70) a. yul-dasa sa ([yúldasasa], *[yuldásá:sa])
   ‘it’s not that they don’t speak (speak-NEG33 NEG)’
   b. bung-pasing sa ([ búŋpasíŋsa], *[búŋpasíŋsa])
   ‘it’s not that I haven’t gone out (exit-NEG33 NEG)’

Whatever the reason that sa can not trigger prestressing in the environment in (70), it is fascinating to note that the exact opposite seems to apply to the other preaccenting enclitic dah (‘still, yet’). While dah has roughly the same distribution as sa, it appears to cause prestressing (and lengthening) only when following a negative finite verb form:18

---

As the roots in this stem are nouns, this word has an alternate stress pattern in which each root is trochaically stressed: [dákatsúrú]. It may be that other combinations (one root trochaic, one root iambic) are also possible, but I have no reliable data on this.

17More research is needed here, because I have not thoroughly checked sa for prestressing in all environments, nor do I know for sure whether sa causes prestressing with a positive finite verb form (such cases are rare due to their semantics). Note that the infinitive forms are actually nominal in their morphological form, the infitive itself being a kind of construct state.

18I do not have information on whether dah causes prestressing on all finite negative verb forms. In particular, it seems that the pluralizer -na, which occurs finally in some finite verbal forms, never undergoes prestressing: yul-tasingna dah (‘we excl. haven’t spoken yet’ [yúltasingnadah], *[yúltasingní:na:dah]).
(71)  
a.  **yul-dasa dah** ([yúldasadah], [yúldasá:dah])  
‘they haven’t spoken yet (speak-NEG33 yet)’

b.  **bung-pasing dah** ([bungpasíndah], [bungpasíndah])  
‘I haven’t gone out yet (exit-NEG33 yet)’

Much more study is needed in this area of the grammar. In particular, it may be 
that the ‘pre-accenting’ nature of these enclitics is actually a matter of phrasal phonology, 
intimately tied to the syntactic function of these particles.

### 4.4.11 Stress in compounds

Stress in compound words (which are generally nouns), is not well understood at present. 
In general, the stress pattern of a compound word appears to be computed independently 
inside each root of the word, but the data have not been sufficiently studied yet to present 
the phenomenon in detail.

(72)  

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HH</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>ukmik</td>
<td>[úkmik]</td>
<td>‘armadillo’</td>
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<tr>
<td>N+V</td>
<td>bas-dak</td>
<td>[básdak]</td>
<td>‘barber (lit. hair-cut)’</td>
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<tr>
<td>N+A</td>
<td>bas-dip</td>
<td>[básdip]</td>
<td>‘straight-haired (lit. hair-straight)’</td>
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<td>HLH</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>ingkinih</td>
<td>[ŋkinih]</td>
<td>‘banana’</td>
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<tr>
<td>N+A</td>
<td>bas-sirih</td>
<td>[básiríh]</td>
<td>‘falcon (lit. hair-fast)’</td>
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<tr>
<td>N+N</td>
<td>was-sirau</td>
<td>[wásírú]</td>
<td>‘evil mermaid (lit. water-maiden)’</td>
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<tr>
<td>LHH</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>lamainah</td>
<td>[lámání]</td>
<td>‘tree sp.’</td>
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<tr>
<td>N+A</td>
<td>asang-dut</td>
<td>[ásándút]</td>
<td>‘hell (lit. country-evil)’</td>
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<tr>
<td>LLLL</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>ihibili</td>
<td>[ihibi]</td>
<td>‘ginger’</td>
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<tr>
<td>N+V</td>
<td>baka-muru</td>
<td>[baká:muru]</td>
<td>‘pregnant (lit. child-haul)’</td>
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<tr>
<td>N+A</td>
<td>tapa-dasi</td>
<td>[tápá:dasi:]</td>
<td>‘stubborn (lit. ear-hard)’</td>
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<tr>
<td>LLLH</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>kataramah</td>
<td>[katarámah]</td>
<td>‘chicken’</td>
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<tr>
<td>N+A</td>
<td>udu-wirus</td>
<td>[udu:wírus]</td>
<td>‘plant sp. (lit. navel-closed)’</td>
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<tr>
<td>LHLH</td>
<td>N+N</td>
<td>bilam-titis</td>
<td>[bilamtítí]</td>
<td>‘sardine (lit. fish-tiny)’</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HHH</td>
<td>N</td>
<td>wákumbaih</td>
<td>[wákumbá]</td>
<td>‘mythical being’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N+N+N</td>
<td>was-mak-pah</td>
<td>[wásmákpa]</td>
<td>‘swamp (lit. mud-place)’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As the examples in (72) show, **N+A** and **N+N** compounds are stressed on each individual 
root, while in **N+V** compounds, it is apparently only the initial root of the pair which 
receives strong stress.
Chapter 5

Overview of Ulwa grammar

This chapter provides a very brief overview of some important aspects of Ulwa grammar, in an attempt to situate the language within the broader context of linguistic typology. The material in this chapter, while not the central object of study in this thesis, is nevertheless crucial to understanding the examples and glosses used in the subsequent chapters and in the dictionary itself (see appendix B).

5.1 Word order and directionality of syntactic relations

5.1.1 Head finality

Ulwa is a ‘head-final’ language. The verb appears at the end of its clause, and is in turn followed by any supplementary subject agreement morphology and then by any complementizers or sentence-level particles. This is illustrated in example (73). Here, the verb bakan-tidam (‘buy-PST2’) follows its object kuring-ma (‘canoe-CNS2’), and the question-marking complementizer pih (Q) follows the entire clause which is to be marked interrogative.

(73) Kuring-ma bakan-tidam pih?
canoe-CNS2 sell-PST2 Q

‘Did you sell your canoe?’

Moreover, all adpositions and case markers must follow the noun phrase to which they apply (that is, they are postpositions):¹

(74) [ Karawala  kaupak ] [ Kâuhmak  kau ] [ yaka  tâ-ka
        Karawala  EL        Sandy Bay  ALL        DEM.DIST  path-CNS3
        manah  wât-dam  pih?
        PERL  walk-PERF2  Q

‘Have you walked along that path from Karawala to Sandy Bay?’

Finally, the head-final nature of Ulwa syntactic relations emerges inside the noun phrase itself, as an article or determiner must follow then noun to which it applies:

¹Not surprisingly from a cross-linguistic standpoint, the two categories are not clearly distinct in Ulwa. For instance, kau is a morpheme whose function ranges from that of a locative postposition to a simple accusative or dative case marker.
(75)  
al ya
woman D
'the woman'

b.  
bil as
snake SING
'a snake'

Refer to chapter 6 for in-depth discussion of noun-phrase internal syntax.

5.1.2 Clausal word order

The basic word order in an Ulwa clause appears to be SOV (SUBJ OBJ VERB), as illustrated in the examples in (76):

(76)  
a.  Wirah ma wiya wat-da.
F's brother-CNs2 paca catch-PST3
'Your brother caught a paca.'

b.  Yang kuh pan-ka buk-payang.
PRN1 firewood stick-CNs3 split-PRES1
'I am splitting a stick of firewood.'

However, OSV (OBJ SUBJ VERB) word order is also quite common, and occurs in many ordinary sentences such as those in (77).

(77)  
a.  Aka ya muih almuk balna ya katka wal-dai.
tobacco D person old male PLUR D more seek, want-PRES33
'Old men prefer tobacco.'

b.  Áka yalau-ka pan-ka ya mámah-ki lau-tang.
DEM.PROX mango-CNs3 tree-CNs3 D mother-CNS1 plant-PERF3
'This mango tree was planted by my mother.'

This stylistic interchange of arguments is governed by factors that are not well understood, although it does appear that a phonologically 'heavy' object is more likely to be fronted (i.e. moved to the left of the subject). Focusing of a noun phrase also causes it to be fronted.

Very large noun phrases, sentential complements, and adverbial expressions are often postposed:

(78)  
Yang kang lá-wayang [ ai bung-pai pan ].
PRN1 know-PRES1 what happen-PRES3 Q
'I know [what is happening].'

A postposed expression follows not only the verb, but also any complementizer or other sentence-final particle:

(79)  
Pulu ya dí suyu pal-ka ka [ muih luíh kau ].
flower D thing pretty very-ADJ CKA person all to
'Flowers are beautiful [to everyone].'
5.2 Person and number

Ulwa grammar makes a consistent distinction between first, second, and third person arguments in both singular and plural. In addition, the first person plural is further subdivided into inclusive (speaker and hearer) and exclusive (speaker and others but not hearer). These categories are represented numerically in the glosses herein according to the table in (80):

(80) Ulwa person and number glossing:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Gloss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st person, singular</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person, singular</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person, singular</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st person, plural, exclusive</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st person, plural, inclusive</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd person, plural</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd person, plural</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

5.3 Case marking

5.3.1 Invisible case: nominative and genitive

Nominative and genitive noun phrases are not overtly case-marked in Ulwa. Arguments fulfilling these grammatical roles are instead signalled by way of agreement morphology marked on the 'head' of their constituent. For nominative case, the locus of agreement is the inflectional morphology on the verb of the containing clause (see section 7.1), or, in clauses where there is no suitable agreement-bearing verb, such agreement is marked by way of the clausal agreement morphology system discussed in section 8.2. An example of the former type is shown in (81a), and the latter type in (81b):

(81) a. Dimuih áka áyaupak bung-pida?
    snake DPROX where from exit-PST3
    ‘Where did this snake come from?’

b. Yang dau lau yang dai.
    PRN1 useless sitting.STAT AGR1 AUX.PST
    ‘I was just sitting doing nothing.’

In each example, the subject noun phrase (in the first case the full noun phrase dimuih áka ‘this snake’, and in the second, the personal pronounyang ‘I’) appears in an unmarked form, its grammatical case being assigned invisibly through concordance with the agreement morphology.

The genitive case plays an extremely important role in Ulwa syntax. The most straightforward application of the genitive is to mediate the possessor relation, as shown in example (82):

(82) a. Yang dau lau yang dai.
    PRN1 useless sitting.STAT AGR1 AUX.PST
    ‘I was just sitting doing nothing.’

2At times, speakers appear to recognize yet a finer distinction among the 1st person inclusive plural: mining (‘you and I’) and mining(na) balna (‘you and I and others’). The former is in effect a first-person dual inclusive, while the latter might be glossed ‘123’.

71
In these examples, it is not the possessor noun phrase itself (yangna ‘we excl.’ and muih wāk ‘someone else’) that is marked, but rather the the possessed noun carries inflectional morphology known as the construct state affix, which is discussed in detail in sections 4.3.2 and 6.1. It is the construct state morphology alone that makes explicit (via person and number agreement) the genitive case-marking relation between the head noun and its argument.

5.3.2 Overt case

5.3.2.1 The dative

The dative case relation in Ulwa is obligatorily expressed by placing the argument noun phrase in a constituent headed by the versatile postposition kau in its various forms.3

(83) a. Wai kau ā-taram?
    who DAT give-IRR2
    ‘Who will you give it to?’

b. Lāp ya mining kau yak bakan-duti at-dai.
    lumber D PRN12 DAT OBJ12 sell-FUT33 say-PRES33
    ‘They say they’ll sell us the lumber.’

Notice that in (83b), despite the presence of the overt dative marked expression mining kau (‘to us incl.’), the object marker yak (‘OBJ12’) must still be present. In fact, as will be discussed in section 5.4, the noun phrase (along with its case marker) may be freely dropped in sentences like these, but the preverbal object marker remains obligatory.

5.3.2.2 The accusative

The accusative case is much more difficult to pin down than the dative. In some examples, especially those in which there is an overt object marker such as mā (‘OBJ2’) in (84), the postposition kau can be optionally used to mark this case relation:

(84) Yang man (kau) mā bau-tuting.
    PRN1 PRN2 ACC OBJ2 punch-FUT1
    ‘I am going to punch you.’

3This postposition fuses with a preceding definite determiner to yield the forms yau, yakau (ya + kau ‘D + DAT’) and ākau (‘DPROX + DAT’). Among its many other uses are the expression of locative, allative, and accusative (see section 5.3.2.2) cases, and as a subordinating conjunction meaning ‘when, while’.
In similar sentences where the object is a third-person noun phrase (for which there is no overt object proclitic), kau is again optional, but the sentence is degraded severely if no postnominal element is present:

(85) Yang wirah-ma *(kau/ya/âka) bau-tuting.
     PRNI F’s brother-CNS2 ACC/D/DPROX punch-FUT1
     ‘I am going to punch your brother.’

Finally, there are instances in which no case marking is allowed:

(86) Yang súpa (*kau) kas-i lau yang.
     PRNI pijibay ACC eat-PROX sitting,STAT AGR1
     ‘I am (sitting) eating pijibay.’

A full investigation the nature of case marking and argument relations in Ulwa is, regrettably, beyond the scope of this thesis.

5.4 Null arguments and ‘pro-drop’

An Ulwa pronoun need not be overtly expressed if it functions as a direct argument of a verb or noun, or is the subject of a clause bearing clausal agreement. For verbs, the direct arguments are nominative, accusative and dative:

(87) a. (Alas) ( alas kau) kas-da.
     PRN3 PRN3 ACC bite-PST3
     ‘He/she/it bit him/her/it.’

b. (Yang) ( alas kau) á-tikda.
     PRN1 PRN3 DAT give-PST1
     ‘I gave it to him/her.’

Non-third-person objects are obligatorily signalled by a preverbal agreement particle (glossed OBJ), while the argument pronouns themselves need not be (but may be) specified overtly. OBJ may be realized as an independent (possibly proclitic) form (88a) or as a prefix fused with certain /a/-initial verb stems (88b):4

(88) a. (Alas) (yang kau) yâ kas-da.
     PRN3 PRN1 ACC OBJ1 bite-PST3
     ‘He/she/it bit me.’

b. (Yang) (man kau) m-â-taring.
     PRN1 PRN2 DAT OBJ2-give-IRR1
     ‘I’ll gave it to you.’

4In ditransitive verbs, where there is both a dative and an accusative argument, the OBJ proclitic agrees with the dative. It is apparently not possible to directly translate a sentence such as ‘He sold me to you’ into Ulwa without changing the direct (accusative) object into the third person, e.g. Alas yang muih-ki mâ bakan-tida (‘He sold my body to you’). Incidentally, in this case the accusative argument yang muih-ki (‘my body’) cannot take the case marker kau.
The genitive argument of a construct state noun patterns like the verbal direct arguments, in that it need not be overtly expressed. In such cases, the reading is as if a personal pronoun were inserted bearing the person and number features expressed by the construct inflection on the head noun:

(89)  a. (alas balna) pâpangh-kana
     PRN3 PLUR  father-CNS33
     'their father'

     b. (mining) asang-ni
     PRN12  town-CNS12
     'our (incl.) town'

5.5 Gloss codes used

The gloss codes that are used throughout this thesis and in the dictionary in appendix B are listed in tables 5.1 through 5.4:

Table 5.1: Gloss codes: parts of speech

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>adjective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ADV</td>
<td>adverbial</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGR</td>
<td>sentence agreement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUX</td>
<td>auxiliary (tense marker)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMP</td>
<td>complementizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>(definite) determiner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEM</td>
<td>demonstrative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IDEOPHONE</td>
<td>ideophone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTERJ</td>
<td>interjection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N</td>
<td>noun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAME</td>
<td>proper name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NUM</td>
<td>numeral</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>P</td>
<td>postposition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRN</td>
<td>pronoun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>V</td>
<td>verb</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 5.2: Gloss codes: cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACC</td>
<td>accusative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>allative (towards)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COM</td>
<td>comitative (with)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAT</td>
<td>dative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EL</td>
<td>elative (from)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GEN</td>
<td>genitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INST</td>
<td>instrumental</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOC</td>
<td>locative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOM</td>
<td>nominative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERL</td>
<td>peritative (along, via, through)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 5.3: Gloss codes: grammatical features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ADJ</td>
<td>adjectival (suffix)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGNT</td>
<td>agentic (derived noun)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ALL</td>
<td>allative (case)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ATTEMPT</td>
<td>attemptive (verb participle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AUD</td>
<td>auditive (verb participle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS</td>
<td>construct state</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPAR</td>
<td>comparative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIST</td>
<td>distal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DISTRIB</td>
<td>distributive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FUT</td>
<td>future (verb tense)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IMPER</td>
<td>imperative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INCH</td>
<td>inchoative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INF</td>
<td>inflected infinitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INFIN</td>
<td>bare infinitive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INTENT</td>
<td>intensive (verb participle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRR</td>
<td>irrealis (verb tense)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IRREV</td>
<td>irreverent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEG</td>
<td>negation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBV</td>
<td>obviative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PAUC</td>
<td>paucal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PERF</td>
<td>perfect (verb tense)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PLUR</td>
<td>plural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POS</td>
<td>positive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>POT</td>
<td>potentiive (verb participle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRES</td>
<td>present (verb tense)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PROX</td>
<td>proximate (determiner, verb)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PST</td>
<td>past (verb tense)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SING</td>
<td>singular</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STAT</td>
<td>stative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TAG</td>
<td>tag (sentence particle)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>THM</td>
<td>thematic suffix</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Table 5.4: Gloss codes: miscellaneous

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AE</th>
<th>adjectival expression</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AFFECT</td>
<td>affect particle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CKA</td>
<td>default complementizer (ka)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMOD</td>
<td>construct modifier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMODCOMP</td>
<td>compound construct modifier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CONDIT</td>
<td>conditional subordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COUNTERFACT</td>
<td>counterfactive subordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPROX</td>
<td>proximate determiner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOD</td>
<td>modifier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NA</td>
<td>deadjectival noun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NE</td>
<td>nominal expression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NR</td>
<td>relational noun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NV</td>
<td>deverbal noun</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>OBJ</td>
<td>object agr. (proclitic)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PE</td>
<td>postpositional expression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRSNTL</td>
<td>presentational</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PRT</td>
<td>particle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PV</td>
<td>preverb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q</td>
<td>interrogative complementizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QADV</td>
<td>interrogative adverb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QE</td>
<td>interrogative expression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUOTE</td>
<td>quote marker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QV</td>
<td>interrogative verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>REFL</td>
<td>reflexive/reciprocal proclitic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STRONG</td>
<td>morphologically free</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUBJ</td>
<td>subject agr. (proclitic)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOPIC</td>
<td>topicalizer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VCOP</td>
<td>copular verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VD</td>
<td>ditransitive verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VE</td>
<td>verbal expression</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI</td>
<td>intransitive verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VR</td>
<td>reflexive/reciprocal verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VT</td>
<td>transitive verb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VX</td>
<td>verb of unknown adicity</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter 6

The noun

6.1 The construct state

Ulwa nouns participate in a morphological alternation which is often characterized informally as a distinction between two ‘states’, the bare **absolute** state and the affixed **construct** state. Actually, the **construct** state is a cover term for an entire paradigm of **genitive** agreement inflection, and in this way, nouns in Ulwa are similar to their verbal counterparts in marking agreement with their ‘subject’. In the case of nouns, this subject most commonly plays the role of the **possessor** of the inflected noun. The syntactic and semantic nuances of the construct are examined in section 6.1.3. First, sections 6.1.1 and 6.1.2 outline the morphological properties of this inflectional paradigm.

6.1.1 Morphological features of the construct state

The forms of the construct are given in (90). While it is clear that the construct is composed of separate person and number (i.e. -**na**- is the pluralizer) marking components, for the sake of brevity it is treated as monolithic in the glosses. Hence, we gloss -**kina**- as CNS11, rather than CNS1.PLUR.\(^2\)

\[(90)\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CNS1</th>
<th>-ki-</th>
<th>CNS11</th>
<th>-ki-na-</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CNS2</td>
<td>-ma-</td>
<td>CNS22</td>
<td>-ma-na-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS3</td>
<td>-ka-</td>
<td>CNS33</td>
<td>-ka-na-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS12</td>
<td>-ni-</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Each of the affixes in (90) may be realized either as an infix or suffix. While the option of suffixation is generally available for most words, the more interesting pattern is that in which the construct morphology affixes to the initial iambic foot of the word, becoming an infix in stems of sufficient length, as shown in (91). The reader is referred to section 4.3.2 for more discussion of the rules for the locus of infixation, and for additional examples.

\(^1\)The term 'construct' is used for the parallel phenomenon in Miskitu, having been borrowed from classical Semitic grammatical terminology due to some syntactic similarities between Miskitu and Hebrew.

\(^2\)For an understanding of the person and number system of Ulwa, refer to section 5.2.
(91) a. **mū-ki** /mu:ki/  ‘grandchild-CNS1’
b. **wah-kana** /wahkana/  ‘vine, rope-CNS33’
c. **tâu-ni** /ta:wni/  ‘coyol palm-CNS12’
d. **wai-ma-ku** /waymaku/  ‘moon-CNS2’
e. **kung-ka-mak** /kuukamak/  ‘lip-CNS3’
f. **tā-kina-was** /ta:kinawas/  ‘milk-CNS11’
g. **laba-ka** /labaka/  ‘side-CNS3’
h. **udu-mana** /udumana/  ‘navel-CNS22’
i. **siwa-ni-nak** /siwaninak/  ‘vein, tendon, root-CNS12’
j. **tuti-kina-was** /tutikinawas/  ‘saliva-CNS11’
k. **kara-mana-bu** /karamanabu/  ‘nance-CNS22’
l. **sinak-ka** /sinakka/  ‘bean-CNS3’
m. **baril-ni** /barilni/  ‘shin-CNS12’
n. **aduk-kana** /adukkana/  ‘grapefruit-CNS33’
o. **luhus-ni-mak** /luhusnimak/  ‘soap-CNS12’
p. **kayas-ki-ni** /kayaskini/  ‘crab sp.-CNS1’
q. **itik-mana-muk** /itikmanamuk/  ‘termite sp.-CNS22’

In the accompanying dictionary (appendix B), each noun entry contains information on how its construct is formed, by way of the ‘morphological key’ of the entry, as explained in section A.4.

6.1.2 Exceptional construct forms

While section 4.3.2 identified many exceptions to the generalization predicting where the construct state affix might occur, there are also a few exceptions to the spelled-out form of the affix itself. These are body-part words which are by definition inalienably possessed, and so have no real absolute form. In the first word, **asung** (‘liver’), the CNS3 form appears to be completely unmarked (paradigm shown in (92)). The CNS1 form **asing** is distinguished only by changing the second vowel to /i/, and the CNS12 form by the addition of -ni to the latter form. As aside from these irregularities, the second person forms are as expected, and the plural versions of CNS1, CNS3 involve regular suffixation of the -na pluralizer.

(92) **asung** (‘liver’):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Construct State</th>
<th>Spelled-Out Form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CNS1</td>
<td>asing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS2</td>
<td>asungma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS3</td>
<td>asung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS12</td>
<td>asingni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS11</td>
<td>asingna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS22</td>
<td>asungmana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CNS33</td>
<td>asungna</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The paradigm of **tun-** (‘head’) is regular except that -ki- and -ka- have metathesized to -ik- and -ak-:

3Note that no vowel harmony alternation (as discussed section 3.3.2.1) takes place in the initial vowel in these forms: *asing(ni)*.
Finally, there is the mysterious bound form mak, ('eye'), which is at the heart of the free­standing word for ‘eye’ in the language (mak-da-ka), and of many other exceptional forms mentioned in chapters 3 and 4. It is unclear exactly what the lexical root of this item is (it could plausibly be any of m-, ma- or mak-). The inflection paradigm shown in (94) is for mak as it appears in isolation, as a kind of preverb in the expression mak dānaka ('guard, accompany'); when this form appears in compounds the resulting forms inflect in a similar but not always predictable fashion. 6

6.1.2.1 Split construct

The ‘split construct’ phenomenon is illustrated in section 4.3.2, primarily in example (45). While the examples described there pertained exclusively to cases of infixation to a ‘sub­ minimal’ CV- base, the same pattern appears in all of the ‘spatial’ relational nouns (see section 6.1.3.2) (those ending in -t):

---

4 Although I have claimed in earlier sections that many words contain this root, it could be that the stems minisih ('dirty') and makasik ('abundant') (mentioned in section 4.2.3), as well as the relational noun ma-ka-lnak are built on yet a different root, as in these cases the root appears to be ma-, while in the more prototypical uses of mak the final k is more evident.

5 This expression most probably began as mak-da ânaka ('put an eye on, give an eye to') (and as such is the only evidence we have of an unaffixed form of mak-da-ka) but has undergone reanalysis much in the same way that the still viable ‘nominative-genitive’ verbal expression pah-ka ânaka ('feed (lit. put in one’s hole)') is evolving into pah kânaka, with subsequent change in the case of the object from genitive to accusative (see section 7.5 for explication of such verbal expressions).

6 But for an example of just how badly the inflection of mak- can run amok, see the entry for makauhnaka in the dictionary (appendix B).
In the dictionary, the morphological key (section A.4) of a noun with a split construct, such as ana-t ('underside'), is ana[t].

6.1.2.2 Interaction between CNS and ADJ

As discussed in section 8.1.3, there is a process by which adjectivally marked adjective stems undergo construct state affixation; for example sang-ka ('green, alive-ADJ') has a full set construct nominal forms, including sang-ka-ka ('X’s greenness, life-ADJ.cNS3'), sang-ma-ka ('your greenness, life-ADJ.cNS2'), sang-ni-ka ('our incl. greenness, life-ADJ.cNS12'). From the latter two forms it is evident that the construct morphology is either infixed directly to the (canonical) adjective stem (in compliance with the iambic base of this infixation process as discussed in section 4.3.3), or this morphology is applied before affixation of the ADJ suffix. Since it is unclear what, if any, semantic or syntactic features are imparted by the ADJ suffix—after all, many adjectives (marked STRONG in the dictionary in appendix B) do not need it in order to function as such—I no of no way to tease apart the two analyses.

7Regardless of what the derivation of these forms is, there is an interesting interaction between ADJ and certain members of the CNS family, as is demonstrated by listing the entire paradigm for the nominalized adjective sang-ka-ka:

(96) sang ('green, alive'):

CNS1   sang-ki-ka, sang-ki-ki
CNS2   sang-ma-ka
CNS3   sang-ka-ka, sang-ki-ka
CNS12  sang-ni-ka, ?sang-ni-ni
CNS11  sang-kina-ka
CNS22  sang-mana-ka
CNS33  sang-kana-ka

In the CNS1, CNS3, and CNS12 forms, while the expected form is attested (listed as the first of two alternatives in the examples in (96)) there is an alternative, and in fact more widely-used variant in which either the construct or the ADJ suffix is altered. The key item is the CNS3 alternate form sang-ki-ka, which is identical to the expected CNS1 form. I believe that this is a recent product of the heavy influence of Miskitu on the language. Miskitu noun stems undergo /a/ → /i/ vowel ablaut stem-finally under construct state suffixation, hence siksa ('banana') becomes siksi-ka ('banana-cNS3'). But more relevant to the Ulwa examples under discussion are Miskitu ‘double-construct’ adjectives such as tår-ki-ka ('the biggest of (lit. big-CNS3-CNS3)'). These forms are almost directly parallel to the Ulwa nominalized adjectives, and in each case underlying /ka+ka/ surfaces as [kika]. Whether or not the Ulwa alternation results from Miskitu influence, the existence of the sang-ki-ka alternate CNS3 form creates pressure on the CNS1 part of the paradigm, because now the
expected CNS1 output is ambiguous with the CNS3 alternate. Therefore, by a sort of chain reaction, the sang-ki-ki variant has become the favored realization of the CNS1 inflection in nominalized adjectives.

### 6.1.3 The syntax and semantics of the construct

#### 6.1.3.1 The genitive case-marking relation

If the construct state is viewed as being the morphological manifestation of an abstract relation that holds between two nouns (or rather, between a head noun and a genitive noun phrase), the characterization of the semantics of the construct state becomes a question of the nature of this underlying relationship, which I term here the **genitive** case-marking relation. Syntactically, it must be pointed out that this relationship is a *directional* one. The genitive argument of a construct noun always precedes the noun, as is illustrated in all relevant examples below. Semantically, the most obvious aspect of the genitive relation is that it reflects the concept of **possession**. This encompasses both alienable possession of worldly goods (e.g. my house) and the various forms of inalienable possession, such as kinship (e.g. my sister) and part-whole or body part possession (e.g. my arm):

\[(97)\]
\[\begin{align*}
\text{a. } & \text{yang } \text{ū-ki} \\
& \text{PRNI house-CNS1} \\
& \text{‘my house’} \\
\text{b. } & \text{yang } \text{ami-ki} \\
& \text{PRNI sister-CNS1} \\
& \text{‘my sister’} \\
\text{c. } & \text{yang } \text{ting-ki} \\
& \text{PRNI arm, hand-CNS1} \\
& \text{‘my arm/hand’}
\end{align*}\]

As the category of noun is not limited to nominal roots, but also encompasses forms derived from adjectives (98a) and verbs (98b), the genitive relation also presides over the attribution of abstract properties and measures (e.g. my height, my intelligence), as well as the identification of a participant in an event (e.g. my thinking):

\[(98)\]
\[\begin{align*}
\text{a. } & \text{yang } \text{yūh-ki-ki} \\
& \text{PRNI tall-ADJ.CNS1} \\
& \text{‘my height’} \\
\text{b. } & \text{yang } \text{pum-ni-ki} \\
& \text{PRNI think-INFIN-CNS1} \\
& \text{‘my thinking, my intelligence’}\)
\]

---

*As noted in section 7.1.1.2, the inflected infinitive of forms such as **pum-niki** (‘think-INF1’) is actually a construct form of the nominalization (INFIN) of a verbal stem.*

82
6.1.3.2 Relational nouns

At the extreme edge of the domain of the lexical category of nouns is the set of relational nouns. These forms do not have denotations in themselves, but exist only to represent a relationship (generally spatial) involving another noun. A relational noun thus has no absolute (non-construct) form. The largest class of relational nouns has a spatial character, and these forms, combined with the overly general locative postposition kau, carry much of the functional load that is borne by adpositions in other languages. These are listed in (99), with examples in (100):

(99) Relational nouns with spatial significance:
   a. ana-t ‘underside’
   b. dang-t ‘rear’
   c. laba ‘side, flank’
   d. muh-t ‘face, front’
   e. ta-t ‘top’
   f. tā-t ‘front (of moving object)’
   g. us-t ‘wake, rear (of moving object)’
   h. yaih-t ‘proximity’

(100) a. yang tā-ki-t kau
     PRNI front-CNS1 LOC
     ‘in front of me’
   b. man ta-ma-t kau
     PRN2 top-CNS2 LOC
     ‘above you’
   c. ū ana-ka-t yau
     house underside-CNS3 D+LOC
     ‘beneath the house’
   d. tūruh balna us-ka-t-na kau
     cow PLUR wake-CNS33 LOC
     ‘behind the cows (lit. in the wake of the cows).’

A spatial relational noun combines with the postposition kau as a means of creating a kind of complex postposition. This new expression yields a phrase with all the external syntactic properties of an ordinary postpositional phrase, but internally, it assigns genitive, rather than oblique case to its argument.9

There are three other forms which seem to belong in the same category as the relational nouns above, although their meaning is not spatial in nature. These are listed in (101):

(101) Other relational nouns:
   a. tah-mat ‘for the sake of’
   b. wan-na ‘for (to get)’
   c. ma-lnak ‘in exchange for’

9It is possible that the -t which is exhibited by all spatial relational nouns except laba (‘side’—this may in fact be a simple part-whole term and not a relational noun at all) is the reflex of a once productive oblique case-marking system. This same -t is visible in the postposition kat, as well as in the third-person object prefix of the verb kat-at-naka (‘OBJ3-mistreat-INF3’).
These relational nouns do not combine with a postposition, but rather each forms a kind of adverbial expression that integrates directly into its containing clause:

(102) \( \text{Dí-ki balna wam-kana-na wat-di w-åring.} \)

\[ \text{thing-cNS1 PLUR for-cNS33 turn back-PRox come-IRR} \]

‘I’ll return for (to get) my things.’

6.1.3.3 Demonstratives and the construct state

It is not only ordinary noun phrases that ‘trigger’ the construct state. The genitive argument position can also be filled by what appear to be demonstratives. This small class of forms is listed in (103):

(103) ngka DEM.INDIC this/that (pointing)

aka DEM.PROX this

yaka DEM.DIST that

(104) a. ngka sū-ka-lu

DEM.INDIC dog-cNS3

‘this/that dog (indicating)’

b. ̄aka sū-ka-lu

DEM.PROX dog-cNS3

‘this dog (near speaker)’

c. yaka sū-ka-.lu

DEM.DIST dog-cNS3

‘that dog (removed from speaker, possibly near hearer, possibly discourse referent)’

These examples are consistent with our current understanding of the genitive relation if we merely assume that the demonstrative forms themselves are pronominal in nature, but rather than ranging over a continuum of person and number features, the demonstrative pronouns are uniformly third-person singular, and express features that are spatial in character. Then the ordinary possessive genitive relation yields the perceived interpretation of yaka sūkalu not as counterpart of the English paraphrase ‘that dog’, but rather as ‘dog pertaining or belonging to that place’.

6.1.3.4 The ‘autonomous’ construct

As noted in section 5.4, the genitive argument of a noun in the construct state need not be phonologically overt, as there exist, in effect, ‘null’ pronouns manifesting all combinations of person and number features. I believe that there is also a null demonstrative pronoun in Ulwa, as this would explain the use of the so-called ‘autonomous’ construct first identified by Alpher and Hale (n.d.) in their discussion of a parallel phenomenon in Miskitu. An autonomous construct noun is simply a noun which has undergone construct inflection but has no apparent genitive argument, overt or otherwise. This is exemplified by the following pair of sentences, which are spoken within the same hypothetical discourse:
The autonomous construct noun phrase is bil-ka (‘snake-CNS3’) in (105b). Semantically, this form differs from its corresponding absolute form in having a “contextually definite” interpretation (Alpher and Hale (n.d.)). That is bil-ka refers back to the same snake bil in (105a). If we suppose that there exists a null variant of the demonstrative pronouns which has a discourse-referent interpretation similar to its overt counter part yaka (which, like ‘that’ in English often picks out entities contained in the discourse context rather than in the physical world), then the interpretation of the autonomous construct follows from the semantics of the genitive relation between the construct noun and its genitive-marked antecedent, the null discourse demonstrative. By this token, the autonomous bil-ka is interpreted as ‘snake pertaining or belonging to the current discourse context’.

6.2 Bound Hypernyms

Ulwa has what can be termed ‘bound hypernyms’. By way of example, consider the term ū (‘house’). In this, the absolute (non-construct) form of the word, the interpretation is rather strictly limited to those things in the world which one could genuinely call a house, in which people live. The CNS3 form of ū is ū-ka, which, as one might expect, has an interpretation corresponding to the English ‘his/her house’. However, this construct form is in fact open to a great range of interpretations, as illustrated in the examples in (106):

(106) a. di ū-ka
thing house-CNS3
‘container’
b. was ū-ka
water house-CNS3
‘bucket, water container’
c. di baka ū-ka
bird house-CNS3
‘bird’s nest’
d. pan-ka pih-ka ū-ka
stick-CNS3 white-ADJ house-CNS3
‘pack of cigarettes’
e. lihwan ū-ka
money house-CNS3
‘wallet’
f. sibangh ū-ka
   arrow house-CNS3
   ‘bow (lit. arrow house)’

The various interpretations of these noun phrases lead to the conclusion that ū-ka (but not ū) has a meaning like ‘home of, case for, or container for’, which is on a level above ‘house’ on the scale of generality. More precisely, the stem of ū-ka is a hypernym of the absolute form ū. It is a bound hypernym in that it is another sense of the root ū that is only available when this root appears as the stem for some morphological process. As the absolute form ū is morphologically simple, only the free sense (‘house’) of the root is available through this form.

Bound hypernyms play an important role in lending expressive power to the Ulwa lexicon of nouns. The pattern observed in the ū/ū-ka distinction above extends to dozens of basic nouns in Ulwa:

(107) a. was ‘water, rain’
   was-ka ‘juice, syrup, liquid’
   di was-ka ‘liquid (lit. something’s water)’
   pulu was-ka ‘nectar (lit. flower water)’
   kas-na was-ka ‘soup (lit. food water)’
   di muih-ka was-ka ‘soup (lit. meat water)’
   maha was-ka ‘gasoline (lit. engine water)’
   was-ka baras-ka ‘coffee (lit. black water)’

b. muih ‘person’
   muih-ka ‘flesh, owner, companion, agent, boss, harbinger’
   di muihka ‘meat (lit. animal flesh)’
   amak muihka ‘bee (lit. agent of honey)’
   diluk muihka ‘monkey-bird (lit. harbinger of doom)’

c. bā ‘excrement’
   bā-ka ‘contents, inhabitants, intestines, rust’
   asna bā-ka ‘pull or run in fabric (lit. cloth excrement)’
   Karawala bā-ka ‘inhabitants of Karawala’
   tunak bā-ka ‘brain (lit. head excrement)’
   wakal bā-ka ‘bone marrow (lit. bone excrement)’

d. pan ‘plant, stick’
   pan-ka ‘shaft’
   ana pan-ka ‘gums (of mouth) (lit. tooth shaft)’
   ul-naka pan-ka ‘pencil (lit. writing shaft)’
   pan-ka pih-ka ‘cigarette (lit. white shaft)’

The construct state is not the only context in which a root becomes morphologically bound. The Ulwa lexicon makes heavy use of compounding, and the hyponymy relation introduced in this section emerges as a key factor in compound word formation, as discussed in section 6.3.

6.3 Compounds and word formation

A large number of nouns in the Ulwa lexicon are compounds formed from two or more roots. The most common compounding strategy is one in which a noun root is combined with an
adjectival root. In this context, any bound hypernym (see section 6.2) sense that the noun root may have is allowed to surface, as illustrated in the examples in (108):

(108) a. pan pirih-\text{\textipa{ka}} \quad 'crossed stick'
    pan-pirih \quad 'crucifix'
b. was baras-\text{\textipa{ka}} \quad 'black water'
    was-baras \quad 'coffee'
c. mak-da-\text{\textipa{ka}} lalah-\text{\textipa{ka}} \quad 'yellow eye'
    mak-lalah \quad 'spider wild tomato (plant sp.)'
d. bā pih-\text{\textipa{ka}} \quad 'white excrement'
    bā-pih \quad 'chicken ailment'

A large portion of the inventory of Ulwa compound nouns can be grouped into one of three categories corresponding to the common endings -mak, -nak and -tak. It appears that these are ancient bound roots, whose absolute forms in the latter two cases have been lost in modern speech. Hypothesized meanings of these three roots are given in (109), with examples of words formed from each in (110–112):

(109) a. -mak \quad 'round or compact object'
b. -nak \quad 'elongated object'
c. -tak \quad 'surface area, flat, planar, or hollow object'

(110) Compound nouns in -MAK:

a. ki-mak \quad stone+MAK \quad 'stone'
b. kāuh-mak \quad ash+MAK \quad 'sand'
c. kung-mak \quad edge+MAK \quad 'lip'
d. pan-mak \quad tree+MAK \quad 'fruit'
e. ting-mak \quad hand+MAK \quad 'finger'
f. titis-mak \quad tiny+MAK \quad 'wart'
g. was-mak \quad water+MAK \quad 'mud'
h. dī-mak \quad thing+MAK \quad 'vegetable, root crop'
i. ang-mak \quad $?+MAK^{11} \quad 'chili pepper'
j. bā-mak \quad feces+MAK \quad 'waist'
k. buri-mak \quad $?+MAK \quad 'guava'
l. karas-mak \quad $?+MAK \quad 'knee'
m. mā-mak \quad sun+MAK \quad 'neck'
n. mata-mak \quad tick+MAK \quad 'lymph gland'
o. yā-mak \quad $?+MAK \quad 'plantation, plot'

\footnote{Note that in Miskitu, ang- is the root for 'to burn'.}
(111) Compound nouns in -NAK:

a. awa-nak  parrot/dragonfly/silkgrass+NAK  ‘Santa Maria tree’
b. babas-nak12  ?+NAK  ‘forked spear or harpoon’
c. sipit-nak  ?+NAK  ‘fingernail, claw’
d. kis-nak  fry+NAK  ‘tall grass sp.’
e. siwa-nak  ?+NAK  ‘root, vein, tendon’
f. sut-nak  hop+NAK  ‘reed’
g. tis-nak  slap+NAK  ‘sugar cane’
h. wiuh-nak  mess+NAK  ‘small palm sp.’
i. wiu-nak  whistle+NAK  ‘tree sp.’

(112) Compound nouns in -TAK:

a. ù-tak  house/case+TAK  ‘skin’
b. wah-tak  vine+TAK  ‘plant sp.’
c. ah-tak  ?+TAK  ‘small palm sp.’
d. bal-tak  ?+TAK13  ‘armpit’
e. nang-tak  ?+TAK  ‘nose, catarrh’
f. sù-tak  drum+TAK  ‘calabash’
g. wis-tak  whip+TAK  ‘scarlet-rumped tanager’
h. yamah-tak  fever+TAK  ‘effort, force’
i. ai-tak  ?+TAK  ‘paper, book’

The compounding process is further illustrated by the forms in (113):

12 An intriguing hypothesis concerning the etymology of babas-nak is as follows: while there is no root *babas in Ulwa, ba-bas is of the right shape to be a distributive or plural reduplicative form (see sections 4.3.1 and 8.1.2) of the modern bas- (‘shoot, hit with projectile’). The pluralized meaning of this verb might mean ‘hit multiple times’, which would after all be a salient feature of a forked or two-pronged harpoon. In modern Ulwa, this distributive reduplication process is only productive in adjectives, but it applies to verbs as well in Mayangna, and there are many frozen verbal roots in Ulwa today that suggest either heavy borrowing from Mayangna, or that the reduplication may have once been productive in Ulwa verbs as well.

13 The root bal may have (once had) something to do with open or raised arms, as would be suggested by its modern preverbal use in the fixed verbal expression bal tisnaka (‘embrace (lit. BAL slap)’) and the apparently contracted verbal root balis, also meaning ‘to embrace’.
Other compound nouns:

a. aka-pan  tobacco+stick  'pipe'
b. kung-bas  lip+hair  'moustache'
c. am-tuk  corn+dig/work  'ground corn drink'
d. am-was  corn+water  'corn flour drink'
e. balas-tang  wax+tip  'stinger, tail bone'
f. ting-suba  hand+pot  'devil'
g. pan-lalah  tree+yellow  'tree sp.'
h. pan-wakal  tree+thorn  'tree sp.'
i. pâuh-bul  mojarra+mottled  'mojarra (fish) sp.'
j. pûs-pih  black fly+white  'gnat sp.'
k. sil-suling  ass+slick  'ant sp.'
l. kuh-bil  fire+snake  'knife'
m. aka-dis  tobacco+extinguish  'firefly'
n. is-dang  play+?  'leaf-cutter ant'
o. tâ-dang  road+?  'army ant'
Chapter 7

The verb

7.1 Syntactic features realized in verbal morphology

In this section we examine the range of inflectional and derivational morphology that applies to verb stems.

7.1.1 The infinitive

7.1.1.1 The bare infinitive

The infinitive (INFIN) form of an Ulwa verb is morphologically a nominalization of the verb stem, creating a ‘deverbal’ noun. While the infinitive is generally encountered in its further inflected construct state form (see below), the uninflected, or ‘bare’ infinitive also plays a part in Ulwa syntax. The infinitive is formed by suffixing -na to the verbal stem. If the verb stem’s morphological class is of the ‘persistent-themed’ variety (V-DA, V-RA, V-WA, etc.—see section 7.2), the stem is first augmented with thematic material:

\[(114)\]
\[
\begin{align*}
  a. & \quad \textbf{yul-na} \quad \text{speak-INFIN} \\
  b. & \quad \textbf{bas-na} \quad \text{shoot-INFIN} \\
  c. & \quad \textbf{pura-na} \quad \text{wet (trans.)-INFIN} \\
  d. & \quad \textbf{pura-dana} \quad \text{wet (intrans.)-INFIN} \\
  e. & \quad \textbf{kawa-rana} \quad \text{laugh-INFIN} \\
  f. & \quad \textbf{là-wana} \quad \text{pass-INFIN} \\
  g. & \quad \textbf{yaw-ana}^1 \quad \text{go-INFIN} \\
  h. & \quad \textbf{wat-na} \quad \text{catch-INFIN} \\
  i. & \quad \textbf{w-âna}^2 \quad \text{come-INFIN}
\end{align*}
\]

There are two primary syntactic uses of a bare infinitive verb. The first has a kind of purposive character:

\[(115)\]
\[
\begin{align*}
  a. & \quad \textbf{Awang-ki} \quad \textbf{urum} \quad \textbf{dî-na} \quad \text{tung} \quad \text{ka}. \\
       & \quad \text{uncle-CNS1} \quad \text{rum} \quad \text{drink-INFIN} \quad \text{go around} \quad \text{CKA} \\
  & \quad \text{‘My uncle is going around (intending) to drink rum.’}
\end{align*}
\]

---

3 See section 7.2.3 for the rationale behind assigning this particular root shape to verbs of this kind.
4 Again, section 7.2.3 explains the identification of stem and affix in this form.
b. Tumul is-dana yaw-adai.
ball play-INFIN go-PRES33
'They are going (in order) to play ball.'

The other use of the bare infinitive is directly as a noun denoting the object, event, or result of the action of the verb. This use is less common, due to the often highly abstract nature of the meaning of the nominalized verb. Some verbal roots, like kas ('eat') in (116b) have evolved concrete interpretations of their deverbal form (kas-na ‘food’), but for others the interpretation of this form is considerably more abstract (cf. il-na ‘act/event of lifting (lift-INFIN)’). The sentences in (116) provide examples of the usage of the bare infinitive under its nominal interpretation:

(116) a. Mādi aba-na yam-duti
today dance-INFIN do-FUT33
'Today they are going to do/have a dance.'
b. Am ya kas-na as yam-ka ka.
Corn D eat-INFIN SING good-ADJ CKA
'Corn is a good food.'

7.1.1.2 The inflected, or construct, infinitive

Despite the syntactic uses of bare infinitives, the prototypical realization of these nominalized forms is in their inflected (construct) state. The inflected infinitive in Ulwa is straightforwardly a construct state of the bare infinitive (INFIN) form of a verb. Thus, a form such as i-rana-ka would be most correctly glossed 'run-INFIN-CNS3'. However, in the interest of conciseness, I adopt the convention of glossing the inflected infinitive as if it were a single entity INF with intrinsic person and number features; thus the form in question is glossed here as ‘run-INF3’. The paradigm for the verb stem yul- ('speak') is given in (117):

(117) yul-naka (V-TA) — INF paradigm:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>INF paradigm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>yul-niki</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>yul-nama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>yul-naka</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>yul-nini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>yul-nikina</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>yul-namana</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>yul-nakana</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The construct morphology itself realizes agreement with the genitive ‘possessor’ (118) or nominative ‘subject’ (119) of the verb (or verbal noun).

(118) a. kas-niki eat-INF1 ‘my food’

b. aba-namana dance-INF22 ‘your pl. dance’

5In the case of infinitive verbs, however, the construct morphology is never realized via infixation. It invariably suffixes directly to the -na of the bare infinitive.
While not strictly verbal nor finite in its syntactic projection, the inflected infinitive is often the only semantically substantive verb in a finite clause, as there are other strategies available for the marking of tense. While a default present tense interpretation is universally available in absence of specific tense-marking, the addition of an auxiliary AUX (see section 8.3) or a form of the helping verb at-naka (section 7.3.2) can also provide tense features to make the clause finite. When the infinitive appears as the main verb of a clause in this way, its interpretation has a modal character which is appropriately translated as “should” or “must”:

(120) a. **Mâdi laih tâ-nini wâlik (ka).**
    now wait-INF12 only (CKA)
    ‘Now all we have to do is wait.’

b. **W-ikda kaupak yaw-aniki dai.**
    come-psTl from/since go-INFl AUX.PST
    ‘I should have left (immediately) after I got here.’

The INF3 -naka form has an extended usage in modern Ulwa. Aside from explicitly marking agreement with a 3rd person singular subject, it also appears to be the default or unmarked form of the infinitive, and is commonly employed in situations where strict agreement would require one of the other forms. That is, in some environments where non-INF3 forms appear, INF3 is also possible, but only if the context makes the subject of the infinitive clear. In (121a) it is understood that the person building the house is the same as the person doing the thinking; however, in (121b), there is no appropriate context from which to determine the subject of the infinitive verb, and so the default INF3 form cannot be used if the intended subject is the speaker (but the INF3 form would be appropriate if the interpretation called for a 3rd person singular subject):

(121) a. **Ú yam-niki/yam-naka pum-tayang.**
    house build-INFI/INF3 think-PRESl
    ‘I’m thinking of building a house.’

b. **Wayâ dadang i-waniki (*i-wanaka).**
    little AUX.PERF die-INFl (*die-INF3)
    ‘I almost died.’

Given the flexibility of the INF3 infinitive, this form is the natural ‘citation’ form of a verb, and thus it is used as the headword for verbal dictionary entries in appendix B.

---

6For verb stems like wauh- (‘fall’), whose conjugation class involves a persistent theme (see section 7.2.1.1), the INF12 form has an alternate, and often favored, realization involving the proclitic yak (‘SUBJ12’) and the INF3 agreement morphology: yak wauh-danaka.

7More study is needed to determine just what qualifies as ‘appropriate context’ here. It may be definable in strict syntactic terms, or, more likely, it is more sensitive to the discourse context as a whole.
7.1.2 The present

The Ulwa present tense, whose morphological realization for the verb yul-naka is shown in (122), can be used to indicate that an event is occurring at the present time (123a), but it also functions to signal a habitual or repeated action (123b), or a ‘universal truth’ that is unbounded by time (123c).

(122) yul-naka (V-TA) — PRES paradigm:

1 yul-tayang
2 yul-tayam
3 yul-tai
12 yul-wai
11 yul-tayangna
22 yul-tayamna
33 yul-dai

(123) a. Sù-ki-lu î-wida bahangh ai-dayang.
dog-CNS1 die-PST3 because cry-PRES1
‘I am crying because my dog died.’
b. Yang âkalah tuk-wayang.
PRN1 here work-PRES1
‘I work here.’
c. Wasala ya kataramah î-tai.
opossum D chicken kill-PRES3
‘Opossums kill chickens.’

While examples like (123a) show that the present tense of a verb can seem to have a ‘progressive’ interpretation, in many situations it does not, and there is an important aspectual distinction between the verbal present tense and the strategy of using the proximate participle of the verb (see section 7.1.7.1) in concert with an appropriate stative stance verb:

PRN1 Ulwa speak-PRES1
‘I speak Ulwa.’
b. Yang Ulwa yul-ti sâk yang.
PRN1 Ulwa speak-PROX standing.STAT AGR1
‘I am (standing) speaking Ulwa.’

Stative verbs are described in section 8.5.

7.1.3 The simple past

There are two types of ‘past tense’ verbal inflection in Ulwa. The semantic difference between them is not well understood, but the first, glossed here as PST (simple past), appears to be more of a finite tense form, compared to the PERF series (perfect—see section 7.1.4), which is more perfective or participial in nature. The simple past forms of the verb yul-naka are enumerated in (125):
(125) **yul-naka (V-TA) — PST paradigm:**

1. yul-tikda
2. yul-tidam
3. yul-tida
12. yul-wida
11. yul-tikdana
22. yul-tidamna
33. yul-dida

The simple past has a more ‘absolute’ flavor than the perfect, meaning that it does not generally occur within the scope of another tensed verb or auxiliary. Simple examples are given in (126):

(126) a. Aitak isau bakan-tidam pih?
   book many buy-PST2 Q
   ‘Did you buy a lot of books?’

b. Alas yåmak as tus-pida.
   PRN3 swidden SING clear-PST3
   ‘He/she cleared a swidden.’

The only situation in which a simple past tense verb does commonly combine with a higher (following) predicate, is when followed by a stative verb:

(127) a. Tatas w-åda såk ka.
   filthy come-PST3 standing.STAT CKA
   ‘He has come over all filthy.’

b. KURING yú-h-ka bah-ka as pak-dida kút ka.
   canoe long big SING hew-PST33 recumbent.STAT CKA
   ‘They hewed a big long canoe (lying there).’

7.1.4 The perfect

The perfect verb tense in Ulwa is so-named because it generally situates its event as having occurred before that of the verb in whose scope it appears, but not necessarily before the time of the utterance. That is, it is a ‘relative’ tense, in comparison to the simple past, which is more absolute in character. This is most clearly demonstrated in examples like (128), in which the perfect verb form yaw-ing (‘go-PERF1’) is in the scope of the an irrealis form at-rang of the helping verb at (see section 7.3.2), resulting in the interpretation ‘I will have gone (lit. it will be that I have gone):

(128) W-åram kau yang andih yaw-ing at-rang.
   come-IRR2 when PRN1 already go-PERF1 be-IRR3
   ‘When you get here I will have already gone.’

The simple past (PST) does not participate in such relativized tense relations, hence one cannot say ‘yaw-ikda at-rang (‘go-PST1 be-IRR3’). The forms of the perfect for the verb **yul-naka** are given in (129):
7.1.5 The future

The future tense, glossed FUT, has an 'immediate' or 'absolute' flavor. A verb inflected for future tense in Ulwa positively implies some future event, with a strong air of proximity and certainty. The forms of the future for the verb yul-naka are given in (130):

(130) yul-naka (V-TA) — FUT paradigm:

1 yul-tuting
2 yul-tutim
3 yul-tuti
12 yul-wuti
11 yul-tutingna
22 yul-tutimna
33 yul-duti

Examples of the usage of the future tense in Ulwa are provided in (131)

(131) a. Anu ana-na yaw-akuting.
   coconut gather-INFIN go-FUT1
   'I'm going to go gather coconuts.'

   b. Mining sana asung dā-ti kas-wuti.
      PRN12 deer liver.CNS3 roast-PROX eat-FUT12
      'We incl. are going to roast and eat deer liver.'

7.1.6 The irrealis

While the straight future tense in Ulwa is of relatively limited utility due to its absolute and immediate interpretation, there is another future-like tense which is extremely flexible and widely-used. Glossed here as (IRR), this 'irrealis' tense varies in interpretation from general future prediction, volition and supposition, to conditional and subjunctive (obligational) readings. Forms are listed in (132), with examples in (133):

(132) yul-naka (V-TA) — IRR paradigm:

1 yul-taring
2 yul-taram
3 yul-tarang
12 yul-warang
11 yul-taringna
22 yul-taramna
33 yul-darang

95
(133) a. **Wau-param laih dah-ring.**  
shout-IRR2 CONDIT hear-IRR1  
‘If you shout, I’ll hear it.’

b. **Yāna yul-tayam pà laih kang lâ-waringna.**  
OBJ11 tell-PRES2 COUNTERFACT know-IRR11  
‘If you would tell us, we would know.’

c. **Pui dat-ak ih-w-ârang.**  
lukewarm INCH-OBV3 bring-IRR3  
‘When it cools down, she’ll bring it.’

d. **Yang yaw-aring pih at-yang.**  
PRN1 go-IRRI Q say-PRES1  
‘I wonder if I’ll go/don’t know whether I’ll go (lit. I say “will I go?”).’

e. **Dâ-param at-i må kas-da.**  
let go-IRR2 intend-PROX OBJ2 bite-PST3  
‘It bit you so you would let go of it.’

7.1.7 The obviation system

The obviation, switch-reference, or ‘clause-chaining’ (cf. Longacre 1985, Hale 1991b) system of Ulwa pertains to a syntactic construction in which a main clause is preceded by a sequence of specially-marked dependent clauses. In each dependent clause, the verb lacks normal tense features, but rather is marked according to whether its subject is the same as (proximate) or different from (obviative) the subject of the following clause. For detailed discussion of the obviation system of Ulwa, and of Misumalpan languages in general, see Hale (1989, 1991b) and Salamanca (1988).

7.1.7.1 The proximate participle

The proximate (PROX) participle in Ulwa is completely unspecified for person and number features—indeed this form signals a kind of promise that such information will be forthcoming in the following clause. The basic form of the proximate is -i, mediated by the thematic consonant (if any) of the verb stem’s morphological class:

(134) a. **yul-ti** speak-PROX  
b. **bas-pi** shoot-PROX  
c. **pura-ti** wet (trans.)-PROX  
d. **pura-di** wet (intrans.)-PROX  
e. **kawa-ri** laugh-PROX  
f. **lâ-wi** pass-PROX  
g. **yaw-i** go-PROX  
h. **wat-i** catch-PROX  
i. **w-i** come-PROX

The sentences in (135) provide examples of same-subject clause chains, in which the dependent verbs bear the proximate inflection:
(135) a. Ai wal-ti tung man pih?
   what seek-PROX go around STAT AGR2 Q
   ‘What are you looking for?’
   
   b. Yang dâ-pi am-ikda.
   PRN1 leave-PROX sleep-PST1
   ‘I left it and went to sleep.’
   
   c. Muih as w-i yâ bau-tida.
   person SING come-PROX OBJ1 hit, punch-PST3
   ‘Someone came up and hit me.’
   
   d. Kas-i pak-tuting.
   eat-PROX finish-FUT1
   ‘I’m going to eat it all up.’

Note that there is no theoretical limit on the number of proximate clauses that may precede the main verb:

(136) a. Was dih-i kawa-ri kap-dikda.
   water drink-PROX laugh-PROX get up nose-PST1
   ‘I laughed while drinking water and got it up my nose.’
   
   b. Yang yaw-i wat-pi là-ti tal-i w-âyang.
   PRN1 go-PROX flip-PROX move-PROX see-PROX come-PRES1
   ‘I just went and examined it.’

Example (136b) demonstrates an important use of the proximate form, to create lexicalized verbal idioms—in this case, wat-pi là-ti tal-naka (‘examine, inspect’). This strategy is discussed in section 7.5.

7.1.7.2 The obviative participle

The obviative participle is the counterpart to the proximate, in that this form signals that its subject is different from that of the following clause. Therefore, unlike the proximate participle, which is completely parasitic on its rightward neighbor for the purposes of subject identification, the obviative form must actually provide some information about its subject. In fact, the Ulwa obviative participle is fully marked for person and number:

(137) yul-naka (V-TA) — OBV paradigm:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>yul-ting</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>yul-tam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>yul-tak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>yul-wak</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>yul-taning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>yul-tanam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>yul-dak</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Examples of the use of the obviative participle are provided in (138):
   soil sandy-ADJ in thing plant-OBV12 good-ADJ grow-NEG3
   ‘When we plant something in sandy soil it doesn’t grow well.’

b. Nangtak yâ bi-tak tung yang.
   catarrh OBJ1 afflict-OBV3 go around STAT AGRI
   ‘This cold is killing me (lit. I’m going around with catarrh ailing me).’

c. Sawi ya dimuih kas-ak bik ï-wadasa.
   white-lipped peccary D snake bite-OBV3 also, even die-NEG33
   ‘White-lipped peccaries don’t die even when bitten by a snake.’

As discussed in Hale (1989, 1991b), the obviative form is crucial to the syntactic causative construction in Ulwa:

(139) a. Â-tam am-ikda.
   cause-OBV2 sleep-PST1
   ‘You put me to sleep (lit. caused me to sleep),’

b. Baka basa-ka ya â-tanam ai-danaka âisau.
   child little-ADJ D cause-OBV22 cry-INF3 without
   ‘(You pl.) Make sure the baby doesn’t cry.’

c. Â-wak kawa-radangh.
   cause-OBV12 laugh-IMPER33
   ‘Let’s make them laugh.’

d. Ai yamti bikis-ma-ka balna kau â-tam Ulwa
   why child-CNS2 PLUR ACC cause-OBV2 Ulwa
   yul-ka ya yul-dasa?
   language-CNS3 D speak-NEG33
   ‘Why don’t you make your children speak Ulwa?’

Examples of multiple dependent OBV-bearing clauses in series are not nearly as common as long sequences of proximate clauses, but they do exist:

(140) a. Lâp itukwâna wauh-dak babauh at-ak yab-ikda.
   board big fall-OBV3 bang sound-OBV3 fear-PST1
   ‘I got a fright when the big board fell with a bang.’

b. Was û-ka ya ahau-ka kau dâ-ping was
   water container-CNS3 D outside-CNS3 LOC leave-OBV1 rain
   lau-tak bang-tida.
   fall-OBV3 become full-PST3
   ‘I left the bucket outside and it rained and it (the bucket) filled up.’

98
7.1.8 The negative

Except in the imperative (see section 7.1.9), the negation of a verb in Ulwa is accomplished by means of a tenseless negative participle (NEG). The negative participle inflects for person and number features, as illustrated in (141), and much like the perfective, relies on an auxiliary or helping verb for tense features.

(141) yul-naka (V-TA) — NEG paradigm:

\[
\begin{array}{c}
1 & yul-tasing \\
2 & yul-tasaman \\
3 & yul-tasa \\
12 & yul-wasa \\
11 & yul-tasingna \\
22 & yul-tasamanna \\
33 & yul-dasa \\
\end{array}
\]

Example usages of NEG are provide in (142). Note in particular how the tense of the negated verb is determined by the tensed verb or auxiliary in whose scope it falls. Thus, in (142a), where no tensed particle follows the negated verb yam-tasing (‘do-NEG1’), the default present tense is assumed (and this is often made more explicit through the inclusion of the unmarked default complementizer ka). In (142b), the negated form il-tasaman (‘put up-NEG2’) receives its past tense interpretation by virtue of being in the scope of the past tense auxiliary marker dai (AUX.PST). Finally, (142c) demonstrates the use of the irrealis form of the helping verb at-rang (‘be-IRR3’) to yield the future negative reading for yak yaw-asap (‘SUBJ12 go-NEG12’).

(142)

a. Āka tuk-wanaka yang alas sip yam-tasing (ka).
   DPROX work-INF3 PRNI alone able.STAT do-NEG1 CKA
   ‘I can’t do this work alone.’

b. Simin-ki āka tarat kau il-tasaman dai.
   fishing gearCNS1 DPROX up LOC put up-NEG2 AUX.PST
   ‘You didn’t put away my fishing gear.’

c. Yak i-rasa laih, amangka yak yaw-asap at-rang.
   SUBJ12 run-NEG12 CONDIT sufficient SUBJ12 run-NEG12 be-IRR3
   ‘If we don’t run, we won’t get there on time.’

d. Wat-sa dadang katka, māmāka.
   reach-NEG3 AUX.PERF still summer
   ‘Summer hadn’t arrived yet.’

e. Muih as bik y-ā-tak tuk-wasing; yang dau
   person SING also OBJ1/-cause-OBV3 work-NEG1 PRNI useless
   tuk-wayang.
   work-PRES1
   ‘Nobody makes me work; I work for free.’

---

8 Nominal forms derived from verbal roots, such as the infinitive (section 7.1.1) and the agentive (AGNT—section 7.1.12.1) are negated differently, as they are morphologically nouns.
7.1.9 The imperative

The forms of the imperative (IMPER) family of verbal inflection for the verb stem yul- ('speak') are listed in (143):

(143) yul-naka (v-ta) — IMPER paradigm:

| 12 | yul-nangh, yul-wangh |
|  2 | yul-tah |
| 22 | yul-tanauh |
| 2NEG | yul-tanih |
| 22NEG | yul-taninah |
|  3 | yul-tangh |
| 33 | yul-dangh |

In the second person (singular and plural, positive and negative), the use and interpretation of the Ulwa imperative corresponds straightforwardly with the English imperative, as is conveyed by the translations in the examples in (144):

(144) a. Muh-ma us-tah.
   face-CN2 wipe-IMPER2
   'Wipe your face.'

b. Tā-ma-t-na kau un bau-ti at-nauh!
   front-CN2 LOC sing-PRXI IMPER22
   'Keep singing!'

c. Kanas ul-panih.
   more write-IMPER2NEG
   'Don't start writing yet.'

d. Wah y-au ā-wi wit-di is-danînah
   hammock d-LOC enter-PRXI swing-PRXI play-IMPER22NEG
   '(You pl.) don't get in the hammock and swing.'

The IMPER12 form corresponds to the expression 'let's v' in English:

(145) Yaw-anangh!
   go-IMPER12
   'Let's go!'

Note that the subject is not normally expressed in imperative sentences, and even in (145) the subject proclitic yak is absent (see section 7.2.3 for discussion of the inflectional paradigms of verbs like yaw-anaka ('go-INF3')).

The third-person imperative forms have two related functions. The basic usage is analogous to the third-person imperatives or subjunctives of other languages, as in the phrase 'long live the king', etc. Example (146) illustrates this usage:
(146) Yâ yam-dangh!
OBJ1 do-IMPER33

‘(in defiance) Let them (try and) do it to me!’

The second important function of the third-person imperative forms arises out of the need to mark the imperative in obviative (different-subject) clause-chained sentences, such as those in (147):

(147) a. Wau-pam wâ-dangh.
shout-OBV2 come-IMPER33

‘Shout for them to come.’

b. Kurh-pi balas-ka ya tak-panih; dâ-pam at
scratch-PROX scab-CNS3 D peel off-IMPER2NEG let-OBV2 at once
yam-pangh.
heal-IMPER3

‘Don’t scratch the scab off; let it heal.’

In these examples, since the morphology of Ulwa does not provide an obviative imperative verb form, the solution is to place the verb of the main (tensed) clause in the (third-person) imperative.

Interestingly, there is a gap in the imperative paradigm at this point, as logic would predict the existence of corresponding first-person imperatives as well, for use in sentences like those in (147). Such forms do not appear to exist, and instead a simple future or irrealis tensed verb is used in the main clause:

(148) Yâ dâ-pam yaw-aring/yaw-akuting.
OBJ1 let-OBV2 go-IRR1/FUT1

‘Let me go.’

7.1.10 The potentive participle

The potentive participle (sample paradigm shown in (149)) has varied functions in Ulwa.

(149) yul-naka (V-TA) — potentive paradigm:

1 yul-tatik
2 yul-tatim
3 yul-tati
12 yul-wati
11 yul-tatikna
22 yul-tatimna
33 yul-dati

In one use, the potentive verb participle appears in the apodosis clause of a counterfactual conditional statement. It expresses the action or event which would have occurred if the condition in the protasis clause had been met:
(150) Lihwan watah yang dai pâ laih, rupik as
money have.STAT AGR1 AUX.PST COUNTERFACT radio SING
bakan-tatik dai.
buy-POT1 AUX.PST

'If I had money, I would buy a radio.'

Perhaps the most common usage of the potentive is in concert with the two AFFECT sentence particles pah (AFFECT.POS) and sah (AFFECT.NEG). The former indicates desire, need, or inclination toward a particular action, as illustrated in example (151a), while the latter, shown in (151b), is basically the negation of the former:

(151) a. Was di-dati pah ka.
water drink-POT33 AFFECT.POS CKA
'They're thirsty.'

b. Yul-tatim sah pih?
speak-POT2 AFFECT.NEG Q
'Don’t you want to speak?'

7.1.11 Other non-finite forms

7.1.11.1 The ‘attemptive’ (ATTEMPT) participle

The attemptive participle of a verb does not inflect for person or number. Its form is invariably identical to the FUT3 inflected form (e.g. yul-tuti ‘speak-ATTEMPT’). Use of the attemptive indicates that the subject is preparing or trying to perform the action of the verb:

(152) a. Ù itik-puti dapa dak-tayang.
house fence in-ATTEMPT bamboo cut-PRES1
'I'm cutting bamboo in preparation for fencing in my house.'

b. Malai ting-ka ya upur-ti wat-kuti
cassava cutting-CNS3 D gather-PROX hold-ATTEMPT
tung yang.
go around.STAT AGR1
'I'm trying to gather up the cassava cuttings.'

7.1.11.2 The ‘intentive’ (INTENT) participle

The intentive participle of a verb is a kind of irrealis form that does not inflect for agreement with the subject. Its form is invariably -kuh (as in wat-kuh ‘catch-INTENT’) or -C-ukuh, where C is the thematic consonant of a consonant-themed verb (cf. yul-tukuh ‘speak-INTENT’). While the intentive participle probably does not in itself indicate intention or volition, it is so-named because its only known productive use is in conjunction with the verb at (‘intend, mean’). In this construction a phrase of the form “V-INTENT at-naka” means ‘intend to v’ or ‘be about to v’, as illustrated in the examples in (153).
(153) a. Bang yaw-aku⁠h at-ing⁠g dai, katka was kip-tai upriver go-INTENT intend-PERF1 AUX.PST but water pull-PRES3 bahangh yaw-asíng⁠g dai.
   because go-NEG1 AUX.PST
   'I meant to go upriver, but I didn’t go because the current was strong.'

b. Yang yapa⁠m yam-tukuh at-sing⁠g dai.
   PRN1 thus dO-INTENT intend-NEG1 AUX.PST
   'I didn’t mean to do that.'

c. Ai-dasing⁠-ki⁠h at-ikda, katka ayau⁠-ra⁠ng ai-dikda cry-NEG1 be-INTENT intend-PST1 but where be-IRR3 cry-PST1 áka.
   DPROX
   'I intended not to cry, but I couldn’t help it and cried anyway.'

7.1.11.3 The auditive participle

The ‘auditive’ form of a verb is used to indicate an ongoing action that is overheard but cannot be seen. Its phonological form is uniformly -i (/i:/); it does not inflect for person or number and thus a verb’s auditive form is identical to its proximate participle except for the length of the final vowel. Unlike the proximate form syntactically, the auditive does not generally form a chain with a following verb or stative; rather, it itself behaves syntactically like a stative verb or other non-finite predicate—it combines either with a form of the helping verb at-naka (see section 7.3.2) or with the various clause-final agreement (AGR) and tense (AUX) particles (section 8.2 and 8.3):

(154) a. Wai kawa-ri⁠-sah? who laugh-AUD COMP.IRREV
   'Who on earth is that laughing?'

b. Anu pak-ti⁠-ti araka.
   coconut chip Off-AUD that
   'Sounds like someone’s chipping the shell off a coconut.'

c. Ai-di⁠-di⁠-at-am⁠-am⁠-dak-ikda⁠-na
   cry-AUD be-OBV2 hear-PST11
   'We heard you crying.'

Also like a stative verb, the auditive participle can be pluralized using the sentence-level pluralizer manah (AGR.PLUR), discussed in section 8.2:

   converse-AUD AGR.PLUR CKA
   'They’re conversing (and we can hear but not see them).'

9The only proximate form which also ends in a long vowel is w-i ('come-PROX'), and unfortunately I do not have information on the auditive form for this verb root.
b. Pauh-ti manah dai.
    pound-AUD AGR.PLUR AUX.PST
    ‘One could hear them hammering.’

7.1.12 Derivational affixes

7.1.12.1 The agentive

The agentive refers to a pair of derived (deverbal) nominal forms, one positive (AGNT.POS) and the other negative (AGNT.NEG). For a given verb \( v \), the agentive positive form has a basic interpretation of ‘one who \( v \)’ (or ‘\( v \)-er’), while its negative counterpart means ‘one who does not \( v \)’. Morphologically, the agentive affix consists of the sequence -ing­ plus either -ka (AGNT.POS) or -sa (AGNT.NEG). The verb stem’s thematic consonant, if any, is applied before the suffix (hence yul-tingka ‘speak-AGNT.POS’ vs. kas-ingka ‘eat-AGNT.POS’). The forms for the verb yul ('speak') are provided in (156), and examples of its use are shown in (157):

(156) yul-naka (V-TA) — AGNT paradigm:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POS</th>
<th>yul-tingka</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>NEG</td>
<td>yul-tingsa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(157) a. Bikis-ki-ka al āka laih dī kas-ingsa ka; waya
        child-CNS1 male DPROX TOPIC THING eat-AGNT.NEG CKA little
        wâlik kas-naka wal-tai.
        only eat-INF3 want-PRES3
        ‘My son here is non-eater; he only wants to eat a little bit.’

b. Sirih i-ringka karak w-aduti pih?
    fast run-AGNT.POS INST come-FUT33 Q
    ‘Are they going to come in a motor-boat (lit. fast-runner)?’

The distinction between the AGNT.NEG form of a verb and the simple negation of the AGNT.POS form is not necessarily always clear, but corresponds approximately to that between the English translations in (158):

(158) a. aka buih-pingsa
    tobacco smoke-AGNT.NEG
    ‘non-smoker’

b. aka buih-pingka sa
    tobacco smoke-AGNT.POS NEG
    ‘not a smoker’

7.2 Verbal morphology: the conjugation classes

The verbal paradigms for all morphological classes described here are listed in tables at the end of this chapter.
7.2.1 Consonant-themed classes

There are five ‘consonant-themed’ verbal paradigms, embracing the vast majority of verb roots in the language. What it means for a verb stem to be a member of a ‘consonant-themed’ morphological class is that some or all of the affixes that apply to this stem begin with a particular ‘signature’ consonant, or thematic consonant. The set of consonant-themed classes in turn can be grouped into two subsets, according to whether the thematic consonant appears in all forms of the paradigm or only some.

7.2.1.1 ‘Persistent’ consonant-themed classes

The simplest kind of consonant-themed paradigm is the persistent type. There are three such verbal stem classes in Ulwa, V-DA (table 7.1), V-WA (table 7.2) and V-RA (table 7.3), listed in descending order according to the number of participating stems in each class. A persistent consonant-themed paradigm is characterized by the simple fact that every inflected and derived form exhibits the thematic consonant. Examination of the tables for the three persistent-themed classes confirms this. In each form, the stem is augmented by the consonant that is thematic for that class. Thus, in the paradigm for wauh-danaka (‘fall’; table 7.1) each form begins as wauh-d-, while in the case of il-wanaka (‘climb’; table 7.2), all forms begin in il-w-.

One peculiar feature of the persistent-themed classes is the way in which these verbs mark agreement with a first-person plural inclusive (12) subject, using the corresponding third-person singular form augmented by the proclitic yak (SUBJ12). This phenomenon is probably (at least historically) tied to the fact that all verbs of these classes are intransitive (in the sense discussed in section 7.4). The only two cases where yak is not required in order to mark 12 agreement are INF12 (section 7.1.1.2) form and IMPER12 (section 7.1.9). In the case of the INF12 form, although the paradigm tables here list only the expected form ending in -nini (cf. wauh-danini ‘fall-INF12’, il-wanini ‘climb-INF12’) it should be noted that yak wauh-danaka and yak il-wanaka are also possible.

7.2.1.2 Non-persistent consonant-themed classes

There are two non-persistent consonant-themed verb classes, V-TA (table 7.4) and V-PA (table 7.5). The consonantal theme of these paradigms is non-persistent in that it appears only in a subset of the forms. For instance, yul- (‘speak’) is a t-themed (class V-TA) verb stem, but this is not evident in its infinitive form. On the model of the persistent-themed classes one would expect the INF3 form of this verb to be *yul-tanaka, but in fact it is yul-naka. The conjugation tables (7.4 and 7.5) reveal a pattern according to which the thematic consonant is suppressed in forms of these classes: it is not realized in any infinitive

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10 The V-DA and V-WA classes are well-populated, but V-RA has only three members (i ‘run’, kawa ‘laugh’, and wasa ‘bathe’), and has not previously been recognized as a class in itself. Also, the root wasa is suspicious in that it apparently contains the word for ‘water’ (was). One motivation for proposing that -ra- is a thematic marker (and not part of the root) in these verbs is that this makes the resulting roots canonical (iambic) in shape, as discussed in section 4.2.1. Otherwise one would be left to ponder why the three roots ira, kawara and wasara are the only clear cases of oversized verb roots in the language, and, moreover, why these verbs also pattern like the V-DA and V-WA verbs in their manner of marking agreement with a first-person plural inclusive (12) subject, described below.

11 Interestingly, this SUBJ12 marker in intransitives is identical to the OBJ12 proclitic used for objects of transitive and ditransitive verbs. It is unclear what to make of this fact, though Ken Hale (p.c.) notes that it is the same pattern seen in so-called ‘ergative’ case-marking languages.
form (i.e. all affix sequences built on the INFIN suffix -\textipa{na}—see section 7.1.1), in any 12 form
(cf. \textit{yul-wuti} ‘speak-FUT12’), nor in any 33 form (cf. \textit{bung-dida} ‘exit-PST33’). In all other
cases the thematic consonant surfaces: \textit{yul-t-uti} (‘speak-FUT3’), \textit{bung-p-ida} (‘exit-PST3’).

7.2.2 Zero-themed verb stems

There exists a small number of verb stems in Ulwa that do not undergo augmentation of
any sort on affixation of verbal morphology. The inflectional paradigms of these ‘\emptyset\text{-class}’
verbs in general need to be \textit{taken} on a case-by-case basis, although a few small classes do
emerge. The known stems and their associated morphological classes are listed in (159)\textsuperscript{12}
For complete spell-out of all known forms of a particular class, follow the table reference
provided for that class in (159).

(159) \textit{\emptyset\text{-class} verb stems:}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Table</th>
<th>Stem</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>v0</td>
<td>7.6</td>
<td>kas</td>
<td>‘eat’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>at</td>
<td>‘be, say, mean’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>wat</td>
<td>‘reach, catch, stain’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v0-tal</td>
<td>7.7</td>
<td>tal</td>
<td>‘see’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v0-dah</td>
<td>7.8</td>
<td>dah</td>
<td>‘hear, listen, ask’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v0-ih</td>
<td>7.9</td>
<td>dih/di</td>
<td>‘drink’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ih/i</td>
<td>‘have, get, receive’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v0-uih</td>
<td>7.10</td>
<td>duih</td>
<td>‘carry’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>kuih</td>
<td>‘reach, fit, catch’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v0-uhi</td>
<td>7.11</td>
<td>duih</td>
<td>‘carry’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>kuih</td>
<td>‘reach, fit, catch’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

There is little difference between the paradigms of these verbs. For instance, the v0 stems
(kas, at, wat) differ in conjugation from the stem tal only in the IMPER2 form (cf. \textit{kas-ih}
‘eat-IMPER2’ vs. \textit{tal-ah} ‘look-IMPER2’). The other verbs listed in the table in (159) all
undergo stem changes involving the phoneme /h/ in certain forms.

7.2.3 Vowel-themed verb classes

The ‘vowel-themed’ verbs are exhaustively listed in (160). Refer to the tables mentioned
therein for full enumeration of the morphological paradigms of these roots.

(160) \textit{Vowel-themed verb stems:}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Table</th>
<th>Stem</th>
<th>Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>v0-a</td>
<td>7.12</td>
<td>yaw</td>
<td>‘go’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>law</td>
<td>‘sit’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>am</td>
<td>‘sleep’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v0-wa</td>
<td>7.13</td>
<td>w</td>
<td>‘come’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v0-ihwa</td>
<td>7.14</td>
<td>ih-w</td>
<td>‘bring’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>v0-ah</td>
<td>7.15</td>
<td>yab</td>
<td>‘fear’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These verbs are so-classed because their stems are invariably augmented by a vowel in all
conjugated forms. As there is no good evidence as to the true identity of the verbal roots

\textsuperscript{12}The stems \textit{duih} and \textit{kuih} are listed under both classes v0-uih and v0-uhi, as speakers show variation
on how these stems are inflected.
in these cases, the identification of the roots here is more of an orthographical convenience. For example, the decision that the root of the verb meaning ‘go’ is yaw- rather than ya- or yawa- is somewhat arbitrary. It allows for a simple additive description of the morphological paradigm of this verb root and for the two other members of the putative VO-A ‘class’, am- (‘sleep’) and law- (‘sit’). The latter form is, incidentally, phonemically identical to the stative stance verb lau (‘sitting’).13

Identification of the root of verb meaning ‘come’ as w- follows the same rationale, although this decision is problematic, since it is unclear why vowel-lengthening would occur in the initial syllable in so many of its inflectional and derivational forms. In these forms, such as w-ána here, it would be convenient to suppose that the root is actually wá-. In other forms, such as w-ikda (‘come-PST1’), however, one would have to posit that the suffixation of the PST1 affix -ikda triggers truncation of the root.

From an argument-taking perspective, the VO-A and VO-WA verbs are intransitive, and their manner of inflection shares on key property of the persistent-themed verb classes discussed in section 7.2.1.1. Like the latter verbs, the stems yaw, law, am, w here do not have a purely suffixal marker for agreement with a first-person plural inclusive (12) subject. Instead the SUBJ12 proclitic yak is combined with what is apparently third-person verbal inflection:

(161) a. Mining tá-ní-t kau yak yaw-arang.
   PRN12 forward-CNS12 ALL SUBJ12 go-IRR3
   ‘We (incl.) shall go forth.’
   b. Mining pukka kau yak am-ai.
   PRN12 night LOC SUBJ12 sleep-PRES3
   ‘We (incl.) sleep at night.’

7.3 Special verbs and verbal constructions

7.3.1 The defective verb, ‘da-’

The verbal root da- inflects as a normal V-PA verb despite its subminimal shape, although because of its size the inflected forms of this verb are unique in showing stress and vowel-lengthening in a light syllable immediately following the stem (see example (58), section 4.4.5). I gloss this verb ‘INCH’ because its very elusive semantic content appears at times to have an inchoative character. In its core use, da- takes scope over a bare verb or adjective stem in a construction whose meaning is roughly ‘to begin to v’ or ‘to become A’:

(162) a. Yak da-panauh!
   find INCH-IMPER22
   ‘Start finding some (more)!’
   b. Wassik ya lam da-pida kút ka.
   river D calm INCH-PST3 recumbent.STAT CKA
   ‘The river has become calm.’

