

AM WK
14

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I. Subject and Object Transitives

Vocabulary

tunapt'a	kick toward the front
tinapt'a	kick toward the back
naknuwi-	to take care of/ care for
sayp-	to feed/give food to someone, something
twana-	to go with/ to follow/accompany
shapa-wayna-	to push / push away from you
k'inu-	to see
latk'i-	to watch
paptl'k-	to hit with fist

Grammar

John-in pa-paptl'ka Mary-nan. Mary-in pa-paptl'ka John-nan.

Both of the sentences use exactly the same words. Both contain two nouns, *John* and *Mary*, and the verb is *hit*. But the two sentences don't mean the same thing. In the second sentence, *Mary* is doing the hitting and *John* was the one she hit.

What makes the difference here is the way the words are arranged. The person who does something in the sentence is usually called the *subject*. In English, the subject nearly always comes in front of the verb. The person or thing that something is done to 'him, her, it' is called the *Object*. In English the object comes after the verb.

The Sahaptin language arranges its words differently. The verb 'tunapt'a' means 'kick'. To make it into a progressive (on-going) action in the present tense, put [-sha] at the end. To say 'Mary' is doing the kicking, put [-in] after Mary. The present tense is shown when [pa] is put before the verb [tunapt'a] and [-sha] at the end. *Mary-in pa-tunapt'a-sha*. Now the sentence has a subject and a verb. But this does not tell you about the one she is kicking. You need an *object*. The noun word you will need is *John*. To identify *John* as the object, add [-nan]. Now you have a complete sentence with a subject and object.

Maali'in pa-tunapt'a Chaan-nan. Mary kicked John.

I-tunapt'a sha-am. He is kicking you.

The second sentence [I] is the pronoun [he, she, it] and the present tense marker is [sha] object is the pronoun [am] you. So, in the Indian language you can put the object at the end with the different markers [nan] [am]. There are other transitive subjects and objects noted in the list below. Put [in] after a noun when it is the subject. [pa] before the verb and [sha] after the verb when it is in present tense. Put [nan] after the noun to indicate that it is the object of the action.

There is another form you should be aware of. 'Ayatuks k'usi i-tinapt'a k'ayik-pa. The mare kicked the colt. This form shows a different endings with the verb and the object.

Note, the [-a] instead of the [sha], and [pa] after the word [k'ayik] colt. The structure is the same with the exception of the suffixes. It is still present tense, the mare is the kicker, and the colt is the object of the kick. Pay attention to the spelling of kick, [kick] [tinapt'a] is spelled with an [i] instead of [u].

<u>Subject</u>		<u>Object</u>
ink nash	I	Inak, nash, ash me
imk, nam	you	imanak, you
pɨnk, i-	he, she, it	piinak, pa, am him, her, it
imak, pa	you (plural)	niimanak, tash us
pmak, pa	they	pam you (plural)
pnɨmk	he	piimanak them

Exercise

What do these sentences mean?

Translate

1. A-shapa-wayna-sha pat piimanak. _____
2. Pa-shapa-tkwata-sha tash niimanak. _____
3. Imak pam naknuwi-sha inak. _____
4. Pnɨmk tash i-tiwi-shana. _____
5. Pmak natash pa-sayp-shana niimanak. _____
6. Imk nam a-tunapt'a-sha pinak. _____
7. Pa-latk'i-sha-am imanak ayatma. _____
8. Ink nash a-latk'i-shana TV-nan. _____
9. Mish pam a-k'inu-shana luts'a Xaaslu-nan. _____
10. Pmak pa-twana-na pshɨt-pa. _____