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A TAGMEMIC SKETCH OF MAPUCHE GRAMMAR

A Thesis

Presented to

the Faculty of the Department of English

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In Partial Fulfillment

of the Requirements for the Degree

Master of Arts

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A TAGMEMIC SKETCH OF MAPUCHE GRAMMAR

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INTRODUCTION

This paper will attempt to make a tagmemic analysis of Mapuche, an Indian language of Chile. The Mapuche language is spoken by approximately 300,000 out of 500,000 Indians still living in the South Central part of Chile. Mapuche has been greatly influenced by Spanish in its lexicon, but its structures have remained practically the same, with just a few alterations caused by the Spanish influence.

In making this study I will base all examples on my own idiolect of Mapuche. It is true that some part of the phonology, grammar and lexicon may vary in the different Mapuche speaking communities. This study will include a brief phonological statement, a morphological statement, phrase, clause and sentence level structures. The verb will be given priority within the morphological study, since it is perhaps the most striking linguistic phenomenon due to the number of markers that it can take to convey meanings which other languages convey by the use of longer contexts.

On the whole, we could say that Mapuche is a SVO language, although there are some uses in which the object always precedes the verb. Examples will be given of all orders possible in phrases and clauses.

This study does not attempt to be complete. It will provide an outline for future studies concerning the topics dealt with here. We encourage those linguists who are interested in investigating this language to fulfill their wishes

without hesitation. We hope this paper will provide some hints and information for all those who become interested in reading it.

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Finally, thanks to my parents, relatives and friends for sharing my existence.

I. BRIEF PHONOLOGICAL STATEMENT

The consonant phonemes of Mapuche are presented in Table I according to place and manner of articulation.

The Mapuche language does not have an official set of written symbols; the investigators who have done written work on Mapuche have adapted many symbols from other languages.

In the present study we will attempt to classify each sound as it is articulated.

1. Vowels

There are six vowels in Mapuche.

/a/ low central	k <u>a</u> l
/e/ mid front	ch <u>e</u>
/i/ high front	pi <u>n</u>
/ɨ/ mid front central	fɨ <u>n</u>
/o/ mid back	ko <u>o</u>
/u/ high back	llu <u>u</u>

2. Diphthongs

There are twelve diphthongs in Mapuche.

/ay/	ka <u>y</u>
/aw/	ka <u>w</u> -ka <u>w</u>
/ey/	fe <u>l</u> ey
/ew/	ko <u>n</u> ew
/eg/	l <u>h</u> eg
/ig/	li <u>g</u>
/iw/	chi <u>r</u> iw
/ɨw/	fɨ <u>w</u>
/oy/	tho <u>y</u>
/ow/	kɨ <u>l</u> ow
/uy/	lu <u>y</u>
/ɨy/	anɨ <u>y</u>

3. Consonants

There are eighteen consonants and three semiconsonants in Mapuche.

1. Voiceless stops:

/p/	p̣ile
/t/	tun
/k/	ḳila
2. Voiceless fricatives:

/f/	f̣ita
/θ/	than
/s/	ṣilho
/š/	sḥilho
3. Affricates:

/tr/	trewa
/č/	chem
4. Nasals:

/m/	man
/ṇ/	namun
/n/	ṇin
/ɲ/	ngen
/ñ/	ñuke
5. Laterals:

/ḷ/	ḷiṃin
/ḷ/	keḷi
/ʎ/	lhum
6. Retroflex:

/ṛ/	koṛi
------	-------
7. Semiconsonants:

/w/	we
/y/	yen
/ʎ/	l h ag

The alveolar and dental nasals and laterals do not contrast with each other in any utterance, but there does not appear to be any phonological conditioning factor permitting prediction of alveolar or dental. Mapuche speakers do clearly distinguish in alveolar-dental contrast in spite of the fact that substitution of one for the other can not make a difference in meaning. The orthography used in the remainder of this study does not distinguish alveolars from dentals.

Table 1 - Consonant Chart

	Bilabial	Labiodental	Interdental	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar
Stop	p			t			k
Fricative		f		θ	s	ʃ	
Affricate					tʃ	ç	
Nasal	m			n	ɱ	ɲ	ŋ
Lateral				l	ʎ		
Retroflex					ɻ		
Semivowels consonants	w					y	ɣ

Symbols

θ
s
t
c
n
y
l
h
y

Orthography

th
sh
tr
ch
n
ng
l
lh
g

II. MORPHOLOGICAL STATEMENT

The verb occupies the predicate position of a clause.

The verb contains an obligatory stem plus an obligatory subject relator marker. The following markers are optional: tense, reflexive, benefactive, detrimental, imperative, cessation, pretense, passive, direction, surprise, place and negation. All these markers can be added to the same root at the same time depending on the idea the speaker wants to convey.

In the following examples we will include each marker according to the order in which each one occurs.

Inche	‡lkantu <u>ken</u>	(<u>ilkantu</u> : root - sing; <u>ke</u> : habitual present; <u>n</u> : subject relator marker 'I' first person singular)	I sing
Eymi	‡lkantukeymi		You sing
Fey	‡lkantukey		He, she sings
Inchiw	‡lkantukeyu		We two (dual) sing
Eymu	‡lkantukeymu		You two sing
Feyengu	‡lkantukeyngu		They two sing
Inchiñ	‡lkantukeiñ		We sing
Eymñ	‡lkantukeymñ		You all sing
Feyengñ	‡lkantukeyngñ		They sing (three or more)

k‡ithaw--work

	^{Verb} k‡ithaw <u>ken</u>	^{fem}	I work
	k‡ithawkeymi	^{sub}	You work
	k‡ithawkey		He, she works
	k‡ithawkeyu		We two work
	k‡ithawkeymu		You two work

k̄ithawkeyngu	They two work
k̄ithawkeiñ	We work
k̄ithawkeyngin	They work

ikantu--sing

ikantuan	(<u>ikantu</u> : sing.; (<u>a</u> : future) <u>n</u> : subject relator marker, first person singular)
ikantuaymi	You will sing
ikantuay	He, she will sing
ikantuayu	We two will sing
ikantuaymu	You two will sing
ikantuayngu	They two will sing
ikantuaiñ	We will sing
ikantuaymin	You all will sing
ikantuayngin	They will sing

k̄ithawan	I will work
k̄ithawaymi	You will work
k̄ithaway	He will work
k̄ithawayu	We two will work
k̄ithawaymu	You two will work
k̄ithawayngu	They two will work
k̄ithawaiñ	We will work
k̄ithawaymin	You all will work
k̄ithawayngin	They will work

The reflexive marker.

The reflexive marker has three allomorphs: wu, w̄i and w. (athkintu: root 'look at'; wu and w̄i reflexive markers in free variation or complementary distribution allomorphs of the same morpheme)

athkintuwun
athkintuw̄in

athkintuwken	(w: reflexive marker) I look at myself.
athkintuwkeymi	You look at yourself
athkintuwkey	He looks at himself
athkintuwkeyu	We two look at ourselves
athkintuwkeymu	You two look at yourselves
athkintuwkeyngu	They two look at themselves
athkintuwkeiñ	We look at ourselves
athkintuwkeym̄in	You all look at yourselves
athkintuwkeynḡin	They look at themselves
tukutuwken	I dress myself
tukutuwkeymi	You dress yourself
tukutuwkey	He (she) puts on his (her) clothes
tukutuwkeyu	We two dress ourselves
tukutuwkeymu	You two dress yourselves
tukutuwkeyngu	They two dress themselves
tukutuwkeiñ	We dress ourselves
tukutuwkeym̄in	You all dress yourselves
tukutuwkeynḡim	They dress themselves

The benefactive marker.

The benefactive marker has three allomorphs: *el̄el*, *el* and *l* sometimes in free variation.

̄ilkantulelkefiñ	(̄ilkantu: root: <i>lel</i> :benefactive marker; <i>fiñ</i> : indirect object 3rd Sg.) I sing him a song.
̄ilkantulelkefimi	You sing him a song
̄ilkantulelkefi	He sings him a song
̄ilkantulelkefiyu	We two sing him a song
̄ilkantulelkefimu	You two sing him a song
̄ilkantulelkefingu	They two sing him a song
̄ilkantulelkefiñ	We sing him a song
̄ilkantulelkefim̄in	You all sing him a song

ĩlkantulelkefingĩn	They sing him a song
ĩlkantulkeen	(l: benefactive marker; en: subject-object relator marker 2nd Sg. subject, 1st Sg. IO.) You sing me a song
ĩlkantulkefimi	You sing him a song
ĩlkantulmukeyu	(muyu: subject-object relator marker 2nd Sg.S, 2nd dual IO.) You sing us (dual) a song
ĩlkantulkefimiengu	You sing them (dual) a song
ĩlkantulmukein	You sing us a song
ĩlkantulkefimiengĩn	You sing them a song
ĩlkantulkeenew	(enew: subject-object relator 3rd Sg.S, 1st Sg. IO. marker) * He sings me a song
ĩlkantulkeeymew	He sings you a song
ĩlkantulkefi	He sings him a song
ĩlkantulkeeyumew	He sings us (dual) a song
ĩlkantulkeeymumew	He sings you (dual) a song
ĩlkantulkeeyngumew	He sings them (dual) a song
ĩlkantulkeeiĩmew	He sings us a song
ĩlkantulkeeymĩnmew	He sings you all a song
ĩlkantulkeeyngĩnmew	He sings them a song
ĩlkantulmuken	(mun: subject-object relator marker 2nd dual S, 1st Sg. IO. mu + n discontinuous.)
ĩlkantulkefimu	You (dual) sing him a song
ĩlkantulkefimuengu	You (dual) sing them (dual) a song
ĩlkantulmukeyu	You (dual) or you all sing us (dual) a song