13The root law is spelled with a final w in recognition that in all forms of this verb, resyllabification places the w in the onset position of a syllable, where UYUTMUBAL orthography (see section 3.1.3) dictates that be written as w instead of u.
However, the true semantic contribution of da- is often difficult to detect:

(163)  
\(\text{a. Dut da-pi dā-pikda.} \)
\(\text{extract INCH-PROX leave-PST1} \)
\('I pulled it out and left it.'\)  
\(\text{b. Waya yā umh da-pah.} \)
\(\text{little OBJ1 help INCH-IMPER2} \)
\('Could you give me some help? (lit. help me a little)'\)  
\(\text{c. Ul-nama pan-ka waya y-ā da-pah.} \)
\(\text{write-INF2 stick-CNS3 little OBJ1-give INCH-IMPER2} \)
\('Let me borrow your pencil for a second (lit. give me your pencil a little).'\)  
\(\text{d. Baka-ki kuring as bakan da-pak muih wāk balna wālik yam yam-dai.} \)
\(\text{child-CNS1 canoe SING buy INCH-OBV3 person other PLUR use-PRES33} \)
\('My child bought a canoe and other people are the only ones who ever use it.'\)

There is also a standalone use of da- which has a purely directional component to it, as shown in (164).

(164)  
\(\text{Āyau-h da-payam, wahai?} \)
\(\text{where-ALL INCH-PRES2 M's brother} \)
\('Where are you headed, brother?'\)

7.3.2 The helping verb ‘at-’

Sections 8.2 and 8.3 describe the non-verbal ways of marking tense and subject agreement in an Ulwa clause. For instance, while the stative verb Iau ('sitting.STAT') does not inflect, it collaborates with AGR1 and AUX.PST in (165) to yield a fully specified sentence:

(165)  
\(\text{Yang akalah lau yang dai/dadang.} \)
\(\text{PRN1 here sitting.STAT AGR1 AUX.PST/PERF} \)
\('I was sitting here.'\)

If no auxiliary is present, the clause receives a default present tense reading:

(166)  
\(\text{Yang akalah lau yang.} \)
\(\text{PRN1 here sitting.STAT AGR1} \)
\('I am sitting here.'\)

Sections 8.2 and 8.3 also demonstrate that the same facts hold for clauses with non-verbal predicates, as in predicated adjectival clauses and copular constructions.

However, while auxiliaries exist for past and perfect tense readings and present tense is available by default, no other tenses are represented by these facilities, and so another
strategy must be employed in order to produce analogs of these non-finite clauses in other tenses. For this purpose, Ulwa makes use of the verb root at in its sense meaning 'to be'. Unlike the auxiliary particles, this ‘helping verb’ is a first-class inflecting verb in Ulwa, and so all of the verbal forms described in section 7.1 are available to it. The examples in (167) demonstrate some of the possibilities:

(167)  a. Yang akalah lau at-kuting.  
PRN1 here sitting.stat be-fut1  
‘I’ll be sitting here.’

b. Akalah lau at-ih!  
here sitting.stat be-imper2  
‘Be sitting here!’

c. Yang akalah lau at-kuh at-ing dai.  
PRN1 here sitting.stat be-intent intend-perf1 aux.pst  
‘I had intended to be sitting here.’

d. Yang akalah lau at-niki wal-tasing (ka).  
PRN1 here sitting.stat be-inf1 want-neg1 cka  
‘I don’t want to be sitting here.’

e. Yang kangba akalah lau at-yang dadang.  
PRN1 always here sitting.stat be-pres1 want-neg1  
‘I used to always be sitting here.’

f. Yang akalah lau at-ing umis ya usu-pida.  
PRN1 here sitting.stat be-obv1 bat obj1 urinate-pst3  
‘I was sitting here when a bat urinated on me.’

Notice that in all examples in (167), the helping verb serves to mark both the subject agreement and tense of its clause; that is, it does not readily share its duties with a separate agreement particle for instance: *lau yang at-kuti (‘sitting agr1 be-fut3’) and *lau yang at-kuting (‘sitting agr1 be-fut3’) are both ungrammatical.

In contrast to the examples above, the helping verb may also be employed to supply tense to a verbal predicate (such as a negative verb form), which, while lacking in tense features, is fully specified for person and number agreement with its subject. In these cases, the preferred usage is that in which the helping verb relinquishes its agreement-marking role (defaulting thus to third-person singular) and marks only tense. This is illustrated in (168)

(168)  a. Yangna m-ā-tasingna at-rang.  
PRN1 OBJ2-give-neg1 be-irr3  
‘We won’t give it to you.’

b. Yang kal dah-sing at-ak w-i ya kas-da.  
PRN1 be aware-neg1 be-obv3 come-prox obj1 bite-pst3  
‘I wasn’t paying attention and it came and bit me.’

Here, however, speakers do seem to waver, occasionally producing utterances such as (169) for which the intended interpretation is apparently identical to that of (168a):
The helping verb has 'stolen' the agreement features from the main verb, which is in turn left with only a default third-person singular NEG3 marking, although its subject is in fact the first-person plural pronoun. It is unclear whether examples like these are actually speech errors or if there is in fact some subtle semantic distinction between sentences like (168a) and (169). Another possibility is that the two strategies are simply in free variation.

7.3.3 The benefactive construction

The benefactive construction is a creative use of the Ulwa clause-chaining syntax, whereby two clauses combine to describe a single event. Its use is illustrated by the examples in (170):

(170) a. Dang-ki pas lās-tai ya kurh-pi y-ā-tah.
   back-CNS1 middle itch-PRES3 D scratch-PROX OBJ1-give-IMPER2
   ‘Scratch my itchy back for me.’

b. Muih wāk kau ā-tam yam-ti m-ā-tangh.
   person other DAT cause-OBV2 do-PROX OBJ2-give-IMPER3
   ‘Get someone else to do it for you.’

In (170a), the verbs kurh-pi (‘scratch-PROX’) and y-ā-tah (‘OBJ1-give-IMPER2’) combine conceptually to form a kind of complex predicate. In this construction, the first, syntactically dependent, verb denotes the actual action (here, scratching) which is to take place. This verb must be in its proximate participial form (described in section 7.1.7.1). The second verb must be a form of the verb ā (‘give’), and the dative argument of this verb is interpreted as the ‘benefactor’ of the event described by the first verb. That is, while the second verb is syntactically dominant over the first (it supplies it with tense and agreement), the only semantic role that this verb plays is to allow the first verb to in effect take on another argument. Thus, the events denoted by the two verbs (and two clauses in fact) kurh-pi y-ā-tah are semantically conflated to describe the single action ‘scratch for me’.

7.3.4 ‘Raudi’ and ‘raupi’

Another good example of how Ulwa makes innovative use of the verb chaining construction discussed in section 7.1.7 centers around the proximate verbal forms rau-di and rau-pi.¹⁴ There are two particular ways in which these forms are used that warrant special mention here.

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¹⁴The former is semantically somewhat transparent, being the proximate form of the verb rau-danaka (‘stand up’). The latter form, rau-pi is possibly a frozen contraction of rau-di da-pi, as it does not appear to be semantically related to any of the synchronic usages of the stem rau- in the morphological class V-PA.
7.3.4.1 Subject marking

Although there is no overt grammatical case marking in Ulwa, it is often desirable to explicitly indicate which noun phrase in a clause is the subject or agent of the verb's action. As illustrated in the examples in (171), the proximate forms rau-di and rau-pi are called on to fulfill this role. The strategy works as follows. Suppose a sentence contains two noun phrases and a verb: NP NP V. One of the NP's is the subject, but because, as noted in section 5.1.2, the relative ordering between subject and object is somewhat free, it is not always apparent which is which. However, if an intransitive proximate verb form is inserted to create a sequence such as NP V-PROX NP V, then the initial NP is unambiguously interpreted as the subject of the proximate verb, ([NP V-PROX] is a complete clause), and the proximate morphology entails that the following verb shares the same subject. Thus the actual structure of the sentence as a whole is something like [[NP V-PROX] [e NP v]], where e is an empty noun phrase coreferent with the first overt NP. This coreference is simply required by the proximate morphology and thus by identifying the subject of one clause, the subject of the other follows unambiguously.

(171) a. Siwa-ni-nak balna rau-di kubit-danini balna ya å-dak
tendon-CNs12 PLUR RAUDI bend-INF12 PLUR D cause-OBV33
kubit-dadai.
bend-PRES33
‘Our tendons and ligaments make our joints bend.’

b. Kuring wák rau-di w-i yâ tul-pi abuk-pida.
   canoe other RAUDI come-PROX OBJ1 collide-PROX overturn-PST3
‘Another canoe came and collided with me, causing me (my canoe) to capsize.’

c. Åka pan-ka åka lapnih rau-pi pah-ti
   DEM.PROX treeCNs3 DPROX lightning RAUPI shoot-PROX
abal-tida.
destroy-PST3
‘This tree here was destroyed by a bolt of lightning.’

Note that the proximate form of any intransitive verb would serve the same syntactic function as raudi and raupi in (171). These two forms merely have the distinction of doing this exclusively—they are syntactic 'stubs' with no semantic content.16

7.3.4.2 The quotative

One important subcase of the subject-marking use of raudi/raupi has as its purpose to delimit the contents of reported (indirect or direct) speech within a clause. The utility of a syntactic mediator for reported speech stems from the verb-finalness of the Ulwa clause structure, and as shown in the examples in (172), raudi/raupi serves to separate the report of what is said from who is saying it.

15A transitive verb would suffice only if its subject and object were unambiguously marked.
16This could be why raupi is the sole member of its inflectional paradigm: there is no reason for any other forms to exist. rau-di, while certainly related (at least historically) to the verb 'to stand up', clearly does not have that literal meaning, as is shown in examples (171a-b).
mother-CNS1 QUOTE immediately come-IRR2 say-PRES3
‘My mother says you are to come immediately.’
PRN3 QUOTE hunger OBJ1 affect-PRES3 say-PRES3
‘He says he is hungry (lit. he says “I am hungry”).’

Again, the effect of rau-di/raupi in these sentences is purely syntactic and serves only to clarify that the noun phrase indicating the author of the speech (e.g. alas in (172b)) is not part of the speech act that is being reported (yuh yā yam-tai in (172b)). That being said, it appears that rau-di/raupi (especially raupi) have come to be so closely associated with reported speech that they are used in cases where, due to extraposition of the reported material, their syntactic effect is nullified:

(173) a. Alas rau-pi yā yul-tida [ yang it yaw-asing
PRN3 QUOTE OBJ1 say-PST3 PRN1 able-STAT go-NEG1
at-rang. ]
be-IRR3
‘He told me he wouldn’t be able to go (lit. he said to me “I won’t be able to go”).’
b. Yang rau-pi yul-tikda [ man ā-wasa at-ram. ]
PRN1 QUOTE say-PST1 PRN2 enter-NEG3 be-IRR2
‘I told him not to go in (lit. I said to him “you won’t go in”).’

7.4 Verbal diathesis

The argument-taking properties of Ulwa verbs (and Misumalpan verbs in general) are discussed in detail by Hale and Salamanca (1998). A theoretical examination of these issues is beyond the scope of this thesis, and the reader is thus referred to the work of these authors for such discussion.

7.4.1 Intransitive verbs

All members of the persistent-themed verb classes, V-DA, V-WA, and V-RA, described in section 7.2.1.1, are classed as intransitive, as are the vowel-themed V0-A and V0-WA verb stems. The established term ‘intransitive’ is employed here with some trepidation, as there are certain circumstances in which many verbs of this class do take a direct object. This phenomenon is considered in more detail in section 7.4.6; until then, I use the term in its traditional sense, that verbs of this type take only a single direct argument, the nominative subject.17

An intransitive verb bears the notation ‘VI’ in the part of speech field (see section A.2) of its dictionary entry in appendix B. As Hale and Salamanca (1998) observe, there is an important distinction to be made between a ‘non-alternating’ intransitive verb and a verb

17 Case-marking is described briefly in section 5.3.
which arises as the intransitive member of a transitive-intransitive pair having a common 'labile' verb root. The latter are discussed in section 7.4.5. Non-alternating intransitives are exemplified by verbs such as ai-danaka ('cry-INF3'), pip-danaka ('bounce-INF3'), and i-ranaka ('run-INF3'), and are illustrated in the examples in (174):

(174) a. Taspul tumul-ka balna as as ya dasi-ka pal-ka
rubber ball-CNS3 PLUR PAUC D strong-ADJ real-ADJ
pip-dadai
bounce-PRES33
'Some rubber balls bounce very strongly (i.e. high).'

b. Awa ya damaska kau paras-ka ai-dai.
macaw D jungle LOC loud-ADJ cry, call-PRES33
'The macaw calls loudly in the jungle.'

c. Dimuih yā kas-i i-rida.
snake OBJ1 bite-PROX run, escape-PST3
'A snake bit me and escaped.'

While all members of the persistent-themed stem classes are intransitive, there also appear to be many non-alternating intransitives having V-PA or V-TA conjugation classes. These include aba ('dance': V-TA) and aih ('yelp': V-PA).

7.4.2 Transitive verbs
All transitive verbs (whose part of speech is marked VT in the dictionary in appendix B) have either non-persistently-themed (i.e. members of the V-PA or V-TA classes described in section 7.2.1.2) or zero-themed (∅-class) stems (see section 7.2.2). These verbs take both a nominative subject and an accusative direct object:

(175) a. Alas sū-ki-lu yak-tida.
PRN3 dog-CNS1 find-PST3
'He/she found my dog.'

b. Yangna man kau mā tahi-pasingna dai.
PRN11 PRN2 ACC OBJ2 cheat-NEG11 AUX.PST
'We (excl.) didn’t cheat you.'

c. Di balna ya wi-pam yaw-angh.
animal PLUR D chase-OBV2 go-IMPER3
'Chase the animals away.'

7.4.3 Ditransitive verbs
There are a few ditransitive verbs in Ulwa, which take a dative argument in addition to a subject and accusative direct object. The simple ditransitive verbal roots that have so far been catalogued as such are listed in (176), with examples in (177):
Much more work needs to be done in identifying the ditransitive verbs, as more certainly do exist. The task is difficult, because locative, dative, allative, and accusative cases are identically marked (with the postposition ka). However, even if the number of ditransitive simple roots turns out to be very small, this is no hindrance to the expressive power of the language, but is rather a symptom of the existence of other means of forming complex predicates described in section 7.5.

7.4.4 Reflexive and reciprocal verbs

Reflexive and reciprocal verbs (notated VR in the part of speech field in the dictionary) are characterized by the presence of the preverbal particle kal (REFL):

(178) a. Alas balna biri biri kal tal-dai
PRN3 PLUR mutually REFL see-PRES3
'They see each other.'

b. Wasa-ri nāh dapi biuh-na karak kal biuh-payang
bathe-PROX after and powder-INFIN INST REFL powder-PRES1
'After bathing, I powder myself (with powder.).'

year-CNS3 pass-PST3 LOC father-CNS1 PLUR REFL leave-PERF33
'Last year my parents separated (lit. left each other).'

Note that, while not strictly necessary, the reduplicated phrase biri biri (‘mutually, reciprocally’) is often used in concert with the reflexivizer kal in reciprocal sentences, as is illustrated in (178a).

Reflexivization of a verb often leads to interesting changes in the verb’s semantics, and there are quite a few reflexive verbal expressions that must be given separate lexical entries due to their idiomatic meaning:
7.4.5 Labile verbs

Hale and Salamanca (1998) discuss labile, or alternating verbs in Ulwa from a theoretical standpoint, providing scores of examples. Here I provide only a shallow overview. There are many verb roots which have both an intransitive stem of the V-DA or V-WA class and a transitive stem of the V-PA or V-TA class:

\[(180)\]

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intransitive (V-DA)</th>
<th>Transitive (V-PA)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>asal</strong> (V-DA)</td>
<td>‘be embarrassed’ (V-PA) ‘embarrass, shame’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>dut</strong> (V-DA)</td>
<td>‘come out’ (V-PA) ‘extract’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>sang</strong> (V-DA)</td>
<td>‘become green’ (V-PA) ‘make green’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>tah</strong> (V-DA)</td>
<td>‘drip (VI)’ (V-PA) ‘drip (VT)’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>mi</strong> (V-DA)</td>
<td>‘stop, stay’ (V-TA) ‘stop, detain’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>num</strong> (V-DA)</td>
<td>‘hide (VI)’ (V-TA) ‘secrete, conceal’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>dak</strong> (V-DA)</td>
<td>‘snap, break (VI)’ (V-TA) ‘cut, chop off’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>kut</strong> (V-WA)</td>
<td>‘lie down’ (V-PA) ‘lay down’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>lau</strong> (V-WA)</td>
<td>‘sit down’ (V-PA) ‘seat, put in sitting position’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>sak</strong> (V-WA)</td>
<td>‘stand up’ (V-PA) ‘put in standing position’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>ala</strong> (V-WA)</td>
<td>‘grow’ (V-TA) ‘raise’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>da</strong> (V-WA)</td>
<td>‘burn (VI)’ (V-TA) ‘burn, roast (VT)’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>dis</strong> (V-WA)</td>
<td>‘go out (fire)’ (V-TA) ‘extinguish’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>î</strong> (V-WA)</td>
<td>‘die’ (V-TA) ‘kill’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>pura</strong> (V-WA)</td>
<td>‘get wet’ (V-TA) ‘wet’</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As can be seen in (180), of the two intransitive morphological classes (V-DA and V-WA), each contains members that alternate with each of the transitive classes (V-PA and V-TA). That is, all four combinations are attested. Again, the reader is referred to Hale and Salamanca (1998) for theoretical analysis in much greater detail.

It appears that one source for alternating verb roots in Ulwa is the set of adjectival roots. For any given adjectival root, there are potentially two derived verbal stems, corresponding to the intransitive (‘become A’) and transitive (‘cause to become A’) structures. Not all of these are attested, but much more study is needed in this area.

7.4.6 The ‘transitive–intransitive’ distinction

As was alluded to in previous sections, the term ‘intransitive’ is not quite accurate in describing some verbs that appear to not to take an object. In the early phases of our study
of Ulwa, it was assumed that when a verb participates in the kind of alternation discussed in section 7.4.5, the alternation is one of simple transitivity. However, it became clear somewhat late in the investigation that for many (and possibly all) of the pairs involved, the 'intransitive' member does support a transitive reading, in which the subject is the direct or 'physical' agent of the action (e.g. a force of nature), but not one in which the subject acts of its own volition. The distinction is illustrated by the sentences in (181):

\[(181)\]

\[\begin{array}{c}
\text{a. } \text{Ú-ki-tak } \text{dá-wida } / \ast \text{dá-tida} \\
\text{skin-CNS1 burn-VI.PST3 burn-VT.PST3}
\end{array}\]

'My skin burnt.'

\[\begin{array}{c}
\text{b. } \text{Má } \text{daih-ka } \text{yā } \text{dá-wida } / \text{dá-tida} \\
\text{sun hot-ADJ OBJ1 burn-VI.PST3 burn-VT.PST3}
\end{array}\]

'The sun's heat burnt me.'

\[\begin{array}{c}
\text{c. } \text{Muih as } \text{yā } \text{dá-tida } / \ast \text{dá-wida} \\
\text{person SING OBJ1 burn-VT.PST3 burn-VI.PST3}
\end{array}\]

'Someone burnt me.'

The verb root dá ('burn') alternates between a V-WA 'intransitive' and a V-TA transitive. What the examples in (181) show is that the syntactic consequence of this alternation, when the agentivity of the subject is factored in, is actually a three-way distinction. First, (181a) shows what is apparently a true intransitive use of the 'intransitive' member of the pair, dá-wida ('burn-VI.PST3'), in a sentence in which the transitive partner verb dá-tida ('burn-VT.PST3') cannot be used. The final sentence, (181c), is the case in which the subject is a volitional agent, purposefully doing something to cause the action denoted by the verb to take place. But notice that in (181c), the subject muih as ('someone') is not the direct physical cause of the burning, but rather must be employing some heat source to actually make the object burn. When the subject of the sentence is the direct causer, as in (181b), in which the subject is mā daihka ('the hot sun/the sun's heat'), then both members of the verb pair may be used transitively (i.e., both dá-wida and dá-tida are possible).

The consequence of this discovery for a dictionary project that has already catalogued more than a thousand verbal senses is that much of the transitivity information contained in the entries could be incorrect or misleading. Though the phenomenon described here is robust and has been confirmed in several pairs of the dá-wanaka/dá-naka type, it is unclear how far-reaching its effects are. I do not know whether this phenomenon applies only to alternating verb pairs or if there are purely intransitive verbs (such as ai-danaka 'cry-INF3') that admit a transitive reading just in case the subject is the 'physical causer' of the action. Many other questions remain unanswered, and consequently, the transitivity notations of verbal entries in the dictionary in appendix B, are in a state of flux. Since questions of transitivity are deeply ingrained in many areas of the grammar (the obviation system, for instance), it may be that some of the analyses presented in this thesis will prove incorrect as this fascinating aspect of Ulwa grammar unravels.

18 I am grateful to Seth Minkoff (p.c.) for an enlightening discussion in which it became evident to me that the proper distinction to be made is not one of animacy, but rather that between willful and physical agentivity.
7.5 Complex verbal expressions

In addition to simple verbs, the Ulwa lexicon abounds with complex verbal expressions (notated VE in the part-of-speech field of the dictionary entries in appendix B) whose meanings do not appear to be fully compositional. This section reviews a few of the strategies that the Ulwa lexicon uses in order to produce these complex verbal predicates.

7.5.1 'Proximate-chain' verbs

A 'Proximate-chain' verb is a sequence of verbs (all but the last of which appears in its proximate participial form) which has acquired an idiomatic meaning distinct from the sum of its parts, and thus requires its own lexical entry. Examples of this type of complex verb are listed in (182):

(182) 'Proximate-chain' verbs:
   a. wat-pi là-ti tal-  ‘examine (lit. flip-move-see)’
   b. tal-i yak-   ‘recognize (lit. see-extract)’
   c. yul-ti tal-  ‘read (lit. speak-see)’

7.5.2 'Genitive' verbs

Perhaps the largest class of idiomatic verbal expressions are the 'genitive' verbs. This type of expression involves a noun-verb combination, in which the noun itself fills one of the verb's argument positions, but in turn creates a new argument position by virtue of its construct morphology licensing a genitive argument (see section 6.1 for in-depth discussion of the construct state). The resulting complex predicate may be seen as an atomic verb which takes a genitive object. Examples of this kind of verbal expression are provided in (183), where 'G' is a place-holder for the genitive argument (the 'possessor' of the noun):

(183) 'Genitive' verbs:
   a. asung kat- (V-DA)  ‘G remember (lit. liver at)’
   b. asung kat- (V-PA)  ‘remind G (lit. liver at)’
   c. asung å- (V-TA)  ‘G become angry (lit. liver insert)’
   d. da-ka-t å- (V-TA)  ‘console G (lit. throat insert)’
   e. da-ka-t kah- (V-PA)  ‘G forget (lit. throat anoint)’
   f. muh-ka bul- (V-PA)  ‘G hallucinate (lit. face mottle)’
   g. pah-ka å- (V-TA)  ‘feed G (lit. hole insert)’
   h. ta-ka-t rum- (V-PA)  ‘donate to G (lit. top throw)’
   i. yam-ka-ka yul- (V-TA)  ‘recommend/endorse G (lit. asset speak)’
   j. yul-ka yak- (V-TA)  ‘tattle on G (lit. word extract)’

19The verbal stem kat- is possibly the only example of a verb derived from a postposition. In this case, kat ('at') yields two verbs, the intransitive 'be at' (kat-danaka 'at-VI.INF3') and the transitive 'cause to be at' (kat-naka 'at-VT.INF3').
7.5.3 The ‘adversative’ verbs

An interesting variant of the genitive verb strategy involves a kind of minimal construct-inflecting preverb, the ‘adversative’ stem -ng (ADVRS). This preverbal element inflects for person and number in a manner suggestive of the construct state, although differing in interesting ways in the first person forms:

(184) **Forms of -ng, the adversative (ADVRS) preverb:**

1. ya-ng
2. ma-ng
3. ka-ng
12. mini-ng
11. ya-ng-na
22. ma-ng-na
33. ka-ng-na

The adversative verbal expressions use the ADVRS preverb to create a new argument position just as genitive verbs do, with one important difference: the ADVRS proclitic does not itself exhaust any argument positions of the verb. This means that ADVRS *increments* the adicity of the verb with which it composes, in effect creating a transitive from an intransitive, and a ditransitive from a transitive. Examples of the former type are shown in (185) and the latter in (186), where ‘A, G, N’ signify the accusative, genitive, and nominative arguments of the resulting expression:

(185) a. is-danaka
   ka-ng is-danaka
   ‘N play-INF3’
   ‘N tease G-INF3’

b. kawa-ranaka
   ka-ng kawa-ranaka
   ‘N laugh-INF3’
   ‘N laugh at G-INF3’

c. là-wanaka
   ka-ng là-wanaka
   ‘N know/understand/learn G-INF3’

d. yab-ahnaka
   ka-ng yab-ahnaka
   ‘N be afraid-INF3’
   ‘N fear G-INF3’

e. yul-naka
   ka-ng yul-naka
   ‘N speak-INF3’
   ‘N slander G-INF3’

f. amh-naka
   ka-ng amh-naka
   ‘N make G nervous-INF3’

(186) a. ká-naka
   ka-ng ká-naka
   ‘N lasso A-INF3’
   ‘N show A to G-INF3’

b. yak-naka
   ka-ng yak-naka
   ‘N extract A-INF3’
   ‘N snatch A from G-INF3’

c. i-naka
   ka-ng i-naka
   ‘N acquire A-INF3’
   ‘N deprive G of A-INF3’

d. là-naka
   ka-ng là-naka
   ‘N move A-INF3’
   ‘N take A from G-INF3’
Table 7.1: wauhdanaka (wauh-) paradigm (V-DA)

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Table 7.2: ilwanaka (il-) paradigm (V-WA)

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Table 7.3: *wasaranaka* (wasa-) paradigm (V-RA)

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Table 7.4: yulnaka (yul-) paradigm (V-TA)

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| 12       | yulnangh, yulwangh | AGNT.NEG | yultingsa |
| 22       | yultanauh  | ATTEMPT    | yultuti    |
| 22NEG    | yultaninah | INTENT     | yultukuh   |
| 33       | yuldangh   | AUD        | yulti      |
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Table 7.7: talnaka (tal-) paradigm (V0-TAL)

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Table 7.10: duihnaka (duih-) paradigm (V0-UIH)

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128
Table 7.11: **duhinaka (duih-) paradigm (V0-UHI)**

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Table 7.12: *yawanaka* (*yaw-*) paradigm (*v0-A*)

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Table 7.13: **wânaka** (w-) paradigm (V0-WA)

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131
Table 7.14: ihwánaka (ihw-) paradigm (v0-IHWA)

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132
Table 7.15: *yabahnaka* (yab-) paradigm (v0-AH)

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133
Chapter 8

Other categories

8.1 The adjective

8.1.1 Free and bound roots

Adjectival roots in Ulwa are classed according to whether they can occur in a morphologically bare (free) form, or whether they must, on the other hand, be bound through the affixation of morphological material. Bound adjectival roots in Ulwa may be morphologically ‘licensed’ through the ADJ suffix -ka:

(187) **Bound adjectives:**
   a. dut-ka ‘bad-ADJ’
   b. yam-ka ‘good-ADJ’
   c. pal-ka ‘real-ADJ’
   d. yai-ka ‘sharp-ADJ’
   e. bisi-ka ‘small-ADJ’
   f. yaha-ka ‘crumbly-ADJ’

Free adjective stems are marked **STRONG** in the dictionary in appendix B. A few examples are listed in (188):

(188) **Free adjectives:**
   a. pui ‘lukewarm’
   b. saya ‘lazy’
   c. suyu ‘pretty’
   d. abuk ‘face-down’
   e. wisam ‘new’

At this stage in the study of the Ulwa language, it is unfortunately impossible to reliably classify any adjective root as definitively bound, as a free use of the root may be discovered at any time. Thus if the entry for a particular adjective in the dictionary does not specify that this root is free (STRONG), it actually means that no morphologically free uses of the root have been observed and catalogued.
8.1.2 The distributive form

The distributive (DISTRIB) form of an adjective is a kind of plural marking. Morphologically, it is realized by a reduplication process described with many examples in section 4.3.1. Semantically, the difference between the distributive and a simple plural is not often apparent. Examples are provided in (189):

(189) a. Damaska sik-ka pas kau bil si-sik-ka
  jungle great-ADJ middle LOC snake great-ADJ.DISTRIB
  laulau ka.
sitting.STAT.DISTRIB CKA
  'In the deep forest there are huge snakes.'
  b. Al a-da-dah-ka as as ya i-ringka pal-ka ka.
  man short-ADJ.DISTRIB PAUC D run-AGNT.POS real-ADJ CKA
  'Some short men are very good runners.'
  c. Um balna ya ú-kana-tak mu-mun-ka ka.
  sloth PLUR D skin/fur-cNs33 soft-ADJ.DISTRIB CKA
  'Sloths have soft fur.'
  d. Muih pi-pih-ka balna ya makda-ka
  person white-ADJ.DISTRIB PLUR D eye-cNs33
  bu-hu-huk-ka balna ka.
  light-ADJ.DISTRIB PLUR CKA
  'White people have light-colored eyes.'

8.1.3 The construct or nominalized adjective

Along with nouns, many adjective stems (or perhaps more correctly, deadjectival noun stems) undergo construct state marking as well, with the resultant nominal form referring either to the abstract quality ('ADJ-ness') for that particular adjective, or to a part of an object which has that quality:

(190) a. yuh-ka 'long-ADJ'
    yuh-ka-ka 'X’s length (long-ADJ.cNs3)'
  b. sik-ka 'big-ADJ'
    sik-ka-ka 'X’s size/largeness (big-ADJ.cNs3)'
  c. yam-ka 'good-ADJ'
    yam-ka-ka 'X’s virtue (good-ADJ.cNs3)'
  d. dala-ka 'painful- ADJ'
    dala-ka-ka 'X’s pain (painful-ADJ.cNs3)'
  e. dasi-ka 'strong-ADJ'
    dasi-ka-ka 'X’s strength (strong-ADJ.cNs3)'
  f. laban-ka 'flat-ADJ'
    laban-ka-ka 'flat side of X (flat-ADJ.cNs3)'
  g. lulung-ka 'weak-ADJ'
    lulung-ka-ka 'X’s weakness (weak-ADJ.cNs3)'
  h. lalah-ka 'yellow-ADJ'
    lalah-ka-ka 'yolk of (egg) (yellow-ADJ.cNs3)'

135
See section 6.1.2.2 for discussion of the interesting morphological consequences of applying the construct state to an adjectival form.

8.1.4 The adjective as adverb

Most, if not all, adjectives have a readily available adverbial interpretation as well. There is no overt morphological distinction between an adjective and its adverbial use:

(191) a. Alas sirih-ka i-rai.
   PRN3 fast-ADJ run-PRES3
   'He/she runs fast.'

b. Wirah-ki laih muih yam-ka, katka dut-ka
   F's brother-CNS1 TOPIC person good-ADJ but bad-ADJ tuk-wai.
   work-PRES3
   'My brother is a good person, but he works poorly.'

8.2 Clausal agreement (AGR)

If the main predicate of a clause is non-verbal or does not bear sufficient person and number features to mark agreement with its subject, the clausal agreement system (glossed AGR) of Ulwa serves to provide this extra information. In its 1, 11, 2, 22 forms, AGR is realized exactly as the corresponding personal pronouns (yang, yangna, man, manna, respectively), although the AGR items are persistently unstressed and probably enclitics. The first-person plural inclusive form (AGR12), however, does not resemble the personal pronoun with these features (mining, 'PRN12'). Instead AGR12 has the same form as the verbal proclitic yak. There is no overt marker for third person clausal agreement (AGR3, AGR33)—the third person is understood from the absence of any other agreement items. The ill-studied pluralizing particle manah (which also combines with AGR11, AGR22 and AGR12) can in turn serve to differentiate AGR3 from AGR33. It is arguable whether manah should be included in the same class as the AGR enclitics. It is prosodically an independent word, and must always precede any overt AGR. However, it does seem to pattern syntactically with the others in this class, and so it is glossed in this thesis as AGR.PLUR. The various members of the clausal agreement system are listed in (192), and some illustrative examples are provided in (194).

(192) Clausal agreement:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>AGR1</th>
<th>AGR11</th>
<th>AGR2</th>
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8.2.1 Clausal agreement and non-verbal predicates

Some clauses have no verb, and thus no verbal inflection morphology with which to mark agreement with a subject. The examples in (193) show that clausal agreement is used in these cases in the absence of any verb at all. A copular construction with overt 12 agreement is shown in (193a), while (193b) demonstrates the use of clausal agreement particles in clauses containing adverbial and adjectival predicates. In (193c), the subject of the copular construction is third-person, and so agreement is not explicitly marked.

(193) a. Mining muih yak.
   PRN12  person  AGR12
   'We (incl.) are human.'

   how  AGR2  good-ADJ  AGR1
   'How are you? I am fine.'

c. Wahai-ma ya al itukwâna.
   M's brother-CNs2  D  man  big
   'Your brother is a big man.'

8.2.2 Clausal agreement and non-finite and stative verbs

Stative verbs (section 8.5) and certain derived verbal forms such as the auditive participle (described in section 7.1.11.3) neither bear subject agreement features themselves nor do they enter into a parasitic relationship with a following clause's verb (as the proximate participle does—see section 7.1.7.1) in order to acquire these features. Instead, in clauses where the main predicate is a stative verb or an auditive participle, subject agreement features are hosted by the clausal agreement particles. The examples in (194) illustrate this fact with stative verbs (see section 7.1.11.3 for examples with the auditive particle):

(194) a. Lau man.
   sitting.STAT  AGR2
   'You are sitting (this is a common form of greeting).'

b. Yangna dau yul bau-ti bang yangna.
   PRN11  pointless  converse-PROX  sitting.STAT.PLUR  AGR11
   'We (excl.) are just sitting talking.'

c. Yang yaw-ing âisau man dai.
   PRN1  go-OBV1  absent.STAT  AGR2  AUX.PST
   'When I arrived, you weren't there.'

d. Mining âisau manah yak.
   PRN12  absent.STAT  AGR.PLUR  AGR12
   'We (incl.) don't have any.'
8.3 The auxiliary (AUX)

While the system of clausal agreement enclitics described in section 8.2 supplies subject agreement in clauses whose predicate cannot mark person and number, the auxiliaries serve to mark the tense of a clause whose predicate has no tense features. There are two auxiliary particles,\(^1\) listed in (195), which are used to place a clause in past (dai) or perfect (dadang) tense.

(195) **Auxiliaries:**

a. dai AUX.PST  
b. dadang AUX.PERF

The examples in (196) show the use of the auxiliaries in copular and adjectival predicate clauses.

(196) a. Man ayang-ma ai dai?  
PRN2 name-CNS2 what AUX.PST  
‘What was your name?’

b. Yang mâmah-ki ya titis-ka sa dadang, yal as amang-ka dadang.  
PRNI mother-eNs 1 petite-ADJ NEG AUX.PERF woman SING ample-ADJ AUX.PERF  
‘My mother wasn’t petite, she was an ample woman.’

The auxiliaries allow stative sentences to be situated in the past or perfect tense, as illustrated by (197). Moreover (197a) shows that when an auxiliary (dai in this case) cooccurs with a sentence agreement particle (yang ‘AGR1’), the auxiliary follows the agreement.

(197) a. Am watah yang dai, katka luk-dida.  
corn have.STAT AGR1 AUX.PST but be lost-PST3  
‘I had corn but it was lost.’

b. Alas kal kapah-tasa yapa lau dadang.  
PRN3 REFL trouble-NEG3 thus sitting.STAT AUX.PERF  
‘He sat there calmly (lit. as if untroubled).’

Negative verbs (described in section 7.1.8) while fully specified for person and number agreement with their subject, do not contain tense information, and must combine with an auxiliary particle to indicate that the event described takes place in the past:

(198) a. Yaw-aniki wal-tasing dai, katka asing rau-dak  
go-INFL want-NEG1 AUX.PST but liver.CNS1 stand-OBV3 yaw-ikda.  
go-PST1  
‘I didn’t want to go, but I motivated myself and went.’

\(^1\)The auxiliaries are almost certainly historical forms of the inchoative verb root da-, as described in section 7.3.1.
b. Umana kau muih balna kahlu ā-wadasa dadang.
   antiquity LOC person PLUR shirt wear-NEG33 AUX.PERF
   'In the olden days, people didn't wear shirts.'

Another important function of the auxiliary particles is to relativize the temporal interpretation of an already tensed clause. In (199), the tense of the main clause verb yak-tikda ('find-PST1') is the simple past. To indicate that the event described in the relative clause diki luk-dang dai ya ('my thing that had been lost') had already occurred before the time of the main clause, the perfect tensed luk-dang ('become lost-PERF3') is placed in the scope of past tense auxiliary dai:

(199) Pukka bara-ka bahangh, yapa ak-pi yak-tikda [ di-ki
   night dark-ADJ because thus grope-PROX find-PST1 thing-CNS1
   luk-dang dai ya ]
   lost-PERF3 AUX.PST D
   'As it was a dark night, I groped around like that and found my thing that had been lost.'

As a final note, it should be reiterated that non-tense-bearing clauses that contain neither an auxiliary particle nor a helping verb (see section 7.3.2) are still grammatical, and simply receive a default present tense interpretation. Many such examples are provided in section 8.2 and throughout this thesis; a few more are presented in here:

   PRN1 TOPIC green turtle fin-CNS3 eat-NEG1 CKA
   'I don't eat green turtle fins.'

b. Abuk tung ka.
   head down go around.STAT CKA
   'He is going around with his head down.'

c. Sū-ki-lu āka dī ī-tingka pal-ka (ka).
   dog-CNS1 DPROX animal kill-AGNT.POS real-ADJ CKA
   'My dog here is a real hunter.'

d. Dang-ki-t kau sāk man pih?
   behind-CNS1 LOC standing.STAT AGR2 Q
   'Are you standing behind me?'

Note that the default complementizer ka seen in several of these examples is not itself a direct marker of present tense. It is best thought of as a last-ditch spell-out of an otherwise empty complementizer position. It does not appear if there is other suitable material (such as clausal agreement or the interrogative marker pih) to fill this position.

8.4 Sentence particles

Ulwa has a small set of clause-final 'sentence particles', which serve as subordinating conjunctions, conditionals, question markers, and indicators of the speaker's attitude. It seems appropriate to gloss some of these items as complementizers, while others double as postpositions or miscellaneous adverbial particles.
The sentence particles come at the very end of the clause, after a tensed verb and after all clausal agreement and/or auxiliary enclitics.

### 8.5 The stative verb

Stative verbs, while they do not inflect as ordinary verbs do, are a small set of morphologically free verb roots that play an enormous role in Ulwa sentential syntax. As a free root, a stative verb acts as a kind of sentence particle that relies on the generally-available AGR and AUX systems (see sections 8.2 and 8.3) for its tense and agreement inflection.

The most important class of stative verbs are stance predicates. Listed in (202), these statives indicate the physical orientation of their subject:

(202) **Stative verbs of ‘stance’:**

- **a.** laui sitting/existing SING
  - bang sitting/existing PLUR
  - laulau sitting/existing DISTRIB
  - bangbang sitting/existing PLUR, DISTRIB

- **b.** sāk upright SING
  - rāuh upright PLUR
  - raurau upright PLUR, DISTRIB

- **c.** kūt recumbent SING
  - mūk recumbent PLUR
  - tibin recumbent PLUR?, DISTRIB?

- **d.** wīt suspended SING
  - palang suspended PLUR
  - dul suspended PLUR
  - duldul suspended PLUR, DISTRIB

- **e.** tung ambulatory SING
  - rīh ambulatory PLUR
  - buih ambulatory DISTRIB

Use of stance statives is ubiquitous in fluent Ulwa speech to describe ongoing or ‘progressive’ events, as illustrated by the pairs in (203–204):
(203)  a. Yang aitak ul-pi lau yang dai.
   PRN1 paper write-PROX sitting.STAT AGR1 AUX.PST
   'I was (sitting) writing letters.'

   b. Yang aitak ul-payang dai.
   PRN1 paper write-PRES AUX.PST
   'I used to write letters.'

(204)  a. Bikis-ki-ka balna am-i mûk ka.
   child-CNS1 PLUR sleep-PROX recumbent.STAT.PLUR CKA
   'My children are (lying) sleeping.'

   b. Bikis-ki-ka balna údak wâk kau am-adai.
   child-CNS1 PLUR room other LOC sleep-PRES33
   'My children sleep in another room.'

Other examples of the use of the stative stance verbs are given in (205):

(205)  a. Yakau mukus as sik-ka wit ka.
   yonder cloud SING huge-ADJ suspended.STAT CKA
   'There is a big cloud (floating) over there.'

   b. Yal balna ya asna suh-pi yau-pi
   woman PLUR D clothing wash-PROX wring-PROX râuh CKA
   standing.STAT.PLUR CKA
   'The women are standing washing and wringing out clothes.'

The remaining stative verbs are not stance-oriented, but rather have to do with other
states of affairs such as possession, capability, and absence. These are enumerated in (206),
with examples in (207):

(206)  Other stative verbs:

   a. watah have, possess
   b. sip, it^2 be able to
   c. āisau be absent, not exist
   d. sanh be absent

(207)  a. Yul-ti dak-ah, bilam bakan-naka watah manah
   speak-PROX ask-IMPER2 fish sell-INF3 have.STAT AGR.PLUR
   pan.
   Q
   'Ask them if they have any fish to sell.'

^2The form it is a modern invention of the Ulwa Language Committee, as part of their effort to eradicate
non-Ulwa words from their vocabulary (sip is used in Miskitu with the same meaning). In this particular
case, the attempt may be misguided, as it is more probable that the Miskitu sip was borrowed long ago
from one of the Sumu languages (probably Mayangna).
b. Yang it yam-ka un bau-tasing.
   PRN1 able.STAT good-ADJ sing-NEG1
   'I can’t sing well.'

c. Mâna tal-i yaw-ikda katka sanh manna dai.
   OBJ22 see-PROX go-PST1 but absent.STAT AGR22 AUX.PST
   'I went to see you (pl.) but you weren’t there.'

There is another lexical item, the mysterious pang ('spread out'), which is superficially similar to the stative verbs in its syntax except that it precludes any clausal agreement markers. It must therefore combine only with fully finite verb forms:

(208)  a. Is-dayangna pang ka.
       play-PRES11 spread out AUX.PRES
       'We (excl.) are spread out playing.'

  b. *Is-di pang yangna.
     play-PROX spread out AGR11
     'We (excl.) are spread out playing.'
Appendix A

Structure of the dictionary

Each main dictionary entry, subentry, or sense entry (if a main entry contains multiple senses) is made up of a series of ‘fields’. Each field is described here, in order of its occurrence in the field sequence.

A.1 The headword

The headword is the citation form of the lexical item of a given entry. For verbs, the citation form is the INF3 form (e.g. kasnaka ‘eat.INF3’). For adjectives the citation form is the root plus the adjectival affix -ADJ (-ka). For nouns, the citation form is either the absolute (non-construct) form, or the CNS3 form if the entry pertains to a bound sense or senses of the noun (see section 6.2). That is, if the sense(s) described in the entry are not available when the root is morphologically free, then the headword appears in the construct state (e.g. ūka ‘container.CNS3’).

A.2 The part of speech

The part-of-speech field immediately follows the headword. The codes used in this field are specified in table 5.1 in chapter 5.

A.3 The morphological class

Immediately following the part of speech information comes the specification of the morphological properties of the lexical item. For a verbal entry, a specific conjugation class code (such as V-DA) is provided. These codes match those described in section 7.2 and correspond to the paradigm tables 7.1–7.15. The morphological class field is not used for non-verbal entries.

A.4 The morphological key form

The morphological key field, if present, is printed in parentheses immediately following the part of speech and morphological class indicator of an entry. This field is used for nouns, verbs, and adjectives, and its significance depends on the part of speech of the headword, as described in the following sections.
A.4.1 Nouns

The morphological key of a noun indicates the location of affixation of the construct state inflectional morphology (see sections 4.3.2 and 6.1). For instance, the entry for ahpara ('roof of mouth') includes the parenthesized form ah[para] shortly following the headword. This signifies that the construct morphology normally infixes in the location of the [], which is a shorthand notation for the list of forms ah-ki-para, ah-ma-para, ah-ka-para, etc.

A.4.2 Verbs

A verb’s morphological key is its proximate (PROX) form (section 7.1.7.1). In nearly all cases, learning this form is sufficient for a speaker of the language to ascertain the morphological class of an unfamiliar verb.

A.4.3 Adjectives

The morphological key of an adjectival entry gives the distributive (reduplicative) form of the headword, if any (see sections 4.3.1 and 8.1.2).

A.5 Enumeration of inflected forms

If there are any irregular inflected forms for the lexical item of an entry, or if it is deemed particularly helpful to provide extra inflectional information, these forms are listed in braces “{}”.

A.6 Usage labels

If any particular usage labels (such as semantic domain, dialect, register, etc.) apply to the headword of an entry, these are listed in brackets “[]”; e.g. “[ENTOM]”.

A.7 Etymological information

After the usage labels, cross-linguistic or etymological information may be provided. This includes noting if the headword is known to be a borrowing, or if there is an identifiable cognate or related word in another language.

A.8 Translations

English translations of the headword are then listed, followed by the scientific name, if applicable and available (e.g. Citrus sinensis).

A.9 Example sentences

An entry may contain any number of example sentences or expressions. In most cases an English translation of the example is also provided.
A.10 Vernacular definition

A few entries contain a vernacular definition of the headword. If present, this definition is signalled by a prepended 'delta' (Δ) symbol.

A.11 Cross references

Finally, an entry may contain any number of (and several distinct types of) cross-references. These range from the specification of synonymous and antonymous forms to generic cross-references.
Appendix B

Ulwa–English dictionary

ā  DEM.PROX. this. Ā laih yamka. This is good. [● Requires following laih ]

abaldanaka VI. {V-DA} (abaldi) go bad; be ruined; stop working. Maha balna abaldadai kau, abaldang dakka ya yakti wāk wisam āwai kau būna yamka tukwai. When engines break, when we take out the bad part and put in a good one it works again.

abalka 1. A. (ababalka) flawed; wrong; incorrect; mistaken. Man ya abalka pumtasaman dai, rauka yapa wi bungpida. You weren’t wrong, it actually did happen that way.

2. A. (ababalka) crippled; handicapped; lame. Muih abalka as as ya di maknakunka palka ka. Some crippled people are destitute.

3. A. (ababalka) reverse side. Kahkilu āwikda katka abalka bitah āwikda. I put on my shirt but I put it on backwards. (→ dutkika, pitukka)

abalnaka VT. {V-TA} (abalti) destroy; ruin; spoil; injur; damage; lame. Di as yamka lau kat abalnaka ya dutka ka. It is bad to ruin a good thing.

abana N. (abana[]) dance. Mādi pukka laih abana yamduti atdai. They say they are going to have a dance tonight. (→ abanaka)

abanaka VI. {V-TA} (abati) dance. Bikiska balna abadai. The children are dancing. Yan pukka muih yak kuidai abanaka. We are invited to dance tomorrow night.

abau N. (abau[]) [ICHTH] (var. of abu)

abu 1. N. (abu[]) [ICHTH] stingray. Abu wakalka ya yak pahtak dalaka palka ka. The sting of the stingray is very painful. (var. abau)

2. N. (abu[]) [ASTRO] name of a constellation made up of stars from Orion’s belt and scabbard. (var. abau)

abu màka NE. Saturday.

abukdanaka 1. VI. {V-DA} (abukdi) turn face down; capsize; overturn; upset; turn over or upside down. Yang talikda kuring as abukdanaka wālik dai. I saw a canoe that was about to turn over/that kept turning over.

2. VI. {V-DA} (abukdi) stoop; duck; bend over; squat; crouch.

abukka 1. A. {STRONG} (abubukka) face down; overturned; upside down. Abuk tung ka. He is walking around with his head down.

2. A. {STRONG} (abubukka) with head drooping.

abuknaka VT. {v-PAl (abukpi) overturn; turn over or upside down. Kuring abukpah. Turn the canoe over.

adahka A. (adadahka) short. Tāpas adahka ya wātdanaka yamka ka. A short path is good to walk. Anu panka as watah yang adahka baka lakwai. I have a coconut palm that gives fruit even though it is very short and small. (→ rubukka)

adahnaka VT. {v-PAl (adahpi) shorten; truncate. Wahki āka adahparing atda, katka yang waltasing. He told me to shorten my rope, but I don’t want to. (→ bakanaka, bisinaka, wayanaka)

146
âduh 1. INTERJ. here!; said when handing someone something. (→ iduh, araduh)
2. PRSNTL. look how...!; voila...!; lo and behold!. Man balahma yang tunik kau yamka āwai âduh! My, how well your cap fits me! (→ iduh, araduh)
aduk N. (aduk[])[BOT] grapefruit; shaddock. (Citrus paradisi)
adungka 1. N. (adung[ka]) core [tree].
2. N. {NCONS} (adung[ka]) center [circle].
âdut N. (â)dut enemy; adversary; foe; opponent.
âdut nauka NE. (â)dut nauka enmity; hatred; animosity. Adut nauka ya dutka ka. Hatred is bad.
âguguh N. (âguguh[]) song. Âguguh ya dahnaka yamka palka ka. It is very pleasant to hear the song.
âguguhnaka VI. {v-PA} (âguguhpi) sing. (prej. un baunaka)
aha N. (aha[]) [ICHTH] drummer fish. (syn. âkuk)
ahainaka VT. {V-TA} (ahaiti) bring. Yan laih tukwanaka kau kasnûni luîh ahainaka atrang. Tomorrow we will have to carry all our food to work. (syn. ainaka, ihainaka, ihwânaka)
ahaska A. (ahâhaska) rough; abrasive (like sandpaper). Di as ahaska kau tingma dangka buhtaram kau mà takparang. If you rub the back of your hand on something rough it will scrape the skin off.
1ahauka N. outside. Sûlû baka ya ĕ pas kaupak ahauka kau yaktah. Take the puppy out of the house.
2. A. (ahâhauka) uncluttered; clear; open. Ù ya papti ahauka yamti wît̪pah. Open up the house (to let it air out).
ahauka yaknaka VE. {V-TA} (ahauka yakti) uncover. Arankisanka panka ya yalau tingka raûpi taihpai ya dakti ahauka yaktuting. I’m going to cut off the mango branches that are weighing down on my orange tree, thus uncovering it.

ahaunaka 1. VI. {V-PA} (ahaupi) loosen; become loose.
2. VT. {V-PA} (ahaupi) loosen; make loose.
3. VT. {V-PA} (ahaupi) clear; remove impediments from.
kal ahauanaka VR. {V-PA} (kal ahaupi) make oneself clear; adjust one’s appearance so as to make a particular attribute obvious.
ahdanaka VI. {V-DA} (ahdi) moan; wail. Damai lumah barapai kau, wirahki ûka kau lâwing ahdi dai, dapak âwi taling ûwai kût dai. Yesterday at dusk I passed by my brother’s house, heard him moaning, and went in to find him sick in bed.
ahpara N. (ah[para]) [ANAT] roof of mouth; palate.
ahsa N. (ah[sa]) [HERP] black river turtle.
ahtak N. (ah[tak]) [BOT] atak; kiskis; any of a small group of small palms. (PALMAE)
ahtak almuk NE. (ah[tak almuk]) [BOT] swallow tail; small palm, leaves with occasional breaks. (PALMAE)
ahtak pauka NE. (ah[tak pauka]) [BOT] small palm, leaves with frequent, regular breaks. (PALMAE)
ahtak wânâ NE. (ah[tak wânâ]) [BOT] small palm, unbroken leaves. (PALMAE Asterogyne mactiana; PALMAE Hyospathe sp.) (syn. ûbastaq) (equiv. ahtak yal)
aï Q. what. Ai waltayam? What do you want? Man pâpanghma ayangka ai ka? What is your father’s name?
aï ai QE. any; anything; whatever. Mistu ya di bakana ai ai ya wati kasya. The cat catches and eats any small animal.
aï atrang bik QE. anything. Muih ai atrang bik di wati yamdaî ya yamka sa ka. People that just grab anything and use it for themselves are not good. (→ ãyaka bik)
adanaka 1. VI. {V-DA} (aidi) cry. Sûkîlu ìwida bahangh aidayang. I am crying because my dog died. Alas balna pan, di baka as datak aidanaka wâlik ka. Those guys, they cry at the slightest thing. Δ Muih as amatdai kau makdaka kaupak waska bungpai ya. When a person is sad and tears come out of their eyes.
2. VI. {v-da} (aidi) make characteristic sound; sing [bird]; meow; caterwaul; buzz [flying insect]; make sound of playing organ or accordion.

aidingh N. (aidingh[[]]) whatchamacallit; so-and-so. (syn. ai pan)
aidingh

aizinghnaka 1. VI. {v-pa} (aidinghpi) do whatchamacallit.

2. VT. {v-pa} (aidinghpi) do whatchamacallit to.

lahi

lahinaka 1. VT. {v-pa} (aihpi) hoard; guard jealously; refuse to share; be possessive of. Ukisah ya kasna iya kau aihpai, muih wak kau ataring ati. When my father-in-law gets some food he hoards it for fear that I might give it away. Yalki ya aihpai, yal wak karak kul bautaring ati. My wife is very possessive with me, for fear that I may talk with another woman. Yang nangkisahna aihpayang al wak karak kul bautai bahangh. I am jealous because my girlfriend is speaking with another man.

2. VT. {v-pa} (aihpi) covet. (=1 tumnaka)

2aihnaka VI. {v-pa} (aihpi) yip or yelp [dog]; produce short high-pitched bark when following prey. Sulu yu di yakta kau auhpai; bungpi yawada kau wipi aihpai. The dog barks when it locates the prey; when it has gone out (of hiding) the dog chases after it yipping. (# auhnaka)

aih

aik Q.cn3. (ai[[]]ka) {cns1: aikika} what part of; what relation to. Yaka bakaka damai talikda ya man aimaka dai? That child that I saw yesterday, what relation was he to you? Aka aka yang aikika ka? How do you call this part of my body (lit. this is my what)? Aimaka dalapai? What (part of you) hurts?

aima Q. when. Man aima yawakutim? When are you going to go? (syn. mâmpa)

ainaka VT. bring. (syn. ahainaka, ihainaka, lhwanaka)

ai pan NE. whatchamacallit; so-and-so. (syn. aidingh)

ai pannaka VE. {v-ta} (ai panti) do whatchamacallit.

aisau 1. INTERJ. no. Kuiting aisau atda. When I asked him for it he said no.

2. NUM. zero.

3. STAT. be absent; none; nothing. Lihkwani aisau. I don't have any money (lit. my money is none). Akalah was aisau. There is no water here. Man iuma kau yawing muih as bik aisau dai. I went to your house and there wasn’t even a single person.

aisau bungnaka VE. (aisau bungpi) finish; run out. Lihwan mahka watah yang dai katka di bakanti liuh aisau bungpikda. I had a lot of money but I spent it all buying things.

aisaunaka VI. {v-pa} (aiwaupi) disappear.


ai wak QE. what else?. Ai wak wataiam pih? What else do you want?

aiwannaka VI. {v-pa} (aiwanpi) [Msk: aiwanaia] sing. Alas yamka aiwanpái. He/She sings well. (pref. un baunaka)

aiw VI.prox. coming. Tinit yulnaka uka kaupak muih liuh ya aiw bungdai kút ka. Everyone is coming back from church. (syn. wi?)

ai yamti QV.prox. why. Ai yamti akalah lau man? Why are you here? Ai yamti yapa yá talyam? Why are you looking at me like that? (syn. ai ati)

aka 1. DEM.prox. this. Aka yalauka panka ya mámahki lautang. This mango tree was planted by my mother. Aka balna áyauh yawadai pan yang kung lawasing. I don’t know where these (people) are going.

2. D.prox. proximate definite determiner. Súkilu aka di itingka palka ka. My dog here is a real hunter.


aka buihnaka VE. (aka buihpi) smoke a pipe. Muih wána dapi muih almuk balna ya aka buihnaka ya yamka palka pumdai. The old people like pipe smoking very much.
akadis N. (aka[]dis) [ENTOM] firefly. Akadis ya baraka pas kau laih isau rihwadai. Fireflies abound at night.

akakapan (form of akapan) N.CNS3.

åkalah ADV. here; at this place. Yang åkalah tukwayang. I work here. Yaka muihka ya åkalah laih talnaka waltasing. I don’t want to see that person here.

åkalang (form of ålang) N.CNS3.

1 akapan N. (aka[]pan) [ORN, ANAT] spur of bird (esp. rooster).

2 akapan N. (aka[]pan) pipe.

akarhna AA. {v-PAl (akarhpi) ruminate. Tûruh balna wâlang kasdai kau mahkanadang datak kau lawi näh dapi wâlang yaka bûna yakti akarhdai. When cattle get full grazing they sit down and regurgitate the grass to ruminate.

akasaka A. (akasaka) gritty; sandy (texture). Sau akasaka kau di lauwak yamka pâtasa. When we plant something in sandy soil it doesn’t grow well. Di muihka sau kau wauhdang ya yamka suhwsa lahawai kau akaska ka. When meat has fallen on the ground and we do not wash it well before cooking, it is gritty.

ákatka N. (ákatka) hour; time. Ákatka arungka yapa kau yul bauti talramna. You (plural) will be discussing it for about four hours. Ákatka as ya 60 suwinka watah ka. One hour has 60 minutes. Ákatka ánaka VE. (v-TA) (ákatka áti) set a time. (sym. mà ánaka, suwinka ánaka) (eqv. ákatkaka ánaka)

ákau ADV. here; to here. Alas ákau midai. He/She lives here.

akauh ADV. towards here. Was ya âkauh wai. The rain is heading this way.

ákaukak ADV. from here. Alas ákaukak yawai. He/she is leaving from here. Ákaukak yawatik pah ka. I feel like going away from this place.

aknaka 1. VT. {v-PA} (akpi) grope for; explore. Pukka baraka bahangh yapa akpi yakti dika lukdang dai ya. As it was dark, I groped around like that to find my lost thing. Umana kau asangni Nicaragua kau muih isau akpi wâna; wi tali büngpi yawana. As as yaka dutka yamtì yawana. Long ago many people came exploring to our land, Nicaragua, and then left. Some did bad things before leaving. Ði as waltayam kau it talsaman dpi tingma karak wati talyam ya. When you want something that you cannot see and you grope for it with your hands.

2. VT. {v-PA} (akpi) rummage through; search through.

aksibil N. (ak[sibil]) [HERP] [Eng: hawksbill] hawksbill turtle. (Eretmochelys imbricata)

aksuk N. (ak[suk]) [MAM] small red poucheless opossum-like mammal with hairless tail. Aksuk ya wasala baka yapa katka lumakkika ya pauka ka, yapa bik básitna sa. The aksuk is like a small opossum but it is red and has no pouch.

ákusah N. (â[kusah]) [MAN] [Spn: aguja] needle. Ákusah karak bik muih asna bîdai. People sew clothing with needles.

al 1. N. (al[]) man. Al balna tukwadai. The men are working. Al luih ya pá palka sa; as as adadahka laulau ka. Not all men are of the same stature; some are short. Al ya páwanihka karak yamka rihwadai. A man is content when accompanied by his comrades.

2. MOD. male. (sym. almuk)

al talsa VE.NEG3. virgin (female). Alah màmahka ya al talsa dadang, yapa bik it ka asang âkau bik yal wák balna bik yapa atnaka. The mother of God was a virgin, and maybe some women in this town are also.


Alah yulka NE. [REL] bible; gospel; Scripture. Alah yulka kau âña. It is written in the bible. Alah yulka ya muih luih yulti taldai. Everyone reads the Bible. Alah yulka kau pan tisi yultasa. The Bible does not tell lies.
Alah yulka nauka NE. [REL] biblical teachings.
Alah yulka tisi umnaka VE. {V-TA} (umti) swear falsely; lie under oath.
Alah yulka umnaka VE. {V-TA} (umti) swear on the Bible.
alalahal N. (alahalah[]) [BOT] small light green crawling plant with small (.5cm) round bulbous convex leaves, used for making kidney remedy.
alahmat N. (alah[mat]) [REL] parson; preacher; minister. (equiv. Alah yulka sumaltingka)
alahnaka 1. VT. {v-PAl (alahpi)} hang; hang up. Muih wana balna ya sawi anaka laka ya idai kau kuh takat kau alahdai. When old women acquire the jawbone of a javilina, they hang it over the fire.
2. VI. {v-PAl (alahpi)} catch; get hung up or snagged. Pan as daktting kat wauhdak alahpida wit ka. I cut a tree but it fell and got hung up (on another tree).
alah INTERJ. gosh; goodness; help!. Alah asaldah! Ai yamti asaldasaman pih muih ma taldai ya? You should be ashamed! How can you not be ashamed with everyone looking at you? Alah! Nawah wiiya.
alakaih INTERJ. damn!; expletive interjection of pain or anger. Alakaih yâ bautida! Damn, I hit myself (with a hammer)! Alakaih yâ âwida! Damn, I got a splinter (or stepped on a piece of glass, etc.)!
alakumh N. (ala[kumh]) [ORN] Muscovy duck; duck. (ANATIDAE Cairina moschata) Alakumh bakaka ya alanaka dasika ka. It is difficult to raise baby ducks. Alakumh ya was pas kaupak di yakti ukpai. The duck takes things from under water and eats them.
alali N. (ala[li]) [BOT] (var. of alili)
alamnaka VI. {v-PA} (alampi) fulfill oneself; find one's niche; be in one's element; meet with kindred soul; have a field day; go hog wild. Yaka balna laih alamida rih pan. They're really going hog wild together. Awangki ya wassak dina wâlik tung ya muih wâk as karak kal paktida kau mâdi laih kanas alampida tung ka. My uncle, who always goes around drinking anyway, now that he's met up with a kindred spirit he's really in his element. Wahaiki as tung ka mult balna tumul isdana wâdai kau alas ya kasa bik kassa mâ luîh kau, dapak yang raupi yultayang wahaiki ya mâdi laih alampida tung ka. When people come to play ball, my brother will go all day without even eating, and I'll say my brother is really having a field day right now.
alanaka 1. VT. {v-TA} (alati) raise (child, money, animals); rear (child); bring up (child). Alas bakaka yamka alatang. He/She raised his/her child well. Warau alanaka ya di dasika palka ka. It is very difficult to raise an orphan.
2. NV. (ala[n]) {eqv. alaniki} stepchild; stepson; stepdaughter. Yang yalki karak ihing kau alaniki ya baka dai katka mâdi lai andih sirau ka. When I married my wife, my stepdaughter was little but now she is already a young woman.
alati lañaka VE. {v-TA} (alati lâti) raise (plural) to adulthood. Bakaki balna alati lâtasing dah bangh yang it däpi asang bai kau yawasing. Since I still haven't raised my children to adulthood, I can't leave them and to a far-away place. (→ alati paknaka)
alati paknaka VE. {v-TA} (alati pakti) (→ alati lañaka)
alati yakanaka VE. {v-TA} (alati yakti) raise (singular) to adulthood.
lihwan alanaka VE. raise money.
ålang N. (å[l]ang) [ANAT] dewlap; fold of skin under chin. Kala tambah yaka muih mining kau yak talya kau wahal ati tunak natpi sâk kau åkalang yaka sikka dasi yapa yamti sâk atya. When the basilisk sees us it gets angry and nods its head from side to side and stands there with the fold of skin under its chin all tensed up.
alas 1. PRN.3. he; she; it; him; her. Yang alas karak wikda. I came with him.
2. ADV. alone; lone; single; all by oneself. Yaka yalka ya alas tung ka; al aisau. That woman is all alone; she has no husband. Åka tukwanaka yang alas
sip yamtasing. I cannot do this work alone.
alas balna 1. PRN.33. they; them.
(→ alas) (equiv. alasna balna, alaska balna) 2. ADV. alone (plural); in private (plural).
Mining alas balna dawak kau yak yulnaka dai yaka yulka ya; mādi laiḥ it yak yultasa atrang muḥ wāḍā bahangh. He should have told it to us while we were alone; now he can't tell us because someone else has come. (→ alas) (equiv. alasna balna, alaska balna)
alas yul baunaka VE. talk to self (out loud).
alawanaka VI. {V-WA} (alawi) mature; ripen; grow up (child). Bakaki itukwānā alawīda. My child grew up big.
albata N. (albata) young man.
alhdanaka VI. {V-DA} (alhdi) burst; become perforated. Kuringki alhdarang. My canoe is going to spring a leak. Yang niniḥki ya suba alhdang laulau ya alas yallltai dadang. My grandfather used to fix pots with holes in them.
alhka N.CNS3. (alh[k]) hook or crook in stick.
pan alhka 1. NE. special short-handled implement used to cut beans. 2. NE. any hooked stick. Pan alhka ya, panmak balna tingka tangka kau ya burhpai. A hooked stick is used to pluck fruits from the ends of branches. Sūpa panka yūḥa balna ya pan alhka yūḥa karak burhdai. When picking the fruit of a tall pejibaye tree they use a long hooked stick.
alhnaka VT. {v-PAl (alhpi) make a man out of. Al as kanas uba tungwai bahangh, tuk sumalti alputing. Because that man is slacking off, I'm going to teach him work and make a man out of him.
alu MOD. first-born; oldest child. Yang bakaki aluka ya yal. My oldest child is a girl. Yang aluki ya al. My oldest child is a boy.
aluk N. (aluk[k]) [orn] turkey. Aluk ya kataramah yapa ka, katka itukwānā ka. The turkey is like the chicken, but bigger.
am N. (am[k]) [bot] corn; maize. (Zea mays) Āka māmākā am lautaring. This year I'll plant corn. Ambata pan muiḥ lūḥ Waldai lahti kasnaka. As for green corn, everyone loves to boil and eat it. Am ya kasna as yamka palka ka. Corn is a very good food.
dried corn.

**am kungkabas** NE. (am[] kungkabas) corn silk.

**am makka** NE. (am[] makka) corn kernel.

**am panka** NE. (am[] panka) stripped corn cob; corn stalk. *(syn. am tiskapanak)*

**am panka karak** NE. (am[] panka karak) corn on the cob; corn cob.

**am pihtang** NE. (am[] pihtang) stripped corncob; corn stalk. *(syn. am tiskapanak)*

**am ukatak** NE. (am[] ukatak) corn husk.

**am yakamak** NE. (am[] yakamak) cornfield.

**amai** N. (amai[]) [BOT] (tree sp.) bribri. *Amai makka ya di bakana isau palka yawi ukdai. Many birds flock to the bribri tree to eat its fruits.*

**amai pauka** NE. [BOT].

**amai pihka** NE. [BOT].

**amak** 1. NE. (amak[]) [ENTOM] bee; wild bee. *Amak laih úka pan kau yamtai. The bee builds its nest in trees. (or amak muihka)*

2. NE. (amak[]) honey. *Damai pánphkhi amak dakti wáda. Yesterday my father came back after having chopped down some honey. (or amak waska)*

**amak baka** NE. (amak[] baka) [ENTOM] kind of small bee. *Amak baka dapi amak sikka bik damaska kau lau ka. In the bush there are small and large bees.*

**amak muihka** NE. (amak[] muihka) [ENTOM] bee. *Amak muihka ya pulu waska murupai. The bee transports the nectar of flowers. Amak muihka ya pulu waska walti yawai. The bee goes around in search of nectar.*

**amak úka** NE. beehive; honeycomb.

**amak waska** NE. (amak[] waska) honey. *Amak waska ya nangtak dika basta yamka. Honey is a good remedy for a cough. Nangtak watah man kau, amak waska dinaka yamka ka. When you have a cough, it is good to drink honey.*

**amakpas** N. (amak[]pas) [ENTOM] kind of bee.

**amakwalah** N. (amak[]walah) [ENTOM] kind of bee.

**amana** N. (amanaka) sleep.


**amaka** VE. (V0-A) (muh karak ami) copulate with; sleep with.


**amang** ADV. carefully.

**amanaisau** MOD. wanton; without guidance; wayward. *Di as kung láwasaman kat amangaisau wati yamnaka sa. If you do not understand something you should not mess with it. < amang áisau*

**yal amangaisau** NE. prostitute; whore; wanton woman. *Tuk sanh bahangh yal amangaisau balna isau bungdai. Since there’s no work, many women go into prostitution.*

**amangka** 1. A. (amamangka) enough; normal-sized; ample; appropriate; just right; the right amount. *Lihkiwan amangka ka. I have enough money. Yang mâmakhî ya títiska sa dadang, yal as amângka dadang. My mother wasn’t petite, she was an ample woman.*

2. ADV. on time. *Andih tâtpah! Yak*
irasa laih, amangka yak yawasa atrang. Hurry up and get ready! If we don’t run we won’t get there on time.

amangkika N. measurement. Kahmalu binaka ya amangkika inaka waltayang. I want to get a measurement of your shirt seams.

amang lânaka VE. {V-TA} (amang lâti) understand; figure out. Áka alka áka di luih kau amang lânaka waltai. This man wants to understand everything. (→ kang lâwanaka)

1amangnaka VT. {V-TA} (amangti) take care of; guard.
kal amangnaka VR. {V-TA} (kal amangti) take care of oneself. (equiv. kal amangti talnaka)

2amangnaka VT. {V-TA} (amangti) say goodbye. Yangna yawayangna; manna luih kau yangna ruadi mâna amangtayangna. We (excl.) are leaving; we say goodbye to all of you.

3amangnaka VT. {V-TA} (amangti) amangti pakti talnaka VE. stare at. Yaka alka ya amangti pakti yâ tali lau ka. That man is staring at me.

4amangnaka VI. {V-PA} (amangpi) divine; see clairvoyantly.
ting amangnaka VE. {V-PA} (ting amangpi) divine using hands and sticks. Malaka ya ting amangpia bahangh, muih wâya ya kang lâwi irai. The agouti uses its hands to see clairvoyantly, and so it can tell when people are approaching and runs away.
ting amangpingka NE. clairvoyant; seer.

amangpara ADV. soon; later; in a little while. Suba pas kau pihnâk lau ya waya yaktayang; amangpara lahti kaskuting. I’m removing a little rice from the pot; later I’m going to cook and eat it.

amang talnaka VE. {VÔ-TAL} (amang tali) look after; take care of. Ú pas kau di lau ya amang talnaka. Household items must be cared for.
amang talah VE.IMPER2. (amang talnahu) watch out!
amang talingka NE. (amangka talingka) guardian; watchman; custodian.
amasa VI.NEG3. awake.
ami talingka NE. see; shaman; curer.
Ami talingka ya di luiai tali yak yultai. The seer sees all and tells it to us.
(→ di talingka)

ampa Q. how. Ampa man? How are you?
Āka dikā yulma kau ampa yultayam?
How do you say this in your language?

ampa ampa ADV. by whatever means necessary.

ampa dapak QV. why?; how come?
Allpā man? How are you?
Aka dika yulma kau ampa yultayam?

ampa ampā ADV. by whatever means necessary.

ampa amwas Q. how (ever) much; how (ever) many. Lihwan ampa watah man?
How much money do you have?
Muih ampa wādai ya Wayah yulka kau wālīk yā yul baudai. Whoever comes to me only speaks to me in Miskitu.

amtuk N. (am[tuk]) ground corn; ground corn drink. (→ amwas)

amusa atnaka VE. {vOl (amusa ati) behave well. Bikiska balna sahkana ya wisnaka dutka, katka sumalnaka mà luiai kau, yapa kau lai amusa atnaka it atdarang. It is bad to beat misbehaving children; rather, one should teach them every day, and in this way they will learn to behave well.

amusa dāpah VE.IMPER2. leave it be; leave it alone. Kuringki ya watnhi! Amusa dāpah mādāi kaupak. Don’t touch my canoe! Leave it alone from today forward.

amwas N. (am[was]) atol; atole; non-alcoholic corn-flour drink. (→ amtuk)

ana 1. N. (ana[]) [ANAT] tooth; bill; beak; tusk. Ana karak muia kasna kasdai. People chew food with their teeth.
2. N. (ana[]) blade (of knife).
ana būsū NE. (ana[] būsū) molar.
ana lāka NE. (ana[] lāka) jawbone; chin. Muih almuk ya anaka lāka baska ya pihka atya. The beards of old men are white. Muih wāna balna ya sawi anaka lāka ya idai kau kuh takat kau alahdai. When hold women get the jawbone of a white-lipped peccary, they hang it over the fire. Anani lāka ya anani anakat kau balna ya wati watah ka. Our jawbone holds our lower teeth.

ana panka NE. (ana[] panka) gum (of mouth). (syn. anasar)

anabuh N. (anabu[]) toothbrush. Yang raudi bikiska balna kau yultayang “Anabuh karak anamana buhti atnauh.” I say to the children “Brush your teeth with the toothbrush.”

anadala N. (anada[]) toothache. Yaka muih almuk ya anadala tung ka. That old man is going around with at toothache.

ānaka 1. VD. {v-TA} (āti) ((to) him or her)give; donate; make; cause. Muih kau dī ānaka ya yamka ka. It is good to give. Alas sūkālu yakti ātikda. I found his dog and gave it to him. Mining kasnaka āwai. We (incl.) give him/her/it food. Yang wahaiki talikda dai lai, lihwan ātātik dai. If I had seen my brother, I would have given him money. Yaka alka balna di biri biri / kal ādai. Those men give each other things.

2. VD. {v-TA} (āti) ((to) him/her/it)make; cause; induce; let. Āting wauhdida. I made him/her/it fall. Ātām yawangh! Let him go! Man di kang lāwasanamai lai muih wāk kau ātām yamtī mādangh. If you don’t know how to do something, get someone else to do it for you.

3. VT. {v-TA} (āti) insert; introduce; put inside. Yang suba pas yau suba baka wāk ya ātaring. I’ll put inside the pot the other, smaller pot. Awangki ya anaki pahra yau di basta as ātuti. My uncle is going to put medicine into my cavity.

4. VT. {v-TA} (āti) set; lay out; deploy; arm (trap). Bilam watnaka wah marana ānaka. To catch fish you have to set a net.

5. VT. {v-TA} (āti) (glasses, watch, earring, ring, necklace, bracelet)put on; wear. Talma ātah. Put your watch on. Māmdaka dikā bik ātang tung ka. He’s even wearing glasses. Man wirahma ya makdaka dika ātai? Does your brother wear glasses?

6. VT. {v-TA} (āti) latch; close (lock). Sukutwat tingka ānaka. We must latch the lock.

7. VT. (āti) let in; take on (water); leak. Was ātai. It’s leaking water. Kuringki mā daika raupi sahtida bahangh
Since my canoe cracked in the sun it leaks. [can be from top (house), bottom (canoe), side (container)]

kal ánakā VR. {V-TA} (kal áti) rest; relax; catch one's breath; take a break. Mádi dislah yau waya ìri kal dailting kau yà suhpak waya kal áti sák dapi wàyang. This morning while out for a run I got tired, stopped to catch my breath and came back. (syn. kal dahnaka)

anaka (form of ana) N.CNS3.

anakasara (form of anasara) N.CNS3.

awas anakasara NE. (awas[] anakasara) half-burnt torch.

kuh anakasara NE. (kuh[] anakasara) firebrand; charred stick or log; half-burnt stick or log. Kuh anakasara balna ya sìrhika palka kumdadai. Half-burnt logs burn extremely quickly.

anakat NR.CNS3. (ana[]t[]) {CNS1: anakit, CNS11: anakitna, CNS33: anakatna} under; underside; bottom. Yang pàan anakat kau sák yang. I am standing under the tree.

anakat áwanaka NE. (ana[ka]t[] áwa[naka]) underwear (male or female); undergarment; drawers; briefs; panty.

Yang anakit áwani. My underwear.

anakat panka NE. (ana[ka]t[] panka) beam; post. Ú laih itukwána yamidida wit ka, katka anakat panka ya biiska baka ána bahanh dułka ka. They made the house big, but since they put it on small posts it is bad.

ananaka VT. {V-PA} (anapi) pick up; collect; pick out; sort out; gather. Aransa làlahuka wauhdang laulau ya yawi anapah. Go pick up the oranges that have fallen. Yang anu anana yawakuting. I'm going to go gather coconuts. Anu panka kaupak auhdang laulau ya anapah. Pick up the coconuts that fell from the tree. Sinak maupayam kau, minisíhka balna luh anapi yaktayam. When you clean beans you pick out all the dirt.

anapi yaknaka VE. {V-TA} (anapi yaki) choose; select; pick. Yalau làlahuka yamka yakat anapi yaknaka aras talkuting. I'm going to try to pick the nice ripe mango.

anasara 1. N. (ana[]sara) [ANAT] gums (of mouth). Anakisara kau pul ida. My gums have an abscess. (syn. anaka panka)

2. N. (ana[]sara) burnt end; partly burnt piece.

anau N. (anau[]) [BOT] (var. of anu)

andih ADV. already; soon; quickly; right away. (equiv. andiilah)

andih andih ADV. often; frequently. (syn. bainah bainah)

andih andih sa ADV. rarely; seldom; infrequently. (syn. bainah bainah sa)

andiilah ADV. (syn. andih)

angmak N. (ang[]mak) [BOT] chili pepper. (Capsicum sp.) Angmak damka ya kasnini kau áwak kat, walapka yamka ka. When we put sweet peppers in our food it gives it a good smell.

ani N. (ani[]) [ANAT] vagina; pudenda; female genitalia. Yal balna ya anikana yulka yulnaka ya dì as dutka yapa pundai, katka yaka ya dutka sa. Women think it is bad to speak of their vaginas, but it is not bad.

ani butuka NE. (ani[] butuka) [ANAT] pubic hair (female).

ani túka NE. (ani[] túka) [ANAT] clitoris.

Al balna ya anika túka áisau ka. Men do not have a clitoris.

anu N. (anu[]) [BOT] coconut; coco palm. (PALMAE Cocos nucifera) Mài dàihka parasíka lakwai kau, anu panka anakat kau lau atnaka ya yamka ka. When the sun is really hot it is good to be sitting under a palm tree. Anu ya waska dinaka yamka ka. The milk of the coconut is good to drink. (var. anau)

ápà ADV. thus; thusly; like this; in this way. (var. ápah)

ápah kauh ADV. thus; in this manner. Àka kalkasungh àka ápah kauh daktaar laih yamka atrang. It would be good if you could cut (alter) these pants like so.

apaknaka VT. {V-TA} (apakti) hoard; accumulate; store.

apaknaka úkà NE. warehouse; granery; storehouse.

apaktinìh N. (apak[]tinìh) [MOD, MAN] encyclopedia; reference book; handbook.
apakyul N. (apak[yul]) [MOD, MAN] dictionary.

apnaka 1. VI. {V-TA} (apti) (pain) go away; be relieved. Dalakika luih aptida. The pain has all gone away.


3. VI. {V-TA} (apti) be in short or insufficient supply. Duputka ya aptida. There wasn't enough flour (to achieve some goal). [This does not mean 'to run out', more like 'not be enough for']

4. VT. miss or lose out on. Sangkas ihi daktung kau wanihki balna kau atikda dapak wanihki bû laih aptida. When I sliced some watermelon and gave it to my family members, two of them missed out on it (there wasn't enough to go around). Mâting atti katka aptidam. I was going to give you some but there wasn't enough for you.

ápûs ADV. like so (demonstrating).

ar PRT. [Eng; or] or. Yan wâram ar wâsa atram? Will you come tomorrow or not? Man wanihma mahka watah man, ar baka watah man? Do you have a large family or a small one? (pref. sa kat, yaka sa kat)

araduh PRSNTL. (→ âduh) (syn. iduh)


araka PRSNTL. that; those. (syn. yaka)

araka laih INTERJ. bah!; expression of disbelief, contempt, or denial. Araka laih! Yang yapa yultasing dai! Bah! I never said that!


aran N. circle. Aran ya di isau kau bungpai. Circles appear in many objects.

aran lâwanaka VE. {V-WA} (aran lâwi) go around (obstacle); take detour; circumnavigate. Mining tânit kau pan as wauhdang kût bahangh, aran lâwanaka. Because there is a fallen tree ahead, we’ll make a detour.

arandanaka VI. {V-DA} (arandi) form a circle.

kal arandanaka VR. coil up. Bil balna dapi di wâk balna yûhka sau kau rikdi bûh balna kal arandadadai. Snakes and other long animals that crawl around on the ground coil themselves up.

aranka 1. A. (araranka) round; circular.

