

DICTIONARY OF MONG NJUA

A MIAO (MEO) LANGUAGE OF SOUTHEAST ASIA

by

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University of Copenhagen

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This is the first Mong Njua-English dictionary ever compiled. The lexicographer who has authored this work attempts to give a complete vocabulary of Green Miao, a tribe of the Miao stock in Southeast Asia. He includes not only the basic words of the language, described according to linguistic criteria, but also terms pertaining to animals, plants, religion, agriculture, weaving, kinship, proper names, kin numeratives, clan names, and other semantic categories loan-words from Chinese and Tai are also indicated.

The Mong constitute a sub-division of the ethnic stock known as Miao which numbers over three million persons and is located in the mountainous regions of Southwest China, Northern Vietnam, Laos, the Shan States of Burma, and Northern Thailand. The Miao are divided by linguistic and cultural differences into a number of tribes whose names often derive from the color of the women's garments, e.g. White Miao, Black Miao, Striped Miao, etc. The various Miao tribes are not restricted to any definite geographical location in respect to each other. Thus, the Green Miao (Mong Njua) group may be found in any of the countries mentioned above.

Research for this dictionary was carried out in villages of Naan Province in Northern Thailand, where the author spent three years doing field-work and three additional years in collating and processing field-notes. Field-work was initially carried out using Thai as a medium of exchange; later, Mong Njua was used directly.

Anno: [REDACTED]

JANUA LINGUARUM

STUDIA MEMORIAE
NICOLAI VAN WIJK DEDICATA

edenda curat

C. H. VAN SCHOONEVELD

Indiana University

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Printed in Hungary

*To my parents,
Helen Hoyt
and
W. W. Lyman*

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FOREWORD

The field-work on which this dictionary is based was made possible by an initial grant from the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, New York City (1962) and numerous supplementary grants given by the American Council of Learned Societies, New York City (1962–1965) and the American Philosophical Society, Philadelphia (1962–1965). Grateful acknowledgement is here made to these three foundations for their generous support.

This dictionary has been compiled as a companion work to *Grammar of Mong Njua (Green Miao)*: a descriptive linguistic study, and *Ethnography of the Mong Njua (Green Miao) of Northern Thailand*: a study of Miao customs and way of life. Both volumes are to be published separately at a later date.

My material on the Mong Njua was first collected in 1949 and later continued during the years 1962–1964 and 1966–1967 in Naan Province (*nāan*)¹, northern Thailand (Siam). The mountain villages where I was able to contact the Mong Njua were mainly Baan Khun Sathaan (*bāan khūn sàthāan*) and Kang Ho (*kāan hōo*). The first-named village lies on the mountain Doi Khun Sathaan close to the provincial boundary-line between Naan Province and Phrae Province (*phrēe*). The second village is situated on the Doi Phuu Wae (*dooj phuu wae*) plateau, District of Pua (*pua*), northeast of Naan City and close to the Laos border.

The Mong Njua (*món nǐjúa*) tribe is also known as the 'Green Miao' or 'Green Meo'. The name 'Miao' is derived from Chinese (*miáu*)², while the Thai, Yon, and Lao equivalent is 'Meo' (*méew*)³. The tribe itself, however, uses the ethnic name Mong (*món*) to which a descriptive term is added to designate

¹ I use the Mary R. Haas system of Thai (Siamese) romanization (Haas, 1956). For the romanization of Yon (Lanna), I follow the system worked out by Haas for the Chiang-mai dialect (Haas, 1958), 824.

² For the Chinese character, see Karlgren, 1923a, 1970, 620.

³ For this form in Thai script, see McFarland, 1944, 659.

the particular branch of the Mong group. In reference to themselves, the tribesmen used the designator *ñjúa* 'to be green, be azure'.

Henceforth in this work, the term 'Green Miao' will be employed since it has already been accepted in linguistic and sinological circles⁴.

The Mong constitute a sub-division of the ethnic group known as Miao which numbers over three million persons and inhabits the mountainous regions of southwestern China, North Vietnam, Laos, the Shan States of Burma, and northern Thailand. The Miao are divided by linguistic and cultural differences into a number of tribes whose names often derive from the color or pattern of their women's garments (*e.g.* White Miao, Black Miao, Striped Miao, *etc.*). The various Miao tribes are not restricted to any definite geographical location in respect to each other. Thus the Green Miao group may be found in any of the countries mentioned above. Inter-marriage is permitted between the various Miao tribes but, according to the information I received, it rarely occurs. Inter-marriage with persons outside the Miao ethnic stock is unknown. At the time I was first in the field, there were no roads, missions, or schools within the Green Miao areas mentioned.

The *món ñjúa* ('Green Miao') together with the *món kláw* ('White Miao') and the *món quà.mbán* ('Banded-Sleeve Miao') are the three sub-groups of Miao to be found in Thailand. Many more sub-groups are to be encountered in Laos and North Vietnam, while the vast majority of Miao live in southern China.

Population figures are here given. Miao in China : 2,511,339 (census of June 1953) ; Miao in Thailand : 45,000 (Thai Border Police, 1960) ; Miao in Burma : unknown ; Miao in North Vietnam : 500,000 (Touby Lyfong, 1963) ; Miao in Laos : 300,000 (Touby Lyfong, 1963).

The immediate neighbors of the Green Miao in Naan Province are the Yao (or Man), the T'in (or Khaa T'in), the Khamu' (or Phuteng), and the Phii Tong Liang (or Yumbri). Trade contacts are maintained with the lowland dwelling Yon (Lanna), the people of Tai stock who form the dominant population in that part of Thailand.

The majority of published works convey a biased picture of the Miao peoples, giving the impression that they are merely simple mountain folk living on a comparatively low cultural level. In reality, however, Miao culture is highly complex, since this group has great adaptability and readily assimilates foreign cultural elements depending upon the environment and surrounding ethnic contacts.

Linguistic and ethnographic analysis of my preliminary field-notes was begun at the University of Copenhagen in 1954. I am much indebted to Kaj Birkit-Smith and Museums-inspektør Jens Yde of the Ethnographical Depart-

⁴ See R. A. D. Forrest (1965), *The Chinese Language* (2nd edition), p. 99.

ment, National Museum, Copenhagen, for inspiration and advice, and to Søren Egerod of the East Asian Institute, University of Copenhagen, for his sympathetic encouragement.

