

MAM NOTES FOR TODOS SANTOS CUCHUMATAN

WARNING & DISCLAIMER: The sole purpose of these notes is to assist English speakers in their acquisition of beginning communicative skills in the Mam of Todos Santos Cuchumatán. The notes are not meant to be in any way prescriptive for native speakers of Mam. While this work represents my best efforts to achieve accuracy, please be aware that there are undoubtedly numerous errors. You are strongly encouraged to send me your corrections and additions at rsitler@stetson.edu. (last updated 8/05/00)

GUIDELINES

- These notes generally follow the orthographic norms established by the Academia de Lenguas Mayas de Guatemala in 1987. According to the Proyecto Lingüístico Francisco Marroquín's text Gramática del Idioma Mam, there are three consonants unique to the Mam of Todos Santos (/tch/, /tch'/, and /sh/). I have excluded the /tch/ and /tch'/' consonants since none of my teachers in Todos Santos have referred to them. The pronunciation of the /sh/ sound is generally ignored here due to my lack of language ability. With a few exceptions, this sound is conflated with the /xh/ in these notes.
- Vowels in these notes are pronounced roughly as in Spanish. The distinction between long and short vowels exists in Todos Santos but is often ignored in these notes due to my perceptual limitations. When indicated, the long vowels represent a single prolonged syllable rather than two separate ones.
- /b'/ in these notes is a lightly glottalized /b/. You can practice this sound by pretending that you're stuttering to say the English word "but" > "b'-b'-b'-ut." Focus on pronouncing a /b/ without a vowel after it.
- /ch/ = as in chair. /ch/ & /ky/ seem to sometimes be interchangeable sounds in Todos Santos, However, most words definitely use one or the other. Unfortunately, until I'm better acquainted with the language, these notes will only occasionally reflect these differences.
- /j/ = as in hot (but a stronger sound than in English)
- /k/ = as in candle
- /q/ = strong uvular consonant not found in English but common to many Mayan languages. It is produced deep in the back of the mouth. You can locate this point by making a choking sound.
- /sh/ = similar to sheet but at a tighter, higher pitch than the English sound.
- /tx/ is pronounced with the backwards-pointing tongue along the palate
- /tz/ = ts as in "lots"
- /x/ = as in shower except with the tip of the tongue pointing backwards.
- /xh/ = as in shower with the tongue forward.
- /'/' = glottal stop as in the middle of the English exclamation "uh'oh."
- /'/' after a consonant indicates a glottalized consonant sound (no use of the vocal cords). You can get some sense of this with English words that end in certain consonants, for example with the /k/ sound in cake.
- A word in parenthesis before a verb is a directional verb most commonly used with the verb in question.

GENERAL VOCABULARY

A

a (indefinite article) - jun
 abdomen - k'u'j
 across - jlajx
 adobe brick, wall - loq'
 afraid (be) - xob'
 after - otk
 afternoon - kála
 agreeable - chya'l
 alive - itz' nuk ntxúy itz' - Only my mother
 is alive
 all - chqil(ka)
 already - may
 also - jux jux wéya - me too (- teya, - tey, -
 túyax(a), - chúyaxa, - chúyax)
 always - ikx
amanecer - sqix
 and, *de una vez* - b'i'x
 anger - tx'uj
 animal (usually domestic ones) - alamáj qe,
 qej (plural marker) alamáj - animals
 another - júntl júntl tyem - another (next)
 year júntl maj - once again
 ant - snik
 anything - tiq'ch
 arm - q'ab'
 armful - kloj
 aromatic - k'ok'j
 arrive here - ul
 arrive there - pon
 as - tísa, títza
 ashes - tza'j
 ask - (xi) qánen
atole - q'otj
 avocado - ooj
 awake - itz'
 axe - xkb'il

B

baby - ne'
 backside (human) - xyop
 bad - k'a'
 bag (morrall) - pa'
 banana - knéy (from Spanish *guinea*)
 basket - chi'l
 bathe in the sauna - chújin
 batten used in weaving ("bowl wood") - lak'té
 be quiet! - k'ol!
 be, there is, there are - at

beans - tzának
 beautiful - chéka, kyéka
 because - kúma
 because of - tu'n
 bed - wátb'il
 bee - xi'
 beetle - mox
 before - mitx
 between - (t)xol
 big (big, its exterior) - matí'j
 bird - ch'it
 bit (a) - nux
 bite - (ok) tx'a'n
 bitter - k'a
 black - q'eq'
 black fly (small, biting insect) - us
 blind - moxh
 blood - chik'y, txhi'
 blow (punch) - ux
 blue (to purple hues) - xew
 bobcat - wech
 bone - b'aaq
 book - u'j
 born, to be alive - itz'
 bowl - lak'
 box - káxa
 boy - q'a (add ... ne' for babies)
 break - pa'n
 break/to cut rope/wire - k'uspin
 bridge - q'an
 broom - tz'ísb'il
 brother (of woman) - xíb'en
 brother (older) of man, older sibling of woman -
 tzik
 brother-in-law - b'álek
 brown - xhkak
 brown sugar - kab'
 burn (v) - pátan
 butterfly - put
 by (it,him,her) - tu'n wú'na, tú'na, tu'n,
 qún(a), chú'na, chu'n

C

calender (order of days) - txol q'ij
 call (v) - txakón
 cat - wixh, xhuk
 certain - jax
 chaff - maa'j
 chair - q'a'j
 chicken - e'y

chilacayote squash - q'oq'
 child (of man) - k'waal
 child (of woman), offspring - al (t)al - her child
 (t)al a' - water creatures
 chile - itch
 circular shape - swej
 clay - xk'on
 clean (wipe off) - su'n
 clear (day) - q'il q'il q'ijl - clear day
 clear - xtíla
 clever - ítz'xix
 cliff - qotx
 cloth - plaj
 clothes - xb'ála
 clouds - muuj
 cold - che'w áyxa che'w tzalú - It's cold here

collar - kwench
 color (its) - (t)ílb'el
comal (because of material) - xk'on
 comb - xyeb'
 come from there - tzaaj
 companion, friend - uuy wéya wúuya
copal - pon
 cord (*mecate*) - ch'e'ch, chjaj
 corn (fresh ear) - í'ish
 corn (a crop) - ixí'n
 corn (dried) on cob - jal
 corn field - kjo'n
 corner (inside & outside) - tx'uk
 cough - kúl'b'il
 count - ajlan
 country - tánmi ntánmi - my country
 crazy - ma jaw tuj twi', tx'uj
 crochet needle - b'aaq
 crow - joj
 cruel - k'a'
 crush, to flatten, to gut - patz'un
 cry - oq'
 cultivated place - kójb'al
 cure - q'ánin
 cut (paper) - matzón
 cut (v) - tx'em

D

dance (event) - b'íxb'el
 dance - b'íxin
 dancer - ajb'íxb'el
 darkness - klolj
 daughter (of man) - mel
 daughter-in-law - lib'

day - q'ijl b'á'nxa jun q'ijl - It's a
 beautiful day
 day after tomorrow - kab'j
 day before yesterday - káb'a jey
 deep - nim txe'
 deer - masát
 defend - kólin
 destroy - xítin
 devil (lord of sin) - taw iil
 diarrhea - a' tuj k'uj
 die - chim
 difficult - chíwel
 dirty - tz'iil
 dog - txya'n
 door - tlamél ja
 double - pa'ch pa'ch knej - double banana
 double thickness - pin
 dove - kukú
 down - kúb'na
 drink - k'an waj chin k'an - I want to drink
 dry - tzqil
 duck - petz
 dust - quq
 dysentery - chk'uj

E

each - jáka
 ear - xkin
 early - klax
 earth, land - tx'otx'
 earthquake, tremor - kyaqná'b'
 east - óqna
 easy - nya chíwel
 eat - waa'n
 egg - jos
 egotistical - xk'a
 eight - wájxaq
 elder - tij
 enjoy - tzálaj
 enough - nímka', nímxix
 enter - ook
 errand - salál
 excrement - tx'a
 excrete, to defecate - tx'an
 exposed - sb'i'q
 exterior (its) - (t)i'j
 eyes (his) - tb'a' (t)witz

F

face - witz twítza - your face

faint, to get weak - (tzaj) b'aqch ma chin tzaj
 b'aqch - I fainted
 fall - (kub') tzak, tz'akl
 far - naqch
 fast - chiúx, chiw
 fat (person) - lá'n ma la'n - fat (negative
 connotation)
 father - man
 father-in-law - jíyb'aj
 favor, grace - xtálb'il
 fear (his/her) - (t)chi
 female - xuj
 few - nya nim nya nim b'och - few pigs
 fill - nojsán
 fingers (my) - twi' nq'ab' jun twi' nq'ab' -
 my finger
 finish - b'aj ma pon b'aj tey? - Did you finish?
 finish off - b'ántzan
 fire - q'a'q
 firewood - si'
 fish - kixh
 five - jwe'
 flat - patz
 flea - ch'aq
 flirt (v) - b'alqaj
 flower (thing with seed) - xmákal xmákal is -
 potato flower
 flower - ab'éch
 flute - xux
 fool (n) - ma jaw tuj twi'
 foot - qé'nb'aj tqen - his foot (body parts
 drop "b'aj" ending when possessed)
 for - te at jun u'j te tey - I have a book for
 you
 force - ípen
 forest - txhik'úul
 forgive - nujsám
 fortune - q'inamál
 foul smell - ixéwal
 four - chája
 fox - shíwel
 free - kotz
 fright - séypaj séypaj nim - scared
 frog - pitsh
 from - te, tuj
 fruit - lo'pj
 full - noj