Ü aranka as yamtuting. I am going to build a circular house. Yalau balna ya aranka bîk lau ka. There are also round mangos. (→ mukulka)

2. N.CNS3. (aran[]) ring; round shape.

arannaka VT. {V-PA} (aranpi) encircle; draw circle around; ring.

aransa N. (aran[sa]) [BOT] [Spn: naranja] orange. (Citrus sinensis) Aransa panka ya makka mahka watya. The orange tree produces many fruits. Yang aransa isau bakannaka watah yang. I have many oranges to sell. Aransa ya panmak as yamka; muih luih uknaka waldai ka. The orange is a very good fruit; everybody likes it.

aransa úka NE. sections of orange.

araska atnaka VE. {VO} (araska ati) bother; disturb; make trouble for.

araska talnaka VE. {VO-TAL} (araska tali) entice; seduce; tempt. Al balna yaka yal balna kau araska taldi mâ as kau, asung wati nangkanasaha inaka yulka, yapa bik bûna tisipi dâdai. Men sometimes seduce women, to convince them to be their concubine, and then again sometimes they betray them and leave them.

aras talnaka VE. {VO-TAL} (aras tali) try; attempt. Rupikma yamniki aras talkuting. I'll try to fix your radio.

aratukuh N. (ara[tukuh]) [MAN, MOD] pistol. (syn. kusih wauka)

arhnaka VT. {V-PA} (arhpi) gnaw.

ana arhnaka VE. (ana[] arhpi) grind teeth; gnash teeth.
arka N. (ar[]ka) [MAN] [Spn: arca] ark. Arka ya Nua yamtang bakaka al balna kal pakti, di sikka palka. The ark that Noah built with his sons is a great work.
arungka NUM. four. Yalau arungka yâ bakantah. Buy me four mangos.
as NUM. one; a (indefinite article). Bakaki al as watah yang ya dalaka talyang. I love my son. (âl alas, aslah)
asahdanaka VI. {V-DA} (asahdi) spread legs apart. Baka watingka raupi it ka yal iâi kût yau yulnaka “kalma ya yamka asahdi kutwah.” A midwife could say to her patient “lie down with your legs spread wide.”
asahka A. (asahaka) astride; astraddle; straddling. Pamkih kau ilwi asahka yak lauwai. When we ride a horse we sit straddling its back.
asahnaka VT. {v-PA} (asahpi) hold child on hip with legs straddling hip bone facing mother’s side. Asahpi diuinh. Don’t carry him/her straddling your hip. (syn. sah kutnaka)
asaldanaka VI. {V-DA} (asaldi) be embarrassed. Yang laih âguguhnkaka asaldasing; ai yamti asaldaring di yamka yamnaka kau? I’m not embarrassed to sing; why would I be ashamed when I’m doing something good?
asalka A. (asasalka) ashamed; embarrassed. Yang asangki bai kaupak wing ya di as nûnaka ya asalka kal dahring. Having come from far away I would feel ashamed to steal something. Muih yâ talâk yang di asalka lau yâng. I’m embarrassed to have people looking at me.
asalka kal dahnkaka VE. be embarrassed. Abanaka yaka di as asalka sa, katka yang laih muih mukha kau isdasing dah bahangh asalka kal dahring. Dancing is nothing to be ashamed of, but since I have never danced in front of people before, I will be embarrassed. (syn. asaldanaka)
asalka nauka NE. shame. Di nûnaka yâ asalka nauka palka ka. Stealing is a shameful act.
asalka pumnakaka VE. {V-TA} (asalka pumti) be ashamed; be embarrassed.

Mâ luîh kau alas di asalka yamti tung ka, katka asalka pumtasa. Every day he goes around doing shameful things but he does not feel ashamed. Asalka pumnaka ya yamka sa; di isau dau bakwai. It is not good to be embarrassed; you miss out on many opportunities.
asalnaka VT. {v-PA} (asalpi) humiliate; embarrass; shame. Damai sirau balna kunhping yâ asalpi laudida. Yesterday I teased the young women and they shamed me, put me in my place (by saying that I am an old man and embarrassing me in public). Talki âka yâ asalpai, mâ as as kau uba tukwak muih talâi bahangh. This watch of mine embarrasses me, because people sometimes see that it runs slow.
asang 1. N. (asang[]) land; territory; town; country; earth.
2. N. (asang[]) dry land.
asang tunak NE. capital.
asangbah N. (asang[]bah) country.
asangdak N. (asang[]dak) island; cay. Yaka asangkadak yau waihi yawi talnangh. Let’s paddle out to that island and have a look.
asangdut N. (asang[]dut) [REL] hell. Muih di dutka yamti nûdi ribwadai ya asangdut kau wâlik yawadarang. People who go around doing evil things secretly, will only end up in hell.
asang puhuhka NE. (asang[] puhuhka) low land. Asang labanka kau di launaka dutka. It is bad to plant crops in low land.
asang tarat NE. hill; high ground. Ùki dangkat kau asang tarat as lau ka. There is a hill behind my house.
asang tima NE. (asang[] tima, asang ti[]ma) car; truck; bus; motorized land vehicle. Asang tima ya yamka asang bai yawanaka kau yak ihyawai bahangh. Motor vehicles are good because they carry us when we want to travel far. Yang pumtayang yamka ka pûpanghki bakantuti asangka tima ya. I think the car my father is going to buy is beautiful. Asang tima as bakak kau taihpida. A truk ran over my child.
asang ubulka NE. (asang[] ubulka) hill; mountain. (syn. sau ubulka)
asang wahka NE. (asang[] wahka) grape; rattan; liana. (→ wah) (syn. warka wahka, damaska wahka)
asang wakarhka NE. (asang[] wakarhka) hill. Asang wakarhka labaka yau yâmak watah yang. I have a plantation alongside that hill.

åsburgn 1. N. (as[]bungh) [ENTOM] grasshopper. Åsburgn titiska ya pan malai baska kasingka. The grasshopper eats cassava leaves. (or åsburgn baka, åsburgn titiska)

2. N. (as[]bungh) [ENTOM] locust. Åsburgn sikka ya pan baska kasya. The locust eats leaves. (or åsburgn baka, åsburgn titiska, åsburgn sikka)
aslah 1. NUM. one. (→ alas, as)
2. ADV. united; together in a group.
aslah bungnaka VE. {v-PAl (aslah bungpi) unite; meet; come together.
aslah ka N.CNS3. (aslah[]) union; group.
aslah kal paknaka VE. {v-TA} (aslah kal pakti) join together. Åkaupak yakau yak yawarang kau aslah kal paknaka. We will have to get together when we get there (from here).
aslah kuinaka VE. {v-TA} (aslah kuiti) assemble; convolve; unite.
aslah libitnaka VE. {v-PA} (aslah libitpi) introduce; unite; get together. Yang yalki karak kal dapaning dai, katka mâmahki yâna kuiti bûna aslah yâna libitpida. My wife and I had separated, but my mother got us back together again.

karak aslah AE. in union with; identifying with; together with. Yang alas karak aslah yang. I am in union with him/her. Yang YATAMA karak aslah yang. I am a member of YATAMA.
asna N. (as[]na) cloth; clothes; dress; garment. Yang askina minisihka. My clothing is dirty. Asna yamka ya, mining luîh walwai. We all want/like good clothes. Asna ya yal balna rauka suhdai. Women really wash clothes.
asna áwi dâna NE. used clothing.
asna bâka NE. pull, run or loose thread (in fabric); loose threads that come out of cloth. Askina âka andih bâka bungpai. This garment of mine already has a pull in it. Kara karak bina balna ya kurudadai, katka asna palka kaupak kara yapa bungpai ya yaka ya asna bâka atwai. Seams come undone, but when it looks as though thread is coming out of the actual fabric we call that a pull.
asnapahna N. (as[]napahna) [MAN] clothespin.

asu N. (asu[]) [BOT] razor plant. (EUFORBIACEAE) Asu ya únitak kau wisdak dala ka. It hurts when our skin is lashed by the razor plant. (≠ ulu)


asung abalnaka VE. {v-TA} (asung abalti) goad; prod; induce; instigate; egg on. Muih wâk raudi alas kau asung abaltak yamtidai. She was goaded into doing it by another person.
asung amat CMOD. sad; sorry. Wahaiki ya asung amat karak yawada. My brother left with a sad heart.
asung ánaka VE. {v-TA} (asung[] àti) become angry; become mad. Yaka muhkha ya asung ânaka wâlik tungwai. That person is always getting angry. Asing àtai. I'm getting angry
asung aslah CMOD. content; harmonious; in agreement; satisfied; happy. Asing aslah dapikda was dihikda kat. I became happy when I drank water.
asung átang VE.PERF3. angry; mad.
asung auhka CMOD. weak of heart.
Asing auhka bahangh ñwuting. I am going to die because of my weak heart.
asung baunaka VE. {V-TA} (asung[] bauti) beat (heart). Asing yá bautai.
My heart is beating. Må luìh kau asungma yá sirìh mà bautak kau muihma duktka yapa bik wingmata adahka yapa kal dahyam.
Your heart is beating all day, but sometimes when it beats fast you don’t feel well and sometimes feel short of breath.
asung dalanaka VE. {v-PAl (asung dalapi) have stomachache. Asing dalapai. My stomach aches.
asung dasika CMOD. fearless; courageous; brave; foolhardy. Muih asung dasika palka ya ñwana sa bik yapa ñwai.
Overly courageous people often get themselves killed needlessly. (ant. båpuh)
asung di riknaka VE. {V-PA} (asung[] di rikpi) {CNS1 PRES3: asing di rikpai} become furious; lose temper. Asing di rikpai. I’m losing my temper.
asung kapahka CMOD. worried; uneasy.
asung kapahnaka VE. {V-TA} (asung kapahti) tempt; excite; seduce; trick.
Yaka yal tung yaka muih asung kapahnaka wàlik tung kà. That woman is always going around seducing people.
(→ kapahnaka)
asung kapahnaka VE. {V-TA} (asung kapahti) {CNS1 PRES1: asing kapahtayang} worry; be troubled; be bothered. Asing kapahtì lau yang. I am worried.
asung karak yul bauti talnaka VE. consider; reflect; ponder; deliberate.
asung katdanaka 1. VE. {V-DA} (asung katdi) remember. Yang asing katdidì di as bakanniki dài. I remembered that I had to buy something.
Alas asung katdidì kasnaka dika yà sìnhaka. He remembered to send me some food. Asing katdåsa dài yali kau kasnaka dika sìhpasing dài. I had forgotten and not sent food to my wife.
2. VE. {V-DA} (asung katdi) wake up; awake.
Asungma katdåh! Wake up!
Påpangihi ami kùt kà katka asung katdanaka wàlik kà. My father is lying asleep but he is about to wake up.
asung katnaka VE. {V-PA} (asung[] katpi) remind; advise; inform; notify; warn. Asungma katpah. Remember it.
asung katpîngka NE. messenger. Asang balna luìh kau asung katpîngka ya wàtah kà. Every place has its messenger.
asung kau ñisasau CMOD. (asung[] kau ñisasau) failing to remember. Asing kau ñisasau. I don’t remember.
asung kau dalaka ñනaka VE. arouse pity; evoke compassion.
asung kau dalaka dahnaka VE. feel sorry for; pity. [• also asung kat, etc. ]
asung kau watah atnaka VE. be mindful of; remember. Asungma kau watah atnìh! Forget about it!
asung munka 1. CMOD. (asung[] munka) {CNS1: asing munka} compassionate; merciful. 2. CMOD. (asung[] munka) {CNS1: asing munka} unable to withstand pain.
asung pahka ñisasau CMOD. (asungkana pahka) heartless; cruel.
asung pakka CMOD. (asungkana pakka) earnest; doing one’s best. Muih as as balna ya tukwàdài kau asungkana pakka kà. Some people work earnestly.
asung pak karak PEa (asungna pak karak) intelligent; smart; clever. Yang laih asing pak karak sa yang. I am not intelligent. Alas balna asungna pak karak kà. They are very intelligent.
Alas asung pak karak kà. He is very intelligent. Tingsuba ya asung pak karak pakka kà. The devil is very intelligent.
asung pihka CMOD. (asungna pipihka) generous; magnanimous; noble.
(syn. asung yamka)
asung pumnaka VE. {V-TA} (asung[] pumti) consider carefully; think ahead; think prudently. Muih as as balna ya asung pumnaka ñisasau yapa di yaka yamdài. Some people do things without thinking prudently and wisely.
asung pusîngnaka VE. {V-TA} (asung[] pusîngti) have colic.
asung pusîngtang NE. colic; terrible intestinal illness.
asung raudanaka VE. bring oneself to; become motivated; get around to; be moved to. Yawaniki waltasing dài katka asung raudak yawikda. I didn’t...
want to go but I suddenly got motivated and went. Yang tuk isau watah yang, katka asing raudasa bahangh di yamtasing dah. I have a lot of work to do but I haven’t been able to bring myself to do any of it.

asung wahka NE. (asung[] wahka) heartstrings; favorite child. Yang pāpanghki laih bakaka parubi ya asung wahka palka ka. My father’s youngest child is his favorite.

I have a lot of work to do but I haven’t been able to bring myself to do any of it.

asung watah VE. intend or plan (to do something). Tukwanaka asung watah yang. I plan to work.

asung wati minaka VE. (v-TA) (asung[] wati miti) restrict self.

asung watnaka VE. (v-PAl (asung[] watpi) persuade; convince; induce. Yang yawanaka waltasing dai katka alas wi asung watda. I didn’t want to go but he came and persuaded me.

asung watpi lānaka VE. (v-TA) (asung[] watpi lāti) change mind (of self or other); persuade. Papaki ya asung watpi lānaka dasika palka ka. My step-father is hard to convince. Asungma watpi lātah. Change your mind.

asung wirinaka VE. (v-PAl (asung[] wiripi) be nauseous or seasick. Damai āka alka āka kuma kau kutna bungpi yawk asung asung wiripang dai. At first I didn’t want to go, but I changed my mind and went. (→ watdi kal dahmak) [can mean change one’s own mind or someone else’s]

asung yamka AE. (asungna yamka) (syn. asung pihka) di asung rikka AE. angry; furious; enflamed. Yang di asung rikka yang. I’m furious.

at ADV. immediately; at once; promptly; very soon. At yawayang. I’m off. (syn. mahka) [in past context, “soon thereafter”]

atak N. (atak[]) [MOD, MAN] step; stairs.
Ú luīh ya atak yamna watah watah ka. All houses have steps (built). Ilwing kau atak ya bahwida. When I was climbing the steps they broke.

atakbah N. (atak[]bah) [MAN, MOD] ladder; stepladder.

ataknaka VT. (v-PA) (atakpi) press down on; step on; crush. Āka dika tika āka yā atakpai; wī yā umpha! This heavy thing is crushing me; come help me!

Yaka lalangka atakpi itah. Kill that wasp (by stepping on it). (→ taimnaka)

1ati N. (ati[]) [BOT] pumpkin; squash. (Cucurbitaceae Cucurbita spp.)

2ati (form of atnaka) VI.PROX. with the purpose of; in order to. Ai ati wādam? For what purpose did you come?

atimuku N. (ati[]muku) [BOT] vegetable pear; chayote. (Sechium edule)

ātis N. (ā[]tis) [MOD] edible flesh (fish included). Bilam ya ātis as siriha lahti kasnaka dika ka. Fish is a meat that can be fried and eaten quickly.

ātī talnaka 1. VE. (vO-TAL) (ātī tali) probe; test; administer an exam.

Mādi āka bikiska bañna ātí talkutung. Today I’m going to give the children a test.

2. NE. (ātī talna[]) test; quiz.

ātmalh N. (at[]malh) authority; police; judge. Ātmalh ya muih dudutka bañna kau naukana yamtaį. The judge administers justice to criminals.

atna N. (atna[]) desire. Yang kasna as atnaka ya yā yamtasa kau, kassing. When I don’t feel like eating something I don’t eat it.

atnaka 1. VCOP. (vO) (atį) be. Īringka yamka atįh! Be a good runner! Īringka atnaka waltaying. I want to be a runner.

Yā daki atįh. Be listening to me. Alas yūhka atrang. He/she will be tall.

2. VT. (vO) (atį) say. Tunak muñika itukwāna palka ya yan mākya ya ākat wārang atdai. They say that the big leader (i.e., boss, commander, president, etc.) will come here tomorrow. Man raupi yakat yawaring atdam katka yawing āisau man dai. You said that you were going to go there but when I arrived you were not there. Alas dāpi amikda atya. She says she left it and went to sleep.

3. VI. (vO) (atį) intend; mean. Mādi
I had intended to go to the plantation today but in the end I stayed. 

I didn’t want to cry, but I couldn’t help it. 

I'd even have to give my own child. 

I went to buy many things but I lacked money. 

I went to buy many things but I lacked money. 

I want to be happy on the day of our game. 

Give me two fallen siuli fruits and I’ll eat them. 

A fat person is good, but makes a poor tree climber. 

The hicatee is delicious to eat. 

Muirbalna ya yaskana pas kau pilakana anakat kau tingkana palka bitah kau uakhana pätai kau dalaka wahah manah ka. When one'sauhka swells, just below the ribs on the right hand side, it is painful. 

I will buy the fat from you. 

If I eat a lot I will become fat. 

I’m planning to go dump that trash that I’ve gathered up. 

The/a dog barks/is barking. 

I was afraid to eat them. 

A fat person is good, but makes a poor tree climber. 

A fat person is good, but makes a poor tree climber. 

The/a dog barks/is barking. 

A fat person is good, but makes a poor tree climber.
2 awa N. (awa[]) [ENTOM] dragonfly. (or awa baka) (syn. awa baka)

3 awa N. (awa[]) [ORN] macaw. (PSITTACIDAE Ara spp.) Awa ya damaska kau paraska aidai. The macaw calls loudly in the jungle. Awa bahka ya umahka yůhka palka ka. The macaw has a very long tail. (or awa bahka)

awa pauka NE. [ORN] scarlet macaw. (PSITTACIDAE Ara macao) Awa sangka balna ya, damaska sikka balna kau wālik rihwadai. Great green macaws live only in large forests. [sometimes described as being all red, even on wings.]

awa sangka NE. [ORN] great green macaw. (PSITTACIDAE Ara a. ambigua) Awa sangka balna ya, damaska sikka balna kau wālik rihwadai. Great green macaws live only in large forests.

awaktah N. (awaktah[]) (ā[]waktah) [ORN] boat-billed heron. (ARDEIDAE Cochlearius cochlearius) [Name is apparently onomatopoeic of its sound.]

awal N. (awal[]) [BOT] annatto. (BIXACEAE Bixa orellana)

awalas N. (ā[]walas) [KIN] nephew. (syn. walas)

awanak N. (awa[]nak) [BOT] (tree sp.) Santa Maria. (Calophyllum brasiliense) Awanak panka ya dasika yamka bahangh, yārak tima yamda. Awanak panka ya barangka yamka pātai.

awanaka 1. VI. {V-WA} (āwi) enter; board (canoe, boat). Mining û yau yak āwarang. We (incl.) will go into the house. Ú kau āwah! Go into the house! Yang û kau āwing bikiska aidida. When I entered the house the boy began to cry. Muih balna ya sumalnaka ūka kau āwadai. The people are going into the church. Di wayaka kang kātai ya waya āwanaka waltayang. I want to go into the theater for a bit. Δ Tarina as ahauka kaupak pas kau yawanaka.

2. VT. {V-WA} (āwi) penetrate; prick. Alaih wakal yā āwida! Ow, I got a thorn stuck in me!

3. VT. {V-WA} (āwi) (clothes, shoes, etc.) wear; put on. Asna āwanaka ya yamka ka. It is good to wear clothes.

Kalsungh ahauka yak āwai ya dūtk. It is bad to wear loose pants.

4. VI. {V-WA} (āwi) grow underground (tuber). Malaik balna ya makka yamka āwai pang ka. My cassavas are growing nicely.

kal āwanaka VR. {V-WA} (kal āwi) get married. Yangna balna wisam āka kal āwikdana. We just got married.

kal āwang NE. (kalka āwang) marriage. Yaka yalka ya waiiku lāwida kau kal āwang as yamtida; muih luhih audana dai. That woman got married last month; everyone was happy.

kal āwang abaltiŋka NE. adulterer; adulteress; person who leaves legal marriage and marries again. Kal āwang abaltiŋka balna ya muih luhih yang yabahdai. Everybody is afraid of adulterers.

mā āwanaka VE. set (sun). Bakaki ya mādi wānaka dai, tāka tali lau yang dai, katka yapa māka āwida. My child was to come today, and I was sitting there waiting for him/her, but when the sun set I was still waiting.

awang N. (awang[]) [KIN] maternal uncle; mother’s brother.

awangka N. (awang[]ka) [BOT] (tree sp.)

āwas N. (ā[]was) blood. Di yak dākwai kau āwas isau palka bungpai. Yang kasnaka yamka kasring laih, ākiwas yamka irīng. Āwas ya siwaninak kaupak bungpai.

āwas damka NE. diabetes.

āwas dasitang NE. scab; congealed blood.

āwas makalnak NE. (ā[]was makalnak) blood money; fine for spilling another’s blood. Man muih as kau walah ati daktayarn kau man nauka ya raupi nātak ākwas makalnak launaka it ka. If you wound someone in a fight, the law can make you pay blood money.

āwas minaka VE. {V-TA} (āwas miti) {CNS1 PRES3: ākiwas mitaĩ} freeze up with nervousness. Upurna balna kau muih yul yuldasa balna yaka mā as kau yul yulna ka bungpai kau yabai yapa katatya yai yaka yulka yaka pan ākwas minaka atwai ya. When a somebody who is not used to public speaking gets up to speak in a meeting
and freezes up with nervousness, we say that his blood has stopped.

**awas** N. (awas[]) [BOT] pine (caribbean). (Pinus caribaea)

**awas dika baka** NE. (awas[]) dika baka [ORN] red warbler.

**awas pauka** NE. [BOT] resinous pine (red).

**awas pulka** NE. pine tar; pine pitch.

**awaspih** N. (awas[]pih) [BOT] (tree sp.). (syn. awas)

**awih** INTERJ. yes.

**awih atnaka** VE. consent; permit; give approval. Alas awih atrang laih yak yawarang. If he says it's alright, then we can go.

**awi** VE. {V-WA} (awi) pass through the inside of. Turuh as pauluh panka wauhi dayadang atak anakat manah awi lawi yawai. A cow passed through underneath a fallen mahogany log.

**awita** N. (awi[]ta) [ANAT] birthmark. Bikiska as as balna ya súwadai kau awita bisika yapa bik itukwána muihkana kau watah manah ka. Some children are born with small or even large birthmarks on their body.

**awi yawanaka** VE. {V-O-A} (awi) enter; go in; get in; sink. Damaska pas kau awi yawanaka. (syn. awayanaka)

**áyah** Q. (equiv. of áyaka)

**áyaka** Q.CNS3. which. Áyaka ya waltayam laih, wi ihywah. If you want any of them, come and take it. Áyaka súkalu ya má kasda? Which dog bit you? (also áyat) (equiv. áya) áyaka atrang bik QE. whichever; any one. áyaka bik QE. (syn. áyaka atrang bik)

2. **ayan** N. (ayan[]) [BOT] [Eng: iron] ironwood.

**ayanaka** VT. {V-PA} (ayapi) toast; broil over flame. Bakaki yal ya am ayanaka laih wartasa.

**ayang** N. (ayang[]) name. Ayangma ai ka? Bakama balna ampa ayangkana átam? How (what) did you name your children?

**ayang takat** NE. surname; last name.

**ayanaka** VT. {V-PA} (ayangpi) name; call; give a name to; say name of. Bakakina yal wisam ya katka ayangka ayangpasingna dah. We still haven’t given a name to our new baby girl. Baka süwida ya ayangka yamka as ayangpah. Give the newborn baby a good name.

**âyau** QADV. where?. Alas âyau tukwai?
Alas âyauh yawai? Áyauh yawada pan yang káng láwasing. Alas âyauhpan wai? (also âyau, âyaupak, âyauhpan)

**âyawanaka** VI. {V-O-A} (âyawi) go in; enter; sink. Muih balna âyawadak Pedro tingka isihpida. When the people went in Pedro shook their hands. Uba waihpah; kuring abukdak was kau âyawanaka waltasing. Paddle gently; I don’t want the canoe to turn over and dump me in the water. Yaka kuringka yaka âyawanaka sa dai, di isau pútas da dai laih. That canoe would not have sunk if it had not been loaded with so many things. Âyawah! Go in! Yaka kuringka ya âyawanaka sa dai, katka di isauka púna bahangh. (syn. âwi yawana)

**bâ** 1. N. (bâ[]) [ANAT] bowels; intestines.
2. N. (bâ[]) feces; excrement; dung; manure; stool. Bikiska balna bàkana ya tumpanauh. Bury (you pl.) the children’s excrement.


**bâ slikka** NE. (bâ[] slikka) [ANAT] large intestine; gut. Turuh bàká slikka ya muih balna yamti kasañaka waldái palka ka. The prepared large intestine of a cow is a prized food item. (equiv. básik)

**bâ úka** NE. (bâ[] úka) [ANAT] belly. Arakbus sumaka ya al ya bâka úka kau âwida.

**babaknaka** VI. {V-PA} (babakpi) crunch; make crunching noise when chewing hard object. Sawi balna ya uhkan makka kasdaí kau babakdak bai kau wayaka dahlai. When javalinas are eating hone palm nuts we can hear them crunching from far away.
babadanakah X. \{\textit{no \textbf{DISTRIB}:form}\\} thin. Sulu babardanakah ya di isau kasya.

babardanaka \textsc{vi.} \{\textit{V-DA}\} (babardi) thin; become thin. Dikuki yang bahangh babardanaka waltayang.

babarka A. (bababarka) thin; slim. Yaka yalka ya muihka ya di babarka ka. Sawi babarka ya muih kasnaka waldasa, ukatak bik tubakka palka ka.

babarnaka \textsc{vi.} \{\textit{V-DA}\} (babardi) thin; become thin. Muih as di kassa lai babarparrang.

babasnak N. (babasnak) \{\textit{MAN}\} two-pointed (fork-shaped) lance or spear for stabbing fish.

babatka A. (bababatka) tacky; sticky; sweet and sticky (like melted candy). Dikuki yaka muihka ya di babatka ka. When we get sugary substances on our skin it is sticky.

babauh IDEOPHONE. load bang or crash of falling object. Lapi itukwana wauhda babauh atak yabikda. I got a fright when the big board fell with a bang.


badipis N. (badipis) \{\textit{ENTOM}\} stinkbug; small flat cockroach-like insect with foul smell and inflammatory secretion which causes infection. Badipis ya lapit yapa ka, asang pas kau laulau ka. Pan baska bahna kau midadai, dapak yak usupai kau unitak liuh karatpi. The stinkbug is like a cockroach, it lives in the bush. It lives on the leaves of plants, and when it urinates on us it even causes festering sores on our skin.

bahamnaka VT. \{\textit{V-PA}\} (bahampi) inflict with hangover. Yaa bahampai. I have a hangover.

bahamka N.\textsc{CNS3.} (baham)\textsc{]hangover. 'goma'}.

bairi \textsc{ve.} \{\textit{V-PA}\} (bairi) far; distant. Alas bai kau yawada. Bai maka ya muih taldasa.

bail 1. ADV. separated. Yaka ala yak yaka yamai bal na karak bai bai bungna ka. 2. ADV. sparsely.

baidanaka \textsc{vi.} \{\textit{V-DA}\} (baidi) move away; become distant. Tima as labama kaupak bungpi yawada kau waya waya baidai lukdarang kat. When a boat has departed it slowly gets farther away until it disappears.
**baika** 1. A. (babaika) low; not deep; shallow; dry.
3. A. (babaika) short (hair).

**bainah** ADV. quickly; immediately; hurried.

**bainaka** 1. VT. {V-PA} (bapi) make thinner by carving or cutting; thin (hair); plane off (wood).
2. VT. {V-PA} (bapi) (hair) shorten; cut short.

**baka** 1. N.CNS3. (bâ[]) {CNS1: bâki} rust; corrosion.
2. (form of bâ) N.CNS3. (bâ[])
3. N.CNS3. (bâ[]) resident; inhabitant.
   Karawala bâka balna The inhabitants of Karawala

**bâka** 1. N. (bah[][ka]) Baka ya mâmahka tâti sâk ka. Baka bisika ya di as bik punti taldasa. Little children don't think anything through carefully.
2. A. (bakana) small; little. Yang di baka laih waltasing, di ituwâna wâlik waltayang. I don't want anything small, I only want big things. Man karak kau baka yang. I am smaller than you. Sûlu baka as yâ umtida. A puppy sniffed me. (bisika, titiska)
baka basaka NE. (baka[] basaka) baby; infant. Baka basaka ya âtanam aidanaka âisau. Make sure the baby doesn't cry.

**bakaka** N.CNS3. (baka[]) child of;

offsing. Bakaki yal åkalal tukwai.
My daughter works here. Yaka alka ya bakaka al isau palka watah ka. That man has many sons. baka al son baka yal daughter

**bakaka mâka** NE. Sunday.

**baka kût atang mâka** NE. {PPRT1: baka kût ating mâka} birthday; date of birth.

**baka talnaka** VE. {V-O-TAL} (baka tali) give birth; have a child. Yal balna as as ya baka talnaka waldasa.

**baka talsa** CMOD. barren; sterile. Yaka yalka ya baka talsa yapa iwida.

**baka tunak yûpingka** NE. godparent.

**baka watingka** NE. (baka[] watingka) midwife. 'grandy'.

**bakamuru** MOD. pregnant (animal).

**bakan** N. (bakan[]) [KIN] father's brother.

**bakanaka** VT. {V-PA} (bakapi) reduce; make smaller by any means. Yang kalkisungh sikka it bakapasing. I cannot make my large pants smaller.

**bakanaka pahka** NE. market.

**bakanaka watingka** NE. (bakan[] watingka) sell.

**bakanna** VT. {V-TA} (bakanti) buy; sell.

**bakananna** NE. (bakanna) buy; sell.

**bakananna pahka** NE. market.

**bakananna watingka** NE. (bakanna watingka) sell.

**bakananna ukã** NE. market.

**bakananna ya wannaka** NE. (obv1 inf3: bakanting yawanaka) sell.

**bakananna yôka** NE. market.

axe. Mámahma Bluefields kau asna
isau bakanti ida. Your mother bought a
lot of clothing in Bluefields.

bakanti yaknaka 1. VE. {V-TA}
(bakanti yakti) pay off; cancel
(debt). 2. VE. {V-TA} (bakanti yakti)
sell out of a given item. Bakantingka ya
dika balna luih bakanti yaknaka
waitai. Yaka ala türuh as itang dai
muihka balna luih laih bakanti
yaktida dai.

bakantingka N. (bakanting[]ka) buyer;
vendor. Muih di bakantingka ya mã
luih kau dika balna ya bakanti
yaktida dai.

bakanaka 1. VI. {V-PA} (bakpi) perish;
rot; spoil. Āka bilamka bakpida
bahangh rumpayang.
2. VI. {V-PA} (bakpi) become drunk;
intoxicated. Batani balna ya urum sa
bik wasbulu dihi baknaka waldai ka.
Mádi pukka laih urum dihi baknaka
wálik, di wák âisau ka. Tonight there is
nothing to do but drink rum and get
drunk.
3. VI. {V-PA} (bakpi) be unable; fail; fall
short.

bakhpan V.PERF3. (bakna) drunk; dizzy;
nauseous; faint; seasick.

bakhasa V.NEG3. imperishable; everlasting.
bakpi isdanaka VE. {V-DA} (bakpi isdi)
game in which one swings around in circles
to get dizzy.
dau bakanaka VE. {V-PA} (dau bakpi)
lose; miss out on. Yaka ala karak kal
bauti dau bakanaka waltasing; kang
yabahyang.
kuma bakhpanka NE. seasickness.

Bakrara NAME. [MYTH] name of mythical
being who lived on the bank of the Río
Grande.

bakus N. (bakus[]) [BOT] (tree sp.)Peruvian
balsam. (Myroxylon pereirae) [[may be
bákus?]]

bál N. (bál[]) [Eng: ball] ball. Yal balna
bál isdadai pan tlnaka waltasing.
(pref. tumul)

bala N. (bala[]) [HERP] snapping turtle;
crocodile turtle. (CHELYDRIDAE Chelydra
serpentina) Di dutka watah muihka
balna laih bala kang yabahdai. Bala
ya kuah nakaðahka, katka supika ya
pan pirihka wayaka watah ka.

baladanaka VI. {V-DA} (baladi) rumble;
make a low vibrating sound. Kungkung
ya díiphtai kau aidi baladi atya, was
waiti. The howler monkey makes a
rumbling sound at dawn in a plea for rain.

balah N. (balah[]) cap; hat. Δ Tunni
balahnaka dika. Something you wear on
your head.

balahnaka VT. {V-PA} (balahpi) put (hat
or cap) on other. Āka balahnakanaka
dika āka bakaki kau balahputing. I
want to put this hat on my child.

balahnakanaka VT. {V-WA} (balahwi) put
on self (hat or cap). Āka balahnakanaka
dika āka balahnawasing. Pat
balahnikda.

balakdanaka VI. {V-DA} (balakdi) be
wrapped up.

kal balakdanaka VR. {V-DA} (kal
balakdi) wrap self up; cover self. Mádi
āka ripka yā yamta, asna ahaì
yáta; kal balakduting. I'm cold today,
bring me some cloth; I'm going to wrap
myself up. (@ kal birikanaka) (syn. kal
balaknaka)

balakna N. (balakna[]) roll (of tape,
thread, etc.).

balaknaka 1. VT. {V-PA} (balakpi) coil;
roll up; wrap. Bakaki ripka yamta aíka
tas as karak balakpayang. Wah
püting lau ya luhi yamka
balaknakanaka waltaying.
2. VT. {V-PA} (balakpi) confuse; perplex;
bewilder; disorient. Āka takka aíka
ak balakpai. This work is confusing (lit.
confuses us).

kal balaknakanaka 1. VR. {V-DA} (kal
balakpi) wrap self up (in blanket); cover
self. (→ kal birikanaka) (eqv. kal
balakdanaka) 2. NE. (kal balakna[]) roll;
tangle.

balas N. (balas[]) [ENTOM] cocksendeer ant;
long skinny black ant with incredibly
powerful sting. Balas ya sau pah pas
kau ñka watah ka. Balas ya yak
iptak dalaka palka ka. Balas ya
anaka dalaka palka ka.

balaska 1. N.CNS3. (balas[]) wax;
beeswax. Amak ya balaska yamta. 
The bee makes wax.

2. N.CNS3. (balas[]) scab. Muihma kau karatdang ya, yapa bik takdang lau ya kurhpi balaska ya takpanih; dâpam at yampangh. Don’t scratch the scab off of a sore or a scrape on your skin; leave it alone and it will get better soon.

balastang 1. N. (balas[]tang) [ANAT] coccyx; tail bone.

2. N. (balas[]tang) [ANAT] stinger (of wasp, centipede, possibly scorpion). [ • in strictest sense, scorpion stinger is not balaskatang, because it is at the end of the tail, rather than at the anus ]

balauh N. (balauh[]) [MOD, MAN] table. Wirahrna waya sal<. ka, kasna ya balauh kau laktah. Your brother is coming; set the food on the table.

balhdanaka VI. {V-DA} (balhdi) fan oneself.

balhnaka VT. {V-PA} (balhpi) fan; flap wings. Kuh ya balhpah. Fan the fire.

balhtang N. (balh[]tang) [MOD, MAN] flag; banner.

balisnaka VT. {V-PAl (balispi) cling to; wrap around.

kal balisnaka VR. {V-PA} (kal balispi) hug; embrace. Alas balna kal balisna mûk ka. They are lying there in an embrace.

balispi watnaka VE. {V-TA} (balispi wati) hug; embrace.

balnaka 1. PLUR. plural article. (var. banna, bana)

2. x. of the kind; and the like. Man yâ balna karak yul bauniki aisau yatya mâmahki raupi. My mother tells me not to talk with people like you. (var. banna, bana)

3. x. around; about; approximately.

Panpirih maka balna wârang. They will get here around Friday. Yang pumtayang singka balna watah yang. I think I have about five (of them). 5:00 balna yawakuting. I'm going to leave at about 5:00. (var. banna, bana)

balna as x. one of.

yaka balna NE. that kind. Ting âna as waiti bakannaka watayang katka sulungpara yâ balna. I need to find a ring to buy, but (it has to be) the inexpensive kind. (equiv. yâ balna)

balnaka N.CNS3. (balna[ka]) {CNS1: balniki, CNS2: balnika, balnaka, CNS12: balnini} corresponding part of. Àka balnaka kat basdida. They shot him here (pointing to corresponding part of speaker’s own body).

baltak N. (bal[]tak) [ANAT] armpit. Yaka muhka ya balkatak lâska atak kurhpai.


bâmak 1. N. (bâ[]mak) [ANAT] waist. Yal bâmakam bîsika ya yamka ka. Slim-waisted women are pretty.

2. N. (bâ[]mak) girth; circumference. Burimak panka ya kansa yîhka pâtai aransa panka karak, katka bâmakam baka ka. The guava tree grows taller than an orange tree, but its trunk is not as big around.

bâmak alah NE. (bâmakam alah) apron. bâmak wah NE. (bâ[]mak wahka) belt; sash. Bâmak wah âisau yang bahangh as waiti tung yang bakannaka. Since I don’t have a belt I am looking for one to buy. Bâmak wah ya yakti yâtam, bâmakam sit dapi kuh duihkuting. Find me the belt so I can fasten it around my waist to carry firewood. Al balna dapi yal balna bik bâmak wah sitdai. Men and women both wear belts.

bâmak wakalka NE. (bâ[]mak wakalka) [ANAT] hip bone.

bana x. (var. of balna)

banak N. (banak[]) [BOT] (tree sp.).

bânaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (bâti) mix; combine. Wasbaras waska ya damka waya bâti kawatpah. Mix a little sugar into the coffee. (→ burunaka)

2. VT. {V-TA} (bâti) put together. Luih kal pakti bâwarang kau yultî talnaka âyaka ya yamka bungparang laih
yaka inaka. When we put them all together we can discuss them and choose the one the comes out the best.
báti talnaka VE. {v-o-tal} (báti tali) compare. Di waska patli kau lau ya wák yaka karak báti talah áyaka ya katka isau lau pan. Compare this bottle of sauce with the other one and see which has the most in it.

bang STAT. sitting (plural); be (plural).
Bikiska ami bang ka. The children are sleeping. Al balna ya tukwi bang ka. The men are working. Sūlu balna ya írì bang ka. The dogs are running around.

báñghnaka VT. {v-pa} (báñghpi) carve into point; sharpen by carving. Baka yau ulnaka panka ya yamka báñghpi átam yawangh. Sharpen the pensil for the child and he will go.

bangnaka 1. VT. {v-ta} (bangti) fill. Yang áka úka púti bangtaring. Áka tamanka ákau was bangti yátaáh. Fill this pitcher with water for me. (var. banghnaka)
2. VI. {v-ta} (bangti) fill. Was úka ya ahauka kau dápín lau atak bangtída. I left the bucket outside and it filled up with rain water. (var. banghnaka)

bangtang V.PERF3. full. Was isau lautida bahangh waspah ya bangtang palka ka. (→ bangnaka.)
bangwanaka VI. {v-wa} (bangwi) sit down (plural).
banna X. (var. of balna)
bápah 1. CMODCOMP. hollow. Di bápah balna isau laulau ka: pan bápah, patli bápah balna, turum bik bápah dapak ukung bik bápah. Pas kau di áisau, pahka wálik. There are many hollow things: hollow logs, hollow bottles, hollow drums too, and bamboo is also hollow.

Inside there’s nothing, just empty space.
2. N. (bá[pah]) bread.
bápkamah N. (bápak[mahka]) {cns1: bápkamimah} [órñ] robin; thrush. (TURDIDAE Turdus spp.) Bápkamah ya di baka as di suyu palka un bautai was má balna kau. The robin is a very beautiful bird, which sings during the rainy season.
bápau N. (bá[pau]) [med] dysentery; bloody diarrhea; gastroenteritis.
bápih N. (bá[píh]) white feces (sickness of chickens). Bápih iwanaka ya muih kau watak dahwasa bahangh, käng yak lâwasa ka, katka kataramah kau laih watya: tahwai kau dalaka átaá, yapa bik alas silka anakit kau butuka balna ya lúihi pihka wálik watya. Since we no of no case in which humans have contracted the bápih sickness, we cannot speak from personal experience, but chickens do get this sickness: when they defecate it is painful and the feathers around the anus become all stained white. (eqv. bá pihka)
bápuh CMODCOMP. (bá[puh]) {cns1: bákipuh} cowardly; fearful; timid; skittish. Tilauh ya bákapuh palka ka, yak talya kau iwi kút iwi kút atya. The green-backed heron is very timid, when it sees us it cowers in terror.

baradanaka VI. {v-da} (baradi) become dark; grow dark.
barahnaka 1. VT. {v-pa} (barahpi) burn incompletely; burn partially. Yákimak ya barahputing. I’m going to do a partial burn-off of my swidden.
2. VI. {v-pa} (barahpi) burn incompletely or partially. Yákimak ya yamka dâwâng punti sukpika, katka dau barahpi láwida. I set fire to my field, thinking it would burn off completely, but it only burnt partially.

baraka 1. A. (bararaka) dark. baraka amanaka sleep in the dark

baranaka 1. VI. {v-pa} (barapi) end the day; do something until dark. Mádi dislah kaupak tunik dalapi mà
Barapikda. I've had a headache all day (lit. from this morning I ended the day having a headache).

2. **VT.** (barapi) darken; make dark. 
Bikiska balna, ū ya taihpanauh. Yang baranaka waltayang. Children, close up the house. I want to make it dark inside.

3. **VI.** {V-PA} (barapi) darken; become dark.

1. **Barang** **N.** (barang[]) **[BOT]** small tree with gigantic leaves and tall stalk (7m).

2. **Barang*** 1. **ADV.** truly; really. 
2. **ADV.** directly; straight. Kukra kau mitasa; barang láyawada Bluefields kau. He didn’t stop off in Kukra; he went straight to Bluefields.

Barangka **A.** (baranganka) straight; correct; true; sincere; honest. Awanak panka balna ya barangka ya kanas pátai. Tā ya Barangka bahangh lukdasa atrang. Muih luhi yaka yul barangka yuldasa. 

Barangka ánaka VE. {V-TA} (barangka áti) put straight; straighten; rectify; put in order. Yul balna ya yulti tali barangka ánaka ya yamka ka.

Barangnaka **VT.** {V-PA} (barangpi) rectify; straighten out; correct; neaten; arrange. Yang māmahki yā yultida kahkilu balna barangnaka. My mother told me to arrange my dresses neatly. 
Barangwasa sai damai. We didn’t straighten it yesterday. Yulting yā barangpai. He corrects my speech.

Barasdanaka **VI.** {V-DA} (barasdi) become black; turn black; blacken. Suba wisam ya dāwi umana yawai kau, dangka ya barasdi. After a new pot has been cooked in for a long time, its underside becomes black.

Baraska **A.** (bararaska) black. Āka sūkulu balna luhi laih bara(ra)skā. All these dogs are black. Muih tingnak balna ya kahlu baraska āwada. Widows wear black dresses.

Barasnaka **VT.** {V-PA} (baraspi) blacken; make black; stain black. Suba dangka ya watsaka waltasing, yā barasparang bahangh. I don’t want to touch the bottom of the pot, because it will get me (my hands) black.

Bārhdanaka **VI.** {V-DA} (bārhđi) snore. Mádi pukka paraska ami bārhdanaka waltasing. Yak bārhđuti. We (incl.) are going to snore.

Baril **N.** (baril[]) **[ANAT]** shin.

Bās **NUM.** three. Muih bās āka manah wī láwi yawadida, katka talsing dai wai balna dai pan. Three people went past here, but I didn’t see who they were.

Bās bās **ADV.** three at a time; in triplets.

Bas 1. **N.** (bas[]) hair; mane (of horse, lion). Yaka yalka baka ya baska yūhka palka ka. That girl has very long hair. (≠ butuka)
2. **N.** (bas[]) leaf.

Bas dangkapanak **NE.** midrib of leaf.

Bas pihtang **NE.** gray hair. Awangki ya baska pihtang palka ka. My uncle has gray hair.

Basaka **A.** (basasaka) small; little. Biyapu ya basaka palka ka. (→ bisika, titiska)

Bāsik **N.** (bā[s]ik) **[ANAT]** large intestine; gut. (equiv. of bā sikka)

Bāsitna **CMODCOMP.** marsupial; pouched.

Baskarhna **N.** (bas[karha]) comb. Waltasing baskikarhna bahwanaka. Baskarhna ya yātah, bakaki waltai.

Basnaka **VT.** {V-PA} (baspi) shoot; hit with thrown projectile. Yaka bakaka āka arankasa karak basputing. I’m going to hit that child with this orange (by throwing it).

1. **Lakti basnaka** VE. (see under laknaka)

Baspuput **N.** (bas[]puput) **[BOT]** fern with black stem, underside of leaves covered with gray powder which comes off readily; apparent medicinal value. (syn. puput)

Basribis **CMODCOMP.** having choppy, uneven, poorly cut hair.

Bas sana tamka **NE.** (bas[] sana tamka) **[BOT]** (plant sp.)deer-antler.


Bassirit **N.** (bas[]sirit) **[BOT]** kind of large-leafed fern.
Ibasulumah N. (bāsulumah) [ENTOM] luminous swamp insect.

Bat N. (bāt) [ENG: fart] flatulence; fart. Baka bātaka laih bisika. A child’s fart is small. (→ bātnaka)

Bata N. (bāta) youth; young man. Al bata balna ya sirihka palka rihwadai. Young men walk fast. (→ albata)

Batakha A. (batatakha) having a stammer.


Batirhka A. (batitirhka) tilted; leaning.

Batirhnaka VT. {V-PA} (batirhpi) tip; cause to lean. Turum ya waya batirhpam was ya utuhdangh. Tip the drum a little so some water will pour out. Kuringka ya batirhpanih! (≠ dayanaka)


Batuk CMODCOMP. (bātuk) sickly; feeble; unhealthy. Bātuk balna ya di maknukunka palka ka. Yangna balna bātuk yangna. We (excl.) are sickly. (syn. saukal)

Bauh N. sound of axe chopping wood. Muih kidak karak pan dakdak bauh bauh ati araduh. There’s sound of someone chopping wood with an axe.

Baudak pipdanaka VE. {V-DA} (baudak pipdi) dribble [basketball]; bounce.

Bauh N. sound of axe chopping wood. Muih kidak karak pan dakdak bauh bauh ati araduh. There’s sound of someone chopping wood with an axe.

Bauh N. sound of axe chopping wood. Muih kidak karak pan dakdak bauh bauh ati araduh. There’s sound of someone chopping wood with an axe.

Bauh N. sound of axe chopping wood. Muih kidak karak pan dakdak bauh bauh ati araduh. There’s sound of someone chopping wood with an axe.

Bauh N. sound of axe chopping wood. Muih kidak karak pan dakdak bauh bauh ati araduh. There’s sound of someone chopping wood with an axe.

Bauh N. sound of axe chopping wood. Muih kidak karak pan dakdak bauh bauh ati araduh. There’s sound of someone chopping wood with an axe.

Bauh N. sound of axe chopping wood. Muih kidak karak pan dakdak bauh bauh ati araduh. There’s sound of someone chopping wood with an axe.

Bauh N. sound of axe chopping wood. Muih kidak karak pan dakdak bauh bauh ati araduh. There’s sound of someone chopping wood with an axe.

Bauh N. sound of axe chopping wood. Muih kidak karak pan dakdak bauh bauh ati araduh. There’s sound of someone chopping wood with an axe.
tatapi watah yang, ai as daparang kau rukniki wâlik ka. As my grandfather's illness is becoming grave, I have already bought his burial suit so that when 'it' happens we will be all ready to put them on him.

bâwanih ûkala NE. (bâ[wânih ûkala) [MOD, MAN] coffin; casket.

bâwas N. (bâ[was) diarrheea.

bâwas dika basta NE. (bâ[was dika basta) laxative.

bâwas minaka dika basta NE. (bâ[was minaka dika basta) diarrheea medicine.

bayan N. (bayan[]) inheritance; inherited article. Muih iwang dika balna ya yaka ya bayan balna ayangpayangna. Yaka laih muih iwang wanihka balna bayankana ka. A dead person's possessions, whether in the bush, in the house, or in the yard, we call all of these things bayan's. They are the survivors' inheritance. yang bayanki (any) possession I inherited

sûlu bayan NE. (sû[lu bayan) dog whose owner has died.

bayaska A. {STRONG} (bayayaska) askew; tilted; crooked; diagonal; not square. Bayaska yamtañam kau sing balna ya yamka pâ tañhpasa; pah bayaska as midai. When you build a house that is not square, the zinc roofing does not line up evenly; a diagonal space remains.

bayasnaka VT. {v-PA} (bayaspi) tilt; make crooked. Mâmâhki wayaka ilting wit ya wai palka kumhpî bayasipda wit ka? Just who tilted the picture of my mother that I hung there?

bî 1. STAT. {DISTRIB: bibi} stative verb which implies attitude of pity or endearment toward subject. Bakaki ìwai dai ka laih màdí kat raudì waya isdi bî ka. My child who had been ill is finally up and playing a bit today, the poor thing.

bî 2. STAT. {DISTRIB: bibi} {FIG} Wasni baka sahka yau asangdak baka as bî ka. At the end of our branch of the river sits a little island. (syn. lau)

bibi (form of bî) STAT.DISTRIB.

bibilka A. (bibibilka) moldable; cohesive; not crumbly. Saupau balna yaka dî bibilka ka. Clay is very cohesive and moldable. (ant. yahaka)

bibitka A. (bibibitka) sticky like honey. Amak waska laih bibitka. Honey is sticky.

bihu N. [BOT] tree with flat fruits.

bik 1. PRT. also; too. Alas bik Wayah yulka yultai. He too speaks Miskitu. Man un bautaram laih, yang bik un bautaring. If you sing, I will sing too.

2. PRT. even. Muih as bik wâsa. Not a single person came. Yang di as bik âisau yang. I don't even have a single thing. Yawayang bik atsa dai. She didn't even say goodbye. Íring pan ising bik di pumtasing. I don't care whether I get it or not.

bik pan x. it must be that; I suppose that. Yaka yalka ya Kâumnak kaupak bik pan. That woman must be from Sandy Bay.

sa bik x. or. Yang yan bang kau yawakuti pumtayang, yapa sa bik yan mâlak kau yawakuting. I'm thinking of going upriver tomorrow, or else the day after tomorrow.

bikiska N. (bikiskika) children. Umana kau bikiskika balna dadang ya bikiska yamka palka balna dadang. The children of the old days were very well-behaved children.

bil 1. N. (bil[]) [HERP] snake. Bil anaka ya di dutka palka ka. Δ Asang pas kau dî as tung ka wah yapa yûhka dîka ya muih mining kau bik yak kasya. (→ dimuîh)


was bilka NE. (was[] bilka) [HERP] water snake.

bilak N. (bilak[]) [ENTOM] (var. of bilap)


bilamhdanaka VT. {V-DA} (bilamhdii) blink (eyes); open and close rapidly.
Muih as as balna ya di pumdai kau makdakana ya bilamhdadasa di aslah kat taldai. Some people just stare at one thing without blinking when they're thinking about something. (equiv. bilamhnaka)
makdaka bilamhdana as kau PE. in the blink of an eye. Yang yâlah mà sihpayang ya mikdiki bilamhdana as kau ákalah andih wam atram. Where I'm sending you you'll be back before I can blink.

bilamhnaka VT. {V-PA} (bilamhipi) (equiv. bilamhdanaka)

bilam takapas pauka NE. (bilam[] takapas pauka) [ICHTH] snoring fish. Bilam takapas pauka ya muih lüh waldaï, bilam yamka baanhg. 

bilamtitis N. (bilam[]titis) [ICHTH] sardine; topminnow. Bilamtitis karak damai kutpikda. Yesterday I fished with sardines (as bait). (equiv. bilam titiska)

bilam titiska NE. (bilam[] titiska) [ICHTH] sardine. Wasni baka tunak kau bilam titiska maka sikka palka lau ka. (equiv. bilamtitis)

bilamtitis mukulka NE. (bilam[]titis mukulka) [ICHTH] sardine; topminnow.

bilap N. (bilap[]) [ENTOM] chigger; grass louse. Bilap ya yak kasya, anaka bik lâska; kurhparam laih ümatak bik karatparang. Bilap ya di baka as bisika katka anaka lâska palka ka. (var. bilak)

bildauh N. (bil[]dauh) [HERP] bastard snake. Bildauh ya, úkatak tasang lumakka yapa ka. (dimuih dauh)

bilisdanaka VI. {V-DA} (bilisdi) snag; catch; for a material which is being cut or sliced to bunch up or snag, preventing a clean cut.

biliska A. (bililiska) resistant to peeling; having skin that will not come off easily in one piece. Yâmanh ya úkatak turunaka yamka ka, katka ingkinih adahka ya it turuwasa, úkatak biliska baanhg. The bluggoe is easy to peel, but the dwarf banana is resistant to peeling (the skin comes apart as you try to peel it).

bilkâku N. (bilkâku[]) [ORN] tiger-bittern; tiger-heron. (ARDEIDAE Tigrisoma spp.) Bilkâku ya wassik kung balna kau tungwai, bilamtitis wati kasya. Yapa bik kâlak yapa katka úkatak bulka, dapi bik kanas sikka ka. The tiger-bittern inhabits the banks of rivers and catches and eats sardines. Moreover, it is like a kingfisher, but it is spotted and bigger.

bilnaka VT. {V-PA} (bilpi) reprimand; scold; yell at. Mádi ú ákalah bikiska isau wâdarang kau bungpi bilputing. Niningki ya muih kau bilnaka wâlik waltai.

kal bilnaka VR. {V-PA} (kal bilpi) argue; fight; quarrel. Muih balna isau palka laulau ka âka asang âkau, kal bilnaka wâlik waldaï. There are many people in this world who only want to quarrel. Yaka yalka ya yang karak kal bilnaka walti tung ka. That woman scolds me/ recites complaints against me every time she passes as she goes around town. Yang yalki karak kal bilpayang dai baanhg, wâsing dai. I didn’t come, because I was having an argument with my wife.

bil palka NE. (bil[] palka) [HERP] tomagoff; poisonous Central American snake. Bil palka ya muih luh ya kâng láwadasa. Not everyone knows the tomagoff. (syn. dimuih palka)

bilpamka N. (bil[]pmaka) [HERP] zumbadora snake; indigo-like snake.

bilpau 1. N. (bil[]pau) [HERP] kind of rear-fanged snake. (Coniophantes fissidens punctiregularis)

2. N. (bil[]pau) [HERP] kind of racer-like snake. (Dryadophis sanguiventris)

bilpirih N. (bil[]pirih) [HERP] coral snake. (Elaps sp.) (syn. bil bulka)

bilsang N. (bil[]sang) [HERP] green tree snake. (Leptophis ahuvatella occidentalis)

bil tunak pauka NE. (bil[] tunak pauka) [HERP] yellow-beard (snake); snake with lethal venom. Bil tunak pauka ya talnaka dasika palka ka. It is very difficult to see the yellow-beard snake. (dimuih tunak pauka)
bilus N. (bilus[]) [BOT] Spanish plum. (Spondias sp.)
bilusbaras N. (bilus[]baras) [BOT] kind of tree.
bilusmak N. (bilus[]mak) [BOT] plant with hard white beans slightly larger than the red and black mâmak beans used for necklaces.
bilyapu N. (bil[]yapu) [HERP] snake caiman. Bilyapu ya tunak laih dimuih tunak yapa ka, katka muhkka laih yape yapa ka. Yühkika laih kâla yühkika yapa watah ka. The snake caiman has a head like a snake but its body is like a crocodile. It is about as long as a crested lizard. (syn. dimuih yapu)

binaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (biti) sew; stitch. Yang asna bitayang. I am sewing clothing. Wai man kau asna binaka mâ sumaltang? Who taught you how to sew? Kahkilu kurudida ya binaka waltayang. (or asna binaka)

2. VT. {V-TA} (biti) kindle; arrange wood in preparation for lighting fire. Kuh bitah! Arrange some wood for a fire! Kuh watkutim kau, tâkat kau yu kuh bitayam, yapa dapi kau awas sukip ihi kuh bitam yau âtim kurndai. When you're going to make a fire, first you arrange the firewood, then you take a lit pine splinter and light the fire.

3. VT. {V-TA} (biti) caulk. (syn. kingnaka)

4. VT. {V-TA} (biti) (ailment)ail; afflict; trouble; cause misery to; ‘kill’; inflict suffering; ‘punish’. Nangtak yâ bitak tung yang. This cold is killing me. Man yulki rumpi yawayam yaka, tâmat kau mâ bitarang, was dikuhaft kârad. You'll be sorry for going (somewhere where there is no water) without heeding my warning, you'll pay with dehydration.

bitingka N. tailor; dressmaker.

biraubah N. (biraubah) [ENTOM] chigoe; jigger flea. Birau kalni kau ãwai kau lâskah palka, sumaka ihtiuwai kau bik dalaka ka. When the jigger flea gets in our foot it is very itchy, and when its eggs grow it is painful.

birhdanaka VI. {V-DA} (birhdi) tear to pieces; shred. Asna murukka balna pûwang lau ya luhib birhndaka, ai yamti watah atwarang? Muih asang pas kau tung kau, wakal kahkalu kau ahlpai kau, kahkalu âisau wi bungpai ya.

2birhndaka VI. {V-PA} (birhpi) stink.

biri ADV. in return; mutually; reciprocally.
biri bik ADV. in return; mutually; reciprocally. (→ biri biri)
biri bira ADV. in return; mutually; reciprocally. Di luhib kau yu biri bira yul bauwai ya yamka ka. In all things, it is good for us to communicate with each other. Alas balna biri bira kal talda. They see each other. (→ biri bik)

birika A. (biririka) adhesive; sticky; gluey; forming an adhesive bond. Biriwat yu biri bika palka ka. Adhesive tape is very sticky. Yâmân pulka ya turupayam kau tingma kau mâ watya kau di biri bika, katka babatka sa. Yâmân sap sticks to your hands when you pick them, but it is not tacky.

birikdanaka VI. {V-DA} (birikdi) cover oneself. Was paraska lautai kau pan, di birikdanaka âisau man kâ, purawanaka wâlik. When it rains hard, if you don’t have anything to cover up with, you’re just going to get wet.

biriknaka VI. {V-PAl (birikpi) cover (with cloth); drape. Alas lauwanaka luhib ya asna karak takat birikpida. He even draped cloth over the chairs. (or takat biriknaka)
kal biriknaka VR. {V-PA} (kal birikpi) cover self. Yang pukka amakuting kau kal biriknaka waltasing, kat pukka ya di mâ dailhka bahangh. When I’m going to sleep at night I don’t like to cover up, since it’s so hot at night.

birinaka VT. {V-PA} (biripi) glue; stick; tape; caulk; fuse; apply (adhesive).

Duputmak panka ya pulka isau watah ka; yapa bik di birinaka yamka. The breadfruit tree has a lot of sap; moreover it (the sap) is good for gluing things. Yang âka wayaka bâl na aitak kau watah yang âka di pulka karak lâp yau biriputing. I’m going to
glue these pictures that I have on paper onto a board with some sticky resin.

**birinaka** VI. {V-PA} (biripi) turn and reciprocally do something; do in return; reciprocate; respond with action. Ukmik as ya tukpi kasi tung dadang dapak muih balna ya iti biripi kau kasna, ukkamik kau. This one armadillo was digging up crops and eating them, so the people killed and ate him in return.

**biriwat** N. (biri[wat]) [MAN, MOD] adhesive tape. Biriwat yaka balakna yāhka as aitak birhbang balna kau yapa bik buktak umana balna wisaunaka kau yam yamwai. Tape comes in a long roll and we use it on ripped paper and to repair old books.

**biri yulnaka** VE. {V-TA} (biri yulti) answer; talk back; contradict. Wanihni kau biri yulnaka ya dutka palka ka. It is bad to talk back to a family member.

**biri** N. (biri[]) [ENTOM] worm; earthworm. Biru ya damaska āyau āyau yawaram kau lau ka. No matter where you go in the bush, there are worms.

**bis** N. (bis[]) [ORN] kind of bird.

**bisahka** A. (bisasahka) splay; having fingers or toes fixed in open position. Muih kalbisah balna ya it rāma rukdas, yapa bik rukdarang kat mā lūh kau lahu tungwasa. People with splayed toes cannot wear shoes, or if they do, not for the whole day. (syn. ririhka)

**bisakdanaka** VI. {V-DA} (bisakdi) smack while chewing. Muih as as yaka kasna kasnai kau bisakdi kasnai. Some people make smacking noises while eating.

**bisdanaka** VI. {V-DA} (bisdi) make tsk, tsk impressive click sound; make kissing sound.

**bisika** A. (bisisika) small; little. (→ baka, titiska)

**bisika baka** AE. tiny; little. Sūlu bisika baka ya yamka ka watat atnaka. It is good to have a little puppy.

**binaka** 1. VI. {V-PA} (bisipi) shrink by losing some. (→ bakanaka, adahnaka, wayanaka) 2. VT. {V-PA} (bisipi) shrink by removing; make smaller. Amiki pihmak pūtang lau yaupak waya yaktida, dapak katka bisipida. My sister removed a little rice from her stores, and now her supply has shrunk. Yang bakaki kahkalu as āting bidida, katka itukwāna ka, bahangh kana binanaka wayayang. I had my child sew me a shirt, but it’s big so I want to make it smaller. (→ bakanaka, adahnaka, wayanaka)

**bisirdanaka** VI. be bared [teeth].

**bisirka** A. (bisisirka) bared (teeth).

**bisirnaka** VT. {V-PA} (bisirpi) bare (the teeth). Yaka yalka baka ya muih lūh kau tali anaka bisirnaka wālik tung ka. That girl bares her teeth to everyone.

**bisnaka** VT. {V-PA} (bispi) tear; shred; rip. (→ birhna, tirihiha)

**bisuknaka** VI. {V-PA} (bisukpi) fail to realize intention to; try unsuccessfully; almost do. Mā ulpi bisukpika. I meant to write to you but didn’t. Dimuih as yā kasi bisukpida. A snake tried to bite me but failed.

**bīta(h)** N. side; direction; way; in the general direction of. Yang māmahki bīta(h) kau wanihki isau watah yang. I have a lot of family on my mother’s side.

**bitbibit** N. (bit[]bibit) [ORN] crane hawk. (ACCIPITRIDAE Geranospiza caerulescens niger) Bitbibit ya wisipil pil karak kanas baka ka. The crane hawk is smaller than the common black-hawk.

**bitnaka** VT. {V-PA} (bitpi) sweep. Ūki bitpi sāk yang. I am (standing) sweeping my house.

**biuhna** N. powder (for skin).

**biuhnaka** VT. {V-PA} (biuhpi) rub powder on. Wasarī nāh dapi biuhna karak kal biuhpayang. I put powder on after bathing.

**biuhnaka** 1. VI. {V-PA} (biuhpi) fish with rod. 2. VI. {V-PA} (biuhpi) gesticulate.

**bīwanaka** 1. VI. {V-WA} (biwi) [KARAWALA] sit (old, decrepit person). Biwah, ninih. Sit down, grandfather. 2. VI. {V-WA} (biwi) [SUTAK] sit.
bii. NUM. two. Muih bii kuring kau rihwadai kau yamka ka, was baka bisika kau atrang bik kuring tunak watpi lânaka. It is good when two people are in a canoe, because it helps to steer even in small creeks.

bû bû ADV. pairwise; two at a time; in pairs; by twos.

bû as balna NE. the others. Yang alas kau dalaka dahyang, katka bikiska bû as balna kau laih dalaka dahsing. I love him/her, but I don't love the other children. (→ wâk balna)

bibi as balna NE. the others. Yang alas kau dalaka dahyang, katka bikiska bû as balna kau laih dalaka dahsing. I love him/her, but I don't love the other children. (→ wâk balna)

bubut N. (bubut[]) [MED] cough. Man panka pihka mahka diram laih, bubut dutka mâ watrang. If you smoke lots of cigarettes, you'll get a bad cough. Bubut yâ watya. I have a cough.


bubutnaka VT. {V-PAl (bubutpi) make cough; cause to cough. Sťpa kasyam ya mä bubutparang. Eating pejibaye will make you cough.

buh 1. N. (buh[]) [KIN] great grandchild. Buhna ampas watah man? How many great grandchildren do you have?

buh almuk NE. (buh[] almuk) thunder. Mádi buh almuk paraska palka rumpida. Today it thundered powerfully.

buh almuk sumaka NE. lightning; meteorite. (;f: kupulka) [e Lightning striking earth is equated with meteorites.]

buhka 1. A. (bubuhka) dry; desicated. Was mä kau kuh buhka yaktasaman, lûih ya puraka wâlik. In the wet season you won't find any dry firewood; it is all wet. (ant. puraka)

buhkka A. (buhuhukka) green or blue (eyes only). Muih pipihka balna ya makdakana buhuhukka balna ka. White people have light eyes.

buhutka A. (buhuhutka) muddy or cloudy (liquid). Was ya tunak lautai kau was bakana lûih ya buhutdai, katka was kanas isau lautai kau was pauka itukwâna laktai; yaka waska ya pauka—buhutka sa. At the start of the rains the water in the small rivers becomes muddy, but when it really rains hard big floods come down; this water is 'red,' not simply 'muddy.' (;f: kupulka)

bühli tung yang. I can't swim, and so I'm staying in the shallows.

buhnaka 1. VI. {V-TA} (buhiti) dry; become dry; dry out. Amki puratang lau ya buhnaka waitayang. I want my wet corn to dry out. Askina suhna ya rápîng buhtarang. I'll set the washed clothes out to dry. Má daihka ya dî lûih kau buhtat. The sun dries everything out. Was kaupak purawi wi ilwayam kau mä daihka raupi mä buhtuti. When you come up out of the water the heat of the sun will dry you off. (;f: rânaka) [e The transitive use is only possible for non-agentive subjects. For agentive subjects, the closest thing is rânaka, which is more like 'set out to dry'.]

2. VI. {V-TA} (buhiti) saw; cut with sawing motion. Sôtak ya úkatka dasika bahangh, it yapa bukwasa; di kiritka karak buhti buhnaka laih it ka. Since a gourd has such a hard shell, you can't just slice it open, you have to saw it with a serrated edge.

3. VI. {V-TA} (buhiti) brush; rub; scrub (pot, floor, clothing, not self). Mádi ákâ áyauh yawasing bahangh, úkî ákâ buhti tung yang. Since I'm not going anywhere today, I'm going around scrubbing my house. (;f: kataknaka)

4. VI. {V-TA} (buhiti) file to a point; sharpen by filing.

kal buhnaka 1. VR. {V-TA} (kal buhti) dry self off. 2. VR. {V-TA} (kal buhti) scrub self.

buhtubak N. (buh[tubak] [MOD, MAN] towel.
buhutnaka VI. {V-PA} (buhutpi) (water) become muddy or cloudy; become stirred up. Wasbaras dapi tūrūh tākawas karak bādai ya buhutpai. Coffee becomes cloudy when mixed with milk.

buidanaka VI. {V-DA} (buidi) be airborne; blow away; waft.

buih STAT. walking (pl.). Tā lau bahangh, muih balna ya buih ka, tā āisau laih dutka. Since there is a road, the people are out walking; it’s bad if there is no road.

buihdana 1. N. twitch; muscle spasm.
2. N. premonition; presentiment.

buihdanaka 1. VT. {V-DA} (buihdi) have a twitch or muscle spasm. Ya buihdai. I have a twitch. Salahki takat kau rna yapa ya buihdai. I’ve been having muscle spasms in my shoulder for two days now.
2. VT. (buihdi) have a premonition. Yang yā buihdang dai man wānama ya. I had a feeling you would come.

buihnaka VT. {V-PA} (buihpi) smoke (tobacco). Panka pihka as buihputing. I am going to smoke a cigarette. Buihnaka waltasing. I don’t want to smoke. (~ aka buihnaka)

buihwanaka VI. {V-WA} (buihwi) walk (plural distributive). (~ buih)

1 buinaka VI. {V-PA} (buipi) drizzle; sprinkle (of rain). Was āka lautasa katka dau buipai. It’s not raining, just drizzling.

2 buinaka VT. {V-PA} (buipi) [AGR] winnow. Δ Dimak as ākatak isau watath ya wing kau ihirnaka, yapa kau ākatak balna luīh bungpi buidadai, dapak muihka wālik midadai. When grain has a lot of skins and shells in it and you raise it in the wind (and drop it), and thus all the skins blow away leaving only the grains themselves.


bukdanaka VI. {V-DA} (bukdi) crack; fissure. Sau tunak pas wingka lautai kau muih as laih kungkanamak bukdadai. When the north wind blows, some peoples’ lips chap.
yul yuldai kau dahdasa; būna būna yultam kau dahanka walda. My great-grandchildren don't listen to people, if you say it over and over then they finally listen.

1^bungh^ N. (bungh[]) [BOT] kind of plant.

2^bungh^ IDEOPHONE. with a thud.

bungh wauhdi amanaka VE. {VO-A} (bungh wauhdi ami) fall fast asleep instantly. Bikiska balna ya makauh watya kau bungh wauhdi amadai. When children get sleepy they plop right to sleep.

bungnaka 1. VI. {V-PA} (bungpi) come out; exit; result. Yawasaman laih, barang bungparang. If you do not go, it will turn out alright. Aka úka pas àkaupak bungnaka waltasing, yang úki bahangh. I don't want to go out of this house because it's mine. (var. bumnaka)

2. VI. {V-PA} (bungpi) happen; occur. Ai bungpida? Yang kang ñawayang ai bungpai pan. I know what is happening. (var. bumnaka)

3. VI. {V-PA} (bungpi) become. Bakaki itukwána bungpida. My child got big. (var. bunmaka)

būrh N. (būrh[]) [HERP] bull-frog; wetting frog. (Leptodactylus pentadactylus) Was mā kau pan, būrh balna isau palka tangdakka kau áwi aidadai. During the rainy season, many bullfrogs congregate in the puddles and croak.

burnnaka VT. {V-PA} (burhpi) pick (fruit); pluck. Mádi lumah áka muih balna saringki bū burhdida. This afternoon they picked two of my avocados. Yang makka burhpí sák yang. I am standing picking fruits.

2^burnhaka^ VT. {V-PA} (burhpi) burn partially or unevenly. Mamaka ñawayang kau was waihmu yamkis tupsing dái mā dainka waiy watak burupikda, dí launaka yulka. Last July when there was a little sun I partially burned my plantation to plant new crops.

2^burunaka^ 1. VT. {V-PA} (burupi) mix. Kasna wāk wāk kasi buruwai kau yasi pusingtai, dapak bik tining bik yakwái, bániwas luhih yaktai. When we eat too many different foods our stomach inflates, we vomit and even get diarrhea. Muih yulka yamka yuldai balna ya muih wāk yul yul tū burudai balna sirihka kanga ñawadai dutka yuldai ya. If you speak well you can quickly identify a poor speaker by the way he mixes languages. Yaka dika ya yamka burnunaka waltai, yapa sa laih dutka atrang. That stuff needs to be well mixed, otherwise it will be bad. Alas damaska buhtang ya burupai. He/she is stirring up the (pile of) dried grass.

2^burunaka^ 2. VI. {V-PAl} (burupi) burn partially or unevenly.

burns N. (burns[]) aversion; object of hatred. Man yang buruski man. I hate you.

burus N. (burus[]) [BOT] guava. (Psidium guajava)

1^burimak^ N. (burimak) [BOT] guava. (Psidium guajava)

1^walang burikamak^ NE. (ðalang burikamak) [BOT] small bush yielding small guava-like edible fruit.

burimka A. (buririmka) firm; not flabby or wrinkled. Bikiska yal sirau bakana balna ya muhanka burimka katka muih wāná bungdai kau muhanka ya siritdai. Young girls have tight firm faces but when they get older they become wrinkled.

burnaka VI. {V-PA} (burpi) thunder; rumble (thunder). Waiku wāk laih was waihmu bahangh buh almu burnaka wālik ka. As next month is July (lit. rain month), it will do nothing but thunder.

burulá N. (burulá) [MOD, MAN] tortilla.

1^burunaka^ 1. VT. {V-PA} (burupi) fry. Bilam as wati ihwikda ya burunaka waltaying. I want to fry the fish we caught and brought back.

2. VT. {V-PA} (burupi) mix. Kasna wāk wāk kasi buruwai kau yasi pusingtai, dapak bik tining bik yakwái, bániwas luhih yaktai. When we eat too many different foods our stomach inflates, we vomit and even get diarrhea. Muih yulka yamka yuldai balna ya muih wāk yul yul tū burudai balna sirihka kanga ñawadai dutka yuldai ya. If you speak well you can quickly identify a poor speaker by the way he mixes languages. Yaka dika ya yamka burnunaka waltai, yapa sa laih dutka atrang. That stuff needs to be well mixed, otherwise it will be bad. Alas damaska buhtang ya burupai. He/she is stirring up the (pile of) dried grass.

2^burunaka^ 2. VI. {V-PAl} (burupi) burn partially or unevenly.

buruska talnaka VE. hate (a person). Yang buruska má talyang. I hate you.

Mining buruska kal talwai. We (incl.) hate each other.

burus tihka MOD. stinking; malodorous. Anu as bakan tainkat da katka dutka; pas ya burus tihka dai. I bought a coconut but it was bad; it had a rotten smell.

burus tihnaka VE. stink.

burusnaka VI. stink. (syn. burus tihnaka)
būsū n. (bū[sū]) twin; double. Māmahki ingkinih isau bakantida, mak as laih būsū dai. My mother bought many bananas, and one of them was a double. Būsū balna ya dasika palka ka bū pak alawanaka. It is difficult to raise a pair of twins.

busurka a. (bususurka) fuzzy; soft. (syn. punka)

butam n. (butam[]) [mod, man] floor.

butdanaka vi. {v-da} (butdi) push through; burrow. Tima ya muih isau kangka dai katka yapa butdi āwi lauwikda. The boat was packed with people but I pushed my way on board and sat down. Di as as ya sau anakat kau wālik butdadai. Some animals just burrow beneath the ground.

butin n. (butin[]) [man] [eng: button] button.

butnaka vt. {v-pa} (butpi) draw (water). Yawi was butpanauh! Go and draw water from the well!

butnih n. (but[n]ih) [orn] brush-finch; wees bird. (emberizinae Atlapetes sp.) Butnih dika baka ya talyam pih? Di yamka baka ya. Do you see the little wee bird? It’s a pretty little thing. Butnih laih di baka as mauka. The brush-finch is a tidy bird.


butsunγ n. (but[sunγ]) [mam] squirrel. (sciurus sp.) (syn. taitai)

butuka n. cns3. (butu[]) body hair; fuzz; fur; feather.

dadang aux. perfect auxiliary. Umana kau muih balna kahlu āwadasa dadang. In the olden days people did not wear shirts.


dahbai n. (dah[bai]) [mod] telephone.

dahnaka 1. vt. {vō-dah} (daki) hear; listen to. Dakah! Listen! Ya dahnih. Don’t listen to me. Alas yulka daki. I heard his/her voice. Alas yā daḥda. He/she heard me. Yang yul bautam daki. I heard you speak. Mining yul bauwak alas dahrang. He/she will hear us talking.

2. vt. {vō-dah} (daki) sense; perceive.

kal dahnaka 1. vr. {vō-dah} (kal daki) rest; relax. Pāpangkhi ya waya bīk lauwi kal dahnaka waltasa; mā lūhi kau tukwanaka wālik waltai. My father doesn’t even want to take a little break; he wants to work all day. 2. vr. {vō-dah} (kal daki) feel; notice. Muihki yamka kal dahyang. I feel good in my body. Yang kal daking īwanaka yapa dai. I felt as if I was going to die.

3. vr. {vō-dah} (kal daki) recuperate; recover (from illness); feel better. Daiki ya kal dakak īwai yaupak yamka laih alas būna wārang atda. My brother-in-law says that if he gets better from this illness he’ll come back.

kal daḥsa vr. neg.3. unaware.

kal daki vr. prox. cautiously; with caution. Yang kal daki tungwayang dai bahangh yang watkana kau āwasing daim. Since I was walking with caution I didn’t enter their trap. Kal daki paptah; dika ya di yabasikka ka. Be careful opening it; the thing dangerous.

kasi dahnaka ve. {vō-dah} (kasi daki) taste. (syn. kasi talnaka)

1dai n. (dai[]) brother-in-law (of man). Dai ya wahaima yapa talnaka ya yamka ka. It is good to view your brother-in-law as if he were your own brother.

2dai aux. pst. past tense auxiliary. Bakaki baka dai. My child was small.

daihka 1. a. (dadaihka) hot. Daihka yamtak diring. I’ll drink it when he/she heats it up. Mādi daihka atrang. Today will be hot. Daihka yātai. I am hot. Yaka kuhka kundim lau ya labakat kau yawanaka waltaying katka dī daihka. I want to go near that fire but it is hot.

2. a. (dadaihka) burning (of sore, wound). Mādi wālāng kau yawing kat ulu yā
daktida ya daihka ka. My cutting-grass cuts from when I went to the savanna today are itching me.

di má daihka AE. hot (weather); sultry.
Dí má daihka bahangh yamka amasing dai pukka lāwida dai ka. Because of the heat, I didn’t sleep well last night.

daihnaka VT. {V-TA} (daihti) heat; warm.
Yaka kasnaka suba kau Iau ya daihti kaskuting. I’m going to heat up the food in that pot and eat it.

daihnaka YR. exercise.
Ma luhih kau kal daihtayang kat yaka sa laih saya ya ētaring bahangh. I do exercises all day because otherwise laziness will kill me. (→ kaldaih)

dak N. (dak[ ]) piece. Burulā as kaupak it man dak arungka yaknaka, muih arungka yamka kasdarang. From one tortilla you can get four pieces, plenty for four people.
dakka N.CNS3. (dak[ ]) herd; flock. Irik balna ya dakka sikka palka kau limdi rihwadai. Parakeets travel in large flocks.

dāka N. (dā'[ka]) [MAN] lance; spear; unbarbed harpoon with nail-point.
daka lahnaka VE. {V-TA} (da[ ] lahti) frighten; startle; scare; terrify. Alas diki lahtida. He/she frightened me. Sūkulu yā dama lahtida pih? Did the dog startle you? Dīnī lahtarang. He will be frighten us (incl.). Bikisika daka lahnaka ya dutka palka ka. It is very bad to frighten children.

dakat 1. N. (da[ ]t) throat.
2. N. (da[ ]t) voice. Yang yaka un bauţingka dakat ya kanas watayang. I like that singer’s voice very much.
dakat ānaka 1. VE. {V-TA} (da[ ]t ātī) comfort (as child); console; calm. Bakaki aidai ya dakat ānaka watayang. I want to comfort my crying child.
Māmahki ya tali yang laih amatdi ānaka wālīk ēwuti bahangh mādi laih dakat ānaka wālīk watayang. On seeing my mother so grief-stricken all I want to do is console her. 2. VE. {V-TA} (da[ ]t ātī) encourage.
dakat baka yulnaka VE. have a high voice.
dakat bisnaka VE. {V-PA} (dakat bispi) scream. Damat bispanīh. Don’t scream. (syn. dakat kiuhdanaka)
dakat daksnaka VE. {V-TA} (da[ ]t daksi) cut throat. Dīkīt daktarang bik yāng yultasing atrang. Even if they cut my throat I won’t talk.
dakat itukwānā yulnaka VE. have deep, low, booming voice.
dakat kahka AE. he/she has forgotten (it).
Dīkīt kahka ka. I’ve forgotten it.
dakat kahnaka VE. {V-PA} (da[ ]t kahpi) forget. Ātam damat kahnaka aīsa, iwaram kat! Don’t forget, as long as you live! Ākā yulka ākā dīnīt kahnaka sa. We must not forget this lesson. Yang lihkiwan dīkīt kahpida. I forgot my money. Yātak dīkīt kahpida. (a) He/she gave it to me and I forgot it. (b) He/she made me forget it. Ātam damat kahnaka sa. Be sure not to forget it.
dakat kal karhnaka VE. {V-PA} (karhpi) hang oneself. Muih ya dau kaupak dakat kal karhnaka ya daṣika palka ka. It would be pretty hard for someone to just casually hang themself for no reason.
Yang dīkīt kal karhpatik pah ka. I feel like hanging myself. (→ dakat karhnaka)
dakat karhnaka VE. {V-PA} (da[ ]t karhpi) hang. Yaka alka balna ya man kau damat karhnaka walda. Those men want to hang you.
dakat kau un baunaka VE. hum.
dakat sumkā CMOD. hoarseness; hoarse voice.
dakat sumnaka VE. {V-PA} (da[ ]t sumpi) have a hoarse voice.
dakat watnaka VE. {V-TA} (dakat wati) choke; be unable to swallow. Muih as as balna ya kasna buhka isau kasa kau dakatna watya; waska didai kau yamka kal dahdai. Some people choke when they eat too much dry food; they get better when they drink liquid.
dakat wirinaka VE. wring neck (chicken).

dakatsuru N. (da[ ]tsuru) {CNS1: dikitsuru, CNS11: dikitnasuru} [ANAT] throat; windpipe; pharynx; larynx.
dākawan N.CNS3. (dā'[wan) owner; boss; employer. (pref. muihka)
dakdanaka VI. {V-DA} (dakdī) snap; break; cut in two. Wah yūhka ya papas dakdanaka wālīk ka. This long rope is almost completely severed in the
middle.  Wah ya dakdida. The rope snapped. (→ dakwanaka)

daknaka  VT. {V-TA} (dakti) cut; chop; cleave; hack; chop off; fell (tree). Tingki daktikda. I cut my hand. Alas balna biri biri kuhbil karak kal dakdida. They cut each other with knives. Yämak kau yawi waki as daknaka waltayang. I want to go to the garden to cut (pick) a plantain.

dakti länaka  VE. {V-TA} (dakti läti) pull out; take away. Bakaki al åka pukka tâpas kau kal bautak dakti läti ahaiktikda. My son was fighting in the street last night and I had to break it up and pull him away from it.

dakti lâwänaka  VE. cross; cut across. Was baka pahka bisika bahangh, yang kuring karak laih dakti lâwasing atrang, tumhdi dakti lâwuting. Since the creek is narrow, I won’t cross it by canoe, I’ll just swim across.

dakti yâknaka  VE. {V-TA} (dakti yakti) break up (fight). Mâdi tâ pas kau tung ating kat yal bû kal baudak dakti yakti dâpî wikda. Today in the road two women were fighting and I broke up the fight and came here.

kal daknaka  VR. {V-TA} (kal dakti) cut oneself; wound oneself. Muih ya yapa kaupak kal dâkna ya di as dasika palka ka. It is difficult for one to cut oneself on purpose. Yang pâpanghki kuhbil karak kal daktida. My father cut himself with a knife. Muih ya dau yapa kaupak kal dâkna waldasa. A person doesn’t want to cut him/herself for no reason.

dakwanaka  VI. {V-WA} (dakwi) rip; tear; break (rope). Damai ya wah as sitting dai dapak dâkwi da. Yesterday I tied up a hammock and the rope broke. (→ dâkdanaka)

dala  N. (dala[]) [MAN] [Eng: dollar] cordoba. (≠ dalas)

dalaka  N.CNS3. (dala[][ka]) pain. Mâ bâs watah yang anaki dalaka. My tooth has been aching for three days. Sûkîlu dalaka âtai. My dog is in pain. Mâdi mâka âka yang tunik dalaka watah yang it tukwasing yâ yamtaï. Today my headache is preventing me from working.

