

SAHAPTIN LANGUAGE  
Virginia Beavert

9-11-00

PREFIXES IN YAKIMA LANGUAGE

Verb prefixes may be divided into two groups in successive order and varying function. In the first position is a group of third person pronominal elements of quasi-formal or syntactic function. Some of the elements may be compounded with others.

"i-," third person singular-collective definite noun subject. .

iwinana wiyat, he went far away (wina-, go (on) )  
ipnu'watana, he went to bed, (pnu- sleep) (pnuwata- go to bed)  
i'iyusha k'usimaman, he is herding the horses, (iyu- herd/drive) (k'usi, horse)  
i'itl'yawi, he killed it (itl'yawi- kill)  
i-\_\_\_\_\_, the bird died.

third person singular is compounded with " pa-," third person distributive plural definite noun subject.

pawinana, they went away (wina-, go (on their way) )  
papayu'wisha, they are ill (payuwi-, ( to be ill))  
patl'yawya, they died (tl'yawi- ( todie))  
pa-\_\_\_\_\_, he killed it.

á-, A pronominal element used for two forms:(1) one, before intransitive verbs whose subject is singular, dual, or plural and which express relative passivity or existentially, contrasted with verbs expressing activity or motion and capable of taking an object. (2) Secondly, before a transitive verb to express third person subject and third person object in singular or plural number. (see initial á - of á pina-)

spilyay á-(w)ina ishtapa, Coyote told his son , (in- tell, ina, told)  
á-wacha spilyay, coyote was there (wacha, was)  
á-twanana isxipa, he followed his younger brother (-twana-, follow)  
á-pina-tamanina, he cast himself into the water (pina-, self; -tmani-, into water)  
pnmink á-wa, it is his, (verb: to be; wa-is); (pnmink, his)  
á-tamunk, tell it to him, tell him,(telling one person) (tamu- relate)  
á-ni-k! give it to him/her! (ni-give)  
á-ni-tk, give it to them! (addressing more than one person) (ni-give)  
á-tiina, he put it in his pocket, (tii-put in pocket/vessel/basket/purse, etc.)

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Verb prefixes may be divided into two groups in successive order and varying function. In the first position is a group of **third person pronominal elements** of quasi-formal or **syntactic function**. Some of the elements may be compounded with others.

i-, third person singular-collective definite noun subject. .

iwínana wiyat,	he went far away (wina-, go (on) )
ipnú'watana,	he went to bed, (pnuwata- go to bed)
i'íyusha k'usimaman,	he is herding horses, (íyu- herd horse)
i'tl'yawi,	he killed it (itl'yawi- kill)
itl'yáwi kakya,	the bird died, (tl'yáwi-die)

i- third person singular is compounded with pa-, third person distributive plural definite noun subject.

pawínana,	they went away (wina-, go (on) )
papayúwisha,	they are sick (payuwi-, to be sick/ill)
patl'yáwya,	they died (tl'yawi- die)
pá'itlawya,	he killed him (tl'yawi, die)
pa'ítlyawi,	they killed it, (tl'yawi, die)

á-, A **pronominal element** used for two forms:(1) one, before intransitive verbs whose subject is singular or plural and which express relative passivity or existentially, contrasted with verbs expressing activity or motion and capable of taking an object. (2) Secondly, before a transitive verb to express third person subject and third person object in singular or plural number. (see initial á - of á pina-)

spilyay áwána ishtapa,	Coyote told his son , (ána- tell, ána, told)
áwacha spilyay,	coyote was there (wacha, was)
átwanana ásxápa,	he followed his younger brother (-twana-, follow)
ápinatamanina,	he cast himself into the water (pina-, self, -tmani-, into water)
pánmink áwa,	it is his, (V to be; wa-is); (pánmink, his)
átamunk,	tell him, (telling one person) (tamu- relate)
ánik!	give it to him/her! (ni-give)
ánitk,	give it to them! (plural form) (ni-give)
átiina,	he put it in his pocket, (tii-put in pocket/purse, etc.)