G

garlic - ans
 gift - kotz
 girl - txin (add ... ne' for babies)

girl, miss - txin
 give - q'on
 give a gift - (xi) xtála
 give me ... - q'ántza ...
 go and return - xyaj
 go down - kub'
 go from here to there - xi
 go up - jaw
 good - b'a'n b'á'nxxsa - very good
 good-bye - ku
 grab - (kub') tzyun
 grandchild - chman
 grandfather - chman
 grandmother - ya'
 grass used in roofing - kchil ch'im
 green - cha'x
 grind - che'n
 ground, soil - (t)witz tx'otx'
 groundhog - b'a
 group - k'loj
 grow - ch'iy
 gum, *chicle* - tx'a'

H

hair (his/her) - tzmál (t)wi'
 half - mij tmij - its half
 hand - q'ab' tq'ab' - her (his) hand(s)
 handful - k'loj
 happy - tzálaj
 hard - chíwel
 hat - pásb'il
 hate - i'kb'an
 haze - sak muj
 he (is) - ja
 head - wi' nwi' - my head wi'b'aj - head
 (unpossessed)
 head scarf - tzut'
 heal - q'ánin
 hear - b'i'n
 heart - ánm wánma - my heart
 heat - chak
 heaven - kya'j
 heavy (its heaviness) -(t)álil
 hello - jey, jeyó
 help - ónin
 helper - ónel
 herbs, vegetables - atzáj
 here is where ... - jatx ...
 here, this - tzalú, lu tzalúpa ... ? - Is ...
 here?
 higher - jáwnex
 hiker - ajb'étel

hit - (ok) pjun
hive - aaq
hoe (v & n) - ch'ok
hoe - tz'utz'
hole (large), depression - jul
hole (small) - kob'l
honey - ta'l txhi'
horse, pack animal - tcheej
hot - chak
hot water - chqa'
house - ja'
housefly - a'n
how many? - jte?
how much is it? - jte twi'?, jte ti'j?
how? - ti'n?
Huehuetenango - Chná'pjal
hug (v) - xq'en, tz'un
huipil - klob'j
hummingbird - tzúmana
hunger - taq' wan, wéyaj
hurry - ájken
husband - chmil

I

if - ka ka tája - If you want
in - tuj
incense ("tuilco") - xhb'oxh
infection - poj
inform - túmen
injury - ishjnín, kíxb'el
insult (n) - yásb'il
interest (child of money) - tal pwak
it (is) - ja

J

jail - tze'
jícara - tzma'
join - chéman
joke (v) - yáqan
joke - la'j
José - Chep
jump - lpe
just - o'kx
just one - junx

K

kernel - jun twitz íyaj
key (child of the house) - tal ja'
kick (n) - xjon
kick (v) - xójb'in
kill - (kub') b'yon

kind - weq jun weq tze' - a kind of wood
kingdom - qáwb'il
kiss, to kiss - tz'ub'
knee - ch'ek
know - alón, tzqi'n
know through hearing - b'i'n
knowledge - túmel

L

lacking (it's) - na'x
ladder - yotx
Ladino (non-Amerindian) - mos mos qe(j) -
some Ladinos
landslide - qotx
language - yol
last year - jnáb'a
later - ne'j, yaj ne'jxa
latrine - tz'alb'il
law - qáwb'il
lazy - ploj (from Spanish *flojo*)
leaf - txaq
leave behind - q'on
leave from here - ex
lift up - chlen
light (not dark) - spíka
light (weight) - sasj, mintí (t)álil, nti (t)álil
lightning - q'anchok
like (as) - tísa, tíza
like - ach tach - he/she/it likes
lime (stone) - txun
liquid - ta'l
liquor - q'en
little - ch'in, nux ch'intl - a little more
live (v) - najl
lively - ítz'xix
lizard (one type) - shúla
loan - ch'ex
long (hair, corn, weeds) - nmak
long ago - ótxa
look - (xi) che'nk
look for - jyon
lord - aw qaw - our lord (no longer used)
lose - xon
lost - (xi) tzak ma chex tzak - they're lost
louse (parasite) - squk'
love - (ok) aq' nim nok taq' tk'wal José -
José loves his child

M

ma'am, "señora" - na
machete - tx'émb'il

make - b'inchán ti b'inchána? - What are you doing?

make tortillas - txon

male - xínak

many - nim

marimba - chnap

marry - majé

masa - q'otj

mask - k'oj

mat - pop

maybe - qápa

meat (or protein part of meal) - chi'pj chi'pj

ey' - chicken meat

mecapal, carrying strap - q'ab'xekey

metate (grinding stone) - kya'

middle, "heart" - k'u'j

money - pwak

monkey - shmash

month - xjaaw

moon - xjaaw

morning - klax

mother - txu

mountain - witz

mouse - ich'

mouth - tzi ttzi - his mouth

mud - xoq'

N

naked - sb'i'q

narrow - ch'in twitz

nation - tánmi

nausea - jip

navel - muux

near - naká, nka

necklace - kwench

needle - tz'ísb'il

nest - q'ub'aj

never (no, will not) - mlay, mix

new - ák'aj

nice (looking) - b'a'n chenk

nice (personality) b'a'n (t)nab'l

night - qoníya

nine - b'éljaj

nixtamal (cooked corn used for making tortillas) -

b'uutx

no - mi(n)

north - jáwna

nose - txánb'aj ntxan - my nose

not want - chi chi chi tzának - they don't want

beans

now - jála

nurse (suckle) - ch'un

O

O.K. - ku

oak - k'ol

oatmeal, gruel - mox

offer (v) - oy

offering - óyb'il

offspring - (t)al

old - q'ának

old - tij

on the face of, his/her face - (t)witz

on top of - tlb'aj

on top of, his/her head - (t)wi'

once again - ju'nxil

one - jun

only (just) - nuk, o'kx nuk nux - just a bit

or - ma

orange juice - ta'l naráns

orangish, yellowish, *café* (color) - xkoj

order, in-line - txol

orphan - méb'a

other side - jlajx

outside (its) - (t)i'j

outside - pe'n

owe - k'ash'éen

owl - tukrú'

owner - tajwíl

P

pain - taq'

pair - moj

pants - wexj

paper - txaq u'j, u'j

patio - pe'n

penis (slang) - b'aaq

people - xjaal

perfect - tz'áqlxix

perhaps - qápa

person - xjaal

piece - pixh

pig - b'och

pine needle - (t)xaq tzaj

pit or core of something - b'aaq b'aaq íyaj -

seed selected for planting

plank, board - tzlom

plant - awáan nawáan íyaj - he/she plants

(seeds)

planting, sprout, sower - awáal

play (v) - q'xan

poor one - méb'a

pot (cooking) - wik'íl nwik'íl - my cooking

pot

potato - is
 prepare earth for planting - jxol
 price - (t)wi'
 problem - iil iil ti'j - it's necessary
 (expression of obligation) iil ti'j kchéla - I have
 to grind
 pueblo - tnom
 pure - sak, sákxix
 purple - xmáka *San Juan*
 pus - poj
 put - q'on

Q

quickly - chiúx, tz'ajqél

R

rabbit - shik
 rag - b'us
 rain - jb'aal at nim jb'aal - There's lots of rain
 ravine - (t)witz xaq
 reader (person who reads) - ajú'j
 ready - tajlál
 red - kyaq
 residue - tx'a
 rest - ajlan
 restaurant, place of food - k'éyb'il wab'j
 return home - aj tzaj - he/she returns
 riches - q'inamál
 ripe - tzq'aaaj
 roach - xhk'il
 road - b'e
 roast - txo'n
 rob - alq'an
 robber - alaq'
 rock - xaq
 roof - (t)wi'ja
 rope - chjaj
 rotten - tx'om
 rough - ch'ix
 round - sew
 run - tz'ajqél