I am further indebted to Ernest Heimbach and Donald Rulison of the Overseas Missionary Fellowship, without whose help the initial stages of my field-work would never have been accomplished. Heartfelt appreciation is due to Garland Bare (now of the Chiangmai Medical School) for his help in the interpretation of certain difficult sections.

Fru Birthe Løvingreen (Copenhagen, Denmark) typed sections *p* to *l* and Mrs. Irene Anderson (Palos Verdes Peninsula, California) typed sections *m* to *z* of the present dictionary. I am most grateful to these two ladies for the competence and skill with which they carried out this task. Sincere thanks are extended to Miss Phonphit Aachakaan (Chiangmai, Thailand) who typed the Introduction and also assisted in the final arrangement and sequence of the revised draft.

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Special thanks are here extended to Mr. Tileston Holland Hale (Copenhagen, formerly of Carmel, California) who provided my expedition with a transportable (12 pounds) tropicalized, transistor-powered tape-recorder (Butoba, MT5) plus accessories. This tape-recorder was the 'key' in both the recording and the subsequent field-analysis of legends, conversation, personal narratives, formal speeches, religious ceremonies, songs, poetry, and proverbs.

The successful completion of field-work in Naan Province (1962–1964) would have been utterly impossible without the cooperation of Qhua Tyhao (*ghua gháo*) of Kang Ho Village. Qhua Tyhao often worked with me for weeks on end, commencing at sun-up and terminating at sun-down. I am deeply grateful for his untiring patience and good humor.

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INTRODUCTION

1. TRANSCRIPTION AND ORDER

1.1 ORTHOGRAPHY

The orthography of the Green Miao material presented in this dictionary is a compromise between phonemic and phonetic transcription. The reasons for this are purely practical. First of all, the phonemic analysis presented is provisional and will quite possibly be subject to change. Secondly, I wish to provide an easy method of comparison with the Miao vocabularies of Father Savina and other scholars in the field. Finally, my endeavor has been to use symbols which will not only be familiar to linguists but to the average reader as well. A strictly phonemic spelling, although highly desirable for certain purposes, often leads to confusion.

1.2 SEQUENCE OF ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS

Lexemes are listed according to their (initial) consonant or consonant cluster as the first criterion for arrangement; vowel or vowel cluster (including nasalized vowels) as the second criterion; and tone as the third and final criterion.

(1) *Sequence of consonants and consonant clusters:*

<i>p</i>	<i>k</i>	<i>n</i>	<i>ñ</i>	<i>p</i>	<i>v</i>
<i>c</i>	<i>kh</i>	<i>neh</i>	<i>ñčh</i>	<i>ph</i>	<i>y</i>
<i>ch</i>	<i>khl</i>	<i>nd</i>	<i>ñj</i>	<i>phl</i>	<i>ž</i>
<i>č</i>	<i>kl</i>	<i>nth</i>	<i>ŋ</i>	<i>pl</i>	
<i>čh</i>	<i>l</i>	<i>nz</i>	<i>ŋg</i>	<i>q</i>	
<i>e</i>	<i>m</i>	<i>ñ</i>	<i>ŋgl</i>	<i>qh</i>	
<i>eh</i>	<i>mb</i>	<i>ñch</i>	<i>ŋγ</i>	<i>s</i>	
<i>f</i>	<i>mbl</i>	<i>ñdj</i>	<i>ŋkh</i>	<i>š</i>	
<i>h</i>	<i>ml</i>	<i>ñj</i>	<i>ŋkhl</i>	<i>t</i>	
<i>hl</i>	<i>mph</i>	<i>ñtj</i>	<i>ŋqh</i>	<i>th</i>	
<i>hs</i>	<i>mphl</i>			<i>č</i>	
<i>hy</i>				<i>čh</i>	

(2) *Sequence of vowels and vowel clusters:*

a, ai, aŋ, ao, au, aw, e, eŋ, i, (i), oŋ, u, ua, w, (wŋ)

(3) *Sequence of tones:*

<i>(Diacritic)</i>		<i>(Name of Tone)</i>	<i>(Example)</i>
/ˊ/	=	high or high falling	(<i>páu</i>)
/ˊˊ/	=	high rising	(<i>kǎ</i>)
/no mark/	=	middle level	(<i>ʔua</i>)
/ˋ/	=	lower level	(<i>hà</i>)
/ˋˋ/	=	full falling	(<i>náo</i>)
/ˋˊ/	=	low with voiced aspiration	(<i>lǎ</i>)
/ˋˊˊ/	=	falling-rising glottalized	(<i>tǎw</i>)

(For a complete explanation of the symbols listed above, see 7.1—7.3.)

1.3 SEQUENCE OF LEXEMES

Polysyllabic words will be listed using their initial syllables as the main lexical entry. Other criteria being equal, monosyllabic words will precede polysyllabic words. BOUND forms⁵ and loan-components when highly productive will be treated as individual lexical items. FREE forms will always precede bound forms, and bound forms will precede loan-components.

In the case of homonyms, lexemes will be arranged according to WORD-CLASS or SEMANTIC GROUP in the order given in 9 (*Order of Listing for Homonyms*). If there are several homophonous bound forms etymologically derived from the same morpheme, each bound form will be listed as a separate lexical entry followed by a numeral enclosed in parentheses, e.g. *nǎ*⁺ (1), *nǎ*⁺ (2), etc. The order in which such forms are listed is that of logical connection and must not be taken as necessarily indicative of historical relationship.

⁵ For detailed explanations of the terms *bound* and *free*, see Lien-Sheng Yang: "The Concept of 'Free' and 'Bound' in Spoken Chinese", *Harvard Journal of Asiatic Studies*, 12 (1949), 3/4, 462-469; and Meillet's definition in Marouzeau, *Lexique de la terminologie linguistique*, p. 149. See also what Lien-Sheng Yang adds in Footnote 6, p. 467, *op. cit.*: "It may be noted here that the results will be different if one adopts a less rigid definition for a free word. For instance, the test could be whether a character or a compound may be used by itself to perform a certain grammatical function (for example, to be a subject) or to be recognized as belonging to a certain part of speech (for example, a conjunction)." This definition of *free* is also more in keeping with that of Mary R. Haas who writes *Restricted Modifiers*, for example, as free forms (see Haas, 1946, p. 127) but defines the agentive (*chǎn*), for example, as "Bound stem meaning 'artisan, smith'." (See Haas, 1955, p. 295).