‡lkantulmukeiñ	You (sing., dual, plural) sing us a song
‡lkantulkefimuengin	You (dual) sing them (plural) a song
‡lkantulkeewewengu	They (dual) sing me a song
‡lkantulkeeymewengu	They (dual) sing you a song
‡lkantulkefiengu	They (dual) sing him a song
‡lkantulkeeyumewengu	They (dual) sing us (dual) a song
‡lkantulkeeymumewengu	They (dual) sing you (dual) a song
‡lkantulkeeyngumewengu	They (dual) sing them (dual) a song
‡lkantulkeeiñmewengu	They (dual) sing us a song
‡lkantulkeeyminmewengu	They (dual) sing you all a song
‡lkantulkefinguengin	They (dual) sing them a song
‡lkantulkeewewengin	They (plural) sing me a song
‡lkantulkeeymewengin	They sing you a song
‡lkantulkefiengin	They sing him a song
‡lkantulkeeyumewengin	They sing us (dual) a song
‡lkantulkeeymumewengin	They sing you (dual) a song
‡lkantulkeeyngumewengin	They sing them (dual) a song
‡lkantulkeeiñmewengin	They sing us a song
‡lkantulkeeyminmewengin	They sing you all a song
‡lkantulkeeynginmewengin	They sing them a song
‡lkantuluwiiñ	We (dual, plural) sang you a song
‡lkantulfiiñ	We sang him a song
‡lkantulfiinengu	We sang them (dual) a song
‡lkantulfiinengin	We sang them a song

In Mapuche the subject words indicating person can be omitted, but they are always used in the presence of certain ambiguities. There are nine words corresponding to this class; they also function as objects.

<u>Inche</u>	kithawelkeeyu	I work for you
<u>Eymi</u>	kithawelkeen	You work for me
<u>Fey</u>	kithawelkeenew	He/she works for me
<u>Inchiu</u>	kithawelkefiyu	We two work for him
<u>Eymu</u>	kithawelmuken	You two work for me
<u>Feyengu</u>	kithawelkeenew	They two work for me
<u>Inchiñ</u>	kithawelkefiin	We work for him
<u>Eymñ</u>	kithawelmuken	You all work for me
<u>Feyengñ</u>	kithawelkeenew	They work for me

Subject: English grammar
 Topic: Tenses
 Chapter: Present Perfect Tense
 Date: / /

IO															
First Sq.	-win	-en	-arew		-maw	-enawen		-maw	-enawen		-maw	-enawen		-maw	-enawen
Second Sq.	-eyu	-awimi	-eymew	-iyu		-eymew	-awim		-eymew	-awim		-eymew	-awim		-eymew
Third Sq.	-fiñ	-fimi	-fi	-fiyu		-fimu	-fingu		-fiñ	-fimiñ		-fiñ	-fimiñ		-fiñ
First Dual	-wiyu	-mayu	-eymew	-wiyu	-mayu	-eymew		-mayu	-eymew		-mayu	-eymew		-mayu	-eymew
Second Dual	-wiñ		-eymew	-wiñ	-awim	-eymew	-wiñ		-eymew	-wiñ		-eymew	-wiñ		-eymew
Third Dual	-fiñgu	-fimiñgu	-fiñgu	-fiyñgu	-fimuñgu	-fiñgu	-fiñgu	-fimiñgu	-fiñgu	-fimiñgu	-fiñgu	-fimiñgu	-fiñgu	-fimiñgu	-fiñgu
First Pl.	-wiñ	-muñ	-eiñmew		-muñ	-eiñmew	-wiñ		-eiñmew	-wiñ		-eiñmew	-wiñ		-eiñmew
Second Pl.	-awim		-eymew	-awim		-eymew	-awim		-eymew	-awim		-eymew	-awim		-eymew
Third Pl.	-fiñguñ	-fimiñguñ	-fiñguñ	-fiyñguñ	-fimuñguñ	-fiñguñ	-fiñguñ	-fimiñguñ	-fiñguñ	-fimiñguñ	-fiñguñ	-fimiñguñ	-fiñguñ	-fimiñguñ	-fiñguñ

The directional marker.

The directional marker has four allomorphs: *irpa* and *irpu*, after C in free variation *rpa* and *rpu* after a V in free variation.

<i>kithawelirpaen</i>	(<i>kithaw</i> : root-work; <i>el</i> : benefactive marker; <i>irpa</i> : directional marker: 'on the way way to some place')
	You stopped here for a moment and did some work for me.
<i>kithawelirpafimi</i>	You stopped here for a moment and did some work for him.
<i>kithawelmurpayu</i>	You stopped here for a moment and did some work for us two.
<i>kithawelirpafimiengu</i>	You stopped here for a moment and did some work for them two.
<i>kithawelmurpaiñ</i>	You stopped here for a moment and did some work for us.
<i>kithawelirpafimiengin</i>	You stopped here for a moment and did some work for them.
<i>kithawelirpuen</i>	(<i>irpu</i> : directional marker 'on your way from this place to that place')
	You stopped there for a moment and did some work for me.
<i>kithawelirpufimi</i>	You stopped there for a moment and did some work for him.

k̄ithawelmurpuyu	You stopped there for a moment and did some work for us two
k̄ithawel̄irpufimiengu	You stopped there for a moment and did some work for them two
k̄ithawelmurpuiñ	You stopped there for a moment and did some work for us
k̄ithawel̄irpufimiengin	You stopped there for a moment and did some work for them

The place marker.

The place marker slot may be filled by either pa 'here' or pu or me 'there'.

k̄ithawelpaen	(pa: place marker 'here'; en: indirect object 2nd Sg.S., 1st Sg. IO.)
k̄ithawelpafimi	You came here to do some work for him
k̄ithawelmupayu	You came here to do some work for us two
k̄ithawelpafimiengu	You came here to do some work for them two
k̄ithawelmupain̄	You came here to do some work for us
k̄ithawelpafimiengin	You came here to do some work for them
k̄ithawelpuen	You went there to do some work for me
k̄ithawelpufimi	You went there to do some work for him
k̄ithawelmupuyu	You went there to do some work for us two

k̄ithawelpufimiengu	You went there to do some work for them two
k̄ithawelmupuiñ	You went there to do some work for us
k̄ithawelpufimiengñ	You went there to do some work for them
k̄ithawelmeen	You went there to do some work for me
k̄ithawelmefimi	You went there to do some work for him
k̄ithawelmumeyu	You went there to do some work for us two
k̄ithawelmefimiengu	You went there to do some work for them two
k̄ithawelmumeiñ	You went there to do some work for us
k̄ithawelmefimiengñ	You went there to do some work for them

The passive marker.

nge is the passive marker in Mapuche. Its position is between the root and the subject relator marker.

theumangey	It was done
pingey	It was said
fenthengey	It was sold

When the passive marker is used together with the benefactive and the directional marker, the passive marker is put after the benefactive marker.

k̄ithawelngepan
 ãlkantulelgepay

Formula: + root ± benefactive marker + passive m
± place m + subject relator marker

kithawelngepan (nge: passive marker)

	Someone came here and did some work for me
kithawelngepaymi	Someone came here and did some work for you
kithawelngepay	Someone came here and did some work for him
kithawelngepayu	Someone came here and did some work for us two
kithawelngepaymu	Someone came here and did some work for you two
kithawelngepayngu	Someone came here and did some work for them two
kithawelngepain̄	Someone came here and did some work for us
kithawelngepaymin	Someone came here and did some work for you all
kithawelngepayngin	Someone came here and did some work for them
ikantulelgepan	Someone came and sang me a song
ikantulelgepaymi	Someone came and sang you a song
ikantulelgepay	Someone came and sang him a song
ikantulelgepayu	Someone came and sang us two a song
ikantulelgepaymu	Someone came and sang you two a song
ikantulelgepayngu	Someone came and sang them two a song
ikantulelgepain̄	Someone came and sang us a song
ikantulelgepaymin	Someone came and sang you all a song

k̄lkantulel̄ngepaynḡin Someone came and sang them
a song

The detrimental marker.

The detrimental marker has three allomorphs: ūnma and īnma in free variation after a C and ñma after a V. This marker has the meaning of to be deprived of or to be hurt in your feelings due to an unjust action.

k̄ithawūn̄mangepan	(ūnma: detrimental marker) Someone came here and did some work without my consent
k̄ithaw̄īn̄mangepaymi	Someone came here and did some work without your consent
k̄ithaw̄īn̄mangepay	Someone came and did some work here without his consent
k̄ithaw̄īn̄mangepayu	Someone came here and did some work without our (dual) consent
k̄ithawūn̄mangepaymu	Someone came here and did some work without your (dual) consent
k̄ithawūn̄mangepayngu	Someone came here and did some work without their (dual) consent
k̄ithawūn̄mangepain̄	Someone came here and did some work without our consent
k̄ithawūn̄mangepaym̄in	Someone came here and did some work without your consent
k̄ithawūn̄mangepaynḡin	Someone came here and did some work without their con- sent

The passive desiderative verb.

The passive desiderative verb is composed of a verb root,

the benefactive marker, the passive marker and the desiderative marker: they are all obligatory constituents.

k̄ithawelngechi	(chi: desiderative subject relator marker)
	May someone work for me
k̄ithawelngenge	May someone work for you
k̄ithawelngeyu	Let's make someone work for us two
k̄ithawelngemu	May someone work for you two
k̄ithawelngepeengu	May someone work for them two
k̄ithawelngeĩn̄	Let's make someone work for us
k̄ithawelngem̄in	May someone work for you all
k̄ithawelngepeenḡin	May someone work for them

The active desiderative verb.