2. N.CNS3. (dala[][ka]) love; compassion; pity.

3. N. (dala[][ka]) in love with; having love for. Yang bakaki kau dalaka yang. I love my child. Muih luîh kau ya dalaka atnaka ya yamka. It is good to have love for everybody.

dalaka ânaka  1. VE. (dalaka âta) {OBJ1: dalaka yânaka} have pain; be in pain. Dalaka mâtai? Are you in pain? (lit. Does it give you pain?) (syn. dalanaka) 2. VE. (dalaka âta) {OBJ1: dalaka yânaka} hurt; harm; ache; give pain. (syn. dalanaka)

dalaka dahânaka  VE. {V-O-DAH} (dalaka daki) (syn. dalaka talnaka)


dalaka talnaka  VE. {V-O-TAL} (dalaka tali) love; be in love with; pity; have compassion for. Al ya yol kau dalaka talya. The man loves the woman. Yang bakaki balna kau yultayang wanihka(na) balna kau dalaka talnaka. I tell my children to love their family members. (syn. dalaka dahânaka)

dalakâka  N.CNS3. (dala[][ka]) pain; love. Bakaki isau watah yang yaupak as iwarang kat, dalakâka atrang. If (even) one of my many children dies, it will be painful.

dalanaka  VI. {V-PA} (dalapi) hurt; ache. Tiking di luîka bahangh tunik dalapida. I have a headache from vomiting so much.

dalapangka  N. pain. Mâdi mâka âka dalapangka itukwâna as kalki kau ihiîda. Today I got a strong pain in my foot.

dalapingka  N. painful. Mâmahki ya tunak dalapingka ka. My mother has a headache.
dalas N. (dalas[]) [MAN] [Eng: dollars]
dollar. (≠ dala)

daluaka A. (dalaluaka) gooey or sticky [mud, overcooked rice]. Dí duput yaka was isau takat lätikda bahangh dalauka bungpida. I added too much water to the flour and it got gooey. Titinghki pihmak ya yamka lahtasa; dalauka walik lahti yά pahkátai dadang. My grandmother was not good at making rice; she always fed it to me gooey. (→ ulangka) [• Not as runny as ulangka]

dalaunaka VI. {v-PAl (dalaupi) become gooey or sticky [mud, overcooked rice].

damai ADV. yesterday. Wahaiki damai wàda. My brother arrived yesterday. Damai kaupak tunik dalapai lau ka. I’ve had a headache since yesterday. Damai muih isau wána dai úki kau yά talna. Yesterday many people came to visit me at my house.

damai as NE. day before yesterday.

damaska 1. N. (damas[][ka]) bush; forest; woods; jungle. Wahaiki damaska kaupak wai. My brother is coming (back) from the bush.

2. N. (damas[][ka]) [BOT] grass; pasturage. Was lautai datak damaska ya paraska pátai. When it rains the grass grows fast.

damaska baska NE. medicinal herbs. Dimuih ya muih kasya kau, damaska baska karak singwadai. When a snake bites someone, they cure them with herbal medicine.

damaska sikka NE. forest. Damaska sikka pas kau bil sisikka laulau ka. In the deep forest there are huge snakes.

damaskarh N. (damas[][karh]) [MOD, MAN] rake.

damdam N. (dam[][dam]) [BOT] several sp. of plant with fuzzy, edible berries. (MELASTOMACEAE Conostegia spp., Clidemia spp.)

damka A. (dadamka) sweet. Áka kasnaka damka. This food is sweet. Waska baraska ya damka palka yamti yáthah. Make the coffee very sweet for me.

dannah N. (dam[][nah]) [BOT] may tree. Damnah puluka bungpai kau was isau lautai. When the may tree blossoms it rains a lot.

damnaka 1. VT. {v-TA} (damti) sweeten; make sweet.

2. VI. {v-TA} (damti) sweeten; become sweet.

dánaka 1. VT. {v-PA} (dápi) leave; let go (of); release; abandon. Yang bakaki yal ya ákalah alas dánaka watasing. I don’t want to leave my daughter alone here. Áka kalka dika kuring kau ihyawi dápah. Take these shoes and leave them in the canoe. Ú ya papti ahauka yamti dápah. Open up the house and let it air out.

2. VT. {v-PA} (dápi) let; allow; permit. Alas yά dápak bilam kutpikda. He let me fish. Yά dáparang laih skúl úka yau aiwanparing. If he/she lets me, I will sing in the school. Dápam ihangh. Let him/her have it.

dápi láwanaka VE. overtake; pass. Yal balna tά as kau wάtdadai kau al balna raudi sirihka wάtdi uskat kaupak dάpi láwadai. When women are walking along a path men come from behind walking fast and pass them. (syn. dápi láyawanaaka)

dánaka kal VI. leave each other; break up; split up; separate. Kal dάdida. They broke up. Mάmaka láwida kau pάpanghki balna kal dάna. Last year my parents separated.

2dánaka VT. {v-TA} (dáti) roast; bake; burn. Ninihki di muihka dáti yatida. My grandfather roasted me some meat.

dánaka úkala NE. [MOD] oven.

di dátingka NE. baker.

3dánaka VT. {v-TA} (dáti) affect (hunger). Yuhma dátai pih? Are you hungry? Yuhki dátasa. I am not hungry. (→ yuh)

danda N. (dan[da] dandruff.

dang 1. N. (dang[]) [ANAT] back.

2. N. (dang[]) back edge of blade.

dang bahka ADV. backwards.

dang bahnaka VE. {v-TA} (dang bαhti) turn back on; turn to leave. Awangki ya mά isau yά umhpai áka tukka kau katka dang bάdaparang kau yang isau amatdaring. My uncle has helped my for many days in this work and I will be very sorry when he turns his back to leave.
dang pas NE. middle of back. Dangki pas lástai ya kurh dpi yáthah. Scratch the middle of my back for me.

danghnaka VT. {V-PA} (dangpi) stamp (foot). Sana ya damaska pas kau tung atak má talya kau alas walah ati kalka ya danghpaí. When a deer is walking out in the forest and sees you he stamps his foot in anger.

dangkat NR.CNS3. (dangk[ ]t[ ]kau) behind; rear of; posterior. → uskat)
dangkat áwanaka VE. {V-WA} (dang[ ]t áwi) accuse. Yaka miuhka ya pang pá panghki dangkat áwanaka tung ka. That person is going around accusing my father (of something). Yang man dangmat áwaryang. I am accusing you. Alas man dangmat áwida dí as nútam ya yulka. He accused you of stealing something.

dangkat bitah kau ADV. (dang[ ]t bitah kau) behind; toward the rear. Uki dangkat bitah kau yalau panka sikka as alawai sák ka. Behind my house there is growing a huge mango tree.

dangkat kau ADV. (dang[ ]t kau) behind; after. Alas dangkit kau wai. He/she is coming behind me. Dangkit kau sák man pih? Are you standing behind me? Pá panghki dangkat kau yawanaka waitayang. I want to go behind my father. Yaka alka ya ü dangkat yau lau ka. That man is (sitting) behind the house.

dangkat makpah ADV. (dang[ ]t makpah) rearward; in reverse; backwards; rear. Timas as as ya dangkat makpah vàndáï. Some boats don't have a reverse gear. Alas dangkat makpah vàndáï. He's walking backwards. Yang dangkat makpah vàndayang. I am walking backwards. Kal dahsing yawayang tung yang daí dakpangkit makpah kau miuh as vàya tung dái. I was going along unawares and someone was coming behind me.

dangkat makpah kau(pak) yulnaka VE. (yulta) speak in roundabout or deceptive manner. Yang yaka alka yawalting ka. Má luíh kau yul dangkat makpah kau yak yultai. I do not like that man. He always talks deceptively. Man ya yamka man dangkat makpah kaupak yulnaka, katka yang laih it sa yang. You are good at speaking in parable, but I can't do it. Yang dangkat makpah kau yultayang. I am speaking in parable. (sym. núnahka kau yulnaka)

dangnaka VT. {V-PA} (dangpi) stick in standing up (e.g. fence post). Sau tuknaka dika àísau kau pan as dangpi saknaka ya pan tangkà bânghpí paraska dangpi sakdai. When there is no digging tool available and you need to stand up a stick, you sharpen one end and stick it into the ground.

dangpanak N. (dang[ ]panak) [ANAT] small of back; lower back. Dangkipanak dalaka. My back hurts. Dangmapanak dalapai pih? Do you have a backache?

dang uru 1. CMOD. (dang[ ]uru) hunchbacked; humpbacked. Yaka alka ya dangka uru. That man is hunchbacked.

2. N. [ENTOM] worm (~2cm len.) that lives in a hole and has a hunch-backed shape; children fish them out with sticks or grass stems..

dapa N. (dapa[ ]) [BOT] cane. (Gynerium sagittatum) Dapa ya wassik kau páitai; tisnak karak kal nakabah ka. Cane grows along rivers; it is similar to sugarcane. Dapa panka ya puluka bungpida sák ka. The sugarcane plant has bloomed.

dapa waikaku NE. June. Yan màka ya asangki kau yawayang; dapa wàikaku kauwatdi wàiring. Tomorrow I am going to my town; I will return in June.

dapak 1. x. and. Kuhbil ya di muhka daknaka dapak bilam bik karhnaka. Then knife is for cutting meat and scaling fish as well. Dapak ai yamtì yawanih mating yau yawadam pih? And why did you go there after I had told you not to?


3. VI.OBv3. (with expression of time)in; after; on the passing of. Mâmâka arungka dapak bûna wâda. He came back after four years. Má bû dapak singwarang. It will heal in two days.
dapi x. and. Yang ú takat yau lau dapi wauhdikda. I was sitting on top of the house and I fell. Ú labaka yau săk dapi sana as talikda. I saw a deer while standing next to the house. Nawah as yawai tung dai dapi was kau āwi yawada. A jaguar was walking around and went into the water. Kasi dapi tung yang. I’m walking around after having eaten.

dápi muknaka VE. (dápi mukpi) leave (pl.). Wanihki balna ya dápi muknaka waltayang. I want to leave my relatives.

dapinnaka 1. VT. (dapinti) bend; straighten. Tulhma warindang ya waya dapinti barang dapi màtuting. I’ll bend your warped machete back into shape for you. (> warinnaka) 2. VT. (dapinti) pry. Pápka ya suktwat átkika, katka muih as dapinti paptida. The door was padlocked, but someone pried it open. 3. VT. (dapinti) hike up [dress] by tucking it under underwear or by rolling it up in self so it catches. Baka kalang tawhawa ya kahkan ya dapintah; baka watah. That child who has soiled herself, hike up her dress so that it doesn’t get stained with feces.

daraba N. (dara[ba] liquid part of chicken excrement.

daradanaka VI. {V-DA} (daradi) (plant) grow by sending out runners or vines. Sangkas ya lautayam kau yaming daradi yawai, yaka luhi ya makka ñya. When you plant watermelon it sends out runners in all directions, which will all bear fruit.

daranaka VT. {V-PA} (darápi) spread into thin layer; spread out evenly. Píhmak ya puraka yak ihwáya kau, it rukwasa; mà daithui kau yakti di as karak ránaka yamka paka darawai kau alas mà watya kau yamka dasitai kau rukpi yakwai. When we bring back wet rice we can’t hull it right away; we first spread it out into a thin layer and set it in the hot sun to dry and harden, and then we can pound it and extract the grains. (syn. kadanaka)

darauka A. (dararauka) (liquid) viscous; mucilaginous; slimy; thick. Nangtak mà watang mà as làwai kau nangmataw waska ya kanas darauka bungpái, andih waya buhtida bahangh. When you have a cold, the day it goes away, your nasal mucus becomes thicker, as it has started to dry up. Kataaramah sumaka luhuska ya darauka kà. The white of a chicken egg is viscous.

dasika 1. A. (dasisika) strong; powerful; mighty; hard; rigid. Al balna dasika balna kimak itukwàna as ihildai. The strong men are lifting a big stone. Aransa panka ya dasika palka kà. The orange tree is very strong. 2. A. (dasisika) difficult; hard. Man Ulwah yulka dasika yapa talyam pih? Does the Ulwa language seem difficult to you?

dasikaka NA.CNS3. (dasi[ka]) power; strength. Tunni muih ya dasikika itukwàna watah kà. Our leader has much power.

kal dasikana talyang VE. engage in dual of strength. Mining karak dasinini kal talwathang. Let’s have a fight to see who is strongest. (syn. kal dasinaka)

dasinaka VI. {V-PA} (dasipi) become strong. Kasna isau kasi dasipah. Eat a lot of food and get strong.

kal dasinaka VR. {V-TA} (kal dasiti) engage in dual of strength. Kal dasiti talduti bang dai, katka muih as wi wati mitida. They were having dual of strength but someone came and stopped it. (syn. kal dasikana talnaka)

dataldanaka VI. {V-DA} (dataldi) slip; slide; skid. Pan as kút yà manah làwì dataldanaka waltasing. I don’t want to slip while crossing on that fallen log.

datalka 1. A. (datatalka) slick; slippery. 2. A. (datatalka) straight (hair).

(dipka)

dâtingka N. (dâtingkika) {CNS1: dâtingkiki} baker. Dâtingka yal as dai ka iwida; muih wàk yaka yapa laih ñsàwà ñkalàh. The baker woman died; we don’t have anyone else like that around here. Alas balna dâtingkàna. Their baker. Mining dâtingnìni. Our baker. Man dâtingìma. Your baker.
Datnaka VT. {V-PA} (datpi) lick (not suck). Di damka ya datnaka kanas yawka di sapakka karak. Sweet things are nicer to lick than sour things. Tingki kau kuma watah yang dai ya pamkhi wi datpida. A horse came and licked the salt that I had in my hand.

dau ADV. in vain; useless(ly); pointless(ly); unsuccessful(ly); for the fun of it; spiteful(ly). Al sayadingka ya rwul luih kau dau tungwai. The lazy man wanders around uselessly all day/every day.

dau bik ADV. just in case. Dau bik man yawi waltah! Go look for him just in case. Yang damaska kau akatka as wàlik yulka yawayang, takta dau bik was waya ihyawayang, tàkit kau ai bungparang pan kal dahsing bahangh. I'm only planning on going into the bush for an hour, but I'll bring a little water just in case, since I don't know what might happen.

dau ínaka VE. {V-Ó} (dau ihi) get for free.

dau kau láñaka VE. {V-TA} (dau kau lāti) invalidate; render useless; sabotage.

dau kaupak ADV. pointlessly; for no good reason. Muih ya dau kaupak lihwan yak ádasa. People don't just give us (incl.) money for no reason. (syn. yapa kaupak)

dau kulnaka VE. {V-PÁ} (dau kulpi) disregard; disrespect; look down on; underrate. Muih tisi yultingka ya yul yak yultai dapak dau kulnaka. When a liar tells us something we should disregard it.

dau nauka NE. (dau[n] nauka) vanity; triviality; useless custom.

dau pàlah ADV. maybe; perhaps. Yang yàmak kau it alas yawasing, dau pàlah nawah yà watrang. I can't go to the plantation alone, a jaguar might get me.

dau pälka MOD. worthless; useless.

dau sakwanaka VE. {V-WA} (dau sakwi) stand unoccupied; stand idly. (syn. dau sàk atnaka)

dau tahkamat ADV. without cause; for no reason; irrationally.

dau tukwanaka VE. {V-WA} (dau tuksi) work for free or as volunteer.

dau wànaka VE. {V-Ó-WA} (dau wi) come for no particular reason; come visiting.

dau yawanaka VE. {V-Ó-A} (dau yawi) go without purpose; go in vain.

dau yulnaka VE. {V-TA} (dau yulti) chatter; run off at the mouth; babble.

dàuh N. {dàuh[] [ORN] kind of nocturnal falcon. Dàuñ ya màdah kau tungwasa; puikki kau wàlik waupi làyawai. The dàuh doesn't move about during the day; only at night can it be heard calling as it passes by.

dauh x. nothing importante. Yà laih dauh. That's nothing.

Dáwan N. (Dáwan) [REL] [Msk: Dàwan] God. (pref. Alah)

Dàwànaka VI. {V-WA} (dàwi) burn.
Wàlang dàwài. The savannah is burning.

dàwì lâwànaka VE. burn up; burn down (building). Úki dàwì láwida. My house burned down.

dayadanaka VI. {V-DÁ} (dayadi) lean (on something); stand at an angle, supported by other object. Arankisa panka as ya dayadai wít ka. One of my orange trees is leaning (on something else). (≠ batirhdanaka, yataihdanaka)

dayam N. (dayam[] [MAN] [Eng: dime] change (money); cash.

dayanaka VT. {V-PÁ} (dayapi) lean on something. Kuh suruka kahuaiting lau ya luih pan saraka kau dayapi dàputing. I'm going to lean this log of firewood that I've brought up against the base of the tree.

dì 1. N. (dì[] thing; something. Alah di luih yamtang pas kau, alas yulka ya katka itukwàna ka. Of all the things that God made, his word is the biggest of them all.

2. N. (dì[] animal; creature; organism; game (animal). Di as itikda. I killed an animal.

3. N. (dì[] very; quite. Áka kuhkabil áka di yaika ka. This is some sharp knife.


dì baka butuka NE. feather. Di baka
butuka ya lumakka wák wák laulau ka. Bird feathers exist in all sorts of colors.

di baka úka NE. nest (of bird). 

Di baka úka as pan tarat kau lau ya ilwi talkuting. I am going to climb up and see that bird’s nest in the tree. 

Di baka úka ya pan sahka kau yamtang lau ka. The bird’s nest has been built in a crook in the tree.

di kaIka arungka NE. mammal; quadruped; four-legged animal.

di liIlldingka NE. flying animal; bird.

di sa NE. nothing. di sa pumnaka think nothing of it

diah ADV. insufficient; unsuccessful. Diah
dapikda. I failed.

Aka lihkawan diah ka. This money is insufficient.

diahka INTERJ. no; negative response to question. (var. diyahaka)

diamka A. (var. of diyamka) < di yamka

di basta NE. (di[] basta) medicine; remedy. 

Di basta ya mining kau yak singpai. Medicine cures us.

di basta talingka NE. curer; herbalist.

Muih di basta talingka ya pan baska karak muih singpai. The herbalist cures people with the leaves of plants.

di bubuh NE. (di[] bubuh) garbage; trash; underbrush; fallen leaves and twigs. 

Di bubuh balna auhpasing dah. I still haven’t dumped the trash.

didiudanaka VI. {V-DA} (didiudi) stretch; become stretched. 

Tisi as kau, Alah raupi sutbangh tapaka watak didiudang. In one story, God grabbed the rabbit’s ears and they stretched.

didiunaka VT. {V-PA} (didiupi) stretch.

Yaka dika úkatak ya katka kipti didiunaka waltai ka. That pelt needs to be stretched more (by pulling).

diduput N. (di[]duput, di[] duputka) flour. 

Diduput ya dáti kasnaka yamka, waska dinaka bik yamka ka. Flour is good for baking, and also for drinking in a beverage.

dihi dahnaka VE. {V-DAR} (dihi daki) taste (by drinking). 

Dihi dakah. Try (drinking) it. 

Yang åka waska dihi dahnaka waltaying. I want to taste this drink. (syn. dihi talnaka)

dihingka N. drinker; drunk. Muih urum dihingka ya kangba di åisau rihwadaa. Drinkers are always running around with no possessions.

Dihu talnaka VE. {V0-TAL} (dihi tali) taste (by drinking). 

Alas åka waska dihi talnaka waltai. He/she wants to taste this water/liquid. (syn. dihi dahnaka)

dika 1. (form of di) N.CNS3. (di[])

2. N.CNS3. (di[]) for; for the sake of. 

Áka åka man dima. This is for you.

3. N.CNS3. (di[]) property.


diku (form of dinaka) N. thirsty; parched. 

Yang dikuh palka yang. I’m very thirsty.

diluk N. (di[]luk) ill or bad omen.

diluk muihka NE. [ORN] horned or crested owl. ‘monkey-bird’. 

Diluk muihka ya muih taldasa, katka umahka yůhka watah ka, muhka bik urus muihka yapa ka, lipinka bik watah ka. Alas limdi aidi láwai kau muh iwadai, yaka sa bik di dutka as bungpái. We do not see the diluk muihka, but it has a long tail and the face of a monkey, and wings. When it flies by overhead making its noise, people die, or at least something bad happens.

dimak N. (di[]mak) vegetable; root crop; produce that grows on plant which has only a single yield, in which harvesting implies destroying the plant (e.g. potatoes, cassava, corn, banana). By contrast, any crop (like most fruits) that can be picked off the plant and more will grow on the same plant is panmak. 

Dimak balna yaka sirihka lauti yakí kaswak láyawadai, katka panmak laih lauwak uba pátai, yaupak makka iya mâmáka isau kau makka yapa lakwai. Dimak is the kind of crop that is ready for harvesting relatively shortly after planting, which is gone after we eat it, but panmak on the other hand, takes a long time to grow after planting, but once it begins to bear fruit the same plant continues to yield fruit year after year for many years. 

Dimak balna ya sau anakat kau lautam pādai. (≠ panmak)
diman N. (di[m]man) [ZOO] kind of small crab. Diman ya talwasa, was isau lautai kau bungpi tung atya. We don’t see the diman crab; it only comes out during the heavy rain.

dimanlalah N. (di[m]manlalah) [ZOO] white crab.

dimdanaka VI. {V-DA} (dimdi) stretch self; stretch one’s limbs; extend to full length. Mādi yang aitak tukka tukwi yā suhpak (kal) dimdikda. Today I got tired from all the paper work and (so I) stretched my limbs. (syn. kal dimdanaka)

dimhdanaka VI. {V-DA} (dimhdi) climb (tree, not ladder); shinny. Yang ann panka as kau dimhdikda. I shinnied up a coconut palm. (→ liwanaka)

dimnaka VT. {v-PAl (dimpi) tauten; stretch; extend to full length. Kalki aka urunka lawana wālik, yā suhpida waya dimnaka waltayang. I am tired of sitting with my legs folded and I want to stretch a bit.

kal dimnaka VR. tauten self; stretch or extend oneself to full length.


dimuih dauh NE. (di[m]uih dauh) [HERP] bastard snake. Dimuih dauh yak kasya kau, yak iwasa. We don’t die when the bastard snake bites us. (→ bildauh)

dimuih palka NE. (di[m]uih palka) [HERP] tomagoff; poisonous Central American snake. Dimuih palka ya muih kasak muih isau iwana. Many deaths have been caused by a bite from the tomagoff. (syn. bil palka)

dimuih tunak pauka NE. (di[m]uih tunak pauka) [HERP] yellow beard; snake with lethal venom. (→ bil tunak pauka)

dimuih yapu NE. (di[m]uih yapu) [HERP] snake caiman. Dimuih yapu ya yapu nakabah ka. The snake caiman looks like an alligator. (syn. bilyapu)

dinaka VT. {V-O-II} (dihi) drink; imbibe. Was dihih. Drink water. Wasbulu dinih. Don’t drink chicha. Manna balna was diyamna pih? Are you all drinking water? Diti pah ka. He is thirsty (lit. he feels like drinking). ∆ Sūtak kau was ihi tinipas kau ilti āti paranghnaka.

dinaka waska NE. drinking water. Dinaka waska ya yamka taihi dāpi laupah. Cover up the drinking water well.

di nāwalh NE. (dī nā[วล]al) attack (fainting); evil spirit. Baka ya iwiḍa taim màmahka kau dī nāwalh bautida. When the child died, his/her mother had a fit. Dī nāwalh mà bautai laih, yang kau wārah, yang laih yamka yamtrāing. (→ nāwalh)

di pihnaka 1. VI. {V-TA} (diPihti) pass the night; stay up all night. Mādi pukka āka muih iwang āka di pihnaka pumtyayang. Tonight I’m planning to pass the night at the deceased person’s house.

2. VI. {V-TA} (diPihti) become light (at dawn); dawn (day). (or diPihti lāwanaka)

īdih āwi di pihnaka VE. {V-TA} (īdih āwi diPihti) attend a wake. Muih as iwida bahangh, yang mādi pukka laih āwi dīphtitung.

dipika A. (dipiPSika) caustic; acidic. Kasauh bataka makka ya kasnaka dutka, kat waska ya dipiska palka. It is bad to eat the unripe cashew, because the juice is caustic.

dipka A. (dipikpa) straight (hair). Man basma dipka palka ka. Your hair is very straight. (syn. datalka)

dipnaka VT. {V-PA} (dippi) straighten (hair). Yal as as balna ya baskana dipdai. Some women straighten their hair. Basma dippah. Straighten you hair.

dirauh N. (di[葦]auh) [ORN] eagle; hawk; bird of prey. Di bakana ya dirauh taldai kau luhi bai limdadai. When little birds see an eagle they all fly far away. Dirauh ya asung ātang tung ka, di wati kassa bahangh. The eagle is disgusted because he wasn’t able to catch and eat anything.

dis X. quiet; silent; extinguished. Dis atī! Be quiet! Yaka tikama ya dis wāya tung ka. That boat is approaching quietly.
When people mention the name of someone deceased they say the late ... yalki disana my late wife
dislah N. (dis[]lah) morning. Mádi diskalah ripka ka. This morning is cold.
dislah kasnaka VE. {v0} (dislah kasi) eat breakfast. Dislah kassing dai bahangh yuh yá bitak tung yang. I didn’t eat breakfast and so I’m walking around starving.
dislah máká baka NE. [ASTRO] morning star.
1 disnaka VT. {v-TA} (disti) extinguish; put out (light, fire). Kuh kUIDdi Ian ya disnaka waltai. She/he wants to put out the fire.
2 disnaka VI. {v-PA} (dispi) become silent; quiet down. Dispah! Be quiet!
diswanaka VI. {v-WA} (diswi) go out; stall (engine); die (fire, light). Kuh lákká as ihwáyang katka diswanaka wálik ka. I’m bringing a firebrand but it is about to go out.
di talingka 1. NE. prophet; seer. Di talingka ya di isau kang láwi dapi kau yultai. Prophets understand many things and inform us.
2. NE. magician; healer; curer. Bakaki áka yamka sa ka; di talingka kau ihyawing talrang. This child of mine is not well; I am taking him/her to see (be seen by) the healer.
di wák NE. (di[] wák) strange; peculiar; odd; different. Sau as as kau muih balna ya di wák palka laulau atdak talikda. In various countries I have seen people living in strange and different ways. (eqv. diwák)
diwak MOD. strange; peculiar; odd; different. Al diwak man sah! You’re a strange man! (eqv. of di wák)
dí wakalka áisau NE. boneless animal; invertebrate.
diwas N. (di[]was) west wind (cold). Diwas wauhpai kau, di ripka, katka andih wák kau láwai. When the west wind blows it is cold, but it quickly changes direction.
diwas waska NE. (di[]was waska) dew. Diwas waska karak muih di basta yamdai. People use dew to make medicines.
diwaya N. (di[waya]) spirit; ghost. Diwaya ya muih taldasa. Spirits are invisible.
diyamka A. pretty; nice. Yan kahlu diamka baka as bakanti bakaki kau átuting. (var. diamka) < di yamka
diyanaka N. (diya[na]) {cNS1: diyakina, diyaniki} present; gift. < di ána
dudu N. (dudu[]) [MOD] harbor; bay; cove. Dudu as as ya buhka ka; as as ya tuhka ka. Some harbors are shallow; some are deep.
duhihaka VT. {v0-uhí} (duhi) (var. of duhinhaka)
duhihingka (form of duhinhaka, duhinhaka) N.AGNT.POS. (var. of duhinhingka)
duhka A. (duduhka) dense (vegetation); thick (vegetation). Yámak tuspíkda kau pan ya duhka palka ka, dakting yawasa palka yatya. When I went to clear the plantation, the undergrowth is so dense that it is taking me forever to cut it.
duhinhaka (form of duhinhaka) N.AGNT.POS. carrier.
duhinhaka 1. VT. {v0-uhí} (duhi) (duhihi) carry (on back or held high); haul. ‘back’. Al as kikamak siksa as duhi ihwai. A man is coming this way carrying a big rock. Duhih. Carry it. (var. duhinhaka)
2. VI. {v0-uhí} (duhi) (duhihi) flow (current). Yang was duhiya kau áwikda; yá duhiya. I got into the current; it’s carrying me away. Wassik áka paraska duhiya. This river flows swiftly/has a strong current. (var. duhinhaka)
3. VT. {v0-uhí} (duhi) (duhihi) carry (wind or water current only). Was yá duhiya. The current is carrying me. (var. duhinhaka)
duk N. (dük[]) [MED] whooping cough. Dük ya iwanaka as dutka; uhdayam kau wingmata taihpai, muih má umhdasa laih iwaram. Yapa bik
mikdini pas luih ya áwas yapa watah ka. Whooping cough is a bad sickness; when you cough you choke, and smother, and if nobody helps you you will die. Also your eyes appear to be full of blood.

dul STAT.DISTRIBUT. (plural) floating; hanging; suspended.
duldul STAT.DISTRIBUT. floating (pl.); hanging (pl.); suspended (pl.). Yangna tima kau kuringkina sitti dul dul yangna. We’re floating in our canoe, tied to the boat.

dulukdanaka VI. {V-DA} (dulukdi) get soaked. Yamah kang átak kat was kau dulukdi tung ya kanas dutka katarang. Going around getting soaked when he/she already has a fever is just going to make him/her worse.

duluknaka VT. {v-PAl (dulukpi) soak. kal duluknaka VR. {V-PA} (kal dulukpi) soak oneself or each other. Bikiska balna ya mak dàdasa kau biri biri was karak kal dulukdai. If you don’t keep an eye children they will soak each other.

duput N. (duput[]) flour. (→ diduput)

duputka A. (duputka) ground; powdered; powdery; floury. Áka di duputka puratang bahangh màdùi laih duputka sa ka. Since this flour got wet it is no longer powdery.

duputmak N. (duput [mak]) [BOT] breadfruit. (Artocarpus altiis)

duri N. (duri[]) [BOT] balsa. (Ochroma pyramidale)

dûs A. (dûs balna) {CNS3: dûska} brooding; broody; in period of time when hen stays on its eggs. Dûs yaka pan suwinka balna luih kau kataramah ya kwuwaì yì, sumaka takat kau. Dûs refers to the period when a hen stays sitting on her eggs. Yaka kataramah dûs ya bungpi di ukpi tung ka. That brooding hen has come out and is going around eating. Kataramah dûs (ka) dái ka áyàuh yawada? Where did the brooding hen go? Dûs kût ka. She (the hen) is brooding. Yaka kataramah balna ya dûs balna ka. Those hens are all brooding.

dûsyanaka VI. {V-WA} (dûswi) (hen)brood; be brooding; sit on eggs. Màdùi laihu kataramah dûswi kût ka. My hen is brooding now. (→ dûs)

dutdanaka VI. {V-DA} (dutdi) come out.

dutihka A. stinking. Áka waskamak dutihka. This mud stinks. (equiv. dutihtang)

dutihna VI. {V-TA} (dutihti) stink; reek. Bang kaupak bilam kuma kahti ihwàna katka yamka kuma àdasa bahangh dutihtai ka. They brought some salted fish from up river but since it was not well salted it stinks.

dutka A. (dudutka) bad; evil; wicked. Muih dutka atnaka ya yamka sa; muih luih yak waldasa. It is not good to be a bad person; nobody likes us.

dutkaka N. (dut[][ka]) vice; wickedness; bad quality.

dutkaka kang kànaka VE. {V-TA} (dut[][ka] kang kàti) follow one’s evil urges; act on one’s vices. Dutnaka kànaka sa. We should not give in to our vices.

dutka katatnaka VE. {V-TA} (dutka katati) mistreat. Wànihni kau dutka katatnaka ya yamka sa. It is not good to mistreat our family members.

dutka yulnaka VE. {V-TA} (dut[][ka] yulti) defame. Yal dapikda ya yang dutkiki yulnaka walik tung ka. The woman that I left only goes around defaming me.

dutkika NA.CNS3. (dut[][ka]) reverse side. Kahlù ãwikda katka dutkika bìtah ãwikda. I put my shirt on inside-out. (→ pitukka, abalka)

1dutnaka VI. {V-TA} (dutti) spoil; rot; become ruined; break down. Sana muihka ìtíi dápam lau ya dutnaka wàlik ka; bainah ati kuma ìtáh. That venison that you put up on is on the verge of rotting; salt it quick. Yámanh laalaha ya kasnhì, luih duttang ka. Don’t eat the bluggoes, they’re all rotten. (→ baknaka)

2dutnaka VT. {V-PA} (dutpi) uproot; extract; pull out. Anaki kònas dalapai, yapa bahangh dutpah. My tooth is
killing me, so pull it out for me. Malai saraka sikka ya dutnaka dasika palka ka. It is very difficult to pull out the cassava root.


2. N. (duwi[]) [MOD, MAN] port. Mining duwini āka tühka palka ka. Our port is very deep.

**Iban** N. (i[]ban) [BOT] [Msk: iban] (pref. sabakan)

**Ibin** N. (i[]bin) [REL] [Eng: heaven] heaven. Ībin tarat yau Alah lauwai. God lives in heaven.

**Ibu** N. (i[]bu) [BOT] eboe; Indian almond. ‘almond’. (LEGUMINOSAE Dipterx panamensis; Coumarouna oleifera; Coumarouna panamensis; Dipterx oleifera) Ību ya dī as yamka ka, yaka karak dī al ai yamdai. The eboe is a very good thing, with which all sorts of things are made. Ību ya panmak as lahti kasna yamka ka. The Indian almond is a good nut to eat boiled.

**Iduh** 1. INTERJ. there!.(→ āduh) (syn. araduh)

2. PRNRTL. look how...! Īrī tung īduh! Look how he’s running around! Kalmasungh wauhduti īduh! Your pants are falling down! (→ āduh) (syn. araduh)

**Ihainaka** VT. {V- Та} (ihaiti) bring. Yang kuring bisika as was kau watah yang ya murupi ihainaka puntayang. I’m thinking of hauling my canoe up onto shore. (syn. ahainaka, ainaka, ihwānaka)

**Ihibili** N. (ihi[]ibili) [BOT] [Spn: jengibre] ginger. (Zingiber officinale) Muih asingni sirih bautai kau ihibili ya lahti dinaka ya yamka ka. When our heart beats quickly it is good to drink ginger tea.

**Ihinnaka** VI. {V-PA} (ihihipi) neigh; whinny (horse). [• note often nasalized: ihih-]

**Ihlinaka** VT. {V- Та} (ihilti) (var. of ihirnaka)

**Ihirka** A. (ihihirka) raised; erect; pointing upwards.

**Ihirnaka** 1. VT. {V- Та} (ihirti) lift; raise; hoist; erect. Yang wauhding alas yā ihiirtida. I fell and he picked me up. Ê umana wauhdang yaka būna ihirnaka. That old fallen down house must be erected once again. (var. ihlīnaka)

2. VT. {V- Та} (ihiirti) wage (war). (var. ihlinaka)

**Ihnaka** 1. VI. {V-PA} (ihipi) neigh; whinny. Mining muih laih ihnaka sipsa; pamkīh wālīk laih sīp ka. Humans cannot neigh; only horses can do it. [• note often nasalized: ih-]

2. VI. {V-PA} (ihipi) roar; bellow (tiger). [• note often nasalized: ih-]

**Ihri** N. (ih[]ri) [BOT] fibrous plant sp.. Ihri ya pan baka as ka, puluka pilka, wakal baka watah ka. Makka ya suika kau mining lahti bik kaswai. The ihri is a small tree with white flowers and small thorns. We boil and eat the fruits when ripe.

**Ihwānaka** VT. {V0-IHWA} (ihwi) bring. Ihwārah! Bring it! Wai āka kasnaka ihwāda? Who brought this food? Yang dī as ihwikda. I brought something. Alas yā yultida dī as ihwāring. He/she told me to bring something. Yang bakaki balna ya yaupak akau ihwanaka waltayang. I want to bring my children from there to here. < ihi iwanaka (syn. ahainaka, ainaka, ihainaka) [• conjugates like wānaka: e.g. ihwāra]

**Ihyawanaka** VT. {V0-A} (ihyawi) take. Yang kasnaka dika ihyawakuting. I’m going to take some food. Mining lihwan amangka yak ihyawasa laih, it dī yamka bakanwasa atrang. If we don’t take enough money, we won’t be able to buy anything good. Yang lihwan ihyawasing. I’m not taking money. Yang yaka dika ya ūki kau ihyawanaka waltayang. I want to take that thing to my house. Aka alka yak ihyawarang. This man will take us. Div die ting kau wati dapai muih wāk tingka kau ānaka. < ihi yawanaka [• yak ihyawanaka has two interpretations: ‘he take us (incl)’ and ‘we (incl) take it’]
ikik N. (i[kik]) [ORN] kind of sparrow hawk.

iktiki N. (i[k]tiki) [ORN] great kiskadee; any yellow-bellied flycatcher similar to great kiskadee. (Tyrannidae)

ila N. (ila[]) [ANAT] spleen; inflammation or malignant growth in left abdomen. Muih as as balna ya ilakana patai wadhaka nita kau, yapa bik dalaka palka watah atya it yamka iradasa dalaka bahangh. Some people get an inflammation in their left side and are in so much pain that they can't run well.

ililih N. (i[l]ilih) [ICHTH] [Msk: I'lili] shark. 

ililih yak bilam as dutka palka ka, mining muih kau bik yak kasya. The shark is a bad fish, and it bites us. (prej. nusbuk)

ilisnaka VI. {V-PA} (ilispi) sniff; sniffle.

ilna N. (ilnaka) {eNSl: ilniki} act of lifting. Kimak sikka as karak ilnaka isauka yamatayang. (loosely) I'm lifting weights. (-t raunaka)

ilnaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (ilti) raise; lift; put up; hoist; elevate. Kuringki baka ya tarat kau murupi iltanauh. Drag my canoe up onto high ground. 2. VT. {V-TA} (ilti) store; stash; put away. 3. VT. {V-TA} (ilti) sell; have or bring to sell; have for sale. Itumabah ya rupikmak itai pih? Does your aunt sell batteries? 4. VT. {V-TA} (ilti) place (up, upon); set (table); put on (to cook). Was ya iltam kat kudak waltayang. Put on some water to boil; I want it when it's done. 5. VT. {V-TA} (ilti) cause to go up. Wahaiki pan kau ya iltda. My brother made my climb the tree.

iltak kudanaka VE. {OBV1 INF3: ilting kudanaka} put on to boil; boil. 

ilti dānaka VE. {V-PA} (ilti dāpi) save; store. Lihwan isau iti dāpikda watah yang. I have a lot of money saved up.

iluk N. (iluk[]) [BOT] garlic. (Allium sativum)

ilwanaka 1. VI. {V-WA} (ilwi) climb; ascend; rise; spring; arise; swell. Yang anu panka yūka ya ilwuting. I'm going to climb the tall coconut tree. Mā ilwai. The sun is rising. 2. VT. {V-WA} (ilwi) ride; mount. Āka 

pamkakih ilwuting. I am going to ride this horse.

3. VI. {V-WA} (ilwi) (boat/canoe)run aground; (canoe) be hung up on submerged log or rock.

ilyawanaka VI. {V-0-A} (ilyawi) go up; rise. (equiv. il yawanaka, ilwi yawanaka)

1inaka VT. {V-0-H} (ihi) get; have; receive; obtain. Bakaki baka īda kūt ka. My daughter had a baby. Panka pihka as ihih. Have a cigarette. Yang ihihka. I got it. Yang ikuh. I'm going to get it. Mining iwuting. We (incl.) are going to get it. Āyauh pak Wayah yulka idam? Where did you acquire the Miskitu language? Alas ihang dai pih? Did she receive it? (→ watah)

āti inaka VE. lodge; shelter; take in; house; have as guest. Pilisma palka īna kau yā āti ihih. Please take me into your home.

inaka yulka ADV. in order to get; in hopes of getting. Muih ingkinih lalahka balna ihwāvida ya īna yulka yapa yawayang, ści waiting āisau bahangh, kang lāwasing īring pan. I'm going to try to get some of those ripe bananas they brought, since I couldn't find any myself; I don't know if I'll be able to get any though. (equiv. īna yulka)

kang inaka VE. {V-0-H} (eqv. ihihka) take away from; deprive of. Yaka muihka mining dini watah tung ya kang inaka. We have take our things away from that person who is going around with them.

2inaka VT. {V-TA} (iti) kill; hunt. Pāpanghki sana as ītida. My father killed a deer. Yang mā daihka yā ītai. I'm dying of heat. Yang arakbus watah yang dai laih, yaka sanaka ītik dai. If I had a rifle I would kill that deer. Kuah as watah yang, yan inaka waitayang. I have a hicatee turtle and I want to kill it tomorrow.

alas kal inaka VE. {V-TA} (alas kal īti) kill oneself; commit suicide. Yang asing ātai, alas kal ītuting. I'm fed up, I'm going to commit suicide.

inapu N. (ina[p]u) [BOT] kira; wild cedar. (Esterculiceae Guazuma ulmifolia;
TILIACEAE Luehea seemannii

ingdi N. (ing[]di) lightning. Was mâ kau pan ingdi ya lipdai palka ka. During the rainy season there is much lightning.

ingh N. (ingh[]) tumor; abnormal growth. Muih almuk balna tântung kau pumdai dadang muihma bungpai ya, awangma yalka karak isdayam kau, ingh mâ bungpai atdai dadang. In the olden days they believed that if you joke with your uncle’s wife you will grow tumors.

inghnaka VI. {v-PAl (inghpi) blow nose.

ingka 1. A. {(no DISTRIBUT:form)} full of light; bright; luminous; aglow; radiant. Di ingka ya bai kaupak talwai ka. Bright things can be seen from afar.

2. N. light. Pukka kau aitak ulnaka ya ingka yamka·waltai ka. You need a good light to do writing at night.

3. A. {(no DISTRIBUT:form)} light (not heavy).

ingka kau dânaka VE. {v-PA} (ingka kau dâpi) enlighten; apprize; inform. Yang ai bungpai pan kang lawasing; ingka kau yâ dâpah. I don’t know what is happening; enlighten me. (syn. ingka kau yakanaka)

ingkinin N. (ing[]kinin) [BOT] banana. (MUSACEAE Musa sapientum) Ingkinin ya waska yamti dinaka yamka palka ka. Ingkinin ya kuruhipi dinaka yamka ka. It is good to drink banana wabul.

ingkinin adahka NE. [BOT] dwarf banana; short, thick variety of banana. (MUSACEAE)

ingmak N. (ing[]mak) [MOD, MAN] bulb (of flashlight). Yang ingmak isau watah yang bakannaka.

ingmat N. (ing[]mat) [MOD] lamp.

ingnaka VI. {v-PA} (ingpi) lighten; become light.

insal N. (in[]sal) [REL] [Eng: angel] angel; seraphin; cherubim. Insal ya mining it talwasa, katka wayaka laih talwai. We cannot see angels, be we can look at pictures of them.

înu N. (î[nu]) [MOD, REL] atheist; heathen; infidel. Muih înu ya tarat kau Alah âisau pumnaka watah ka. Atheists have the belief that there is no God in heaven.

ip N. (ip[]) injection.

ipirhka A. (ipipirhka) encrusted; caked on. Kasna kasi labannah dâwida ipirhka ya suhpî näh dapi ilti lauputing. I am going to wash and put away the plates that we ate on (and are crusted with food).

ipirhnaka VI. {v-TA} (ipirhti) encrust; cake.

ipnaka 1. VT. {v-TA} (ipti) sting; prick; inject. Balas ya yak iptak dalaka palka ka.

2. VT. {v-TA} (ipti) stand up firmly (e.g. by driving into ground). Tariniki panka iptayang. I’m putting up my fence posts.


iri N. (iri[]) [ENTOM] cricket. Iri ya mâ dailka paraska bungpai kau aiddai. The cricket sings when it gets very hot.

irk N. (irk[]) [ORN] kind of long-tailed green parakeet. (PSITTACIDAE Aratinga sp.) Irik ya warauhwa anaka yapa watah ka. (≠ kuyus) (syn. kikis)

irknaka VT. {v-PA} (irikpi) scrape; rasp; abrade; file. Kuhkibil yaika âisau ya irikpi yâtah kimak as lau yau. Scrape my dull knife on that stone that is there.

îringka N. runner. Al adadahka as as ya îringka palka ka. Some short men are very good runners.

isamah N. (isa[]mah) [MAN] pitcher; earthenware; clay or ceramic vessel. Tamanki wauhdi sahwida, it was butpasing.

isamhdanaka VI. {v-DA} (isamhdi) sneeze. Yang isamhdanaka yang. I have to sneeze. Man waya isau karak isamhdayam. You sneeze loudly.

isau A. {STRONG} much; many. Lihwan isau watah yang bahangh, âyakat yawanaka ya pumtasing. Since have lots of money, I can go anywhere without any worry. Di isau watah ataaka ya
yamka. (syn. mahka)

isau bungnaka VE. {v-PAl} (isau bungpi)
increase (in quantity). Yan pan isau
daknaka waltayang katka muih isau bungnaka waldasa.

isauka NA.CNS3. (isau[]) crowd; plentitude; abundance; plethora.
Yultì talnaka
isau ka VE. {V-PAl (isau bungpi)
increase (in quantity). Van pan isau
daknaka waldasa.

isauka kau ADV. in great numbers; in abundance.
Bilam balna ya was pas kau isauka kau ka. There are fish in
great abundance in the water.

isdanaka 1. VI. (isdi) play; have fun.
Mining balna yak isdai. We are playing.
Bikiska isdi bang ka. The children are
playing. Mádi áka isdanaka yà
yamtasa. I don’t want to play today.

isdanaka 2. VT. {v-PAl (isdi) pretend to be; play at; mimic;
act like; pose as. Wayah yak isdai.
We’re pretending to be Miskitu.

isdanaka 3. VT. {V-DA} (isdi) play (instrument).
isdanaka dika NE. toy; plaything.
Isdanaka dika isau ihwadida, katka yang
kau yà bakandasa dai.

isdanaka üka NE. (isdana[] üka) stadium; ball park.

Kal bauti isdanaka VE. play fight. (equiv.
isi kal buanaka)
kang isdanaka VE. {v-DA} ([ling isdi)
tease. Yang yaka mà yultikda ya man
walah atñih; yang dau mang isdíkda.
Don’t get angry about what I said; I was just teasing you.

isdang N. (is[[]dang) [ENTOM] leaf cutter
ant; parasol ant. Isdang pan baska
duhingka. Isdang ya di bisika katka
di itukwana palka yamtai.
pukka iskadang NE. (pük[[]ka)
iskadang) [ENTOM] kind of leaf-cutter
ant.

isdangka N. game; play. Áka māka balna
ákau mining luh isdangka yamka as
ísdi láwanaka.

isihnaka VT. {V-PA} (isíhpi) shake; rattle;
rustle; flap (wings); agitate. Yaka panka
ya isihnaka waltaying, di tarat
dau ya wauhdarang bahangh. Kal
isihdai. Yan māka laih yaluuki ya
isihnaka pumtayang. Patli pas kau
kimak bakana pūti isihpîng bikiska
balna abadida. I filled bottle with
pebbles and shook it as the children
danced.

isikdanaka VI. {V-DA} (isikdî) shudder;
wobble; shiver; shake self (to warm up).
Yang muihki áka waya isikdî kal
daihî sák yang, kanas ripka yâ
yamtai bahangh. I’m standing here
shaking my self because I’m so cold.

isiknaka 1. VI. {v-PAl} (isikpi) shake;
quake (earth). Asang isikpida. There
was an earthquake. Muih as tunak
isikpî kau yaka yaka talnah as má
kang kàtai, yaka kapakkà pan diaha
matya. When someone shakes their head
that is a sign to you, meaning that they
are saying no to you.

isiknaka 2. VT. {v-PAl (isikpi) shake;
cause to shudder.

isinaka VT. {v-PAl (isipi) shake; stir;
rustle. Itukubah ya damaska kau
yawai tung atak kat pan baska isau
lau kau atakpak di as làyawi isipak
wauhdi bisukipida. My aunt was walking
along in the bush and stepped in a pile of
brush and an animal scurried out shaking
everything and she almost fell.

ispiring N. (is[]piring) [ANAT] elbow.
Yakisiki ya ispiringka kau suru ilwang
lau ka. Ispiring karak bik muih yak
baudai.

isril N. (isril[]) [Eng: Israel] Israel. Alah
sau kau tung dadang kau isril muihka
balna karak tuk sikka balna yamtang
dadang. When God walked the earth he
did great deeds with the Isrealites.

isu N. (isu[]) [MOD, MAN] bow. [• compare
with sibangh üka]

it STAT. possible; able; capable; can. Mádi
áka it yámak kau yawasing dai,
bakaki as iwai bahangh. I couldn’t go
to the plantation today because one of my
children is sick. It sa yang. I’m not
capable. Mining it sa yak ka. We can’t
do it. Áka tuku it yamtasing. I
cannot do this work. It man pih yà
umhnaka? Can you help me?

itikka 1. A. (ititikka) packed; stuffed;
cramped; cluttered; full. Úki dipih áka
di isau lautang lau bahangh, itikka
palka ka. As I’ve planted many things in my yard, it is very cluttered. Úki ì isau pìting laulau bahangh di itikka. My house is packed with things here and there.

2. A. (ititikka) stout; stocky; of compact build. Yal itukwàna di itikka lau ka. There is a large stocky woman there.

itikmuk N. (itik[muk]) [ENTOM] kind of termite smaller than yul, and does not make nest. Itikmuk yaka sau kau wàlik tungwai, yapa bik pan balna kau bik watya kau kasi lilispai. Termites only live in the ground, and when they get a hold of a tree they destroy it by eating it.

itikna N. (itikna[]) bamboo wall; corral; pen. Wîlih ya itikna kau lau ka. The green turtle is in the pen.

1itiknaka VT. {V-PA} (itikpi) tamp; stomp down; pack; clog; stop up. Nangtak raupi nangkitak itikpai. My nose is clogged from a cold.

2itiknaka VT. {V-PA} (itikpi) fence in. Kusihki òka as itiknaka waltayang. I want to make a fenced in pen for my pigs. Ë itikputi dapa daktayang. I'm cutting bamboo in order to fence in my house.

itnus N. (it[nus]) [MOD, ICHTH] globe-fish (poisonous).

itubah N. (itu[bah]) [KIN] aunt; sister of mother or father. Itukabah isau watah yang katka yang kau dalaka yà taladasa.


itunaka VT. {V-PA} (itupi) enlarge; make bigger. Buksirih watah yangna dai laih ûka âka andih itupikdana atti. If we had a chainsaw we would have already enlarged this house.

iwanaka 1. VI. {V-WA} (iwi) die; be sick; be ill. Yang puntayang sùmulu iwarang. I think your dog will die. Àka waska diring laih iwaring. If I drink this water I will die. Sùlu yamka as watah yang kat bil kasak iwang. A snake bit and killed the good dog that I had. Muih ya iwanaka waldasa, katka màka wài ya laih, iwdai. People do not want to die, but if their day comes, they die. Muih as iwaï kau yà yamka kal dahdasa. When you are sick, you don’t feel well.

2. NV. death; decease; demise. Yaka al ya dutka dadang bahangh, iwanaka dutka iwang dadang. Because that man had been evil, he died an unpleasant death. (eqv. iwangka)

3. NV. illness; sickness; disease; ailment; malady; any medical condition, including illness or pregnancy. Àka dika basta iwanaka isau singnaka it ka. This medicine can cure many illnesses. (eqv. iwangka)

ìwàng wayaka NE.PPRT3 CNS3. {PPRT1 CNS1: ìwàng wayaki, PPRT2 CNS2: ìwám wayama, PPRT12 CNS12: yak ìwàng wayani} ghost; phantom; poltergeist; spirit that comes out after a person dies, makes noises but is never seen. Mádì pukka ù as kau amikda yang kàng ìwànìng dái yàlah muih ìwàng yà, katka aming kau ìwàng wayaka balna dakikda, bahangh yamka amasing dái; dislah kau dakikda yaka muih ìwàng ðùka dái. I did not know that the house I slept in last night had belonged to a dead person, but when I went to sleep I heard the sounds of a ghost, and so I didn’t sleep well: when I woke up in the morning I heard that the house had belonged to a dead person.

ìwàsa (form of iwanaka) VI.NEG3. alive. Awangki ya ìwàda pìh ìting ìwàsa tung dàh. I thought my uncle had died but he is still alive.

ka AGR.3. third-person (singular or plural) default sentence agreement. Kuma kalakka ya di watang watah ka. The pelican has something that it has caught..

kababa N. (kaba[ba]) [BOT] tree with giant leaves sp.
kabakaba  N. (kaba[kaba]) [ZOO] river snail.

kadanaka  VT. {v-PA} (kadapi) spread into thin layer [to dry]. Pihmak ya yawi dapi baika baika kada dapi wàrah; mā daîhka wàti yamka buhâta rukputing. Go spread the rice out really thin; once the sun has dried it well I am going to hull it. (syn. daranaka)

kadatka  A. (kadadatka) fine. Di duput ya kadatka ka, katka pihmak laih it kadatka atwasa. Flour is fine, but we cannot call rice fine.


kahu  N. (kah[ka]) [BOT] coquito. (PALMAE Astrocaryum alatum; PALMAE Astrocaryum mexicanum)

kahlu nauh  NE. (kah[lu nauh]) [MAN] skirt.

kahu takat  NE. (kah[lu takat]) [MAN] blouse; top.

yal kahkalu  NE. (yal[kahkalu]) [MAN] dress.

kahma  N. (kah[ma]) [HERP] iguana. (Iguana iguana) Kahma as pan tarat kau kût ya wati yâtanauh. (You all) grab me that iguana that is lying up in the tree. Kuah, kahma balna ya mâmâka kau lukdai. Hicatee turtles, iguanas and such lay eggs in the summer. Kahma ya muih isau sumaka ya kasnaka waldai. Many people like to eat the eggs of the iguana.

kahma almuk  NE. (kah[ma almuk]) [HERP] ishwillly; iguana-like edible lizard. (Ctenosaura sp.) Kahma almuk ya úkatak tubakka palka ka. The ishwillly has very thick skin.

kahma sipitkanak  NE. (kah[ma sipitkanak]) [BOT] ‘iguana claw’ plant. (syn. kâla sipitkanak)

kahma wahka  NE. (kah[ma wahka]) [BOT] vine with tiny white flowers sp..

kahma waikaku  NE. March. Yang bakaki as watah yang ya kahma waikaku kau sîwang. My child was born in March.

kahna  VT. {v-TA} (kanti) paint; smear; coat; spatter; dab. Yang ūka kahyang. I am painting the house.

Kuringki tunak sahwan ya sau pauka kahnikiki atrang. I will have to dab some clay on the crack in the bow of my canoe.

kuma kahna  VE. {v-TA} (kuma kahti) salt; cure with salt. (syn. kumanaka, kuma ānaka)

kahtang  (form of kahna) VT.PERF3. smeared; painted; smudged. (eqv. kahna)

kuma kahtang  VE.PERF3. salted; cured with salt. Papaki laih pâuh kuma kahtang isau watah ka bakannaka. My stepfather has lots of salted tuba (fish) to sell. (syn. kuma ātang)

kahwanaka  VI. {v-WA} (kahwi) kal kahwanaka  VR. anoint self; smear on self; become muddy. Yang âka waska âka kal kahwuting. I’m going to anoint myself with this liquid. Bikiska bisik balna ya wasmâk lau kat ði pundasa yawi kal kahwadi. When there is mud around, small children without a though go and get themselves muddy.

kainaka  VT. {v-PA} (kaipi) pare; peel.

Lima damka ya muih as as ya kaipi ukdai dapak bik muih as as ya turupi ukdai. Some people pare sweetlimes and some peel them in order to eat them. Δ Panmak as ya kuhbil ihi úkatak ya dakti yakanaka.

kakau  N. (kakau) [BOT] [Spn: cacao] cacao; cocoa. (Theobroma cacao) Kakau ya panmak as auhka isauka palka watâh ka. Cacao is a fruit which contains much oil.

asang pas kakauka  NE. [BOT] kind of plant.

kaknaka  1. VT. {v-PA} (kakpi) herd; drive; push; shove. Muih kal dahsa sák...
atak kknaka ya dutka palka ka. It is very bad to shove someone when they are (standing) not expecting it. Dī as kknaka ya yamahatk iyam kau kakpayam. When pushing something you have to exert yourself. Turuh balna ya wālang kau bang atak yakaupak kkipi ihaiti yaktida. The cattle were out on the savannah and he/she drove them back here.

2. VT. {v-PA} (kakpi) kick out; throw out; expel. Uma kau muih wāk as mīdi tung laih, alas dī dutka wālīk yamta laih it man alas kau kknaka, tapa alas dika luīh ih i bungpi yawa ran, pah wāk kau. If there is a stranger staying in your house and he only does bad things, you can kick him out and then he will leave with all his belongings and go to another place.

3. VT. {v-PA} (kakpi) goad; prod; instigate; drive; urge.

4. VT. {v-PA} (kakpi) prop up; buttress; support; shore up; timber.

kal pak kal baunaka VE. {V-TA} (kakpak kal bauti) provoke; incite.

kal pak yaknaka VE. chase away; chase out; drive away. Yang turuh as anuki panka waraupak kkipi yaktīkda. I chased away a cow that was bothering my coco palm. (→ kknaka, yaknaka)

kāku N. (kā[ku]) [ORN] pelican. Kāku dī as nangkatak yūhka palka ka. (syn. kuma kalakka)

kāl N. (kal[]ku) [ORN] foot; leg; paw; talon. Muih as as ya kalkanna itukwāna palka ka.

1kal 1. N. (kal[]) [ANAT] foot; leg; paw; talon. Muih as as ya kalkanna itukwāna palka ka.

kāla kula \[\text{kal} \] N. (kalak[]kalakka) [ORN] pelican; kingfisher; any of several similar kingfisher species, most prototypically the ringed kingfisher. (ALCEDINIDAE Ceryle t. torquata; ALCEDINIDAE Chloroceryle sp.) Kalak ya pan tarat kaupak was kau âwi bilam watya. Kuma kalakka NE. (kuma[]kalakka) [ORN] pelican. Kuma kalakka was kau âwi bilam watya. (syn. kāku)

kalamatah N. (kala[matah] [BOT] anise piper; large-leaved aromatic plant whose crushed leaves have aniselike odor and are used for making tea. ‘cowfoot’. (Piper auritum)

kalang PV. having to do with clothing; preverbal word having to do with clothing, appearing in set expressions. (only in kalang tahwanaka, kalang usunaka, kalang yaknaka)

kalang tahwanaka VE. {v-WA} (kalang talwi) soil oneself. Bāwās yā watang
dai warka kau  Ḣiri yawayang tung
yang atak andih kalang tahwing dai. I
had diarrhea and was running through the
bush and suddenly soiled my pants.
kalang usunaka VE. {V-PA} (kalang
usupi) wet oneself; wet one’s pants.
kalang yaknaka VE. {V-TA} (kalang
yakti) change clothes. Mádi máka āka
má luikh kau purawii tung yang dai
bahangh kalang yaktuting. Since I
have been getting wet all day long I’m
going to change my close.
kalsini N. (kalsini) [ANAT] heel.
kalsungh N. (kalsungh) [MAN] [Spn:
calzón] pants; trousers; breeches. Muih
almuk balna ya kalsungh ahauka
åwanaka wálik waldai. Kalsungh
adahka áwatik pah ka.
kalsungh kalkatang NE. (kalsungh
kalkatang) pant leg; hem at bottom of
pant leg. Kalkasungh kalkatang
puraka wáda sák ka. He’s come in with
wet pant legs.
kalsu N. (kalsu) [MOD, MAN] tape
measure; measuring tape.
kallsi N. (kallsi) [KIN] family; kin;
relative.
kallapa ADV. among one’s own kind.
Wahaika karak kallapa kal
baudida. He fought against his own
brother.
kalpas N. (kalpas) [ANAT] instep; arch
of foot.
kalpas máká NE. Tuesday.
kalpas laban CMOD. (kalpas laban)
flat-footed.
kalpas laban CMOD. (kalpas laban)
flat-footed.
kalsini N. (kalsini) [ANAT] heel.
kalsungh N. (kalsungh) [MAN] [Spn:
calzón] pants; trousers; breeches. Muih
almuk balna ya kalsungh ahauka
åwanaka wálik waldai. Kalsungh
adahka áwatik pah ka.
kalsungh kalkatang NE. (kalsungh
kalkatang) pant leg; hem at bottom of
pant leg. Kalkasungh kalkatang
puraka wáda sák ka. He’s come in with
wet pant legs.
kal yulka NE. one’s own story; testimony;
confession.
kal yulka yaknaka VE. {V-TA} (kal yulka
yakti) confess. Muih tisi yultingka ya
má as datak kal yulka yaktaí.
kal yulka yultingka VE. {V-TA} (kal yulka
yultingka) confess. Muih tisi yultingka ya
má as datak kal yulka yaktaí.
kal yulka yultingka VE. {V-TA} (kal yulka
yultingka) confess. Muih tisi yultingka ya
má as datak kal yulka yaktaí.
kal yulka yuldak NE. one’s own story;
testimony; confession.
kulmuh N. (kulmuh) [KIN] family; kin;
relative.
kulmba ADV. among one’s own kind.
Wahaika karak kulmba kal
baudida. He fought against his own
brother.
kulmba lauwana N. (kulmba lauwana)
[ANAT] family; kin; relative.
kulmuh N. (kulmuh) [KIN] family; kin;
relative.
kulmba ADV. among one’s own kind.
Wahaika karak kulmba kal
baudida. He fought against his own
brother.
kulmba lauwana N. (kulmba lauwana)
[ANAT] family; kin; relative.
kalpas N. (kalpas) [ANAT] instep; arch
of foot.
kalpas laban CMOD. (kalpas laban)
flat-footed.
kalsini N. (kalsini) [ANAT] heel.
kalsungh N. (kalsungh) [MAN] [Spn:
calzón] pants; trousers; breeches. Muih
almuk balna ya kalsungh ahauka
åwanaka wálik waldai. Kalsungh
adahka áwatik pah ka.
kalsungh kalkatang NE. (kalsungh
kalkatang) pant leg; hem at bottom of
pant leg. Kalkasungh kalkatang
puraka wáda sák ka. He’s come in with
wet pant legs.
kul yulka NE. one’s own story; testimony;
confession.
kul yulka yaknaka VE. {V-TA} (kal yulka
yakti) confess. Muih tisi yultingka ya
má as datak kal yulka yaktaí.
kul yulka yultingka VE. {V-TA} (kal yulka
yultingka) confess. Muih tisi yultingka ya
má as datak kal yulka yaktaí.
kul yulka yuldak NE. one’s own story;
testimony; confession.
kulmuh N. (kulmuh) [KIN] family; kin;
relative.
kulmba ADV. among one’s own kind.
Wahaika karak kulmba kal
baudida. He fought against his own
brother.
kulmba lauwana N. (kulmba lauwana)
[ANAT] family; kin; relative.
kalpas 1. N. (kalpas) [ANAT] instep; arch
of foot.
kul yulka NE. one’s own story; testimony;
confession.
kul yulka yaknaka VE. {V-TA} (kal yulka
yakti) confess. Muih tisi yultingka ya
má as datak kal yulka yaktaí.
kul yulka yultingka VE. {V-TA} (kal yulka
yultingka) confess. Muih tisi yultingka ya
má as datak kal yulka yaktaí.
kul yulka yuldak NE. one’s own story;
testimony; confession.
Salahki kanas dalapai. My arm hurts very much.

kang PV.ADRVS3. ([]ng) {ADVRSl: yang, ADVRS2: mang, ADVRS11: yangna, ADVRS22: manga, ADVRS33: kangna} to him/her/it; against him/her/it; on him/her/it; taking from; at the expense of. Urum iltang watah dai dapak muih àwi kang didida. He had some rum stashed away and some people got in and drank it on him.

kangba 1. N. (kang[]ba) habit; custom; nature. Yang itukibah ya alas baka kaupak takapas yurahka ka; yaka ya kangkaba. My aunt has held her mouth slightly open since she was a child; it is her nature.

2. ADV. always. Alas makdaka waska kangba irai. He is always crying.

kangh ADV. tight(ly); firmly; solidly; gripping tightly. Kangh iih! Hold it tight! (→ watnaka)

kanghka A. {STRONG} (kakanghka) solid; dense; heavy; substantial. Di as as balna laulau ya kangh laulau ka, as as yaka ingka laulau ka. Some things are heavy and some things are light. (syn. tika)

kangka A. (kakangka) full; cluttered; having no vacancy; having all empty spaces taken.

kangling N. (kang[]ling) [ZOO] mangrove crab; fiddler crab. (Uca sp.)

kangna (form of kang) PV.ADRVS33.

kapah N. (kapah[]) trouble; problem. Alas kapah áwäng. He got into trouble.

kapahnaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (kapahi) offend; hurt feelings. Yaka alka ya yawi kunhping kat, alas kal kapahatang dai. When I went and bothered that man he became troubled.

2. VT. {V-TA} (kapahi) bother; trouble; worry. Damaska kau yak yawai kau, mata balna ya yak kapahdai. When we are walking in the forest, ticks bother us. Kal baunaka wáya ya kanas yá kapahtaii. The coming war troubles me greatly.

kal kapahnaka VR. {V-TA} (kal kapah) worry; be bothered; be troubled. Yang bakaki malaka pahka kau ádída ya yulka kal kapahii tung yang. I’m worried about my child who they’ve put in jail.

1kapak N. (kapak[]) manner; meaning; importance; understanding. Yaka kapakka kau yang yultikda. Yang yul yultikda dai ka, kapak sikka yultikda.

kapak áisau ADV. (kapak[] áisau) blindly; without understanding.

kapak inaka VE. {V-ÍH} (kapak[] íi) understand; figure out. Yang yul yultikda ya kapakkan a idasa dai. They did not understand what I said.

Yang kapak ising. I do not understand.

2kapak ADV. already. (syn. andih)

kapdanaka VI. {V-DA} (kapdi) choke; drown; get food or liquid in one’s nasal passage. Was ísau dihing kat kapdanaka yá yamtida. Was dihi kawari kapdikda. I was laughing while drinking and got water up my nose.

kapdi iwanka VE. (V-ÍH) (kapdi[] íi) drown. Kuring abudak kapdi iwanka waltasing. I don’t want to drown if/when the canoe tips capsizes.

kapitdanaka VI. {V-DA} (kapitdi) nod off (in drowsiness); be falling asleep.

kapitdanaka sa dika basta NE. (kapitdana[] sa dika basta) stimulant; alertness aid.

kápitis N. (ká[]pitis) [MOD, MAM] manatee; sea cow. (Trichechus manatus) (syn. waspamka)


karabu N. (karabu[]) [BOT] nance; locust berry; golden spoon; shoemaker’s tree. (Byrsonima crassifolia) Karabu ya panmak lalahka baka as ka. The nance is a little yellow fruit.

karadanaaka VI. {V-DA} (karadi) melt; dissolve. Diki auhka áka tingki pas kau watah tung yang ya áting karadanaaka waltasing. Luhusmak ya was pas kau dawai kau luir karadi lawai. If you leave soap in water it dissolves away.

karadanaka 1. VI. {V-DA} (karadi) melt; dissolve. Diki auhka áka tingki pas kau watah tung yang ya áting karadanaaka waltasing. Luhusmak ya was pas kau dawai kau luir karadi lawai. If you leave soap in water it dissolves away.

2. VI. {V-DA} (karadi) shrivel; wither; wilt.
karak 1. P.COM. with. Wai man karak wāda? Who came with you? Yang alas karak kal talyangna. You and I (you with me) see each other. Áka panka pāpenghki māmahi karak launa. This tree my mother and father planted. Wahaiki ya yang sükilu karak ýamak kau yawada. My brother went to the plantation with my dog.

2. P.INST. with; by means of. Alas di muih ya kuhbil karak daktai. He cuts the meat with a knife.

3. P.COMPAR. than. Alas yang karak kanas yiihka ka. He is taller than me.

karakara N. (kara[kara]) [ORN] crested caracara. (FALCONIDAE Polyborus plancus)

karakpah P. as soon as; just when; immediately following.

karana 1. VT. {v-PA} (karapi) melt; dissolve.

2. VT. {v-PA} (karapi) wilt; cause to wither. Yākimak kau wili isauka watah yang datka má daikhka raupi luhi karapika paktida. I had a lot of cocoyam in my field but the sun wilted it all.


2. N. (karas[mak]) knot. Pan karaskamak watah ya buknaka dasika palka ka. It is very hard to saw (rip) wood that has knots in it.

karat N. (karat[]) sore (open).

karatdanaka VI. {v-DA} (karatdi) fester; rankle; become infected. Yang kalki áka isau palka karatdai.

karatdingka (form of karatdanaka) N. [PEJOR] scabby; rotten. Man ya karatdingka man.

karauhnaka VI. {v-PA} (karauhpi) bark like spider monkey. Urus ya talsaman bik karauhpi ya dahyam. Even if you don’t see the spider monkey you can hear its distinctive bark. Muih laih waupai; urus wālik laih karauhpi. People yell and scream; only the spider monkey makes its special very loud bark.

kardanaka VI. {v-DA} (kardi) drag oneself; slither; crawl; drag self along on stomach.

karhdanaka VI. {V-DA} (karhdi) become stuck; become mired; become bogged.

karhnaka 1. VT. {v-PAl (karhpi) scrape; scale; rake; scrape clean. Kusih itidam ya butuka karhpah. Scrape the hairs off the pig that you killed. Yang waspah ya karhputing. I am going to scrape out the well. Uki dipihka minisihka bahangh, màdi áka karhpayang. Since my yard is dirty I'm raking today.

2. VT. {v-PA} (karhpi) bale; scoop (water). Kuringki áka sahwang bahangh átai ka; karhpi nàh dapi kau at yawakuting. My canoe is split and so it leaks; I'll scoop the water out and be on my way.

bas karhnaka VE. {v-PAl (bas[karhpi)] comb hair. Baka yal balna ya luhi baska karhnaka. All little girls need to comb their hair.

karhna 1. VT. {v-PA} (karhpi) knot; tie knot in.

kari N. you-know-what; you-know-who.

karhi yulwida dai ka? So what about that thing we talked about?
waldayang.

2. VT. {v-PA} (karpi) roll up.

karpi ilnaka VE. roll up (sleeve, pant leg).

Was kau lakyawayarn ya kalmasungh karpi il dapi yawah. Roll up your pant legs before go down into the water.

Kalkisungh karpi iltikda katka lakwida. I rolled up my pant legs but they fell back down.

kás N. (kás[]) [BOT] bribri; leguminous tree sp. (Inga sp.) (→ amai, tiriskirna)

kasarka A. {STRONG} (kasasarka)

{STRONG: kasasar} down-curved; sloped or pointed downwards; hooked downward like hawk's beak. Dirauh ya anaka baka kasar ka. The eagle's beak is curved downward. (ant. ihirka)

kasarnaka VT. {v-PAl (kasarpi) tilt or point down. Awasma sukpam watah man ya kasarph, diswarang ati. Tilt your torch downwards so it (the flame) doesn't go out.

kasauh N. (kasauh[]) [BOT] cashew. (Anacardium occidentale) Kasauh ya muih kasdai; makka ya bik disarang. People eat the cashew fruit and also the toasted nut.

ekasiramah N. (ka[]siramah) [HERP] kind of small lizard. [note stress: kásirámah, kákásirámah, kásiráma[mka])

kasna N. (kasna[]) food. Kasna áisan bahangh, muih luih ya amatdadai. kasna waska NE. (kasna[] waska) soup; broth.


2. VT. {V0} (kasi) bite. Áka sawika süklu kasda.

3. VT. {V0} (kasi) pinch. Páp ya taidhak tingki makka kau yá kasda. I shut the door on my finger.

4. NV. (kasna[]) food; meal. Δ Mâ as kau wat bás muih di lahdai ya. What people cook three times a day. (syn. kasnaka dika)

kasnaka úka NE. (kasna[] úka) [ANAT] stomach.

kasna kasingka NE. glutton. Muih as as ya kasna kasingka palka ka. (syn. di kasingka)

kasna launaka VE. {v-TA} (kása lauti) plant; cultivate; sow. Yan mákà lai kasna launaka kal muruputingna.

kasnat N. (kas[]nat) [MOD, REL] manna. Kasnat ya kasna náka as dadang. Mana is a kind of food.

kat P. at; when. Ú labaka yau sák yang kat, súlu yá kasda.

katakna VT. {V-PA} (katakpi) scrub (skin). Muih ya wasaradai kau, úkanatak ya yamka katakdai kau úkanatak ya yamka bungpai minisihka ya. When people bathe and scrub their skin well, their skin comes nice and clean.

katalnaka VT. {V0-TAL} (katali) {IMPER2: katalah[katalah]} [MOD] look after; watch over; take care of. Muih almuk balna ya múkana balna luih kau kataldai. Bakama ya katalah! Look after your child! Alas yá kataulya. He/she looks after me.


kataramah úka NE. henhose; hencoop.

katatnaka VT. {v0} (katati) maltreat; mistreat; torment; abuse; tease; act negatively toward. Ulping yawasa palka yatya. It’s taking me forever to write all this. Alas bai yawang dai bahangh waihpak wasa palka katatda. He went so far away that it took him forever to paddle back.

1katka x. but. Tukwanaka dika balna áisan katka tingki karak yamting.

2katka ADV. still; yet; more. Katka nangtak yá watsa dah. Dí isau watah atram bik katka waltah.

katka bik sa ADV. no more.
1. P. in; at; on; to; into; onto.
2. P. when.

When there is no work there is no money either.

{PL: kauh} [e Only known usage is kau mahmaka.]


Kauh bahana VE. {V-TA} (kauh bahti) tap ash off tip of cigarette.

2. ADV. more. (syn. kanas, katka)
2. ADV. contrastive particle used in emphasis. Maidi kauh wasarana yawayang. Now I'm going to go bath.

Kauhmak NAME. name of the community Sandy Bay Sirpi.


Kau mahmaka VE. {V-PA} (kau mahpi) torment; abuse; take advantage of. Alas yâ kau mahpai. He torments me. Yang alas balna kauna mahpayang. He torments us (excl.). Alas yangna balna yâna kau mahpai. He torments us (incl.). (→ laih)

Note kauna in plural

kauna (form of kau) PV.OBJ.PL.

Kaupak P. from; since. Pan kaupak wauhdida. Mampa kaupak yamah mà watya? (ant. kau)

Kawai N. (kâ[wai]) [BOT] tree with red wood and latex. (Pterocarpus officinalis)

Kawaika A. (kawaiwai) curved. Süh balna as as ya nangkanatak barangka, katka as as ya kawaika ka. Some hummingbirds have straight beaks, but some have curved ones.

Kawanka A. (kawanku) curved; bent; hooked. Di kawanka balna ya sibangh Úka yapa ka. Curved things are shaped like a bow.

Kawanwat N. (kawan[wat]) [MOD, MAN] cant hook. Kawanwat karak pan sikka tuluwai. We roll over large logs with a cant hook.

Kawaranaka VI. {V-RA} (kawari) laugh; smile. Maidi âka asing âtang tung yang, kawaranaka waltasing. I am angry today, and do not feel like laughing.

Ai ati kawaranam? Why are you laughing? Maidi ikusukdai kau yamka kal dahwasa ka, kungnimak kipti tinipas ya yurahdi atwati yapa ka. When someone tickles us we can't relax; we feel the need to pull our lip and open our mouth. [e atwati is the 'potentive' form (mining) of atnaka]

Kang kawaranaka VE. laugh at; make fun of. Yang kawaranih! Maidi lieu kawaradai. Maidi mining kawaradai kau, yamka kal dahwasa. When people make fun of us we do not feel good.

Kawatnaka VT. {V-PA} (kawatpi) stir (liquid). Wasbaras kau damka bâtayam kau kawatpasaman kat tapalhka ya yapa lau ka; kawatpayam kau damtau. If you put sugar in coffee but don't stir it it remains bitter; when you stir it it gets sweet.

Kayabarás N. (kâ[yabarás]) [ZOO] black crab.

Kâyabulus N. (kâ[yabulus]) [HERP] kind of lizard often found in houses. Kâyabulus ya warka kau dapì û pas balna kau tungwai. The kâyabulus lizard lives in the bush as well as in houses.

Kayah N. (kayah[ ]) [ORN] kind of green parrot with red crest.

Kayaldanaka 1. VT. {V-DA} (kayaldi) spy on; act secretly. Maidi û pas kau wasari lau yang kat baka as yâ kayaldida. Today as I was bathing in the bathroom a child spied on me.

2. VT. {V-DA} (kayaldi) lie in wait for; hunt by ambush. Di itingka alka balna ya damanka kau yawi di balna kayaldadai, iti kasnaka waldai kau. Hunters go into the bush and lie waiting for animals when they want to kill something to eat.

Sana kayaldanaka VE. {V-DA} (sana kayaldi) hunt deer by lying and waiting.

Kayaldi VT.PROX. secretly; clandestinely; stealthily.
kayaldi talnaka  VE. spy on.

kayaska  N. (kayas[][ka]) [ZOO] beach crab; ghost crab.

kayasni sangka  NE. (kayas[]ni sangka) [ZOO] blue crab.

kayaya  N. (kaya[]ya) [ENTOM] kind of large flying beetle.

ki  N. (ki[]) stone; rock. Ki ya tíka palka ka duihnaka. Stone is heavy to carry. (→ kimak)

kidak  N. (ki[]dak) [MAN] axe; hatchet. Kidak laih pan baka, pan itukwána dánaka díka. The axe is for cutting plants or trees.


kiki mutu  NE. (ki[]ki mutu) [ENTOM] running ant.

kiki úka  NE. (ki[]ki úka) ant’s nest; anthill.

kiki wingdana  NE. (ki[]ki wingdana) [ENTOM] stinking ant.


kilaban  N. (ki[]laban) [MOD, MAN] brick; block. Kilaban karak ú pas paktañam kau kanas bai midai. If you pave your floor with bricks it lasts longer.

kililih  N. (kililih[]) [ENTOM] cicada. Kililih ya mánmáka díka baka as yamka palka ka. The cicada is a good insect (lit. small animal) of the summer.

kimak  N. (ki[]mak) stone; rock. Kimak balna ya sañ ubulka sikka balna kau laih isau bangbang ka. There are many stones in the big mountains. Kimak sikka balna ya muíh balna sañti náñ dapi ú yamdañ. People build houses out of split rocks. (→ ki)

ki muihka  NE. (ki[] muihka) [ENTOM] kind of biting worm used as fishing bait. (→ wasyapu)

kimun  N. (ki[]mun) pumice. Kimun ya kuma kungka kau ilwádañ, dapak muíh balna anapi ihi suba dánka buhdai.

kingdanaka  VI. {V-DA} (kingdi) become clogged. Was úka ya alhdang lau dai katka sau áwak kingdida. The bucket was punctured but mud got in it and it (the hole) became clogged.

kinghna  VT. {V-PA} (kinghipi) strike; knock (on door).

kinghipi dahnaka  VE. knock on door.

Úka yau yawi kinghipi dakah! Go knock on the door of his/her house!

kingnaka  VT. {V-PA} (kingpik) plug; cork; stop up. Kuringki aka alhdida bahangh kingpikda. My canoe developed a hole so I plugged it.