1.4 USE OF SEMICOLON AND COMMA

A semicolon will separate different meanings in translation.

e.g. *tâi* 'cup, bowl; plate, dish'.

A comma will separate different English approximations of the same meaning.

e.g. *tâi* 'cup, bowl'.

Those verbs which also function as adverbs will have their primary meanings given first and their additional adverbial meanings separated therefrom by a semicolon.

e.g. *žon* 'to be good; well, excellently'.

2. ITALICIZED WORDS IN PARENTHESES

2.1 SELECTORS

If a main lexical entry is a noun, it will always be followed by its SELECTOR (or SELECTORS) enclosed in parentheses:

e.g. *klě (tû)* 'dog'

I use the label 'Selector' (*Sl*) to designate an important word-class (part of speech) found not only in Green Miao but in many other Asiatic languages as well. Selectors are often referred to as 'Classifiers' or 'Auxiliary Nouns' in other linguistic works. ONE of the uses of the selector in Green Miao is in counting:

e.g. *ɣáo.tû klě* (or) *klě ɣáo.tû* 'two dogs'

If derivative nouns (also to be described as 'compound nouns') take different selectors from the 'head' noun which constitutes the main lexical entry, these will be indicated in the sub-entries.

e.g. *pú (lén)* female (of humans and certain animals)
pú.qá (tû) 'hen'

Otherwise, it will be understood that all derivative nouns take the same selector as the main entry.

In the case of BOUND forms, the first selector indicated for a derivative sub-entry holds for all subsequent derivatives, unless otherwise marked.

- e.g. *qù*a- (1) person, human being, the one who
*qù*a-*čhá* (*lě*ŋ) 'soldier'
*qù*a-*lâu* 'old person'
*qù*a-*qú* 'man, male person'
*qù*a-*sě*ŋ 'clansman'

(The above arrangement indicates that all sub-entries take the selector *lě*ŋ.)

In the case of nouns derived from main entries other than nouns, selectors will NOT be given, since these can easily be found by looking up the first element of the compound elsewhere in the vocabulary.

- e.g. *klân* 'to be yellow'
táu klân 'pumpkin' (< *táu* 'gourd')
klě klân 'flood-waters' (< *klě* 'water')

(To find the selectors of the two sub-entries above, one would refer to the main entries *táu* and *klě* respectively.)

Certain nouns are of the type which can be modified both by a selector (or selectors) denoting only the 'singular', e.g. *chài* 'one of a pair' (see example below), and also by an additional selector (or selectors) denoting only the 'dual', e.g. *ŋǎw* 'pair, couple'. In such instances, the selectors denoting the 'singular' will be indicated both in parentheses and in the sub-headings, while those denoting the 'dual' will be listed in the sub-headings only.

- e.g. *q̄hau* (*chài*) 'shoe'
ɲi.chài q̄hau 'one shoe'
ɲi.ŋǎw q̄hau 'a pair of shoes'

It will be understood that the selector (*lě*ŋ) following a noun designating a 'human being' will stand for both the selectors *lě*ŋ and *tú* since the latter can always be substituted for *lě*ŋ in familiar speech.

(In translating Green Miao nouns, it is to be understood that they could equally well be rendered by English plurals as by English singulars.)

- e.g. *mbua* 'pig (or) pigs'

2.2 FREE FLUCTUATION

Free fluctuation of phonemes is indicated but not free fluctuation of phonetic variants. These phonemic variants are always listed directly following lexemes, and if a selector is also indicated, the order of arrangement will be as follows: lexeme—variant—selector.

- e.g. *čhúa* (*chúa*) (*lú*) 'machine'

2.3 RESTRICTED MODIFIERS

If a main lexical entry is a verb, it will often (but not always) be followed by its RESTRICTED MODIFIER (OR MODIFIERS), abbreviation: *RM*. I use this label to designate an adverbial type of word which is only found in conjunction with one, or at the most, four or five verbs in the entire language.

e.g. *klán ĩ* 'to be bright yellow'

In the foregoing phrase, the form *ĩ* is the Restricted Modifier of *klán* 'to be yellow'.

3. CLASSIFICATORY GROUPINGS

Classificatory signs are usually given in parentheses, either directly following the main lexical entry or else directly preceding the English translation. (Capital Letter Abbreviations, in contrast, only occur following the entire English translation.) The Classificatory Signs are used to indicate, inter alia, the following groupings: Chinese loan-words (*Ch*), Tai loan-words (*T*), clan names (*C*), given names (*G*), kinship terms (*K*) [*K*], kin numeratives (*KN*), words pertaining to religion or the supernatural (*R*), weaving terms (*W*), and certain word-classes (see 9.1).

When classificatory signs directly follow lexemes they will always be placed after phonemic variants (2.2) or selectors (2.1). For example, if both a selector and a classificatory sign are given, the order of arrangement will be as follows: lexeme—selector—sign.

e.g. *má⁺ (lú) (Ch)* 'cap, hat'

In rare cases, a selector and two classificatory signs will be given. In such instances, the sign indicating 'religion' will always precede the other sign, but both will follow the selector. The order of arrangement will then be: lexeme—selector—sign—sign.

e.g. *thán (lú) (R) (Ch)* 'altar'

For an explanation of the weaving terms (*W*), including an illustration of a Miao loom, see T. A. Lyman, "The Weaving Technique of the Green Miao", *Ethnos*, 27 (1962), 35—9 (The Ethnographical Museum of Sweden, Stockholm). For a discussion of the words pertaining to Supernatural Phenomena or Religion (*R*), see T. A. Lyman, "Green Miao (*Meo*) Spirit-Ceremonies", *Ethnologica*, 4 (*Neue Folge*) (1968), 1—28 (Rautenstrauch-Joest-Museum für Völkerkunde, Köln).

Kin Numeratives (*KN*) are defined as a special set of terms employed in listing the birth-order of siblings. Such terms have been treated in detail by Paul K. Benedict (1945) and Søren Egerod (1959b). The Green Miao kin numeratives are all Chinese loan-words but evidently borrowed from two different dialects of Southwestern Mandarin.

If a main lexical entry is a kinship term, it will be followed by one of two signs (K) or [K]. The first indicates that in addition to being a kinship term, the entry is also a noun and takes the selectors *lêŋ* and *tû*. The second indicates a kinship term which (on the basis of recorded data) does *not* take a selector.