The active desiderative verb is composed of an obligatory verb root, an obligatory benefactive marker, an obligatory desiderative object marker depending on the subject, and finally an obligatory subject or a subject relator marker to avoid ambiguities.

feyenḡin k̄ipalelechimew

or

k̄ipalelechimewenḡin

fey	k̄ipalelechimew	(fey: 3rd Sg. pronoun; k̄ipal: root: bring something; echimew: desiderative subject relator marker)
		May he bring to me
	k̄ipalelfipe	So be it he brings him
	k̄ipalelfipeenḡin	So be it he brings them
eym̄in	k̄ipalelmuchi	You all bring me.....
eym̄in	k̄ipalelfim̄in	You all bring him.....
eym̄in	k̄ipalelmuyu	You all bring us.....

eym̄in	k̄ipalmum̄in	You all bring yourselves.....
eym̄in	k̄ipalelfim̄inenḡin	You all bring them.....
feyenḡin	k̄ipalelechimewenḡin	So be it they bring me.....
feyenḡin	fey k̄ipalelfipeenḡin	So be it they bring him.....
feyenḡin	feyengu	So be it they bring them
	k̄ipalelfipeenḡin	two.....
feyenḡin	k̄ipalelfipeenḡin	So be it they bring them.....

The imperative marker.

+ root: k̄ithaw + imperative subject relator marker

k̄ipal	
theuma	
k̄ithawelen	Work for me
k̄ithawnge	Work
k̄ithawelfinge	Work for him
k̄ithawelmuyu	Work for us two
k̄ithawmu	Work (dual)
k̄ithawelfingeengu	Work for them two
k̄ithawelmuiñ	Work for us
k̄ithawelfingeenḡin	Work for them
k̄ipalelen	Bring me.....
k̄ipalnge	Bring.....
k̄ipalelfinge	Bring him.....
k̄ipalelmuyu	Bring for us two.....
k̄ithawelfim̄inengu	Work for them two
k̄ithawelmuiñ	Work for us
k̄ithawelfim̄inenḡin	Work for them
k̄ipalmu	Bring (dual).....
k̄ipalelfingeengu	Bring them two.....
k̄ipalelmuiñ	Bring us.....
k̄ipalelfingeenḡin	Bring them.....

theumalen	Make me.....
theumange	Make.....
theumalfinge	Make him.....
theumalmuyu	Make us two.....
theumamu	Make (dual).....
theumalfingeengu	Make them two.....
theumalmuiñ	Make us.....
theumalfingeengin	Make them.....

Eymu (dual) You two

k̄ithawmu	Work
k̄ithawelmuchi	Work for me
k̄ithawelfimu	Work for him
k̄ithawelmuyu	Work for us two
k̄ithawelfimuengu	Work for them two
k̄ithawelmuiñ	Work for us
k̄ithawelfimuengin	Work for them

Eym̄in (plural) You all

k̄ithawm̄in	Work
k̄ithawelmuchi	Work for me
k̄ithawelfim̄in	Work for him
k̄ithawelmuyu	Work for us two

The Imperative Subject Object Relations.

Subject	Ey mi	Ey mu	Ey mi in
Objects	- nge	- mu	- mi in
inche	- en	- machi	- machi
fej	- finge	- fimu	- fim in
inchiw	- myu	- myu	- myu
fejengqu	- fingenqu	- fimuengqu	- fim inengqu
inchi in	- mu in	- mu in	- mu in
fejeng in	- fingen in	- fimueng in	- fim ineng in

amuwey	He has been going lately
amuwen	I have been going lately
amuweymi	You have been going lately
amuweyua	We two have been going lately
amuweymu	You two have been going lately
amuweyngu	They two have been going lately
amuwein̄	We have been going lately
amuweym̄n	You all have been going lately
amuweynḡn	They have been going lately

The cessation marker.

k̄ithawwelay	(wela: cessation marker)
	He has stopped working
amuwelay	He has stopped going
k̄ipawelay	He has stopped coming
wank̄iwelay	It has stopped barking

Verbs derived from adjective stems.

The stative marker.

The stative marker has two allomorphs: k̄ile and le; k̄ile is used after a consonant and le is used after a vowel. The position of this marker within the verb is between the root and the subject relator marker.

chothk̄iley	(root: choth; kile: stative marker)
	It is yellow
pothk̄iley	It is dirty
kutrank̄ilen	I am sick
ayiwk̄ilen	I am glad
lhathk̄ileymi	You are angry
lifk̄iley	It is clean
lingark̄iley	It is white
tingk̄iley	It is quiet
rakithuamk̄iley	He is thoughtful
kur̄iley	It is black
witraley	He, she is standing
fentreley	It is a lot There is a lot

pichiley	It is a little. There is a little
epuley	There are two
kiñeley	There is one
athkintuley	He is watching
arkiley	It is dry
ilhkuley	He is angry

The starting permanent stative marker has two variants: kilewe and lewe; these variants follow the rules of the stative marker we have previously examined.

pothkilewey	(root: poth; kilewe: starting permanent stative marker) It has remained dirty since....
kutrankilewen	I have been sick since.....
ayiwkilewen	I have been happy since.....
lhathkileweymi	You have been angry since.....
lifkilewey	It has been clean since.....
lingarkilewey	It has been white since.....
tingkilewey	It has been quiet.....
rakithuamkilewey	He has been thoughtful since...
kurilewey	It has been black since.....
witralewey	He, she, it has been standing since.....
fentrelewey	There has been a lot There is a lot left
pichilewey	There has been a little There is a little left
epulewey	There are two left
kiñelewey	There is one left
athkintulewey	He, she was kept watching since.....
arkilewey	It has been dry since.....
ilhkulewey	He, she has been angry since...

The near past marker.

k̄ithawpen	(pe: near past marker) I worked a little while ago
k̄ithawpeymi	You worked a little while ago
k̄ithawpey	He, she worked a little while ago
k̄ithawpeyu	We two worked a little while ago
k̄ithawpeymu	You two worked a little while ago
k̄ithawpeyngu	They two worked a little while ago
k̄ithawpeiñ	We worked a little while ago
k̄ithawpeym̄in	You all worked a little while ago
k̄ithawpeynḡin	They worked a little while ago

kintupen	(root:kintu: look for) I looked for.....a little while ago
----------	---------------------------------------------------------------

pe also connotes present tense when used with some verbs that require an object.

kintupen	I look for.....
yepapen	(root: yepa: come and get) I have come to get.....
ngilhapen	I bought...a little while ago
pipen	I am buying..... I am saying..... I have said..... I want.....(now)

The surprise marker.

milerkey	(root: m̄ile: be; rke: surprise marker)
	To my surprise he was there
amurkey	To my surprise he had gone.....
kutrankilerkey	To my surprise he was sick
kithawirkeymi	To my surprise you worked
kithawirkeymu	To my surprise you two worked
kithawirkeyngu	To my surprise they two worked
kithawirkeym̄in	To my surprise you all worked
kithawirkeyngin	To my surprise they worked
pichilewerkey	To my surprise there was a little left

The pretence marker.

The pretence marker has two allomorphs: kantu and wfaluw or faluw; wfaluw is used after a root ending in vowel, and faluw is used after a root ending in consonant. The position of this marker is between the root and the subject relator marker.

ilhku <u>wfaluw</u> nge	Pretend you are angry
ngimak <u>kantu</u> nge	Pretend you are crying
lhikakantufinge	(root:lhika: to be afraid; kantu: pretence marker; finge: 2nd Sg.S., 3rd Sg.O) Pretend you are afraid of him.
amukantunge	Pretend you are going
thumakantufinge	Pretend you are making it

kewakantuen	Pretend you are fighting with me
ulelkantuen	Pretend you are hitting me
lhikawfaluwfinge	(wfaluw: pretence marker) Pretend you are afraid of him
amuwfaluwngē	Pretend you are going
thewmawfaluwfinge	Pretend you are making it
kewawfaluwen	Pretend you are fighting with me
ulelfaluwen	Pretend you are hitting me

Verb reduplication.

Some Mapuche verbs denote continuative aspect by means of reduplication.

Examples:

kithawkithawngēy	He/she is working
ngimangimangeyngu	They two are crying
thunguthungungeyngin	They are speaking
putuputungey	He is drinking wine
mawinmawinngēy	It is raining
wankiwankingēy	It is barking

The negative markers.

kithawkilnge	(kil: negative marker: nge: imperative subject relator marker) Don't work
kithawelkeeli	(ke: negative marker; eli: subject object relator marker; 2nd person Sg, 1st person singular) Don't work for me

k̄ithawelkifilnge	(kil: discontinuous negative marker) Don't work for him
k̄ithawelmukiyu	Don't work for us two
k̄ithawelkifilngeengu	Don't work for them two
k̄ithawelmukiliin̄	Don't work for us
k̄ithawelkifilngeengin	Don't work for them
k̄ithawkinulnge	(kinul: negative marker) Don't work
k̄ithawelkenueli	Don't work for me
k̄ithawelkinufilnge	Don't work for him
k̄ithawelmukinuliyu	Don't work for us two
k̄ithawelkinufilngeengu	Don't work for them two
k̄ithawelmukinuliin̄	Don't work for us
k̄ithawelkinufilngeengin	Don't work for them
k̄ithawlan	(la: negative marker) I don't work; I didn't work
k̄ithawlaymi	You don't work (present or past)
k̄ithawlay	He doesn't work (present or past)
k̄ithawlayu	We two don't work (present or past)
k̄ithawlaymu	You two don't work (present or past)
k̄ithawlayngu	They two don't work (present or past)
k̄ithawlaiin̄	We don't work (present or past)
k̄ithawlaymin	You all don't work (present or past)
k̄ithawlayngin	They don't work (present or past)

kìthawlaan	I will not work
kìthawlaaymi	You will not work
kìthawlaay	He, she will not work
kìthawlaayu	We two will not work
kìthawlaaymu	You two will not work
kìthawlaayngu	They two will not work
kìthawlaaiñ	We will not work
kìthawlaaymìn	You all will not work
kìthawlaayngìn	They will not work
thewmangelay	It was not done
pengelay	It was not seen
kintungelay	It was not looked for
kintungelan	I was not looked for
ramtungelan	I was not asked
imfitangelan	I was not invited
mangelngelan	I was not invited
kìthawnulmi	(nu: negative marker; lmi: conditional subject relator marker)
	If you don't work
kìthawnuli	If I don't work
kìthawnule	If he doesn't work
kìthawnuliyu	If we two don't work
kìthawnulmu	If you two don't work
kìthawnuleengu	If they two don't work
kìthawnuliiñ	If we don't work
kìthawnulmìn	If you all don't work
kìthawnuleengìn	If they don't work
kìthawnuali	(li: conditional subject relator marker)
	If I am not going to work
kìthawnualmi	If you are not going to work

kithawnuale	If he is not going to work
kithawnualiyu	If we two are not going to work
kithawnualmu	If you two are not going to work
kithawnualeengu	If they two are not going to work
kithawnualiiñ	If we are not going to work
kithawnualmin	If you all are not going to work
kithawnualeengin	If they are not going to work
thewmangenuale	If it is not going to be done
pengenuale	If it is not going to be seen
kitungenuale	If it is not going to be looked for
kitungenuali	If I am not going to be looked for
ramtungenuali	If I am not going to be asked
mangelngenuali	If I am not going to be invited

The negative marker has basically four sets of allomorphs: kil, kinul, la and nu.