S

sad (to get), to think - b'iisin
 sadness - b'iis mínpa b'iisa? - Aren't you sad?
 saliva - ta'l (t)tzi
 salt - á'tz'a
 same (the) - jax
 Santiago - Yá'gua
 sauna - chuj

say - (tzaj) q'b'an tzaj q'b'an jax - he/she
 tells the truth
 scar, closed wound - txa'k
 scare - lab'
 scissors - mátz'b'il
 secret - éwjel
 see - il
 seed - íyaj
 seven - wuq
 sex (to have) - tósen
 shaman (he/she of the incense) - ajpón
 sharpening stone - u'x
 she (is) - ja
 shell (still on the thing) - xkómal
 shell, outside covering (already removed) - sol
 shoes - xjab'
 short - ch'in twe'
 shout - sch'in
 sick - yab' nuk yab' kéna - I'm just sick
 side - plaj
 sin - iil
 sing - b'itz
 singer - ajb'ítzel
 sinner - ajjil
 sir - tat
 sister (of man) - áneb'
 sister (of woman) - ik
 sister-in-law - b'álek
 sit - (kub') qe'
 sit down! - q'éka
 six - qaq
 skin (on body) - tz'úmal
 skin (already off) - tz'um
 skin - chul
 skirt (*corte*) - amj
 sky - kya'j
 slip - (jaw) tzak
 slope - qotx
 slow - chéb'a chéb'ix - very slowly
 small - ch'in, nux, nuch
 smashed - petz
 smile, laugh - tze'n tzé'nx! - smile!
 smoke - sib'
 snake - lb'aj
 soaked - t'eb'
 soft - b'úna
 son (of man) - chal
 son-in-law - ji'
 sour - tx'om
 south - kúb'na
 speak - yol
 spider - xin

spiny, prickly - ch'ix
 spoon - pak'
 spring ("head of water") - (t)wi' a'
 squash - k'um
 squirrel - ku'k
 star - che'w
 start - aq'
 steam - txb'ákal
 stick - tze'
 still - lux lux xjal at - there are still people
 stomach - k'u'j
 straw - ch'im kchil ch'im - tall grass used in roofing
 stream, river, lots of water - nim a'
 strength - ípen
 student - xnáq'tzal
 study - xnáq'tzan
 sun - q'ij
 supervise, to direct - che'yen
 sure - jax jax tok túna? - Is it true what you say? jax tok wúna - It's true what I say.
 sweat - tz'un
 sweet - txhi

T

tail (its) - (t)je'
 tall - ch'ek, nim twe'
 tamales - líta
 tasty - chya'l
 teacher - xnáq'tzal
 tears - ta'l (t)witz
 ten - laj
 there (closer) - (j)chix (further) - máchix
 there isn't (aren't) - mintí (ntí)
 there still is (are) - atx
 thick - cho't, la'n, tziq' (liquid) - tzep
 thin (person) - jítzaj
 thin - xaxj
 thing that separates - pájb'il
 this - jlu
 three - óxa
 throw - xon
 time (instance) - maj juntl maj - once again
 time - amalén at amalén - there's time
 tired - sikt mápa sikt tey? - Are you tired?
 at nim sikt - I'm very tired
 toad - wo'
 toasted - tx'i'l
 today - jála
 toe - (t)wi' qe'nb'aj
 together - junx
 tomato - xkóya

tomorrow - nchij
 tongue - aq' waq' - my tongue
 too much, too many - nímka', nímxix
 tooth (my) - wítx (w)e
 tortilla - wab'j
 trail - b'e
 tranquil - chupx
 trash - tz'is
 tree root (its) - (t)lok'
 tree, "monte" - k'uul, tze'
 true - jáxix
 turkey - mí'ix
 twins (human) - yo'xh
 two - káb'a
 type - weq

U

ugly - k'a'
 under - tjaq
 understand - (el) nik'y
 unite - chéman
 universe - kya'j
 unripe - cha'x
 untie - kópin
 up - jáwna
 upside down - pak
 urinate - tz'álin

V

valuable (more) - jáwnex
 very early morning - jyax, yax
 village - kójb'al
 vomit - xa'p
 vulture - k'utz

W

wait - ayón
 wait! - ne'j!
 walk - b'eet
 want - aj waj - I want
 war - q'oj
 warm (v) - meq't
 warm - métmaj métmaj ntína - I'm warm
 wash - txjet
 water - a'
 wax - t'u'x
 way, manner - náb'il
 weapon, gun - ub'l
 west - élna
 wet (human or animal) - shul
 wet - lokch, t'eb'

what? - ti?
 when (in future)? - jtoj?
 when (in past)? - jtoo?
 when, next (in past) - tej
 where? - ja?
 which? - alkyé?
 while, *mientras* - téjzen
 white - sak
 white pine - tzaj
 whitish - sákkix
 who? - al? al e'?' - Whose is it?
 why? - téka? tu'n téka? - for what reason?
 wide (big its face) - nim twitz, la'n
 wife - xu'l
 wind - chq'iq'
 woman's lover - paj
 woman - xuj
 wood - tze'
 word - yol
 work - áq'a wáq'a - my work
 work - aq'anán nchi aq'anána? - Are you
 (all) working?
 work - aq'únt at nim aq'únt - there's lots of
 work
 work in the cornfield - kjo'n
 worker, servant - aq'anál
 worried, to be shocked - lab't
 wound - kíxb'el
 write - tz'ib'en
 writer, scribe - ajtz'ib'
 writing - tz'i'b'

Y

year - jnab'q'í, tyem
 yellow - sak q'ent
 yellow corn - q'ent
 yes - ok
 yesterday - éew(a)
 younger sibling - ítza

Mam to English (Remember,
 nouns usually have possessive prefixes and/or
 suffixes)

A

aaq - hive
 ab'éch - flower
 ach- to like tach - he/she/it likes
 aj - to want, to return home, a prefix indicating
 actor who does the following verb
 ajb'étel - hiker, walker

ajb'ítzel - singer
 ajb'íxb'el - dancer
 ajjil - sinner
 ájken - to hurry
 ajlan - to rest, to count
 ajpón - shaman (he/she of the incense)
 ajtz'ib' - writer, scribe
 ajú'j - reader (person who reads)
 ák'aj - new q'ának - old
 al - child (of woman), offspring (t)al - her child
 (t)al a' - water creatures
 al? - who? al e'?' - Whose is it?
 alamáj - animal (usually domestic ones) qe, qej
 (plural marker) alamáj - animals
 alaq' - robber
 (t)álil - heavy (its heaviness) sasj,
 mintí (t)álil, nti (t)álil - light (weight)
 alkyé? - which?
 alón - to know
 alq'an - to rob
 amalén - time at amalén - there's time
 amj - skirt (*corte*)
 áneb' - sister (of man)
 ánm - heart wánma - my heart
 ans - garlic
 aq' - tongue waq' - my tongue
 aq' - to start
 (ok) aq' - to love nim nok taq' tk'wal José -
 José loves his child
 áq'a - work wáq'a - my work
 aq'anál - worker, servant
 aq'anán - to work nchi aq'anána? - Are you
 (all) working?
 aq'únt - work at nim aq'únt - there's lots
 of work
 at - to be, there is, there are mintí (nti) -
 There isn't (aren't)
 atx - there still is (are)
 atzáj - herbs, vegetables
 aw - lord qaw - our lord (no longer used)
 awáal - planting, sprout, sower
 awáan - to plant nawáan íyaj - he/she plants
 (seeds)
 ayón - to wait

A'

a' - water nim a' - stream, river, lots of water
 (t)wi' a' - spring ("head of water")
 a' tuj k'uj - diarrhea
 a'n - housefly
 á'tz'a - salt

B'

b'a - groundhog
 b'aaq - bone, crochet needle, penis (slang)
 b'aj - to finish ma pon b'aj tey? - Did you finish?
 -b'aj, -pj - suffix for non-possessioned nouns
 qénb'aj - an arm
 b'álek - brother/sister-in-law
 b'alqaj - to flirt
 b'ántzan - to finish off
 (tzaj) b'aqch - to faint, to get weak ma chin tzaj
 b'aqch - I fainted
 b'aq' - pit or core of something b'aq' íyaj - seed selected for planting
 b'a'n - good b'á'nksa - very good ka' - bad, cruel, ugly
 b'a'n chenk - nice looking
 b'a'n (t)nab'l - nice (personality)
 b'e - trail, road
 b'eet - to walk
 b'éljaj - nine
 b'iis - sadness mínpa b'iisa? - Aren't you sad?
 b'iisin - to be (get) sad, to think
 b'inchán - to make ti b'inchána? - What are you doing?
 b'itz - to sing
 b'ix - and, *de una vez*
 b'ixb'el - dance (event)
 b'ixin - to dance
 b'in - to hear, to know through hearing
 b'och - pig
 b'úna - soft chíwel - hard, difficult
 nya chíwel - easy
 b'us - rag
 b'uutx - nixtamal (cooked corn used for making tortillas)
 (kub') b'yon - to kill