The sub-entries under a main heading marked (K) or [K] will also be individually marked by classificatory signs, since some derivatives may not belong to the same classification as the main heading. (For example, see *kw* 'younger brother'.)

Mass nouns will be indicated by the sign (mN), and the various selectors which can be employed will be listed as sub-headings.

e.g. *ndăw* (mN) 'paper, book, letter, any written material'
 čáŋ ndăw 'letter, epistle'
 klăi⁺ ndăw 'sheet of paper'
 phoŋ ndăw 'book'

Capital letter abbreviations are given at the end of a complete translation and indicate certain additional points of information concerning the lexeme. This information, although valuable, is not actually necessary for the translation. In the case of indicating linguistic borrowing, capital letter abbreviations are employed as denoting a possibility rather than a definite statement of fact. (In the following example, 'Sz' stands for 'Szechwan dialect'.)

e.g. *sêŋ⁺ (lí)* (Ch) 'clan; clan name, surname' (cf. Sz *sín* 'family name')

4. SYMBOLS, LABELS, AND ABBREVIATIONS

4.1 SYMBOLS

< derives from, comes from; consists of
 = equals (An equality sign indicates that the following form is a closer translational equivalent of the Green Miao entry than has been expressed in English.)

≈	is translated by . . . (A congruence sign indicates that the following form was consistently given by the Miao informant[s] as a translation of the Green Miao entry but is NOT to be considered a reliable semantic equivalent.)
?	indicates that the preceding translation or derivation is uncertain
—	joined to a form in hypostasis indicates a BOUND form, i.e. one which did not actually occur in my material as an independent word. (See 1.3.) The position of the hyphen shows whether the form in question is bound CHIEFLY to a following form or to a preceding form, e.g. <i>q̄ua-</i> ‘person’, <i>š̄ua-</i> ‘fire’, <i>-ñj̄i</i> ‘little bit’
+	joined to a form in hypostasis indicates a ‘loan-component’ only occurring in polysyllabic Chinese loan-words, e.g. ⁺ <i>ẽi</i> , <i>yáŋ⁺</i> , q.v. The loan-component may or may not be meaningful, depending on the background of the individual speaker. For convenience in listing, certain loan-components are given in this work as main entries. The position of the small cross (⁺) shows whether the component in question occurs chiefly as the first or second element in the loan-words listed
(‘ . . . ’)	an English word (or words) set off by quotation marks and enclosed in parentheses indicates a LITERAL translation of the preceding lexical entry

4.2 LABELS AND ABBREVIATIONS

abbr.	abbreviation
aNI	Abstract Nominal (Abstract Noun)
C	Clan name (See <i>sẽŋ⁺</i>)
Ch	Chinese loan-word
Con.	Contrast, contrasts with
cSI	Collective Selector (usually a Higher Numeral). NB: Words of this group denote number in an unrestricted collective sense. When preceded by a Quantifier, they denote a definite number.
csp	children’s speech
dIP	Duolocal Particle
esp.	especially
Etym. s.w.	Etymologically the same word as . . .
Etym. s.w.n.	Etymologically the same word as the next main entry
Etym. s.w.p.	Etymologically the same word as the preceding main entry

fig.	figuratively
G	Given name (See <i>mbe</i>)
GM	Green Miao (Green Meo)
Int	Initiator (or minor sentence). NB: This group includes interjections, exclamatives, vocatives, starting syllables, and response units.
interrog.-indef.	interrogative-indefinite
J	Connective (joining particle, medial particle)
Jp	Japanese
K	Kinship term which takes the selectors <i>lén</i> and <i>tú</i> . (Example: <i>ná</i> ⁺ 'mother')
[K]	Kinship term, usually a modifying or collective word, which does not take a selector. (Example: <i>-kón</i> 'third degree of ascent')
K.H.	Kang Ho dialect
KN	Kin numerative (and also a Chinese loan-word).
K.S.	Khun Sathaan dialect
L	Localizer (corresponds to a 'preposition' in English)
La	Lao (Laotian)
lit.	literally
MI	Malay
mIP	Multilocal particle
mN	Mass noun
mod.	modifier
N	Noun (usually denoted, when a main entry, by a Selector immediately following, e.g. <i>klǎn</i> (<i>tú</i>) 'hawk')
neol.	neologism
NI	Nominal (noun substitute)
onom.	onomatopoeic
Opp.	Opposite, opposite to
part.-poss.	partitive-possessive
Pk	Peking dialect (Peking Mandarin)
Pl	Place name
poss.	possibly
Poss. s.w.	Possibly the same word as . . .
Pr	Pronoun
Prl	Pronominal (pronoun substitute)
prob.	probably
Q	Quantifier (includes the numerals '3—9')
Qs	Quantifier substitute (includes the numerals '1,2,10, and 20')
R	Religion: term pertaining to supernatural phenomena

regional	signifies that the word in question is used in certain Green Miao villages but not in others (Example: <i>nzi</i> 'daddy, father')
RM	Restricted modifier (see 2.3)
SI	Selector (= classifier, auxiliary noun, measure; see 2.1)
SIs	Selector substitute
Syn.	Synonymous with
Sz	Szechuan dialect (as used here = Southwestern Mandarin)
T	Tai loan-word (includes Thai, Yon or Lanna, Lao, and Shan)
TB	Translational borrowing
Th	Thai (Siamese). [Generally indicates a word which has been borrowed from Thai through the medium of Yon (Lanna)]
Tl	Title
Tr	Terminator (modal particle, final particle)
V	Verb/adjective (usually denoted by use of 'to' or 'to be' in the translation)
Vl	Verbal (verb substitute)
W	Weaving term
WM	White Miao (White Meo)
Y	Yon (Lanna)

5. JOINING OF SYLLABLES

5.1 UNANALYZABLE

The polysyllabic words of this group cannot be analyzed by the NATIVE SPEAKER into further meaningful parts. The joining of syllables in words of this group is indicated by writing them as a solid unit.

A. NATIVE WORDS:

On the basis of material collected, words of this type are not to be regarded as 'compounds' but as unreducible disyllabic morphemes. In contrast to true compound constructions, the derivation of their component syllables is not traceable.