(takapas kin)  VE. {V-PA} (ta[]pas kingpi) gag.

kingpingka  N. (kingping[]ka) cork; plug; stopper.

kípi  N. (kípi[]) [BOT, MED] medicinal plant sp.. Kípi ya di basta as yamka ka, di basta isau burañ. Kípi is a good medicinal plant; they mix it with many medicines.

kipnaka  1. VT. {V-TA} (kípti) pull; haul. Yang bilarn itukwána as wating ya kípti. Wah kíptanañ! Pull the rope! Di úkatañ ya kípnaka.

2. VT. {V-TA} (kípti) inhale; sniff; snort; drag; sniff. Kípti bknaka díka balna ya kuma kung kau isau was duih ilwádañ. A lot of (snortable) drugs wash up on the beach.

3. VT. {V-TA} (kípti) comb. Yang banskí kípti lau yaw.

4. VI. {V-TA} (kípti) flow. Bang yawakhuth ating dai katka was kíptai bahangh yawaswing dai.

kipnaka bknaka  VE. snort; sniff (drug); inhale through nose (drug).

kipnaka díka  NE. cocaine; sniff; drug inhaled through nose.
kipi dutnaka VE. pull off; yank off. Ú umana panka balna ya luh kipti dutnaka.

kipi ínaka VE. {V-O-IH} (kipti ihi) pull in; retrieve; pull closer. Kuring yaka wara yůska sitting wit ya labaki kau kipti ikuting. The canoe that I tied a long rope to and is floating (i.e. the canoe), I'm going to pull it up close to me.

kipi yulnaka VE. {V-TA} (kip yulti) speak slowly and carefully.

kira N. (ki[r]a) [BOT] oak.

kirit N. (kirit[]) [MOD, MAN] saw.

kiriti N. (kiriti[]) [ICHTH] keerity; small fish sp.. Kiriti ya waska dinaka awhka ka.

kiritka A. (kiriritka) serrated; rough; ridged; fluted. Pan as as ya baska kungka kiritka laulau ka, as as balna ya baska salaika bik laulau ka. There are some plants which have serrated leaves, and some with smoothed-edged leaves as well.

kisa N. (kisa[]) residue; sediment; grounds; dregs; pulp. Anu ya waska tirispi yakdai kau pisaka midai. When the liquid is squeezed out of a coconut the pulp remains. wasbaras kisaka coffee grounds (var. tisa)

kisah 1. N. (ki[s]ah) flint.
2. N. (ki[s]ah) [MOD, MAN] match.

kisaka N. (kisaka[]) [HERP, ICHTH, ANAT] scale. Bilam kisakaka yaktah. Remove the scales from the fish.

kisangmak N. (ki[sangmak]) [ANAT] kidney.

kisauri N. (kisauri[]) [BOT] fowl-smelling weed, used for snakebite and also for epileptic seizures.. 'fitweed'. (Eryngium foetidum)

kisir N. (kisir[]) [ICHTH] stone bass; palometa fish. (Diapterus rhombeus) Kisir ya buruna kasnaka kanas yamka ka. Kisir ya sau tunak pas waikaku kau isau bungpai.

kisirka A. (kisirka) spiky (hair); bristling (hairs). Baski áka dakinaka waltayang kata tunik pas ya kisirka dakinaka waltayang. I want to cut my hair but I want it to be spiky on top.

kisirnaka VI. {V-PA} (kisirpi) stand on end; bristle. Sawi ya walah atya kau butuka ya kisirpai. When the white-lipped peccary gets angry it hair stands on end.

kiska A. (kikiska) stinging. Kuhbil tingki kau yá daktang ya, kuma áwak kiska dai. When salt got in the knife wound on my hand it stung.

kiskis N. (kis[kis]) [ORN] northern jacana. (JACANIDAE Jacana spinosa)

kisling N. (kis[l]ling) [BOT] Christmas blossom (small tree). (Senna alata)

kisnak N. (kis[n]ak) [BOT] kind of tall grass. (Gynerium sp.) Túruh ya kisnak kasya kau, muihka ya wingka dutka watah ka. When a cow eats the kisnak grass, its meat has a bad smell.

kisnaka VT. {V-PA} (kispi) [Msk: kiskaia] fry. (pref. burunaka)

kitang N. (ki[t]ang) rapids; waterfall. Kitang dutka ya di yabasikka lañanaka. It is frightening to go over bad rapids.

kitirbas N. (kitir[]bas) [MOD, BOT] kind of small fern. (POLIPODIACEAE) Kitirbas ya muih balna asungna dalapai kau lahti didai.

kiuhdanaka VI. {V-DA} (kiuhdi) shout; yell. Mâdi áka bikisikiki balna kau kiuhdanaka waltasing.

kiwis N. (kiwis[]) signature. (→ kiwisnaka)

kiwisna N. (kiwisna[]) scratch; scribble. Yang talki ya kiwisna watah ka. My watch has a scratch on it.

kiwisnaka 1. VT. {V-PA} (kiwispi) scratch.
2. VT. {V-PA} (kiwispi) sign (name).
3. VT. {V-PA} (kiwispi) [ELDER, SLANG] write.
4. VI. {V-PA} (kiwispi) scribble; doodle. Aikitak kau kiwispanih. Don’t scribble on my paper.
5. VI. {V-PA} (kiwispi) sign (name).

krisi A. [Eng: crazy] crazy; insane. (pref. muhbul)
krismus waikaku NE. December.
Krismus waikaku ya muih luhi ya asungna aslah ka. (pref. Pąpanghni siwang waikaku)

kuā N. (kuā[]) [ANAT] pelvic bone. Δ
Mining muih wakalni luhi kau wakalni katka sikka labanka dängnipanak nauh kau lau yaka.

1kuah N. (kuah[]) [HERP] hicatee; terrapin; pond slider; pond turtle; kind of black freshwater turtle. (Chrysemys sp.; Pseudemys scripta) Alas makdaka bakaka ya kuah makdaka yapa ka.
kuah waikaku NE. February. Bakaki al ya kuah waikaku kau siwang.

2kuah N. (kuah[]) [BOT] tree with white latex used against intestinal parasites.

kuahnaka VI. {V-PA} (kuahpi) act like a hicatee.

kubalamh N. (kuba{l}amh) [ENTOM] butterfly. Kubalamh pan pulu waska wālik diya. Kubalamh ya waikaku wi āwai kau isauka bungdai. (var. kubalamhłamh)
kubalamh waikaku NE. August.
Kubalamh waikaku kau pan saring isau lalahtai.

kubalamhnaka 1. VI. {V-PA} (kubalamhpi) act like a butterfly. Yā kubalamhtah!

kubarh N. (kubarh[]) [ORN] unidentified bird, possibly wood-rail, which makes a 'kubarh!' sound in the underbrush.

kubitdanaka VI. {V-DA} (kubitdi) bend at joint. Siwaninak balna raudi kubitdanini balna ya ādak kubitdadi. Our tendons and ligaments make our joints bend.

kubitnaka 1. VT. {V-PA} (kubitpi) bend at joint; fold at joint, such as glasses, pocket-knife, shotgun, but not book or hinges of door or box. Arakkibus ākā kubitpi sumaka ūkatak ya yakti nāh dapi wāk ātuting. I'm going to bend my rifle to take out the spent shell and put in a new one.

2. NV.CNS3. {kubitnaka[]} {CNS1: kubitniki} [ANAT] joint. Pan balna laih kubitnakana āisau ka. Trees do not have joints. (equiv. kubitdanaka)

kuburnaka VT. {V-PA} (kuburpi) take apart; dismantle; disassemble. Mādī lumah buksirih ya kuburpi talkuting, ai ati tukwi diswi atya pan. Today I am going to take apart the chainsaw to see why it keeps stalling.

kubuyu N. (kubu[]yu) [ORN] pauraque; nightjar; nighthawk. (CAPRIMULGIDAE)

kudah N. (kudah[]) [ORN] gray-necked or rufous-necked wood-rail. (RALLIDAE Aramides cajanae; RALLIDAE Aramides axillaris)

kudungnaka VT. {V-PA} (kudungpi) gouge; hollow out; drill into; bore into. Nuh as yamtayang ya yan kat kau laih kudungpi rauhparing. I'm going to finish hollowing out the mortar I'm making tomorrow. Kululuk ya pan dasika palka atrang bik kudungpai.

kuh 1. N. (kuh[]) fire. Kuh kumdai.

kuhnaka 2. N. (kuh[]) firewood. Kuh bakannaka waltayang. (or kuh panka)

kuh läkka NE. (kuh[] läkka) hot coal; ember. Di muihka dátutim kau kuh läkka balna ya yamka yakti nāh dapi yā mang kau muihka ya it man āti dānana. When you are going to roast some meat, you take out the glowing embers (from the fire) and put the meat on them to roast it.
kuh pahka NE. (kuh[] pahka) fireplace; hearth.
kuh watnaka VE. {V-TA} (kuh wati) make a fire; build a fire (includes all aspects). Kuh ya watih! Make the fire!
kuh wayuka NE. smoke. Kuh wayuka mikkdiki kau āwidā.

kuha N. (kuha[]) [ICHTH] jewfish; janefish. (Epinephalus sp.) Kuha ya bilam as itukwāna palka ka, muih bik yak ukparang.


kuhinaka VT. {var. of kuhnaka)
kuhingka (form of kuihnaka) N. one who reaches or succeeds.

kukali N. (kuh[k]al) [ICHTH] mullet.  
(Nugil sp.) Kukali ya pukka kau kuring kau sutdi āwai.

kuhkuhpal N. (kuh[k]uhpal) [HERP] kind of snake.

kuihnaka VT. {VO-UIH} (kuhi) (kuihi) reach; catch. Yaka baka bungpi irai yaka wipi kuhi! That child that is running out, catch him! Yang kuhikda. I reached it. Yang kuihyang/kuihiyang. I reach it. (var. kuihnaka)

kuihsa baknaka VE. {v-PA} (kuihsa bakpi) fail; be insufficient; fall short.

kuinaka 1. VD. {V-TA} (kuiti) ask for; request; demand; order. Yang māmahi kau mistu as kuitikda. I asked my mother for a cat. Yang kahlu yamka as talikda lau ka yang māmahi kau kuituting bakanti yātarang. I’m going to ask my mother to buy me the nice dress that I saw. Alas kasnaka dika ya kuitida. He/she asked me for food. Má luīh kau muih kau dī kuinaka ya dutka. It is bad to always ask people for things.

2. VT. {V-TA} (kuiti) ask. Muihka ya yā kuitida āyauh yawayang pan. The person asked me where I’m going.

3. VT. {V-TA} (kuiti) invite. Muih kuinaka ya muih as as ya aitak ulpi kuidai. In order to invite a person, some people send a written invitation.

kuitak wānaka VE. {V-WA} (kuitak wī) order. Yang bukkisirih ya Bluefields kaupak kuiting wāda. I ordered my chainsaw from Bluefields

kuiti dahnaka VE. ask. Kuiti dakah āyauh yawai. Ask him where he’s going. Dī as kang lāwasa ya kuiti dahnaka yamka ka. It is good to ask when you don’t know something. (→ dahnaka, kuinaka, yultī dahnaka)

kuitingka N. beggar. Asang luīh kau muih di kuitingka laulau ka.

kulangh N. (kulangh[ ]) mark.  
(→ kulanghnaka)

kulanghnaka VT. {v-PA} (kulanghpi) mark; demarcate; mark off (territory); mark the boundaries of. Wahaiki karak yāmak as tuspiyana ya pastirh kulanghnaka wātayang. Aitak yulti tali lau man ya kulanghpi dāpī laupah. Yāmak wisam as tusputing bahanghi, muih as sihpikda yamka kulanghpi yānaka. Kanas muih wāk balna kulanghdaša yau yang tākāt yākimak āting yamka tuspi kulanghpi yādida. Since I’m going to clear a new field for planting, first I sent someone to mark off the area well for me. Before anyone else can mark it I had it well demarcated in advance for me.

kulihna N. (kuhibpi) attend to; pay attention to. Damai māka ya, singmat as kau yawing yā kulihpasa dāi. Yesterday I went to the doctor and he didn’t pay any attention to me.

kulilingh N. (kulilingh[ ]) [ORN] kind of yellow-crested, red-shouldered tanager; bird identical to white-shouldered tanager, except has red shoulders.  
(THRAUPIDAE Tachyphonus sp.)

kulnaka VT. {v-PA} (kulnpi) count; consider; esteem. Lihkiwan kulpi lau yang ampas watah yang pan kang lāwanaka. Muih ampas bang pan kulpi yātah. Count how many people are there for me.

1kulpi talnaka VE. {VO-TAL} (kulpi tali) measure; make estimate of. Kulpi talkuting ampas yūhka pan. I’m going to measure how tall it is.

2kulpi talnaka VE. {v-TAL} (kulpi tali) measure. Awanak panka ampas ya kulpi talnaka.
kululuk N. (kululuk) [ORN] lineated woodpecker; pale-billed woodpecker. (PICIDAE Dryocopus lineatus; PICIDAE Campephilus guatemalensis) Kululuk ya pan dasika palka atrang bik kudungpai. Kululuk ya pan sikka as kau úka yamtai.

kulum N. (kulum) [MAM] [Spn: culumuco] tayra. 'bush dog'. (Eira barbara) Kulum ya tisnak yamak kau awi tisnak wiripai. Kulum ya damaska pas kau sulu yapa tungwai. [e May also include grison (Galictis vittata)]

kuma 1. N. (kuma) [BOT] sea; ocean. Kuring as pakti yatah, katka kuma kau tungwanaka kuringka.

kumakana VT. {V-PA} (kumati) salt; cure with salt; season with salt. (syn. kuma kahnaka, kumana)

kumdanaka VI. {V-DA} (kumd) flame; catch fire; flame up; burn with flame. Bikiska balna ya kasauh mak ayapi bang atak kumdanaka. The children were roasting cashews when they (the cashews) caught fire. Kuh kumdasa. The wood won’t catch fire. Kuhka ya biting kumdanaka waltasa.

kumhnaka 1. VT. {v-PAl} (kumhpi) bother; annoy. Pan tarat kau lalang úka lau ya ilwi kumhnaka waltaying. I want to climb up and bother that wasp’s nest up in the tree. Wahaiki ya punnaka lukdang tung ka, kumphpaninah. My brother is out of his mind; don’t bother him.
2. VT. {v-PA} (kumhpi) touch. Yaka di ilna lau yaka yang kumhnaka waltasing.

kungpak ADV. along the edge. Wassik kungpak wikda. I came along the river bank.

kungsasah N. (kung[sasah]) [MOD, MAN] mosquito bar; mosquito net. (eqv. kung[sasahka])

kunkun N. (kun[kun]) [MAN] bob; bobbin; spindle; light-weight buoyant bobbin for winding line, useful as bob for fishing and for attaching to thrown harpoon.

kurasi N. (kura[si]) [HERP] kind of small turtle. Kurasi ya was ripka dika baka as ka.

kurasi waikaku NE. January. Kurasi waikaku ya mamaka tunak as ka.


2. VT. {V-PA} (kurhpi) dig; excavate; dig up. Kurhpi tumpam patarang pih? (-t kuruhnaka)

kuring N. (kuring[]) [MAN] canoe; dugout; dory. Wahai, kuring pakti ya sumaltah. Kuringi āwi yawada was kau. My canoe sunk in the water.

kuring labanka NE. (kuring[] labanka) [MAN] boat; launch. Kuring labanka ya kuma waska kau bungpi yawanaka dī makunka ka.

kuring palka NE. (kuring[] palka) [MAN] flat-bottomed canoe. Tātungh kau muih almuk balna ya kuring palka karak wālik rihwadai dadang wassik tunak kau. In the old days people used to travel only by flat-bottomed canoe in the headwaters of the large rivers.

kuring tunak NE. prow of canoe.

kuru N. (kū[ru]) [BOT] wild cacao. (Theobroma bicolor)

kusarah N. (kusa[rah]) [MAN] (var. of kusaru)
kusaruh N. (kusa[ruh]) [MAN] [Spn: cucharón] large wooden spoon. (var. kusarah)

kūsīh N. (kū[s]īh) [MAM] (var. of kusih)
kusih N. (kusih[]) [MAM] [Spn: coche] pig; hog; sow. Sau sapitka yau kusihki āwi yawada. Kusih ya di isau kasya ka. (var. kūsīh)
kusih úka NE. pigsty; pigpen.
kusih umahka NE. (kusih[]) umahka) [SPORT] curve ball (baseball).
kusih wauka NE. (kusih[]) wauka) [SLANG] pistol. (syn.aratukuh)

kuska A. (kukuska) tightly curled, as an afro (hair). Muih baraska balna ya baskana kukuska balna ka. Black people have tightly curled hair.

kusma N. (kus[ma] [ORN] black vulture/buzzard (black head); turkey vulture/buzzard (red head). ‘John crow’. (CATHARTIDAE Cathartes aura; CATHARTIDAE Coragyps atratus) Yaka kuskama limdi yawada. Kusma ya di iwang wingka iya kau tarat kaupak paras lakwi wāya. Kusma ya di iwang āisau bahangh amatdi lau ka. (≠ kusma pihtang)
kusma pihtang NE. [ORN] king vulture. (CATHARTIDAE Sarcoramphus papa)
kusma tunak NE. (kus[ma tunak]) [BOT] river-edge plant with white flowers and green pod-like fruit.

kusnaka 1. VT. {v-PAl (kuspi) scrape off outer covering (paint, bark).
2. VT. {v-PAl (kuspi) plane; plane off.

kusuknaka VT. {v-PA} (kusukpi) tickle. Yaka muihka kawaranaka waltasa ya wati kusukputing. Yā kusukpanihi! Don’t tickle me! Δ Muih ya kawaranaka waltasa kau āngka ilî balkatak kau tihdak kawaradai.

kūt STAT. lying down; recumbent; reclining; prone. Baka wisam wāda kūt ka. A new baby has arrived. Tūruh ya urundang ami kūt ka. The cow is lying asleep in a curled up position. Muih ami kūt atāk uka yau yai baunaka ya dutka ka. It is bad to go up and bang on the side of someone’s house when they are lying asleep.

kutaknaka VI. {v-PA} (kutakpi) cluck when laying an egg.

kutdanaka VI. {v-DA} (kutdi) boil; bubble (liquid); fizz. Suba ya itikka lau ka katka kutdanaka waltasa.

kutnaka 1. VT. {v-PA} (kutpi) lay down. Yang baka krikri kau lakti kutpikda.
2. VT. {v-PA} (kutpi) fish; catch (fish). Yang bilam kutpayang. Bakaki ya kutnaka waltasa, di sayaka. Δ Wah ya was kau ihi yau muih ya uknaka ați rumdai ka.
3. VT. {v-PA} (kutpi) ruin. Ai yamti kiritki ya yiipí kuptidam? Why did you ruin my saw while sharpening it?
4. VT. {v-PA} (kutpi) leave in a prone or disadvantageous position; treat contemptuously; put in place. Al dai ka nawah kau iti kuptida. The man shot the jaguar dead in his tracks.

dāpi kutnaka VE. {v-PA} (dāpi kutpi) dump; leave in the lurch.

kutpingka N. (kutpingkaka) fisher; fisherman. Kutpingka ya yawana palka yawai ka, kat māka ya lāwarang laih it watsa atrang. The fisherman is going out right away, lest it get too late to catch anything.

yakti kutnaka VE. {v-PA} (yakti kutpi) fire (employee). Yang muih as āting tukwi tung ka yākimak kau, katka yakti kuptidung, dutka tukwai bahangh. I hired someone to work in my plantation but I am going to fire him because doesn’t do good work.

kutulh N. (kutulh[]) [MOD, MAN] sword. Umana kau laih muih balna ya kutulh karak wālik kal bau dai dadang. In the old days people would fight with swords only.

kuturka A. (kututurka) drooping; curved down. Kuruhkuruh anaka ya kuturka ka. The ibis has a decurved bill.

kutwanaka 1. VI. {v-WA} (kutwi) lie down. Bikiska balna ya kutwanaka waldasa. Sau kau kutwanih, ripka mā watrang. [• note that kutwanaka has no number restriction]
2. VI. {v-wa} (kutwi) give birth.

Mâmpa kutwidam? When did you give birth?

kuyun n. (kuyun[]) glory.

kuyunka n. (kuyun[][ka]) praise. Muih di yamka yamdai wâlik kuyunka ânaka ya yamka ka.

kuyunna n. (kuyunnaka) praise; commendation.

kal kuyunna NV.INFIN. self-praise; boasting; bragging.

kuyunnaka vt. {v-pal (kuyunpi) praise; commend.

kal kuyunnaka vr. {v-pal (kal kuyunpi) boast; brag; praise oneself.

kuyus n. (kuyus[]) [orn] orange-chinned parakeet; brown-shouldered parakeet. (Psittacidae Brotogeris jugularis)

Kuyus ya kikis karak pâ sa; alas kanas muîhka ya sikka baka ka. Alas pan umana balna kau kasi âwi úka yamtaï. The kuyus is not the same as the kikis; its body is a little bigger. (irik, kikis)

1labâ n. (labâ[]) side; wall. Ú labâ yâlah lâwi wasarah. Go around to the side of the house and bathe.

2labâ n. (labâ[]) [anat] mandible; jawbone. Pamka labâka ya dasika palka ka. The jawbone of the tapir is very strong.

labâka n. (labâ[]) kau] beside; close to; on the outside of. Mâmakhî iwâi bakaka yal ya labâka kau wâltai. My mother is ill and wants her daughter by her side. Alas labâka kat sâk ka. He is standing beside me. Yang alas labâka kat sâk yang. I am standing beside him/her. Di isau wàda katka labâka kau lâtida, muih dikana bahangh. Many things arrived, but I set them aside, as they belonged to someone (else). (eqv. labâka kat)

labâka kau yawanâka ve. approach; get close. Alkimuk tukwi tung ya labâka kau yawanâka wâltayang. I want to go be beside my husband who is working.

labâka yawanâka ve. {v-o-a} (labâka yawi) accompany. Yang mâmakhî labâka yawanâka wâltayang. I want to accompany my mother.

labanâka vt. {v-pa} (labapi) chew.

Kasna ya kassa, dau labapi dâpâi. He doesn’t actually eat the food, he just chews it up and leaves it.

labanka 1. a. (lababanka) flat (of objects); flattened. Muku ya di baka as labanka baka ka. The toad is a flat little animal.

2. a. (lababanka) horizontal; level and flat (land). Yang ubulka lau ya labanpi nåh dapi yâlah ú as yamtuting, pahka ya labanka yamka bahangh. I’m going to flatten out that rise and make a house there, because it is a good level spot.

labanâka na. CNS3. (laban[][ka]) flat side of object.

labanâka kau kutwanâka ve. {v-wa} (laban[][ka] kau kutwi) lie flat.

labanânah n. (laban[]nah) [mod, man] plate.

labanâka 1. vt. {v-pa} (labanpi) level.

2. vt. {v-pa} (labanpi) flatten. Yal isau ya burulâ yamti yamka labanpi kang làwadasa; wakas tubakka, wakas baika, yapa bik as as ya sangka dâdâi. Many women do not know how to make good flat tortillas; they will be thick on one side and thin on the other, and some do not cook them long enough.

labapâk adv. side-by-side; alongside. Labapâk kal wâtdai. They are arm-in-arm.

labâskâ a. {strong} (lababaska) packed; stuffed; compact; dense. Di balna labâska bahangh dutka ka.

labas yulâka ve. {v-ta} (labas yulti) speak fluently.

labatnâka vt. {v-pa} (labatpi) bite. Yaka sfIkalu ya walahka bahangh, âting yâ labatnâka wâltasing. Since that dog is ferocious, I don’t want to let him bite me.
labu N. (labu[]) [ZOO, ANAT] claw (of crab or lobster).

lahnaka VT. {V-TA} (lahti) cook; boil.
Åka kasnaka lahti mānātaring. I will cook this food for you (pl). Was daihkā waya lahna yawada. He went to boil a little hot water.

lahnaka ūka NE. kitchen. Lahnaka ūka ya āyahū āyahū yawaram bik lau ka.

lahtang (form of lahnaka) VT.PERF3. cooked; boiled. Itukibah ūka kau īngīnīh lahtang lau ka.

lahwanaka VI. {V-WA} (lahwi) cook.

laih X. clear; frank; truthful; honest; obvious; conspicuous. Laih bang ka. They are clearly visible.
laih atnaka VE. {V-O} (laih ati) be clear, obvious or evident.
laih yaknaka VE. {V-TA} (laih yakti) bring out into the open.
laih yakti dānaka VE. {V-PA} (laih yakti dāpi) leave in a conspicuous place.
laih yulnaka VE. {V-TA} (laih yulti) speak frankly; speak honestly.
laih TOPIC. as for.
lak N. (lak[]) [MOD] lead.
laka N. (laka[]) [BOT] kind of parasitic plant. (Ficus hemsleyana) Laka ya pan as sikka pātai dapi laka ya bik pan balna kau itai. Siwakanak karak pan saraka kaupak balakpi tarat kau il yawai dapak pan sikka atrang bik balakpai ya raupi tirispi ātak iwai. The laka is a plant that grows very large and also kills trees. It makes its way up a tree starting from the base by wrapping its roots around it and in this way it strangles even huge trees to death.
lakatdanaka VI. {V-DA} (lakatdi) become flabby or flacid; sag; droop; dangle.
Mining muih almu kungwai kau muhihi lakatdi lakwai. When we get old our flesh sags. (or lakatdi lakwanaka)
lakatka A. (lakatka) baggy; sagging; drooping; flabby; dangling. Itukibah ya asna lakatka wālik āwanaka waltai. My aunt only wants to wear baggy clothes. Ninihki babarpak kau muhihi ya lakatka bungpida. When my grandfather got thin his flesh got baggy.
lakka A. (lalakka) low (tide). Mā lumah kau ya was ya lakka kūt ka. The tide is low in the afternoon.
laknaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (lakti) let down; lower; put down; unload. Kuring ya was kau lahti abukpah. Di tika duihing tung āka laktuting mādi lai. Ākalah kasniki laktah.
2. VT. {V-TA} (lakti) dump; knock down; haul down; throw down. Lakti dāpah.
3. VT. {V-TA} (lakti) club; strike with blunt instrument. Muīh as kau it man tingma karak baunama, yapa bik pan karak bik laktana. You can punch a person with your hand, or you can club them with a stick.
kal daki laknaka VE. {V-TA} (kal daki lakti) recover; feel better; recuperate; convalesce.
2lakti basnaka 1. VE. {V-PA} (lakti baspi) knock down; throw to the ground; topple. Kataramah āka tarat kau wasala bahka as ilwang lau ya baspi lakti basnaka waltayang. 2. VE. {V-PA} (lakti baspi) topple; overthrow.
lakti kutnaka VE. {V-PA} (lakti kutpi) lay down, put to bed. Bakaki amada āka amanaka kau lakti kutnaka waltayang.
pah laknaka VE. {V-TA} (pah lakti) patch; weld. Kuringki alhdang ya pah lakti lau yang. I’m patching my punctured canoe. [* alhdang means split open]
lakwanaka 1. VI. {V-WA} (lakwi) descend; get off; get down from; dismount; land (airplane, bird); go or come down.
Anu panka yūhka kaupak bainah it lakwasing.
2. VI. {V-WA} (lakwi) become manifest; appear; manifest oneself. Āka panka baka katka makka lakwasa dah. This little tree still hasn’t borne fruit yet.
3. VI. {V-WA} (lakwi) be cold, hot (weather). Ripka lakwai. It’s cold out. Daihka lakwai. It’s hot out.
4. VI. {V-WA} (lakwi) end up; result.
Yang mâdi di walti yawing dai katka diah lukwida. Today I went out hunting but I came back empty-handed.
5. VI. {V-WA} (lakwi) make noise; sound; report; make bang. Arakbus lakwak dakikda. I heard a gunshot. Arakbus
lakwi araka sana idai pâ araduh. With those gunshots it sounds like they’re killing a deer.

takat lakwanaka VE. {v-WA} (ta[l]t) lakwi) come across or upon; stumble upon; find by accident. Dî nütingka yaka lihwan nüti dápmam lau atak takat lakwikda. I stumbled upon some money that the thief had stashed away.

lakwi N. (lak[w]i) sound; noise. Nahas wâk kau di lakwi ya dahyam piil? lakyawanaka VI. {v-O-A} (lakyawi) descend; go down. (eqv. lak yawanaka, lakwi yawanaka)

lalahkaka NA.CNS3. (lalah[k]a) yolk (of egg).

lalahnaka VI. {v-TA} (lalahi) ripen; rot. Wâki arungka wiripi dâpikda bang ka lalahnaka. Lasap siuq ya burhipi âtam kau mà bás kau andîh lalahntida. When you pick a mature sonsapote, within three days it will have ripened.

lalakka N.CNS3. (lalak[]) grease; black grime. Mâha ya kuburpi maupayam kau lalakka isau mà watya. When you clean an engine you get very greasy.

lalakka watnaka VE. {v-TA} (lalakka wati) soil; become grimy; become greasy. Yang muhîkî lalakka isau yâ watda. My body is very grimy.

lalakka N. (lalam[ka]) layer; stratum. Sau ya lalamka isau watâh ka; pah puruhka palka tukparam kau it man talnaka. The earth has many layers; if you dig a deep hole you can see them.

lamainah N. (lamai[n]ah) [BOT] kind of tree.

lalang anasarapau NE. (lalang[] anasarapau) [ENTOM] kind of wasp.

lalang lahalhka NE. (lalang[] lahalhka) [ENTOM] kind of wasp. (eqv. lalanglahlah)

lalang pauka NE. (lalang[] pauka) [ENTOM] wasp.

lalang puputka NE. [ENTOM] smelling wasp.

lalang úka NE. (lalang[] úka) wasps’ nest.

lamanah N. (lami[nn]ah) [BOT] kind of tree.

lamatdanaka 1. VI. {v-DA} (lamadî) dent; become dented.

2. VI. {v-DA} (lamadî) collapse (by folding under, not breaking); cave in.

lamatnaka VI. {v-PA} (lamatpi) be choppy or wavy (water); have waves.

lamhdanaka VI. {v-DA} (lamhdi) (ankle) collapse sideways, e.g. when stepping on uneven ground. Îrîng kalki lamhdak wauhdikda. I was running and my ankle bent sideways and I fell down.

lamka A. (lamaka) smooth; calm (water).

lamnaka 1. VI. {v-PA} (lampi) return; double back; repeat. Yang úki kau bûnà lamputing.

2. VT. {v-PA} (lampi) fold; double back. Asna balna ya luhih yamka lamnaka.

lampi yulkna VE. {v-TA} (lampi yulti) answer; respond; reply. Sumalnaka úka kau sumaltingka yâ di isau yulti dahda katka bikiska balna ya it lampi yuldasa dai. In school the teacher asked many questions but the students could not answer.

lânaka 1. VT. {v-TA} (lâtî) move; transport; convert; transfer; switch; change orientation or location of an object. Âka mâmaka kau pah wâk kau yâ lânaka walna dai sumalnaka yulkâ. This year they wanted to transfer me to another location to teach. Di isau wâda katka labaka kau lâtida, muh dikana bahangh. Many things arrived but were moved aside because they belonged to
somebody. Kuringki ya nahas wák kau láti kda. (→ nahas)
2. VT. {V-TA} (látì) translate. Yang àka uihkadas àka Wayah kaupak Ulwah kau láti lau yang. I am translating this story from Miskitu into Ulwa.
3. VI. {V-TA} (látì) pass. Was làtak yawaring. I'll go when the rain has passed.
4. VT. {V-TA} (látì) pass; pass by; pass over; skip; miss.

kang lánaka VE. (kang látì) {OBJ 1: yang lánaka} take away; snatch away; grab. Muih as di yamka as watah atak kang lánaka ya duka palka ka. Mádi dislah yang lihwan ituwâna as yaktang dai, katka muih as wi yang látida. Yaka alka ya arakkabus ya kang lánaka. (syn. kang yaknaka)

langwa N. (lang[]wa) [ENTOM] cockroach. (syn. lapit)
láp N. (láp[]) [MOD, MAN] board; lumber. Láp isau palka waltayang úki yamnaka. I need a lot of lumber to make my house. Suyun lápka ya láp yamka palka ka. Láp ya ihwi yâtanauh mádi laih, yang û pahka as yamtuting. ● Kiene (1962) gives lablab translated as yunque de madera]
lapinka A. {STRONG} (lapipinka) thin; skinny (of person, bananas). Ingkaxinin yaka daka yawi kda katka lapinka dai bahangh dápi kda. I went to cut bananas but they were too thin so I left them.
lapiska A. (lapipiska) (var. of lapuska)
lapisnaka VI. {V-TA} (lapisti) (var. of lapusnaka)
lapit N. (lapit[]) [ENTOM] cockroach. Lapit as û isihping wauhdi ìrk kataramah as ukpida. I shook the house, a cockroach fell out and ran and was eaten by a chicken. Lapit ya di baka as minisihka, muih luih watnaka waldasa. (syn. langwa)
lapninh N. (lapninh) lightning as striking. Àka panka àka lapninh raupi pahti abaltida. This tree was destroyed by lightning. Lapninh lakwai kau yabahtik pàh ka. I am scared when lightning strikes.
lapuska A. (lapupuska) baggy; slack; underfull. (var. lapiska)
lapusnaka VI. {V-TA} (lapustì) be baggy; sag. Yalau lalahka ya waska sikitpi disaman kau laih pamka ka, katka sikitpi didam kau laih lapustì. Before squeeze the juice out of a mango its skin is tight, but when you squeeze the juice out it becomes baggy. (var. lapsnaka)
lasap N. (lasap[]) [BOT] sonsapote; monkey apple; babapple. (Licaria platypus; Moquilea platypus) Lasap ya sipul makka yapa ka, katka úkatak tubakka, makka bik sikka. Makka takat ya muih baska turaska yapa ka. The sonsapote fruit is like that of the sapota, but it is larger and has a thicker skin. The pit is covered with curly hairs like a person’s.
lasin N. (lasin[]) [BOT] tuba tree; tree whose fruit is commonly eaten by the ‘tuba’ fish. [may be lásin?]
lâska A. (laláska) itchy; prickly; piquant. Mara ya yak watya kau ùnitak ya láscala palka ka. When we get bullpiss our skin is very itchy.
lâsnaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (lástì) itch. Tapani pas lástai kau kataramah lipinka karak áti puruwai. When our ear itches us, we stick a chicken feather in and scratch (in a circular motion).
2. VT. {V-TA} (lástì) [FIG] be itching to do something. Yang tukwana yà lástai. I'm itching to get to work.
lâti láti ADV. bit by bit. Kusihki ituwâna ya kasnaka ya láti láti kasya.
lâtumh lâtumh 1. ADV. passing by in succession. Muih balna lâtumh lâtumh dadak talyang bahangh ai bungpai pan yawi kangi láwuting. Since I keep seeing people pass by I am going to go find out what is happening.
2. ADV. passing by, meeting face-to-face while going in opposite directions. Al bù kàl àkadut karak lâtumh lâtumh dadida, kal yul baudasa. Two enemies passed by each other but did not speak.

lau STAT. {DISTRIB: laulau} sitting; being; being in some position. Wahaiki û pas kau lau ka. Muih balna û labaka kau
lau laulau ka. Dì waska yaka isau yamnaka waltayang, muih isau lau bahangh.
lau atnaka VE. {V-O} (lau ati) be; exist.
Sau yamka palka as yaktikda yakau yawi lau atnaka.
lau laulau danaka VE. {V-PA} (lauulau dapi) place (plural). Raurauh balna ya yamka abukpi laulau dapah. Set the glasses face down.
lau laut na 1. VI. {V-TA} (Iauti) fall (rain); blow (wind). Alah atak was lautida. Wing lautai.
2. VT. {V-TA} (Iauti) pay. Yang lihwan as lautana waitayang. I want to pay a sum of money. Ampas makalnak lautidam pih? How much did you pay for it? Muih as ating tukwai ya yang lautana ya kang lawayang. I know what to pay the person I have working for me.
3. VT. {V-TA} (lauti) plant; sow; cultivate. Yang makka lautayang. Àka mâmâka am laututing. Yang pan anatak kau sâk yang ya pâpanghki lautang.
4. VT. {V-PA} (laupi) set down; seat. Baka ya lakti laupi yâtah.
5. VT. {V-PA} (laupi) do contemptuously; put in place; cut down. (syn. kutnaka)
lau laulau 1. N. (lau[lau]) [BOT] red mangrove. (Rhizophora sp.)
2. N. (lau[lau]) [BOT] white mangrove. (Laguncularia racemosa)
3. (form of laulau) STAT.DISTRIB.
lau launah 1. VI. (Iauti) know; find out. Yang kang launahing alas ayau yawang pan. Daiki ya ayauh yawada pan kang lautana waltayang. 2. VE. (Iang lawi) understand; comprehend; figure out; fathom. Kang Iawasing ai bungpai pan muikhi kau. Alas ai yultai ya kang lawayang. 3. VE. (Iang lawi) learn. Aka mamaka akya tima taihpi kang lautikda. This summer I learned to pilot a boat.
launaka 1. VI. {V-VA} (lauti) sit; sit down. Lauwi buiputing. Amiki ya di sayaka launaka wâlik waitai. (var. launaka)
2. NV. Muih wâda sâk ya launaka as âtah. Give a seat to the person that just arrived. (var. launaka) (syn. launaka dika)
3. NV. (Iauvanaka[]) upright or rightside-up orientation; the default upright orientation of an object. Isanah ya launaka kau lau ka. The jar is sitting upright. Lauwaniki kau lau yang. I am sitting upright. (var. launaka) (ant. abukka)
launaka dika NE. seat; bench. Lauwanaka dika àisau kat yamka sa ka û as kau.
lau launaka VE. rain. Was lautai. It is raining.
lauvanaka 1. VI. {V-WA} (lauwi) sit; sit down. Lauwi buiputing. Amiki ya di sayaka launaka wâlik waitai. (var. launaka)
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launaka dika NE. seat; bench. Lauwanaka dika àisau kat yamka sa ka û as kau.
gossip, when they hear something they go back and forth repeating the story to other people.

1tākat làwanaka VE. win; beat. Āka kaI baunaka āka wai tākat làwarang puntayam? Who do you think will win this war? Tamatna làwarang. I will beat you.

lawanaka VI. {v-O-A} (lawi) (var. of lauwanaka)

lāyawanaka VI. pass by. (syn. lāwi yawanaka)

libindanaka VI. {v-DA} (libindi) press up against (surface); lean against.

libitdanaka VI. {v-DA} (libitdi) cuddle; snuggle; hug. Val baIna ya al as kau walitdi kau. When a woman wants a man she wants to be next to him all the time.

libitnaka VT. {v-PAl (libitpi) unite; pair; put together. Pan bfr libitpi sittuting. I am going to tie two sticks together.

lihnaka 1. VT. {v-PA} (lihpia) clap (hands). Alas tingka lihpai. He is clapping his hands.

2. VT. {v-PA} (lihpia) catch fish by slapping water causing fish to jump into boat. Wirahki madi dislah kau bilam lihn. My brother went this morning to catch fish (by slapping them from the water into the canoe). Muih alas ya it lihnaka yamka ka. One person alone cannot catch fish in this manner; two people are required. [Note no absolute form]


lihwan waska NE. (lih[wan waska]) mercury; quicksilver.

lik 1. ADV. near; close; not far. Alas lik lau ka. He is close by. Yang sana as lik talikda. I saw a deer nearby. Lik yālah yawang dai. He didn’t go far.

2. ADV. soon; early. Lik wārang. He’ll come soon.

liklah ADV. nearby; close by. Yākimak ya liklah bahangh, andih wāring. Since my plantation is close by, I’ll come (back) soon. (→ lik)

liklah dakti làwanaka VE. take a short cut. Tā āka yūhka palka bahangh, liklah dakti làwuting. Since this road is so long, I am going to take a short cut. (ant. tarika làwanaka) (syn. papas dakti làwanaka, tiriska làwanaka)

liknaka VI. {v-PA} (likpi) approach; be near; near. Pamkikh ya liknaka wālik wāya tung ka. The horse is about to come nearer. Pan yau likpai tung ka. It is approaching the tree. Yawaniki likpai. I’m going soon (my departure nears).

liling 1. X. holey; full of cracks. Úma āka liling ādulh. My, your house is full of cracks.

2. N. (liling[]) crack; chink; fissure; slit. Ú āka lilingka isau ka. Yapa bahangh pukka kau umis āwai. This house is full of slits. That is why the bats get in at night. Yaka lilingka yaka kingputing. I’m going to fill in that crack. Lilingka as manah āwida. It entered through a gap (in the wall). [Note no absolute form]

liliska A. (lililiska) tattered; ragged; in shreds. Asna liliska balna yāmak kau ihi yawi muih wayaka yapa ilwak kau sana balna yam malai kasdasa. When we take old tattered clothes to the fields and put them up in the form of a person, the deer do not come eat the cassava.

lilisnaka VI. {v-PA} (lilispi) become tattered; become ragged. Askina umana ya wati taling kat laih andih bisdi lilispang dai. When I went to inspect my old clothes they were all already in tatters.

lim N. (lim[]) [MAN] bed.

lima N. (li[ma] [BOT] lemon. ’lime’. (Citrus aurantiifolia; Citrus limon) Lima ya sapakka katka muih isau palka waldai. Lima ukpi tung ka. He/She is walking around sucking lemons.

lima damka NE. [BOT] sweetlime. Man limama damka ya kaimputim pih? Are you going to peel your sweetlime?

lim babahdanaka VE. {v-DA} (lim babahdi) kneel. Tinit yuñaka kau laih muih ya lim babahdadai. We
kneel down when saying our prayers. (eqv. lim babahnaka)

lim babahnaka VE. (lim babahti) kneel. Bikiska as as tapakana dasisika ya məmahkana raudi ədak lim babahdai kau alasa balna məmahka yulka dahdai. Some stubborn children obey their mothers when told to kneel down. (eqv. of lim babahdanaka)

limbah sakwanaka VE. {v-WA} (limbah sakwi) kneel down. Wi limbah sakwam basma ya lukutputing. Come kneel here and I'll braid your hair. (eqv. of lim babahdanaka)

limdanaka VI. {V-DA} (limdi) fly. Mining muhi ya limdanaka it sa yak; di baka wəlik limdai. We humans cannot fly; only birds fly.

limhəsi N. (limh[ə]si) [BOT] gumbo limbo. (Bursera simaruba)

limnah N. (limn[ə]h) [BOT] kind of tree. (Luehea sp.)

limnaka VT. {V-PAl (limpi) blow away; (wind) carry off.
ihi limnaka VE. {v-PAl (ihi limpi) (bird) fly along training young bird. Məmahka ya bakaka ihi limpai. The mother is flying along training her offspring.

lingnaka VI. {v-PAl (lingpi) ring; peal. Pukka kau di as lingpak dakikda, katka ai dai pan kang ləwəsing. I heard something ring during the night, but what it was I don't know.

lipdanaka VI. {v-DA} (lipdi) shine; flash. Mádi lumah əka ingdi ya kanas lipdai. It's lightning-ing even more this afternoon (the flash kind, not the ray).

lipnaka VT. {V-TA} (lipti) sting or prick with stinger.

lipit N. (lipi[]) [ICHTH] spanish mackerel. (Scomberomorus sp.)

lipka A. (lilipka) shiny; shining; luminous. Kuhbil as watah yang, əkətak takat lipka ya talnaka yamka ka. I have a knife, and the shine of its surface is pleasant to look at.

lipnaka VT. {v-TA} (lipti) sting or prick with stinger.

lisdanaka VI. {v-DA} (lisdi) split; cleave. Sipitkinak əka dalaka watah yang, wakas ya lisdai bahangh. My fingernail hurts, since it's splitting on one side. [No corresponding trans. verb lisnaka ]

litka ADV. less; not as much. Àka akə akə litka irai yang karak. This man does not run as fast as I do. Àka panka akə litka yuhka yaka panka karak. This tree is shorter (less tall) than that one.

liuhki N. (liuh[ki]) [ORN] osprey. (ACCIPITRIDAE Pandion haliaetus)

1liub N. (lub[bin]) [ENTOM] kind of giant yellow beetle (8cm) with two big black patches ('eyes') that apparently glow at night.

2liub N. (lub[bin]) [BOT] chaff; grain husk. Pihmak ya yàkamak kaupak dakti ihwàdai kau luhi ya makka sa, katka lukuš滨 bik watah ka. Yapa bahangh buipi nàh dapi kau rànaka. When rice is first brought in from the fields it is not just the grains of rice, there is also the chaff. That is why we winnow it first before drying it.

luhusdanaka VI. {v-DA} (luhusdi) foam; froth. Uhkan waska ya má bù dàwai kau sapakti luhusdai. If you leave the juice of the hone palm fruit for two days it becomes sour and foamy.
lhuska N. (lusus[]ka) foam; froth; lather. Yang kungkibas lhuska karak karhpayang. I’m shaving my beard with foam.

lhuska bungnaka VE. {V-PA} (lususka bungppi) foam. Dika basta aka sikitpayang katka lhuska bungnaka waltasa. I’m crushing these medicinal leaves but they won’t foam up.

lhusmak N. (lusus[]mak) [MOD, MAN] soap. Luhusrnak ya asna suhnaka, yapa bik di wak mauka yannaka dika. Soap is for washing clothes and cleaning things.

lhusnaka VT. {V-PA} (lususpi) lather; cause to foam or froth. "Was mauka dapikda Iau ya luhusmak ati luhuspikda. I added soap to the clean water I had prepared and lathered it up.

luih ADV. all; each; entirely. Yan mäka ya muih luih tukwanaka atrang. Tomorrow everybody will have to work.

luka N. (lû[][ka]) tender. Baka luka bakana ya, tawas wâlik didal kau kanas yamka alawadai. Infants that are exclusively breast-fed grow better.

lukdanaka 1. VI. {V-DA} (lukdi) hide; disappear. Yaka muihka wâya tung ya makdaka kaupak lukdanaka waltayang. I want stay out of sight of that person that is coming. (→ nûdanaka)

2. VI. {V-DA} (lukdi) become lost. Am watah yang dai katka lukdida. I had corn but it was lost. Warka pas kau yawi tâ kung lâwasing bahangh lukdanaka waltasing. I don’t want to get lost in the bush because I don’t know the way.

lukluk N. (luk[]luk) [ORN] kind of yellow-bellied trogon. (TROGONIDAE Trogon sp.)

luknaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (lukti) lose. Yang sükili lukting dai katka bûna yaktikda. I had lost my dog but I found him/her again. Yang muihki kau mara watah yang âka luknaka waltayang. I want to get rid of this skin infection that I have on my body.

2. VT. {V-TA} (lukti) spend (money).

Aka lihkawan âka yang muihki kat luktuting. I’m going to spend this money on myself.

luknaka VT. {V-TA} (lukti) lay eggs.

Kuah ya mâmâka kau asang kung lau ilwi luktai. In the summer, the hicatee turtle goes up to solid ground and lays eggs.

lukuh N. (lukuh[]) [ANAT] upper arm.

Bakaki al ya lukuhka bahwida. My son broke his (upper) arm.

lukutdangka N. braid. Yaka yalka baka baska ya lukutdangka yamka palka talyang. That girl’s braids are beautiful to me. (egv. lukutna)

lukutnaka VT. {V-PA} (lukutpi) braid; plait; intertwine. Basma lukutpah. Braid your hair. Baski lukutpah, watdi läwi basma lukutparing. Braid my hair, and I will braid yours in return.

Alas bakaka ya baska lukutnaka waltasa ka. His/her daughter doesn’t want her hair braided.


(→ munka)


lulungkaka N. (lulung[]ka) weakness. Alas balna lulungkikana ya sikka ka. Their weakness is great.

lulungpara x. (var. of sulungpara)

lumah N. (lumah[]) afternoon; evening.

Lumah yamka. Good afternoon.

mâ lumah NE. afternoon; evening. Mâ yaka andih lumah ka. It’s already afternoon.

lumahnaka VI. {V-TA} (lumahti) (sun) be in mid-afternoon position. Tukwi atnangh; mâmâta. Let’s be working, the sun is in mid-afternoon position.

lumakka N. (lumak[]ka) color. Kahlu lumakka ya talnaka yamka ka. The color of the shirt is attractive.

lumaknaka VT. {V-PA} (lumakpi) dye; tint; color. Kahkilu kau di wayaka balna yamti lumakpikda. I colored my shirt with pictures of things.
lumnaka VT. (lumpi) (lumti) heat.
Ingkinih ya lumti yâta. Heat up the banana for me.

lungnaka VT. {V-PA} (lungpi) bang or beat on something with a stick. Yang wanihki as karak damaska bai kau yawaning kau wanihki ya lukdang dai, dapak pan wangka kau tuh karak lunghpikda, wanihki dahnaka. When my friend and I were deep in the bush, my friend got lost, and banged on the buttress of a tree with my machete so he would hear it.

lungnaka VT. {v-PAl (lungpi) tire; become worn out. Ma luih kau yak tukwai kau, yak lungpai. When we work all day we get tired.

lunhdanaka VI. {V-DA} (lunhdi) limp; hobble. Damai di ya daktida kalki kau bahangh lunhdi tung yang. I am limping because I cut my foot yesterday.

luska A. (luluska) blunt or dull (point). Yang ulniki panka tangka ya luska ka. Yapa bahangh, it yamka ulpasa. My pencil is dull; that’s why I can’t write very well.

lusnaka VT. {V-PA} (point) blunt; dull. Ulniki panka ulpi luspikda. I dulled my pencil by writing with it.

lusuhka 1. A. (lususuhka) (skin)chapped; flakey; peeling; scaly.
2. A. (lususuhka) crackly; rustly [dry leaves].

lusuhnaka VI. {V-PA} (lusuhpi) become flaky or chapped; flake off; come off in flakes. Kahma ya datayam kau ûkatak takat lusuhpiai. When you roast an iguana its skin flakes off.

mâ 1. N. (mâ[]) sun.
2. N. (mâ[]) day; time. Mâ luih kau tukwayang. I work every day. Wahaiki mâ luih tukwai. My brother works all the time. Mâdi mâka kaupak Ulwah yulka ya mîdida. From this day on (the study of) the Ulwa language has terminated. Pâpanghni ya ai mâka wârang pîh? Damai laih mâ yaamka daï, mâdi laih was mâka.

mâ ânaka VE. {V-TA} (mâ âti) set a date; set a time. Yang yan yawakuting ya mâki âtikda. I’ve set a time to leave tomorrow. (syn. âkatka ânaka, suwinka ânaka)

mâ âawai NE.CNS3 PRES3. (mâ[]) âawai)
{CNS1 PRES3: mâki âawai} west; west of.
Man mâma âawai kau alas midai. She lives to the west of you.

mâ baka NE. (mâ[] baka) {PL: mâ bakan} [ASTRO] star. Pukka kau mâ baka ya bungpai. The stars come out at night. Mâ baka ya iri lukdida. The (shooting) star disappeared fleetingly.

mâ bakanaka kal upurka NE. (mâ[]) bakanaka kal upurka) [ASTRO] constellation.

mâ baka sikka NE. (mâ[] baka sikka) [ASTRO] morning star; Venus. Mâ baka sikka ya diplihtî lâwai kau ilwai. The morning star comes up after the night has passed. (→ dislah mâka baka)

mâ daihka NE. (mâ[] daihka) sun; sunshine. Yang askina ya mâ daihka kau buhtai. My clothes are drying in the sun.

mâ dislah kau ADV. in the morning. Mâ dislah kau was paraska lautai dai ka bungpi yakwika.

mâ dutka NE. (mâ[] dutka) bad weather. Mâ as as ya mâ dutka bik îwi lâwai.

mâ pukna NE. rainy day. Pukka kaupak mâdi mâ luih kau mâ pukna ka. From last night all through today it has been raining.

mâ sangka NE. sky.

mâ tarat NE. mid morning (9-10 am).
Mâ ilwanga, tarat lau ka. The sun has risen, it is already up above.

mâ yamka NE. (mâ[] yamka) good weather. Mâdi mâka lau âka mâ yamka palka ka.

mâ OBJ.2. (22: mâna) you (sg.) (as object of verb); to you (sg.); for you (sg.). Alas balna yaw mâ tâti bang ka. They are waiting for you over there.

mâdah ADV. during the day. Yan mâdah kal upurdanaka, yul bauti talnaka watah yak bahangh.

mâdi ADV. today. Wahaiki mâdi wâda. (or mâdi mâka)

mâdi laih ADV. now. Yang mâdi laih Ulwah yulka yultayang. Now I am speaking Ulwa.

maha N. (maha[]) [MOD, MAN] engine; motor.
maha waska NE. (maha[]) waska) engine fuel; gasoline.

1mahka A. much; many; a lot of. Yang was mahka dihikda. I drank a lot of water. Kasnaka dika mahka lau ka. There is much food. Yang akalah muih mahka talyang. I see many people here. (syn. isau)

2mahka ADV. immediately; at once; promptly; very soon. (syn. at) [. in past context, “soon thereafter” ]

mähnaka VI. {v-PA} (mähpi) moo or low [cow]. Tūruh wāna bakaka lukdai kau, waiti mähpi tungwai. When a mother cow loses its calf, it goes around mooing in search of it.

mahnaka 1. VT. {v-TA} (mahti) satiate; fill (stomach). Panmak isau kasi yasni mahnaka. (→ mahwanaka)

2. VI. {v-TA} (mahti) be fed up. Yang man yulma mahting palka yang. I’m fed up with you.

mahul N. (mahul[]) [MAM] skunk.

mahwanaka VI. {v-WA} (mahwi) fill (stomach); become satiated. Baka ya di isau kasi mahwida lau ka. (→ mahnaka)

mak N. (mak[]) seed; kernel; grain; berry; nut; pit (of fruit). Yalau makka bū ihaiti yātah, yan ihyawi laututing.

2mak N. (m[ak]) {cns1: mik, cns2: mamak, cns3: mikna, cns12: minik, cns22: mamakna, cns33: makalnakna} cost; price; wage; payment; salary; remuneration. Kahlu as bakannaka waltaying katka makalnak ya kanga ləwasing. I want to buy a shirt, but I don’t know the price. Aitak isau bakantidam pih? How much did you pay for all those books you bought? Yang kau pihmak waya yâ umphah; lumah mikilnak iřing kau mà lautating. Help me out (by giving me) some rice; this afternoon when get paid I will pay you (for it).

makalnak 1. N.CNS3. (ma[lnak][]) {cns1: mikiłnak, cns2: mamalnak, cns3: makalnak, cns12: minilnak, cns12: mikiłnakna, cns22: mamalnakna, cns33: makalnakna} cost; price; wage; payment; salary; remuneration. Kahlun as bakannaka waltaying katka makalnak ya kanga ləwasing. I want to buy a shirt, but I don’t know the price. Aitak isau bakantidam pih? How much did you pay for all those books you bought? Yang kau pihmak waya yâ umphah; lumah mikilnak iřing kau mà lautating. Help me out (by giving me) some rice; this afternoon when get paid I will pay you (for it).

2. NR. in exchange for; in payment for.

makalnak inaka VE. {v-ih} (ma[lnak][] ihi) get paid (for work, service). Aka tukka tukwayang katka mikiłnak išing. I do this work but I don’t get paid.

makalnak palka AE. expensive.

Kalsungh as bakantidka katka makalnak palka ka.

makalnak sa AE. cheap; inexpensive. Di makalnak sa yâ muih liuh waldai ka. (syn. lulumpara, sulungpara)

makana N. (maka[na]) [MAN] [Spn: macana] hoe; wooden hoe for digging holes.

makasikka MOD. abundance; herd of; crowd of; throng of; swarm of; in droves; in large numbers. Mādi māka âka muih makasikka palka wādarang ka. Today a large crowd of people will come.

Damai lumah ya ribuk makasikka bungpang dai. Yesterday afternoon the gnats were swarming. (→ isauka)

mākuh N. (mā[kuḥ]) [ORN] laughing falcon; snake hawk. (FALCONIDAE
The laughing falcon is a bird of prey that only eats snakes.

(makauh) N. {CNs1: mikauh, CNs2: mamakauh, CNs3: makauh, CNs12: minikauh, CNs11: miknaka unh, CNs22: mamaknaka unh, CNs33: maknaka unh} fatigue; sleepiness. Makauh rapi ya itai. I’m very sleepy (lit. sleepiness is killing me).

(makauhnaka) VT. {VT-A} (rnakauhti) {OBJ1: (ya) lllikauhti, OBJ2: rna rnamakauhti, OBJ3: makauhti, OBJ12: (yak) minikauhti, OBJ11: (ya) miknaka unh, yana mikauhti, OBJ22: mana ma(makauhti, mamaknaka unh, m-a makauhti, mananaka unh, m-a manauk unh, OBJ33: maknaka unh} be sleepy.

(makdaka) 1. N.CNS3. (makda[]) {CNs1: mikdiki, CNs2: makdama} [ANAT] eye. Mikdiki dalapai. Δ Muihni bisika nangnitak saraka bū kau ya dapak tlnaka dikata watah ya.

2. N.CNS3. (makda[]) {CNs1: mikdiki, CNs2: makdama} [BOT] bud; eye (of tuber).

3. N.CNS3. (makda[]) {CNs1: mikdiki, CNs2: makdama} [MAN] button (of radio, etc.).


(makdaka butuka) NE. [ANAT] eyebrow.

(makdaka pauka) CMOD. (makdakana papauka) greedy. Yangna balna mikdikina papauka yangna. We (excl.) are very greedy. (eqv. makpau)

(makdaka pika) CMOD. (makdakana pipika) {CNs1: mikdiki pika} blind. Muih makdakana pika balna ya di maknakunka, katka di isau kung lawadai. Muih makdakana wakaslah pika balna ya di talnaka. (→ mak pinak)

(makdaka sangka) CMOD. (makdakana sasangka) sober. Yangna mikdikina (sa)sangka rih yangna. (syn. maksang, māmak sangka)

1 (makdaka tambas) NE. [ANAT] eyelash. Muih as as ya makdaka tambas yūhka ka. Some people have long eyelashes.
makulh N. (makulh[]) [ICHTH] jack. (CARANGIDAE Caranx hippos) Makulh ya kuma bilamka palka ka. The jack is a strictly saltwater fish.
makunka CMODCOMP.CNS3. {cNsI: makunka, cNs2: mamakunka, CNs3: makunka} poor; wretched; needy; pathetic. Muih makunka balna ya muih luih kauna mahdai. Everyone takes advantage of poor people. Mining muih aka makun palka atnaka ya yamka sa. It is not good for us people to be poor and needy. [Agrees with its subject as if it were a possessed noun, e.g. mikunka yang.]
makunnaka VX. {V-TA} (makunti)
makwas N. (mak[]was) body fluid; plasma. Muihma kau mà daktang watah man kau yampasa kau laih makwas irai, katka yamka yampang laih makwas irasa; buhka lau atya. When you have a cut that hasn’t healed, your body fluid flows, but once it has healed well, it is dry.
mala N. (mala[]) [MOD] task of land; measure of land equal to ½ hectare. Mala as kulpi yàtah. Measure out a task of land for me.
malai N. (malai[]) [BOT] cassava; manioc; sweet cassava. (Manihot sp.) Malai ya siwakanak ya muih kasdai. People eat the roots of manioc. Malai ya wanka as yamka ka.
malai wàkasak NE. fermented cassava. Malai wàkasak ya dinaka auhka palka ka.
malaka kalka NE. (mala[][ka] kalka) [BOT] plant similar to theahtakpalms. (Rheinhardtia sp.)
malaka panka NE. (mala[][ka] panka) [BOT] kind of tree.
malau N. (malau[]) [MAN] fishing line; string. Malau karak muih bilam sikka, bakana bik wata. With fishing line people catch big and small fishes alike.
malau marana NE. (malau[] marana) [MAN] sein; fishnet. Malau marana ya bilam isau watya palka ka.
málka N. (mál[]ka) shadow; shade. Mâ málka dai bahangh yamka amikda. Since the sun was shaded I slept well. Pan itukwána ya má dàihu bungpái kau mâlka yamka yak átai. When the sun is hot a big tree gives us good shade.
málnaka VT. {V-PÁ} (malpí) shade; conceal; occlude; block; obscure.
mámah N. (mámah[]) [KIN] mother; mom. Mámah ya sau kau bakaka bala naka dalaka palka dahya. In (all over) the world a mother loves her children. Mámahma ai yultida? What did your mother say? Muih mining mámah watah atnaka ya yamka ka. It is good for a person to have a mother.
mamaika A. (mamamaika) knotted; matted; tangled. Bikiska warau balna as as ya baskana di mamaika buih ka mímahkana áisau bahangh. Some orphans go around with a tangled mess of hair because they do not have a mother.

1'mámak N. (má[]mak) [ANAT] neck; nape of neck. Pamkìh kaupak wahdí màkimak bahwida.
mámak wàkalaka NE. (má[]mak wàkalaka) [ANAT] neck; neck vertebrae; cervical vertebrae. Baka as pan tara t kaupak wahdak mákamak wàkalaka bahwida. A child fell from the top of a tree and broke his/her neck.

2'mámak N. (má[]mak) [BOT] vine with brilliant red and black beans (used as beads). (Lippia dulcis)
mámaka 1. N. (mámà[][ka]) summer. Kuah ya mámaka kau asang kung kau ilwi luktai. In the summertime the hicatee turtle comes to shore and lays its eggs in the riverbank. Mámàka màka ya má dàihu yamka; muih luih tukwadai. The summer is good and hot; everybody works. (or mâmaka mãka)
mámaka 2. N. (mámà[][ka]) year. Mâtama ampas watah man? How old are you (lit. how many years do you have)? Mâtama as ya waiku watah ka salap kalniku bú. A year has twelve months.
Yang mâmâkiki laih baka yang dah. I am still young (my age is still small).

mâmâksang CMODCOMP. (mânak sasangka) sober. Mâmâksang dapida. He sobered up. 
(syn. maksang, makdaka sangka) (equiv. mâmâk sangka)

mâmàp QADV. when. Mâmàp palka bûna watdi wâram pan kâng lâwasing. I don’t know exactly when you’ll be coming back. Mâmàp wâdam? 
(syn. aimâ)

man 1. PRN.2. you (singular). 
2. AGR.2. second-person singular sentence agreement.

mânà (form of mà) OBJ.22. you (pl.) (as object of verb); to you (pl.); for you (pl.). Mânà umhparing. I will help you (pl.).

1manah PRT. pluralizing particle for statives. 
Yakau al bû lâwâdai bang ya yulti dakah bilam bakannaka watâh manah pan. Ask those two men passing by if they have any fish to sell. Muih makasikka rih manah mannà pih? You are walking around in a large group, eh? Alas balna râuh manah ka. They are standing around. *Yangna balna wâtdi manah rih yangna. Mining âisau manah yak. We don’t have any. Yaka dika bakana ya limdi *(rih) manah ka. Those birds are flying around. [• Combines with stative predicates.]

2manah P. through; along; via; by way of. 
Ãkâ manah. This way. Êyaka manah wâdang damâi mâ taling lâwî yawadam dai ka? Along what path had you come when I saw you pass by yesterday? Ùmis ya âniwas siwaninak manah diya. The bat drinks our blood through our veins.

mânaka VD.OBJ2. (mâti) give to you; make you; cause you. Muih ya di mânaka waldasa kau, it mâtasa ka. If a person doesn’t want to give you something, they don’t have to give it to you. Mâtîng wauhdaram. I’ll make you fall. < mâ ánaka (â nanka)

mânânaka VD.OBJ22. (mânâti) < mâna ánaka (â nanka)
yā āwang ya it bungpasa. Because flesh is snaggy this thorn I have won't come out. Lap maraska ya dasika ka salainaka. Wood with cross-grain is difficult to plane.

maratitīs N. (maratitīs) [MED] scabies (caused by itch-mite). Maratitīs yak waya kau lāska, yapa bik únitak abalti kau yak dāpai. When we get scabies it is very itchy, and when it has ruined our skin it goes away.

marnaka VT. {V-PA} (marpi) (var. of maranaka)

māsahtī N. (māsahtī) [BOT] pineapple. (Ananas comosus) Māsahtī ya waska damka palka ka. The juice of the pineapple is very sweet.

māsara N. (māsara) east; east of. Māsara kau baraska taldam pih? Did you see the blackness to the east? Alas yang mākisara kau lau ka. He lives to the east of me.

māsapak N. (maspak) [MON] respect. Umana kau bikiska balna ya muih almuk balna kau maspak watah karak. Women's biceps are smaller then men's.

māta N. (māta) [ENTOM] tick. Mata ya pamkhi silka kau isauka ilwi kasdai. Mata uli NE. (mata) [ENTOM] kind of large flat tick. Mata uli ya tūruh kau wati ākawas dihi ituwa. Large ticks attach on to cattle and grow by drinking their blood.

mataknaka 1. VT. {V-PA} (matakpi) crush; squash to pulverize or extract juices. Dī basta baska ya ihaiti matakphah.

2. VT. {V-PA} (matakpi) squash; crush while smearing, twisting, grinding, in order to kill. Yang witang ya balauh takat kau matakpikda. [Like when you step on a roach and smear it to make sure it's dead. Just stepping on it is not matak-, this requires the swiveling or smearing action.]

matamak N. (matamak) [ANAT] lymph glands; emunctory glands. Muih ya dalaka watah kau ya matakamak pupuhtai.

1mātis N. (mātis) [ANAT] biceps. Yal balna mākanatis kana bisika ya balna karak. Women's biceps are smaller then men's.

2mātis N. (mātis) [MAM] mouse; rat. (pref. mus)

mauka A. (mamauka) clean. Úni pas ya mauka watah atnaka ya yamka ka. Sūkīlu baka ya mauka watah atnaka waltayang bahangh, siputing.

maunaka VT. {V-PA} (maupi) clean; cleanse. Üki dipihka ya maunaka waltayang. Subaki ya mauka sa minisihka bahangh mauputing.

mawah N. (mawah) [MOD, MAN] sail (of boat).

midanaka 1. VI. {V-DA} (midi) stay; live. Ayauh midanaka waltayam? Āka midanaka waltaying. Āka asangka ākalah midanaka waltasing. 2. VI. {V-DA} (midi) remain; be left over. Saring isau burhpi kuringki kau pūting dai, katka midak luit muih kau yūpikda.

3. VI. {V-DA} (midi) stop; cease; terminate. Yang tuk tukwi midikda. I’ve stopped working. Īri midikda, yā suhpida bahangh. I stopped running because I got tired. Yangna tuk tukwi midikdana, kasna kaskutingna bahangh. We stopped working because we are going to eat.

mikul N. (mikul) [MOD] mile.

mil N. (mil) [MOD, MAN] [Msk: mill] [Eng: mill] mill (grinding).

minaka VT. {V-TA} (miti) stop; detain. Yang tumul isdayang dai, katka salahki dalaka ya yā mitida. I was playing ball, but my sore arm stopped me.

mining 1. PRN.12. we (incl.).

2. NAME. Ulwa language. Mádi āka pak mining kau wālik yunangh, ū ākau. Let’s speak only Ulwa from now on in this house.

2mining (form of kang) PV.ADVRS12.

miningna (form of mining) PRN.123. we (incl.) plural.
minisihka 1. N. dirt; filth.
2. MOD. dirty; filthy; soiled; unclean.
Yang tingki minisihka bahangh muih tingki isihdasa. Since my hands are dirty, people do not shake my hand.

minisihnaka 1. VI. {v-PAl (minisihpi) become dirty.
2. VT. {v-PAl (minisihpi) soil; dirty.

mistu N. (mis[ ]tu) [MAM] [Nahuatl: miztontli (cat)] [Nahuatl: mixtli (puma)] cat. Mistu ya di as kasnaka waltai ya màtíñ. The one thing that the cat likes to eat is mice. Yaka miskatu di nútaí. That cat steals things.

damaska miskatu NE. [MAM] wild cat. Damaska miskatu ya muih talya kau iri lukdai. When people see the wild cat it runs away and disappears. (syn. mistu makkasi)

mú N. (mú[ ]) [KIN] grandchild. Muih bahka balna ya múkana kau dalaka palka dakhdaí. Old people love their grandchildren a lot.

muh 1. N. (muh[ ]) [ANAT] face. Alas balna muhkana yamka. They have pretty faces. Nawah múka ya muhka dutka palka ka. The face of a jaguar is terrible indeed.
2. N. (muh[ ]) cutting edge (of knife blade).

muhka kat ADV. (muh[ ]kat) face to face; to the face of; to one’s face. Áyaka mákka yang kau yá yul bautayam kau, muhki kat yá talah. Look me in the face when you’re talking to me.

muh munka NE. (muh[ ] munka) [ANAT] cheek.

muhbul N. (muh[ ]bul) delirium; hallucination. Muhbul máña watyá. You (plural) are hallucinating.

muhdanaka VI. {v-DA} (muhdi) wake up. Waupam muhdangh. Holler for him to wake up. (→ asung katdanaka)

muhka bulnaka VE. {V-PA} (muhka bulpi) {CNS1 PRES3: muhki bulpai} hallucinate; be delirious. Muih as ya yamah watyá kau, at muhkana bulpai. Some people, when they get a fever become delirious right away.

muhkat NR.CNS3. (muh[ ]t) [CNS1: muhkit, CNS11: muhkitna, CNS33: muhkatna} face; front.

muhkat makpah ADV. (muh[ ]t makpah) facing. Manna wisam áka muhnmatna makpah kau ai wisam as talámmna pih? What new did you all just see in front of you?

muhnaka VT. {v-TA} (muhti) wake up. [can’t use asung katnaka]

muhung N. (muhung[ ]) [Spn: mojon] boundary marker; landmark.

muih N. (muh[ ]) person; people; human being; somebody; someone. Áka muhka balna Wayah yulka yuldaí. Those people speak Miskitu. Asang ákalalai muih isau palka yá bang yá. In this land there are many people. Sau kau muih luíñ ya yamka sa; muih dutka bik laulu ká. Not everyone in the world is good; there are bad people here and there as well.

2 muih almuk MOD. (see under almuk)
muih as luíñ NUM. twenty. Anu panka muih as luíñ yapa lautí watah yáng. I have about twenty coconut palms that I planted. Yan kat watah atring mánámaka muih as luíñ singka. Tomorrow I will be twenty-five years old.

muh daitnaka VE. {v-TA} (muh daiti) become pregnant. Man yalam muih daitnaka waltai pih? Does your wife want to get pregnant? (→ muihka kaunaka)
muih itukwána NE. (muhí[ ] itukwána) body; physique. Ninihki áka muhka itukwána laih yamka palka ka. My grandfather here has a fine physique.

muih íwang wayaka NE. spirit (disembodied). Muih íwang wayaka ya Wayah balna laih yáng yahbádhi palka ka, katka Sumu mining laih yabahwasá. The Miskitu people are terrified of the spirit of a dead person, but we Sumus are not afraid of it.
muih wák NE. (muhí[ ] wák) stranger; foreigner. Muih wák balna ya muh asangkana kau yamka kal dakhdasa. Strangers do not feel at ease in a (strange)
town.

1 muih wāna MOD. (see under wāna)

muih almuknaka VI. {v-PA} (muih almukpi) grow old [man]. Man pah wāk kau yawadam kau būna wam mà taling kat andih muih almukpidam āduh. When I saw you after you had gone away and come back you had already aged. (→ muih almuk) (≠ muih wānanaka)

muihdut watnaka VE. {v-TA} (muighdut wati) feel bad; feel ill. Wasbulu dihi diphtida bahangh, mūki ya muighdut watya. My grandson/granddaughter feels ill because he/she drank chicha all night.

muikhka 1. N.CNS3. (muikh[]) (→ muih) 2. N.CNS3. (muikh[]) meat; flesh of; body of.
3. N.CNS3. (muikh[]) owner; boss.
4. N.CNS3. (muikh[]) companion.


di muikhaka waska NE. soup; meat broth.

muikhka kau PE. (muikh[] kau) pregnant.
Yal balna muikhana kau balna ya, yamka kal amangti taldai, di yamka bik kasdai. Pregnant women take good care of themselves and eat good things. Yaka yalka balna muikhana kau bungdida ya, yang kangna láwasing. I don’t know those pregnant women. Yal muikhka kau balna ya mà luīh kau lima uknaka waldai. Pregnant women want to suck on lemons every day.

muikhka kaunaka VE. {v-PA} (muikh[] kaupi) become pregnant. Man yalma andih muikhka kaupida. Your wife is already pregnant. Yaka yalka balna muikhana kaudida. Those women became pregnant. (→ muih daihnaka)

muikhka munka NE. {CNS1: muikhki} muscle. (syn. muikhka pusurka) muikhka pusurka NE. (muikh[] pusurka) muscle. Al balna ya muikhka pusurka itukwāna watah ka. Men have big muscles.

muikh wānanaka VI. {v-PA} (muih wānapi) grow old [woman].

mūk STAT. lying down (plural); prone (plural). Yangna mūk yangna. We (excl.) are lying down. (syn. tibin)

muknaka VT. {v-PA} (mukpi) lay down (pl.obj.); put to bed (pl.obj.). Baka bū amadai ya mukpah. Put those sleeping children to bed. Bakaki balna mukpi dāpikda. I layed my children down.

mukpah N. (muk[]pah) [ENTOM] kind of foul-smelling ant.

muku N. (muku[]) [HERP] toad. (Bufo sp.) Muku ya di baka as labanka baka ka. The toad is a small flat animal. Yaka mukuka amaniki kau sutdi ilwida. That toad jumped up into my bed. Muku ya pukka kau bungpi tungwai tāpas balna kau. At night toads come out into the roads.

muku baka NE. [HERP] tadpole. Muku baka ya was pas kau tung ka. Tadpoles live in water.

mukulka A. (mukulkula) round; cylindrical. Di ya mukulka bahangh yamka tuludai. The thing rolls well because it is round.

mukulmak N. (mukul[]mak) [BOT] sea grape. (POLIGONACEAE Coccoloba uvifera) (syn. wāham)

mukurus N. (muku[]rus) [ORN] great-tailed grackle. (ICTERIDAE Quiscalus mexicanus; ICTERIDAE Cassidix mexicanus) [Can get confused with giant cowbird, for which there is no known Ulwa word (grackles and cowbirds are often seen together in a single group). Only the cowbird steals oropendola nests.]

mukus N. (muku[]) cloud. Kusma balna mukus takat kau limdi tung ka. The vultures are flying around above the clouds. Mukus isau lakwai kau it di talsaman.

mukwanaka VI. {v-WA} (mukwi) lie down (pl.). [note that kutwanaka has no number restriction]

muluh N. (mulu[]) [BOT] (plant sp.). (MALVACEA Sida rhombifolia)

mulukus N. (mulu[]kus) [MAM] collared peccary. (Tayassu tajacu) Alas yamak itukwana watah dai katka mulukus raupi dikamak balna ya rauhpida. He had a large plantation but the collared peccaries destroyed all the crops. Δ Sawī yapa, katka kanas waya baka para ka.
Like the white-lipped peccary, but a little smaller.

**Mulukus** 

**Mulukus** is a type of plant that produces a musky smell. (syn. **Sawi**)

**Mun**

**Mun** is a type of sponge. We lather up a sponge with soap and use it to scrub our skin.

**Muna**

**Muna** is bland saltless food.

**Miina**

**Miina** means to avoid eating (food) for health reasons.

**Singmat raupi tawas muna kulniki yatda.** The doctor told me to avoid drinking milk.

**Munka**

**Munka** means soft; easy. This animal has soft fur. Yang a'ka ukatak munka ka. This animal has soft fur.

**Munaka**

**Munaka** means transport; haul. Anu burhpi puna lau yaka pah wak kau muruputing.

**Munpi**

**Munpi** means to soften. Take some hone palm (seeds) and soften them.

**Murupi**

**Murupi** means to drag. Since the sun is hot, I dragged my canoe up and left it in the shade.

**Murupi** involves going somewhere.**

**Muras**

**Muras** is a gourd basket; gourd container which differs from **Taman** only in the way it is cut: the **Taman** has a small round hole in the top and is used for liquids; **Muras** is cut out like a basket with a handle for carrying dry goods.

**Mus**

**Mus** is a mouse; rat. Mus ya yamak pas kau awi malai makka manah kasya. The rat gets into the plantation and eats all the cassava.

**Miisang**

**Miisang** is a guapote. (Chichlasoma spp.)

**Muwaka**

**Muwaka** is a croaker fish. (Sciaenidae Micropogon sp.; Sciaenidae Bairdiella sp.)

**Muyun**

**Muyun** is a period of time. Muyun waya yatam fIki kau yawi wakuting.

**Nah**

**Nah** is a king. There used to be many kings in the olden days.

**Nahas**

**Nahas** is a side; bank (of river). Kuring ya nahas (wak) kau lati watah yang. I keep my canoe on the other side.

**Nahyal**

**Nahyal** is a queen.

**Naka**

**Naka** is a sort; type; kind. This paper is of a different sort.
naka dika ka? What kind of animal is that?


nāka dakhnaka VE. {V-TA} (nā[]dakti) obstruct; impede; block way of. Naki daktanih. Don’t get in my way.

nakahnaka VI. {V-PAl (nakahpi) hold out; endure; withstand; stand. Miidi yangna damaska kungka kau yawikdana kau lalang yānà kasak nakahpikdana. Today when we went to the edge of the forest we got stung by wasps but we withstood the pain. Anaki dalaka it (kal) nakahpasing. I cannot stand the pain of my toothache. (eqv. kal nakahnaka)

nāka nāka ADV. [MOD] various kinds. Muih balna ya nāka nāka laulau ka. There are all kinds of people.


nanadanaka VI. {V-DA} (nanadi) tremble. Yang laih muih kal baudai kau yawi nanadanaka waltasing. I do not want to go there and tremble when people are fighting.

nanaknaka VI. {V-TA} (nanakti) curdle. Tūruh tākawas kau kuma waya āwai kau nanaktai. When you put a little salt in milk it curdles.

nang as NE. (var. of nahas)

nangkirit N. (nang[]kirit) [ICHTH] sawfish. (Pristis sp.) Nangkirit ya bilam as dutka palka ka. The sawfish is a very bad fish. Nangkirit ya bilam balna wāk yapa sa; kirit as watah ka. The sawfish is not like other fish; it has a saw. (syn. kungkirit)

nangsahna N. (nang[]sahna) sweetheart; mistress.

nangtak 1. N. (nang[]tak) [ANAT] nose; snout; bill; beak. Wisusu ya nangkata subingka ka. The coati has a pointy nose. 2. N. (nang[]tak) [MED] cold [sickness]. nangtak pahka NE. (nang[]tak pahka) [ANAT] nostril. nangtak waska NE. (nang[]tak waska) nasal mucus. Sūlu ya nangkata waska buhtasa ka. The nasal mucus of a dog does not dry up.

nau N. (nau[]) [MOD] law; custom. Ātmahl ya nau yamti lau ka.

nauh 1. A. low. 2. ADV. down; low; below; at low altitude. Suba ya waya nauh lakti laupi yātah. 3. X. (voice, sound) low-pitched. (ant. taran, tarat) 4. X. (voice, sound) low (in volume, intensity). (ant. taran, tarat) 5. ADV. below. 6. N. downstream; down river. nauh kau ADV. below; down. Sau ubulka yaupak nauh kau wi lakwi ūma yamthah.

nauhanka VT. {V-PA} (nauhpi) slacken; let down [heavy object]. Yaka dika ya bahwanaka dika bahangh uba uba wati nauhpanauh! Because that thing is breakable, let it down slowly!

naumat N. (nau[]mat) [MOD] lawyer.

nautak N. (nau[]tak) [MOD] legal or official document; constitution; charter. Nicaragua Asangkabah Tunak Nau tak The Constitution of the Republic of Nicaragua

nau yamnaka VE. {V-TA} (nau yamti) judge; sentence; prosecute. Mādi āka ātmahl ya muih naukana yamtai. Now the judge is responsible for bringing the law to bear on people.

nawah 1. N. (nawah[]) [MAM] tiger; jaguar. (Felis onca) Nawah ya damaska kau wālik tungwai dapak bik di muihka wālik kasya. (or nawah bulka) 2. N. (nawah[]) [MAM] generic term for any large wild cat, including jaguar, puma, black panther, ocelot, etc. (Felis spp.) Nawah ya wāk wāk lau ka: baraaka, pauka, bulka, lalahka. Nawah ya
bakaka bisika watah kau walakha palka ka.
nawah baka NE. (nawah[] baka) [BOT] plant sp.
nawah baraska NE. [MAM] black panther. (Felis sp.) (syn. nawah muka)
nawah bulka NE. [MAM] jaguar; spotted tiger. (Felis onca) Nawah bulka úkatak ya muih bakandai. People buy/sell the skin of the jaguar.
nawah kuyus NE. [MAM] ocelot. (Felis sp.) Nawah muka NE. [MAM] black panther. (Felis sp.) Nawah muka iikatak ya muih bakandai. People buy/sell the skin of the jaguar.

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kanas yūhka, katka taling kau pā āduh.