CH

chája - four
 chak - heat, hot kyaq - red kya'j - universe, heaven, sky
 chal - son (of man)
 cha'x - green, unripe tzkaj - ripe
 chéb'a - slow chéb'ix - very slowly chiw, chíux - fast
 chéka, kyéka - beautiful k'a' - ugly
 chéman - to join, to unite
 Chep - José

che'w - cold áyxsa che'w tzalú - It's cold here métmaj - warm métmaj ntína - I'm warm
 che'n - to grind
 (xi) che'nk - to look
 che'w - star
 che'yen - to supervise, to direct
 chi - to not want chi chi tzának - they don't want beans
 (t)chi - (his/her/its) fear
 chik'y - blood
 chim - to die
 chíux - fast, quickly
 chiw - fast
 chíwel - hard, difficult
 chi'l - basket
 chi'pj - meat (or protein part of meal)
 chi'pj ey' - chicken meat
 chjaj - rope, cord
 chk'uj - dysentery
 chlen - to lift up
 chman - grandfather, grandchild
 chmil - husband
 chnap - marimba
 Chná'pjal - Huehuetenango
 cho't - thick
 chqa' - hot water
 chqil(ka) - all
 chq'iq' - wind
 chuj - sauna
 chújin - to bathe in the sauna
 chul - skin
 chupx - tranquil
 chya'l - agreeable, tasty

CH'

ch'aq - flea
 ch'e'ch - cord (*mecate*)
 ch'ek - knee, tall
 ch'ex - loan
 ch'im - straw kchil ch'im - tall grass used in roofing
 ch'in - small, a bit jun ch'iné' - a little bit
 ch'in twitz - narrow
 ch'intl - a little more
 ch'it - bird
 ch'ix - rough, spiny, prickly
 ch'ixtán - a particular edible herb
 ch'iy - to grow
 ch'ok - to hoe, hoe
 ch'un - to nurse (suckle)

E

witx (w)e - (my) tooth
 éew(a) - yesterday jála - today, now nchij -
 tomorrow
 kab'j - day after tomorrow
 oxj - in 3 days káb'a jey - day before yesterday
 élna - west óqna - east jáwna - north (up)
 kúb'na - south (down)
 éwjel - secret
 ex - to leave from here
 e'y - chicken

I

ich' - mouse
 iil - problem, sin, fault
 iil ti'j - it's necessary (expression of obligation)
 iil ti'j kchéla - I have to grind
 ik - sister (of woman)
 ikx - always
 il - to see
 ípen - strength, force
 is - potato
 ishjnín - injury
 itch - chile
 ítza - younger sibling
 itz' - to be born, to be alive, awake nuk ntxúy
 itz' - Only my mother is alive
 ítz'xix - lively, clever
 ixéwal - foul smell
 ixí'n - corn (a crop) jal - dried corn on cob
 kjo'n - corn field
 jun twitz íyaj - kernel
 íyaj - seed

I'

í'ish - fresh corn on cob
 (t)i'j - (its) exterior, outside
 i'kb'an - to hate

J

ja - he/she/it (is)
 ja? - where?
 jáka - each
 jal - dried cob of corn
 jála - today, now
 jatz - here is where ...

jaw - to go up
 jáwna - north, up
 jáwnex - higher, more valuable
 jax - sure, certain, the same jax tok túna? - Is it
 true what you say? jax tok wúna - It's true
 what I say.
 jáxix - It's true
 ja' - house
 jb'aal - rain at nim jb'aal - There's lots of
 rain
 jey, jeyó - hello
 (t)je' - (its) tail
 jil - classifier before animals & moving objects
 like buses
 jip - nausea
 jítzaj - thin (person) lá'n - fat (person) ma
 la'n - fat (negative connotation)
 ji' - son-in-law, father-in-law (j'iyb'aj) lib' -
 daughter-in-law
 jlajx - across, other side
 jlu - this
 jnáb'a - last year
 jnab'q'í, tyem - year
 joj - crow
 jos - egg
 jte? - how many? jte twi'?, jte ti'j? - how
 much is it?
 jtoj? - when (in future)?
 jtoo? - when (in past)?
 jul - hole (large), depression kob'l - small
 hole
 jun - one, a (indefinite article)
 júntl - another júntl tyem - another (next)
 year júntl maj - once again
 junx - together, just one
 jux - also jux wéya - me too (- teya, - tey, -
 túyax(a), - chúyaxa, - chúyax)
 ju'nxil - once again
 jwe' - five
 jxol - to prepare earth for planting
 jyax - very early morning
 jyon - to look for

K

ka - if ka tája - If you want
 kab' - brown sugar
 káb'a - two
 kála - afternoon
 káxa - box
 kchil ch'im - tall grass used in old roofing
 kob'l - small hole
 kíxb'el - wound, injury

kixh - fish
 kjo'n - cornfield, to work in the cornfield
 klax - early, morning j yax - very early morning
 klob'j - huipil
 kloj - armful
 klolj - darkness
 knéy - banana (from Spanish *guinea*)
 kójb'al - village, cultivated place
 kólin - to defend
 kópin - to free, to untie
 kotz - a gift, free
 ku - O.K., good-bye
 kub' - to go down
 kúb'na - south, down
 Kuch (Kúchil?) - ancient name of Todos Santos derived from its unique style of thatched roofing
 kukú - dove
 kúl'b'il - cough
 kúma - because
 ku'k - squirrel
 kwench - necklace, collar

K'

k'a - bitter txhi - sweet ch'om - sour
 k'an - to drink waj chin k'an - I want to drink
 k'asb'én - to owe
 k'a' - bad, ugly, cruel k'a' twitz! - ugly face!
 k'éyb'il wab'j - restaurant, place of food
 k'loj - group, handful
 k'oj - mask
 k'ok'j - aromatic
 k'ol! - Be quiet!
 k'ol - oak
 k'uul - tree, "monte" txhik'úul - forest
 k'újb'el tzomj - "stomach/heart" of the weaving (sticks used in backstrap loom)
 k'um - squash
 k'uspin - to break/to cut rope/wire
 k'utz - vulture
 k'u'j - stomach, abdomen, middle, "heart"
 k'waal - child (of man)

KY

kyaq - red
 kyaqnáb' - earthquake, tremor
 kya' - *metate* (grinding stone)
 kya'j - universe, heaven, sky

KY'**L**

lab' - to scare
 lab't - to be worried, to be shocked
 lb'aj - snake
 laj - ten
 lak' - bowl
 lak'té - hardwood batten used in weaving ("bowl wood")
 la'j - joke
 la'n - fat, thick, wide
 líta - tamales
 lokch, t'eb' - wet tzqil - dry
 (t)lok' - tree root
 loq' - adobe brick, wall
 lo'pj - fruit
 lpe - to jump
 lu - here, this
 lux - still lux xjal at - there are still people

M

maaj - chaff
 ma - or, present & recent past tense marker
 ma - prefix for "great" ma xjal - elder man
 ma xuj - elder woman
 ma jaw tuj twi' - fool, crazy
 maj - time (occasion) juntl maj - once again
 majé - to marry
 man - father
 masát - deer
 mat'j - big (big, its exterior) ch'in, nux - small
 mátz'b'il - scissors
 matzón - to cut (paper)
 may - already, awhile ago
 méb'a - poor one, orphan, young *chilacayote* squash
 mel - daughter (of man)
 métmaj - warm
 meq't - to warm
 me'x - blond person & color
 mi(n) - no ok - yes, marker of future tense ku - O.K.
 mij - half tmij - its half
 mintí (often shortened to "ntí") - there isn't, there aren't
 mitx - before otk - after
 mix - never, negation
 mí'ix - turkey
 mlay - never (no, will not)

moj - pair
 mos - Ladino (non-Amerindian) mos qe(j) -
 some Ladinos
 mox - beetle, oatmeal, gruel
 moxh - blind
 muuj - clouds
 muux - navel

N

n - continuous tense marker
 na - ma'am, "señora"
 ná'b'il - way, manner
 najl - to live
 naká , nka- near naqch - far
 napx - a wild edible turnip-like green
 na'x - it's lacking
 nchij - tomorrow
 ne' - baby
 ne'j - later, wait! ne'jxa
 (el) nik'y - understand
 nim - many, more nya nim - few nya
 nim b'och - few pigs
 nim twe' - tall ch'in twe' - short
 nim txe' - deep
 nim twitz - wide (big its face) ch'in twitz -
 narrow
 nímka', nímxi - too much, too many, enough
 nmak - long (hair, corn, weeds)
 noj - full
 nojsán - to fill
 nti - short for "mintí," there isn't (aren't)
 nti (t)álil - light (weight)
 nuch - small
 nujsám - to forgive
 nuk - only (just) nuk nux - just a bit
 nux - little, a bit
 nya - there is (are) not nya' b'a'n - no good,
 incorrect

O

oj - when (in future)
 ok - yes
 okt - after
 ónel - helper
 ónin - to help
 ooj - avocado, marker for present perfect, when
 ook - to enter
 óqna - east
 oq' - to cry
 ótxa - long ago
 óxa - three

oy - to offer
 óyb'il - offering

O'

o'kx - only, just

P

paj - woman's lover
 pájb'il - thing that separates
 pak - upside down
 pak' - spoon
 pásb'il - hat
 pátan - to burn
 patz - flat
 patz'un - to crush, to flatten, to gut
 pa' - bag (morrall)
 pa'ch - double pa'ch kne - double banana
 pa'n - to break
 petz - duck, smashed
 pe'n - patio, outside
 pin - double thickness
 pitsh - frog
 pixh - piece
 (ok) pjun - to hit
 plaj - side, cloth
 ploj - lazy (from Spanish *flojo*)
 poj - pus, infection
 pon - to arrive there, *copal*
 pop - mat
 put - butterfly
 pwak - money