1) kil is used as an imperative negative marker and it has three variants:

kil is used in the second person singular, third person singular, third person dual and third person plural.

ke is used before the second person singular-first person singular subject-object relator marker.

ki or kil is used in second person singular-first person

dual subject-object relator marker.

2) kinul is used before the second person singular, third person singular, first person dual, third person dual, first person plural and third person plural subject object relator marker.

kenu is used before the second person singular-first person singular subject object relator marker.

3) la is used invariably for all persons in the present, past and future tense.

4) nu is also used invariably in all conditional forms.

The following illustrate how a Mapuche verb can be made more complex by addition of optional markers.

- | | | |
|----|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. | kithawin | I work, I worked |
| | root - SRM (subject relator marker) | |
| 2. | kithaweleyu | I work for you, I worked for you |
| | root - ben.m. - SORM | |
| 3. | kithawelpaeyu | I worked for you here |
| | root - ben.m. - place m. - SORM | |
| 4. | kithawelirpaeyu | I worked for you here on my way to..... |
| | root - ben.m. - dir.m. - SORM | |
| 5. | kithawelurpalaeyu | I didn't work for you here on my way to..... |
| | root - ben.m. - dir.m. - neg.m. - SORM | |
| 6. | kithawelngerpalaymi | Nobody did any work for you here on the way to..... |
| | root - ben.m. - passive m. dir.m. neg.m. SRM | |
| 7. | kithawelmekengerparkelaymi | To my surprise they haven't done any work for you here on their way to..... |

root - ben.m. - do - passive m. - dir.m. - surprise m.
neg.m. - SRM

8. kithawelmekengewerparkelaymi To my surprise they have
stopped doing some work for
you here on their way to.....

root - ben.m. - do - pass.m. - end of an action m.
(discontinuous in this case) - dir.m. - surprise m. -
cessation m. SRM.

9. kithawelkantumekengewerparkelaymi
10. kithawelfaluwkantumekeṅgewerparkelaymi
11. kithawelkantulfaluwmekeṅmangewerparkelaymi
12. fenthekantulfaluwmekeṅmangewerparkelaymi
13. hg̃illalkantulfaluwmekeṅmangewerparkelaymi
14. ṅlkantukantulfaluwmekeṅmangewerparkelay
15. thewmakantulfaluwmekeṅmangewerparkelaiṅ
16. enseṅalfaluwkantulmekeṅmangewerparkelaym̃

Abbreviations

m	marker
ben.	benefactive
SORM	subject object relator marker
dir.	directional
neg.	negative
SRM	subject relator marker
pass.	passive
surp.	surprise

Although the Mapuche verb is highly inflected, nouns are not inflected but do combine with certain derivational affixes to form derived words.

Examples:

kithaw	work
kithaw <u>in</u>	to work
mami <u>lh</u>	firewood
mami <u>lhtun</u>	to get firewood
kofke	bread
kofke <u>n</u>	to make bread
kofket <u>un</u>	to eat bread
ilo	meat
ilo <u>n</u>	to kill an animal for meat
ilo <u>tun</u>	to eat meat
chalhwa	fish
chalhwa <u>n</u>	to fish
chalhwa <u>tun</u>	to eat fish
chumpiru	hat
chumpiru <u>n</u>	to make hats
chumpiru <u>tun</u>	to put on a hat

To indicate a person's occupation the marker fe is added to the corresponding noun or verb root.

kithaw <u>fe</u>	worker
chalhwa <u>fe</u>	fisherman
chumpiru <u>fe</u>	hat maker
kofke <u>fe</u>	baker
rukaf <u>fe</u>	house builder
maku <u>nfe</u>	poncho maker
lichitu <u>fe</u>	milkman
ense <u>nache</u> fe	teacher
thungu <u>fe</u>	speaker, one who likes to talk

wewpife	one who delivers speeches
awkantufe	player

There are other markers which convert a noun or verb into a noun indicating the special use of a place, the name of a room, or the name of a tool or implement. They are:

ruka	house
ruk <u>awe</u>	the place where houses are built
palin	to play palin (Mapuche game)
pali <u>we</u>	the place where palin is played
chalhwa	fish
chalhw <u>awe</u>	the place where you can go fishing
umawtun	to sleep
umawtu <u>we</u>	bedroom
umawtupey <u>imchi</u> ruka	bedroom
kosina	kitchen
kosin <u>awe</u>	the place where you cook
kosinapey <u>imchi</u> ruka	the place where you cook
kofke	bread
kofk <u>ewe</u>	oven
katrin	to cut
katri <u>we</u>	an implement for cutting
katripey <u>im</u>	an implement for cutting
katripey <u>imchi</u> makina	harvester

The noun in Mapuche is not inflected for plural. Personal nouns are singular, unless overtly marked for plural. Animate personal nouns may optionally be marked overtly for plural but otherwise may be either singular or plural. Pu is never used with inanimate nouns.

Examples:

che	person
-----	--------

<u>pu</u> che	people
wentru	man
<u>pu</u> wentru	men
thomo	women
<u>pu</u> thomo	women
trewa	dog, dogs
thewi	mouse, mice
kulhiñ	animal, animals
ufisa	sheep (sing., pl.)
waka	cow, cows
achawalh	chicken, chickens

Adjective morphology.

When an adjective or adjectives accompany the animate or inanimate noun, the plural marker ke is added to one or more adjectives.

Examples:

kime che	good hearted person
kime <u>ke</u> che	kind people
<u>pu</u> kime <u>ke</u> che	kind people
kim wentru	wise man
kim <u>ke</u> wentru	wise men
<u>pu</u> kim <u>ke</u> wentru	wise men
kuri trewa	black dog
kuri <u>ke</u> trewa	black dogs
pichi ufisa	little sheep
pichi <u>ke</u> ufisa	little sheep (pl.)
fita ruka	big house
fita <u>ke</u> ruka	big houses
kime lifru	good book
kime <u>ke</u> lifru	good books
kime <u>ke</u> we fita <u>ke</u> ruka	good new big houses

If a noun is modified by an adjective and there is no plural marker in the noun phrase, it is singular.

In Mapuche it is also possible to derive verbs from adjectives.

Examples:

kime	good
kimen	to be good
kuri	black
kurin	to be black
ath	beautiful
athin	to be beautiful

Tiechi motrin̄ pichi ufisa kuriy.

The fat little sheep is black.

III. THE VERB PHRASE.

The subject of the Mapuche verb phrase can be deleted, since either the auxiliary or the main verb has a subject agreement marker.

There are about three types of verb phrases:

One of them is composed of an inflectional aspectual auxiliary, a possessive which agrees with the subject, and an invariable main verb.

Type I----n-form

Aux + Poss + V (Aux and Poss must agree)

meken n̄i papeltun	I am studying
mekeymi mi papeltun	You are studying
mekey n̄i papeltun	He is studying
mekeyu yu papeltun	We two are studying
mekeymu mu papeltun	You two are studying
mekeyngu n̄i papeltun	They two are studying
mekein iñ papeltun	We are studying
mekeym̄in m̄in papeltun	You all are studying
mekeynḡi n̄i papeltun	They are studying
konin n̄i n̄ithifkan	I am beginning to sew
konimi mi n̄ithifkan	You are beginning to sew
koni n̄i n̄ithifkan	He, she is beginning to sew
koniyu yu n̄ithifkan	We two are beginning to sew
konimu mu n̄ithifkan	You two are beginning to sew
koningu n̄i n̄ithifkan	They two are beginning to sew
koniiñ iñ n̄ithifkan	We are beginning to sew

konim̄in m̄in n̄ith̄ifkan	You all are beginning to sew
koninḡin n̄i n̄ith̄ifkan	They are beginning to sew
thewman n̄i nḡiren	I finished weaving I have finished weaving
thewmaymi mi nḡiren	
thewmay n̄i nḡiren	
thewmayu yu nḡiren	
thewmaymu mu nḡiren	
thewmayngu n̄i nḡiren	
thewmaiñ in̄ nḡiren	
thewmaym̄in m̄in nḡiren	
thewmanḡin n̄i nḡiren	

Type II A----the -ael form.

This is composed of an inflectional aspectual auxiliary, a possessive agreeing with the subject, and a main verb ending in -ael.