- e.g. *lākáu* 'rice-pot'
šúaklāw 'all (of people), everyone'
klāŋci 'what? anything, something'

B. CHINESE LOANS:

These loan-words are derived from Chinese compounds borrowed into Green Miao as single units.

- e.g. *yáŋhǔ* matches. (cf. Sz *yâŋ hò* 'matches')
lâufúasén peanut. (cf. Sz *liǒu huā sēn* 'peanut')
phényi to be cheap. (cf. Sz *p'iân yǐ* 'cheap')

C. TAI LOANS:

These are mostly recent loan-words taken from Thai (Siamese) or Yon (Lanna) with little or no modification.

- e.g. *kàpōŋ* 'tin-can' (cf. Th *kràpōŋ* 'tin-can')
sambu 'soap' (cf. Th *sàbùu* 'soap')
fäifáa 'flashlight' (cf. Y *fajfáa* 'flashlight')

5.2 QUASI-ANALYZABLE

The polysyllabic words of this group are also derived from Chinese compounds borrowed into Green Miao as single units. The difference between these and the Chinese loans described in 5.1 (B) is that one or both elements of the original Chinese compounds also occur independently as either *free* or *bound* monosyllabic morphemes. They have either been borrowed independently or else came into use as monosyllabic abbreviations (clipped forms) of the polysyllabic words.

It is impossible to say on the basis of present material whether these loan morphemes, when appearing in Chinese polysyllabic loans, can or cannot be analyzed by the native speaker as meaningful units. We shall refer to such words derived from Chinese composita as '*Quasi-analyzable*'.

The joining of syllables in words of this group is likewise indicated by writing them as one solid unit.

A. ONE ELEMENT ALSO OCCURS AS MORPHEME:

- e.g. *péthân* 'white sugar' (cf. Sz *pě t'âŋ* 'white sugar')
thân 'sugar (in general)' (cf. Sz *t'âŋ* 'sugar')

B. BOTH ELEMENTS ALSO OCCUR AS MORPHEMES:

- e.g. *sányi*[†] (*sánye*[†]) 'March' (cf. Sz. *sān yuě* 'March')
sín KN 'for the third-born child' (cf. Sz *sān* 'three')
-yi[†] (*-ye*[†]) 'month' (cf. Sz *yuě* 'month')

C. ONE ELEMENT IS MORPHEME BY ANALOGY:

e.g. *fúeáo* 'black pepper' (cf. Sz *fú tsiāu* 'black pepper')
hǎoeáo 'chilli pepper' (cf. Sz *huā tsiāu* 'flowery pepper')

D. ONE OR BOTH ELEMENTS MAY ALSO OCCUR AS A CLIPPED WORD:

A CLIPPED WORD is here defined as a *free form* which derives from an abbreviation of a polysyllabic form. (See Bloomfield, 1933, p. 488.)

e.g. *yáyén* 'opium' (cf. Sz *yā yān* 'opium', lit. 'refined smoke')
yá 'id.'
yén 'id.'
cāehu 'animal' (cf. Sz *kiā ch'ŭ* 'domestic animal' < *kiā* 'family' + *ch'ŭ* 'domestic animal')
cá 'id.'

5.3 COMPOUNDS (ANALYZABLE)

The words of this group are composed of two or more meaningful parts. Green Miao compound words are described below in terms of the concept of *bound* and *free*.

5.3.1 *Bound + Bound*

The joining of forms in words of this class is indicated by the ligature (-).

Type A: Certain bound forms occur in a relatively LARGE NUMBER of compounds. One of these is the GENERIC DESIGNATOR *qúa-* 'person'. See examples below and also under *bound + free* (5.3.2).

e.g. *qúa-čhá* 'soldier' (< *qúa-* 'person' + *-čhá?*)
qúa-pú 'woman; wife' (< *qúa-* 'person' + *-pú* '(a) female')

Type B: Other bound forms only occur in ONE (or very few) compounds.

e.g. *něŋ-ŋgáú* 'twenty (20)' (< *něŋ-* 'twe-' + *-ŋgáú* '-ty')

5.3.2 *Bound + Free*

The joining of bound plus free forms is likewise indicated by the ligature (-).

e.g. *mblá-té* '(the) world' (< *mblá-?* + *té* 'ground, earth')

Type A: The bound forms found here also occur in a relatively LARGE NUMBER of compounds.

e.g. *qùà-sēŋ* 'clansman' (< *qùà-* 'person' + *sēŋ* 'clan')
mī-ñua 'child' (< *mī-* 'small' + *ñua* 'child')

Type B: The bound forms found in the following examples are 'unique elements', not occurring elsewhere. The second member (the free form) is often used alone in a meaning very similar to that of the corresponding compound. Although the meanings of these 'unique elements' are often vague, they are established as morphemes by analogy. (See Haas, *Spoken Thai*, p. 618: "Additive Compounds".)

e.g. *súa-tǎw* 'fire' (< *súa-* 'fire' + *tǎw* 'fire')
pè-cǎw 'how much?' (< *pè-?* + *cǎw* 'how much?')

5.3.3 Free + Bound

The joining of free plus bound forms is also indicated by the ligature (-).

e.g. *pán-ḡua* 'to help out'. (< *pán* 'to help' + *-ḡua?*)
nǎŋ-ñdya 'squirrel'. (< *nǎŋ* 'rat' + *-ñdya?*)
nēŋ-ñchúa 'horse having a mixed coloration (but not spotted)'. (< *nēŋ* 'horse' + *-ñchúa* 'color-term only applied to horses')

5.3.4 Free + Free

The joining of free plus free forms is indicated by the ligature (·).

e.g. *páo.žé* 'stone' (< *páo* 'stone' + *žé* 'stone')
ǎ.hlau 'railroad' (< *ǎ* 'rail' + *hlau* 'iron')
hle.lǎw 'to skin' (< *hle* 'to skin' + *lǎw* 'to skin')
ṛí.nú 'one day' (< *ṛí* 'one' + *nú* 'day')
léŋ.tw 'who?' (< *léŋ* 'person' + *tw* 'which')

5.3.5 Compound Words Connected by Infixes

The joining of compound words connected by an infix, e.g. *-qùà-*, *-pì-*, will be accomplished by using the ligature (-) TWICE, both before and after the infix.

e.g. *ñdyaŋ-qùà-ñjai* 'straight' (< *ñdyaŋ ñjai* 'to be straight')

5.4 REDUPLICATION

Reduplication in Green Miao may be divided into two main types: MORPHOLOGICAL and SYNTACTICAL. See below.