2. ADV. rhythmically; in unison.

pā kulnaka VE. {V-PA} (pā kulpi) do rhythmically; keep time. Sū yau pā kulpi bauti atih; yangna abatutingna. Beat out a rhythm in the drum; we are going to dance.

pā waihnaka VE. {v-PAl (pā waihpi) row in unison. (or kalpakti pā waihnaka)

pā yapa X. similar but different in degree.
Pā yapa, katka pāsa. It’s similar but not identical. Yang úki āka wahāiki ūka karak pā yapa ka. My house here is kind of like my brother’s house.

1pah AFFECT.POS. particle used in expressing desire or urge. Yang kastik pah ka. I feel like eating. (ant. sah) [can be replaced by yapa: Kastik yapa ka. ]

2pah 1. N. (pah[ ]) place. Pah yamnaka palka as waitayang ūki yamnaka.
2. N. (pah[ ]) hole; cavity; inside. Yakiski úka ya yamkya sa, pah isau watah ka tunak pas ya. My niece’s house is no good; it has many holes in the roof. Man tapama pahkha kau tingma ātanih. Don’t stick your finger in your ear.

pahatka A. (pahahatka) buoyant. Dī pahatka bāl ka was kau rumpayam kau was takat yau palang atdai, āyawadasa. Buoyant things, when you throw them into the water, they float on the surface without sinking.

pahka 1. (form of pah) N.CNS3. (pah[ ]) place of; stead of.
2. N.CNS3. (pah[ ]) space; emptiness; void.
3. N.CNS3. (pah[ ]) width. Wassik pahka ya itukwāna bahangh, wing lautai kau was lamatpai palka ka. Because the river is very wide, when the wind blows there are big waves. Yānamak pahka ya ampas yūhka watah ka. Waskasik pahka ya sikka pih yaka sa kau baka pih? Is the river wide or narrow? (syn. pahka labankaka, pahka bisika)
pahka ānaka VE.CNS3 INF3. {V-PA} (pahka āti) {CNS1 INF3: pahki ānaka} feed. Mus balna dika basta dutka dī wāk karak kawatpi mā pahka ādak iwaram. If someone mixes rat poison with something else and feeds it to you you will die. (eqv. pahkānaka)
pahka baka CMOD. narrow.
pahka kau ADV. (pah[ ]) kau instead of; in place of.
pahka kau ānaka VE. {V-TA} (pahka kau āti) replace with; put in place of. Muih as tukka kaupak bungpai kau pahka kau wāk ānaka. When a person leaves his/her work, he/she must be replaced with another.
pahka sikka CMOD. wide. Mining wasnisik ya wassik luīh takat pahka sikka ka. Our river is the widest of them all.
pahka wālik NE. empty. Ú bahka yamnaka yamna yau dī pūna lau kau atdak yawing kat, pahka wālik dī āisau.
pahkānaka VT. {V-TA} {pahkāti} {OBJ1: yā pahkānaka} feed. Muih balna ya di isau lahdai lau ka mining kau yak pahkānaka. The people are cooking a lot of food to feed us. Yang amiki pan katkatāramah balna kau yam wālik pahkānaka waltai ka. My sister only wants to feed her chickens corn. Kusih aidi sāk ya kasna pahkātah. Feed the pig that’s standing there squealing. < pahka ānaka

pahkas N. (pahkas[ ]) [MED] tooth decay; caries. Baka ya anaka as kau pahkas watah ka; yapa bahangh dalaka watah ka. The child has tooth decay in one tooth; that’s why he’s in pain.
pahmat N. (pahmat[ ]) cemetary; grave.
Sau as as balna kau pahmat tuknaka waldasa.
pahmat kau tumnaka VE. {V-PA} (pahmat kau tumpi) bury in grave.
pahinka 1. VT. {V-TA} (pahhti) stab; pierce; shoot. Yā pahtida. He/she/it pierced me. Alas balna biri biri kuhbil karak pahdida. They stabbed each other with knives. Mādi pukka wiya as sukti pahtuting. Tonight I’m going to shoot a paca by shining a light at it.
2. VT. {V-TA} (pahhti) thread [needle]. Ākusah āka pahti yātah. Thread this needle for me. (or pahti lānaka)
pahra N. (pahra) [BOT] (tree sp.).
pai lalalhka NE. [BOT] sweet potato.
pai lumakka NE. [BOT] (yam sp.).
(pai pauka)
pai pauka NE. (pai lumakka)
pai pihka NE. [BOT] (yam sp.).
pai INTERJ. ouch!. Di dalaka yak laktai kau, “paih!” atwai.
pak ADV. each of the. (paknaka)
bäs pak NUM. all three.
bü pak NUM. both.
luih pak ADV. every; all.
pakapka A. (pakkapka) stiff; rigid.
pakapnaka VI. {V-TA} (pakti) stiffen; become rigid. Muih as as balna iwadai kau muihka luih ya pakaptai. Some people’s bodies become stiff after they die.
pakit N. (pakit) [Eng: pocket] pocket.
1 paknaka VT. {V-TA} (pakti) exhaust; expend completely. Kasna ya aisau laih, muih luih iwi pakdarang. If there is no food, everybody will die out. Lihkiwan lukti paktikda. I blew all my money.
iwi paknaka VE. {V-TA} (iwi pakti) die out; become extinct. Yaka iwaika ya Karawala kau lakwarang laih, yangna balna luih iwi paktaringna. If that disease reaches (descends on) Karawala, we will all die out.
2 paknaka VT. {V-TA} (pakti) hew; carve; chop into shape. Alas kuringka paktai. He is carving out his canoe. Wahai, kuring pakti yā sumaltah. Brother, teach me how to carve out a canoe. Pan karak kuring paktai. They hew canoes from trees.
3 paknaka VT. {V-TA} (pakti) spread out (over surface) [cloth, tile]. Māmaka kau wālang balna ya mā daikha raupi luih itai bahangh, asna suhpi paknaka ya yamka sa; asna pihka balna kau wālang iwang bahangh pauka watya. Yapa bahangh uhkan baska pakti nāh dapi kau laih asna ya yamka ya paknaka. In the dry season when the sun has killed all the grass, it is not good to spread clothes on the ground (to dry); the dead grass gets red stains on white clothing. Because of this, if you first spread out some bok palm leaves, then it is good to spread out clothes.
4 paknaka VT. {V-TA} (pakti) chip off outer covering (hard inner husk of coconut only). Anu as as balna ya pakwak ruikka ka. Some coconuts are brittle when you try to chip off the inner husk.
5 paknaka VT.
kal paknaka VR. {V-TA} (kal pakti) meet; gather. Yang iwasing laih buna kal pakwarang. If I don’t die, we’ll meet again.
kal pakti VR.PROX. together; all together; in unison. Muih luik kal pakti yul bauti talnaka. Everyone has to discuss it together.
palang STAT. hanging (pl.); suspended (pl.); floating (pl.). Yalau balna panka kau isau palang ka. There are many mangoes hanging in the tree. (syn. dul dul) [if floating in water, cannot be floating free in current, but can be being towed by a boat for instance. This restriction applies to dul dul and wit also.]
palang muihka NE. (palanha) [ENTOM] cecropia ant; Azteca ant.
palankuah N. (palanhu) [HERP] wide-rimmed turtle.
palatnaka VT. {V-TA} (palatti) slice tip. Anu bataka balna dinaka kau muih ya palatti yā lik didai. To drink coconut milk people slice the end off of the coconut. (or palatti yakanaka)
palka 1. A. real; true. Yan màka palka ya tā yūhka wātutting. Tomorrow I am going to walk a long way.
2. ADV. very; quite.
1 palkaka NA.CNS3. most of.
2 palkaka N. right. (→ raukatka)
1 pampka A. (papamka) tight; narrow. (→ titiska)
pamka N. (pam[k]ka) [MAM] Baird's tapir; mountain cow. (Tapirus bairdii) Pamka ya úkatak tubakka yamka palka watah ka. The tapir has nice thick hide.

pamka kalka NE. (pam[k]ka kalka) [BOT] plant with large dark red flower with giant snakelike scaly stalk (.5m long, 3cm dia.).
pamka kasnaka NE. (pam[k]ka kasnaka) [BOT] poppy-like plant.
pamka panka NE. (pam[k]ka panka) [BOT] ironwood. (Dialium guianense)
pamkikh baka NE. (pam[k]kikh baka) [MAM] colt; pony.

pamnaka vt. {V-TA} (pamti) tighten.

1 pan N. (pan) [BOT] tree; plant; bush; shrub. Pan itukwana ya yamka ka, di mahka yak átai: mala yak átai, kuh bik yak átai, kuring yak átai. Trees are good, they give us many things: they give us shade, and they also give us firewood, and they give us canoes. Pan karak muih ya ū yamdaí dapi bik kuring yamdaí. People build canoes and houses out of trees.

pan áwas NE. (pan[awas) [BOT] bloodwood tree. (MIRISTICACEAE Virola koschnyi) Pan áwas yaka kidak karak daknaka munka palka ka.
pan bakpang NE. rotten log.
pan bāpah NE. hollow log.
pan ingpang NE. dried out (rotten) log.
pan itukwana NE. (pan[ituwana) tree. Kidak ya pan itukwana balna liuh daknaka dik. The axe is for cutting all trees.
pan pihka NE. [BOT] aceituno. (Simaroumba amara; Simarumba glauca)
pan tingka NE. (pan[tingka) branch; twig. Pan tingka iwang balna karak yal balna kuh bidai. Women light fires with dead twigs. Pan tingka ya bawhai kau, baska balna ya liuh auhdi láwai. When a tree branch breaks, all the leaves fall off.
pan úkatak NE. (pan[úkatak) bark. Pan úkatak taknaka. (We have to) peel off the tree bark. Pan úkatak karak di basta yamdaí. Medicines are made from the leaves of plants.

2 pan 1. PRT. whether. Ampas kulparang pan yawi dakah. Go ask him how much he'll charge. Mādah pan, pukka pan, ampa ampa yawaring. Whether by day or by night I will go no matter what.

2. PRT. as for. Yang pan yapa yultasing dai, katka alas pan yapa yultada. As for me, I never said anything like that; it was he who said it.

3. PRT. it’s up to; it’s X who. Man pan. It’s up to you. (→ iduh)

pánaka vi. {V-TA} (páti) grow. Am yamka pátai.

panbah N. (pan[bah) [MAN] stool (hen’s foot); bench. Panbah baka ya lauwana as bisika palka ka.

1 pang N. (pang) [Spn: pan] tamal.
am pangka NE. corn tamale.

2 pang STAT.DISTRIBUT. be spread out (often in an arranged or organized fashion). Tumul isdadai pang ka. They are (spread out) playing baseball. Lihwan makka isau auhpida pang ka. There are lots of coins strewn about. Bikiska balna sumalnaka úka kaupak bungpi kal paradida pang ya talnaka yamka ka. It is nice to see the children lined up outside the school. Isdayangna pang ka. We are spread out playing. [This is not a ‘normal’ stative verb. It precludes any clausal agreement, and thus only combines with finite verbs. Hence *isi pang yangna is ungrammatical. ]
pangdam N. (pang[dam) sweet tamal. Pangdam ya ambata kaupak wálík yamdaí. Sweet tamal is made only with green corn.

pánh N. (pañh) [MAN] tin; any thin soft sheet-metal that may be shaped.
pánh aranka NE. [MAN] drum. Páňh aranka ya átam was watangh.

panhdanaka vi. {V-DA} (panhdi) stagger when drunk. Al balna as as ya urum
When some men are walking around drinking rum it is difficult to tell if they are drunk, but if he is staggering then you tell he is drunk.

**panaki** N. (pan[i]ki) [BOT] silk-cotton tree; kapok tree. (BOMBACACEAE Ceiba pentandra) Paniki ya pan itukwâna ka. Paniki ya pan as munka katka itukwâna pâtai.

**panka** 1. N.CNS3. (pan[i]) tree; stalk.
2. NUM. (pan[i]) hundred. Damai màka muih panka as yapa di launa yawaning dai. Yesterday about a hundred people went to plant. Muih panka bû wâna. Two hundred people came.

**panka itukwâna** NUM. thousand.

**panka pihka** NE. [MAN] cigarette.

**pankarasmak** N. (pan[i]karasmak) [BOT] (tree sp.). ‘Spanish ela’. (Piper jacquemontianum)

**pankirabu** N. (pan[i]kirabu) [ORN] white-collared manakin. ‘typewriter bird’. (PIPRIDAE Manacus candei)

**panlalah** N. (pan[i]lalah) [BOT] tree with yellow latex which is used to combat ringworm or skin whelts. (Vismia mexicana) (syn. paumaba)

**panlas** N. (pan[i]las) [BOT] (tree sp.).

**panmak** N. (pan[i]mak) fruit; nut; seed crop. Panmak isau launaka ya yamka palka ka. It is very good to plant lots of fruits. Panmak ya bataka kau laih muih kasdasa. People don’t eat unripe fruit. (≠ dimak) (equiv. pan makka)

**panmak ûkatak** NE. (pan[i]mak ûkatak) fruit peel; nutshell.

**panpirih** 1. N. (pan[i]pirih) [MAN] crucifix; cross.
2. N. (pan[i]pirih) [MAN] Southern Cross [constellation].

**panpirih mâka** NE. Friday.

**pansah** N. (pan[i]sah) fork in tree or stick.

**pansak** N. (pan[i]sak) [BOT] kind of small thornless palm. (PALMAE)

**pansang** N. (pan[i]sang) pole; stick. Pansang bû daki kuring kau âti yâth lawuting. Cut some poles and put them in the canoe for me so I can sit down.

**panwakal** N. (pan[i]wakal) [BOT] large tree which has spines when young.

**panwakar** N. (pan[i]wakar) [BOT] small tree with ridged or fluted trunk, used for making harpoons. (Cupania rufescens)

**panwas** N. (pan[i]was) [BOT] Saint John (tree). (Vochysia guatemalensis)

**pâp** N. (pâp[i]) [MOD, MAN] door. Pâp manah wi âawah, umak manah laih sa. Come in through the door, not through the window.

**pâp talingka** NE. [MOD] doorman. Pâp talingka ya pâp kau sâk ka tinit yulnaka âkatka kau. The doorman stands at the door during prayers. (syn. pâp mak dâtingka)

**pâpa** 1. N. (papa[i]) [KIN] stepfather. Yang papaki laih siilu isau watah dai, di itingka palka dai. My stepfather had many dogs, and they were quite good hunters.
2. N. (papa[i]) [KIN] Any uncle except mother’s brother (awang). (:/= awang)


**pâpangh balna** NE.PL. (pâpangh[i] balna) [KIN] parents.

**pâpangh yalka** NE. (pâpangh[i] yalka) [KIN] stepmother. Pâpangh yalka as as balna ya bikiskika balna kau dalaka ka. Some stepmothers love their stepchildren. Pâpangh yalka ya, dalaka yak dahya bahangh, biri bik dalaka dañhaka. Because our stepmother loves us, we must love her back.

**pâpanghni** (form of pâpangh) NE.CNS12. [REL] God.

**pâpanghni sîwâng mâka** NE. Christmas. **pâpanghni sîwâng waikaku** NE. December. Pâpanghni sîwâng waikaku kau ya muih luih ya audadai
palka ka. Everybody rejoices in December.

papas dakti lāwanaka VE. take a shortcut. (ant. tarika lāwanaka) (syn. liklah dakti lāwanaka, tiriska lāwanaka)

papas kau PE. between; in the middle.
Baka ya papas kau ihi amanauh. Sleep with the child between you (two).
Amima kau anu ya papas kat bukpi átah. Split the coconut down the middle for your sister. (equ. papas kat)

pāpbah N. (pāp[bah]) [MOD, MAN] gate.
Tūruh ya pāpbah manah áwáng dapi watchdog yā manah bungpi yawada. The cow went in through the gate and went back out that way.

papdanaka VI. {V-DA} (papdi) open.

papnaka VT. {V-TA} (papti) open; uncover; take lid off. Suba kau di Iahti dapikda ya paptatik sah ka. I don’t want to uncover the food that I left cooking in the pot. Tinit yulnaka iika ya dislah Iuih kau yawi paptayang. Every morning I go and open up the church.

pápta N. (páp[tta]) [BOT] papta. (PALMAE Acoelorraphe wrightii) [* compare with ukung ]

para PRT. roughly; about; more or less; sort of. Bluefields ba Juigalpa yapa para ka. Bluefields is kind of like Juigalpa. Juigalpa katka waya sika para ka, Bluefields karak. Juigalpa is just a bit bigger than Bluefield. Yang ulniki panka katka waya yūhka para ka. My pencil is a bit longer. Dislah para kau wing. I came around sunrise.

paradanaka VI. {V-DA} (paradi) line up; become arranged in a line, row or some regular formation. Yaka pankamak balna auhdi paradamida. Those fruits fell and landed in a row.
kal paradanaka VR. {V-DA} (kal paradi) get in formation [soldiers]; line up. Yawanangh ahauka kau kal paradana. Let’s go out and line up.

parahka A. (pararahka) (land)low; flat. Yāmak as tuspidam kau, pahka ya parahka laih, malai lautam it yamka pätasa, was watah bahangh, katka wilis laih yamka pätai. If you’ve cleared a plantation in low land and plant cassava there, it will not grow well because it will have too much water (poor drainage), but arum will grow there fine.

paranaka VT. {V-TA} (parati) arrange; set [table]; line up; arrange objects in a line, row or some regular formation. Rupikkimak balna áka watmat kau áting it di dahsing bahangh, má dailika kau paratuting. I put my batteries in the tape player but couldn’t hear anything so I’m going to set them out in the sun. Wai turumka balna pih paradida pang ya? Whose drums are those lined up?

paranghnaka VT. (paranghta) drink; swallow (liquid). Paranghtikda.
Parangh dapikda. Di waska isau ihi parangh danaka. [* compare with uknaka ]

paraska A. {STRONG} (pararaska) fast; quick; heavy (rain); loud; harsh. Paraska wāra. Pamkih ya paraska irai. Mādi yākimak kau yawahkú ating kaut was paraska lautai bahangh yawasing.

1parasnaka NV. (parasna[]) greeting. Manna balna kau parasnaka sīka as mā sīhpayang.

2parasnaka VT. {V-TA} (parasti) greet.

parin N. (parin[]) [MAN) adze; adz.

parubi N. (paru[bi]) [KIN] lastborn; youngest child.

pas N. (pas[]) inside of; interior.

pasbah N. (pas[bah]) {CNS1: paskibah} half. Yang kasauh makka ya pasbah wālik laih waltasig; laih waltayang. I don’t want just half of the cashew fruit; I want it all. Wahaiki karak di as yaktikdana dapak pasbah pasbah ihkdkana. My brother and I found something, we each got half. (→ pastirh)

pas bitah yau ADV. inside. Saupah balka tukping lau pas bitah yau malai dutpi pūting lau ka. In the big hole that I dug there is cassava that I piled there.

pas kau PE. (paska kau) inside; in; between; among. Yang ù pasyau āwaring. Yang muil isau pas kau
tungwi taling bahangh waya kang läwayang. As I’ve had experience among many people I understand a little.

pasnaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (pasti) sweep out; scrape out. Muku ù pas kau lau ya pan karak pasti yakti yàtah. Sweep out the toad that has entered the house. (or pasti yaknaka)
2. VT. {V-TA} (pasti) dig out (with sharp implement). Wahal ñak wàlwida ya ñkusah karak pasti yakti yàtah. Dig out the thorn that broke off in me (i.e. under my skin) with a needle for me. (or pasti yaknaka) ≠ tuknaka

paspas N. (pas[ ]pas) [MAN] launch. Paspas baka as watah yang sau murunaka ðika. I have a small launch for hauling sand.

pas sahnaka VE. {V-DA} (pasd) split. Bakaki anu ya pas sahti màtarang. My son/daughter will split the coconut for you.

pastang 1. N. (pas[ ]tang) [MAM] great anteater. (Myrmecophaga sp.) Pastang ya damaska pas kau ya kiki úka wàlik waiti tungwai. The great anteater is always roaming the bush searching for ant hills.
2. N. (pas[ ]tang) [MAM] lesser anteater. (Tamandua tetradactyla; Tamandua mexicana)

pastirh N. half. Malai as dàtam watah man ya pastirh wahaima kàtuh.

patdanaka VI. {V-DA} (patdi) burst; rupture; pop. Wauki kau suru as watah yang dai ya pupka patdida. The boil I had on my thigh popped last night. (= sahwanaka) ≠ Differs from sahwanaka in that it only applies to things that are full of liquid.

patli N. (pat[ ]li) [MOD, MAN] bottle. Patli arungka yapa urum bakandikda.

patnaka VT. {V-TA} (patti) puncture; pop; lance. Tingki pas pulingtang laulau ñka ñkusah karak pattuting. I’m going to lance these blisters on the palm of my hand. (= sahnaka) ≠ Differs from sahnaka in that it only applies to things that are full of liquid.

påuh N. (påuh[ ]) [ICHTH] mojarra; tuba. (Chichlasoma spp.) Påuh ya bilam as lumakka baraska yapa ke. Papaki laih päuh kuma kahtang isau watah ka bakannaka.

påuhbul N. (påuh[ ]bul) [ICHTH] kind of small mojarra. Wasdak kau påuhbul balna isau ka.

pauhnaka VT. {V-TA} (pauhti) nail; pierce. Pâpki dutdi wauhdida ya paututung. I’m going to nail my door which has come off (its hinges).

pauka A. (papauka) red. Di pauka yang waltasing.

paukas N. (pau[ ]kas) [ORN] chestnut-colored woodpecker; cinnamon woodpecker. (PICIDAE Celeus castaneus; PICIDAE Celeus loricatus)

pauluk N. (paul[ ]luk) [MOD, BOT] mahogany. (MELIACEAE Swietenia macrophylla) Pauluk lëpka ya muhlih suyudai, lâp yamka bahangh.

pauinaka 1. VI. {V-TA} (pauti) turn red; redden; tan. Yaka pankamak balna pautai laulau ka. Those fruits are turning red.
2. VT. {V-TA} (pauti) redden; tan.

paurah N. (pau[ ]ra) [ORN] pink or roseate spoonbill. (THRESKIORNITHIDAE Ajaia ajaja)

pih  PRT. interrogative marker.

pihka 1. A. (pipihka) white. Āka sūkalu balna luhai laih pihka. All those dogs are white.
2. A. (pipihka) clear; transparent. Āka sūkalu balna luhai laih pihka. All those dogs are white.

pihmak N. (pih[ ]mak) [MOD, BOT] rice. (Oryza sativa) Pihmak ya bikiska balna kasnakana palka ka.

pihmak yākamak NE. (pih[ ]mak yākamak) rice field.

pihpīn N. (pih[ ]pīn) [ICHTH] kind of small white drummer fish. Pihpīn ya auhka palka ka. The small white drummer fish is very delicious.

pik N. (pik[])[MAN][Eng: pick] pick; pick-axe.

pika A. (pipika) closed; extinguished; dried up. Āka makdaka andih pika ka. This eye is already blind. ( → pīnaka)

pikpik N. (pik[]pik)[HERP] frog.

pikpik pihka NE. [HERP] white toad.
pikpik sangka NE. [HERP] green toad.


pilat N. (pilat[]) [ORN] red-lored parrot. (Psittacidae Amazona autumnalis) Pilat ya warauhwa yapa yul baunaka waltai, katka it sa, alas dau kawarai dapi uyupai. The red-lored parrot wants to talk like the yellow-naped parrot, but it can't; it just whistles as if it were laughing. (syn. kayah)

pilau N. (pilau[]) bay sore. Yang kalki kau pilau as bungpida. I have a bay sore on my foot.

pilandaka VI. {V-DA} (pildi) chip; flake. Yang labannahki āka pilandaka waltasing. I don't want this plate of mine to flake.

pilnaka VT. {V-TA} (pilti) chip; flake.
Labankinah pilnanih! Don't chip my plate!

pīnaka 1. VI. {V-TA} (piti) become blind (eye); become clogged (nose); dry up (water vein). Mikdiki wakssah pītida.
2. VT. {V-TA} (piti) extinguish.
3. VT. {V-TA} (piti) blind (eye). ( → tainhaka)
4. VI. {V-TA} (piti) dry up; close up.
Māmākā kau waspah balna ywa tasāka isau katka luhai ywa pītanga kā. In the summer there are lots of water veins in the wells but they are all dried up.

māk pīnaka VE. be blind. Yaka muīhka laih mak pīnaka waltasa. That person doesn't want to be blind. Yaka muīhka balna ya makdaka andih pītanga. Those people are already blind. Yaka makdaka pītanga (pika, pīpika) muīhka balna ywa kal wayaka balna it taldasa. Those blind people cannot see their own pictures (pictures of themselves). Yaka muīhka makdaka pītanga (pika, pīpika) balna ywa kal wayaka balna it taldasa. Those blind people cannot see their (own) pictures. Yang mīkdīkī andih pītīda. I have already gone blind. ( → mak pīka)

pinda N. (pin[ ]da) [BOT] peanut.

pinnī N. (pinnī[] ) name of a constellation.
pinnī mākā NE. Wednesday.

pipdanaka 1. VI. {V-DA} (pipdi) spring or jump [flea]. Pisa ya alas pipdi tung ka katka muku balna ywa dau suttada. Fleas spring around, but toads just hop. ( ≠ suttada) [ • This is much more extreme than suttada. Perhaps only fleas can do this. ]
2. VI. {V-DA} (pipdi) bounce. Taspul tumulka balna as ya dasika palka pipdadai. Some rubber balls bounce very high.

pipī bāka NE. (pi[p]i bāka) [BOT] kudzu.
Pipī bāka laih pan takat kau balakpai, dapak panka ya baska balna luhui auhdi lwadai kau iwai. Kudzu wraps and blankets itself over a tree, and when all the tree's leaves fall off it dies.

pipini N. (pipi[ ]ni) [ENTOM] horsefly; deerfly; gadfly. Pipini ya māmākā kau
bungpai. Horseflies come out in the summer.

pirihka A. (piririhka) crossed; cross-ways.

pirihnaka VT. {V-TA} (pirihti) waylay; detain; block; prevent. Yang damai ya wânaka punting dai katka âtmâh as raupi yâ pirîhti kutchida; yapa bahangh wâsing bakpikâd. I had planned to come yesterday but I was detained by a policeman; that's why I didn't come. (syn. tâkat dâknaka)

pirika N. (piri[ka]) [ICHTH] sheepshead. (SCIAENIDAE Arcosargus sp.) Pirika ya bilam as bulka ka. The sheepshead is a mottled fish.

piririh N. (pi[ri]rh) [BOT] small bush with aromatic root. (Cyperus articulatus)

piritnaka VT. {V-TA} (piritti) slit; cut slits or vents in; slice. Bilam kuma kahtuti tung man yamka piritti kuma kahtah dapak bakpasa atrang. Since you're looking to salt some fish, cut slits in it when you salt it and it won't spoil.

pisa N. (pisa[]) [ENTOM] fleas.

pisabit N. (pisa[]bit) [BOT] [Creo: pissabed] (pref. tisling)

pisba N. (pis[]ba) [BOT] (var. of tisba)

pisbâluk N. (pis[]bâluk) [ORN] groove-billed or smooth-billed ani. (CUCULIDAE Crotophaga sulcirosiris; CUCULIDAE Crotophaga ani) Pîsbâluk yâ di baka as bisika dapak bik kusma úkatak yapa, baraska palka ka. The groove- or smooth-billed ani is a small bird whose color is black as a vulture.

pisik N. (pisik[]) [BOT] piñón; plant whose seeds are used as emetic or as purgative. (Jatropha curcas)

pisirkâ A. (pissirika) erect; upright.

pisirnaka VT. {V-TA} (pisirîti) hold upright or erect; stick up. Sana irai kau umahka pisir datya. When a deer runs it holds its tail upright.

pisish N. (pisîsh[]) [ORN] [Nahuatl: pixixi] [Nahuatl: pixixil] black-bellied whistling-duck; black-bellied tree-duck. (Dendrocygna autumnalis) (Dendrocygna arborea) (ANATIDAE Dendrocygna

autumnalis) Pîsisih yâ alakunm yapa sa ka; kanas bisika dapak nangkatak bik lalah yapa ka. Kalka bik lalahka ka, yapa bik pukka kau buihwadai, waiku dipîhka kau. The black-bellied tree-duck is not like the Muscovy duck; it is smaller and its bill is yellowish. Its feet are also yellow, and it is active at night, in the moonlight.

pisitdanaka VI. {V-DA} (pisîtîdi) somersault; roll end over end.

pisitnaka VT. {V-TA} (pisittî) flip over. Bauti pisîtikdika. I hit him and flipped him over.

pisiwit N. (pîsi[]wit) [BOT] mahoe; sani. (Hibiscus tiliaceus) (→ wahpîh)

pitnaka VT. {V-TA} (pîtîti) gut; slit open; make incision in. Bilam yâ báká pîtthâh, yaka sa kat dûtтарàng. Gut the fish, or else it will rot.

1pitukdanaka VI. {V-DA} (pitukdî) flail; kick around violently. Bikiska mujh kANG yablingka bálna yâ watyam kau alas pitukdai dâparam ati. Timid children will kick and flail if you grab them, in hopes that you'll let them go.

2pitukdanaka VI. {V-DA} (pitukdî) turn inside out. Mikdini kau aill kau, yak abaltai mikdini ya; pitukdî bungpâi yapa ka. When the latex from the aill plant gets in our eye, it destroys the eye to the point where it seems to turn inside out. (or pitukdî bungnaka)

3pitukdanaka VI. {V-DA} (pisîtîdi) do somersaults, cartwheels, backflips, forward flips, etc. (or pitukdî làwnaka)

pitukka A. (pitutukka) inside out. Asna bîna anakat kauh ya watpi lâtî takat kau áwayam yaka pitukka atwai. When you wear clothes with the stitchings on the outside we call that inside out.

pituknaka VT. {V-TA} (pitukpi) turn inside out. (or pitukpi lànaka)

pras N. (prîas[]) [REL] [Msk: prias] prayers; worship. Prias kau awayam pîh? Are you going to the church service? (pref. tînit yulnaka)
pūdanaka VI. {V-DA} (pūdi) accumulate.
kal pūdanaka VR. meet; gather;
conglomerate; coagulate; accumulate;
congregate. Pahka aslah kau kal
pūdanaka. We have to congregate in one
place.
puhangka A. (puhahangka) puffy; puffed
up; billowing; puffing out like a full sail or
like a loose shirt when tucked in at waist...
Kal bautingka muihka balna ya
askanana puhangka āwadai. Soldiers
only wear puffy clothes.

pūhnaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (pūhti) blow on.
Kuh pūhti sāk yang. I am (standing)
blowing on the fire. Kuhkī ya kumāsā
bahangh pūhtuting. Since my fire is not
burning, I'm going to blow on it.
2. VT. {V-TA} (pūhti) [MYTH] enchant by
blowing on; utter incantation while
blowing.
pūhti ilnaka VE. blow bubble (chewing
gum).
pūhti singnaka VE. {v-PAl (pūhti
singpi) cure using sorcery and blowing.
Umāna kau muih almk bālna ya
muih ānākana dalapai kau pūhti
singdai ādāng. In old times they would
cure toothache by using sorcery. ● It is
unclear exactly how this works, whether
the sufferer would be blown on directly, or
whether the incantation and blowing was
performed separately. ]

1puhpuh N. (puh[puh) [ENTOM] weevil.
Puhpuh ya di as wingka watah ka.
The weevil has an odor.
2puhpuh N. (puh[puh) [ICHTH] kind of
small gar (10cm).
puidanaka VI. {V-DA} (puidi) cool;
become lukewarm.
puihka A. (pupuihka) comfortably warm.
Ripka yak yamtai kau asna tubakaka
yak āwai kau puihka ka. When we are
cold and we put on thick clothing we
become comfortably warm.
puika A. {STRONG} (pupuika) warm;
lukewarm; tepid (food or water). Yang
waska baras ya pui(ka) diyang. I drink
my coffee lukewarm.
puinaka VT. {V-TA} (puiti) make tepid;
make lukewarm; cool (food or drink).
Waska baka ya waya pui(ti) dapi
baka ya ātām dihangh. Warm up the
liquid and make the baby drink it.
puisin N. (pui[]sin) [Eng: poison] poison.
puisin katatnaka VE. {V0} (puisin
katati) curse someone by burying a magic
poison which is targeted specifically at
them. Ākidut as raupi puisin yatda
katka wātyu raupi ākisara kaupak
kurhpī yaktīda. One of my enemies
cursed my with buried poison but the
shaman dug it up from my yard.
puisin pah kānaka VE. {V-TA} (puisin
pah kāti) poison.
pukkka 1. N. (puk[[kā]) night. Pukka
kau ya muih luhī ya amadai ka. At
night everybody sleeps.
2. A. (pupukka) closed; blocked. Man
tapama pukka pih? Are your ears
blocked?
3. A. (pupukka) blurry; unclear.
Ākaupak ūna labaka kau muih as sāk
ya talyang katka mīdkī yamka sa
bahangh puk talyang; wai pan kang
lāwasing. From here I can see the person
standing outside your house, but since my
eyes are not good it looks blurry; I can’t
tell who it is.
puknaka VT. {V-TA} (pukti) close. Yulka
dasika bahangh tapaki puktīda. The
voice was so loud it deafened me. Alas
tapaka puktang bahangh sip yā
dahsa. He can’t hear me because he is
defaf.
pukru N. (puk[ru) [BOT] provision bark;
provision tree; American chestnut. (Pachira
aquatica; Bombax aquaticum)
pul 1. N. (pul[]) pus. Kalki pas kau
wakal yāwak pul ida. I got a thorn in
the sole of my foot and it’s leaking pus.
2. N. (pul[]) sap; latex (of plant). Wan
luhī ya pulka watah ka. All breadkind
foods have latex. Yang kahkilu yamka
kat āngkinīh pulka watah yā
waltasing. I no longer want my good
shirt that got stained by banana sap.
Wālang panka pulka ya pihka ka,
yapa bik tubuhka ka. Pine sap is clear
(white) and thick.
pulingnaka VI. {V-TA} (pulingti) blister.
Yang ū laba kat tupsīkda dāpap
tingki āka pulingnaka wālik dāi. My
hands kept blistering when I was cutting the lawn.

pulingtang N. blister.  muihki kau pulingtang watah yang ya my blister Tingki kau pulingtang watah yang dai ya pattikda. I popped the blister that I had on my hand.  [• does not form construct]

pulka waska NE. (pul[] waska) {CN51: pulki waska} semen.  Al ya pulka waska watah ka. Men have semen.


pulu waska NE. nectar.  Kubalamh ya pulu waska diya.

pululuh N. (pulu[]luh) (pululuh[]) {CN53: pululuhka[pululuhki]} [ICHTH] kind of fish.

pulunaka VI. {V-TA} (puluti) flower; blossom. Yang pihmak lauting, katka pulutasa dah. I planted rice but it hasn’t flowered yet.

pulwat N. (pul[]wat) [MOD, MAN] glue. Bahwarang laih, pulwat awak buhtak tânini wâlik. If it breaks, we just have to put glue it (back together) and wait for it to dry.

pum VI. {STRONG} thinking; in thought. Yang dau pum kût yang. I’m just lying here thinking. Mining pum yak. We (incl.) are thinking.

pumnaka 1. VT. (pumti) think; expect. Yang pumtayang yan was lautarang. I think it will rain tomorrow. Muih balna ai pumdai ya talyang. I see people’s thoughts. Yang pumtikda alas màdë wànaka dai, katka wása. I thought he would arrive today, but he didn’t. Yang pumtasing dai umis yà usuparang ya. Yapa kang lâwing dai laih pah wâk kau lawaniki dai. I didn’t expect that a bat would urinate on me. If I had known that, I would have sat somewhere else.

2. VT. (pumti) worry. Pumtanih.  Don’t worry.

3. NV. intelligence; sense. Alas pumnaka isau watah ka. She/He has a lot of sense. Muih as ya pumnaka yamka watah yapa katka muih dudutka palka ka.

bûna pumnaka VE. rethink; have second thoughts. Muih kau di as âti dapi bûna pumnaka ya yamka sa. It is bad to give something to someone and then afterwards have second thoughts.

pumnaka âisau CMOD. stupid; dumb; senseless; dull. Muih pumnaka âisau ya di isau pumti yakdasa. Stupid people don’t have many ideas.

pumnaka dutka AE. grudge; animosity; ill will; bad thoughts. Yang muih kau pumniki wâk ising. I don’t harbor bad thoughts towards people. Yang yaka yalka kau pumnaka dutka ihikda ya ìwaring kat. I will have ill will toward that woman until I die.

pumnaka lukdang CMOD. crazy. Wahaiki ya pumnaka lukdang tung ka; kumhpåpana. My brother is crazy; don’t bother him.

pumnaka nauhnaka VE. {V-TA} (pumnaka nauhpi) discourage; abase. Wirahki ya mädë pukka âka alah ìkà kau un baunaka watah dai; yang waltasing ka pumnaka nauhnaka, kat un bautasa atrang. My brother had a hymn to sing in church tonight; I don’t want to discourage him, because he may not sing (if I do). (eqv. pum nauhnaka)

pumnaka watnaka VE. {V-O} (pumnaka wati) distract; catch attention of. Wirahki ya madi pulu pukka alah âka. My brother had a hymn to sing in church tonight; I don’t want to discourage him, because he may not sing (if I do).

pumnaka watnaka VE. {V-O} (pumnaka wati) distract; catch attention of.

pumnaka lukdang CMOD. crazy. Wahaiki ya pumnaka lukdang tung ka; kumhpåpana. My brother is crazy; don’t bother him.

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pumnaka watnaka VE. {V-O} (pumnaka wati) distract; catch attention of.
sinakki ya waiku wák palka ya pûnaka pumtyang. I plan to harvest my beans this very next month.

3. VT. {V-TA} (pûti) have in tow; be accompanied by. Siíiku wàna ya watnaka màka wí áwida bahangh alas almuk ísaú pûti tung ka. Since my female dog is in heat she goes around with lots of males in tow.

4. VT. {V-TA} (pfiti) tuck in [shirt]. Dakíma ya kahlu áwai kau kalkasung hákamak yau kahkalu tangka pûtai. When my grandfather wears a shirt he tucks the shirt tails into (the waistline of) his pants.

pûnaka dika NE. bag. Pûnaka dika ísaú yapa bík síkka watayang, sipulki balna pûnaka.

pundana N. (pun[dana] [BOT] wild ginger. (Costus laevis)

punitka A. (puninitka) light; fluffy; light and fluffy (like down feathers, sponge, styrofoam, pith of dried rotten log, balsa wood). Pan luih karak duri panka ya kanas punitka. Of all trees, the balsa is the lightest.

punka A. (pupunka) fuzzy; soft. Taitai síkka ya úkata puppetka ka, katka bisika ya laih sa. Bisika ya salaika. The large squirrel is furry, but not the small one. The small one is smooth. (syn. busurka)

puntubak N. (pun[tubak] [MOD, MAN] blanket.

punu N. (pûnu) [BOT] anona; soursop; bobwood. (Anona sp.)

pupuhnaka 1. VI. {V-TA} (pupuhti) swell. Kungkimak pupuhtida, yapa bahangh sip wiupasining. My lip is swollen, and so I cannot whistle. Kuh daikhá áwi dapi yawi wasarayam ya pupuhnaka watayam pih? Going from the heat of the fire straight to bathing, do you want to swell up?

2. VT. {V-TA} (pupuhti) cause to swell or rise [river, water level]. Wing dutka wàya kau kuma kaupaí wàya pupuhti íltai. When a hurricane comes, the inflow from the sea causes the river to rise.

puput N. (puput[]) [BOT] (syn. baspuput)

puputka A. (pupuputka) gray/grey; brown; lead or cream colored. Wasala básitña ya ünkata puppetka. The opossum has grey fur.

puradanaka VI. {V-DA} (puradi) get wet. Rákíma puradang. My shoes got wet.

puraka A. (puraraka) wet; moist. Āka sauka puraka bahangh sip lawasing. Since this ground is wet, I cannot sit down.

puranaka VT. {V-TA} (purati) wet; moisten. Was yák puratai kau ripka ka. It is cold when the rain wets us.

kal puranaka VR. {V-TA} (purati) get wet (on purpose). Yang wasaruting bahangh, kal puratikda. Because I am going to bathe (later), I allowed myself to get wet. Kal puratanih! Don’t get wet! (≠ puradanaka, purawanaka)

purawanaka VI. {V-WA} (puravi) become wet. Was paraska lautai kau pan, di birikdanaka áisau man ka, purawanaka wálík.

pura yapa X. damp. Asna áka buhtang pih atídka katka waya pura yapa ka. I thought these clothes were dry, but they are a little damp.

purudanaka VI. {V-DA} (purudi) suffer visibly; fret; writhe in pain. Kutwi purudai dalaka watah yulka. He is lying writhing in pain. Mádi má tunak áka di mihuha áisau yang bahangh, yaka walti purudi sák yang ampä dapi írìng pan. Since I have no meat for dinner today, I'm standing here fretting over how I'm going to get some. Yal balna yaka al balna kau waldai kau, it yawi muhkana kau yuldasa, katka dau bai kaupak purudadai. When a woman likes a man, she can’t go say it to his face; she just has to suffer from afar.

puruhka A. (pururuhka) sunken (cheeks, eyes); sucked in; deep (hole). Aka waskapah áka puruhka pih? Is this well deep? Āka waskapah balna áka puruhka ka. These wells are deep.

puruhnaka 1. VI. {V-TA} (puruhti) become sunken [cheeks, eyes]. Bâwas, tining karak yak waya kau, má bû datik mîkîni ya andih puruhtai. After two days of diarrhea and vomiting our eyes are already sunken.
2. VT. {V-TA} (puruhti) suck in (stomach); make deep; deepen. Yang nuhki ya kanas puruhtayang, pihmak ya kanas isau watrang yulka. I'm deepening my mortar so it will hold more rice.

3. VT. {V-TA} (puruhti) [SLANG] starve. Ya puruhtak tung yang. I'm (going around) starving. Sayama ya waya rna puruhtarang! You can starve for all I care, you lazy bum!

puruka 1. N. (puru[]ka]) whirlpool. (→ wirika)
2. N. (puru[]ka]) wide deep spot carved into curve of river. Was maka bang kau puruka sikh as lau yaka was pautai kau di yabasikka ka. Upstream there is a large puruka which is very treacherous when it floods.

purunaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (puruti) swirl. Mā as as kau wing wauhpai kau pan baska kusutang balna ya luh tarat kau wālik puruti iltai. Some days when the wind is blowing it swirls all the dried leaves up into the air.
2. VT. {V-TA} (puruti) move in circular motion; scrape inside walls of cavity in circular motion. Tapaki pas lāstai āka puruti yātah. Scratch the inside of my ear, which itches, in a circular motion for me.

puspā N. (pūs[]bā] [ANAT] mole.

puyul N. (puyul[]]) mold; mildew.
rainaka  vi. {v-PA} (raiπi) form a sheen or slick on water.  Di auhka ya was kau raiπai. Greasy or oily liquids form a sheen on top of the water.

rāma  n. (rā[ma]) [MOD, MAN] shoe.

rānaka  vt. {v-PA} (rāπi) set or spread out dry.  Sinak ya ahauka kau rapi dāping kat, was isau wāda dāpak luīh purawīda. When I had left the beans outside to dry, heavy rains came and it all got soaked.

rangh  n. (rangh[ ]) [ORN] motmot; any of several species of motmot with racket-tipped tail. (MOMOTIDAE)

rasnaka  vt. {v-PAl (raspi) sprinkle; spray; splash; disperse in small drops or amounts (liquid or granular substance).  Uki akau tasah isau bungpai āka, dika basta rasping būna bungpasa atrang.

rau  stat. (rau ran) standing (plural).

Tūruh bala máltka kau rau ka. The cattle are standing in the shade.  Manna balna ākalah rāu atnauh. (You pl.) be standing here.

raudanaka  vi. {v-DA} (raudi) stand up.

Yang pukka ami kūtyang kau muih ūki kau wī yā waudai pan raudanaka waltasing āka.

raudi  vi.prox. introduces report of direct or indirect speech.  Singmat balna raupi was isau dihi atnaka yamka atdaia. Doctors say it's good to drink a lot of water.  (→ raudi)

2. vi.prox. introduces prompt action.  (→ raudi)

raurauh  n. (raurauh[ ]) [MAN, MOD] drinking glass.  Raurauh ya amang mak dātasa laih it ka sahwanaika. If a (drinking) glass is not looked after, it can break.

rawahnaka  vt. {v-PA} (rawahpi) swing; brandish (hand or long rigid object—not rope or rock).  Baka pan rawahpi tung yā amang talah; mā wisparang. Watch out for that kid swinging the stick; he might hit you.  Wat bās rawahpikda, katka tumul yā wispasing dai, rumpingka yā yamka bahangh. I swung and missed three times, because the pitcher was good.  (≠ wauhnaka)

rāwanaka  vi. {v-WA} (rāwī) sunbathe; bask (in sun).

ribiska  a. (ribibiska) choppy; uneven.  (→ basribis)

ribuh  n. (ribuh[ ]) [ENTOM] tarantula; kind of large poisonous spider.  Bikiska kau ribuh kasak aidai. The child cries when bitten by a tarantula. (syn. wāri buhka)
ribuk N. (ribuk[]) [ENTOM] sandfly; midge; no-see-um; kind of biting gnat. Ribuk ya bisika palka ka; talwasa bahangh, yak waraupai. The no-see-um is tiny; since we can’t see it, it torments us. Damai lumah ya ribuk makasikka bungpang dai. Yesterday afternoon the sandflies were swarming.

ridanaka vi. {V-DA} (ridi) become unfurled; unfold; open (sail). Wing lautak mawah ya ridida. When the wind blew the sail opened.

rih STAT. walking together. Mining balna rih atwarang. We (incl.) will be walking around. Wahaini karak áyakat áyakat rih atnaka ya yamka ka. It’s nice to wander to and fro in the company of our comrade. Mining rih yak dai was yak watda. We (incl.) were out walking and we got caught in the rain.

rihwanaka vi. {V-WA} (rihwi) walk together; go in a group. Mining yak rihwarang. We (incl.) will go walking together. (→ rih)

rikdanaka vi. {V-DA} (rikdi) crawl (on hands and knees). Bakaki áka talyang ya rikdanaka wálik ka. I see that my child is about to start crawling. Bakaki ya bakadah, katka rikdanaka waltai.

rimka A. (ririmka) taut; tense; pulled tight (string or skin).

rimnaka VT. {V-PAl (ripti) cool; cool off; make cold. Bakaki kasnaka ya ripti náh dapi pakhäätüting. I’m going to cool off my child’s food before I feed it to him.

rubukdanaka VI. {V-DA} (rubukdi) become shorter. Ninihki ya mámáka láwai luìh kau kana rubukdai ka. My grandfather gets shorter with every passing year.

rubukka A. (rububukka) short. (syn. adahka)

rubuknaka VT. {V-PA} (rubukpi) shorten.

rudapil N. (rudapil[]) [BOT] (Eng: rose apple) rose apple; jambos. (Eugenia jambos)

ruihka A. (ruruihka) brittle.

rukana 1. VT. {V-PA} (rukpi) insert; put in; introduce; put on (shoe, glove, etc.). Yang nangkitak kau tingkimak rukparing. Rama wisam as bakantikda, watah yang yan ruknaka.

2. VT. {V-PA} (rukpi) hull by pounding.

rukuhka A. (rukukuhka) bumpy; warty; rough (texture). (syn. tutuhka)

rukuhnaka VI. {V-PAl (rukuhpi) become bumpy; break out (in hives, welts). (syn. tutuhnaka)

rumnaka VT. {V-PA} (rumpi) throw; cast; pitch; shoot (weapon); fire (weapon); launch. Alas kimak as rumpida. Di bubuh upurting lau ya rumnaka waltayang.

rumparang? When will someone come out and make a donation to us? Yang tópas kau tingki wálik tung yang kau muíh as lihwan basa salap tikit rumpida. I was walking the streets emptyhanded and someone gave me ten córdobas.
rupungka (form of runmaka) N. (rupungkika) [SPORT] pitcher (baseball).

rupik N. (rupik[]) [MOD, MAN] radio. Mining mädi rumpek wisam iwida. Today we got a new radio. (→ rumpekmak)

rupikmak N. (rupikmak) [MOD, MAN] battery. Mining akalah rupikmak aisau palka bakannaka.

rustubuk N. (rus[tubuk]) [ENTOM] kind of biting fly. Rustubuk halna ya wing paraska lautai kau it rihwadasa katnaya. Rustubuk ya ribuk karak katka waya sikka para ka. The rustubuk is a little bigger than the ribuk. (≠ ribuk)

sah NEG. not. Yang sa yapa yawi tali lau yang dai. I went and observed in disguise (lit. as not me). Bikiska balna ya di inaka dika sa yapa idai. Children kill animals that shouldn’t be killed, for no reason. Yang pan aniku sa dai. If it had been me, I wouldn’t have given it to him. Tätungh kau yapa sa atya dadang. It didn’t use to be that way.

saba N. (saba[]) [BOT] crabwood. (Carapa guianensis)

sabakan N. (saba[kan]) [BOT] chicle tree; sapodilla tree; nisberry tree. (Manilkara achræ; Manilkara chicle) Sabakan panka karak kidak kalka yamda. (syn. ikan)

1sah N. (sah[]) fork in road; river; tree. Äka taka äka sahka isau watah ka bahangh, yang kang lâwasing âyauh yawanaka. Since there are so many forks in this path, I do not know which way to go.

sah kutnaka VE. {V-PA} (sah kutpi) carry child on hip. Sah kutpanih. Don’t carry him/her astride your hip. (syn. asahanka)

2sah AFFECT.NEG. particle used in expressing negative desire or urge. (ant. pah)

3sah X. stressed form of negative particle. (→ sa)

sahauka A. (sahauka) nude; unclothed; naked. Bakaki al baka ya, sahauka wâlik tungwanaka waltai. My son only likes to go around naked. Di mà daihka âka sahauka lau atnaka waltayang. In this heat I want to be naked. Muih muih kau sahauka bungnakawalwasa. We don’t like to disrobe in front of others.

1sahka A. (sahka) forked. (syn. rahka)

pan sahka NE. (pan[] sahka) forked stick. Pan sahka as waltayang ingkikiniih ya wing lakti basparaang yulka yakakputing. I need a forked stick to prop up my banana plants against the wind.

2sahka 1. X. (sah[]) (CNS1: sahki, CNS2: sahma) disobedient; obstinate; stubborn; rebellious; insubordinate. Manna balna sahmana palka manna. You (pl.) are very stubborn. (syn. di tapaka)

2. X. [PEJOR] naughty; filthy; rascally; roguish; nasty; dirty; disgusting. Yal amangisaauh balna ya di sahka balna ka. Prostitutes are very naughty. Yang di sahki yang. I’m very nasty. Baka yal balna ya sahkanatahbalna ya yamka sa. It is not good for girls to be naughty. Man (di) kana sahna palka man. You are disgusting.

sahka nauka NE. fornication. Sahka nauka ya muih as as balna ya di āisau atdai, katka Alah makdaka kau laih di as dutka palka ka.

sahkal N. (sah[kal]) [BOT] (plant sp.). (Tetragastris panamensis)

sahkal pihka NE. (sah[kal] pihka) [BOT] (plant sp.).

sahnakaven. {V-TA} (sahht) split; crack; saw. Yang pan as ahatiikda ya yan sahtuting. Tomorrow I am going to split this log that I brought. Kuh isau sahwa dapak mā mahka biwai. When we split lots of firewood we burn it for many days. (→ buknaka)

2. VT. {V-TA} (sahht) give birth to; bear (offspring); hatch; breed. Kataramah sumaka watah yang ya bakantasing; yang bakaka sahnaka waltayang. I’m not selling this egg; I’m going to hatch it. Āyauh mı sahna? Where were you born? Baka as yan sahtarang. Amiki yal ya kusih isau sahnaka waltai. My sister wants to raise lots of pigs.

sahwanaka VI. {V-WA} (sahwi) split; crack open; pop; burst; explode. Suru ya sahwanaka wâlik lau ka. The boil is
about to burst. Kuringki tunak sahwang ya sau pauka kahtayang. I am caulking the crack in the prow of my canoe. (→ sahanka)

sahwingka N. (sahwingka balna) fragile; breakable. Labannah as as balna ya sahwingka balna ka. Some plates are fragile.

sainaka VT. {V-PA} (saipi) peel. Aransa bū bang ya saipi yātah; ukputing. Peel those two oranges for me; I’m going to eat/suck them. (→ turunaka, kainaka)

sāk STAT. {DISTRIB: sasak} standing. Sāk buiputing. I am going to smoke standing up. Yang ü dangkat kau sāk yang. I am standing behind the house.

sākalahti N.CNS3. (sākalahti) {CNS!: sākilahiti} [AN AT] pancreas.

sakauhka N. (sakakauhka) hardened (like old cassava).

saknaka VT. {V-PAl (sakpi) stand up (sg.obj.). Was yamka lautai aka turum ya ahauka kau yakti sakpam was watangh. (Now that) it’s raining well, take the drum outside and stand it up to catch the rain. Yaka panka ya yamka dayapi sakpah. Stand that stick up at a good angle. (→ rauhnaka) [• see entry for dayanaka ]

sakwanaka 1. VI. {V-WA} (sakwi) stand up.

2. VI. {V-WA} (sakwi) lodge; stick; get stuck; become implanted. Bilam wakalka dinit kau sakw~i kau, wan dasika labapi dapi paranghwak ihi lakyawai. When a fish bone gets stuck in our throat, if we chew up some breadkind and swallow it, it takes it down with it.

salaika A. (salaika) smooth. (≠ datalka)

salainaka VT. {V-PA} (salaipi) smooth; make smooth; sand; sandpaper.

salap NUM. ten. Al salap as waltayang; tukwana ihyawakuting. I want ten men; I’m going to take them to work.

salap kalniku as NUM. eleven. Yalau salap kalniku as bakannaka waltayang. I want to buy eleven mangos.

sana N. (sana[]) [MAM] white-tailed deer. (Odocoileus virginianus) Sana tamka ya muih balna ú kau iti watah attdai. People hang deer antlers in their houses. Sana ya yānak balna kau di lauwai ya kasnaka waltai palka ka. Deer love to eat what we plant in our plantations. Aka sanaka pāpaanghi itida. My father killed this deer. Pāpaanghi sana as itida ya kaskuting. I am going to eat the deer that my father killed.

sana pauka NE. (sana[] pauka) [MAM] brocket deer; red deer (dwarf). (Mazama americana) Sana pauka bisika ka; sana wāk yapa sa. The brocket deer is small; it is not like other deer species.

sana umahka NE. (sana[] umahka) [BOT] kind of tall grass. (GRAMINEAE)

sānaka VT. {V-PA} (sāpi) husk; shuck; hull; peel skin off; remove bark or husk from. Yaka amka balna ya wai săpida? Who shucked that corn?

sangdanaka VI. {V-DA} (sangdi) turn green. Malai balna ya dutdai kaupak mā bās kau laih luīh sangdadaî. Three days after being dug up, cassavas are all green.

sangka 1. A. (sasangka) green; blue. Was lautasa kau, wālang ya iwai, katka was lautai kau, wālang baska ya sangka sangka sangka. When it doesn’t rain, the savanna dies, but when it rains, the savanna grass is green green green. Wassik ya sangka bahangh, yamka ka bilām inaka. Because the river is green, it is good for catching fish.

2. A. (sasangka) alive; raw; awake; new. Muih mining ya kasna sangka kaswasa. We people do not eat raw food.

sangka lahnaka VE. {V-TA} (sangka lahti) undercook.

sangka lahwang VE. undercooked.

sangka atnaka VE. {V0} (sangka ati) live; be alive. Muih luīh ya sau pas åkau sangka atnaka waldai. Everyone wants to be alive on this earth.

sangka iwanaka VE. {V-WA} (sangka iwi) faint; pass out. Bakaki al ya
My son fainted when his father died.

The loss of a person’s life is very serious indeed.

A watermelon is a very sour fruit.

I want to go to church but I have no good clothes.

I don’t want my hand to go to sleep.

The mosquito is a bad little animal, because it
gives us fever/malaria. Δ Di baka as ka, wasmak was minisihka balna kaupak súwi bungpai, alas ya áwas dinaka wálík, limdi tung ka, pukka kauh kanas isau bungdai. (var. tasah)

sasahka (form of sahka) A.DISTRIB. splitting more than two ways.

sasak (form of sák) STAT.DISTRIB. standing (plural). Muih mañha pan anakat kau sasak ka. Many people are standing under the tree. (syn. rau)

sasangka N. (sasang[]ka) [MAN] necklace. Sasangka ya umana kau muih wana balna dakatna kau alahdai dadang. In the old days women used to hang necklaces around their necks. (var. tasangka)

sátwak N. (sát[]wak) strange; of another sort. Sátkawak muihka ya wai ka? Who is the strange person?

sau N. (sau[]) earth; ground; soil; world; community. Sau kau lau yang. I am sitting on the ground. Sau kau muih ampas ya luuh lihwan waldai. Everyone on earth wants money. Sau luuh kau tunak muihka laulau ka. There are leaders in all countries. Sau yamka palka as yaktikda yakau yawi lau atnaka. I found a very nice land/community to which to go and live. Sau itik NE. (sau[] itik) garden. Sau itik ya tarina as yamka palka ka. The garden is a nice little enclosed space.

sau tunak pas ADV. North.

sau tunak pas waikaku NE. November. Sau tunak pas waikaku ya wing paraska lautai. The wind blows hard in November.

sau ubulka NE. (sau[] ubulka) high ground; hill. Sau ubulka kau dí laudai. The plant crops on high ground. Sau ubulka ya waspauka bik íti látasa. Not even the flood waters pass over the hill. (→ asang tarat)

sau umahka NE. (sau[] umahka) south; south of. Yang mámaka wák kau kanas sau umahka bitah kau úki yamtuting. Next year I am going to build a house further south.

sau wayaka NE. (sau[] wayaka) map.

sáuh N. (sáuh[]) [ORN] heron; egret. (ARDEIDEAE) Wai raudi dapi sáuhka yau dalaka átida? Who injured the heron? Sáuh ya di baka as ai ai bakana ya walti ukpai. The heron is a bird that scavenges for any little thing to eat. Sáuh ya wing paraska lautai kau it paras limdasa. The egret cannot fly fast in strong wind.

sáuh baraska NE. (sáuh[] baraska) [ORN] blue heron. (ARDEIDEAE)

sáuh titiska NE. (sáuh[] titiska) [ORN] cattle egret. (ARDEIDEAE Bubulcus ibis) Sáuh titiska balna ya türüh kau mata kasang laulau balna ya ukdai. Cattle egrets eat the ticks off cattle.

saukal MOD. sickly; feeble; unhealthy. Yang áka saukal yang bahangh mikunka yang. Because I am sickly I am needy. (syn. bátuk)

saupah N. (sau[]pah) hole (in ground); burrow. Pastang ya saupah itukwána balna kau wálík midai. The great anteater lives only in large burrows.

saupam N. (sau[]pam) [MED] rheumatism; arthritis. Saupam ya ripka kaupak bungpai. Rheumatism comes from the cold. Mádi dislah yang salahkí wakas dalapai palka, saupam watah yang yapa ka. This morning one of my arms is very painful, because I have rheumatism.

saupau N. (saau[]pau) clay. Umana kau saupau karak suba yamdai dadang. Long ago they used to make pots out of clay.

sausí N. (saus[]í) [MOD. MAN] cement; concrete.

sawah N. (sawah[]) fermented corn beverage. Yámak panka dakna yawayang kau pan, sawah ya isau ihyawayang. When I go to cut trees for a plantation, I take lots of posol with me.

sáwi N. (sá[]wi) [ORN] bobwhite; quail; prairie bird not found near Karawala most resembling spot-bellied bobwhite. (PHASIANIDAE) [● Not found near Karawala.]

sawi N. (sawi[]) [MAM] white-lipped peccary; javalina; wild pig. ‘waree’. (Tayassu pecari) Sawi ya anaka yúhka palka watah ka. The white-lipped peccary has large tusks. Sawi ya dimuih kasak bik iwadasa. Javalinas don’t die even when bitten by a snake. Sawi bakaka balna was didai.
The baby javalinas are drinking water.

**sawi itingka** NE. (sawî[i] itingka) [ENTOM] kind of giant wasp.

**sawi kasnaka** NE. (sawî[i] kasnaka) [BOT] (plant sp.). (Heliconia psittacorum)

**sawi tihka** NE. (sawî[i] tihka) musk; musky smell. (syn. *mulukus tihka*)

**saya** N. (saya[i]) laziness; sloth; idleness; lethargy. *Saya ya di as dutka palka ka, màtak bik yapa iwaram.*

**sayadanaka** VI. {V-DA} (sayadi) be lazy. *Bakaki balna sayadadai. Mâ as kau sayadanaka ya yamka ka, katka mâ luih laihsa.*

**sayadingka** N. lazy; indolent. *Muih sayadingka ya di bik nūtingka palka ka.*

**sayakka** A. (sayayakka) sensitive (tooth); stinging.

**sibangh** N. (si[bangh]) [MAN] arrow.

*Sibangh karak it ka di inaka. Àka sikabang bahwarang. Umana kau al balna ya sibangh wàlik karak di idai dadang.*

**sibibi** N. (sibi[i]bi) [ORN] house wren. (TROGLODYTIDAE Troglodytes aedon)

**sidan** N. (sidan[i]) [BOT] vine with white flowers and tiny blue fruits.


**sihaka** A. (sayayakka) lazy; idle; lethargic; slothful. *Amiki ya di sayaka lauwana wàlik wàltai.*

**sika** N. (sik[i]) [ORN] anhinga; darter. (ANHINGIDAE Anhinga anhinga)

**sikakaira** N. (si[kakaira]) [BOT] sweet basil. ‘barsley’. (Occimum micranthum)

**sikamhkaka** A. (sikakamhkka) rank; rancid; fishy smelling. *Yaka sikuku balna ya sikamhkka palka ka. Those sikukus are very rank smelling.* **sikamhkaka** NA.CNS.3. (sikamh[i][ka]) rank smell; smell of fish. *Man sikamhkaka àisau. You don’t smell like fish.*

**sikka** A. (sisikka) big; huge; great. *Mining balna sisikka yak.*

**siklalah** N. (sik[i]lalah) [ORN] northern oriole; orchard oriole. (ICTERIDAE Icterus galbula; ICTERIDAE Icterus spurius)

**sikmåla** N. (sik[i]måla) [ORN] northern oriole; orchard oriole. (ICTERIDAE Icterus galbula; ICTERIDAE Icterus spurius)

**sikbangh** N. (si[bangh]) [MAN] arrow.

*Sikbangh karak it ka di inaka. Àka sikabang bahwarang. Umana kau al balna ya sibangh wàlik karak di idai dadang.*


**sikkëh** N. (sik[i]këh) [ORN] chestnut-backed antbird. (FORMICARIIDAE Myrmeciza exsul)

**sikrëng** N. (sik[i]rëng) [ENTOM] [Spn: chiquirfn] locust. (*≠ awa*)

**siktnaka** 1. VT. {V-PA} (sikitpi) squeeze (e.g. in fist); crush with hand. *Was úka as wàlti ihi, dapi yaka likama balna yakah sikitpah. Dika basta àka sikitpayang katka huhusku bungnaka waltasa. (→ tirisnaka, yunaka)*

2. VT. {V-PA} (sikitpi) crumple.

**sikka** A. (sisikka) big; huge; great. *Mining balna sisikka yak.* *Yàmak sikka as tusnaka punti tung yang.* (→ itukwâna, bahka)

**siklalah** N. (sik[i]lalah) [ORN] northern oriole; orchard oriole. (ICTERIDAE Icterus galbula; ICTERIDAE Icterus spurius)

*Siklalah ya lahlaka yamka baka ka. Siklalahka pan di baka as yamka waikak luîh watah ka.*
siklalah waikaku NE. August. Siklalah waikaku bahangh, wing lautasa, di dailha ka.

siksik N. (sik[sik]) [ZOO] black crayfish.

sikulh N. (si[kulh]) [BOT] kind of small gourd tree. (Crescentia alata) Sikulh ya waskung kau pätai; pan sikka laih sa, baka pätai. Panka bik dasika palka ka. Makkka ya bik sütak bisika bakana yapa ka, dasika palka ka sahnaka kau. Yapa bahangh makka ya 'urus tunak' atdai. The sikulh tree grows on the riverbank; it is not a large tree, it grows to a small size. The trunk is very strong and its fruits are like small gourds, very difficult to cut open. That is why they call the fruits 'monkey heads'.

sikwanaka VI. {V-WA} (sikwi) grow; become larger. Bakaki andih sikwida. My child has already grown big.

sil N. (sil[]) [ANAT] buttocks; bottom; ass. Suba silka dawi daktang ya yamka kurhipi yankaka waltayang. (→ sara)

silika dutdai ïwainaka NE. prolapsed rectum illness; worm-related illness in which the large intestine partly comes out of the anus. Muih almuk balna raupi bikiska silika dutdai ïwanaka ya dutka atdai. The elders say that the prolapsed rectum ailment is very bad.

silam N. (silam[]) [BOT] tamarind. (Cynometra retusa; Tamarindus indica) Silam ya makka damka ka. The tamarind has sweet fruits.

silamhdanaka VT. {V-DA} (silamhdi) glare at; stare menacingly at. Yaka bakaka ya yâ silamhdai. That child is glaring at me.

silih N. (silih[]) [BOT] kind of palm with spiny leaves. (PALMAE)

silimh N. (silimh[]) [BOT] kind of tree.

silipin N. (sil[lipin] [ANAT] dorsal fin. (≠ lipih)

silipnaka VT. {V-TA} (silipti) thresh; remove grain. Wasbaras makka silipnaka. We have to remove the coffee beans from their husks.

silpituk N. (sil[pituk] [BOT] plant with red and yellow flower.

silpituk almuk NE. (sil[]pituk almuk) [BOT] plant with white flower.

silsuling N. (sil[]suling) [ENTOM] kind of large ant with shiny yellowish abdomen.

simbah N. (sim[]bah) [MOD, MUS] organ (musical instrument). Muih simbah yamka isdai kau lauwi daki atnaka yamka ya. It is pleasant to sit and listen when somebody is playing the organ well.

simbah isdingka NE. organist.

simbaka N. (sim[]baka) [MOD, MUS] accordion.

simin N. (simin[]) [MAN] fishing equipment; fishing gear; fishing tackle. Yang siminki karak bilam watikda. I caught a fish with my fishing gear.


simin kutnaka VE. {V-PA} (simin kutpi) fish. Muih as as balna ya mâ luìh kau simin kutnaka waldai. Some people like to fish everyday.

simin panka NE. (simin[] panka) fishing rod or pole.

simin wahka NE. (simin[] wahka) fishing line. Simin wahka ya kal balakdai kau uluhnaka tuk palka ka. When fishing line gets all tangled up it is real work to untangle it. Siminki wahka âka adahka bahangh kanas tang ânaka waiting dal. Since my fishing line is too short I wanted to lengthen it (by tying another piece to one end).

simling N. (sim[]ling) [MOD, MAN] bell.

simlis N. (sim[]lis) [MOD, MUS] music; tune.

simlulung N. (sim[]lulung) [MOD, MUS] guitar.

simtak N. (sim[]tak) [MOD, MUS] drum.

sina 1. N. (si[]na) [BOT] (tree sp.). 2. N. (si[]na) [BOT] (plant sp.). (Mouriria myrtilloides)

sina almuk NE. (si[]na almuk) [BOT] (plant sp.).

sinak N. (sinak[]) [BOT] [Nahuatl: xinactli] bean; beans. (Phaseolus sp.) Sinak ya kasnaka yamka palka. Beans are very
good to eat. Àka mànəkà sinak yàmak ituwàna tuspi lautìng dai, katka sinakka ya baska wàlik bungpìda, makka laih áisau. This year I cleared a big bean plot, but the plants produced only leaves, with no fruit.

sinaka VT. {V-PA} (sìpi) bathe. Sùkìlu baka ya mauka watah atnàka wàltayàng bahangh, sinaka wàltayàng.

sipì yamnàka VE. baptize.


singka NUM. five. Katarámah suma singka wàltayàng wàntànnàka wàltayàng.

singmat N. (sing[]mat) doctor; physician. Singmat balna ya muih iwàdài kau singdài.

singnàka 1. VT. {V-PA} (singpi) cure; heal. Wàhàki damaska kau tung atàk tìngsuba kumhpìda ya singnà yawayàng.
2. VT. {V-PA} (singpi) awaken; wake up.

singwanàka VI. {V-WA} (singwi) heal; awaken. Tunìk dalaka watah yang àkà di ìtàsà wàltayàng singwanàka. Mànàkà isau kau iwàyàng àkà singwanàka wàltayàng.

sins N. (sins[]) [Eng: sense] sense; common sense; judgment. Alàs sinska áisau. (pref, pumnàka)

sip STAT. (pref. it)


sìpìdi 1. N. (sipì[]di) [ORN] (bird sp.).
2. N. (sipì[]di) [ORN] name of a constellation.

sìpìdi màkà NE. Thursday.

sìpitnàk N. (sìpit[]nàk) [ANAT] nail; fingernail; claw. Yal balna sìpitnàkan yùhùka ya dutka pàlkà ka.

sipùl 1. N. (sipùl[]) [BOT] sapote; sapota; mamee apple; namey. (ZAPOTACEAE Pouteria mammosa; Lucuma mammosa) Alàs sipùl ukipì sàkà kà. He is standing there eating/sucking on a mamee apple. Sipùl pankà as watah yang àkà, mànàkà isau pàlkà lakwìda. Sipùl ya pàn as itukwàna pàtài kà. The sapota tree grows very large.

2. N. (sipùl[]) [BOT] (plant sp.).


sìrahnàka 1. VT. {V-PA} (sìrahpi) rent; hire. Yàng kùrìng as sìrahping dai kà bakaì iìhàwìi lùktìdà.
2. VT. {V-PA} (sìrahpi) rent; hire. Alàs kùrìngkà ya yàng kà yà sìrahpong dai. He rented his canoe to me.

sìrak N. (sìrak[]) [HERP] cayman; caiman. (Caiman crocodilus) Sìrak yàkà katka baka yapù karàk. The cayman is smaller than the crocodile.

sìrangka A. (sìrarangka) open wide (eye).

sìrangnàka VI. {V-WA} (sìràngpi) open wide (eyes). Alàs makdàka sìràngpi yà talda. He looked at me with eyes wide open.

sìrau 1. N. (sìrau[]) maiden; young woman. Yal sìrau as as ya muih taldaì kau wàltàsà.


sìrh N. loan; lending. Sìrh ya yamka kà, bùnà bìk dutka kà. (→ sìrhnàka)

sìrhnàka VI. {V-PA} (sìrhpì) lend; loan. Lìhwànd wàyà sìrhpaìh. Lend me a little money. Yaka alka ya damài yàng kau wàng dài, dàpàk lihwànd as sirhpìkdà. That man came to me yesterday and I lent him some money. Yàng muih as kau lihwànd wàyà sìrhping dài kànàs yà lautàsà dàh kà. I loaned a bit of money to someone and they still haven’t repaid me. Pàpàngkhi al as kau lihwànd sìrhpìdà. My father lent a man some money.

sìrìhka A. (sìrìrhka) fast; hurried; aggressive. Yàng sùkìlu sìrìhka pàlkà ìràì. Mùìì sìrìhka ya di as dàpàk kàu, alàs ya tunàk kàu tungwài.

sìrik N. (sìrik[]) [ICHTH] savalette. Sìrik ya biìlàm as sìkkà kà, was ripìkà kàu wàlik kà. The savalette is a very large fish, found only in fresh water. Sìrik ya muih anàkà yàpà wàtàh kà.
siringmak N. (siring[]mak) [ANAT]
[Mayng: siringmak] elbow. Yang
siringkimak kau kurhipakda bahangh
dutka yamdida. I scratched my elbow
and it got infected. (pref. isspiring)
sirisiri N. (siri[]siri) [BOT] kind of fern.
siritdanaka VI. {V-DA} (siritdi) wrinkle;
become wrinkled. Yal balna as ya
muh wânapi yawadai kau siritdanaka
waldasa, di ai ai bakanti kal
kawadai.
sirîtka A. (sirîttka) wrinkled.
sisin N. (sisin[]) [ENTOM] insect sp..
sitna N. (sit[]na) knot. Àka wahka àka
sitna bás watah ka. This cord has three
knots in it. (→ susunka)
sitnaka VT. {V-TA} (sitti) tie; bind; tie up.
Sitwangh! Yaka alka yâ sitti yâ
bautida. Sükilu àka di walahka
bahangh, sitnaka waltayang. Wah
yârak wâlakâ yau sittuting. I’m going
to tie the bag closed with a vine.
(≠ tutuhnaka)
sitti launaka VE. {V-TA} (sitti lauti)
tie up. Bakaki ya tunak dutka
watang tung bahangh, wati sitti
launaka waltayang.
siuka A. (siu[]uka) grown; mature.
Yâmanh siuka ahaitikda dai ka
lalannah wâlik lau ka.
siuli N. (siu[]li) [BOT] ’puck on the boy’;
small, very spiny palm with fruit similar
to pejibaye. (Palmae Bactris minor; Palmae
Bactris balanoidea) (syn. siwakal)
siulis N. (siu[]lis) [ORN] swallow.
siunaka VI. {V-TA} (siuti) (fruit) be fully
developed but not quite ripe yet. Yang
yâmanh balna ihwi dâping laulau ya
siudai. Those bluggoes that I brought are
beginning to ripen.
siwakal N. (siw[]akal) [BOT] (syn. siuli)
siwanak 1. N. (siwa[]nak) [BOT] root.
Àka pan siwakanan yâtaK wauhidika.
Anu panka siwakanan ya dasika palka
ka. Malai ya siwakanan tangka yaka
pan muh kaswai ya.
2. N. (siwa[]nak) [ANAT] vein; artery.
3. N. (siwa[]nak) [ANAT] tendon; ligament.
(or siwanak itukwána)
siwi N. (siwi[]) [BOT] small bush with low,
red, edible fruits and large stalk of red
flowers.
siya N. (siya[]) [BOT] willow. (Salix sp.)
(syn. wawas)
sû N. (sû[]) drum. Wahaiki ya sû bautai
palka ka.
suba N. (suba[]) [MAN] pot; pan; cooking
vessel; kettle; cauldron. Yang àka
subaka kau pûti bangtuting. Suba
âisau laih, di lahti kaswasa atrang.
Muh balna suba karak di kasnaka
lahdai.
suba baraska NE. (suba[] baraska) soot.
subingka A. (subbingka) pointed; pointy.
Wisusu ya nangkatak subingka ka.
The coati has a pointy nose.
subitdanaka 1. VI. {V-DA} (subitdi)
escape. Di dutka akâpuk uba
subitdah. Slowly escape from this bad
(i.e. dangerous) thing. Malaka bakaka
as wati watah yang kat subitdi irida.
I had (lit. have) a captive baby agouti but
it escaped and ran away.
2. VI. {V-DA} (subitdi) come loose.
subitnaka 1. VI. {V-PA} (subitpi)
perform action unsuccessfully; act
unsuccessfully. Yâ rumpi subitpida. He
shot at me and missed. Kataramah ya
wati subitpikda. I grabbed the hen but
it got away. Yâ kasi subitpida. It bit
me but failed to sink its teeth in.
2. VI. {V-PA} (subitpi) escape; get away.
Di as dutka ya pas kaupak subitnaka
ya yamka ka. It is good to escape from a
bad thing. (equiv. subitdanaka)
subitpi yaknaka VE. {V-TA} (subitpi
yaki) save; rescue.
subuknaka 1. VI. {V-PA} (subukpi)
hiccup; hiccough. Subuknaka ya yamka
palka sa. It is not very good to hiccough.
2. VI. {V-PA} (subukpi) dig.
suhnaka 1. VT. {V-PA} (suhpi) tire; wear
out; exhaust. Bikisikka balna àka
âting iri suhnaka waltayang. I want to
make my children here run until they are
tired. Yang tukwi yâ suhpida. I
exhausted myself working. Malaka ya
sûlu wîpak bai íri suhpasa ka.
Bakaki ya ating iri suhnaka waltasing. Bakaki kuh duhi tungwak kat subhang dai. (syn. lungnaka)
2. VT. {v-PA} (suhi) wash; rinse. Wahaiki tingka suhpai. Subaki bahka minishika ya suhnaka waltaying. Askina suhpayang. kal suhnaka VR. tire; become tired. Tukwi kal suhpikda. I tired myself out working.

suhpi N. (suh[ ]pi) [ORN] become bored. Yakiski tukwi tung yaka suhpi lakanwa wälîk ka.
suhpi laknaka VE. {V-TA} (suhpi lakti) become bored. Yakiski tukwi tung yaka suhpi lakanwa wälîk ka.
suhpi 1. VI. {V-DA} (suhpi) break; snap off. Yalau panka itukwana lau ka wings paska lautang tingka as suhpidya.
2. VI. {V-DA} (suhpidya) injur oneself; wound oneself. Yaka yalka ya makdaka wakas suhpidang.
suhnpaka N. (suhnpaka) [ORN] green parrot; mealy amazon parrot. (PSITTACIDAE Amazona farinosa)
suhsu N. (suhsu) [ORN] green parrot; mealy amazon parrot. (PSITTACIDAE Amazona farinosa)
súih N. (súih[ ]) any bat or nocturnal bird. Súih balna ya pukka kau wälîk rihwadai, katka súih sa laih pukka kait taldasa. Áka dika balna ka: wauh, dâuh, diluk muihka, umis, yapa yapa.
suîhdanaka 1. VI. {V-DA} (suîhdi) break; snap off. Yalau panka itukwana lau da kàw araska lautang tingka as suîhida.
2. VI. {V-DA} (suîhdi) injur oneself; wound oneself. Yaka yalka ya makdaka wakas suîhddang.
suihnaka VT. {v-PA} (suihpi) tear off. Anu baska yaka bû suihpî nাহ dapi yawada. Aransa tingka as suihpikda.
suknaka VT. {v-PAl (sukpi) light; ignite; kindle; illuminate. Sukpi talikda.}
sukutnaka VT. {v-PAl (sukutpi) clench; clinch. Tingma sukutpah. Clench your fist. Tingki sukutping karak bautikda. I punched him with my fist.
sukutwat N. (sukut[ ]wat) [MOD, MAN] padlock; lock.
sukutwat tingka NE. (sukut[ ]wat tingka) [MOD, MAN] key.
sulungpara N. (sulungpara) [ORD] cheap; inexpensive. (var. lulungpara) (syn. makalnak sa)
sulungpara 1. NE. torch. 2. VE. use a torch. Pukka kau áyauh yawakutim kau awas sukpi nাহ dapi it man yawanaka, katka awaska ya nauh watram laih it talsa atram yamka;
tarat itlaram kau laih tâmat ya yamka tali yawaram. At night when you go anywhere you must first light a torch, but if if you hold the torch too low you will not be able to see your way well; if you hold it up high you’ll see your way well. 3. VE. catch fish by torchlight.
sulungpara x. cheap; inexpensive. (var. lulungpara) (syn. makalnak sa)
sUTC 1. NE. torch. 2. VE. use a torch. Pukka kau áyauh yawakutim kau awas sukpi nাহ dapi it man yawanaka, katka awaska ya nauh watram laih it talsa atram yamka;
Sumaka ya muih luih waldai ka kasnaka.

2. N. (suma[]) [ANAT] testicle. (or suma makka)  
3. N. (suma[]) [MAN] bullet. (or arakbus sumaka)

suma (makka) yankaka VE. {V-TA} (suma[] (makka) yakti) castrate.

Wahaiki kusihka almuk ya sUIDaka makka yakniki atrang. I’ll have to castrate my brother’s hog.

sumal N. (sumal[]) schooling; education; training. Yangna saukina pas ākat sumal ūka sikka as yamnaka waltayangna. Yang bakaki ya sumal itukwana kau āwak talnaka puntayang. I plan to see my child go to a school of higher learning.

sumalmat N. (sumal[]) teacher; professor.

sumalnaka 1. VT. (sumalti) teach; instruct; train. Alas Wayah yulka ya sumalnaka waltai. Wahai, kuring pakti ya sumaltah. Di as kang lāwayam ya wanihma kau sumalnaka ya yamka palka ka.