Aux. + Poss. + M.V. + Nominal marker

muȳin n̄i amuael	I forgot to go
muȳymi mi amuael	
muȳiy n̄i amuael	
muȳiyu yu amuael	
muȳymu mu amuael	
muȳyngu n̄i amuael	
muȳiñ in̄ amuael	
muȳym̄in m̄in amuael	
muȳynḡin n̄i amuael	
muȳin n̄i amuael	

Type II B

There is another kind of verb phrase which contains an invariable auxiliary, a possessive which agrees with the subject, and a main verb which ends in -ael.

+ aux + poss + ---ael

m̄ley n̄i kelhuae	I have to help
m̄ley mi kelhuae	
m̄ley n̄i kelhuae	
m̄ley yu kelhuae	
m̄ley mu kelhuae	
m̄ley n̄i kelhuae	
m̄ley iñ kelhuae	
m̄ley m̄in kelhuae	
m̄ley n̄i kelhuae	

aȳin n̄i m̄leael	I want to stay
aȳymi mi m̄leael	
aȳy n̄i m̄leael	
aȳyu yu m̄leael	
aȳyngu ni m̄leael	
aȳiñ iñ m̄leael	
aȳym̄m m̄in m̄leael	
aȳynḡin n̄i m̄leael	

Type III A

This type contains an invariable auxiliary (modal auxiliary) and an inflectional main verb.

+ aux + main verb

kim leyen	I know how to read
kim leyeymi	
kim leyey	
kim leyeyu	
kim leyeymu	
kim leyeyngu	
kim leyeiñ	
kim leyeiñ	
kim leyeym̄in	
kim leyeynḡin	

IV. NOUN PHRASES.

Noun phrases can occur in the subject slot as well as in the direct object and indirect object slot.

The noun phrase can contain:

1. Predeterminers: kom, kīneke, m̄ir (all, some, both)
2. Possessives: n̄i (my), mi (your), n̄i (his, her, its),
yu (our-dual), mu (your-dual), n̄i (their-dual),
īn (our), m̄in (your), n̄i (their)
3. Determiners: ti, tiechi, t̄ifachi (the, that, this)
4. Numerals: kīne, epu, k̄ila (one, two, three)
5. Modifiers: k̄ime, f̄ita, we, kur̄i (good, big, new,
black)
6. Postdeterminers: kangelu, kakelu (other, others)
7. Noun modifying a noun: kura-ruka, mamilh-ruka (stone
house, wooden house)
8. Noun head: ruka, lifru, koral (house, book, corral)

ruka	Head noun: house
kīne ruka	(kīne: numeral-one) One house, a house
k̄ime ruka	(k̄ime: modifier-good) Good house
f̄ita ruka	(f̄ita: modifier-big) Big house
k̄elī ruka	(k̄elī: modifier-red) Red house
we ruka	(we: modifier-new) New house
kura ruka	(kura: noun modifying noun) Stone-house
tiechi kura-ruka	(tiechi: determiner-that) That stone house
kakelu ruka	(kangelu: postdeterminer- other)

The other house
 (n̄i: possessive-my)
 My house

The following examples illustrate the inclusion of each filler progressively:

A B
 Tiechi ruka

A C B
 Tiechi kura-ruka

A D C B
 Tiechi we kura-ruka

A D E C B
 Tiechi we keli kura-ruka

A D F E C B
 Tiechi we f̄ita keli kura-ruka

A G D F E C B
 Tiechi kime we f̄ita keli kura-ruka

Some of these fillers can change place within the phrase without producing any meaning alterations.

H A G C B
 Kiñe tiechi kime kura-ruka

A H A G D C B
 Tie kiñe chi kime we kura-ruka

(tiechi is a discontinuous filler)

H A G D C B
 Kiñe tiechi kime we kura-ruka

A H A D G C B
 Tie kiñe chi we kime kura-ruka

A H A D G E C B
 Tie kiñe chi we kime keli kura-ruka

A H D G E C B
 Tiechi kiñe we kime keli kura-ruka

A H G D E C B
 Tiechi kiñe kime we keli kura-ruka

A G H E D C B
Tiechi kime kiñe keli we kura-ruka

A F B
Tiechi fiita ruka

A F C B
Tiechi fiita kura-ruka

A G F B
Tiechi kiñe fiita ruka

A H A F B
Tie kiñe chi fiita ruka

A H G F B
Tiechi kiñe kime fiita ruka

A H F G C B
Tiechi kiñe fiita kime kura-ruka

A H A F G C B
Tie kiñe chi fiita kime kura-ruka

A H G F C B
Tiechi kiñe kime fiita kura-ruka

A H A G F C B
Tie kiñe chi kime fiita kura-ruka

H A G F C B
Kiñe tiechi kime fiita kura-ruka

A H A G D F C B
Tie kiñe chi kime we fiita kura-ruka

A H A D G F C B
Tie kiñe chi we kime fiita kura-ruka

A H G D F C B
Tiechi kiñe kime we fiita kura-ruka

A H F G D C B
Tiechi kiñe fiita kime we kura-ruka

H A D G F C B
Kiñe tiechi we kime fiita kura-ruka

A H A D G E F C B
Tie kiñe chi we kime keli fiita kura-ruka

A H A G D E F C B
Tie kiñe chi kime we keli fiita kura-ruka

A H A D E G F C B
Tie kiñe chi we keli kime fita kura-ruka

A H A F D E G C B
Tie kiñe chi fita we keli kime kura-ruka

A H A D E F G C B
Tie kiñe chi we keli fita kime kura-ruka

H A D E G F C B
Kiñe tiechi we keli kime fita kura-ruka

D C B
We kura-ruka

E F D B
Keli fita we ruka

D F E B
We fita keli ruka

F D E B
Fita we keli ruka

D F E C B
We fita keli kura-ruka

I A H D G B
Kom ti mari we kimeke ruka

I A H E D G F B
Kom ti mari keli we kime fitake ruka

A H E D G F B I
Ti mari keli we kime fitake ruka kom

I A J H E D G F B
Kom ti kakelu mari keli we kime fitake ruka

A J I H E D G F B
Ti kakelu kom mari keli we kime fitake ruka

J A I H E D G F B
Kakelu ti kom mari keli we kime fitake ruka

J I A H E D G F B
Kakelu kom ti mari keli we kime fitake ruka

I J A H D G F B
Kom kakelu ti mari we kime fitake ruka

All other the ten new good big (plural marker) house

All the other ten good big new houses

I A H D G F B J
Kom ti mari we kime fitake ruka kakelu

I A H D G F B J
Kom mi mari we kime fitake ruka kakelu

All your ten new good big (pl.m) house other

Your other ten good big new houses

Kom yu kakelu mari we kime fitake ruka

Our (dual) other ten good big new houses

Noun phrase formula: + Predeterminer + determiner (or possessive) + Postdeterminer + Numeral + Modifier 1 + Modifier 2 + Modifier 3 + Modifier 4 + Noun
Modifier + Head Noun.

Relative clauses modifying noun functioning as subject.

Mi kipalel chi poñi (kimelay)

(mi: 2nd Sg.; kipalel: brought; chi: relative clause marker; poñi: potatoes; kimelay: are not good)

The potatoes that you brought are not good.

Variants

Kimelay mi kipalel chi poñi.

Chi poñi mi kipalel kimelay.

Kimelay chi poñi mi kipalel.

Fey ni kipalel chi lifru (ruka mew miley)

(ni: his; lifru: book; ruka: house; mew: relator marker; miley: copula)

The book that he brought is at home.

Variants

Ruka mew m̄ley fey n̄i k̄ipalel chi lifru.
 M̄ley ruka mew fey n̄i k̄ipalel chi lifru.
 Chi lifru fey n̄i k̄ipalel ruka mew m̄ley.

Ti n̄itramkameke chi pu wentru (Arkentinu tui)

(ti: def. art.; n̄itramkameke: talking;
 pu: plural marker; Arkentinu: Argentin-
 tina; tui: come from)

The men who are talking come from
 Argentina

Variants

Arkentinu tui ti n̄itramkameke chi pu wentru.
 Ti n̄itramkameke(lu) chi pu wentru Arkentinu tui.
 Ti pu wentru n̄itramkamekelu Arkentinu tui.

Relative clauses in NP functioning as DO.

Īnche kimfiñ ti kutrank̄ile chi wentru

(īnche: 1st Sg.; kimfiñ: know;
 kutrank̄ile: be sick)

I know the man who is sick

Variants

Kimfiñ īnche ti kutrank̄ile(lu) chi wentru.
 Ti kitrank̄ile chi wentru kimfiñ īnche.
 Ti kutrank̄ile chi wentru īnche kimfiñ.
 Ti wentru kutrank̄ilelu kimfiñ īnche.

Īnche pefiñ ti ngilhatumeke(lu) chi thomo

(ngilhatumekelu: praying; thomo:
 woman)

I saw the woman who was praying.

Variants

Īnche pefiñ ti ngilhatumeke chi thomo.
 Ti ngilhatumeke chi thomo īnche pefiñ.

Ti ngilhatumeke chi thomo pefiñ iñche.

Ti thomo ngilhatumekelu pefiñ iñche.

Ti wentru petu kintufi ti maputhungu chi winka

(petu: present marker; kintufi: look for him, 3rd Sg.; maputhungu: Mapuche speaking; winka: non-Mapuche)

The man is looking for the stranger who speaks Mapuche

Variants

Ti wentru petu kintufi ti maputhungu(lu) chi winka.

Petu kintufi ti maputhungu chi winka ti wentru.

Iñchiñ thungufiñ ti kutrankile chi makuñfe.

(iñchiñ: 1st pl.; thungufiñ: spoke; makuñfe: poncho maker)

We talked to the poncho maker who is sick

Variants

Thungufiñ ti kutrankile chi makuñfe.

Ti kutrankile chi makuñfe thungufiñ inchiñ.

Ti makuñfe kutrankilelu inchiñ thungufiñ.

Ti kutrankile(lu) chi makuñfe thungufiñ.

Relative clauses in NP functioning as IO.