Q

(xi) qánen - to ask
 qápa - perhaps, maybe, by chance
 qaq - six
 qáwb'il - law, kingdom
 qe - plural marker (usually in front of noun) qej
 - plural marker (when noun has already been
 mentioned)
 (kub') qe' - to sit
 qé'nb'aj - foot tqen - his foot (body parts drop
 "b'aj" ending when possessed)
 qoníya - night
 qotx - cliff, slope, landslide
 quq - dust

Q'

q'a - young boy txin - young girl (add ...
 ne' for babies)

q'ab' - arm, hand tq'ab' - her (his) hand(s)
 twi' nq'ab' - my fingers jun twi' nq'ab' - my
 finger
 q'ab'xekey - *mecapal*, carrying strap
 q'an - bridge
 q'ának - old q'ának u'j - old paper
 q'anchok - lightning
 q'ánin - to cure, to heal
 q'ántza ... - give me ...
 q'a'j - chair
 q'a'q - fire
 (tzej) q'b'an - to say tzej q'b'an jax - he/she
 tells the truth
 q'éka - sit down!
 q'en - liquor
 q'ent - yellow, orange, yellow corn
 q'eq' - black
 q'ij - sun
 q'ijl - day b'á'nxxsa jun q'ijl - It's a
 beautiful day
 q'il - clear (day) q'il q'ijl - clear day
 q'ínb'el - board with posts used for setting up
 backstrap loom
 q'inamál - fortune, riches
 q'oj - war
 q'on - to give, to put, to leave behind
 q'oq' - *chilacayote* squash
 q'otj - *atole*, *masa*
 q'ub'aj - nest
 q'xan - to play

S

sak - white, pure
 sak muj - haze
 sak q'ent - yellow
 sákxix - pure, whitish
 salál - errand
 sasj, nti tálib - light (weight)
 sb'i'q - naked, exposed
 sch'in - to shout, to read
 sew - round
 séypaj - fright séypaj nim - scared
 sib' - smoke
 sikt - tired mápa sikt tey? - Are you tired?
 at nim sikt - I'm very tired
 si' - firewood
 snik - ant
 sol - shell, outside covering (already removed)
 spíka - light (not dark)
 sqix - *amanecer*
 squk' - louse (parasite)
 su'n - to clean (wipe off)

swey - circular shape

SH (consonant unique to Todos Santos)

shik - rabbit
 shíwel - fox
 shmash - monkey
 shul - wet (human or animal)
 shúla - type of lizard

T

tajlál - ready
 tajwíl - owner
 (t)al - offspring
 tal ja' - key (child of the house)
 tal pwak - interest (child of money)
 tánmi - country, nation, people ntánmi - my
 country
 taq' - pain taq' wan - hunger
 tat - sir
 taw iil - devil (lord of sin)
 ta'l - liquid
 ta'l naráns - orange juice
 ta'l txhi' - honey
 ta'l (t)zi - saliva
 ta'l (t)witz - tears
 tb'a' (t)witz - (his) eyes (face)
 tcheej - horse, pack animal
 te - for, from at jun u'j te tey - I have a
 book for you
 tej - when, next (in past)
 téjtzen - while, *mientras*
 téka? - why? tu'n téka? - for what reason?
 ti? - what?
 túb'aj - on top of
 tij - old, elder
 (t)ílb'el - (its) color
 tiq'ch - anything
 tísa, títza - like, as
 (t)i'j - his/her/its exterior (clothes), outside
 tzil ti wi'j - My clothes are dirty
 off it, on it, against it, about it
 ti'n? - how?
 tjaq - under
 (t)je' - tail
 tlamél ja - door
 tnom - pueblo
 tósen - to have sex
 tuj - in, from
 tukrú' - owl
 túmel - knowledge
 túmen - to inform

tu'n - through, because of, by (it,him,her)
 wú'na, tú'na, tu'n, qún(a), chú'na, chu'n
 (t)xol - between
 (t)wi' - on top of, his/her head, price, value
 (t)wi' ja - roof
 (t)wi' qe'nb'aj - toe
 (t)witz - on the face of, his/her face
 (t)witz tx'otx' - ground, soil
 (t)witz xaq - ravine, cliff
 (t)xaq tzaj - pine needle
 txhi - sweet
 txhi' - blood

T'

t'eb' - wet, soaked
 t'u'x - wax

TX

txakón - to call
 txánb'aj - nose ntxan - my nose
 txaq - leaf txaq u'j - paper
 txa'k - scar, closed wound
 txb'ákal - steam
 txin - girl, miss
 txjet - to wash
 txol - order, in-line
 txol q'ij - calender (order of days)
 txon - to make tortillas
 txo'n - to roast
 txu - mother
 txun - lime (stone)
 txya'n - dog

TX'

tx'a - excrement, residue
 tx'an - to excrete, to defecate
 tx'a' - gum "chicle"
 (ok) tx'a'n - to bite
 tx'em - to cut, acidic
 tx'émb'il - machete
 tx'i'l - toasted
 tx'om - sour, rotten
 tx'otx' - earth, land
 tx'uj - anger, crazy
 tx'uk - corner (inside & outside)

TZ

tzaaj - to come from there
 tzaj - white pine
 (jaw) tzak - to slip

(kub') tzak - to fall
 (xi) tzak - to be lost ma chex tzak - they're
 lost
 tzálaj - happy, to enjoy
 tzalú, lu - here tzalúpa ... ? - Is ... here?
 (j)chix (closer), máchix (further) - there
 tzának - beans
 tza'j - ashes
 tzep - thick (liquid)
 tze' - tree, wood, stick, jail
 tze'n - to smile, laugh tzé'nx! - smile!
 tzi - mouth ttzi - his mouth
 tzik - older brother of man, older sibling of
 woman
 tziq' - thick
 tzlom - plank, board
 tzmál (t)wi' - (his/her) hair
 tzma' - *jícara*
 tzqil - dry
 tzqi'n - to know
 tzq'aaj - ripe
 tzúmana - hummingbird
 tzut' - head scarf
 (kub') tzyun - to grab

TZ'

tz'ajqél - quickly, to run
 tz'alb'il - latrine
 tz'álin - to urinate
 tz'akl - to fall
 tz'áqlxix - perfect
 tz'í'b'en - to write
 tz'iil - dirty
 tz'is - trash
 tz'ísb'il - broom, needle
 tz'i'b' - writing
 tz'ub' - kiss, to kiss
 tz'um - skin (already off)
 tz'úmal - skin (on body)
 tz'un - to sweat, to hug
 tz'utz' - hoe

U

ub'l - weapon, gun
 ul - arrive here
 us - black fly (small, biting insect)
 uuy - companion
 wúuya - companion, friend wéya wúuya -
 my friend tey túuya - your friend túuya -
 his/her friend

qe wúuy(a) - our friend (xin, xuj) che
 chúuya - your friend chúuyax - their friend
 ux - blow (punch)

U'

u'j - paper, book
 u'x - sharpening stone

W

wájxaq - eight
 wab'j - tortilla
 waa'n - to eat
 wátb'il - bed
 wech - bobcat
 weq - type, kind jun weq tze' - a kind of
 wood
 wexj - pants
 wéyaj - hunger
 wik'íl - cooking pot nwik'íl - my cooking
 pot
 witz - mountain, face twítza - your face
 wixh, xhuk - cat
 wi' - head, cost nwi' - my head jte twi' -
 What's its cost? wi'b'aj - head (unpossessed)
 wo' - toad
 wuq - seven

X

xaq - rock
 xaxj - thin tziq' - thick pin - double
 thickness
 xa'p - vomit
 xb'ála - clothes
 xew - blue (to purple)
 xi - to go from here to there
 xíb'en - brother (of woman)
 xin (man), xuj (woman) - titles of respect
 xin - spider
 xínak - male xuj - female xu'l - wife
 xítin - to destroy
 xi' - bee aaq - hive
 xjaal - people, person
 xjaaw - moon, month
 xjab' - shoes
 xjan - sin, prohibited (holy) xjan q'ij - holy
 day(s), (holy week)
 xjon - kick (noun)

xk'a - egotistical
 xkb'il - axe
 xkin - ear
 xklox - heddle string used to separate strands of
 thread on backstrap loom
 xkoj - orangish, yellowish, *café* (color)
 xkómal - shell (still on the thing) sol - shell
 (already removed)
 xkóya - tomato
 xk'on - roof, clay, *comal* (because of material)
 xmákal - flower (thing with seed) xmákal is -
 potato flower
 xmáka *San Juan* - purple
 xnáq'tzal - teacher, student
 xnáq'tzan - to study
 xob' - to be afraid
 xójb'in - to kick
 xol - between (t)xol ja' - between the houses
 xon - to lose, to throw
 xoq' - mud
 xq'en - to hug
 (xi) xtála - to give a gift, to help
 xtálb'il - favor, grace
 xtíla - clear
 xu'l - wife
 xuj - woman
 xuul - an edible mushroom
 xux - flute
 xyaj - to go and return
 xyeb' - comb
 xyop - backside (human)

XH

xhb'oxh - incense ("tuilco")
 xhkak - brown
 xhk'il - roach
 xhlol - green & blue
 xhuq - cat
 xhu'l - lizard (brown)

Y

yab' - sick nuk yab' kένα - I'm just sick
 yaj - later
 yáqan - to joke
 yásb'il - insult
 yax - very early morning
 ya' - grandmother
 Yá'gua - Santiago
 ya'n - (negation) ya'n nim - not a lot, few
 yol - to speak, word, language

yotx - ladder
yo'xh - twins (human)

INTERROGATIVES

al? - who? al xjaal? - Who's the person?
alkyé? - which?
ja'?, ja' túmel? - where?
jte'?' - How many? jte' tij?, jte' twi'?' - How
much is it?
jtoj? - when (in future)? jtoo? - when (in past)?
ti' - what? how? ti' tok? - What do you say?
(informal greeting)
tu'n téka?, téka? - why?

