

mary

On Thursday - Develop

EXPLANATION IN SAHAPTIN STRUCTURE by Virginia Beavert

Introducing concepts step-by-step helps students to comprehend more easily and helps to ensure mastery learning. For that reason, mixed reviews are distributed throughout the text. In addition, a test for each unit will be provided.

A preposition is "a relation or function word...that connects a lexical word, usually a noun or pronoun, or a syntactic construction to another element of the sentence, as to a verb, to a noun, or to an adjective."

Webster's New World Dictionary

(Webster explanation difficult to understand, and irrelevant in our situation.)

Prepositional phrase

English version:

A prepositional phrase begins with a preposition and ends with a noun or pronoun. This means that a noun or pronoun is called the object of the preposition.

With my grandfather (with=preposition
(grandfather=object of prep.)

"with my grandfather"=prepositional phrase

In Sahaptin, the preposition marker follows (is a suffix) after the noun, pronoun, verb, and an adjective.

Natilas-aan (na=my
(tila(s)=grandfather
(aan=with

Atwanashaash natilasaan. I am going (with my grandfather.)

Most prepositional phrases in Sahaptin will usually will have a preposition suffix, except in the objective. When the object is a "thing" the prefix before the verb is pa-, and the object marker is at the end of the noun/pronoun. .

**Example: Aswan ila-tk'ina timash-nan.
The boy looked paper at.
The boy looked at the paper.**

**Aswan is the subject of the sentence.
i- is the 3rd person present tense prefix
la- is an adjective marker to denote 'leisure'
tk'i- tk'i- is the verb (action) -
-na is the past tense marker
timash is the object noun
+nan is the object marker**

It is not always this simple:

**I-wiinpa- kw'ala-niki.
She answered happy-with.
She answered with enthusiasm.**

**Compare: Pa wiinp-a kw'alan-i.
She answered him happy.
She was happy when she answered him.**