

The Yama Reference Guide

By: Charles Erin Kauffman

This guide to the Yama language will show the simple prefixes, suffixes and how numbers work in the language. One can use this reference to help learning the language.

There are eleven chapters that will cover the different aspects of the language.

1. The verbs a and i
2. Post Pronoun Prefixes
3. Verb prefixes
4. Tense prefixes
5. Pronouns and pronoun infixes
6. Adjectives and adverbs
7. Verb suffixes
8. General suffixes
9. Emphatic particles and/or modifying words
10. siko (Verbal Mathematical Language)
11. si;yako (Natural Mathematical Language)

Chapter 1

Verbs

Prefixes

There are four prefix types, Tenses which tell time, impact tenses, pronouns which tells who and to whom, and pronoun infixes which defines the object(s).

The tenses are formed with the prefixes:

Tenses

Past tense, Imperatives.

- i- Used before consonants.
ina^ahiç I did it.
- t- Used rarely, but mostly before the 2nd person plural.
tla^at t^a? Did all of you go?
- w- Used before vowels.
wa^aya. He said it, He spoke.

Future tense

- a- Before consonants
ana^ahiç I will do it
- k- Used before vowels
ka^aya He will say it, He will speak

Impact Tenses

Impact tenses are no different than other tenses, except that they do not define a point in time, but rather several points or multiple positions in time. The term impact is used to define the function of these prefixes. They impact the normal tenses into multiple forms (another word I could have used was Shattering tenses).

Habitual, Meaning always, continually, habitually, constantly

- he- Before consonants
- hew- Before vowels

ye-, yew- Past tense with the habitual.

yewa^açi. He used to eat all the time, but he does not any more.

aqe-, aqew- Future tense with the Habitual.

aqewah^akoçi He doesn't take baths now, but he will on a regular basis.

Continuative

yiç- Before pronouns

yi- Before tenses.

yiç^açⁱ He is still eating it, He's eating it yet.

yiwa^açⁱ He was still eating when, He was eating when, Whilst he was eating

yina^ak waç wa^an^a. He died while I was coming.

yikna^ak kapi ka^an^a. I hope he doesn't die when I will be coming.

Chapter V

Grammar

Negation

Negatives in Yama are difficult for English translations, for literally there is no such thing as not and no in Yama. Also, in pronunciation it is only possible to say words which are translated as negatives.

non	I want (Regular pitch)
n ^o on	I don't want (Falling pitch)
na ^a xc ^a	I am closing my eyes (Rising pitch)
naxc ^a	I have my eyes closed (Regular pitch)
ina ^a	I am going (Rising pitch)
inii	I am staying (Regular pitch)
ni ⁱ ce	I am thinking (Rising pitch)
nice	I am not thinking (Regular pitch)

As you can see, there are many ways to show negatives. The different ways are usually fairly simple to figure out, though.

If the verb -a- is spoken, then the verb -i- takes its place.

If the verb -a- is not spoken, then...

If the pitch is normal on the active, then the pitch falls or is low in the inactive.

o (active), o, ^oo, or o_o (inactive)

If the pitch raises on the active, then the pitch is either normal, falls, or low in the inactive.

o^o (active), o, ^oo, o, or o_o (inactive)

Sometimes there are words which can hold many translations in the negative, but this is usually common with words which have multiple pronunciations to separate similar words with different meanings.

One other way to show negativity in words is with the suffix -me-, however, this suffix does not translate to not, either.

ina ^a	I went
ina ^a me	I didn't go

When the -me- suffix is used, it reverses the verb used. Hence, this suffix is called a reversive. Also, if an adjective adverb precedes it then it modifies the fix.

na ^a ma	I am moving my legs, I am walking
na ^a name	I am not moving my legs, My legs wont move

The -me- suffix should not be mistaken as modifying an active into an inactive, or an inactive into an

active. The meanings are not the same.

The inactive verb shows two aspects, either natural or stative. Natural being, such as a ill person who can not move, stative being that it is just a statement.

con uca^a x? Do you want to go?

nii. No, I'll stay here. (I am stating that I will just stay here).

ana^ame No, I would like to go, but I better stay here, or there is somewhere else I need to be.

Another use of me is in lengthening single words, such as when scolding someone or when giving simple commands. However, this use is relatively uncommon.

c^atome Don't stand up, Stay seated.

Yic^ame Don't go yet, Stay put

With this use, the active verb is always pronounced with a high pitch.

Using Directives and Locatives.

The suffixes at and ak are used to express the position or direction where the subject or object is in relation to some other place. However, if no place is defined then it means in relation to the speaker.

wa^at. He went away. (If where the subject went away from is unknown then it is in relation to the speaker. He went away from me)

wa^ak He came. (If where the subject came to is unknown then it is in relation to the speaker. He came towards me).

yeten wa^a He went away from the tree. (In this sentence the suffix -t- is not needed, and so is not spoken. The -an- suffix on yete shows the direction from)

yetyun wa^a He is going towards the tree (The suffix -un- shows that the subject is acting towards the tree).

wa^at yete He is going away from the tree (The -t- suffix is used)

wa^ak yete He is going to the tree (Suffix -k- used)

Here are a few more examples of the grammatical use of these suffixes.

xiy^ak yi₂iin t^a? Does your sister still live there?

iiit. No, she lives elsewhere.

In the last sentence, the suffix -t- shows that the subject exists away from the specified place. Since both speaker and listener are aware of where the sentence is mentioning, so it is unnecessary to say anything more.

ce^e o^oko₂ tá? Did you see Swimmer?

ine^t No, I haven't seen him.

In this sentence the -t- shows that the object in which was referenced was outside of my line of sight. This would be used to mean that the person was somewhere around but not seen.

An example of this, imagine going shopping at a supermarket on a very busy day. There are so many people that the person in question, although there at the same time you are, you just don't see him. However, this does not mean that both people didn't see each other, just the subject of the word.

Another use of these suffixes is with nouns without any verbs.

ooyat The speaker is there, There's the speaker

ooyak Here's the speaker, This is the speaker.

Using the -an and -un suffixes, the meanings are similar, but they do have their differences, too.

ooyan The speaker is there (some place out of sight or when the place is known and the speaker is stating to someone where the speaker is)

ooyayun The speaker is there (when the speaker is showing a direction)

Simple phrases rarely need to be expressed by more words than is necessary. The Yama language uses as few words as possible.

Phrases

Simple and complex phrases to view the many different ways words are used.

tlaki, knela^ahin. Sit down and I'll tell you a story.

yamacin w^acī_ɔ ko_ɔ The old man who was afraid of water.

b^oox wii yamacin, w^ooxex wiya^a yamacin witok ko_ɔ, nuñik yamacinun yako_ɔ wa^atoniq.

Long ago there lived an old Yama, It was one point in time on a past day the old man was standing near a river, and towards the old man, the river quickly rose.

wen wa^awo, t'e waásbe.

He tried to run, but he didn't get far.

nuñik ko_ɔ wa^ancin.

And the water engulfed him.