Ti maputhungu chi winka iñchiñ elufiñ lifru.

We gave the book to the stranger who speaks Mapuche.

Variants

Ti maputhungu chi winka elufiñ lifru iñchiñ.

Ti winka maputhungulu iñchiñ elufiñ lifru.

Ti winka maputhungulu elufiñ lifru iñchiñ.

Elufiñ lifru ti maputhungu chi winka.

(Feyengin amulelfingin kiñe karta) ti kutrankile chi pichi thomo.
 They sent a letter the sick is who little girl.
 They sent a letter to the little girl who is sick.

Variants

Ti kutrankile chi pichi thomo feyengin amulelfingin kiñe karta,
 Feyengin amulelfingin kiñe karta ti pichi thomo kutrankilelu.
 Ti pichi thomo kutrankilelu feyengin amulelfingin kiñe karta.
 Ti kutrankile(lu) chi pichi thomo feyengin amulelfingin kiñe.
 karta

Deletion of noun.

The noun in the relative clause can be deleted in a context dependent sentence.

Mi kípalel chi poñi kímelay.

Mi kípalel kímelay.

Ti níttramkameke(lu) chi pu wentrú Arkentinu tui.

Ti níttramkameklu Arkentinu tui.

But

Ti níttramkameke(lú) chi Arkentinu tui.

Ti níttramkamekechi Arkentinu tui.

are ungrammatical

chi is not used when the noun is deleted.

Amulelfingin kiñe karta ti kutrankile(lu) chi pichi thomo
 Amulelfingin kiñe karta ti kutrankilelu.

Kiñe kime(lu) chi lifru ngilhange.

A good real book buy

Buy a good book.

Kiñe kímelu ngilhange.

Buy a good one.

V. PREPOSITIONAL AND POSTPOSITIONAL PHRASES.

The Mapuche locative phrase contains nouns, optional noun modifiers and optional determiners plus a prepositional or postpositional relator.

Ti trewa aniley minche fita mesa.

The dog is sitted under the big table.

Ti narki kuthuley wente kawitu.

The cat is lying on the bed.

Ti chalha miley saku chathi pile.

The pot is near the sack of salt.

Kuan eli ñi lifru mamilh wanku mew.

John left his book on the wooden chair.

VI. ADJECTIVE PHRASES.

In Mapuche all adjectives precede the noun. The adjective phrase can modify a noun or noun phrase.

Kiñe kime lifru A good book.
 Rume kime mapuche lifru Very good Mapuche book.
rume is an intensifier modifying the adjective kime.

It's important to note that in Mapuche there are just a few intensifiers. Rume is the only example we have come across in the present study.

VII. COMPARISON.

Inequality.

The adjective phrase may be expanded by comparative or superlative structures when the adjective is used as a verb.

thoy + V + standard of comparison

Ti keli polhera thoy athi ti choth we polhera mew.
The red dress more beautiful the yellow new dress
than.

The red dress is more beautiful than the yellow
new dress.

thoy is the intensifier and mew is the marker of
the standard of comparison which is used postposi-
tionally.

Kuan thoy kimi Fransiku mew.
John knows more than Frank.

Tifachi wentru thoy kithawi tiechi wentru mew.
This man works more than that man.

Tifachi ko thoy arey tiechi ko mew.
This water is hotter than that water.

Iñche thoy kimim ey mi mew.
I know more than you do

Ey mi thoy kimimi iñche mew.
You know more than I do.

Fey thoy kimi iñche mew.
He knows more than I do.

Eymu thoy kimimu in̄che mew.
You two know more than I do.

Inchiu thoy kimiya eyimi mew.
We two know more than you do.

Feyengu thoy kimingu inchiu mew.
They two know more than us two.

In̄chiñ thoy kimiin̄ eymin̄ mew.
We know more than you all do.

Eym̄in thoy kimim̄in inchiñ mew.
You all know more than we do.

Feyenḡin thoy kiminḡin in̄chiñ mew.
They know more than we do.

Kuan thoy kim wentru ngey Fransiku mew.
John is wiser than Frank.

Kuan thoy kim kona ngey Fransiku mew.
John is a better servant than Frank.

Lautaru thoy kim pichi wentru ngey Kose mew.
Lautaro is a wiser little boy than Joseph.

Formula: \pm determiner \pm personal pronoun \pm noun
 \pm intensifier \pm adjective 1 \pm verb
 \pm adjective 2 \pm noun \pm verb \pm noun
 \pm standard of comparison.

Equality level.

Tunte mi kim̄in eyimi in̄che kay (ka) kim̄in.
How much you know you I also know.

I know as much as you do,

Variants

Eymi mi tunte kimin inche kay(ka) kimin.

Mi tunte kimin eyimi inche kay(ka) kimin.

Inche kay(ka) kimin eyimi mi tunte kimin.

Eymi mi tunte kithawin inche kay(ka) kithawin.

I work as much as you do.

Variants

Tunte mi kithawin eyimi inche kay(ka) kithawin.

Mi tunte kithawin eyimi inche kay(ka) kithawin.

Inche kay kithawin eyimi mi tunte kithawin.

Eymi kay(ka) kithawimi inche ni tunte kithawin.

You also work I my how much work.

You work as much as I do.

Variants

Tunte ni kithawin inche eyimi kay(ka) kithawimi.

Ni tunte kithawin inche eyimi kay(ka) kithawimi.

Inche ni tunte kithawin eyimi kay(ka) kithawimi.

Tifachi polhera ni chumwechi athin tiechi polhera

kay(ka) athi.

This dress its how much beautiful be that dress
beautiful is.

This dress is as beautiful as this dress.

Variants

Ni chumwechi athin tiechi polhera tifachi polhera kay(ka) athi.

Chumwechi ni athin tiechi polhera tifachi polhera kay(ka) athi.

Formula: +determiner +noun +possessive +qualifier +verb

+determiner +noun +equality marker +verb.

The superlative meaning is conveyed in Mapuche by a comparative structure in which kom is used in the standard

of comparison.

Tifachi polhera thoy athi kom ti kila polhera mew .
 This dress more beautiful all the three dress
 among

This dress is the most beautiful among the three.

Kuan thoy kimi kom ti pichike wentrū mew .
 John knows the most among the little boys.

Fransiku thoy kithawi kom ti pu kona mew .
 Frank works the most among the servants.

VIII. CLAUSE STRUCTURES.

Meteorological clauses.

In Mapuche there are clauses which contain just one nuclear tagmeme. All those clauses which describe natural phenomena fall under this category.

+ MPr
+ verb

Mawini	It rained
Pirey	It hailed
Tralkani	It thundered
Niyini	There was an earthquake

Intransitive clauses.

The intransitive clauses are composed of two nuclear tagmemes. Subject and Intransitive Predicate

+ Subject + Intransitive Predicate.

S P
Mawitha echiwi.
Mawitha sneezed.

S P
Pegro chafoy.
Pegro coughed.

S P
Ti pichiche trani.
The baby fell down.

The subject and objects of a Mapuche clause can contain a noun, a noun phrase, an appositional structure, an adjective phrase or a relative clause. The order of each of the clauses can change; apart from some emphasis on the constituent that comes first, there is no other profound change in meaning.

Examples of intransitive clauses containing a noun phrase and a relative clause as subject:

S P

Ti n̄amimlu lifru chi pichi wentru/ngimay.
The little boy who lost a book cried.

Alternative

P S

Ngimay/ti namimlu lifru chi pichi wentru.

S T P

Ti f̄ita wentru k̄ipalu/uya/lay.
The old man who came yesterday died,

Alternatives

S T S P

Ti/uya/k̄ipalu chi f̄ita wentru/lay.

S T S P

K̄ipalu/uya/chi f̄ita wentru/lay.

P S T S

Lay/k̄ipalu/uya/chi f̄ita wentru.

P T S

Lay/uya/k̄ipalu chi f̄ita wentru.

Unitransitive clauses.

Unitransitive clauses are composed of a nuclear subject, a nuclear predicate and a nuclear direct object.

+ Subject + Predicate + Direct Object.

S P DO

Inche/ngilhan/kiñe trutruka.
I bought a trutruka.

Alternatives

P S DO

Ngilhan/inche/kiñe trutruka.

DO S P
Kiñe trutruka/inche/ngilhan.

DO S P
Kiñe trutruka/inche/ngilhan.

S P DO
Kuan Tralkan, ti kasike/niey/mari kawelh.
Kuan Tralkan, the chief has ten horses.

Alternatives

S DO P
Kuan Tralkan, ti kasike/mari kawelh/niey.

DO P S
Mari kawelh/niey/Kuan Tralkan, ti kasike.

S
Tifachi kime ath, keli ange, fita witran ilcha thomo/
P DO
pey/epu lifru.
This pretty red face tall young lady saw two books.

Alternatives

S
Tifachi kime ath, keli ange, fita witran ilcha
DO P
thomo/epu lifru/pey.

DO P S
Epu lifru/pey/tifachi kime ath, keli ange, fita
witran ilcha thomo.

Bitransitive clauses.

The bitransitive clauses are composed of four nuclear tagmemes: subject, predicate, direct object and indirect object.

† Subject † Predicate † Direct Object † Indirect Object

S P DO IO
Kuan/elufi/iyael/ti pu wentru.

John gave food to the men.

Alternatives

S DO P IO
Kuan/iyael/elufi/ti pu wentru.

DO S P IO
Iyael/Kuan/elufi/ti pu wentru.

DO S IO P
Iyael/Kuan/ ti wentru/ elufi.

S P DO IO
Inche/ngilhalfiñ/kiñe chaketa/Kuan.
I bought John a jacket.

Alternatives

P S DO IO
Ngilhalfiñ/inche/kiñe chaketa/Kuan.

DO P S IO
Kiñe chaketa/ngilhalfin/inche/Kuan.

P DO IO S
Ngilhalfiñ/kiñe chaketa/Kuan/inche.