*yes/no questions can often be formed by adding
a -pa, -pi as a suffix
tzałúpa tat Desiderio? - Is Desiderio
here?

NUMBERS

1-jun 2-káb'a 3-óxa 4-chája 5-jwe' 6-qaq 7-
wuq 8-wájxaq 9-b'éljaj 10-laj
11, 12... -junláj, kab'láj... (15 -oláj) 20-wínqan
21- wínaq jun... 42-kab'winq káb'a

RELATIVES: (note: nouns typically are
possessed) > nch'aal - my son
áneb' - sister (of man) nti wéya wáneb' - I
don't have a sister (of man).
al - child (of woman)
b'álek - brother-in-law, sister-in-law
chman - grandfather or grandchild ya' -
grandmother
chmil - husband tchmíl - her husband
xul - wife nxúla - my wife
ítza - younger sibling wítza - my little sister
at káb'a weya wítza xuj. - I have
two younger sisters.
ji' - son-in-law lib' - daughter-in-law
k'waal - child (of man) ch'al - son (of man)
mel - daughter (of man)
man - father txu - mother
tat - sir na - ma'am
txíb'a - sister
tzik - older sister
xíb'en - brother (of woman)

CLASSIFIERS (used with many nouns):

chman - grandfathers, grandchildren
jil - animals
k'waal - child (of man)
lo'pj - fruit lo'pj naráns - orange
ne' - little child
q'a - boys
tij - elder
txin - girls
xin - men
xlaq - babies
xuj - women
ya' - grandmothers

PREPOSITIONS (relationals) often
possessed:

kúb'na- down below jáwna - up above
pe' - outside
(t)íb'aj, (t)wi' - on top of wíb'aj - ab'ove
me, túb'aja - above you, etc.
tjaq - under
(t)k'u'j - stomach, middle
(t)i'j - behind, outside
(t)txan - edge (t)txan b'e - the edge of the road
(t)txlaj - beside
(t)tzi - at its opening (mouth)
tuj - within, inside
twitz - on the face of
(t)xe - at the base of
(t)xol - between, among

GRAMMAR MISC.

-xsa (-sa) suffix strengthens an adjective
chékaxsa - very beautiful
-b'il, -b'el suffix indicates instrument for action
-il suffix used to indicate agent of an action
b'éétel - walker
-b'aj, -pj suffix used after non-possessed nouns
-ch'in suffix meaning "somewhat"
aj- prefix indicating actor of particular verb
ajb'itzel - singer
-sa'n suffix for causitives (t)oq'sa'n - to make
cry

CONJUGATION PATTERN FOR NOTES BELOW

1st person singular (I) 1st person plural
exclusive (we, not you) 1st person plural inclusive
(we, all)*

2nd person singular (you) 2nd person plural (you)
 3rd person singular (he/she/it) 3rd person plural (they)

*1st person plurals will always be given with exclusive form of “we” first as in this example

POSSESSIVES & SUBJECTS OF TRANSITIVE VERBS

(prefixes & suffixes are added to verb stem as shown in section on verbs)

WITH WORD BEGINNING IN CONSONANT:

n ... vowel), q ...	q ... a (...ya after
t ... a (...y after vowel) after vowel)	ch (ky) ... a (...y
t ...	ch (ky) ...

WITH WORD BEGINNING IN VOWEL:

w ... after vowel), q ...	q ... a (...ya
t ... a (...ya after vowel) (...ya after vowel)	ch (ky) ... a
t ...	ch (ky) ...

SUBJECTS OF INTRANSITIVE VERBS & OBJECTS OF TRANSITIVES

chin ...	qo...a, qo...
...a, tz...a (before vowel)	chi...a
..., tz... (before vowel)	chi...

SUBJECT PRONOUNS:

náya	jóya (exclusive)	jo (inclusive)
jay	jey	
ja	je	

VERBS:

•As infinitives, verbs usually end in /il/, but for the sake of conjugating, use the following verb stems

- Transitive verbs sometimes use intransitive constructions when speakers want to emphasize the subject)
- Intransitives are marked as transitives in dependent clauses
- Potential directional “helping” verbs sometimes appear in parenthesis before verb

Transitives:

ach - like
 aj - want
 alón - know
 alq'an - rob
 (ok) aq' - love
 awáan - plant
 ayón - wait for
 b'ántzan - finish off
 b'i'n - hear, know through hearing
 b'ínchan - make
 (kub') b'yon - kill
 chéman - join, unite
 che'n - grind
 che'yen - supervise, direct
 chi - not want
 chlen - lift up
 il - see
 i'kb'an - hate
 jyon - look for
 kólin - defend
 kópin - free, untie
 k'an - drink
 k'ásb'en - owe
 k'uspin - break/cut rope/wire
 lab' - scare
 majé - marry
 meq't - warm
 matzón - cut (paper)
 nojsán - fill
 nujsám - forgive
 ónin - help
 oy - offer
 pátan - burn
 patz'un - crush, flatten, gut
 (kub') pa'n - break
 (kub', ok) pju'n - hit
 (xi) qánen - ask
 q'ánin - cure, heal
 q'on - give, put, leave behind
 su'n - clean (wipe off)
 túmen - inform
 txakón - call
 txjet - wash

txo'n - roast
 (ok) tx'a'n - bite
 tx'em - cut
 tzqi'n - know
 (kub') tzyun - grab
 tz'akl - fall
 tz'ub' - kiss
 uy - be with
 waa'n - eat
 xítin - destroy
 xójb'in - kick
 xon - lose, throw
 xq'en - hug waj xq'en tey - I want to hug you
 (xi) xtála - gift, assist
 yol - speak

Intransitives:

aj - return home
 ájken - hurry
 ajlan - rest, count
 aq' - start
 aq'anán - work
 at - be
 b'aj - finish
 b'alqaj - flirt
 (tzej) b'aqch - faint, get weak
 b'eet - walk
 b'iisin - be sad, think
 b'itz - sing
 b'ixin - dance
 che'n - grind
 (xi) che'nk - look
 chim - die o chim - he died
 chújin - bathe in the sauna
 chxol - fall
 ch'iy - grow
 ch'un - nurse (suckle)
 ex (xi + el) - leave
 itz' - be born, be alive
 jaw, jax (xi + jaw) - go up
 jxol - prepare earth for planting
 kjo'n - work in the cornfield
 kub' - go down
 lab't - be worried, be shocked
 lpe - jump
 najl - live najl kenwéya FL (I live in FL)
 (el) nik'y - understand
 ok - enter
 oq' - cry tzóq'a tey - You're crying
 pon - arrive there
 (kub') qe' - sit

(tzej) q'b'an - say tzej q'b'an jax - he/she
 tells the truth
 q'xan - play
 sch'in - shout, read
 sqix - *amanecer*
 tósen - have sex
 txon - make tortillas
 tx'an - excrete, defecate
 tzaaj - come from there, return
 tzálaj - enjoy
 (xi) tzak - be lost ma chex tzak - they're lost
 (jaw) tzak - slip
 (kub') tzak - fall
 tze'n - smile, laugh
 tz'ajqén - run
 tz'álin - urinate
 tz'í'b'en - write
 tz'un - sweat lu ken wéya chin tz'un - I'm
 sweating (here)
 ul - arrive here
 xi - go from here to there
 xnáq'tzan - study
 xob' - be afraid
 xyaj - go and return
 yáqan - joke

TENSE MARKERS (prefixes):

ma - present & recent past
 n - continuous
 ni'x - imperative
 o, e - distant past
 oj - present perfect
 ok, k with /l/ suffix from infinitive - future
 otq - past perfect

SAMPLE CONJUGATIONS:

to be "ser"(with subject pronouns)

náya wéya	jo'ya qo', jó' qo'
jay tey	jey chey
ja téwa	je' chéwa

b'a'n kéna	b'a'n qó'ya, b'a'n qo
I'm good, etc.	
b'a'n tey	b'a'n qey
b'a'n ta	b'a'n qa

tin (to be) "estar"

tína	tó'ya, to'
tá'ya	té'ya

ta' te'