2. VI. {V-TA} (sumalti) preach; sermonize.

sumalingka N. (sumal[][ting]) teacher; preacher; parson.

sumh N. (sumh[]) [BOT] tree with small yellow inedible fruit.

sīnaka VT. {V-PA} (sūpī) suck; suck juice from; suckle.

tā śūnaka VE. {V-PA} (tā̊̃) sūpī) suckle; nurse. Āka tūkaruh bakaka āka tāka śūnaka wālik waltai. This calf only wants to suckle. (→ tā śūnaka)

sūnana N. (śū[]nana) [MAN] nipple of bottle.

suni N. (suni[]) [ZOO] oyster; snail.

sūpa N. (sū[p]a) [BOT] (palm sp.) peach palm; piibay; pejibaye. (PALMAE Guilielma gasipaes; Bactris gasipaes) Sūpa makka ya lāhtayam kau kuma ādai ya dutka; panka kaupak idam yaka abaltayam If you add salt while boiling pejibaye fruit, you ruin the tree you got them from.


sūpingh N. (sū[p]ingh) [ENTOM] kind of spider which carries disc-shaped egg sack. Yaka sūkaping yā tāli īrīda. Ŭpingh ya sumaka ūka yaska īkata kay watah tungwai. Yaka dika ya ū pas kau wālik buihwadai. The sūpingh spider goes around holding its eggsack against its belly. This creature only lives indoors.

sūpingh mukułka NE. (sū[p]ingh mukułka) [ENTOM] spider. Ūpingh mukułka ya ūka yamka palka marapai ka. The spider weaves itself a very nice web. Supingh mukułka ya ūka marapi tung ka. The spider is (going around) weaving its web.

sūpingh ūka NE. (sū[p]ingh ūka) spiderweb.

sūrh N. (sūrh[]) [ORN] hummingbird. (TROCHILIDAE) Sūrh ya di baka as bisika palka ka, pulu waska wālik diya. Sūrh ya di baka as bisika palka ka.

surhkumuk N. (surh[k]umuk) [BOT] yam; sweet potato. ‘yampi’. (var. surhmuk)

surhkumuk pauka NE. (surh[k]umuk pauka) [BOT] (yam sp.).

surhkumuk pihka NE. (surh[k]umuk pihka) [BOT] (yam sp.).

surhmuk N. (surh[m]uk) [BOT] (var. of surhkumuk)

suru N. (suru[]) [ANAT] boil; furuncle; ulcer; abcess; carbuncle. Suru ya sahwanaka wālik lau ka. That boil is about to pop. Mūki baka ya tunak kau su ru as bungpak yang sahtikda. When my grandchild got a boil on his/her head I popped it.


suruka kau CMOD. (suru[] kau) (wood)unsplit; uncut; still in log form (not cut or split into smaller pieces yet). ∆ kanas buktasa dah not split or cut yet (var. tusum māmahka)

susum N. (susum[]) [ICHTH] catfish. Susum ya was ripka kau wālik tungwai, katka kuma waska kau laih bungpi yawasa. The catfish stays in
fresh water, it doesn’t venture out into the salt water. (var. tusum)
susum mamahka NE. (susum) [ICHTH] eel. Susum mamahka ya was tangdakka balna kau tungwai. (var. tusum mamahka)
susumka N. CNS3. (susum) knot in wood.
sutak N. (sütak) [BOT] calabash; gourd. (Crecentia cujete) Sutak kata kau muih kasna kasdai dadang.
sútak panka NE. (sütak panka) [BOT] calabash tree; gourd tree. (Crecentia cujete)
sutbangh N. (sütbangh) [MAM] rabbit. (Sylvilagus sp.) Sutbangh ya sipul lalahka kasya. Sutbangh balna ya ki sikka balna kau wàlik laulau ka. Rabbits live only where there are many boulders. (syn. tibam)
sutdanaka VI. {V-DA} (sntdi) jump; hop.
Yaka mukuka yalllka sutdai. McAidi maka laih audi sutdanaka waltayang.
sutnak 'N. (sutfnak) [BOT] reed. (Paspalum fasciculatum) Sutnak ya wassik kungka kau patai, asang tarat kau bik patai. Reeds grow on river banks and also on high ground.
sftwanaka VI. {V-WA} (sllwi) be born.
Yang bakaki as watah yang ya kahma waikaku kau súwang.
súwankaka VT. {V-PAl (suyupi) like.

1 tà N. (tà) road; path; street; route; highway; way. Àka tàka kimak watah ka. Tà yúhka ya muih wàtdanaka waldasa.
tà bámak NE. halfway; along the way.
tà bámak kasna NE. {CNS1: kasniki} food to be eaten during travel.
tàka ànaka VE. {V-TA} (tà[] áti) await; wait for; be on the lookout for. Yaka bikiskika balna yawadida ya tàka ànaka ph? Do we have to wait for those children that went? (syn. tàka àwanaaka)
tàka àwanaka VE. (tà[] áwi) wait for; be on the lookout for. Yan pàpanghki wàya bahanhg ákat tàka áwuting. Màdi àka pah as kau yawanaka pumting daik katka yawasing dai muih as tàki àwai bahanhg. I had planned to go to a certain place today, but I didn’t go because there is someone there laying in the weeds for me. (syn. tà ànika)
tà làwanaka NE. (tà[] làwanaka) bridge.
tà lükdanaka VE. {V-DA} (tà lükdi, tà[] lükdi) get lost; stray. Yang tà lükdikda. I got lost. Yamka támapas ya tali yawah, támà lükdaram. Watch your path closely, (or else) you will get lost.
2 tà N. (tà) [ANAT] breast; teat; mammary; udder; bosom.
tà daknaka VE. {V-TA} (tà[] dakti) wean.
tà tangka NE. (tà[] tangka) [ANAT] nipple.
tà ñka NE. (tà[] ñka) [MAN] brassière; bra.
tàdang N. (tà[]dang) [ENTOM] army ant.
tahdanaka VI. {V-DA} (tahdi) drip; dribble; fall in drops. Ú tarat kaupak
was tahdai. There is water dripping from the ceiling. Įki āka ātai bahangh was lautak tahdai kau anakat kau suba āting kat waska ya watya. Because this house of mine leaks, when it rains and the water drips I put a pan under it (the leak) and it catches the water.

tahmat NR.CNS3. (tahmat) for; for the sake of.

tahnaka VT. {V-PA} (tahpi) drop or drip in droplets (liquid). Mikdini kau di āwai kau di basta waska tahwai kau yamka kal dahwai. When we get something in our eye, we feel better after dripping droplets of medicine in it. Wasbutpi iltkda sāk yakn āka ātah. Do me a favor and put (droplets of) bleach in the water that I drew and set up there.

tah tah tah IDEOPHONE. drip drip drip; sound of dripping.

tahu N. (tahu[] [MOD, MAN] toilet; outhouse; latrine.

taihna VT. {V-PA} (taihpida) close up. Alas ū taihpi. He closed up the house. Dī bakannaka āka ya taihpang lau bahangh yawasing būna wikda. As the shop is closed I came back without going there. Įki dipihka kau pah bahka as Ian ya taihniki. I have to fill in the big hole in my yard.

takat taihnaka VE. {V-PA} (takt[] taihpi) cover. Waspah ya takat taihnaka waltayang.

taihna 1. VT. {V-PA} (taihpida) drive; steer; pilot. Francisco asang tima taihna kah lāwida. Alas kuring taihpingka kah. Sirikhā asang tima ya taihpahī.

2. VT. {V-PA} (taihpida) propel; power. Salai ya taihnaka di kū watah kā. The plane has two propellers.


taitai N. (tai[tai] [MAM] gray squirrel. (Sciurus sp.) Taitai ya di baka as dutka, panmak balna rauhnaka wālik tungwai. (→ butsung)

takang N.CNS3. (takang) contents of stomach.

takang yakanaka VE. {V-VA} (takang yakt) vomit; throw up; regurgitate. Yang takang yaktidka bahangh iwanaka yapa kā. I vomited and so it feels like I'm dying. Yang kuma waska kau yawayan taim, tiking yaktayang. Mādi pān, di basta waya dihk, dapak takang isau yaktidkā. Today I drank a little medicine and vomited a lot. (→ yakanaka)

takat 1. NR.CNS3. (takat) kau yawanaka VE. {V-A} (takat lawi) succeed; pass one’s grade. Pawanihki ya akha lamaka takat lawuti.

takat anaka VE. {V-TA} (takat [] āti) defend self.

takat āwanaka VE. {V-WA} (takat [] āw) oppose; argue against. Muih as ya dutka yauntai kau, takat āwayam kau dutka mā puntai.

takat kau ADV. continuing without interruption; keep; carry on. Tāmatna kau un bauti atnawu! Keep singing (you pl.)!

takat kau yawanaka VE. {V-0-A} (taki[] kau yawi) go forward; proceed.

takat lāwanaka VE. {V-WA} (taki[] lāw) succeed; pass one’s grade. Pawanihki ya āka māmā kā lai takat lāwuti.

puntayang. Mining mà as luîh yak yawarang takat yau.
takat waska NE. rain water. (syn. tarat waska)
takatlah MOD. (takatlahlah, takatnalah) shallow (hole); not deep. Áka asangka kau waspah balna ya puruhka sa; takatlah wâlik ka. In this town the wells are not deep, they’re all shallow. (ant. puruhka)
takanana VI. {V-DA} (takdi) chip; flake off; peel. Di wisam balna muih yandai ya lumakka balna yamka watah ka, katka umana bungpai kau, úkatak luîh takdadai. Brand new manufactured goods have nice colors, but when they get old the surface gets all chipped and flaked.
taknaka VT. {V-PAl (takpi) strip; skin; flay; scrape (skin). TfIruh itikda ya iikatak taknaka muih as waltayang ya umhnaka. Wauhding karaskimak yâ takpida. I fell and skinned my knee. (→ turûnaka)
kal taknaka VR. moul; molt; shed (skin, feathers, fur). Bil kal takpai lau ka. A snake is shedding its skin. Mâdi dislah yâmak kau yawing kau tâpas kau dimuih as kal takpang atak talikda. This morning on my way to the plantation I saw a snake shed its skin on the trail.
kal takpang VE. shedded skin, hair or feathers. dimuih kal takpang shedded snake skin
tal N. (tal[]) [MOD, MAN] wrist watch. (equiv. talna)
tal itukwâna NE. (tal[]) [MOD, MAN] clock.
talbai N. (tal[]bai) [MOD] television.
tali laknaka VE. {V-TA} (tali lakti) get used to. Tukwana balna ya tali laknaka ya yamka palka ka. Pah bai kau yawayam kau yamka tali laktayam kau amatdasaman. When you go to a far away place, when you get used to it you aren’t sad.
taling atnaka VE. {V0} (taling ati) scrutinize; inspect; look closely at. Kahkilu dangka kau taling atih ai nâkawalih lau pan. Have a good look at the back of my shirt to see what the hell is there. [• the -ing generally receives high pitch and the final nasal is often drawn out. ]
talingka N. guard. (syn. mak dâtîngka)
tali yaknaka VE. {V-TA} (tali yakti) recognize. Bakaki ya pah as kau yawang tînh bahangh, wak tali yaktasing atrang. Since my child went away so long ago I won’t be able to recognize him when he comes. Má tali yaktasing dai. I didn’t recognize you.
talkuh INTERJ. let’s see; let me see.
talnâ N. (talnâ[]) sign; signal. Amangpara kau talnâ isau muih balna taldarang. Awangki ya Managua kau alas midai úka palka ka, talnâ ya yamka talsa dai bahangh alas lukdang dai. Since he didn’t see the signs well, my uncle got lost (looking for) the house where he was staying in Managua.
talnaka 1. VT. (tali) see; look; watch; behold. Talah! Talnahu! Yang amki yûhka pâtak talnaka waltayang. Talkuting kasam. I’m going to watch you eat (it). Manna balna wauhdanam mà talikda. Alas sana talak irida. Yang bakaki as watah yang ya yawi talnaka waltayang. Yaka alka talsa bahangh paras it yawasa. Yaka alka dutka talyang. (equiv. tali yawaram) 2. VT. (tali) suspect. Diki lukdida ya nûtîngka muihka tung yau talyang. Having had my property stolen I suspect that (known) thief. Yang kau yâ talya. He suspects me. (equiv. tali yawaram) [• Requires overt argument with postposition (e.g. yang kau) even in presence of object pronominal (e.g. yâ) ]
3. VT. (tali) depend on; count on. Áyaka màka kapah watah man kau yang kau yâ talram. Whenever you’re in trouble, count on me. (equiv. tali yawaram) [• Requires overt argument with postposition (e.g. yang kau) even in presence of object pronominal (e.g. yâ) ]
kal talnaka VR. {V0-TAL} (kal tali) meet up; see each other. Yang Bluefields kau yaway kau kumahki karak tâ kau kal talikdana. When I went to Bluefields I met up with my godmother in the street.
kasi talnaka VE. taste. (syn. kasi
dahnaka

takat talnaka VE. {V-O-TAL} (tali) warn; foresee. Bakani balna takatna talnaka.

tali atnaka VE. (tali ati) watch.

tali lau atih (form of tali lau atnaka) VE.IMPER2. {PL IMPER2: tali bang atnauh} take care; expression of farewell. (eqv. tali lau atram)

tali lau atnaka VE. {V-O} (tali lau ati) ‘take care’ of oneself; used as a farewell to someone one leaves behind.

tali lau atram (form of tali lau atnaka) VE.IRR2. {IRR2: tali bang atramna} (eqv. of tali lau atih)

tali yawah VE.IMPER2. farewell; bon voyage.

tali yawanaka VE. have a safe journey.

tali yawaram VE.IRR2. (eqv. of tali yawah)

talnaka kau ADV. apparently; evidently; on seeing.

talnalah ADV. not so much; slight(ly).

Kurnhknruh anaka yakawanka yatalnalah ka. The bill of the ibis bends downward but not too much.


2. N. (tam[]) [ANAT] (insect)antenna; feeler.

3. N. (tam[]) [MOD, MUS] trumpet; horn. Muih as as ya tam yamka puhdai.

taman 1. N. (taman[]) [MAN] gourd vessel. Dinaka waska ya taman as kau utuhpi daph. Leave some drinking water in a gourd vessel. Ak a tamanka akau was bangtuting. I am going to fill this gourd vessel with water. (≠ murus)

2. N. (taman[]) gallon. Maha waska taman salap walwarang. We will need ten gallons of gas.

tambas N. (tambas) [ANAT] lash. [Only known usage is makdaka tambas.]

makdaka tambas NE. [ANAT] (see under makdaka)

tan N. (tamb[]) [ORN] black-striped sparrow. (EMBERIZIDAE Arremonops conirostris striaticeps)

tam paknaka VE. {V-TA} (tam pakti) (see under tang) (var. of tang paknaka)

tampak tampak ADV. end-to-end; forming a chain. Waspah puruha balna ya wah adahka lai kuihsa bahangh, wah ya tampak tampak yamwai kau kuihya. Because a short rope is not long enough for a deep well, when we put them together end-to-end, it reaches.

(|# tanglauh tanglauh) (syn. tang a tang a)

1tamunaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (tamuti) possess; get into. Ma tamutak ati tung man sah! You look like you’re walking around possessed! Ai ma tamutak tung man? What’s gotten into you?

2. VT. {V-TA} (tamuti) enthuse; excite; make enthusiastic. Ya tamutai. I am enthusiastic. Yang bikiskiki balna kau tamututing tuk isau yamnaka watah yangna bahangh. I’m going to give my children a pep talk because we have a lot of work to do.

tamwaput N. (tamwput) [ORN] yellow-bellied elaenia; flycatcher with crest and yellow underside. (TYRANNIDAE Elaenia flavogaster)

tanaka VT. {V-TA} (tati) wait for; await. Yang wahaiki tanaka waltayang. Wai tatayam? Awangma yam kau mawa bahangh tatarem lai yamka atrang. (→ tala talnaka, tā ānaka)

tatasa atak VE.OBV3. {NEG1 OBV3: tatasang atak} unexpectedly. (eqv. tatasata kat)

tatasata ka PE. unexpectedly. Mā tatasata ka wām bahangh kasna dika yamtasing dāi mānaka. Since you came unexpectedly I didn’t make any food for you. (eqv. tatasata atak)

tanaka N.CNS3. (tana[]ka) slime; viscous substance; glutinous substance. Asingni isau bungpai kau tanaka bik bungpai. When we vomit a lot, a slimy substance comes out as well.

suma tanaka NE. (suma[] tanaka) egg
white. Kataramah sumaka ya tanaka ya yakti lalahkaka ya walik ikuting.
I’m going to take out the white of the egg and keep only the yolk.

**tang** 1. N. (tang[][]) point; end. Pan tangka ya amang talah mâ àwarang. Be careful not to get impaled by the point of that stick. Yaka panka tangka ya banghka ka. That stick has a sharp point. Yaka panka balna tangkana ya babânghka ka. Each of those sticks has a sharp point.

2. N. (tang[]) [ANAT, SLANG] penis. (→ tiwis)

**tang anaka** VE. join end-to-end; couple. Yaka balauhka ya wak as karak tang âti yâthah. Join that table end-to-end with another one for me.

tang aslah x. connected; adjoining; abutting. Yang alas karak yâkimak tang aslah watah yang. My plantation adjoins his.

tang aisau CMOD. endless; eternal. Tangka aisau

**tang a** ADV. by joining several pieces; in patchwork fashion. Asna as bidai kau ya asna wâk karak tang â tang à bidai ya yamka ka, yapa bik lumakkika balna ya wâk wâk karak bitayam kau, kanas suyuka ka. When people make clothing, it is good to join many pieces of cloth together, and if the pieces are of different colors it is even prettier. (≠ tanglauh tanglauh) (syn. tampak tampak)

tangka N.CNS3. last. Yawaniki tangka mâka kau mining kal pakti kasna as lahti kaswarang. On my last day before leaving we’ll cook and eat dinner together. Âka âka yang tangka lihkiwan baska. This is my last bill (of money).

tanglauh tanglauh ADV. one after another (temporally). Yang tâtungh kau laih panka pihma ya tanglauh tanglauh buihpayang dai, katka mâdi laih yapa palka buihpasing; aslah aslah buihpayang. I used to chainsmoke cigarettes (one directly after the other), but now I don’t smoke quite that way; I smoke them occasionally. (≠ tang â tang â)

tangpâpa N. (tang[][pâpa]) [MOD, MAN] square (carpenter’s tool).

tapa 1. N. (tapa[]) [ANAT] ear; auricle of the ear. Bikiska tapaka dasika balna ya mâ luilh kau dalaka idai. Disobedient children are always getting hurt (i.e. punished). Tapani karak di dahwai. We hear things with our ears.

2. N. (tapa[]) rootstalk. Wilis tapaka as as balna ya sikka, yapa bik bakanaka ka; yakaupak bukpi isau yakti lautayam. Yapa kau alas sau anakat kau makka yamka iya. The rootstalks of yautia can be big or small; you cut them into many pieces and plant them. Then they sprout new tubers underground.

3. N. (tapa[]) (of plant)shoot; sprout. Yâkimak ya damaska tubakka palka laih aisau, katka pan tapaka balna as as daknaka watah yang. My plot doesn’t have much thick grass growing in it but I do have a few sprouts and stumps to cut. (or pan tapaka)

4. MOD. (tapa[]) (or di tapaka) (syn. tapadasi, tapa dasika) di tapaka NE. (di[] tapaka) crop.

tapa âna NE. (tapa[] âna) [MAN] earring. Wawana isau tapakana tangka kau alhdai tapa âna ânaka yulka. Lots of women pierce their ear lobes in order to wear earrings.
tapa ånaka VE. speak to. Yaka yaika ya mining tapani atai. Mining kau yak yultida. That woman is speaking to us.
tapa baka NE. (tapa[]) earwax.
tapa dasika CMOD. (tapa[]) disobedient; unruly; stubborn; insubordinate. (eqv. tapadasi)
tapa dasikaka NE. (tapa[]) NE. (tapa dasikaka) disobedient; unruly; stubborn; insubordinate.
(tapa dasikaka) [ANAT] outer ear; auricle or helix of ear. (syn. tapa wakarka)
tapa kipnaka VE. {v-TA} nag; pester; bother. Yang bakaki balna kau Ulwah yulka yulnaka ati barangka tapakana kiptikda. I really nagged my children to speak Ulwa.
Mämahki kangba tapaki kiptai kuh sahnaka yulka. My mother is always nagging me to split firewood.
tapa pahka NE. (tapa pahka) [ANAT] ear canal.
tapa sih NE. (tapa sih) listening atentively. Manna yultanam tapa sih yang dai. I was listening in on your conversation.
tapa sihnaka VI. {v-TA} listen attentively; listen carefully; pay close attention. Man yang kau tapa sihpasaman dai. You weren't paying close attention to me. Ya tapa sihpah! Listen to me carefully! [ tapa does not appear to inflect to agree with subject ]
tapa tangka NE. (tapa[] tangka) [ANAT] earlobe.
tapa wakarka NE. (tapa[] wakarka) [ANAT] (syn. tapa dasikaka)
tapadala N. (tapa[]dala) [MED] earache. Tapadala pukka kau yá watda. I got an earache during the night.
tapadasi CMODCOMP. (tapa[]dasi) (eqv. of tapa dasika)
tapal 1. N. (tapal[]) [BOT] (tree sp.). (PALMAE Chamaedora tepejilote)
2. N. (tapal[]) [MAN] decoy for fish made from leaf of this tree. Δ Tapal ya uhkan baska karak sitdai bilam yapa dapak ihi yawi was kau murudai dapak bilam balna yaka uskat widai kau suksuk karak pahdai.
tapalhka 1. A. (tapalhka) bitter. Åka waska baraska tapalhka. This coffee is bitter. Di basta as as bangbang ka tapalhka palka ka. Some medicines are very bitter. (→ batakka)
2. A. (tapalhka) black (coffee).
tapalhnaka VI. {v-TA} (tapalhti) spoil; become bitter.
tü tapalhnaka VE. {v-TA} (tü tapalhti) have appetite for meat. Tükî tapalhtak tung yang. I feel like eating meat.
tápam N. (tà[]pam) [ICHTH] tarpon; shad. (Megalops atlanticus; Tarpon sp.) Tápam ya was má kau ilwi was diya. During the rainy season the tarpon goes up(stream) and drinks fresh water.
tapapuk CMODCOMP. (tapa[] pukka) deaf or hard of hearing. Muih tapapuk ya yul uba yulwak dahdasa ka. If you speak softly, a person who is hard of hearing will not hear it.
tápas N. (tà[]pas) path; road. Tápas yúhka ya wátdi yak suhpai. (→ tå)
tápas muihnakna VE. {v-PA} (tápas muihpi) prostitute oneself; go into prostitution. Tápas muihnakna waltsasing; yapa kau muih isau yak umhnaka waldas. I don't want to become a prostitute; that way many people don't want to help you. Alas Bluefields kau yawi náh dapi tápas muihpida. She went to Bluefields and became a prostitute.
tapas N. (ta[]pas) {CNS!: tikipas} mouth. tapas waska NE. (ta[]pas waska) saliva; spittle; spit; slobber; drool; drible.
tapas waska íranaka VE. {v-RA} (ta[]pas waska íri) salivate; slobber; drool; drible. Baka ya takapas waska írai bahangh, asna baka as màkamak kau sitti wipah. Because the child is drooling, put a bib on him/her.
tapas yurahka NE. (ta[]pas yurahka) open mouthed. Yapu ya takapas yurahka ka, amang talnauh, màna kasrang.
tapawising CMODCOMP. (tapa[]wising) pointy-eared. (→ wisingka)
tapdanaka VI. {v-DA} (tapdi) lower; go down. Kalkisungh ŋàkà tapdi lakwai, kat bákìmakwah àsìau bahangh. My pants are falling down because I'm not wearing a belt.
tapisnaka VT. {v-TA} (tapisti) pinch off (small pieces); pick at; pick pieces off. Muihni kau karatdang watah yak kau
When we have a sore that is healing it is bad to pick at the scab, that way it won’t be able to heal fast. Kasna as taihpī dāping laū ākā wai palka tapistai? Yang tālnaka waltayang muihka ya. Who has been picking pieces from the food that I left covered here? I want to see the culprit.

tapistī dāk dāk ADV. breaking off little pieces. Muih ya di muihka lahnā watah yak kau wanihni tapistī dāk dāk atnaka. When we have some cooked meat we should break off little pieces and share it with our relatives.

1tapnaka VT. {V-TA} (taptī) lower; let down; take down. Tīnit yūlnaka ākā kau kalmasungh tapnaka dutkā palka ka. Kalmasungh taptah.

2tapnaka VT. {V- TA} (taptī) strike glancing blow. Yā baututi wauhpida katka yā taptī lātīda. He took a swing at me but only dealt a glancing blow. (or taptī lānaka)

tapuihnhaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (tapuihti) bother; torment; haunt; annoy. (syn. kapahnaka)

2VI. {V-TA} (tapuihti) be haunted (place). Ākā ākā tapuihtai bahangh, pah wāk kau lāwuting. Since this house is haunted I’m going to move to another place.

tār N. (tār[]) [Eng: tar] tar; pitch.

tarakanaka VI. {V-DA} (tarakdi) tangle.

taraka 1. A. (tararakka) tangled.

2. A. (tararakka) intertwined; tangled (dense brush, vines). Wahbabat tarakra lau kau it yapa laih yak lāwasa; tuspi dapi laih it ka yak lāwanaka. We can’t pass through a thicket of hojachigiie just like that, we have to chop our way through. (syn. wasakka)

tarakanaka VT. {V-PA} (tarakpi) tangle. Siminki ākā tarat kau īltasaman dai bahangh, bikiska balna wati tarakdida. You didn’t put away my fishing line and now the children have gotten it all tangled up.

taran (var. of tarat)

taras N. (taras[]) [ICHTH] chuleta; carate.

tarat N. firmament; sky; canopy of heaven. Mukus isau kau tarat ya pihka ka, katka mā yamka kau laih sangka ka. When there are a lot of clouds the sky is white, but on a nice day the sky is blue. (var. tāran)

tarat bitah (kau) ADV. above; on top. Ûkī tarat bitah yau ātai lau ya tainha iłyawayang. I’m going up to plug the leak in the roof of my house.

tarāt kau ADV. above; on top. Asang ubulka laū ākā tarat kau īltaninī atrang. (-+ takat (kau))

tarat wayuka NE. cloud. Māmāka kau tarat wayuka ya isau āisau. (-+ wayuka)

taratka 1. A. {STRONG} (building, mountain, wall) high; tall. Ûkī wisam ya kanas tarat ka; wāk watah yang dāi ya waya labanlah dāi. My new house is very tall; the old one I had was a bit low. (var. tāran) (ant. nauh)

2. A. {STRONG} [ARCHAIC] (person) tall. (var. tāran) (ant. nauh)

3. A. {STRONG} high-pitched (voice, sound). (var. tāran) (ant. nauh)

taridanaka VT. {V-DA} (taridi) (obstacle) skirt around; go around. Mining yaka waska tangdak ya taridi/taripi yak lāwanaka atrang. We will have to skirt around that body of water.


2. A. (taririka) serpentine; winding; twisty; meandering; roundabout. Ākā tākā ākā kanas tarika ka asangka yau yawanaka. This road is very winding to get to the community.

tarika lāwanaka VE. {V-WA} (tarika lāwi) take roundabout, circuitous route. (ant. papas dakti lāwanaka, liklah dakti lāwanaka, tiriska lāwanaka)

tarina N. (tari[na]) enclosure; compartment. Muih ya dimuih kasya kau tarina kau wālik watah ka. When
someone is bitten by a snake they must be kept in a separate room.

tarinaka 1. VT. {V-PA} (taripi) enclose; surround. Yà taripi idida. The surrounded and caught me.

2. VT. {V-PA} (taripi) (obstacle) skirt around; go around. (eqv. of taridanaka)

táruh N. (tá][ruh) [MOD, MAN] cheese. Táruh bakanti kasnaka waltayang katka lihwan amangka āisau yang. I want to buy and eat some cheese but I do not have enough money.

tas N. (tas[]) [MAN] sheet; bedsheet; bedclothes. Δ Muiah amanaka kau anakatna kau pakdai, yapa bik takat bik birikdai ripka yamtarang yulka. When sleeping one spreads one of these below and one above in case it gets cold.

tas usunaka VE. {V-PA} (tas usupi) wet the bed.

tásah N. (tá][sah) fork in road; crossroads. (→ wasah)

tasah N. (tasah[]) [ENTOM] Tasah ya di as dutka, āniwas diya bahangh. The mosquito is a bad animal because it drinks our blood. (var. of sasah)

tasangka N. (tasang[][ka]) [MAN] (var. of sasangka)

tasláwan N. (tas[]láwan) [MAN] [ICHTH] needlefish; gar. ‘long gar’.

tasmas N. (tas[]mas) [MAN] mattress.

taspul N. (tas[]pul) rubber. Taspul di balna ya karadadai supayam kau. Things made of rubber melt when you light them on fire.

taspul panka NE. (tas[]pul panka) [BOT] rubber tree. (Castilla sp.)


tât yannaka VE. get someone/something ready.

tá tálntaka VE. {VO-TAL} (tá tali) wait for. Wai tåka talyam? (→ tânaka)

tataska A. {STRONG} (tatataska) filthy; grimy. Tatås wâda sák ka. He has come over all filthy.

tatasnaka 1. VT. {V-PA} (tataspi) soil; get filthy. Asmana tataspânh! Don’t get your clothes dirty!

2. VI. {V-PA} (tataspi) get dirty. Tataspí tung ka. She is going around getting dirty.

tâtntaka VI. {V-PA} (tátpi) [MOD] ready oneself; prepare; get ready. Tâtpanauh! You all get ready!

tâtungh N. (tá][tungh) long ago; antiquity; olden days; ancient times. (syn. uma)

tåu N. (táu[]) [BOT] (palm sp.) cohune; coyol; palm with small sweet fruit used for making chicha. (PALMAE Attalea cohune; PALMAE Acrocomia vinifera; PALMAE Acrocomia zapotecis) Āka sauka kau pan, táu panka isāu palka pātai. Panka ya anu panka yapa katka bik katka waya sikka ka. Makka lakwai ya sūpa yapa lakwai, katka wakalka āisau. Pankamak ya ūkatak turupi uknaka dika. Damka yamka ka. In this region grow many cohune palms. The tree is like a coconut tree but a little bigger. It bears a fruit similar to the pejibaye, but it (the trunk) is not spiny. The fruit is peeled and eaten. It is good and sweet.

tauh N. (tauh[]) bang!. Yangna má liuih kau arakbus balna tauh tauh atak dahyangna dadang. We used to hear gunshots every day.

taus N. (taus[]) scaled pigeon. (COLUMBIDAE Columbia speciosa)

táwas N. (tá][was) milk.

táwas duput NE. powdered milk.
yal tákasaw NE. mother’s milk. Yal tákasaw ya bisika balna yamka sūdai.

tí N. (tí[]) [MOD] pound. Umana kau muih almuk balna di tí kau bakandasa atya dadang. In the olden days people didn’t sell things by the pound (they didn’t have scales).

tibam N. (tibam[]) [MAM] rabbit. Tibam yaka pan uma na kaupak tisika ya yapatka ka. (syn. sutbangh)

tibin STAT. (tibibin) lying down (plural); prone (plural). Manna laih ai yamti tibin manna? What are you all lying around doing? (syn. mîk)


tih N. (tih[]) stench; stink; odor.
tihka A. (titihka) smelly; stinking.
tihna VI. {v-PA} (tihpi) stink. Akatihpai lau ka? What stinks?
tika A. (titika) heavy. Aka tika tika.
tikah N. (tikah[]) [ORN] squirrel cuckoo. (CUCULIDAE Piaya cayana)
tikahdanaka VI. {V-DA} (tikahdi) pontificate; talk big. Yaka alka laih dan tika di as bik yamtasa atrang. That man is just going around talking big, he won't actually do anything.
tikaka NA.CNS3. (ti[]ka) weight. Man tirnaka karak wauhdidam bahangh kanas dalaka dutka idam. Because you fell with all your weight, it hurt even more.
tikam N. (tikam[]) [BOT] gum tree. (MORACEAE Poulsenia armata) Tikam ya pan as asang pas kau pâtaï, ūkatak tubakka, dapak ūkatak ya dak dak kau pulka ya di kau wati idai dpi yaka waska yaka karak di isau yamda.
Umana kau muih balna yakarak amanaka askana balna yamda dadang.
tikbus N. (tik[]bus) [ORN] pigeon; dove. (COLUMBIDAE) Tikbus bakaka baka as wati yâtah. Catch a dove for me.
Tikbus ya di baka as ūkatak mauka yamka ka. The dove is a nice clean bird.
tikiska 1. A. (tikikiska) crammed; stuffed; packed tightly.
2. A. (tikikiska) narrow; tight. Aka tâkapas tikiska. This road is narrow. (→ pamka)
tikisnaka VT. {v-PA} (tikisp) cram; stuff. Kustalh kau asna pûtkda dapak askina luih watsa dai, dapak bik asna katka mîdida ya tikisp pûti âting watrang. I packed my clothes in the suitcase but they didn’t all fit, so I’m going to cram the rest of them in anyway.
tiknaka VT. {v-PA} (tikpi) grind. Yang am tikpayang. I am grinding corn. Kimak yaka di tiknaka dika pan. Stones are (good) for grinding things.
tikwanih N. (tik[]wanih) [MOD] servant. Tikwanih balna laih ai yultaram ya luih yamti mâdai. Servants do for you anything you tell them to.
tikwarau N. (tik[]warau) [MOD] slave. tikwarau nauka NE. (tik[]warau nauka) slavery.
tilauh 1. N. (tilauh[]) [ORN] green-backed heron. (ARDEIDAE Butorides striatus)
2. N. (tilauh[]) [ORN] least bittern. (ARDEIDAE Ixobrychus exilis)
tilus N. (tilus[]) [ORN] nicaraguan seed-finch; pink-billed seed-finch; thick-billed seed-finch; lesser seed-finch; any of several black seed-finches. (EMBERIZIDAE Oryzoborus spp.)
tima N. (ti[]ma) [MAN] boat; ship. Awanak panka ya dasika yamka bahangh, yârak tima yamda. Tima sikka balna ya was tuhka kau laih yamka paras âradai. Tima as bakanti yâtaram, yang kuma kau tukwuting.
timina N. (ti[]mina) [MAN, MOD] wharf. Timina kau tima sikka palka as wi muih balna luih pûtida. A big boat came and they loaded everyone on board.
tin N. (tin[]) [MOD] ounce. Tin ya di bisika balna tinaka yamka ka. [Refers to the actual weighted piece used in the scales]
tinaka 1. VT. {v-PA} (tipi) weigh. Bakannaka ûka muihka ya duput tipi yâ bakantida. The shopkeeper weighed the flour and sold it to me (i.e. sold it to me by weight).
2. VT. {v-PA} (tipi) weigh. Ampas tipayam? How much do you weigh?
3. VI. {v-PA} (tipi) become ‘rusty’; get out of practice. Tûki tipai. I’ve gotten rusty at speaking. Muihki tipang bahangh it yamka tumul islasing. I’ve gotten out of practice and so I can’t play ball well. Tingki tipai. I can’t write well because my hand is out of practice.
2. N. (ting[]) [ANAT] hand. Yalki ya ting âna tingka kau watah atnaka watalasa. (or ting rihka)
3. N. (ting[]) flipper (of sea turtle).
4. N. (ting[]) branch. Wing paraska
wáda kau saringki tingka as kalhdida.
5. **N.** (ting[]) base of numbers 6-9. (→ ting as kau as, etc.)
   ting ána NE. (ting[] ána) [ANAT] ring.
   Ting ána as walti bakannaka waltayang katka sulungpara yá balna.
   ting as kau arungka NUM. nine.
   Awanak panka ting as kau arungka waltayang üki raunaka.
   ting as kau as NUM. six. Al as as ya tingkanamak ting as kau as watah manah ka.
   ting as kau bás NUM. eight. Anu panka ting as kau bás watah yang.
   ting as kau bő NUM. seven. Bikiska ting as kau bő watah yang.
   ting dangkat NE. (ting[] dangkat) [ANAT] back of hand.
   ting pahka wálík CMOD. (ting[] pahka wálík) empty-handed; destitute. Yang
dayam áisau; tingki pahka wálík tung yang. I don’t have any money; I’m
destitute.
   ting palka NE. (ting[] palka) [ANAT] right hand; right side. Wátdi yapa yawaram
dapak ting palka bítah kauh láwi
talah di baka as dáping lau ka man
dima. Keep walking and look to your right (because) I left a little something
there for you. Bakaki al ya ting palka
karak it tukwasa talyang.
   ting pas NE. (ting[] pas) [ANAT] palm of the hand. ‘handbottom’.
   Wahaiki kuring tuspi tung atak kat tingka pas
pulingti patdida. My brother was
carving a canoe and he got blisters on his
palms, which popped.
   ting riňka NE. (ting[] riňka) [ANAT] hand.
   ting taňka NE. (ting[] taňka)
   fingerprint. Muih aitak ulpingsa balna
ya tingkana taňka wálík yamdai.
   Illiterate people can only make fingerprints
(as a signature).
   ting ĭbúrka NE. (ting[] ĭbúrka) [ANAT] wrist.
   ting tunak NE. (ting[] tunak) [ANAT] thumb.
   ting wálík CMOD. (ting[] wálík)
   empty-handed; unarmed. Muih as
kuhbil karak má ina wáya laih, man
tingma wálík támat átaram laih
subīt dasaman atrang. If someone comes
to kill you with a knife, if you try to defend
yourself empty-handed you won’t get away.

**tingdak** CMODCOMP. (ting[]dak) missing an arm or hand.

**tingka** N.CNS3. (ting[]) independently; on
one’s own; of own accord. Alas balna
tingkana kal upurnaka yamdu tīh
ka; tunak muňka kau asung katdasa.
They’re going to call a meeting on their
own; they haven’t notified the leader.

1**tingmak** N. (ting[]mak) [ANAT] finger or
thumb.

**tingmak baka** NE. [ANAT] finger. Bakaki
al tkwi tung atak tingkamak baka
yau balas kasda.

**tingmak sikka** NE. [ANAT] thumb.

2**tingmak** N. widow; widower. Al as yalka
iwan ya, yal as alkamuk iwan ya.

**tingsubá** N. (ting[]subá) devil; demon.
Tisi yulnaka yaka pan tingsubá
kaupak wi bungpai. (→ náwaŋ)

**tingsukut** N. (ting[]sukut) fist. Wirahki
al ya ting sukutna itukwána watah
ka. (equiv. ting sukutna)

**tinh** 1. N. while; long while; period of time.
Pukka láwida yau kanas tinh amikda
bahangh, mádi laih kanas amana yá
yamtuša atrang. Because I slept so long
last night, I won’t be tired today. Yaka
asangka kau tinh lawing. I spent a long
time in that country.

2. N. soon; imminently. Tinh dapak
wahaiki wákutí. My brother is going to
come soon. Wärang tinh
dapak*dapai. Wang tinh dapak kát
yamah watda. He got a fever soon after
he arrived.

3. N. long ago; some time ago; a while ago.
Tinh āka iwan. She died some time ago.
Wang (kaupak) tinh dapai*dapak.

**tinh danaka** VE. (ting dapa) pass (time);
(for) a period of time (to) pass. Wikda
tinh dapai. I arrived a good while ago.
Yang wikda tinh dapak kau wādam. I
arrived a good while before you did.

**tinh dapak būna wāring.** I’ll return
later. Māmpā yak yawarang? Kanas
tinh dapak. When are we going? In a
while. Manna balna idamna tinh
dapai? Have you (pl.) had it for long?

**tinit yulnaka ūka** NE. church. Tinit
yulnaka ūka ya pah luḥ kau lau ka.
Tinit yulnaka ūka ya wauhdida
bahangh muih as úka kau tinit yuldai.

tipis N. (tipis[]) [ORN] collared aracari. (RAMPHASTIDAE Pteroglossus torquatus)
tipis tůka NE. (tipis[] tůka) [BOT] (syn. kunah)
tipitka A. (tipipitka) congealed; hardened; frozen.
tipitnaka VI. {V-TA} (tipitti) congeal; coagulate; harden. Alkimuk kasnaka yakting dai katka alas waltasa atya kat muihka ya andih auhka tipittida bahangh.

1tirhnaka VT. {V-PA} (tirhpi) tear; shred; rip. (syn. bisnaka, birhnaka)

2tirhnaka VT. {V-PA} (tirhpi) boast; brag; praise oneself. (Kal) tirhpanih. Don’t boast. Sumal sikka āwang yapa tirhpi tung ka katka di as bīk kàng lāwasa. He goes around bragging like he’s got high education but he doesn’t know a single thing. (eqv. kal tirhnaka)
tirinka A. (tiririnka) gnawed around the edges; cut into.
tirinnaka 1. VT. {v-PAl (tirinpi) trim; prune.

2. VT. {V-PA} (tirinpi) gnaw at; eat away at; cut into. Amiki yākamak ya yamka maktang katka taitai ya kanas kasi tirinpai bahangh yamka sa. Tuhki ya tulangka bahangh pan as daktukuh ating kat it daktasa, dau tirinpi wālīk dāpikda. Since my machete is dull, when I went to cut a tree it wouldn’t cut it, I just managed to cut out a piece.

tirisnaka N. (tiris[[kima] [BOT] leguminous tree sp. (Inga sp.)
tirisnaka 1. VT. {V-PA} (tirispi) constrict; squeeze.

2. VT. {V-PA} (tirispi) milk. Tükiruh tāka ya tirispi yātah. (→ sikitnaka, yaunaka)

3. VT. {V-PA} (tirispi) strangle; hug (too tightly).
tirispi inaka VE. {V-TA} (tirispi iti) strangle (to death); kill by strangulation.
tis aN. (tisa[]) (var. of kisa)
tisamhdanaka VI. {V-DA} (tisamhdi) (var. of isamhdanaka)
tisba N. (tis[ba] [BOT] breadnut; milk tree; tree with small edible orange fruit. (Melocost?lis) (var. pisba)
tisdanaka VI. {V-DA} (tisdi) spark; sparkle; crackle (fire); spit (fire, fat). Kuh ya kumdī lau atak di rumpi ātayam kau tisdai.
tisi 1. N. (tisi[]) lie; falsehood. Alas tisi yultai. Tisi yulnaka yaka pan tingsuba kaupak wi bungpai.

2. N. (tisi[]) story; fiction. Tisi yamka as yulti talyang. I’m reading a good story.
tisi katatnaka VE. {V-TA} (tisi katati) deceive; fool; trick. Yaka muihka wāya tung ya mining tisi katatnaka. (syn. tisina)
tisi yaknaka VE. (tisi[] yaknaka) slander; tell lies about. Amiki yang tisiki yaktak māmahki yā wispida, yang ai yultikda ya alas yang tūkī isa dai bahangh. My sister told a lie about me and my mother whipped me, since she didn’t accept what I said.
tisi yulnaka VE. {V-TA} (tisi yulti) lie; tell a lie. Yaka alka ya tisi yulnaka wālīk walti tung ka.
tisi yultingka NE. liar; cheat; imposter.
tisinaka VT. {V-PA} (tisipi) deceive; fool; trick. Yaka muihka karak yul bautayamna ya māna tisiparang; alas
palka ya laih tisi muih kau katatnaka wālik tung ka. (*syn. tisi katatnaka*)

tisling N. (tis[]ling) [BOT] small leguminous tree. ‘pissabed’. (Cassia occidentalis; Hyptis verticillata)

tisnak N. (tis[n]ak) [BOT] sugarcane. (Saccharum officinarum) Tisnak yakamak itukwāna watah atnaka yamka ka. It is good to have a big sugarcane plantation Tisnak waska karak waska baraska ya didai. People drink coffee with sugarcane syrup.

1tisnaka VT. {V-PA} (tispi) slap. Al balna as as ya, yalkana muhka kau tisnaka wālik waldai. Labaka tisnaka VE. {V-PA} (laba[] tispi) slap in face. Wakal tisnaka VE. crack knuckles or joints.

2tisnaka VT. {V-PA} (tispi) strip branches off; clean tree or log by cutting branches off. Pan aka tispi yakti yatāh. Strip all the branches off this tree for me.

tisninh N. (tis[n]inh) [MAM] small mammal sp.. Tisninh ya di baka as sulu yapa, damaska pas kau tungwai; panika silka manah āwī pūska kau kasi itai. The tisninh is a small dog-like animal that lives in the bush and enters a tapir through the rear and kills it by biting its lungs.

titi N. (ti[]ti) [BOT] plant sp..


2. N. (tit[ingh][]) old woman.

titingh mānāhka NE. (tit[ingh][] mānāhka) [KIN] great-grandmother; grandmother’s mother.

titingh pāngāhka NE. (tit[ingh][] pāngāhka) [KIN] great-grandfather; grandfather’s father.

titirka A. (tititirka) emaciated; withered. Ingkinih as daktikda katka di titirka ka. I cut off a banana but it is very withered.

titiska A. (tititiska) small; tiny; petite; thin. Was baka yau bilam titiska makasikka lau ka. There are many tiny fishes in the stream.

1titismak N. (titis[]mak) [ANAT] wart.

2titismak N. (titis[]mak) [BOT].

tiwat N. (ti[]wat) [MOD, MAN] anchor. Tiwat ya was kau di sikka wati mitai.

tiwik N. (tiwik[]) [ORN] [Spn: tigūis] collared plover. (CHARADRIIDAE Charadrius spp.) Tiwik ya di baka as màka kat bungpāi. Tiwik ya pāpanghni sūwang wakaku balna kau tungwai.

tiwiliski N. (tiwiliski[]) [ORN] sandpiper. (SOLONPACIDAE) (≠ tiwik)

tiwis N. (tiwis[]) [ANAT] penis; male genitalia. (→ tang)

tiwis butukā NE. (tiwis[] butukā) [ANAT] pubic hair (male).

trahat N. (trahat[]) [Eng: straw hat] hat. (pref. balah)

trai talnaka VE. {V-TO} (trai tali) [Eng: try] try. Yan trai talkuting sigarit bakannaka. (pref. aras talnaka)


tū batahnaka VE. {V-PA} (tū[]) batahpi) stammer; stutter. Yang tūkī batahpai. I stutter.

tū daihka CMOD. (tū[] daihka) testy; irritable; self-righteous; having a chip on one’s shoulder.

tū daimthaka VE. {V-PA} (tū[] daimthi) be testy, irritable, and/or self-righteous; have a chip on one’s shoulder. Mūikha ya tūka daihtak tung ka yul yulnaka walti. That person is just itching to tell someone off.

tū sitnaka VE. {V-PA} (tū[] sitti) hold tongue; restrain speech. Yang yulniki dai katka būna dāpi tūkī sittikda. I was going to say something but I held my tongue.

tū sittang CMOD. mute; lost voice. (→ tūbī)

tubakka 1. A. (tubabakka) thick. Ú dipihka tubakka ya dutka palka ka. Ripka lakwai bahangh asna tubakka waltai.

2. A. (tubabakka) long (hair); refers to ‘short’ hairstyles only, not shoulder-length hair.

tubakkaka NA.CNS3. (tubak[]kā) thickness. (var. tubakkika)
tubaknaka VI. {v-TA} (tubakti) thicken; become thick; become overgrown (with weeds, trees). Ú dipihka tubaktai kau, muih yaka tusdai kau yamka datya. When the yard grows thick, when someone mows it it gets better.

túbatah CMODCOMP. (túb[ ]tah) having a stammer.

tűbi N. (tűbi balna) mute. Alas ya tűbi ka; man yult i dahih, dí mà yultasa atrang. He is a mute; don’t ask him, he won’t tell you anything. (→ tű sittang)

Tubih N. (Tubih[ ]) [ORN] antthrush. (FORMICARIIDAE Formicarius spp.) Tubih ya umahka pisirka, katka básica umahka laih nauh ka. The antthrush has an upright tail, whereas the antpitta’s tail points downward.

tubuhka 1. A. (tububuhka) (liquid) thick; oily.
2. ADV. fluently. Ákalah muih laih Ulwa yulka ya yuldai, katka as as wālik tubuhbka palka yuldai. Here everybody speaks Ulwa, but only a few speak it really fluently.

tuburus N. (tubu[ ]rus) [BOT] ‘tamram’. (Schizolobium parahybum)

tūdah CMODCOMP. (tū[ ]dahka) (eqv. of tū dāikh)

tūdam CMODCOMP. (tū[ ]dam, tū[ ] damka) flatterer; wheedler; adulator; toady.

tuhka A. (tutuhka) deep. Timā sikka balna ya was tuhka kau laih yamka paras iradai. Áka waska tuhka. Áka waskapah tuhka.

tuhkaka N. (tuh[ ]ka) depth. Yaka waska baka ya tuhkkaka bik laulau ka.

tuhnakka VI. {v-PA} (tuhpi) spit.
Tuhpanih! Yā yaktanauh, ahauka kau tuhnaka waltayang, ū pas kau laih sa.
kal tuhnaka VR. {v-PA} (kal tuhpi) drool; spit up; spit on self. Bakpi kal tuhpi tung ka. He’s going around drunk and drooling on himself.


tuk N. (tuk[ ]) work. Tuk ya asang laih kau lau ka. There is work everywhere.

tuknaka VT. {v-PA} (tukpi) dig; till.
Mādi palka åka waspah as tukputiing. I am going to dig a well this very day.
sau tuknaka VE. {v-PA} (sau tuhpi) till soil; work soil.

tukpi yaknaka VE. {v-TA} (tukpi yakti) unearth; dig up; exhume. Asang wāk kau muih iwang tumna ya wakalka ya būna tuhpi yakti pah wāk kau ihyawi tumdai. They’re digging up someone’s remains and burying them in another place.

tukpak N. (tuk[ ]pak) [MOD] project; enterprise.

tukwanaka 1. VT. {v-WA} (tukw) work.
Man tukwayam pih? Are you working? Yang åkalah tukwasing. I don’t work here.
2. VI. {v-WA} (tukwi) work. Rupikki åka yamka tukwasa. My radio doesn’t work well.

tukka tukwanaka VE. {v-WA} (tuk[ ] tukwi) work for. Man yaka alka ya tukka tukwayam pih? Do you work for that man? (lit. do that man’s work)

tukyak N. (tuk[ ]yak) [MOD, MAN] shovel. Tukyak as walti tung yang saupah tuknaka. I’m looking for a shovel to dig a hole.

tulanghka A. (tulanghka) (cutting edge)dull; blunt. Kuhkibil tulanghka. My knife is dull. Kuhbil dangka ya tulanghka ka, katka muhka ya laih yaika. The back of a knife blade is dull, but the blade (lit. face) is sharp.

tulanghnaka VT. {v-PA} (tulanghpi) (cutting edge)dull; make dull. Tulhki ya sau kau tuspanih, yang tulanghnaka waltasing. Don’t use my machete to cut the ground, I don’t want to dull it.

tulh N. (tulh[ ]) [MAN] machete. Tulh âisau laih it ýamak yamwasa. Without a machete we cannot make a plantation. (var. tulhni)

tulhni N. (tulh[ ]ni) [MAN] (var. of tulh)

tulnaka 1. VT. {v-PA} (tulpi) poke; peck; prod.
2. VT. {v-PA} (tulpi) pound; pound flat;
crush pounding. Tunma dalapai kau di basta kang lāwadai muihka balna ya pan baska ihi tulpi nāh dati mā sītdai kau dalaka ya lukdai. When you have a headache, and someone who knows about bush medicine brings some leaves and crushes them and ties them to you the pain goes away.

3. VT. {v-PA} (tulpi) collide with; crash into; run into. Pukka baraka kau kuring wāk raudi wī yā tulpi (yā) abukpida. In the dark of night another canoe came and collided with mine and capsized me. Amang talah, mā tulpi bisukpikda. Watch out, I almost ran into you.

tulpi munmaka VE. tenderize by pounding.

tulpu N. (tul[pu]k) [MOD, MAN] hammer.

tuludanaka VI. {v-DA} (tuludi) roll; rotate; revolve; turn. Pan balna aranka ya takat manah kuring murupayam kau yamka tuludadai. When you drag your canoe over round logs the logs roll nicely making the work easy. Yang kī yapa tuludayang. I am rolling like a stone.

tuludi lāwanaka VE. {v-WA} (tuludi lāwi) turn; roll over. Bakaki bisika baka āka tuludi lāwanaka waltasa.

tuluknaka VT. {v-PAl (tulukpi) hem up. Kahkilu kalkatang kurudang ya tulukpi yātah.

tululu N. (tulu[lu]) [MOD, MAN] bicycle. Tululu ya muih alas ilwadai kau talnaka yamka ka. It is fun to watch people riding bicycles on their own. Tululu ya di as sirihka palka ka. The bicycle is a fast thing.

tulum N. (tulum[]) [MAM] dolphin; porpoise.

tulum sikka NE. (tulum[] sikka) [MOD, MAM] whale.

tulunaka VT. {v-PA} (tulupi) roll; roll up; turn around. Yang yānak as tuspikda katka sutnak wālik kau; bakaki balna yawadai tulupi was kau laknaka. I cleared a swidden but it’s still full of cane; my children are going to roll it all down into the river.

tulupdanaka VI. {v-DA} (tulupdi) (skin)peel in large patches. Bikiska yaka was dāihka dāwai kau ūkatakna ya tulupdi bungpai. When children get burnt by hot water their skin peels off in large patches.

tulupnaka VT. {v-TA} (tulupti) skin; peel; remove outer covering intact or in large pieces.

tumhdanaka VI. {v-DA} (tumhdi) swim. Yang was tuhka kau bungpi tumhdanaka waltayang. I want to go out to the deep water and swim.

tumhtumh N. (tumh[tumh]) [BOT] small plant that grows in inundated savannah.

tumi N. (tumi[]) [ANAT] heart. Tūruh tumika ya kasnaka yamka ka. Beef heart is good to eat.

1tumanka VT. {v-PA} (tumpi) cover; bury. Tūmaruh balna iwi pakdida ya mādi tumanka pih. (var. tungnaka)

2tumanka VT. {v-PA} (tumpi) covet; monopolize; want largest portion of. Kasna dīka tumwai kau mādī kau uyuh bungpai. When we want to hog all the food then catboils grow on our eyes. (≠ aihnaka)


tunan N. (tun[] āna, tunak āna) [MAN] pillow.

tunanū ūka NE. (tun[] āna ūka, tunak āna ūka) pillowcase.

tun bāka NE. (tun[ak] bāka) [ANAT] brain. (eqv. tumbā)

tun sūkatak NE. (tunak sūkatak) [ANAT] skull; cranium.

tuna N. (tuna[]) government. Pah itukwāna balna kau tuna muihka ya, di luwī ya barangpai. Mining tunani ya di isau yamka yamtai ka. < tun ā(wanaka)
tunak bahnaka VE. (tunak bahti) begin; start. Asang akai di isau laulau ka yamnaka katka tunak bahtasaman laih it yamtasaman. In this land there are many things to do but if you don't start you can't do anything.
tunak dasika 1. AE. stubborn; obstinate; hard-headed. Man kanas tunma dasika ka. You are very stubborn. 2. AE. stupid; slow; dull. Bakaki tunak dasika bahangh sumal kau it lawasa atkuti. My son is slow, so he isn't going to be able to pass in school.
tunak kau ADV. first; in front. Alas tunak kau. Muih as as ya di luih kau ya tunak kau atnaka waldai. (→ tun, kau)
tunak muihka NE. boss; head man; director. Tunak muihka itukwaña palka ya yan maka ya akat wārang atdai. Tunak muihka balna yulka dahnaka ya yamnaka. 
tunak pas NE. treetop; top (of tree, house). Kusma ya pan tunak paskat ilwang lau ka di iwang wingka ikitu. Ú tunak pas kau kataramah almun ya ilwi waupi sák dai.
tunak pihatang CMOD. gray-haired. Ninihki ya tunak pihatang palka ka. My grandfather is very gray(-haired).
tunak yunaka VE. {V-PA} (tunak yüpi) participate in baptism as godparent; take baptismal oath as godparent. Yang yaka bakaka ya tunak yüputing. (→ sipi yamnaka)
tundala N. (tunakdala) headache.
tung STAT. walk. Wātdi tung yang. Yang tung arting.
tungki N. (tung[ki]) [ICHTH] kind of small catfish.
tungnaka VT. {V-PA} (tungpi) bury; cover. Yang diki sau kau tungpida. (var. tunmaka)
tungwanaka VI. (tungwa) walk around (sg); go around (sg). Tungwanaka waitayang. Dau wālik tungwanaka ya yamka palka sa. (→ tung)
tunpak CMODCOMP. (tun[apak, tun[ pakka) smart; cunning; intelligent. Muih as as ya tunganapak palka bangbang ka di dutka yamdai kau. Yaka yalaka balna ya tunkana palka ka. Yang tunkapak yang. (→ asung pak karak)
tuntari N. (tun[tari] [MOD, MAN] crown; wreath.
turudanaka VI. {V-DA} (turudi) flake (skin). Mā daikhā yā dawak ūkitak turudi bungpai. I got a sunburn and now my skin is flaking off.
tūruh N. (tū[r]uh) [MAM] [Spn: toro] cow; bull; cattle; bovine. Mining sauni akalah tūruh āisau bahangh pan, damaska mahka tubakka patai ka. Tūruh walahka ya muih liu khang yabahdai.
tūruh almk NE. [MAM] bull; ox.
tūruh almk panka NE. [BOT] (tree sp.). (OCNACEAE Cespedesia macrophylla) tūruh kasnaka ūka NE. (tū[r]uh kasnaka ūka) manger.
tūruh muihka NE. beef.
tūruh ūka NE. pen. Pukka tung yang kat tingsuba yā wipak kat tūruh ūka kat sutdi āwikda.
tūruh ūkatak NE. leather; cowhide. Tūruh ūkatak ya di as yamka ka, yaka karak kalni dika balna bidai.
tūruh ūnā NE. [MAM] cow. (syn. tūruh yal)
1 turum N. (turum[ ]) [MAN] [Eng: drum] barrel; cask; keg; drum.
2 turum N. (turum[ ]) [BOT] plant with pair of ant bulbs at the base of each leaf. (≠ awanak)
waltayang. Yamanh turunaka waltasing palka, tingki kau pulka yá wayta bahangh. Pai ya it turuwasa, kainaka wálík ká; úkatak ya baika bahangh. Δ Líma damka ya sipitnák kark akhpí úkatak ya birhpí yakhna. (→ saisnaka, kainaka)

turuska A. (tururuska) curly; twisted.
Muuih as as balna ya baskana turuska ka. Some people’s hair is curly.
bas turuska CMOD. (bas[ ]turuska) curly hair.

turusnaka VT. {v-PA} (turuspi) pinch; twist; curl (hair).

tusnaka VT. {v-PA} (tuspi) cut; weed; mow; clear (land). Al ya yákaman tuspai.

tusnaka VT. {v-PAl (tuspi) pinch; twist; curl (hair).}

tutuh N. (tutuh[ ]) knot.

tutuhka A. (tututuhka) bumpy; warty; rough (texture). Muku balna dangkanu tututuhka ka. Toads have rough warty backs. (syn. rukuhka) (equiv. of tutuhka)

tutuhna VI. {v-PA} (tutuhpi) become bumpy; break out (in hives, welts). Wás lautai kau yáman kau yawayam kau pús isau palka yak kasdai ya muinhni ya tutuhpái. When it’s raining and you (we) go to the plantation all the black flies that bite us make our skin get welts all over. (syn. rukuhna)

tutuhtutuh A. bumpy; warty; rough (texture). (equiv. of tutuhka)


tutur N. (tutur[]) [MOD, MAN] plastic.
Yang ulniki panka ya tutur karak yamna, katka bahwingka bahangh tuturka sa. My pen is made of plastic but it is brittle and not flexible.

tuturka 1. A. (tuturuturka) flexible; pliant; plastic; unbreakable.
2. NE. (tutur[ ]ka) [ANAT] cartilage. (or wakal tuturka)

tuyulka A. (tuyuyulka) round. Áka dik balna luih laih tuyulka. All these things are round.

ú N. (ú[]) [MAN] house; home. Mámáka wák laih bakalú as waltai, yamnaka. Next year my child wants to build a house.
ú anakat panka NE. beam of house. Pan as dakti yátah ú anakat panka. Cut me a log for a house foundation beam.
ú awas NE. (ú awas[]) [BOT] tree similar to pine with white wood. (syn. awaspih)
ú dika bakana NE. domestic animal. Ú dika bakana ya mining kaupak kasna ya kasdai. Domestic animals get (eat) their food from us.
ú dipihka NE. patio; yard; outside of house. Muuih luih ya úka dipika bitpi mauka watah ka. Everyone sweeps their yard to keep it clean. Úka dipihka kau aransa panka itukwána as sák ka. In the house’s yard there stands a big orange tree. (syn. ú labaka, ú sára)

ú labaka 1. NE. (úka labaka) wall of house. Ú labaka as pahti iltikda; wakas ya yan iltaring. I nailed up one side of the house; I’ll put up the other tomorrow. 2. NE. (úka labaka) (syn. ú dipihka, úsára)
ú mukat NE. front porch; veranda. Dí balna ihwikda ya ú mukat palka kat ilti auphi dápah. Just throw the things that I brought on the front porch.
u pasdak NE. (û] pasdak) room. Ú as û pasdak aisau ya yamka palka sa. A house without rooms is not very good. (syn. údak)

û rauka NE. foundation.

û salka NE. frame; skeleton; corner posts of house.

û sara NE. (syn. û dipihka, û labaka) û tarat NE. floor of building above first.

û tunak NE. roof.

û yamnaka VE. {v-ta} (û yamti) build a house. Yang ffiadi akaupak laih bilna ii yamnaka waltasing ka. After today I do not want to build another house.

uba 1. ADV. slowly; gradually.

2. ADV. gently.

3. ADV. quietly; softly; in a low voice.

ubak N. (û[barak) [ENTOM] louse. Úbak ya muih baska kau áwai. The house gets into people’s hair. Áka úbakab láska yátaí. This house is pricking me (giving me a stinging sensation).

kataramah úbakab NE. (kat[[]taramah úbakab) [ENTOM] chicken louse.

ubak sumaka NE. nit; louse egg.

úbastak N. (û[barak) [BOT] plant used to cover roofs of houses. (syn. ahtak wana)

úbitna N. (û[bitna) [MAN] broom. Ú pas kau minisihka balna luîh ya úbitna karak mawai. We clean out all the bits of dirt in the house with a broom.

ubriskumh N. (ubris[[]kumh) [HERP] rat snake. (Spilotes pullatus pullatus) Ubriskumh ya bil wati ukpai. The rat snake eats snakes.

ubulka N. (ubul[[]kal) hump; hill; high ground. Yaka tükuru ya mákamak kau ubulka sikka as watah ka. That bull has a big hump the back of its neck.

was ubul NE. (was] ubul) wave.

Kuringma ya baka palka ka; amang talah, was ubul mátak kuringma áwi yawarang. Your canoe is very small; be careful, a wave might tip you over.

údak N. (û[barak) room. (syn. ú pasdak)

udu 1. N. (udu[]) [ANAT] navel; belly button. Bakaki bisika ya uduka kaupak áwas bungpai. My baby is bleeding from his navel.


When a baby is born they bury the placenta.

udu wahka NE. (udu[] wahka) [ANAT] umbilical cord. Baka uduka wahka amang palka talnauh; it ka dakdanaka. Mind the baby’s umbilical cord; it could get cut. Yang súwi bungping kau, singmat as uduki wahka daktang dadang. When I was born, a doctor cut my umbilical cord.

udungka N. CNS3. (udung[]) new leaf or bud of plant. Asingni áwas yaktai kau, palanu udungka ya matakpi náh dai diwai kau aingni áwas yaktai ya mitai atdai. When we are excreting blood, they say it can be stopped by mashing up and drinking (the fluid from) the new leaves of the trumpet tree. Pan as ya baska umana balna luîh auhdi láwak kar baka wák ya udungka wák iya. On a certain tree, when all the old leaves fall off, all the other leaves grow new buds.

udusara N. (udu[]sara) [ANAT] uterus; womb. Yal balna ya udusasara watah ka, yaka pas kau baka lau atnaka yulka. Women have a uterus in which to hold babies.

udusara lakwanaka NE. (udu[]sara lakwi) have hernia (female). Yal balna ya di takat kaupak sutdi wauhdadai kau udukasasara lakwai. When women jump down from on top of things they can get a hernia.

udutnaka VT. {v-pa} (udutpi) suck.

Susum ya yamka lahti náh dai tunak palka ya udutpayang. After boiling the eel well I suck on its head.

uduwirus N. (udu[]wirus) [BOT] (plant sp.).

uhdanaka VI. {v-da} (uhdi) cough. Mining yak uhdai. We (incl.) are coughing. Áka nangtak áka uhdanaka yá yamtai. This cold makes me cough.

uhkan N. (uh[]kan) [BOT] hone palm; oil palm. (PALMAE Corozo oleifera; PALMAE Elaeis melanococca; PALMAE Elaeis oleifera) Uhkan ya makkak burupi kaupak aukha yamka yakdai. A high-quality oil can be extracted by frying the hone palm fruit.

uhkan aukha NE. oil of the hone palm.
uhnaka VI. {v-PAl (uhpi) growl; bellow; roar. Nawah as asang pas kau, uhpi tung ka. A jaguar is roaming the bush bellowing. Mus laih it uhpasa; katka nawah wálık laih uhpai. The rat can’t roar; only jaguars roar.

uihdas N. (uihdas) [MOD] anecdote.
Uihdas ya muih isau palka rauka yulti talnaka waldai. Everyone wants to read the anecdote.

füka 1. (form of  ü) N.CNS3. (ü[]) 2. N.CNS3. (ü[]) den; home; lair; nest; lodge; burrow.
3. N.CNS3. (ü[]) case for; pack of; sheath; container for.
di üka NE. container.
lihwan üka NE. wallet; purse.
panka pihka üka NE. pack of cigarettes.

ukmik N. (ukmik) [MAM] armadillo.
(Cabassous centralis; Dasypus novemcinctus)
Yang ukmik talsing palka. Sulu ya ukmik pah kau lau atak umti yaktai. Ukumik ya sau anakat kau úka watah ka.

ukna N. (uknaka) fruit or food that is sucked; fish bait.

uknaka 1. vt. {v-PA} (ukpi) suck; lick; eat (fruits). Yang aransa ukpikda. I ate the/an orange. Aransa damka ya muih luuh waldai ka uknaka. Everybody likes to eat sweet oranges.
2. vt. {v-PA} (ukpi) swallow (solid).
Bilam titiska kasi wakul uknaka waltasing. I do not want to swallow a bone when eating the small fish.

uknaka üka NE. [ANAT] stomach.
Katkitaramah uknaka üka ya di áisau ka. The stomach of my chicken is empty.

ükuk N. (ükuk) [ICHTH] kind of drummer fish. (syn. aha) [e smaller than bilapau, bigger than pihpih]

ukung 1. N. (ukung[]) [BOT] bamboo. (Bambusia guadua)
2. N. (ukung[]) [BOT] palm whose leaves are used as brooms. (PALMAE Acoelorrapha wrightii) (→ pápata)

ukung baka NE. (ukung[] baka) [BOT] flute; reed. Was baka tunak kau pan, ukung baka isau lau ka. There are many reeds at the source of the stream.

úla N. (ú[]la) [MOD, MAN] box.

úlak N. (ú[]lak) [MYTH] tailless anthropoid ape with black fur. ‘yohó; yuhó’.

úlang N. (ú[]lang) atol; corn chicha. Mádi dislah úlang dihikda, katka bik waiting dai. I drank corn chicha this morning and still wanted more.

ulangdanaka VI. (ulangdi) be or become runny, mucky, sloppy (can be said of opaque liquids such as mud or pancake batter but not of transparent or gelatinous substances like syrup or jam).

uldak N. (ul[]dak) [MOD, GRAM] written word (between spaces).

uli N. (uli[]) [ORN] chestnut-headed oropendola; oropendola Montezuma. (ICTERIDAE Psarocolius spp.) Uli ya di baka as úkatá lumakká yamka palka ka. The oropendola Montezuma is a beautifully colored bird.

ulmák N. (ulmák) [BOT] [Mayng: ulmák] papaya. (Carica papaya) (pref. ulmák)

ulnaka VT. {v-PA} (ulpi) write. Aitak as ulputing. I’m going to write a letter.

ulnaka panka NE. {CNS1: ulniki panka} pencil; pen; writing instrument.

ulu N. (ulu[]) [BOT] cutting-grass. (≠ asu)

uluhdanaka VI. {v-DA} (uluhdi) loosen; come loose; come untied.

uluhka A. (uluhka) free.
uluhka bungnaka VE. {v-PA} (uluhka bungpi) become free; go free.
uluhka nauka NE. (uluh[]ka nauka) freedom; liberty.

uluhnaka 1. vt. {v-PA} (uluhpi) untie; unmoor; unfasten; loosen; unhitch; let loose. Wah witwanaka ya uluhpi yátah. Unfasten the hammock for me. Tukaruh ya sitna sák atak kat, yaka bakaka ya uluhpang. That child untied the cow that was (standing) tied.
2. vt. {v-PA} (uluhpi) free; liberate; set free.
ulumak N. (ulu[ mak] papaya; papaw. (Carica papaya) Ulumak ya pannak as yamka palka ka, dapi bik muih balna luuh kasnaka waldai. The papaya is a very good fruit and everyone likes to eat it. Ulumak ya unnaka yamka ka. The papaya is good to eat. Ulumak ya damaska kau û kau bik pâtaï. The papaya grows in the bush and also at home.

ulupuih N. (ulu[ puih] [BOT] ivy; various species of creeping vine. (CONVOLVULACEAE Ipomoea, Cuscuta Spp.)

Ulwa N. (Ulwa[ ]) Ulwa. Ulwa dapi Wayah karak âyauh kau dasiaka yapa talyam? Between Ulwa and Miskitu, which do you see as the most difficult.

urn N. (um[ ]) [MAM] sloth. (Bradipus sp.; Choloepus hoffmani) Urn ya madah laih sirihka tungwasa katka pukka wâlik laih paraska tungwai. The sloth does not move fast in the day; only at night does it move about quickly. Urn ya pan baska wâlik kasya. The sloth eats only tree leaves.

umah N. (umah[ ]) [ANAT] tail. Awa bahka ya umahka yûhka palka ka. The macaw has a long tail. Yapu ya umahka karak di ai ai ya wispi iti kasya. The crocodile kills (and eats) its prey by lashing it with its tail.

umahrarah N. (umah[ ]rarah) [ORN] fork-tailed flycatcher.

umhsara N. (umah[ ]sara) [ANAT] tail bone.


2. A. (umamana) former; ex-. Yang yalki umana karak tâpas kau kal paktatik sah ka. I don’t feel like running into my ex-wife on the street. Daniel Ortega ya mining asangnibah tunak muihka umana ka. D. O. is the former president of our country.
3. ADV. (umamana) for a long time; since a long time ago. Raudam umana pih? Have you been up for a long time?

umana kau ADV. long ago; olden times. Umana kau bikiskika balna dadang ya bikiska yamka palka balna dadang. The children of the old days were very good children. Umana kau muih almk balna laulau dadang dai ka luuh ìwì láwana. The people who lived in the olden days have all died off. (syn. tâtungh kau)

umh N. (umh[ ]) help; aid; assistance. Yang muih kau kanas laih umh âtasing, dutka yatdida bahangh. Umh kuinaka VE. ask for help.

umhmat N. (umh[ ]mat) [MOD] nurse. Amiki laih umhmat balna kaâkana luhih suhi tuka ka.

umhnaka VT. {V-TE} (umhti) help; aid; assist. Wahaini ìwi tung atak yawi umhnaka ya yamka ka.

umis N. (umis[ ]) [MAM] bat; ratbat. Damai pukka katkitaramah âkawas umis dida.

umitdanaka VI. {V-DA} (umitdi) dive. Yang umitdanaka waltayang katka wingkita adahka yà yamta.

umnaka 1. VT. {V-TE} (umti) smell. Dî walapak umtayang. Àka sûkalu dî as umti tung ka. Sûlu iwak umtîdam? Did you smell the dead dog?
2. VT. {V-TE} (umti) kiss. Alas balna kal umduti. Yang kau dalaka yà talyam laih, yà umtah.

umti dahnaka VE. sniff. Talwangh, umti dahkuting sapaktang pan. Let’s see, I’ll sniff it to see if it’s gone sour.

umsipulmak N. (um[ ]sipulmak) [ENTOM] kind of hairy caterpillar with venomous spines. Umsipulmak laih witang as ka, yak liptak kau dalaka ka, yapa bik pupuhtai. Witang bû as balna karak umsipulmak kanas dutka ka. The umsipulmak is a caterpillar which causes pain and swelling if it pricks us with its spines. It is the worst of all the caterpillars.

umusnah N. (umus[ ]nah) [MAN] bed. Umusnah kau amanaka waltasing.

Una N. (Una[ ]) ladino; Spanish; mestizo. ‘Spaniard’.
una N. (ú][na) abnormal growth or extra appendage. Muih as as balna ya tapakana kau ka tingkana makka singka watah ka, yapa bik labaka kau bik wak as bisika wit ka; yaka ayangka ya una atdai. In some people’s lineage it runs in the family to have a small extra finger alongside the normal five; we call this an una.

un baunaka VE. {V-TA} (un bauti) sing. Alas balna wat arungka un bauna. They sang four times. Amiki ya sirau kau un baunaka waltai palka dai. My sister wants very much to sing to the girls.

ungkiwai N. (ung][kiwai) [ORN] little tinamou. (TINAMIDAE Crypturellus soui)

úpara N. (ú][para) [MOD, MAN] umbrella.

upurdaNaka VX. {V-DA} (upurdi) kal upurdaNaka VR. meet; assemble; have a meeting or assembly. Yan mádah kal upurdaNaka, yul bauti talnaka watah yak bahangh. We have to have a meeting tomorrow during the day, because we have something to discuss.

upurka N. group; tribe. Muih upurka bū láwi yawadida ya ãayauh yawadida pan nû âisau. I don’t know where the two groups of people that passed by went.

upurnaka VT. {V-TA} (upurti) gather. Am balna û pas kau lau ya yamka upurti dáphah. Gather up all the corn (cobs) in the house and leave them in one spot. kal upurna NV.INFIN. (kal upurnaka) meeting.

kal upurnaka VR. {V-TA} (kal upurti) gather; congregate. Dama as kau muih isau kal upurna bang dai tumul isdanaka yulk. The day before yesterday there was a big gathering to play ball.

upurti watnaka VE. {V-TA} (upurti wati) gather up (things). Malai tingka ya upurti watkuti tung yang. I’m trying to gather up all the cassava cuttings.

úrakrak N. (û][rakrak) [ENTOM] kind of wasp which makes mud nests in houses. Úrakrak ya mining üni kau ãwi saupau karan ãka yamta. The úrakrak wasp enters our houses and builds mud nests.

urhnaka VT. {V-PA} (urhpi) lather; soap. Luhusmak ya asna kau isau urhwai kau, luhuska isau bungpai. When we soap clothes a lot, it produces lots of lather.

kal urhnaka VR. lather or soap oneself.

urudanaka VI. {V-DA} (urudi) stoop; bend down; duck. Man áka panka anákat manah urudi láwah. Duck down a little to pass under this tree. (≠ urudanaka)

uruka A. {STRONG} (ururuka) stooping; hunched; bending down; drooping. Wahaima waya uru tung ka. Your brother stoops (has bad posture).

urukdanaka VI. {V-DA} (urukdi) breathe. (var. urupdanaka) (→ urupdanaka)

uruku N. (uru[]ku) [ORN] kind of tern similar to brown noddy but perhaps with shorter tail. (LARIDAE)

urum N. (urum[]) [MAN] rum; liquor. Ûrum isau diyang kau laih ya bakpai. When I drink a lot of rum it makes me drunk.

urundanaka VI. {V-DA} (urundii) curl up; double up (i.e. in fetal position). Yaka muihka laih ripka yamta bahangh urundanaka wálík waltai. Those people just want to curl up because they are cold. Tãruh ya urundang ami lau ka. The cow is asleep in a fetal position. Tápas kau yawayang tung dai dapak súlu as ami urundang kút atak talíkda. I was walking along the road and I saw a dog curled up asleep. (≠ urudanaka)

urunka A. (ururunka) curled up; folded joint.

urupdanaka VI. {V-DA} (urupdi) breathe. Mining balna yak urudpái. We (incl.) are breathing. (var. urukdanaka) (→ urukdanaka)

urupdanaka pahka NE. (urupdana]) pahka) {CONS: urupdaniki pahka} [ANAT] chest cavity.

urupnaka VT. {V-TA} (urupti) cause to multiply; cause to grow in quantity. Áka mámáka kau pápanghni dasíkka kau yang kataramah ya kanas uruptikda.
This year with God’s help I increased greatly my chicken population.

urus N. (urus[]) [MAM] spider monkey; black-faced monkey. (Ateles geoffroyi)

Urus ya muih mining yapa raudì sakwi wàtdai. The spider monkey walks erect like us. Urus ya damaska pas kau wàlik tungwai. The spider monkey only lives in the jungle.

urus baskakarhna NE. (urus[]) [BOT] ‘monkey comb’ tree. (TILIACEAE Apeiba tibourbou)

urus tunak NE. (urus[]) tunak) [BOT] (syn. sìkülh)

urus wahka NE. (urus[]) wahka) [BOT] ‘monkey’s ladder’ vine. (CESALPINIACEAE Bauhinia hondurensis)


úsara N. (ü[sara]) yard. Yan màka laih yang úsara tusnaka waltayang. Tomorrow I want to cut the grass in my yard.

úsi N. (ü[]si) [BOT] kind of large yam (not sweet).

úsi lalahka NE. (ü[]si lalahka) [BOT] kind of yellow yam (large, not sweet).

úsi pauka NE. (ü[]si pauka) [BOT] kind of red yam (large, not sweet).

úsi pihka NE. (ü[]si pihka) [BOT] kind of white yam (large, not sweet).

úsata N. (ü[]sata) [ICHTH] fish seen among the roots of mangroves.

usu N. (usu[]) urinate.

usu pahka NE. (usu[] pahka) [ANAT]

usulalahah N. (usu[]lalah) [MED] hepatitis.

usunaka 1. VI. {V-PA} (usupi) urinate. Yang sip usupasing.

2. VT. {V-PA} (usupi) urinate on. Umis yak usupai kau sirihka yak iwasa atdai. When a bat urinates on us they say we will live long (not die early).

usupul N. (usu[]pul) gonorrhea. Usupul yak watya kau yamka yak singwasa laih, muih almuk bungwai kau usuni pahka pitai. If you catch gonorrhea and don’t get properly cured, your urethra will eventually clog up when you get old.

útak 1. N. (ű[]tak) [ANAT] skin; hide; pelt. Nawah útakat ya bulka bik lau ka. The skin of the jaguar also has spots. Úkitak kau tasah as ilwida. A mosquito landed on my skin.

2. N. (ű[]tak) [ANAT] shell (of egg). wilih útakat dasikaka turtle shell

3. N. (ű[]tak) [ANAT] carapace (of crustacean).

4. N. (ű[]tak) [ANAT] surface; covering.

di útakat NE. leather. (→ tûruh útakat)

útak wingka NE. (ű[]tak wingka) scent. Mus ya mistu útakat wingka dahya kau bai irai.


utuhdanaka VI. {V-DA} (utuhdi) spill; pour. Suba ya wauhdi utuhdanaka wàlik lau ka. The pot is about to fall and spill.

utuhnaka VT. {V-PA} (utuhpi) (liquid)pour. Alas kuring wisam ya was utuhpi bangtuti. He is going to pour water into the new canoe until it is full.
ultimo N. (útu kahkan) [MOD] company; corporation. Ingkinih úkatukbah mauka balna kau, wassik kungka kau ingkinih, yámanh, waki balna wálik laudai dadang. In the banana company times, all along the river were planted only bananas, bluggoes and plantains.

uyuh N. (uyuh) [ANAT] boil or growth on eyelid. ‘cat boil’. Baka makdaka kau uyu as bungpang dai.

uyuk N. (uyuk) [MAM] kinkajou; honey bear; ‘night walker’ monkey. (Potos flavus)

uyuk ya pukka kau wi Iakwi ami kilt man kat na akpai. The kinkajou comes down at night while you are asleep and gropes and feels you. (≠ pan nawahka)

uyunaka VI. {v-PAl (uyupi) (var. of wiunaka)

wabala N. (wába la) [BOT] mucuna; velvet bean. (Mucuna sp.)

wadah N. (wadah) left; left hand. Muih as as laulau ka tingkana wadahka bitah kau kidak tusdasa. Bakaki bisika as watah yang ya tingka wadah kau di rumpai.

wadau N. (wadau) [ZOO] lobster; crayfish. (Panulirus argus) Wad au ya mamaka kau sukpi pahdai.

wah 1. N. (wah) [BOT] vine; liana; rattan. Wah ya al kau wal átai damasuka kau, it ka di sitnaka. Δ Asang pas panka balna kau balakpai, yaka balna yaka it ka dakti di sitnaka. (or asang wakha, damasaka wakha) 2. N. (wah) [MAN] rope; cord; string; line; lace. Wah ya al kau wal átai damasuka kau, it ka di sitnaka. Δ Tangka as pan as kau sitti tangka wák ya pan wák kau sitnaka dapi asna ránaka. Tying one end to one tree and the other end to another tree to dry clothes.

wah pauka NE. (wah pauka) [BOT] vine whose fruit has a cross-section of multi-pointed star, the juice of which stains cloth permanently green.

wah witwanaka NE. [MAN] hammock.

wahai 1. N. (wahai) [KIN] brother of man; male cousin of man. Wahaiki ya yang dalaka dahyang. I love my brother. Man wahaima mämmä lâwida ya yakat áyauh tukwai dai?

Where did your brother work last year?

2. N. (wahai) comrade.

wahai yalka NE. (wahai yalka) [KIN] sister-in-law; man’s brother’s wife.