5.4.1 *Morphological Reduplication*

The joining of syllables in words falling under this category is indicated by the ligature (~).

Type A: NON-DERIVATIVE:

Certain Green Miao words ONLY occur in reduplicated form. It is usually impossible to isolate a basic free form from which words of this group are derived.

e.g. $q\acute{a}\sim q\acute{a}$ 'to be dirty'

$\rho\acute{a}\sim\rho\acute{a}$ 'red-breasted parakeet'

$\eta q h\acute{o}\eta\sim\eta q h\acute{o}\eta$ 'bark of a dog'

Type B: DERIVATIVE:

Other reduplicated words in Green Miao have a definite derivation and are classed as reduplicated derivatives. The basic free form may be either the first element or the second element of the resulting reduplicated form.

e.g. $nz\acute{u}\sim nz\acute{u}$ 'to hate with a passion' (< $nz\acute{u}$ 'to hate')

5.4.2 *Syntactical Reduplication*

The joining of syllables in words falling under this category is indicated by the ligature (.). (See compounds composed of free plus free forms, 5.3.4)

Here reduplication is used to indicate intensification of the basic form. Phonetically, this consists of simple repetition. On the basis of present material, SYNTACTICAL REDUPLICATION seems to be limited to VERBS and ADJECTIVES.

Reduplication for grammatical reasons must be distinguished from reduplication resulting in the formation of new words as in 5.4.1 above. (See Bloomfield, 1933, p. 235)

e.g. $\acute{s}ai.\acute{s}ai$ 'very fast' (< $\acute{s}ai$ 'to be fast')

$q\acute{e}\eta.q\acute{e}\eta$ 'very slow' (< $q\acute{e}\eta$ 'to be slow')

The symbols listed above will be used consistently throughout this vocabulary but for the following exceptions. My principal aim will be to achieve clarity in rapid reading. The symbol (.) will connect a modified form to its modifier, and a verb to its object, whenever it is desirable to emphasize that these function as one grammatical or semantic unit. In other cases, these forms will not be connected. In long sentences or phrases, selectors will be joined to Nouns: in other groupings they will not be joined.

6. ROMANIZATION AND DESIGNATIONS OF OTHER LANGUAGES

For the romanization of Peking Mandarin (Pekingese), I have evolved a system which can be described as 'Type A'. (See Bernhard Karlgren, *The Romanization of Chinese* (London), 1928.) Since every phonetician has the right to his own transcription, I have blended certain features of various romanization schemes at present in wide use. Pekingese forms are transcribed as follows. For representing initials, I use the Wade-Giles system (except that *hs* = *sh*, *j* = *r*), for finals the National Romanization (Gwoyeu Romatzyh) basic forms (except that *el* = *er*, and in isolation with zero initial *i* = *yi*, *u* = *wu*, etc.), and for tones the Yale Romanization's diacritics.⁶

For Southwestern Mandarin (Szechuanese) loan-words, see *Dictionnaire Chinois-Français de la langue parlée dans l'ouest de la Chine* (Imprimerie de la Société des Missions Étrangères, Hongkong, 1893). The French romanization (i.e. initials and finals) has been modified to be in accord with the first two systems mentioned above, e.g. *cha* = *sha*, *kou* = *ku*, *nieou* = *niou*, *tche* = *che*, *se* = *sy*, etc. The French diacritic tone marks have not been changed.

The term Tai is used in this work as a general name to designate a widespread family of languages. The term Thai (or Siamese) refers specifically to the national or Bangkok dialect of Thailand. Thai loan-words and equivalents are given in the Haas system of Thai romanization. (See Mary R. Haas, *The Thai System of Writing*, *ACLS*, 1956.)

The designation Yon (or Lanna) denotes the dialect (or dialects) spoken by that ethnic group of Tai stock which forms the dominant population in northern Thailand down to the Tak and Nakhon Sawan provinces. Some writers refer to this group as 'Lao' which, however, is a misnomer.⁷ The ethnic name Lao as used in this work refers only to those Tai groups inhabiting northeastern Thailand and the kingdom of Laos (Indo-China).

For the romanization of Yon, I follow the system worked out for the Chiang-mai dialect by Mary R. Haas, "The Tones of Four Tai Dialects", *Academia Sinica*, 29 (1958), 824. I have made one modification, namely: a falling tone on a short vowel is transcribed by me through the use of a circumflex diacritic,

⁶ For the Wade-Giles Romanization, see Mathews' *Chinese-English Dictionary* (American edition, Cambridge, Mass., 1963). For Gwoyeu Romatzyh finals, see table of "Finals: Basic Form" in Y. R. Chao, *Mandarin Primer* (Cambridge, Mass., 1948), p. 22; see also *Language*, 29 (1953), p. 381, 0.10. For the Yale Romanization, see John De Francis, *Beginning Chinese* (New Haven, 1946), pp. 1-14.

⁷ "The name 'Laos' as applied to the people of North Siam was a mistake, both in pronunciation and application. The name Yun [*Yon*] is not a new name. It is the name by which they have been known by the peoples around them from earliest history." William C. Dodd, D. D., *The Tai Race -- Elder Brother of the Chinese* (Cedar Rapids, Iowa, 1923), pp. 250-251.

e.g. *nóg* 'bird' = Haas' *nóg*. (For this particular combination of tone and vowel, Haas uses the label HIGH.)

For Lao, I use the consonantal and vocalic romanization adopted by G. Edward Roffe (1946) in his article "The Phonemic Structure of Lao", *Journal of the American Oriental Society*, 66 (1946), 289–95; the tonal indication of Lao follows that of Roffe and Roffe, *Spoken Lao*, ACLS, 1956/58.

Malay forms follow the transcription found in Wilkinson's *A Malay-English Dictionary* (Mytilene, Greece, 1932).

7. EXPLANATION OF THE ORTHOGRAPHIC SYMBOLS USED

In the following description, certain technical linguistic terms will be used. One of the most frequently occurring terms is here defined.

ASPIRATION = an outblowing of breath, as when one pronounces a word beginning with the English letter *h*.