CONTINUOUS

náya nchin ___	jóya nqo ___a, jo nqo ___
jai n__a	jei nchi ___a
ja n__	je nchi ___

ul (to arrive here)

nchin nul	nqo úla, nqo ul
núla	nchi úla
nul	nchi ul

wan (to eat)

nchin wan	nqo wána, nqo wan
nwána	nchwána
nwan	nchwan

txi (to go)

nchin xi'n	nqóxa, nqox
nxí'ya	nchex
nxi'	nchex jápa nxí'ya tuj
tnom? - Are you going to town?	

aj (to want)

waj	qája, qaj
tája	chája
taj	chaj

chi (to not want)

nchi	qchíxa, qchix
tchix	chi chíya
tchi	chi chi

vola (to speak)

nchin yóla	nqo yóla, nqo yol
nyóla	nchi yóla
nyóla	nchi yóla

ex (to leave here)

nchin nex	nqo éxa, nqo ex
néxa	nchi éxa
nex	nchi ex

ok (to enter)

chin nok	nqo óka, nqo ok
nóka	nchi óka
nok	nchi ok

b'inchán (to make something)

nchin b'inchán (object)	nqo b'inchána, nqo
b'inchán	
b'inchána	nchi b'inchána
b'inchán	nchi b'inchán

PRESENT & IMMEDIATE PAST

txi (to go from here to there)

ma chix	ma qóxa, ma qox
ma txi	ma chéxa
ma txi	ma chex

ex (to leave)

ma chin ex	ma qo éxa, ma qo ex
ma tzéxa	ma chi éxa
ma tzex	ma chi ex

xnaq'tzan (to study)

ma chin xnaq'tzána	ma qo xnaq'tzána, ma
qo xnaq'tzán	
ma xnaq'tzána	ma chi xnaq'tzána
ma xnaq'tzán	ma chi xnaq'tzán

ul (to arrive here)

ma chin úla	ma qo úla, ma qo ul
ma tzúla	ma chi ula
ma tzul	ma chi ul

xyaj (to go and return)

ma chin xyaj	ma qo xyája, ma qo
xyaj	
ma xyája	ma chix xyája
ma xyaj	ma chix xjaj

PAST (same day)

tina (estar)

xi téna	xqo' téna, xqo' ten
xténa	xchi téna
xten	xhi ten

PAST (MORE DISTANT)

tina (estar)

e téna e qo' téna, e qo' ten
 e téna e chi téna
 e ten e chi ten

xyaj (to go and return)

naya e xyája jo'ya e xyája, jo e
 xyáj
 jaya e xyáj jei e xyáj
 ja e xyáj je e xyáj

DISTANT PAST

ex (to leave)

o chin ex o qo'éxa, o qo ex
 o tzéxa o chi'éxa
 o tzex o chi ex

FUTURE

txi (to go from here)

kchin xéla qo xéla, qo xel
 kxéla chi xéla
 kxel chi xel

xnaq'tzán (to study)

(ken) chin xnaq'tzál qo xnaq'tzála, qo
 xnaq'tzál
 k xnaq'tzál chi xnaq'tzál
 k xnaq'tzál chi xnaq'tzál

xnaq'tzán (to study)

kénya k xnaq'tzál kóya qo xnaq'tzála,
 kóya qo xnaq'tzál
 tey k xnaq'tzál kye chi xnaq'tzála
 tey k xnaq'tzál kye chi xnaq'tzála

REFLEXIVE?

o chim wéya nmána (my father died) o
 chim qéy(a) qmán(a) (our father died) o
 o chim téya tmána (your father died) o
 chim chéya chmána (your father died) o
 o chim tey tman (his/her father died) o
 chim chey chman (their father died)

MODEL SENTENCES & USEFUL PHRASES:

átxpa túmel twitz tmána túyena? - Do you still remember your father? (his face)
 álkye táq'ana? - What's your work? ti táq'ana?
 al xin (xuj) lu? Who's this man (woman)?
 al xjaal? - Who is it?
 alégre ken ma tzúla - I'm happy you arrived (here) nchin tzálaja ma tzúla
 at ... - there is ... at wéya ... - I have ... (at tey, ..., qéya, qey, chey, che)
 at che'w wéya wi'j - I'm cold at che'w tey ti'j - You're cold
 at jun q'ilj - "one day, ..."
 at jun tey tkotz lu - I have a gift here for you
 at jun tey tlo' naráns - I have an orange for you
 at jun xuj túya ttzomj - There's a woman with her weaving
 at junx xjaal - There's just one man
 at jwe' jal tuj tja nb'álek - There are 5 ears of corn in the house of my brother-in-law
 at nim is nel twi' witz - There are lots of potatoes on the top of the mountain
 at nim xoq' tuj b'e - There's lots of mud on the trail
 at nxúla tuj Estádos Unídos - I have a wife in the U.S.
 at óxa b'och tuj tnom - There are 3 pigs in town
 átpa a' chqa'? - Is there hot water? átpa chqa' átpa che'w tey ti'j? - Are you cold?
 átpa juntl ab'intón? - Is there another use?
 átpa oj? - Are there avocados?
 átpa wéyaj? - Are you hungry? átpa taq' wéya tey? táq'pa wéyaj tey? - Do you have hunger (pain)?
 áysa chya'l - It's good (tasty) nímxxsa chya'l - very tasty
 áysa chya'l we te wánma - I'm happy in my heart
 at spétpaj lenál - There's a mistake (a change)
 b'a'n chin yóla nuk nux - I only speak a little
 b'a'n xjaal kéna (qóya) - I'm a good person (we)
 b'a'n xuj lu - She's a nice woman
 b'á'npa nwan jála? - Can I eat now?
 b'á'npa ta'ya - Are you well?
 b'á'npa tey? - Are you a good person?
 b'á'npa tuj twítza? - Do you like it? (Is it good to your face?)
 b'á'npa wokx? - Can I enter?
 chéb'a kyóla tey na - Let's speak slowly ma'am
 chéb'a nb'eet xjaal - The man walks slowly
 tu'n téka nchiúx nb'eet xjaal? - Why does the man walk quickly?

chin xéla b'inchál wab'j te kála - I'm going to prepare dinner
 chin xel ka at amalén wi'j - I'll go if there's time
 chi tzálaja - be happy (you all)
 chjóna tey - thank you ku na, ku tat - you're welcome (to woman, to man)
 chjóna Dios, tu'n Dios tey - thanks to God
 chjóna qman Dios (our father God)
 chjóna che jun qyol - Thanks y'all for our words together
 chqílka qe tnom tuj Guatemala - All the towns in Guatemala
 chya'l ntína - I feel good
 ítza tmána? - Is your father living?
 ja nex tuj tja - He leaves his/her house
 ja q'a lu wéya nxnátzal - This boy is my student
 ja ta b'e nxi tuj ___? - Where's the trail that goes to ___?
 ja ta ___? ja túmel ___? - Where is ___?
 ja ta tey? ja túmel tey? ja ta tey? - Where are you? te ja tey? - Where are you from?
 ja ta b'e npon tuj tnom? - Where is the road that arrives in town?
 ja téwa chékasa - She's very pretty
 ja téwa directór - He's the director ja túmel ma txi Matéo? - Where did Mateo go?
 ja túmel najl tey? - Where do you live? ja túmel najle qe q'a? - Where do the boys live?
 ja túmel ta ttánmi? - Where is your country?
 játza qyóla - We'll talk
 játza najle tey? ja najle tey? - Where do you live?
 játza te' tuj mercado - They're in the market
 játza tó'ya tuj qjaya - We are in our house
 ja xjaal lu ka' - He's a bad man je qe xjaal lu ka' - They're bad men
 jála xuj xul? - Is there a woman (here) now?
 jápa ...? - Is he/she/it ...? jápa tála? - Is it your child (of woman)?
 jápa b'e lu nxi tuj tnom? - Is this the trail that goes to town?
 jápa tchmána? - Is that your grandfather/grandchild?
 jatz ntína wéya túya (chúya) Porfirio -I am with Porfirio (for plurals)
 jatz ta jun xjaal wúya - It's my friend
 jatz ta nchal túya ... - My son is with ...
 játza - it is (es), confirmation
 je nchi pon tuj Florida - They arrive in Florida
 jte' nk'ásb'en? - I much do I owe you?
 jte' tij jlu? - How much is this?
 jte' tij jun wexj? - How much are the pants?
 jte' tij jun pa'? - How much is a bag?