S IO P DO
Inche/Kuan/ngilhalfiñ/kiñe chaketa.

S S P IO DO
Inche/ngilhalfiñ/Kuan/kiñe chaketa.

When the clause has a third person plural subject, the verb can take the third person singular inflection. When there is a third person subject and a third person object it is assumed that the subject comes before the object.

S P DO IO
Ti pichike thomo/yelfi(ngin)/ko/ti pu kithawfe
The girls took water to the workers

Alternatives

S DO P IO
Ti pichike thomo/ko/yelfi/ti pu kithawfe.

S IO P DO
Ti pichike thomo/ti pu kithawfe/yelfi/ko.

S IO DO P
Ti pichike thomo/ti pu kithawfe ko/yelfi.

DO P S IO
Ko/yelfi/ti pichike thomo/ti pu kithawfe.

Stative clauses.

The stative clauses are composed of three nuclear tag-memes: subject, complement and predicate.

+ Subject + Complement + Predicate.

S C P
Kuan Toki, mi chaw/kasike/ngeay.
Kuan Toki, your father will be a chief.

Alternative

C P S
Kasike/ngeay/Kuan Toki, mi chaw.

S C P
Ni lamngen/enseñachefe/ngeay.
My brother will be a teacher.

Alternative

C P S
Enseñachefe/ngeay/ni lamngen.

S C P
Fransiku/kulhin kamañ/ngey.
Frank is a cowboy.

Alternative

C P S
Kulhiñ kamañ/ngey/Fransiku.

Stative transitive clauses.

Stative transitive clauses are composed of four nuclear tagmemes: subject, complement, predicate and direct object.

Subject Complement Predicate Direct Object

1. S C P DO
 Ti pu wentru/kasike/entufingin/Kuan. ✕
 The men elected John chief.

Alternatives

2. S DO C P
 Ti pu wentru/Kuan/kasike/entufingin.

 S C P DO
 Kuan/narki/pifi/ni lamngen.
 John called her sister a cat.

No ambiguity is implied in clause 2 since if we want to express the idea that 'John called a cat for her sister' we have to add a benefactive marker to the verb.

 S C P DO
 Fransiku/koylatufe/pifi Rayen.
 Frank called Rayen a liar.

Motional clauses.

Motional clauses are composed of three nuclear tagmemes: subject, motional predicate and directional. The directional is joined to the verb by prepositional and postpositional relators.

+ Subject + Predicate + Directional

 S P D
 Ti pichike wentru/puwi/inaltu mawitha.
 The little boys got near the forest.

Alternatives

 D P S
Inaltu mawitha/puwi/ti pichike wentru.

I took the big horse that was in the corral to town.

Alternatives

D P S DO
 Waria mew/yefiñ/inche/ti fïta malal mew mïlelu chi
 fïta kawelh.

S D P DO
 Inche/waria mew/yefiñ/ti fïta malal mew mïlelu chi
 fïta kawelh.

S
 Ti fïta witran, kïme ath, kim mapuche weche, wekun
 P DO D
 mïlelu/elmey/ ñi pu kïmeke winka weny/kolekio mew.
 The tall, good looking wise young Mapuche, who is
 outside, took his good non-Mapuche friends to school.

Alternatives

P DO D
 Elmey/ñi pu kïmeke winka weny/kolekio mew/ti fïta
 S
 witran, kïme ath kim mapuche weche, wekun mïlelu.

S
 Ti wekun mïlelu chi kim, kime ath, fïta witran,
 P DO
 mapuche weche/elmey/ ñi pu kïmeke winka weny/
 D
 kolekio mew.

D P DO S
 Kolekio mew/elmey/ni pu kïmeke winka weny/ti wekun
 mïlelu chi kim kïme ath, fïta witran mapuche weche.

IX. PERIPHERAL TAGMEMES

In Mapuche the peripheral tagmemes can occur in several different positions.

Uya mi k̄ipalel chi poñ̄i kimelay.

The potatoes you brought yesterday are not good.

Alternatives

Mi uya k̄ipalel chi poñ̄i kimelay.

Mi k̄ipalel uya chi poñ̄i kimelay.

Mi k̄ipalel chi poñ̄i uya kimelay.

Tifachi wentru k̄ithaway ule.

This man will work tomorrow.

Alternatives

Tifachi wentru ule k̄ithaway.

Ule k̄ithaway tifachi wentru.

Backlooping clauses functioning as peripheral tagmemes.

Iterative clauses.

In Mapuche the iterative meaning is conveyed by the use of fey and the iterative marker yim added to the verb root.

+ Fey + root + yim

Fey iyim kutranken.

Every time I eat I get sick.

Fey amutuyim Kuan, Rayen ngimakey.

Every time John leaves, Rayen cries.

Fey amuyim inche, n̄itramkakeenew.

Every time I go, he talks to me.

Fey amuyim waria mew, ngilhaken filhem,
Every time I go to town I buy everything.

Fey ngimayim ti pichiche, asukura elukefin.
Every time the baby cries, I give him(her) sugar.

Concessive clauses.

Concessiveness in Mapuche is expressed by adding the corresponding conditional marker to the verb plus rume.

conditional form + rume

Kimnuli rume m̄ley n̄i amuael.
Even if I don't know I have to go.

Kimnulmi rume m̄ley mi amuael.
Even if you don't know you have to go.

Kimnule rume m̄ley n̄i amuael.
Even if he doesn't know he has to go.

Kimnuliyu rume m̄ley yu amuael.
Even if we two don't know we have to go.

Kimnulmu rume m̄ley mu amuael.
Even if you two don't know you have to go.

Kimnuleengu rume m̄ley n̄i amuael engu.
Even if they two don't know they have to go.

Kimnuliin̄ rume m̄ley in̄ amuael.
Even if we don't know we have to go.

Kimnulmin̄ rume m̄ley min̄ amuael.
Even if you don't know you have to go.

Kimnuleengin rume māley nī amuael engin,
Even if they don't know they have to go.

Causal clauses.

The causal meaning in Mapuche is expressed by adding the causal marker pītha between the verb root and the conditional marker.

root + pītha + conditional marker.

Elelaeyu tīfachi plata kīpapīthale ti kīthawfe.
I will leave this money in case the worker comes.

Yenge mi makūn mawīnpīthale .
Take your poncho with you in case it rains.

Kofke yean afpīthale ti iyael.
I will take bread in case the food is over.

Yenge ko wīywīpīthalmi,
Take water with you in case you are thirsty.

Manner clauses.

In Mapuche manner is expressed by using reke and the verb kechilen which may be classed as if and look like respectively; reke can be omitted when used before kechilen, but never omitted before any other verb; kechilen is always deleted when some other verb is used after reke.

+ noun or verb + reke + kechilen

+ noun or verb + reke + verb

Kuan kutrankīlelu(reke) kechiley.
John looks as if he were sick.

Molhīlēlu(reke) kechileymi.
You look as if you were drunk.

Rayen pichiche reke ilelfi ti pichi wentru.
Rayen fed the little boy as if he were a baby.

Che reke ngimay ti trewa.
The dog cried as if it were a person.
Fita che reke thunguy fi pichi thomo.
The little girl spoke as if she were a grown up.

Final clauses.

Purpose in Mapuche is expressed by using a possessive and adding the nominalizing marker ael to the verb root; lu used after a verb root also indicates purpose.

Ni athkintuael kipay.
He came here to see.....
Athkintualu kipay.

Ni ngilhaael chathi amun waria mew.
I went to town to buy salt.
Ngilhaalu chathi inche amun waria mew.

Mi kimael amuaymi kolekio mew.
You will go to school in order to learn.
Kimalu ey mi amuaymi kolekio mew.

Ni papeltuael amuy kolekio mew.
He went to school to study.
Papeltualu amuy kolekio mew.

Locative clauses .

The Mapuche locative clauses come after a directional verb and begin with a locative relator.

Amun chew ni feypietew engin.
I went where they told me.

Akun chew n̄i m̄ilemum n̄i mapu.

I came where my piece of land is.

M̄iley in̄ amuael chew in̄ feypiētew.

We have to go where they told us to go.

Temporal clauses.

Temporal clauses are formed by the inclusion of ula.

+ noun phrase(main verb) + ula.

Konin anti ula tripaan inche.

I will go out when the sun is set.

Tripan anti ula konaymi mi k̄ithawin.

You will begin working when the sun rises.

Akule ula Rayen thewmaan n̄i papeltun.

I will finish studying when Rayen gets here.

Durational clauses.

The durational clauses are introduced by fey plus a possessive and a nominalized verb.

+ fey + possessive + nominalized verb.

Lhathk̄ithuamk̄ilewey Kuan fey n̄i amumutum Rayen.

John has been sad since Rayen left.

Rak̄ithuamk̄ilewey ti thomo fey n̄i kimmufiyim ti thungu.

The woman has been thoughtful since she knew about the business.

Ilhkulewey Rayen fey mi amumutum.

Rayen has been sad since you left.

To indicate a specific period of time ngetuy feula is

used after the time expression.

Kila kiyen ngetuy feula ni kutrankilen ti pichiche.
The baby has been sick for three months now.

Epu anti ngetuy feula ni ayiwkilewen.
I have been happy for two days now.

Meli tripantu ngetuy feula ni amumutum Kuan.
It has been four years since John left.

The conditional.

In Mapuche the conditional can either precede or follow the main clause.

Future - conditional

Nieli plata, ngilhaafiñ.
If I have money, I will buy it.
Ngilhaafiñ, nieli plata.

Amulmi waria mew, asukura kipalelaen.
If you go to town, you will bring me sugar.
Asukura kipalelaen, amulmi waria mew.

Less vivid future.

fu is used between the verb root and the subject relator marker to indicate less vivid future; it is optional between the root and the conditional subject relator marker.