Wahai yalka lau man pih? Sister-in-law, are you here? (common greeting)

waham N. (waham) [BOT] sea grape. (POLIGONACEAE Coccoloba uvifera) (syn. mukulmak)

wahamtari N. (waham tari) [BOT] passionfruit; passion flower; granadilla. (Passiflora vitifolia)

wahbabat N. (wah babat) [BOT] vine whose skin causes lacerations, has small orange hard-shelled berries.

wahbil N. (wah bil) brown vine snake. (Oxybelis aeneus) Δ Bil as ka asang wakha yapa úkatak puputka ka yúh baka ka, katka yaka laih yak kasa ka. A snake that looks like a brown vine, long and slender, but doesn’t bite.

wahdala N. (wah dala) [MAN] whip; horsewhip. Pamkhih muih ilwadai kau it paras írasa kau, wahdala karak wisdak paras irai. When a person is riding a horse and it won’t go fast, whipping it makes it speed up.

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wausu N. (wah-usu) [ENTOM] orange and black foul-smelling cockroach-like insect.
wahwalap N. (wah-walap) [BOT] (vine sp.).
wai Q. who. Manna balna wai karak wakutimna? With whom are you all going to come?
waihna N. (waih-na) [MAN] oar; paddle. Waihna ya wisam palka bahangh yaUlka ka waihnaka. The oar is brand new and thus it will be good for rowing. Waihna ya muih balna kau ulhpai, ayakat ayakat yawanaka kau, kuring karak. The oar helps people go wherever they are going in a canoe. Yangna waihna isau palka watah yangna katka bakannaka wālik kā. We (excl.) have very many oars, but only to sell. Alas waihna paktikaka. He/she·is an oar maker.
waihnaka VT. {V-PA} (waihpi) row. Van maka lāih bang yāk yawai bahangh paras waihparam. Since we’re going upstream tomorrow, you’ll be rowing hard.
waihru N. (waih-ru) [zoo] small (,5cm dia.) sea crab often found on beach which digs into sand and has hairy legs.

waiku 1. N. (wai-ku) moon. Mining balna waiku ya talwai. We (incl.) see the moon. Waiku siuka kau di daudai. They plant when the moon is full.
waiku bataka NE. (waik-ku bataka) new moon. Waiku batakya miuh pan dākdasa. In the new moon, people do not cut trees. (syn. waiku wisam) waiku mākā NE. Monday.
waiku pastirh NE. (wai-ku pastirh) half-moon. Waiku pastirh ya andīhlah āyawai. The half-moon has already set.
waiku siuka NE. (wai-ku siuka) full moon. Waiku siuka kau bikiskā balna ahauka kau yamaka ḫṣādāi. Children play well outside during the full moon.
waiku umana NE. (wai-ku umana) old moon; waning moon. Waiku umana kau pan balna dānkaka yamaka kā. It is good to cut down trees during the waning moon.
waihnu N. (waih-ndū) NE. [ADJ] new moon; waxing moon. Waiku wisam kau pan balna dānkaka dutka kā. It is bad to fell trees during the new moon. (syn. waiku bataka)
wāk 1. ADV. another. Muih wāk wāda. Another person came.
2. N. (wāk) sort; kind; type.
wāk balna NE. the others. (→ bū as balna)
2. N. (wak-kl) [BOT] thorn; prickle; barb. Āka wakalka yāwīda. This thorn stuck me. Wakal isau pas kāl wālik yak wātīdas. We don’t walk barefoot where there are many thorns.
wakal makka NE. (wakal-kl makka) [BOT] (syn. maklalah makka) wakal tuturka NE. (wakal-kl tuturka) cartilage. Turūh wakalka tuturka balna ya kasnaka yamaka tālyang. I like to eat beef cartilage.
wakari N. (wak-ri) [BOT] pingwing; pegwej wild pineapple. (Bromelia pinguin) Wakari ya pan as baska yūhka watah ka, makka bik bakana kā muih kasdai. Māsahītī nakabah kā, katka kanas bisika kā. The pingwing is plant with long leaves and small fruits that people eat. It is similar to the pineapple, but smaller. Wakari ya lalōhtang kau damka kā, katka batakya lāhī sapakka. The pingwing is sweet when ripe, but if it’s not quite ripe it is sour. Wakari ya sapakka āpī damka bik kā. The pingwing is tart and sweet as well.
waiku wisam NE. (wai-ku wisam) new moon; waxing moon. Waiku wisam kau balna dānkaka dutka kā. It is bad to fell trees during the new moon. (syn. waiku bataka)
wakaslah ADV. one side; one of a pair. Yul waya yultaram kau, watmak ya wakaslah kau watrang, katka isau yultaram kau laih wakas bû pak kau watrang. If you just talk for a little bit, it will fit on one side of the tape, but if you say a lot it will need both sides.

waki N. (waki[]l) [BOT] plantain; horn plantain. (MUSACEAE Musa paradisiaca) Umana kau muih al Muk balna ya waki dâti wâlik kassdai dadang. In days past our ancestors would eat plantains after only roasting them. Waki ya lalah kau yamka palka ka. The plantain is excellent when it ripens.

pakibah N. (waki[]bah) [BOT] wild plantain. (MUSACEAE Heliconia sp.)

wakka N.CNS3. (wak[]) difference. Waka yaknaka VE. {V-TA} (wakka yakti) distinguish; tell apart. Yaka bftkasu balna ya it wakka yaktasing. I can't tell those twins apart.

waknah N. (wak[]nah) [MOD] iron; steel; metal. Wakanah karak bik tîma yamdaï. Boats are also made of steel. Wakanah ya sau anatka kaupak muih yakdai. People extract iron from underground.

waknahlah N. (wak[]nahlalah) [MOD] bronze; brass; copper. Simluung wahka balna âka waknahlah karan yamna. These guitar strings are made of copper.

waknahlalah N. (wak[]nahlalah) [MOD] iron; steel; metal. Wakanah karak bik tîma yamdaï. Boats are also made of steel. Wakanah ya sau anatka kaupak muih yakdai. People extract iron from underground.

waknahpih N. (wak[]nahpih) [MOD] silver.

waksirih N. (wak[]sirih) [MOD, MAN] machine. Asna binâka waksirihka watah laih, it ka asna isau binâka. If you have a sewing machine, you can make a lot of clothes.

waku N. (waku[]l) [BOT] (var. of watu)

wâkumbaih N. (wâ[]kumbaih) [MYTH] hairy ape-like creature with one leg. Wakumbaih ya butuka karak ka, yapa bik wauka aslah watah ka. The wakumbaih is hairy and has only one leg. Wakumbaih ya tingsuba as mâ as kau muih waraupai. The wakumbaih is a demon that occasionally torments humans.

wâkurus N. (wâ[]kurus) [ENTOM] scorpion. Aka wâkurus âka bañaki kau iptida. This scorpion stung my son.

Wâkurus ya umahka karak yak kasya. The scorpion stings us with its tail.

walah A. (→ walahka) walah atnaka VE. {V0} (walah ati) become angry. Yaka yalka muihka kau datya kau walah atnaka wâlik wartai. The woman is always furious when she is pregnant. Wi yâ kumhpanih; walah atnaka waltasing. Don't come bother me; I don't want to get angry.

walahdana N. (walah[]dana) sweat; perspiration. Walahkdana bungpâi. I am sweating. Al ya para para tukwî walahkdana yaknaka. A Man needs to work hard to work up a sweat.

walahdana bungnaka VE. {V-PA} (walah[]dana bungpî) sweat; perspire.

walahka A. (walahka) mean; mad; angry. Sûlu walahka yâ kasda. The mad dog bit me. Al walahka balna yâ baudida. The angry men hit me. Yang sökliu ya walahka palka ka. My dog is vicious. Awangki ya di walahka yapa bahangh kang yabayhynâ. We fear my uncle because he is so cruel.

walahnaka VT. {V-TA} (walahtî) make sweat; make sweaty. Yâ walahpida. I got sweaty. Δ Åtak walahnidana bungnaka. To make us sweat.

walak N. (walak[]l) [BOT] mombin; hog plum; wild plum. (ANACARDIACEAE Spondias mombin)

wâlang 1. N. (wâ[]lang) savannah; grassy plain; pasture. Wâlang dâwai kau di bakana luih dâwi lâwai. When the savannah burns all the small animals burn with it. Wâlang pas kau türuh balna ya bungpî wâlang kassdai. The cattle go out into the pasture and eat the grass.

2. N. (wâ[]lang) [BOT] savannah grass. Pamkîh ya wâlang wâlik kassdai, di wâk bik kasya. The horse doesn’t only eat savannah grass, it eats other things as well. Δ Asang labanka kau damaskâ pâtai balna ya türuh dapi pamkîh balna wâlik kassdai.

2wâlang burikamak NE. (wâ[]lang burikamak) [BOT] small guava-like fruit which grows in low bushes. (MYRTACEAE Psidium salutare)

wâlang dâwai ya NE. (wâ[]lang dâwai ya) grass fire; burning savannah.
walang dika baka NE. (wâl|lang dika baka) [ORN] tiny savannah bird with yellow belly.

walang panka NE. pine. Wâlang panka auhka yaknaka. We have to extract the pine oil. (syn. awas)

walangka A. {STRONG} (walangka) meaty; corpulent; bloated; fat. Wâlang yawayam lau sah. I see you’re getting corpulent.

walangnaka VI. {v-PAl (walangpi) swell. Anu bataka burhiping wi wauhdida kau tingki karak watkuh ating tingkimak kau yâ laktida dapak walangpida lau ka. When I knocked a green coconut out of the tree and went to catch it it landed on my finger and now it has swollen.

walap 1. N. (walap[]) smell (pleasant); fragrance; aroma; bouquet. Walap wang sak sah. My, doesn’t s/he (a person who has just arrived) smell nice.

2. N. (walap[]) flavor (pleasant). Walap wang sak sah. My, doesn’t s/he (a person who has just arrived) smell nice.

walapnaka VT. {V-TA} (walapti) smell nice; give off pleasant aroma. Tipitmak ya di kasna kau walaptai.

wallas N. (wallas[]) [KIN] nephew. Yang walaski arungka watah yang. (syn. âwalas)

wallasah N. (wallasah) [ANAT] groin; crotch. Amang talah!, man panka yau ilwanih; wauhdaram kau it ka walamasah sawhanaka.

walawala 1. N. (walawala) [BOT] bottle gourd. Walawala ya sútak yapa ka, katka kanas sikka ka. The walawala is like a calabash only larger.

2. N. (walawala) [MAN] bottle gourd vessel.

wali N. (wali[]) [MAN] bag; sack. Yâmak kau wâli as iyawanaka willis pûnaka. One must take a bag to the plantation to load with cocoyams.

wâlik 1. PRT. only; just. Was wâlik.

2. PRT. -self (emphatic). Alas wâlik yang kau wí araska yatda. He came himself to bother me.

3. ADV. the hell. Ai wâlik yulti kût man pih? What the hell are you lying there talking about?

wâlik bik 1. ADV. even (not). Papaki ya bai kau yawai ya tâkat ânaka arakbus wâlik bik iyawasa ya? 2. ADV. at least. Singka wâlik bik bang ka. There are at least five there. Waya wâlik bik yâtah.


walnaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (walti) seek; look for. Yang di as walti tung yang kat dimuih yâ kasda.

2. VT. {V-TA} (walti) want; desire. Yang panka pihka buinhaka waltayang. Wâlniki waltayang al yamka as.

3. VT. {V-TA} (walti) need; require.

4. VT. {V-TA} (walti) like. Sûkili ya uknîk wîpi inaka kanas waltai. My dog likes to hunt armadillos very much.

waitasa tanlaka VE. {VÔ-TAL} (waitasa tali) dislike. Dutka yamâtayam kau muîh má waldasa mà taldai. When you do bad, people don’t like you.

waiti inaka VE. {V-TA} (waiti iti) obtain; find. Yal as walti inaka waltayang. I want to find a wife.

waiti yaknaka VE. {V-TA} (waiti yakti) find; search successfully for. Tuhnniki was kau âwi yawada ya walti yaktutì tung yang. I’m trying to find my machete that fell in the water.

waitangka N. (waitangka) [ka] interest; curiosity. Yaka baka laih waitangka isa bahangh it di kang lâwasa. That child can’t learn anything because he doesn’t take an interest.

waitangka ihirnaka VE. {V-TA} (waitangka) ihirti pique interest of; arouse curiosity of; catch attention of.

wamalu N. (wamaalu) [ORN] crested guano ‘quam’. (CRACIDAE Penelope purpurascens) Yan laih wamalu walti yawakuting. Wâmalu ya damaska pas kau panmak wâlik kasya.

wamalu umahka NE. (wamaalu umahka) [BOT] small palm similar to siuli but without spines.

wamhdanaka VI. {V-DA} (wamhdâ) set out; travel. Muîkhi, mining yul bauwai, katka yang wamhdutîng; yan
búna kal pakwarang. My friend, (I know) we're talking but I have to run; we'll meet again tomorrow. (var. umhdanaka)


wami uknaka NE. (wami[] uknaka) [BOT] (plant sp.). [May be same as bul mahbra dōsa ]

wanna NR.CNS3. (wanna[]) for; in order to get. Diki balna wannakanana watdi waring. I'll return for my things.

wanna sihnaka VE. {V-PA} (wanna sihpi) send for (someone). Yaka muihka wása ya wannaka sihnaka. We should send for that person who hasn’t come yet.

wan N. (wan[]) breadkind. Áka mámáka wan isau launaka puntayang, ýamák sikka tusputing bahanh. Áyámák kau di lauwai balna ya dtuþi dakti úni kau ihaiti lahti kaswai ya. Á Kasna balna ýamák kau lauti yakwai dika balna ya. (syn. dí wanka)

wána 1. MOD. {PL: wawana} female (of animal).

2. MOD. {PL: wawana} old; elderly(female). (only in muih wána)

2muih wána 1. NE. (muíh[] wána) old woman. 2. MOD. old female. Tükiruh wána áka andih muih wána bungpai. My cow here is already getting old.

wanaih N. (wanaih[]) blood brother; blood sister; (same sex) covenant friend. Muih balna ya wanaih wisam bungdai kau kahkanalu biri biri wirihpi áwadai; yaupak yaka kulnaka sikka idai ya iwarang kat wannanaka atdai. When people first become covenant friends they wear each other’s shirts/dresses; in this way they form the bond that means they will remain in this special relationship until death. [In Karawala at least, this tradition is not regarded as native to Ulwa culture, but rather borrowed from the Miskitu. ]

wanaih bayan NE. (wanaih[] bayan) when a male’s wanaih dies, he refers to his deceased friend’s brothers as wanaih bayan; likewise a female refer’s to a deceased wanaih’s sisters this way.

wanaih bungnaka VE. {V-PA} (wanaih bungpi) become covenant friends.

wanaih yamnaka VE. {V-TA} (wanaih yamti) cause others to become covenant friends.


wi bungnaka VE. {V-PA} (wi bungpi) get here; reach here; arrive here.


wáng N. (wáng[]) buttress (of tree).

Paniki punka ya ituwai kau, wangka ya kanas sikka palka ka.


wanih N. (wanih[]) [KIN] family; kin; relative; fellow. Wanihma (balna) áyau midai? Wanihi mahka watah atnaka ya yamka palka ka. Yaka al ya bai kaupak wäng dadang bahanh wanihka bìk áisau.

wanihnaka VI. {V-PA} (wanihpi) become pregnant again. Áka bakaka áka aidasa dai katka ápa aidai áka mámahka ya andih wanihpida takat ya. [refers to the belief or observation (?) that an unweened baby will begin to cry continuously as soon as its mother becomes pregnant again. ]

wannaka VT. {V-TA} (wanti) use as substitute breadkind. Yangna balna wan walti yaktasingka kau, pihmak ya wantayingna. When we can't get any breadkind, we use rice in its place.

wáp N. (wáp[]) HERP lizard. Wáp ya úkatak wayuli lumakka watah ka.
wapdanaka VI. {V-DA} (wapdi) grumble; growl (speaking); speak in angry tone.

Alas atna laih tāpas kau bungpi wapdi tung ka, mà watdarang laih íram.

waputka A. (wapuputka) tufted; sticking up. Pāuh sisikka palka balna ya watyam kau tunakna balna ya waputka balna ka, dapak as as balna laih waputka sa ka. Yaka balna ya wānā bahangh, waputka sa. Pāuh almuk balna ya tunak waputka watah ka; katka wāna balna ya laih sa.

Note stress [waputka:sa ka]

waraknaka VT. {v-PAl (warakpi) [MOD] attack. Átmalh balna upurka as lau atak di nūtingka balna dipihtai kau yawi warakdida.

warau N. (warau[ ]) orphan.

warauhwa N. (warau[wa]) [ORN] yellow-naped parrot; yellowhead parrot. (PSITTACIDAE Amazona auropalliata) Warauhwa ya di baka as limdingka, katka alas mining muih yul bauwai yapa sumaltayam kau alas bik yul bautai.

warauunaka 1. VT. {v-PA} (warauapi) mistreat; abuse; oppress; injur. Yaka yalka ya bakaka balna waraupai. That woman mistreats her children. Taitai ya panmak balna kau waraupai palka ka.
2. VT. {v-PA} (warauapi) enslave; hold in slavery.

wārī buhka NE. (wā[r]i buhka) [ENTOM] tarantula; kind of large poisonous spider. (syn. ribuh)

warindanaka VI. {V-DA} (warindi) become crooked.

warinka A. (waririnka) crooked; bent; warped. Áka panka daktidam áka di warinka ka. Yapa bahangh dutka ka. (ant. barangka)

warinnaka VT. {v-PA} (warinpi) make crooked.

warka 1. N. (war[ ][ka]) frontier; border; edge between town and bush. Nawah ya pukka luhí kau taridi tung ka warnika yau.
2. N. (war[ ][ka]) [MAN] toilet. Áka

asangka ákau muih luhí ya warka watah balna ka.

warka wahka NE. [BOT] vine; rattan.

was 1. N. (was[ ]) water. Áka waska yamka. Ú kau was áisau, yawi butpi ihwānauh.
2. N. (was[ ]) rain. Was lautai. Mádi pukka was laututi yapa ka.
3. N. (was[ ]) river. (syn. wassik) tarat waska NE. rain water. Tarat waska ya dinaka yamka mauka bahangh. (syn. takat waska) was (baka) tingka NE. (was[ ] (baka) tingka) mouth of estuary.

was al NE. short strong rain; downpour.
was átinga VE. waterproof; watertight.
was baka NE. (was[ ] baka) creek; brook; stream. Was baka tunak kau mūsang isau laulau ka.

was butnaka VE. {v-PA} (was butpi) draw water; get water out. Bikiska balna was butnaka waltayang ú buhtuting.

was dakka NE. (was[ ] dakka) lagoon; lake. Was dakka balna kau ya yapu sikka isau buih ka.

was dihi iwanaka VE. {v-WA} (was dihi iwi) drown.

was īranaka tāka NE. (was[ ] īranaka tāka) ditch.

was kungka NE. bank (of river). Was kungka kaupak biru tukpi wati pāuh ituting.

was lalamah NE. (was[ ] lalamah) hurricane; cyclone. Was lalamah wi lāwida kau, di luhí abalti pakti lāwai.

2 was launaka VE. {v-TA} (was lauti) rain. Pukka wāyang tung yang kat, was ya launaka yapa dai. As I was walking here tonight, looked like rain.

was lubungka NE. (was[ ] lubungka) dead water; calm water; patch of calm water in flowing river. Wassik kau waihpi yawayam kau, mā suhpak kat was lubungka balna kau áwi yakalah waya kal áti nāh dapi bungpi waihpayam.

was mā NE. winter; rainy season.
was pauka NE. flood; flood waters.
was pihka NE. rain without dark clouds.

Was pihka lautai ya tarat kau mūkus baraska áisau yapa kaupak lautai.

was suika NE. (was[ ] suika) [ORN] sungrebe. (HELIORNITHIDAE Heliornis
fulica) Was suika tunak ya dimuih
tunak yapa ka.

was tā NE. (was[t]ā) landing; boat ramp.

Was tā balna ya kuring midanaka
pahka balna. Landings are places for
canoes to park.

was tāka NE. spring (of water); water vein.

Yaka waskapah ya was tāka isau ka.

was tangdak NE. pond; pool; lake.

was iika NE. (was[uka]) [MAN] bucket;
pail. Was iika ya waspah labaka kau
daping dai Iukdida.

was wai wayaka NE. sound of approaching
rain.

was yal NE. persistent rain. Mádi máka
lahi was yal máka. It's drizzling rain all
day today.

wāsak N. (wâ[sak]) [MAN] chicha.

wasakka A. (wasasakka) intertwined;
tangled (dense brush, vines).

(wasakpi) become tangled; become embroiled (in fight).

Tingki rukpukuh ating kat
wasakpang lau dadang bahangh it
rukaping dadang. I went to stick my
hand in but it was so tangled up that I
couldn't get my hand in.

wasala N. (wasalla) [MAM] [Spn: guásalo]

Wasala ya pukka kau bungpi wātdai.
The opossum walks around at night.

Wasala ya kataramah kasingka palka
ka. The opossum is a great devourer of
chickens. (or wasala bāsitna, wasala
umahtak)

wasala anaka NE. (wasa[la] anaka) [BOT]
sarsaparilla; vine whose root is boiled for
tea and is 'good for the blood'. 'China
root'. (Smilax sp.)

wasala bāsitna NE. (wasa[la] bāsitna)
[MAM] opossum; possum. (Didelphus sp.)
Wasala bāsitna ya bakaka isauka pūti
watah tungwai. (syn. wasala umahtak)

wasala umahtak NE. (wasa[la]
umahtak) [MAM] opossum with hairless
tail. (syn. wasala bāsitna)

wasala wakalka karak NE. (wasa[la]
walkalka karak) [MAM] porcupine.
(Coendou mexicanus)

wasangka A. (wasasangka) runny; watery;
diluted. Burimah lahna waska waya
bakantrika catka waya wasangka ka.

wasangnaka VT. {v-PA} (wasangpi)
dilute; thin.

wasaranaka VI. {v-RA} (wasari) bathe;
wash. Wasarayam kau muihma ya
yamka kal dahyam. Dislah palka kau
raudi wasaranaka dapak muihni ya
ripka yamka atrang.

wasari bungnaka VE. {v-PA} (wasari
bungpi) (woman) re-emerge from
cleansing after ceasing menstruation.

wasbaras N. (wasbarasa) [MAM] coffee.
(Coffea arabica) Wasbaras tika as
yātah. Give me a pound of (dried) coffee.

wasbila N. (wasbila) [ORN] gray-headed
chachalaca. (CRACIDAE Ortalis cinereiceps)

wasbulu N. (wasbulu) [MAN] chicha; rum.

wasdak N. (wasdak) pond; pool; lake.

Karawala wakalang pas kau, wasdak
as as laulau ka, yalih wawana balna
yawi kutdai. (syn. was tangdak)

wasdasi N. (wasdasi) [MOD] ice.

wāsi 1. N. (wâ[si]) [ZOO] shrimp (white,
pink). (Penaeus spp.)
2. N. (wâ[si]) [ZOO] hardhead; sea bob.
(Xiphopeneus kroyeri)

waska 1. N. (was) (→ was)
2. N. (was) liquid; fluid; drink; beverage;
juice.

wāsak N. (wâ[sak]) liquid.

waskaraska NE. (waskaraska)
[MAM] coffee. Áka waskaraska
yamka ka. (eqv. wasbaras)

waskaihka NE. (waska[lah] iahka)
alcoholic beverage.

waskalapikka NE. liquor; alcoholic
beverage; spirits.

wasmak N. (wasmak) mud; mire. Áka
wasmak kau āwi yawikda. Was
lautai kau wasmak bungpai.
wasmakpah N. (was¹makpah) swamp; marsh. Wasmakpah ya was lautai kau kanas dutka, muih bik it áwi yak tungwasa.

waspah N. (was¹pah) well. Waspah ya puruhka yamka ya was bik isau palka watah ka. The well is good and deep, and also has a lot of water in it. △ Saupah puruhka kaupak muih ya butpi yakti asna suhdai. A deep hole in the ground from which people draw water and wash clothes.

waspamka N. (was¹pamka) [MAM] manatee; sea cow. (Trichechus manatus) (syn. kapitis)

wassah N. (was¹sah) fork in river or stream; confluence in river or stream. ‘two-mouth’. (→ waspah sahka)

wassik N. (was¹sik) river. Wassik ya pahka itukwana bahangh kuringki abukdarang laih, yapa bik iwaring. Wassik pahka NE. mouth (of river). Mámaka láwang kau wassik pahka kau bilam sikka mahka palka iwi láwang dai.

wassik pas NE. (was¹sik pas) middle of river (far from shore).

wassik sahka NE. fork in river; confluence in river. (→ wassah)

wassirau N. (was¹sirau) [MYTH] kind of evil mermaid. Wassirau ya muih as kau waltai kau alas was kau ati iti náh dapi buna yaktai.

wastapi N. (was¹tapi) [ORN] olivaceous cormorant. ‘piggy-but-duck’. (Phalacrocoracidae Phalacrocorax olivaceus)

wasu N. (was¹u) [MAN] bucket; pail. (equ. was úka)

waswalap N. (was¹walap) [MAN] perfume.

1wat N. (wat[]) trap. Umana kau al balna ya wat ádain dadang nawah watnaka.

2wat N. (wat[]) time; instance; occasion. Alas balna wat arungka águguhna.

watah STAT. (watah watah) have. Lihwan amangka watah yang. I have enough money. Waahaiki balna ú bás watah ka. My brothers have three houses.

watah atnaka VE. {v0} (watah ati) have. Påapangki rapi yang kau ya yultida panmak isau lautu watah atnaka. My father told me to plant and maintain many fruit trees.

wätdanaka VI. {v-da} (wätdi) walk. Wätdi buihputing. I’m going to walk around smoking. Wilih yal waiakatu kau laih yalik karak wátdana yawayang. In the month of May I’m going on a walk with my wife. Tá bai palka wätdanaka ya yak suhpai palka ka. (→ tungwanaka)

wätanaka VI. {v-da} (wätdi) turn around; return; go back. At wätndaring. I’ll be back soon. Andih wätndaring. I’ll be back in a second.

watdi VI.PROX. again; in return; back. Wätdi wätdi tung yang. (→ buna)

watdi ánaka VE. {v-ta} (watdi áti) replace; put back. Tulhki ya ihyawah, katka watdi pahka kau áti dápapam. (syn. buna ánaka)

watdi kal dahna VE. {v0-dah} (watdi kal daki) reconsider. Yang watdi kal dakikda. Yang mädi áka kal baunaka waiting dai, katka watdi pumti kal dakikda kau dutka dai, dapak yapa dápikda. (→ asung watpi länaka)

watdi lampi yawanaka VE. {v0-a} (watdi lampi yawi) turn around and go back the way one came; retrace one’s footsteps.

watdi láwi ADV. reciprocally; mutually. Al ya baska daktak watdi láwi wák ya daktida.

watdi láwi yulnaka VE. {v-ta} (watdi láwi yulti) answer; reply; respond. Alas watdi láwi ápa yultida: Äyauapak yaka yulka ya dahdam atak yá yulti dahyam pih? He responded: Where did you hear that which you are asking me about?

watdi yulnaka VE. {v-ta} (watdi yulti) repeat; reiterate. Yul yaka wat bás kau watdi yultaring. I will say the word three times.

wättingka N. (wätting[]ka) traveller. Wättingka muihka ya má as kau di dutka karak kal pakdai.

wätikah 1. N. (wätikah[]) [ORN] yellow-tailed oriole. (Icteridae Icterus
mesomelas

2. N. (wātikah[]) [ORN] black-cowled oriole. (ICTERIDAE Icterus dominicensis)

watingsa N. not sticky. Āka pulkawat laih di yamka watingsa ka.

watmak N. (wat[]mak) [MAN] cassette tape.

watmat N. (wat[mat] [MAN] tape recorder. Yang ākiwalas ya watmat wisam as bakantang watah ka.

wātnaka VI. {V-PAl (watpi) keep going; proceed; continue on one's way.

lwatnaka 1. VT. {VOl (wati) catch; seize. Yaka sanaka watih! Catch that deer! Yang bilam wating láwida. I caught a fish and it escaped. Alas balna tingkana karak kal watdang. Tūruh wīpi wātnaka. The cow must be chased and caught.

2. VT. {VO} (wati) hold; grasp. Sūkilu bakaka balna as wattim pah pih? Do you want to hold one of my dog's puppies? Dī Đī as kāngh inaka tingni karak. To take hold of something securely in one's hands.

3. VT. {VO} (wati) copulate with; mount; fuck. Pamkih almuk ya wāna yau wipasa; sāk dati watyā. The stallion does not chase the mare; he mounts her standing still.

4. VT. {VO} (wati) hold; take; have capacity of. Āka turumka taman muih as luhi watyā. This drum holds twenty gallons. Sukkibai ya rupikmak baka bū watyā. My flashlight takes two small batteries.

5. VT. {VO} (wati) reach; arrive at.

6. VT. {VO} (wati) stain; soil; get on. Kāhkilu āka tār watang. I got tar on my shirt.

7. VT. {VO} (wati) record.

wati inaka VE. {V-O-IH} (wati ihi) grab; get hold of. Di āisau kaupak di as wati inaka ya, dasika palka ka, katka muih as as balna laulau ka di pumtasasa yapa wati idai.

wati minaka VE. {V-TA} (wati miti) stop; catch and stop; apprehend; detain. Pamkih ya dasika katka wati minaka it yang. Pamkih as dakat kau wah ihi ēri tung ya wati mitanauh. You all catch that horse running with the rope hanging from its neck.

wātna VE. {V-TA} (wati tali) examine; look over; feel. Đī wisam bakannaka ya, takat kau wati talnaka yaupak bakannaka ya yamka ka.

2watnaka VT. {V-PA} (watpi) flip. (≠ tulunaka) [● only used in combination with lānaka.]

watpi lānaka VE. {V-PA} (watpi láti) turn over; flip over. Raurauh kau was watah man ya watpi lātaram laih luih utuhdi láwarang. (→ tulupi lānaka)

watpi láti talnaka VE. {V-O-TA} (watpi láti tali) examine; scrutinize; inspect; peruse; investigate. Man laih di as sa man katka di luhi ya watpi láti tali tung man.

watu N. (wat[u]) [BOT] plant whose fruit can be cut open and applied to a boil. (Thevetia ahouai; Stemmadenia obovata)

wātyu N. (wät[yu]) healer; shaman. Ēmana kau wātyu ya muih singpingka dadang.

wātyu nauka NE. sorcery; shamanism; witchcraft. Wātyu nauka ya muih almuk balna naukanā dadang. Sorcery was a practice of the ancients.

wau N. (wau[]) [ANAT] thigh; leg; femur. Yang sirihka īri yawi wauhdikda laih, wauki wakalka bahtatik dai. If I had fallen while running fast, I would have broken my leg (thigh bone). Kataramah wauka ya kasnaka auhka palka ka. The drumstick of chicken is delicious to eat.

lwauh N. (lwauh[]) [ORN] owl. (TYTONIDAE; STRIGIDAE) Wauh ya pukka kau limdi tungwai. The owl flies around at night. Wauh ya sūhi balna ka. Muhka ya mīstu mukka yapa ka, pukka kau wālik tungwai; mīstu bik wati kasya. The owl is a flying night creature. Its face is like a cat, and it is only active at night; it even kills and eats (creatures as large as) cats.

1wauh N. (wauh[]) [ORN] owl. (TYTONIDAE; STRIGIDAE) Wauh ya pukka kau limdi tungwai. The owl flies around at night. Wauh ya sūhi balna ka. Muhka ya mīstu mukka yapa ka, pukka kau wālik tungwai; mīstu bik wati kasya. The owl is a flying night creature. Its face is like a cat, and it is only active at night; it even kills and eats (creatures as large as) cats.

2wauh N. (wauh[]) [BOT] cabbage palm. (PALMAE Roystonea sp.; Scheelea rostrata)

wauhdanaka VI. (wauhda) fall. Yang āting wauhdarang. I will make him/her/it fall. Yang ē kau āwī wauhdikda. I fell down as I entered the
house. Alas balna wauhdadak kang kawararing. I will make fun of them when/if they fall. Was baka laiwai yau pan as küt ka, yaka manah laiw wauhdanaka waltasing. There is a log laying where the stream passes by; I don’t want to fall while crossing over on it. Man kau wauhdida. It’s your turn. Δ Tarat kaupak nauh kau tikaka karak wi lakwai ya.

wauhnaka 1. VI. {V-PA} (wauhip) waft; float (of odor). Di iwang wingka dutka wauhpai dapak kusma balna wâdai. The stench of death is in the air and the vultures are coming. 2. VT. {V-PA} (wauhip) grind with mill. 3. VT. {V-PA} (wauhip) slap; buffet. Mâ wauhipi subitpida. He went to slap you and missed. 4. VT. {V-PA} (wauhipi) suffer from; be afflicted with. Bakaki yuh wauhpai. My child is suffering from hunger. 5. VI. {V-PA} (wauhipi) blow (wind). Wing paraska wauhpai kau waki balna ya pan karak kakpasaman laih it ka lakti basnaka. (syn. launaka) 6. VT. {V-PA} (wauhipi) flaunt; peddle; put on display; advertise; ‘push’. Muih balna ya asna isau bakanti ihwadai kau, alas balna yakti wauhdai kau, muih ya isau bakandai.

kal karak wauhnaka VE. {V-PA} (kal) karak wauhp) kick. Kalma karak yâ wauhpanih. Don’t kick me.

wauka N. (wauka) [MOD, MAN] alarm; buzzer; doorbell. wauka lingnaka VE. {V-PA} (wauka) lingpi) ring doorbell or buzzer; sound alarm. Wâdarang kau wâuka lingpanam kang lâwaring. When they come ring the bell so I’ll know.

waunaika VI. {V-PA} (waupi) shout; yell; call. Muih as â kau âwi waupida. Yâkimak kau di bakana isau palka yawi di lauting balna ya kâsdâi bahangh yawi waunaika atring. Because the birds are eating the things I’ve planted in my plot, I am going to have to go there and shout.

tatak waunaika VE. {V-PA} (tal) waupi) mock; ridicule; laugh at. Tikit waupanih. Don’t ridicule me.

wawaika A. (waawaika) long; tall. (→ yůhka)

wawana (form of wâna) N.PL. wawana balna NE.PL. women; refers to females of all ages; may be used generically or to refer to a specific group. (syn. yâl balna)

wâwas N. (wâwas) [BOT] willow. (Salix sp.) (syn. siya)

1. waya 1. ADV. little (quantity); a little; a bit. Bakaki kau was waya áti yâtah. Yang lihwan waya watah yang. 2. ADV. a little; a bit; slightly. Yang Wayah yulka waya yultayang. 3. ADV. adverb used to soften a request or command. Kuhmabil waya yâtah. Could you hand me your knife for a second?

waya as X. just a moment.

waya waya 1. ADV. little by little; a little at a time. 2. ADV. distributing so that each gets some. Àka waska ãka waya waya dinau. Drink this water among you so that each gets some.

waya waya pah wâk wâk kaupak inaka VE. {V-0-H} (waya waya pah wâk wâk kaupak ibi) gather here and there; acquire little by little.

2waya N. (waya) sound; noise; echo; mark; symbol.

di wayaka NE. image; picture; photo.

Aitak ya yâ dapah, wayaka balna ya talkuting. Wayama watikda ya yapa watah man pih? Do you still have the photo I took of you? Alas balna kal wayaka palka ka. They are identical (lit. they are the image of each other).

wayaka yaknaka VE. {V-TA} (waya) yakti) make sound. Simlulung ya kumhwak wayaka yaktai. The guitar makes its sound when you strum it.

waya pipdangka NE. (waya) pipdangka) echo. Pukka kau wassik kau pâkâwiâh karak wâyangna rih yangna kau muih as ýâna waupak waya pipdangka dahning dadang.

Wayah N. (Wayah) Miskitu; the Miskitu language and people.

wayal N. (wayal) [HERP] boa. (Boa constrictor imperator) Wayal ya sikka palka alâwai.

wayal kal karak NE. (wayal) kal karak)
Myth

Wayal kal karak ya muih, di balna, ai ai ya luih ukpai.

Wayalah ADV. less; fewer. Simin anaka sikka ya wayalah ihwaram; bakana lah ya kanas waltayangna. Bring less of the large fishhooks; we (incl.) want the small kind more.

Wayal lumakka AE. (waya lumamakka) spotted; striped (animal).

Wayanaka 1. VT. {v-PA} (wayapi) reduce amount by removing some. Muih as sinak ya yäkimak yaupak dutpi wayapid. (→ adahna, bakana, bisina)
2. VI. {v-PA} (wayapi) reduce in amount after some is removed. Di nütingka dutpak kanas wayapid.

Wayatal N. (waya[[]]tal) [MAN] mirror. Yang wayatal kau kal talyang. I see myself in the mirror. (equiv. wayatalna)

Wayu N. (wayu[]) smoke; fog; steam. Yamak dawai kau wayu isau ilwai ka. Tingsuba ya wayu kang yabai. (→ kuh wayuka)

Wayuli N. (wayu[[]]li) rainbow. Wayuli lawang sak ka was lawida. Wayuli ya talnah aska mining kau.

Wi N. (wi[]) [BOT] bijagua. (MARANTACEAE Ischnosiphon pruinosus; MARANTACEAE Calathea isignis) Wi ya am pangka balaknaka waltayang. Wi karak damaska kau muih ya di kasdai. Wi aramah kalka pauka NE. (wi[] aramah kalka pauka) [BOT] plant whose use leaf is used to maketamalpisque.
Wi aramah kalka sangka NE. (wi[] aramah kalka sangka) [BOT] bijagua-like plant with pronounced assymetric leaf apex. (MARANTACEAE Ischnosiphon pruinosus)

Wilih N. (wilih[]) [HERP] green sea turtle. (Chelonia mydas) Kuma waska kau bungpi yawanaka wilih pahnaka. [Kiene (1962) mentions ‘gulili’ as tortuga among Ulwa of Matagalpa.]

Wilih almuk waikaku NE. April. Wilih almuk waikaku kau yämak suknaka yamka. (syn. wilih al waikaku)
Wilih baraska NE. (wilih[] baraska) [HERP] black turtle. Wilih baraska ya itukwana katka muih kasdasa.
Wilih wana waikaku NE. May. Wilih wana waikaku ya wing paraska lautasa. (syn. wilih yal waikaku)

Wilis N. (wiles[]) [BOT] arum; cocoyam; eddo; yautia; tania; duswa. ‘coco’. (Xanthosoma sagittifolium) Ninihki laihi aka mämaka kau wilis yäkamak sikka pulka tuspang ka. This summer my grandfather cleared an enormous arum plantation. Wilis kuruhna ya auhka pulka ka.

Winaka 1. VT. {v-PA} (wipi) chase; pursue. 2. VT. {v-PA} (wipi) chase away. Di balna yápm yawanagh. Chase the animals away.
3. VT. {v-PA} (wipi) chase and copulate with (describes mating act of bull, hog, and dog). ‘line up’. Tükiruh almuk ya wana wipi tung ka.

Uskat winaka 1. VE. {v-PA} (us[t] wipi) follow. Yang wahaiki uskat wipayang. I am following my brother. Uskit wipah! Follow me! 2. VE. {v-PA} (us[t] wipi) imitate; emulate; copy; follow example of. Muih di dutka yamdai ya uskat winaka dutka.

Wing 1. N. (wing[]) air. 2. N. (wing[]) wind; breeze. Wing dasika åwai. Wing dutka was lalamah ya muih luih kang yabahdai. 3. N. (wing[]) smell; odor. Wasala ya úkatak wingka pulka ka.

Wing dutka waikaku NE. October. Was lalamah ya wing dutka waikaku kau isau pulka bungpai.

Wing inaka VE. (wingka inaka) smell. Wing isdanaka NE. (wing[] isdanaka)
fan.  
Di mà daikhà bahangh wing isdanaka ya ðam isdangh, wing waya watkuting. Since it is so hot, turn the fan on so I can catch a little breeze.

wing lâtingoa VE. air-tight; air-proof; hermetic.

wing puika NE. breeze on very hot day.

wingdut N. (wing[d]ut) squall; storm. 
Was waikaku màka balna kau, was wingdut karak lautai.

wingkata N.CNS3. (→ wingta)

wingkurh N. (wing[k]urh) [BOT] laurel; has small purple flower. (Cordia gerascanthus) Wingkurh ya sau ubulka itukwàna balna kau pàtau. The laurel grows in the hills.

wingnaka VI. {v-PA} (wingpi) smell; emit odor.

wingta N. (wing[t]a) breath; respiration. Pàpanghki ya iwanaka likpang kau wingkata sikka pùhtang dadang. When my father was on the verge of dying, he let out a big breath.

wingnita adahka dika basta NE. antihistamine; remedy for shortness of breath.

wingta adahka NE. (wing[t]a adahka) wheezing; short breath. Alas wingkata adahka watah ka. He has shortness of breath.

wingta kipnaka VE. {V-TA} (wing[t]a kipti) inhale.

wingta minaka VE. {v-PAl (wingpi) smell; emit odor.}

wingta puhnaka 1. VE. (wing[t]a puhnaka) exhale. 2. VE. (wing[t]a puhnaka) breathe. Asang kau di isau palka laulau ya wingkata puhnaka watah ka.

wingta taihnaka 1. VE. (wing[t]a taihnaka) choke. 2. VE. (wing[t]a taihnaka) have heart-attack. Yang wingkìta taihpida, katka bùna yà singdida. I had a heart-attack but they made me better again.

wingta witnaka 1. VE. {v-PA} (wing[t]a witpi) have clogged nose. Nangta kar wingkìta witpi. 2. VE. {v-PA} (wing[t]a witpi) run out of breath. Muih wàs kau umitdadai kau wingkanata witpi kau wì bungdai.

When a person dives under water he must come back up when he runs out of breath.

wing tatnaka VE. (wing tatpa) find out; begin to understand; get an inkling.

Yang wing tatnaka wàltayang, man di män maamacare bluefields kau wayawàm pan. I want to get an idea of when you are going to Bluefields. Bainah ati wayah; mà sihpai ya wing tahta kàt wàràh. Go quickly; come back before the person who’s sending you realizes it. (→ kal dahnaka)

wirah N. (wirah[ ]) [KIN] brother of woman; male cousin of a woman.

wiratukuh N. (wirâ[t]ukuh) [MAN] spoon. (syn. widakuh)

wiribibit N. (wirî[b]ibit) [ORN] tropical kingbird. (TIRANNIDAE Tyrannus melancholicus) (≠ iktiki)

wiridanaka 1. VI. {V-DA} (wiridi) turn. 
Damai tâpas kau muih as yà waupak wiridatik pâh yà yamtang dái. 2. VI. {v-DA} (wiridi) warp; become twisted. Aka kuringka umahka àka waya wiridang lau ka.

wiridi làwak kat ADV. on the other hand; then again. Yaka dika basta ya di dutihka ka, katka wiridi làwak kat yà singpida.

wirihdanaka VI. {V-DA} (wirihdi) mix.

wirihna 1. VT. (wirihpa) trade; exchange; change. Umana kau muih balna yà di wirihpi wàlik bangwadai dadang. Àka aikatak àka dì as karak wirihna wàltayang.

2. VT. (wirihpa) mix. Àka dika basta was karak wirihpi dihìh. Mix this medicine with water and drink it.

wirihtang N. (wirih[t]a) change (from monetary transaction). Wirihkitang yàtah. Give me my change.

wirika N. whirlpool. Wassik balna yà wirika isau watah watah ka. (→ puruka)

wirimak N. (wirî[m]ak) [MOD, MAN] knob (on radio).

wirinaka 1. VT. {v-PA} (wiripi) twist; turn; swivel; wring. Wàki yà ampa wirinaka pan itman pìh yàng kâناka?
2. VT. {v-PA} (wiripi) flirt with; court. 
Yang yau ù as kau yawayang, yal as wirinaka waltayang.
kal wirinaka VR. {v-PA} (kal wiripi) flirt together. 
Yal balna al karak kal wiridai.
wiripi länaka VE. {v-TA} (wiripi låti) 
turn s.t. around exposing the other side.
wiringdanaka VI. {v-DA} (wiringdi) 
inflate; become inflated; bloat.
wiringka A. (wiriringka) bloated; inflated; overfull.
wiringnaka VT. {v-PAl} (wiringpi) bloat; inflate. 
Itnus ya simin kau watyam kau yaska wiringpai, buna bik alas sudatpai.
wirunaka VI. {v-TA} (wiruti) shrivel; dry out (green wood or unripe fruit). 
Pan makka bataka balna ya burhwai kau wirutai, kat siuka sa dai bahangh it yamka lalahtasa. Yâmanh bataka balna ya ûkatak takat ya baraspi pulka buhti wiruti laalhtai, alas siuka sa bahangh yapa kau it ka lalahnaka.
wirusdanaka VI. {v-PAl} (wiruspi) close eyes. 
Mikdiki wirusdikda. (equiv. virusnaka)
wiruska A. {STRONG} (wirususka) with eyes closed. 
Yang mikdiki wiruska lau yang. I'm sitting with my eyes closed. 
Alas wirus tung ka. He is going around with his eyes closed. 
Yang wirus yang. My eyes are closed. 
Mining wirus yak. Our (incl) eyes are closed. 
Yangna balna mikdikina wirususka bang yangna. We (excl) are sitting with our eyes closed.
wirusnaka VT. {v-PA} (wiruspi) close eyes. 
Makdama wiruspah! (≠ taihnaka)
wisam ADV. {STRONG} just now; recently. 
Wisam wikda. I just got here.
wisamka A. {STRONG} (wisasamka) new; recent. 
Di wisamka as ihaiti yâtida. He/she brought me something new.
wisamnaka VT. {v-PA} (wisampi) redo; renovate; restore; make new. 
Bukkitak uma bungpida âka biriwat âti wisampikda. Yaka alka ya kükahki wayaka ihyawi wisampi ihwi yâtarang.
wisingka A. (wisingingka) pointy and protruding. 
Muih balna as as ya takapana wisingka laulau ka; yaka balna yaka takapana ya waya tunak kaupak papdi wî bungpang. 
(→ tapawising)
wisirka A. (wisisirka) protruding. 
Yang yákimak ya pan wisirka makasikka ya sara pak daktuting. [only applies to burnt land with protruding stems]
wisnaka VT. {v-PA} (wispi) whip; lash; spank. 
Alas yâ wispida. He/she whipped me. 
Mâmah ya bakaka kau wispai. The mother spanks her child.
wispilpil N. (wis[]pilpil) [ORN] common black-hawk; crabhawk. (ACCIPITRIDAE Buteogallus anthracinus)
wistak N. (wis[]tak) [ORN] scarlet-rumped tanager. (THRAUPINAE Ramphocelus passerinii)
wisukka A. (wisusukka) extra-long and protruding from mouth (tooth). 
Yapu ya kanas ituwai kau anaka wisukka pâtai. When the crocodile grows large its sharp teeth protrude from its mouth.
wisurdanaka VI. {v-DA} (wisurdi) suspend oneself by grasping higher object. 
Lauk ya wisurdi wâlik tungwai. The capuchin monkey always goes around suspended (in trees).
wisusu N. (wisu[]su) [MAM] [Nahuatl: pezotle (coati)] coati. 'quash; squash'. 
(Nasua narica) Wisusu ya nangkatak subing palka ka. The coati has a very long, pointy nose.
wisusu aslah NE. (wisu[]su aslah) [MAM] coatimundi. (Nasua narica) Wisusu aslah ya dutka palka ka, sulu luîh itài.
wit STAT. floating (sg.); hanging (sg.); suspended (sg.). 
Yakau mukus as sîkka wit ka. There is a big cloud (floating) over there.
wit N. (wit[]) end. Witka kau yang pâpkà paptikda.
witnang N. (wi[]tang) [ENTOM] caterpillar; worm; grub. 
Âka witatang wati rumparing. Witang yak liptai kau dalaka palka ka.
witdanaka  VI. {V-DA} (witdi) swing (in hammock, swing); rock (in chair); sway.
Wah yau áwi witdi isdaninah; wahka ya dakwarang. (You pl.) don’t get in the hammock and swing; the cord will cut through.

witikdanaka  VI. {V-DA} (witikdi) squirm; writhe; twist; contort self. Kahma as wati tingka kalka sitdida kút yawitikdi oruti kút da. The iguana that is lying there with its feet tied up is squirming trying to run away.

witnah  N. (witnah) [MOD, MAN] rocking chair.

witnaka 1. VI. {v-PA} (witpi) end; run out; be used up; be exhausted; come to an end. Damai kaupak asangki kauiyattingati, katka mahaki waska witpang dai bahangh it yawasing papas kau mììdkda. I would have arrived at my home town yesterday but my gas ran out and I got stuck half-way.
Aka tukka aka it witpasa. Diwitnaka yamka sa ka.
2. VT. {V-PA} (witpi) finish; exhaust; use up. Waski luih dihi witpikda. I drank all my water. (syn. rauhnaka)
3. VT. {V-PA} (witpi) swing; rock. Baka amak wah kau áting wit ya witpi atam ami wit atangh; witpasaman laih muhdarang. The sleeping child that I put in the hammock, keep rocking him so he sleeps; if you don’t rock him he’ll wake up.

witubak  N. (witubak) [BOT] black bijagua.

witwanaka  VI. {V-WA} (witwi) be floating; be hanging; be suspended. Was baka ya paras kiptai bahangh witwanaka yamka ka.

wiyu  N. (wiyu) [MAM] paca; spotted cavy. 'gibnut; givenot'. (Agouti paca) Wiyu ya pukka vällik bungpi di kasya. The paca only comes out at night to eat. Wiyu ya was anatka kau umitdai palka ka. The paca is an accomplished diver.

Wiyawas  NAME. name of a place near Karawala.

wiyunaka  VI. {V-PA} (wiupi) (var. of wiunaka) whistle.

wiyunaka 1. VI. {V-PA} (witpi) end; run out; be used up; be exhausted; come to an end. Damai kaupak asangki kau iyattingati, katka mahaki waska witpang dai bahangh it yawasing papas kau mììdkda. I would have arrived at my home town yesterday but my gas ran out and I got stuck half-way.
Aka tukka aka it witpasa. Diwitnaka yamka sa ka.
2. VT. {V-PA} (wiupi) finish; exhaust; use up. Waski luih dihi witpikda. I drank all my water. (syn. rauhnaka)
3. VT. {V-PA} (wiupi) whistle. Wai skul ftka kau wiupida?
4. VT. {V-PA} (wiupi) Madi pukka laih aguguh as wiunanaka atrang. (var. wiunaka, uyunaka)

wiyu 1. DEM. that. Yá laih dauh. That’s nothing. (syn. yaka ya)
2. (form of ya) D. strong form of ya, used when stressed, such as preceding laih. Alas di yultai yá laih barangka ka. What he/she says is true.
2 yá OBJ.1. {II: yana} me (as object of verb); to me. Alas yá bautida. He hit me.

ya  D. general definite determiner. Aluk ya ú kaupak bai tungwai. The turkey wanders far from home.

yabahna  NV. INFIN. fear; fright; surprise; shock. Al as yabahna watah atnaka ya yamka sa. Yabahnaka màtasatrang. (equiv. yabang)

yabahna inaka  VE. {V-BA} (yabahna iti) have a fright; be surprised; have a start; have a shock. Dì as siriìka bungpai kau yabahna ìwai. Yaka miuhka laih yabahna ihang tung pan. Well he just got wide-eyed with greed.

yabahna 1. VI. {V-BA} (yabi) be afraid. Màdi baksi damaska kau dimuhi tali yabahda.
2. VI. {V0-AH} (yabi) be nervous. Yabahyang bahangh it yamka yultasing.
kang yabahnaka VE. {V0-AH} ([yabi] fear; be afraid of. Yaka yalka kang yabahyang. I am afraid of that woman.
Alas yang yabai. He/she is afraid of me.
Sukal u kang yabahnih. Don’t be afraid of the dog. Muih luih pąpanghkana kau kangna yabahdai. Everyone fears their father.
yabasikka MOD. scary; frightening; fearsome; terrifying. (only in di yabasikka)
yabi (form of yabahnaka) VI.PROX. in astonishment.
yabi talnaka VE. {V0-TAL} (yabi tali) look in astonishment. Di wayaka yamka as kau muih talda kau yabi taldaid. When people see a beautiful picture they stare in astonishment.
yahaka A. (yahahaka) crumbly; loose; granular; non-cohesive; like dry sand, gravel, flour. Di yahaka balna ya wing watah kat buidai. Loose crumbly things can get eroded by the wind. (ant. biblika)
yahal 1. N. (yahal[]) [BOT] sandpaper vine. (Davilla kunthii; Curatella americana) 2. N. (yahal[]) [BOT] large tree sp..
yaihdanaka VT. {V-DA} (yaihdi) approach; go closer to. Yang yaka muihka sák yau yaihdutung, yapa kau yang kansas yamka talring wai muihka pan. I’m going to get closer to that person standing over there so I can see better who it is. Yā yaihdah. Come closer to me.
yaihkhat NR.CNS3. (yaih[][t][]){CNS1: yaihkit, CNS11: yaihkintna, CNS33: yaihkata} vicinity; proximity. Yang manna balna yaihmatna kat sák atkuting. I will be standing near you (pl).
yaihnaka VD. {V-PA} (yaihpi) bring or place near, or nearer. Kuh kundaidi āka yā yaihpah, ripka yā yamtaih bahangh. Bring the fire closer to me because I’m cold.
yaika A. (yaiyaka) sharp. Kuhkibil yaika. My knife is sharp. Kuhbil yaika watah atnaka ya yamka ka. It is good to have a sharp knife. Tulhniki yaika palka ka. My machete is sharp.
yainaka VT. {V-PA} (yaiipi) sharpen; whet. Tulhniki yaika yainiki. I have to sharpen my machete.
yak 1. OBJ.12. us (incl.); to us (incl.). Āka tukka āka yak bautai. This work is hard (for us). 2. SUBJ.12. we (incl.). Āyauh yak yawakuti? Where are we (incl.) going to go? 3. AGR.12. first-person plural (inclusive) sentence agreement. Mining yul bauti bang yak. We are sitting having a conversation.
yaka DEM. that; those.
yākal N. (yākal[]) [ORN] [Msk: yākal] eagle. Yaka yākalka limdi wāda. (→ dirauh)
yakat ADV. there. Man raupi yakat yawaring atdam katka yawing āisau man dai.
yakau ADV. there; over there; yonder. Wahaiki yaku takwai. My brother works over there. Yang yakau yawakuting. I’m going to go over there. Yakau nahas wāk yau kuringnai ya, māmpa yak ihwarang sah? (→ yau)
yaknaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (yakti) find. Sukul yakta. Sūmalu yaktasaman pih? Alas sukulu yaktak irida. 2. VT. {V-TA} (yakti) remove; extract; extricate; take out; take away; take off. Muih as kau lihwan sirhpikda dai ka lihwan as āniki watah yang ākaupak waya yaknaka waltayang. Kang yaknaka VE. take away; separate; deprive of. Aratukuh ya alas kaupak kang yaktuting. I’m going to take the pistol away from him. Yaka alka ya amiku kau dutka katatah bahangh, kang yaknaka waltayang. That man mistreats my sister, so I want to take her away from him.
yak watingka lāsdana NE. [BOT] bramble or thorny bush sp..
yal 1. N. (yal[]) woman. Man yaka yalka kung lāwayam pih? Do you know that woman? 2. N. (yal[]) wife; spouse (female) [wife].
Man yalma áyauh yawada? Where did your wife go? Wanihni ya yalka dápi yawada bahangh amatdii tung ka. Our brother is sad because his wife left him.
yalki umana my ex-wife
yalau N. (yalau[]) BOT mango. (Mangifera indica) Yalau ya was mä kau lalaahai. The mango ripens in the rainy season. Yalau ya batakà kau sapakka palka ka. The mango is very sour when it is green.
yalubu N. (yalubu[]) MOD fable. Yalubu ya di balna báti yulka yuldaa dapi tangka kau yul yamka as yak sumaltai. A fable tells a story with animals, and at the end teaches us a moral. Δ Tisi yapa, katka di karak tisíka balna.
yam N. (yam[]) MOD use. Yaka dika watah man ya man kau yam áisau. That thing that you have is useless to you.
yam karak PE. useful. Yamahtak ihi tung ating yapa dalaka yatai. I’m in pain as if I’d been doing hard labor. Di tika ihirnaka kau yamdanaka walti yamahtak iyam kau yamka ihirtayam. Singmat ya kang lawái ka yul yamka watah ka, yapa bahangh yamka yuldai. Asang àkà yul yamka yuldaa. Yàlaih yamka!
yamak N. (yamak[]) swidden; plantation; field; cultivated plot; garden. Yang dapi wahaiki karak yammanak kau yawayangna. Yan yamak kau yak yawarang ya, (yaka ya) pàpanghki yákmak ka.
yamak wisam NE. (yamak wisam) plot of land which has never been tilled.
yamak yawanaka VE. {V-O-A} (yamak yawi) go to the fields. Wahaiki walti tung ating kat andih yamak yawang atdaa. I was walking around looking for my brother but they say he already left for the fields. Yang yamak yawang. I’m going to the plantation.
yamakbah N. (yamakbah) abandoned plantation; land which has already supported crops. (ant. yamak wisam)
yamaktalah N. (yamaktalah) [ORN] keel-billed toucan; rainbow-billed toucan; chestnut-mandibled toucan. (RAMPHASTIDAE Ramphastos sulfuratus; RAMPHASTIDAE Ramphastos swainsonii) Yamaktalah ya anaka lumakka di yamka watah ka.
yam ánaka VE. {V-TA} (yam áti) bless; consecrate. Alah ya muh luhi kau yam átai katka muh isau yaka puntí taldasa. God blesses everyone, but many people don’t pay any attention to it.
yam manh N. (yam manh) [BOT] [Eng: German] bluggoe; plas; white house banana; horse banana. (MUSACEAE Musa sapientum) Yamankalih lalaka kuruhna waska ya yamka palka ka.
yamdanaka VI. {V-DA} (yamdi) become; get to be; cause self to be; turn oneself into. Àkà waska yam áting daihka yamdarang. Bakaki ya urus yapa yamdanaka waltai. One of my children would like to become like a monkey. Wahaiki ya lihwan muhihka yamdarang. My cousin got rich (became a rich person).
yamka A. {STRONG} (yamka) good; well; nice; pleasant. Alas ú bitnaka dika yamka watah ká, yapa bahangh yamka bitpai. Muih as yamka ya muh luhi yulka yamka yuldai. Asang àkà muh as as ya pummakka yamka watah ka. Yàlaih yamka!
yam barangkà VE. {V-PA} (yam barangpi) perfect.
yamkaka NA.CNS3. (yamkaka) good feature of; good point; positive aspect of.
recommend; endorse. Muih as sayadasa yamka tukwai kau, yamkaka muih wák kau bik yuldai. When a person works well and is not lazy, you recommend them to others as well. Alas yang yamkiki yultai. He sings my praises. Man yamnaka yultai. He/she recommends you. Alas yamnini yultai. He recommends us (incl.). Alas yangna balna yamkinaka yultai. He recommends us (excl.). Alas manna balna yammanaka yultai. He recommends you (pl.). Alas alaska balna yamkanaka yultai. He/she recommends them.

1. yamnaka 1. VT. {V-TA} (yamti) make; do; create; produce; repair; fix; affect; perform; build. Kuhbil kalka as yamti lau yang. I'm making a knife handle. Pedrou yamtingka yamka ka, dika balna irang laih. Pedro is a good house builder, if he can get the materials. Ú itukwána as yamnaka punti yultayang. I'm thinking of building a big house.

2. VT. {V-TA} (yamti) treat as. Baka as yá yamduti. They treat me like a child (want to turn me into a child).

kal yamnaka VR. {V-TA} (kal yamti) get dressed up nicely; get dolled up; get well-groomed. Itukibah ya tápas kau bungpi yawakuti bahangh alas muihka ya yamka kal yamti náh dapi kau laih yawanaka waltai; dí wálapka balna luíh ya kal kahwi yapa kau laih yamka kal dahya, yapa bik kahkul yamka áwi baska karhpi ráma yamka rukpi yapa daparang kau laih alas yawanaka yamka kal dahrang. Since my aunt is going to go out into public, she gets all dolled up, and only then does she want to leave; she puts on perfumes and she feels good about herself, and she puts on a good dress, brushes her hair, and puts on nice shoes and after all that she feels comfortable going out.

2. yamnaka VT. {V-TA} (yamti) {OBJ1: yá yamtai} make want; be desirable to. Yang Blupil kau yawanaka yá yamtai dí as walti talnaka. I want to go to Bluefields to look for something.

3. yamnaka VI. {V-PA} (yampi) become better; recover. Alas íwai dai katka yampida. He/she was ill, but got better.

4. yamnaka VT. {V-TA} (yamti) {OBJ1: yá yamtai} make; be affected by; need to. Amanaka yá yamtang dai. I was sleepy. Amana yá yamtai. I am sleepy.

yampara INTERJ. hi; hello; greetings.

yamtingka N. creator.

yam yamnaka VE. {V-TA} (yam yamti) use; utilize; employ.

yam yawah VE. {V-TA} (yam yamti) use; utilize; employ.

yam yawah atnaka VE. say good-bye; bid farewell. Muih balna ya sirih bungpi yawadai máka kau, yam yawah atnaka ya yamka palka ka. When people are about to leave, it is very good to bid them farewell.

yan ADV. tomorrow. Wahaiki yan wárang. My brother is coming tomorrow. Yan laih sawi ina yawakuting. Tomorrow I'm going out to kill a javalina.

yan málak ADV. day after tomorrow.

Yan málak am bahnaka yawanaka.

yána (form of yá) OBJ.1. us (excl.) (as object of verb); to us (excl.). Yána taldam pih? Did you see us?

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launaka yapa dai. Last night as I was on my way here, it looked like it was going to rain. Alas kal kapahtasa yapa lau dadang, di balna ai bungpai ya alas kau sa yapa dadang. He sat there calmly, as if what was happening was not happening to him. yapa pâ ya it looks that way yapa sa pih? isn't that so?
yapa bahangh x. therefore.
yapa bik 1. x. maybe; perhaps. 2. x. moreover.
yapa bik pan ADV. maybe; perhaps.
yapa sa bik pan maybe not.
yapa dapak X. and so; consequently.
yapa dâpâk lukdanaka VE. {V-DA} (yapa dâpâk lukdi) pardon; forgive; let be. Alas lihkiwan yang nîtîda, yapa katka yang yapa dâping lukdarang. He stole my money, but nevertheless I'm going to forgive and forget.
yapa katka X. however; nevertheless. Wisam dihikda; yapa katka kanas ditik pah ka. I just had a drink; nevertheless I'm still thirsty.
yapa kaupak ADV. senselessly; for no reason. Yaka alka ya yapa kaupak dakat kal karhpida. That man hanged himself for no reason.
yapa laih ADV. in that case; if so.
yapa sa ADV. unlike. Áka kuringka áka yang kuringki yapa sa; ákauh tâkat itukwâna ka. This canoe is not like my canoe; this one is bigger.
yapa wâlik X. so; just that way. Yapa wâlik di dútka yamti dápâyad.
yapa yaka X. thus; in that way. Tânit kau di dútka bungpai bahangh yapa yaki yamnaka pih?
yapa yapa X. et cetera; and so on.
yapatka ADV. still; continuing; the same. Bahka as iwai dai yultî daking kat yapatka ka yatda. When I asked the lady that had been sick, she said she was still the same. (var. yakatka)
yapu N. (yapu[]) [HERP] crocodile. (Crocodileus acutus) Yapu síkka ka, yapa bahangh di yabalâsikka ka. The crocodile is huge, and for that reason terrifying. Yapu ya was kau umahka paraska palka wispâi ka. The crocodile whips its tail with great force in the water.
yaradânaka VI. {V-DA} (yaradi) totter; stagger; reel. Muih as kau iwana as watya tînh kutchâi kau, yakaupak yamka kal dâki laktaî kau, alas it tîtungh tungwai yapa sa; áyauh yawakûti kau, uba yaradi yawai. When a person has been sick in bed for a long time, and then they finally feel better, they can't just walk around like they used to; when they want to go somewhere, they walk slowly and shakily.
yaringka 1. A. (yariringka) bright; shiny; brilliant; clear. Mádi pukka yang yamka yaringka isîng dai bahangh aikitak sip talsîng dai. Since I didn’t have good light last night, I couldn’t read my book. Kimak yaringka bahangh talnaka yamka ka. The stone is shiny and thus it is pretty to look at.
2. N. light; light source.
ki yaringka NE. (ki[] yaringka) gold. Sau ubulka itukwâna balna kau ki yaringka muih yakdai. People mine gold in the mountains.
yas N. (yas[]) [ANAT] abdomen; belly; stomach; paunch; gut. Muih yaska itukwâna ya sip paras îrasa. A person with a big belly cannot run fast.
yas ituwang CMOD. (yas[] ituwang) pot-bellied.
yaska raudanaka VE. {V-DA} (yas[] raudî) be in labor (pregnant woman).
yaska taihpang CMOD. (yas[] taihpang) no longer able to bear children.
yas takat NE. (yas[] takat) [ANAT] abdomen and thorax. Muih ya yaska takat kau ya asung dapi pûska lau ka. In a person's abdomen and thorax are found the liver and lungs.
yas wayaka NE. (yas[] wayaka) stomach noise. Muih as as balna ya yasni wayaka dahdai kau, babîl pundai, katka yaka ya wing. Some people think that the sound of one's stomach rumbling is a sign of intestinal worms, but it is just gas.
yasamah N. (yas[]) [MAN] nail. Yasamah ya âisau laih, it ü yamdasa. If there are no nails, you can't build a house.
yas kal bal tisnaka VE. {V-PA} (yas kal
bal tispi) embrace; hug one another.
Yas kal bal tispaning yawada. We hugged and she left.

yataihdanaka VI. {V-DA} (yataihdi) lean to one side. Kuring kau kanas yataihdaram laih abukdarang. If you lean over more in the canoe it will tip over.

yataihka N.CNS3. (yataih[]) {CNS1: yataihki} flank; side. (syn. yaikaka)
yataihka kau PE. (yataih[] kau) on one side. Buh almuk dasika rumpi lau kau muih balna ya bakakana balna luhi ya adak yataihka kau wālik amada; pah rika kau kutwaram laih it ka dasika rumpai bahangh sumaka wauhdī má inaka. When the thunder is especially strong people make their children sleep on their sides; if you lie flat then it is thundering so strongly you might get struck by lightning (lit. get hit by thunder eggs). (the reasoning is that lying flat exposes more surface area to something falling from above)

1yau ADV. there; over there. Yau yawanangh, yang dī as mānakā watah yang. Let’s go over there, I have something to give you. Yang yau tukwaying. I work over there.

2yau x. < ya kau

yauh (form of kauh) x. more. Yang amiki yauh waltayang wahaiki karak. < ya kauh

yaumah N. (yau[[]]mah) [BOT] mangrove. (syn. laulau)
yaumah pihka NE. [BOT] white mangrove.

yaunaka VT. {V-PA} (yaupi) squeeze; milk; wring; extract. Tūkiruh wāna ya sitti tāka yaupah. Tie up my cow and milk her. Anu bás ya yang buhti yaupukuh atikda katka māmahki raupi waska wayalah yauparam yatda. I was going to scrape and squeeze out the juice from three coconuts, but my mother told me I wouldn’t get much juice. Yal balna ya asna suhpi yaupi rāuh ka. The women are standing washing clothes and wringing them out. (→ sikitnaka, tirisnaka)

yawana N. (yawana[]) trip. Yang yawana wāk kau laih mā ihi yawaring. I will take you along on another trip.

yawana VI. {V-O-A} (yaw) go. Asung aslah bahangh yamka yakyawai. Since we are content, we are going along fine. Yangna balna man karak yāmamak kau yawayangna. We (excl.) are going with you to your swidden. Yawanaka waltayam laih, yawah. If you want to go, then go. Yawanang! Let’s go! Yang lihwan watah yang dai laih, Bilwi kau yawatik dai. If I had money, I would go to Puerto Cabezas. Mādi pukka tinh laih kutna bungpi yawanaka. Tonight well after dark we have to set out to go fishing.
yawi bungnaka VE. get there; reach there; arrive there.

yawendaikanaka 1. VE. {V-DA} (yaw mid) go and stay; settle. Yang yaka asangka kau laih yawi midanaka waltasing. I do not want to go live in that country.

2. VE. {V-DA} (yaw mid) end; end up; conclude; come to an end. Aka tākapas āka wassik kau yaway midai. This path ends at the river. Was baka āka yawidai midai kau wasdak yamka baka kūt ka. At the end of this stream is a nice little pond.

yuh pihka VE. {V-WA} (yuh iwi) starve; die of hunger. Ma luhi kau ya yah di kasi atnaka waltayang; yuh iwanaka waltasing. I want to be eating all day long; I don’t want to starve.
yuhdanaka VI. {V-DA} (yūhdi) lengthen; become long.
children are tall. Alas balna yuyûhka atdarang. They will be tall. Damaska kau pan balna ya yûhka bik isau lau ka. In the bush there are even lots of tall trees. (→ wawaika)

2. N.CNS3. (yûh[]) stretch; long straight section in river or road. Yûhka bás waihpayang kau yang üki wayyang. When I row three straight stretches (in the river) I reach my house.

yûhkaka NA.CNS3. (yûh[][ka]) length; height. (var. yûhkika)

yûhnaka VT. {V-PA} (yûhpi) lengthen; elongate. Yang üki åka bisika dai katka waya yûhpikda. This house of mine was very small, but I lengthened it a little.

yûl N. [ENTOM] arboreal termite; nasute termite; wood ant. (Nasutitermes sp.) Yûl üka ya dâwai kau, kàuhka ya di as yamka palka ka. Kàuhka dapi ü kahnaka dika kâarak burupi nâh dapi kuring sahwang balna ya biriawai. The carton nests of the arboreal termite, when burnt, yields an excelent ash. This ash, when mixed with paint, forms a glue that is used to cement split canoes.

yul 1. N. (yul[]) word. Åka yulka yultanih, bakaki balna kau. Don’t say this word to my children.

2. N. (yul[]) language. Man aiyaka yulka yultayam? Which language are you speaking/do you speak? Yang Wayah yulka yultayang. I speak the Miskitu language. Yulni yulwai ya yulti atnaka dânaka ãisau. We must keep speaking (and not abandon) the language we speak.

3. N. (yul[]) speech; voice. Pukka al as wi waupida dapak yulka bungpai ya daking kat bakaki dai. At night a man came and shouted, and on hearing his voice I knew that it was my son.

4. N. (yul[]) news; story; saying; expression; statement; declaration; speech; thing to say. Yang yulki mà yulnaka waltayang. I want to tell you my story. Man alas yulka dahdam pih? Did you hear what he/she said? Bakaki yal üka kau yawayang yul dahna. I’m going to my daughter’s house to hear the news.

5. N. (yul[]) sake. (→ yulka)

eyul amangka NE. (yul[] amangka) [MOD, GRAM] sentence; clause.

eyul baunaka VE. {V-TA} (yul bauti) talk; converse; speak; chat. Yang alas balna yul baudak dakikda. I heard them speaking. Yangna balna yul bautaning dahdam pih? Did you hear us talking? Mâmahi karak yul baunaka palka waltayang. I really want to speak with my mother. Yang Wayah yulka kung lâwaiyang dai på laih, alas karak yul bautatik dai. If I had known Miskitu, I would have spoken with him/her.

yul bautasa VE.NEG3. mute. Wahaiki baka yamka palka as watah ka katka yul bautasa. My brother has a child who is very good, but is mute.

yul duihnaka VE. {V-UIH} (yul duhi) gossip. Yul duihnaka ya yamka palka sa. It is not very good to gossip. Amiki ya yul baka as dahya kau laih alas sirihka palka duhi ihi yawi muih wák kau yultai katka kanas sîh lakti bi yultai. When my sister hears a tidbit of news, she very quickly spreads it to other people, but with some exaggeration.

yul dutka NE. (yul[] dutka) bad word; insult; curse.

yul dutka yulnaka VE. {V-TA} (yul dutka yulti) swear at; curse. Muih balna ya asungna átai kau biri bira yul dutka kal yuldai. When people are angry they swear at each other.

yul lânaka 1. VE. {V-TA} (yul lâti) tell a story. Muih as as ya yul lânaka ya yamka palka kâng lâwadi ka. Some people are very gifted at storytelling. 2. VE. {V-TA} (yul lâti) send message.

yul nânaka VE. {V-TA} (yul[] nâti) offend. Alas yang kau yulki nâtai. He/she offends me. Yang alas kau yul(ka) nânaka waltasing. I don’t want to offend him/her. [[may be yulna ânaka?]]

yul sihnaka VE. {V-PA} (yul sihpi) send word.

eyul tunak NE. (yul[] tunak) [MOD, GRAM] verb.

yul ubatnaka VE. {V-PA} (yul ubatpi) mumble; grumble; mutter; murmorm. Mâmah as dî as yultî mà kuitak yul ubatpanih; it yamka mà dahsa. When a woman (lit. mother) asks you a question,
don't mumble; she can't hear you well.
Mámahma dì walt mì sìhpak sayadì
yul ubatpanih. When your mother sends
you for something do not be lazy and
grumble about it.

yul wayaka NE. (yul[] wayaka) voice.

yul yannaka VE. {V-TA} (yul yamti)
spread a story. Mùh isau palka ya yul
yannaka wàlik valdai. Many people
just want to spread stories.

yul yultingka NE. talkative.

yuldauh N. (yul[]dauh) story. (≠ uhdas)

1yulka 1. N.CNS3. (yul[]) because; for the
sake of. Yang yawing dà mà talniki
yulka. I went in order to see you.

2. N.CNS3. (yul[]) lest; for fear that.

Yang yaka òka kau yawasing, sùkulu
yà kasrang yulka. I don't go to
that house, for fear that the dog will bite me.

3. N.CNS3. (yul[]) about.

yulka yulnaka VE. have to do with; relate
to.

2yulka 1. N.CNS3. (yul[]) instruction; order;
advice.

2. N.CNS3. (yul[]) reply; response; answer.
Mà kuiti dàkkida katka yulma wàsa
sanh dah. I asked you but your response
hasn't come yet.

3. N.CNS3. (yul[]) account; relation.

yulka dàkkida yannaka VE. {V-TA} (yul[]
daki yamti) obey; heed.

yulka dàknaka VE. {V-TA} (yul[] dakti)
interrupt; cut off in mid-speech; cut short
(conversation). Yulma daktayang
dàkkida... Pardon me for interrupting but...

yulka inaka 1. VE. {V-O-IH} (yul[] ihi)
hear about; get word of. Màdì dislah
bakaki yulka ihikda, ìalwàwà
bahangh yàwàyàng. I got word of
my son this morning; he is ill so I am
going. 2. VE. {V-O-IH} (yul[] ihi) take
word for it; believe word of. Man tisi yà
yuldàam kau man yulma ihikda
bahangh kàpákha kau àwìkdà. When
you lied to me I believed what you said
and subsequently got myself into trouble.

yulka rùmnaka VE. {V-PA} (yul[]
rumpi) disobey; fail to heed. Bakaka yà
yàng alas kau sumàltàyàng dài katka
alas yulka rùmpida. I gave the child
instruction but he did not heed me.

yulka yàknaka VE. {V-TA} (yul[] yakti)
tell on; denounce; inform against; rat on.

Wai yulní yàktída? Who told on us?

yulkaspang N. (yul[]kaspang) [MOD]
poem; poetry. Yulkaspang ya dì as
yamka palka ka, kàt yaka pàn mùih
balna ampa kàpákkanà ya yulka
yuldài bahangh. Poetry is something
beautiful because it is people speaking of
their deepest troubles. Yulkaspang ya
mùih as as balna ya yamka uldài
katka mùih isau ya kàng làwàdàsa. A
few people are good at writing poems, but
most are clueless.

yulmak N. (yul[]mak) [MOD, GRAM]
morpheme; iambic base of inflexation.

yulnaka VT. {V-TA} (yulti) speak; say.

Yang yulting yà dàhà. He/she heard
what I said. Ai mà yultída? What di
he/she say to you? Mámahkì kau yul
as yultuting. I am going to say something
to my mother. Sàra kal ìpùrña kau
yaka yàkka kau yul as yulnaka wàlting
dài. Recently at the meeting I wanted to
say something to that woman.

kang yulnaka VE. {V-TA} (ìng yulit)
slander; say bad things about. Mùih as
ya pùmnàka yamka man kau isà kau
dì isau yàkìtì màng yultài. When a
person has ill will towards you, they come
up with lots of bad things to say about
you. (or kàng yulìtì kútìnà)

 takàt yulnaka VE. {V-TA} (ta[t][t] yultì)
pray; say prayer; beseech. Tamat
yultàh. Say your prayers.

yulsara N. (yul[]sara) [GRAM, GRAM]
base of inflexion of a word.

yultì dàhànà VE. {V-DAH} (yultì dàki)
ask. Mining mùih ya dì as as yàk
kàng làwàsà kau, mùih kau yultì
dàhùwà. We humans, when we do not
know some things, we ask someone (else).
(syn. kuitì dàhànà)

yultingka N. speaker. Ìì sìkkà as kau
mùih màhà kàng dài, yultingka biì
isà dài. In a large house there were
many people, and many speakers as well.

yulwaràng laih X. that is to say; for
example; in other words.

yulwit N. (yul[]wit) legend. Yulwit ya
yul umàna, dàpi mùih bálña kàu pàk
láwì wì wìtpài bálña ya yulka. A
legend is an old story, and it is the history of people who have already passed on.

**Yumah** N. (yumah[]) [MED] stomach ache; abdominal ailment, often attributed to an animal such as ant or crocodile. Watyu yaski wati dahda kau yang kiki yumahka watah yang yatda. The sukia felt my belly and told me I have the ant stomach ache. (syn. yumu)

**Yumu** N. (yumu[]) [MED] (syn. yumah)

**Yumuh** Pfv. [• only attested in conjunction with verb puhnaka.]

**Yumuh puhnaka** Ve. {v-ta} (yumuh pūhti) blow smoke while muttering incantation. Watyu as raupi asing pas dalapai lau atak yumuh pūhti yā singpida. Once when I had a stomach ache a healer healed me by blowing smoke and muttering an incantation.

1 **Yūnaka** Vt. {v-pa} (yūpi) share; share out. Mistu as sahtang lau ya muih kau yūnaka pumtayang. I'm planning to share with people (the kittens of) the cat that just gave birth. Tātungh kau muih almuk balna ya dì īdai kau bakandasa, dau kai yūpi kasdai dadang. In the olden days when our ancestors would kill game they didn't sell it; they used to share it with each other and (all) eat it.

2 **Yūnaka** 1. Vt. {v-pa} (yūpi) aim; point. Waswalap bakantingka ya yang kau waswalap ya yā yūpak untī dakikda. The perfume salesman held out the perfume for me to smell.

**Ting yūnaka** Ve. {v-pa} (tingka yūpi) point finger. Alas kau/kat tingki yūpikda. I pointed my finger at him.

**Yūpingka** N. (yūpingka[]) sharer. Yu pingka laih di yūnaka waltai palka. Sharers like to share things.

**Yuputdanaaka** Vl. {v-da} (yuputdi) twitch; move one's body; stir. Sana as iti ūki kau ihaiting yuputdai ya yapa dai. I killed a deer and when brought it home it seemed to be twitching.

**Yuputka** A. (yupuputka) having sensation of something crawling on skin.

**Yuputnaka** Vt. {v-ta} (yuputti) [LCS: X (nom) make presence known to Y (acc) by crawling on Y's skin]. Kataramah dūs tibin balna ya watyam kau alas īkabak balna ya mā pūdaī kau muihma luīh ya mā yuputdai. When you pick up a brooding hen and her lice get on you you can feel them crawling all over your body. Matatītis as yā yuputtaī. I feel a tick crawling on me.

**Yurahdanaaka** Vt. {v-da} (yurahdi) open (mouth). Yaka yalka anaka dutnaka waltai katka takapas yurahdanaaka laih waltasa ka. That woman wants to have her tooth pulled, but she doesn't want to open her mouth. (eqv. yurahnaka)

**Yurahka** A. (yurarahka) slightly open; ajar. Yang kustalki āka it taihpasing; askina makasikka pūtikda bahangh waya yurahka ka. I can't close my suitcase; because I've put too much clothing in it is slightly open.

**Yurahnaka** Vt. {v-pa} (yurahpi) open (mouth). Wasdak kau kutpi sāk yak kau sirak bakaka balna ya yak tali takapas ya yurahpang sāk datya. When we go fishing at the pond the baby caymans see us and hold their mouths wide open.

**Yūs** N. [Eng: use] (pref. yam)

**Yūs munnaka** Ve. {v-pa} (yūs munpi) [MsK: yūs munaia] (pref. yam yamnaka)

**Yusingka** N. Cns3. (yusing[]) corner (of room). Bakaki parubi ya wispikda kaupak yusingka as kau āwi aidi lau ka. Ever since I whipped my youngest child he is sitting in the corner crying.

**Yūwalak** N. (yūwalak) [bot] kind of vine-like weed with barbed thorns. (Rubiaceae Uncaria tomentosa)
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