jte' tyem tála? - How old is your child (of woman)?
 jte' jnab'q'í (tyem) tey? - How old are you?
 tyem kena ... - I'm ...
 jun wixh tok tjaq nwéth'ila - There's a cat under my bed
 jun txaq uj - a piece of paper
 juni' chwitz - they have the same face(s)
 juntl jlájx te a' - the other side of the water (river)
 juntl maj - once more káb'a te maj - twice more
 jux wéya - me too jux qéya - us too
 jux tey - and also to you
 jux waq'an tisa tey chmil - My work is the same as your husband's
 ka' te'j chix - It's bad there ya'n b'a'n - no good
 kb'á'ntza qyóla nchij - We'll talk tomorrow
 kéna (kéntza) wéya - I'm going ma chix kíxta - come!
 klátza - good-bye kunó, (respond with kuwó)
 kompál, komál - short term of address for *compadres*
 ku - O.K., you're welcome
 kxe'l txin Rosa tuj jun b'ixb'el te q'ij nchij - Rosa's going to a dance tomorrow
 lu at jun xhuk wúyena - There's a cat with me
 lu ken wéya ntína tzalú - I'm here
 lu tey at tzalú - You're here
 ma chin ex túya tat Desiderio - I'm leaving to be with Desiderio
 ma chin noj - I'm full noj nuké (I'm just full)
 ma chin sikt ch'in - I'm a little tired
 ma chin tzálaja túya - I enjoyed myself with you
 ma chin wan - I just ate
 ma chin xyája aq'anál tuj ntx'otx' - I went to work on my land
 ma chin xyája b'í'l chnab' - I went to hear the marimba
 ma chin yóla túya tij - I spoke with an elder
 ma chix wátal - I'm going to sleep ma chix wátal twi' wáth'il (on the bed)
 ma chix wéya xnátzal túya Mariano - I'm going to study with Mariano
 ma kub' npa'n si' tu'ya xkb'il - I cut wood with an axe
 ma kub' tzyu'n jil wixh chu'n q'a xjaal - The cat was grabbed by the boys
 ma qóxa xnátzal - We're going to study ma qóxa jáwna (up)

ma txi nxtála jun klob'j te ttxuy - I gifted a huipil to your mom
 ma txi tuj salál - She went on an errand
 ma txi twaa'n txin Santa jun lo'pj - Santa ate a fruit
 ma txi txtála txin Tina jun amj te tik - Cristina gifted a skirt to her sister
 ma tzel nníya ti'j - I understand
 ma tzex twitz xak - It fell (left) on the face of the rocks
 ma tz'ok tpju'n txin Tina q'a Chep - Cristina hit José
 ma tz'ok xjon txin María tu'n q'a Juan - María was kicked by Juan
 ma wíla jun k'waal - I saw a boy
 mápa jáwe? - Did you get up? may - I did
 mápa txi tey tuj tnom? - Are you going to town?
 mápa tzel níka wi'j? - Do you remember me?
 mápa tzel tniya wi'j
 mápa tzúla - You arrived?! may (Yes, I did.)
 mas néjxa - later
 min b'ísa? - Aren't you sad?
 min chi xób'la - Don't be afraid (you all) min xób'la
 min chin txi' nwan - I don't want to eat
 min chin xób'la - I'm not afraid
 min jal, min jálawe, ya'n jálawe, nya jála - not now
 min nel, min nel níka ti'j, min tzel níya ti'j - I don't understand
 min ntzqénwa, nti túmel wúya - I don't know
 min sépaja - Don't be afraid
 min nxi chip'j wúuna - I don't eat meat
 min tzaj tchi tíya - Don't be afraid
 min tzel níka ti tyóla - I don't understand your words
 minál - nobody (or thing that moves) is present
 minálpa tat ...? - Is don ... around?
 mintí, nti - It's not present (here), They're not present (here)
 mintí túmel - I don't know
 míxb'a yol - he/she can't speak
 míxb'a chin yóla Mam - I can't speak Mam
 míxb'a chin yóla tuj tyóla - I can't speak your language (your words)
 najl ken wéya ___ - I live in ___
 najlélpa tey? - Are you married? najlél kénwe - I'm married
 naqch - far náqchpa? - Is it far? naká - near
 na'x - It's lacking (falta)

na'x nb'int yóla tuj tyóla - I haven't learned your words (language) yet
 naya tman José - I'm Jose's father ja q'a
 lu tchal José - He's Jose's son
 nb'étpa tey tuj tnom? - Are you walking to town?
 nchi cervésa jála - I don't want beer now
 nchi chin wan, nchi wéya wab'j - I don't want to eat tchi - He doesn't want...
 nchi iil - I don't want problems
 nchij chix wéya Xnápjal - Tomorrow I'm going to Huehuetenango
 nchin jyóna jun xjaal - I'm looking for a person
 nchin b'ísa - I'm sad
 nchin b'íxen - I dance taj xuj b'íxel - The woman wants to dance
 nchin jyóna te ... - I'm looking for ...
 nchin naq'anán tuj tnom - I work in town
 nim nok taq' tk'wal José - José loves his child
 nim yóla xjaal - smart person min yóla
 xjal - foolish person
 nímxi nchin tzálaja ma tzok nkyényana twítza - It's nice to meet you
 ni' hora? - What time is it?
 nim sib' - lots of smoke
 nk'an ... - I drink ...
 nmak tzmál twi' - He has long hair
 nman nb'inchán tja xuj - My father makes the woman's house
 ntína tzalú túya nchal - I'm here with my son
 ntzálaja? - Are you happy? nchin tzálaj - I'm happy ntzálaja kéna
 nujsáma - forgive me, pardon me chin
 nex chin - I'm coming past
 nujsáma chéb'a yólana - Please speak slowly
 nuk ch'iné' - just a little
 nuk ch'in nel ni ti'j - I understand a little
 nuk nyáqa tey? - Are you just joking?
 nuk yab' kéna - I'm (just) sick
 núket txi'y (ché'xa) b'a'n - May it go well for you
 nxúla chékasa - My wife is beautiful
 nya nim a' - There's not a lot of water
 o b'aj nim q'aq' - there were lots of fires
 pon q'obel tat Desiderio wéya njay - Desiderio is going to visit my house
 q'b'antz chéb'a - Speak slowly
 qej xjaal yab' - sick people
 qo waa'n - let's eat
 qo, qótza - let's go
 qo xyája - We went (& returned)
 q'antz ... - give me ...
 q'onk típena - Strength to you (said on departure) q'onk chípena (plural)

táchapa TS? - Do you like TS? cháchapa TS? - Do y'all like TS?
 táchapa? - Do you like it? qéchesa - We like it
 táchapa tey taq'aná? - Do you like your work?
 taj Juan wan tzának - John wants to eat beans
 tája til? - You want to see? waj wil - I want to see
 tájpa wána? - Do you want to eat?
 tájpa wab'j? - Do you want tortillas? waj wéya tzának - I want beans
 taq' - pain taq' nwátal - I'm tired ma sikt taq' wéya nk'uj - I have pain in my stomach
 te wájkaklaj tyem - He's 18
 te ja tey? - Where are you from?
 te E.U. ken wéya - I'm from the U.S.
 ti'? - what? (I didn't understand)
 ti' jílel at te txíla wab'j? - What is there to eat?
 ma b'int tzának túya jos - Beans & eggs were made
 ti' jílel jlu? - What's this? ti' xb'int túna jála? - What did you do today? xb'int jun q'aj wúna - I made a chair
 ti' jlu? (ti' jílel jlu?) - What's this?
 ti' ma chex chey? - Where are y'all going?
 ti' ma txi Juan? - Where did Juan go?
 ti' ma txi tey? - Where are you going? Ma chix tuj . . .
 ti' ma xi tey om? - Where are you going (man, guy of same age)?
 ti' nb'aj tey? - What are you doing? (finishing?)
 ti' nta'ya? - How are you? b'a'n (ntína) - (I'm) fine
 lu kένα b'a'n - I'm fine, lu kένα yab' - I'm sick
 ti' nxi b'ísín - What do you think?
 ti' sqíxa? - Cómo amaneció? b'a'n ma chin sqíxa (skáxa- afternoon)
 ti' taj xin lu? - What does the man want (here)?
 ti' tb'i jlu? (tuj tyóla) - What's it called? (in your language)
 ti' tey tb'i? - What's your name? wéya nb'i ___
 My name is ___
 ti' tok? - What do you say?
 tnóm te Tousánt chéka - The town of T.S. is pretty
 tok típe - May it go well to you tok chípe (plural)
 tuj b'e ma chin yóla túya jun xjaal - On the trail I spoke with a person
 tuj jnsb'q'í lu - this year
 twi' - on top of, his/her head

tzqémpi twitz Pedro? - Do you know Pedro (her face)?
 wáchasa - I like it a lot
 wáchasa tkapexáya - I like your jacket a lot
 waj (wéya)... - I want ...
 waj chin wan - I want to eat
 waj chin wan líta - I want to eat tamales
 waj knet jun q'aj - I want to find a chair
 waj nxnaq'tzána juntl yol - I want to learn another word
 waj tu'n b'int nyóla tuj tyóla - I want to learn your language
 xkub' nq'óna jun u'j tzalú - I put the book here
 xkub' tq'óna jun u'j tzalú - You put the book here
 xnátzal kένα - I'm a teacher wéya wáq'a
 xnatzál - My work is as a teacher
 yáj(sa) tey? - and you?