7.1 CONSONANTS AND CONSONANT CLUSTERS

SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION	MIAO EXAMPLE
<i>ʔ</i>	The GLOTTAL STOP, a sound made by constricting the throat. Often heard before initial vowels in American English, in such a phrase as 'of all things'.	<i>ʔà</i> 'duck'
<i>c</i>	Like English <i>ch</i> but without aspiration. Resembles Spanish <i>ch</i> as in <i>muchacho</i> , Italian <i>c</i> as in <i>cinque</i> . (See 7.1.1)	<i>cě</i> 'house'
<i>ch</i>	Like English <i>ch</i> as in <i>church</i> but with strong aspiration. (See 7.1.1)	<i>chúa</i> 'medicine'
<i>č</i>	Similar to <i>/c/</i> above but with tongue brought back into position for pronouncing the American <i>r</i> . (See 7.1.1)	<i>čón</i> 'table'
<i>čh</i>	Same as <i>/č/</i> above but with strong aspiration. (See 7.1.1)	<i>čhàu</i> 'sieve'
<i>e</i>	Like English <i>ts</i> but without aspiration. Resembles Italian <i>z</i> as in <i>piazza</i> .	<i>eá</i> 'scissors'
<i>eh</i>	Like English <i>ts</i> in <i>cats</i> but with strong aspiration.	<i>ehán</i> 'granary'

<i>f</i>	Similar to English <i>f</i> as in <i>farm</i> . More closely resembles <i>f</i> in Japanese <i>fune</i> (<i>hune</i>) 'ship'.	<i>fúa</i> 'cloud'
<i>h</i>	Like English <i>h</i> as in <i>hope</i> . (Note: <i>h</i> also occurs as part of certain consonant clusters. These clusters are described separately since they are considered as single units.)	<i>hú</i> 'jar'
<i>hl</i>	Unlike any sound in English. Can be approximated by pronouncing English <i>h</i> followed almost simultaneously by English <i>l</i> . Like Welsh <i>ll</i> as in <i>Llewellyn</i> .	<i>hlí</i> 'moon'
<i>hs</i>	Unlike any sound in English. Can be approximated by pronouncing English <i>h</i> followed almost simultaneously by English <i>s</i> . This sound is found in some of the Shan dialects of Burma, where it is referred to as an ASPIRATED <i>s</i> and often written <i>s'</i> .	<i>hsáo</i> 'don't'
<i>hy</i>	Heard in certain dialects of English, as in the pronunciation of <i>h</i> in <i>hew</i> (but with strong aspiration). Resembles the <i>ch</i> in German <i>ich</i> and the <i>h</i> in Japanese <i>hito</i> 'person'. Also occurs in variant-form as a sibilant more retracted than English <i>s</i> but more forward than German <i>ch</i> in <i>ich</i> . This variant resembles <i>sh</i> in Mandarin <i>shìu</i> ('to laugh'), <i>sh</i> in Japanese <i>shashin</i> ('photograph'), and <i>ś</i> in Polish <i>geś</i> .	<i>hyón</i> 'bamboo'
<i>k</i>	Like English <i>k</i> but without aspiration. Resembles the 'hard' <i>c</i> of Spanish <i>casa</i> , Italian <i>casa</i> , or French <i>caisse</i> .	<i>kǎu</i> 'barking-deer'
<i>kh</i>	Like English <i>k</i> as in <i>king</i> but with strong aspiration.	<i>kháw</i> 'button'
<i>khl</i>	Like English <i>cl</i> as in <i>claw</i> but with strong aspiration. Also pronounced as <i>tl</i> , i.e. like English <i>t</i> plus <i>l</i> .	<i>khlá</i> 'to run; jump'
<i>kl</i>	Same as above but without aspiration. Resembles <i>cl</i> in Spanish <i>clamar</i> , Italian <i>clamare</i> . Also pronounced as <i>tl</i> without aspiration.	<i>klě</i> 'dog'
<i>l</i>	Like English <i>l</i> as in <i>love</i> .	<i>lá</i> 'monkey'
<i>m</i>	Like English <i>m</i> as in <i>more</i> .	<i>mǔ</i> 'spear'
<i>mb</i>	Like English <i>m</i> plus <i>b</i> as in <i>boat</i> , pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel.	<i>mbua</i> 'pig'
<i>mbl</i>	Like English <i>m</i> plus <i>bl</i> as in <i>blue</i> , pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel.	<i>mblón</i> 'leaf'

<i>ml</i>	Like English <i>m</i> plus <i>l</i> pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel.	<i>mláo</i> 'cat'
<i>mph</i>	Like English <i>m</i> plus <i>p</i> with strong aspiration. This is pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel.	<i>mphěη</i> 'to be healthy'
<i>mphl</i>	Like English <i>m</i> plus English <i>pl</i> as in <i>play</i> with strong aspiration. This is pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel.	<i>mphláí</i> '(finger-)ring'
<i>n</i>	Like English <i>n</i> as in <i>now</i> .	<i>nôη</i> 'bird'
<i>neh</i>	Like English <i>n</i> plus <i>ts</i> with strong aspiration. This is pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel.	<i>nehí</i> 'elephant'
<i>nd</i>	Like English <i>n</i> plus <i>d</i> as in <i>down</i> , pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel.	<i>ndonη</i> 'tree'
<i>nth</i>	Like English <i>n</i> plus English <i>t</i> with strong aspiration. This is pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel.	<i>nthánη</i> 'platform'
<i>nz</i>	Like English <i>n</i> plus English <i>z</i> as in <i>zero</i> , pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel. Also like English <i>n</i> plus <i>dz</i> as in <i>adze</i>	<i>nzáí</i> '(a) fan'
<i>ñ</i>	Like English <i>n</i> plus <i>y</i> as in <i>canyon</i> . Resembles Spanish <i>ñ</i> as in <i>mañana</i> .	<i>ñá</i> 'cow, ox'
<i>ñch</i>	Like English <i>ny</i> (see above) plus <i>ch</i> as in <i>church</i> but with strong aspiration. This is pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel. (See 7.1.1)	<i>ñchănη</i> 'blood'
<i>ñdy</i>	Like English <i>ny</i> plus <i>dy</i> , pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel. (See <i>č</i> and 7.1.1)	<i>ñdyáú</i> 'mouth'
<i>ñj</i>	Like English <i>ny</i> plus <i>j</i> as in <i>jar</i> , pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel. (See 7.1.1)	<i>ñjě</i> 'fish'
<i>ñčh</i>	Like English <i>ny</i> plus <i>ty</i> , pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel. (See <i>č</i> and 7.1.1)	<i>ñčhú</i> 'to smoke (of fire)'
(<i>ñ</i>)	Similar to English <i>n</i> but with tongue brought back into position for pronouncing the American <i>r</i> . This sound does not occur as an independent unit but only in the two clusters listed below.	
<i>ñčh</i>	Unlike any sound in English. Can be approxi-	