Puliwen akulmi, mir amuafuyu.
If you come early, we could go together.
Mir amuafuyu, puliwen akulmi.

Puliwen akufulmi, mir amuafuyu.
If you came early, we would go together.
Mir amuafuyu, puliwen akufulmi.

X. SENTENCE STRUCTURES.

Examples of declarative non focus sentences:

S	P	IO	DO
Ti pichike	wentru/elufingin/	Rayen/	kimeke lifru.
The little boys gave Rayen good books.			

We have already said that the order of clauses can vary without producing any deep alterations in meaning.

No ambiguity is implied in the above sentence since the plural ending of the verb agrees with the plural subject. But it is possible to use a third person singular form after a plural subject; in this case it is assumed that the subject comes before the object,

thus we could have:

S	P	IO	DO
Ti pichike	wentru/elufi/	Rayen/	kimeke lifru.

S	DO	P	IO
Ti pichike	wentru/kimeke	lifru/	elufi/
Rayen.			

S	IO	P	DO
Ti pichike	wentru/Rayen/	elufi/	kimeke lifru.

Examples of declarative active sentences with focus on subject:

S	P	IO	DO
Inchiñ nga/	elufiñ/	Rayen/	kimeke lifru.

We were the ones who gave Rayen good books.

S	P	IO	DO
Ti profesor nga/	elufi/	Rayen/	kimeke lifru.

It was the teacher who gave Rayen good books.

Apart from emphasis in pronunciation, the focus marker nga or manga is added after the subject or object you want to focus.

Examples of declarative active sentences with focus on indirect object:

S P IO focus marker DO
 S IO P DO
 Inchiñ/Rayen nga/elufiñ/kimeke lifru.
 It was Rayen that we gave good books to.

Ti profesor/Rayen manga/elufi/kimeke lifru.
 It was Rayen that the professor gave good books to.

IO S P DO
 Inche manga/Kuan/eluenew/tifachi makuñ.
 It was me that John gave this poncho to.

Examples of declarative active sentences with focus on direct object:

S P IO DO focus marker
 DO P IO S
 Kimeke lifru nga/elufiñ/Rayen/inchiñ.
 It was good books that we gave Rayen.

S P IO DO
 Ti profesor/elufi/Rayen/kimeke lifru manga.
 It was good books that the professor gave Rayen.

IO S P DO
 Inche/Kuan/eluenew/tifachi makuñ manga.
 It was this poncho that John gave (to) me.

Examples of declarative active sentences with focus on predicate:

S P focus IO DO
 S IO P DO
 Inchiñ/Rayen/elufiñ manga/kimeke lifru.
 What we did was give good books to Rayen.

S IO P DO
 Ti profesor/Rayen/elufi manga/kimeke lifru.
 What the teacher did was give Rayen good books.

IO P DO S
 Inche/eluenuw manga/tifachi makuñ/Kuan.
 What John did was give me this poncho.

Two other elements can be introduced to these sentences to convey even a more emphatic idea. They are chumi (what) which agrees with the predicate, and then the particle fey which agrees with the focus marker nga.

Example:

 P S P IO DO
 Chumiin̄/in̄chiñ̄/fey elufiin̄ manga/Rayen/kimeke lifru.
 P S P IO DO
 Chumi/ti profesor/fey elufi nga/Rayen/kimeke lifru.
 P S P IO DO -
 Chumi/Kuan/fey eluenuw nga/in̄che/tifachi makun.

Examples of declarative passive non focus sentences:

In Mapuche the agent of the passive sentence is not mentioned, thus the constituents are: subject, passive predicate and indirect object. The passive is an indefinite actor in Mapuche. No agent is mentioned.

 S P P IO
 Kimeke lifru/elungey/Rayen.
 Good books were given to Rayen.
 S P IO
 We ruka/thewmalngey/Kuan.
 A new house was built for John.
 S P IO
 Kine achawalh/kipalelngen/in̄che.
 A hen was brought for me.

Examples of declarative passive sentences with focus on subject:

Interrogative sentences.

The interrogative markers am (present, past and future), ama (past) and kay (for all tenses indicating special interest on the part of the speaker) are either used at the end of the sentence, or at the end of any of the constituents you want to put a little emphasis on. They can be omitted by using rising terminal intonation.

Examples of interrogative corroborative predicate active non focus sentences:

	S	P	IO	DO	IM	
S	P	IO	DO	QT		
Eym̄in/elufim̄in/Rayen/kimeke	lifru/felelay	am?				
You gave Rayen	good books,	didn't you?				

Eym̄in/elufim̄in/Rayen/kimeke lifru/feley?

Eym̄in/elufim̄in/Rayen/kimeke lifru/feley, felelay?

Interrogative informational subject active non focus sentences.

Apart from using the interrogative word iney (who), chem (what), a dative marker is used after the verb root in interrogative informational sentences; this dative marker agrees with the IO in person and number.

	WM	P	IO	DO	
QW	P	IO	DO		
Iney/elueyew/Rayen/kimeke	lifru	(am)?			
Who gave Rayen	good books?				

QW	P	DO	IO	
Iney/thewmaleyew/we	ruka/Kuan	(am)?		
Who built a new house	for John?			

Interrogative informational direct object active non focus sentences.

QW	S	P	IO	
Chem (am)/eym̄in/elufim̄in/Rayen?				

What did you give Rayen?

QW S P IO
Chem (am)/ ti profesor/ elufi/Rayen?

What did the teacher give Rayen?

QW P S IO
Chem (am)/elueymew/Kuan/eymi?

What did John give you?

Interrogative informational subject active sentence with focus on subject.

QW P IO DO
Iney ama elueyew/Rayen/kimeke lifru?
Who was it that gave Rayen good books?

QW P DO IO
Iney ama/@lueyew/we ruka/Kuan?
Who was it that gave a new house to John?

Informational interrogative direct object active focus on DO.

QW S P IO
Chem ama/eymin/elufimin/Rayen?
What was it that you gave Rayen?

Chem am/ti profesor/elueymew/eymi?
What was it that the teacher gave you?

Informational interrogative active sentence with focus on IO.

QW S P DO
Iney ama/eymin/elufimin/kimeke lifru?
Who was it that you gave good books to?

QW S P DO
Iney ama/ti profesor/elufi/kimeke lifru?
Who was it that the teacher gave good books to?

Interrogative informational passive sentence with focus on DO.

QW P IO
 Chem ama/elungey/Rayen?
 What was it that was given to Rayen?

QW P IO
 Chem ama/thewmalngey/Kuan?
 What was it that was done for John?

Interrogative informational passive sentences with focus on IO.

QW P S
 Iney ama/elungey/kimeke lifru?
 Who was it that good books was given to?

QW P S
 Iney ama/thewmalngey/kine we ruka?
 Who was it that a new house was built for?

Focus on locative.

QW P S IO
 Chew/thewmalngey/ki_{nē} ruka/Kuan?
 Where was it that a house was built for John?

Focus on manner.

QW P S IO
 Chum/thewmalngey/ki_{nē} ruka/Kuan?
 How was it that a house was built for John?

Focus on purpose.

QW P S IO
 Chumwelu/thewmalngey/ki_{nē} ruka/Kuan?
 Why was it that a house was built for John?

Imperative Sentences.

The Mapuche imperative sentences contain one obligatory tagmeme and other optional tagmemes such as subject, directional and manner.

+ S + P + O + M + D

S P D
 Eymi/amunge/waria mew.
 You go to town.

S M P
 Eymi/matu/kithawnge.
 You work rapidly.

S M P DO
 Eymu/matu/thewmamu/mu kithaw.
 You two finish your work quickly.

S P D
 Eym̄in/amum̄in/waria mew.
 You all go to town.

Structures that can fill subject or object slots.

Apposition Structures.

In Mapuche the appositional noun or phrase can come before or after the noun modified.

S P DO
 Kuan Pailhafil, ti kasike/niey/meli thomo.
 Kuan Pailhafil, the chief has four wives.
 Ti kasike, Kuan Pailhafil niey meli thomo.

P DO IO
 Eluafiñ/mapu/Lautaru Trapial, ti profesor.
 I will give land to Mr. Lautaro Trapial, the teacher.
 Ti profesor, Lautaru Trapial eluafiñ mapu.

Coordination Structures.

Ka, engu and engin are three of the Mapuche coordination markers.

S P DO
 Eymi/nieymi/kawelh, ruka, mapu engin achawalh.
 You have horses, a house, land and chickens.

S P D
 Fransiku engu ti pichi wentru/amuy/kolekio mew.
 Frank and the little boy went to school.

Amuafuyu mir akufulmi puliwen.

Contrary to fact.

Apart from including fu, em is also used either in the main clause or the conditional clause.

Nielmi plata, thoy ngilhaafuymi em.

If you had money, you would have bought more.

Nielmi plata em, thoy ngilhaafuymi.

Thoy ngilhaafumi em, neilmi plata.

Pefili, feypiafuiñ em.

If I had seen him, I would have told him.

Pefili em, feypiafuiñ.

Feypiafuin em, pefili.

Thewmali, amuafun em.

If I had finished, I would have gone.

Thewmali em, amuafun.

Amuafun em, thewmali.

Present contrary-to-fact and past contrary-to fact.

Present contrary-to-fact and past contrary-to-fact are only distinguished in Mapuche if an optional temporal is manifested.

Nieli plata, fewla thoy ngilhaafun em.

If I had money, I would buy more now.

Nieli plata, uya thoy ngilhaafun em.

If I had had money, I would have bought more yesterday.

S P IO
Kuan/ramtuenew/chumil̄ ni amuael.
John asked me when I would go.

S P IO
Rayen/ramtuenew/chem̄ ni ngilhan.
Rayen asked me what I bought .

S P DO
Rayen/ramtuenew/tuntē ni ngilhaael.
Rayen asked me how much I would buy.

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