	mated by pronouncing / <i>ñ</i> / above followed by the English <i>tr</i> in <i>train</i> but in the same tongue position as / <i>ñ</i> / . (See / <i>čh</i> / and 7.1.1)	<i>ñčhǎu</i> 'louse'
<i>ñǰ</i>	Can be approximated by pronouncing / <i>ñ</i> / above followed by English <i>dr</i> as in <i>drain</i> with the same tongue position as above. (See 7.1.1)	<i>ñǰáo</i> 'grass'
<i>η</i>	Like English <i>ng</i> as in <i>gong</i> . (Note that in English this sound never occurs initially in a word.)	<i>ηù</i> 'goose'
<i>ηg</i>	Like English <i>ng</i> as in <i>finger</i> . (In English this sound never occurs initially in a word.)	<i>ηgáo</i> 'boat'
<i>ηgl</i>	Like English <i>ng</i> as in <i>gong</i> plus <i>gl</i> as in <i>glue</i> , pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel. Also pronounced as <i>ndl</i> , i.e. like English <i>n</i> plus <i>d</i> plus <i>l</i> uttered simultaneously.	<i>ηglua</i> 'flash (as of lightning)'
<i>ηγ</i>	Unlike any sound in English. Can be approximated by pronouncing English <i>ng</i> as in <i>gong</i> followed by the voiced counterpart of / <i>q</i> /, q.v. Sounds very much like / <i>ηg</i> / above, except that the <i>g</i> is made further back in the throat.	<i>ηγá</i> 'meat'
<i>ηkh</i>	Like English <i>ng</i> as in <i>gong</i> plus English <i>k</i> with strong aspiration. This is pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel.	<i>ηkháw</i> 'soot'
<i>ηkhl</i>	Like English <i>ng</i> as in <i>gong</i> plus <i>cl</i> as in <i>claw</i> with strong aspiration. This is pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel.	[No example on basis of present material.]
<i>ηqh</i>	Unlike any sound in English. Can be approximated by pronouncing English <i>ng</i> as in <i>gong</i> followed by an English <i>k</i> produced far back in the throat and with strong aspiration.	<i>ηqhè</i> 'to thirst'
<i>p</i>	Like English <i>p</i> but without aspiration. Resembles Spanish <i>p</i> as in <i>perro</i> , French <i>p</i> as in <i>père</i> .	<i>páokw</i> 'maize'
<i>ph</i>	Like English <i>p</i> as in <i>pear</i> but with strong aspiration.	<i>pháo</i> 'gun'
<i>phl</i>	Like English <i>pl</i> as in <i>play</i> but with strong aspiration. This is pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel. (Note: The <i>l</i> is a dental lateral.)	<i>phlu</i> 'cheek ; face'
<i>pl</i>	Same as above but without aspiration. Resembles <i>pl</i> in French <i>pleurer</i> .	<i>plán</i> 'stomach'
<i>q</i>	Unlike any sound in English. Can be approxi-	

	mated by pronouncing Spanish <i>c</i> as in <i>casa</i> (or French <i>c</i> as in <i>caisse</i>) produced far back in the throat and without aspiration.	<i>qá</i> 'chicken'
<i>qh</i>	Same as above but with strong aspiration. Can be approximated pronouncing English <i>k</i> as in <i>king</i> produced far back in the throat.	<i>qharu</i> 'shoe'
<i>s</i>	Like English <i>s</i> as in <i>song</i> .	<i>sú</i> 'arrow'
<i>š</i>	Like English <i>sh</i> as in <i>sheep</i> but without lip-thrust. Resembles German <i>sch</i> as in <i>Schaf</i> . Tongue brought back into position for producing the American <i>r</i> .	<i>ša</i> 'sash'
<i>t</i>	Like English <i>t</i> but without aspiration. Resembles Spanish <i>t</i> as in <i>tomar</i> , French <i>t</i> as in <i>table</i> .	<i>tw⁺</i> 'carabao'
<i>th</i>	Like English <i>t</i> as in <i>too</i> but strong aspiration.	<i>thäi</i> 'anvil'
<i>ṭ</i>	Like English <i>ty</i> , i.e. <i>t</i> plus <i>y</i> pronounced as one sound without any intervening vowel and without aspiration. Resembles <i>tj</i> in Russian <i>tjotja</i> 'aunt'. Technically described as a VOICELESS PALATALIZED UNASPIRATED DENTAL STOP. Variant pronunciation is <i>ky</i> , i.e. like English <i>k</i> plus <i>y</i> pronounced without any intervening vowel and without aspiration. This <i>ky</i> [kj] variant is technically described as a VOICELESS PALATALIZED UNASPIRATED VELAR STOP and resembles Danish <i>kj</i> in <i>kjole</i> 'skirt' but without aspiration. (See 7.1.1)	<i>ṭua⁺</i> 'gibbon'
<i>ṭh</i>	Same as above but with strong aspiration. (See 7.1.1)	<i>ṭháó</i> 'bridge'
<i>v</i>	Similar to both English <i>v</i> and English <i>w</i> . Can be approximated by placing lips in position for English <i>b</i> and then producing a voiced vibration. Technically described as a VOICED BILABIAL FRICATIVE. Resembles the INTERMEDIAL <i>b</i> in Spanish <i>labio</i> , the <i>w</i> in Thai <i>wád</i> 'temple', and the <i>w</i> in Javanese <i>kawi</i> 'ancient'.	<i>vũ</i> 'hand-reaper'
<i>y</i>	Similar to English <i>y</i> in <i>you</i> or German <i>j</i> in <i>Jahr</i> but also occurs in variant-form as <i>ź</i> in Polish <i>źle</i> , <i>j</i> in Thai <i>pháujǐn</i> 'woman', or <i>y</i> and <i>ll</i> in certain dialects of South American Spanish. There is, usually, less friction than in the foregoing examples. This variant pronunciation might be described as a [j] with only the minu-	

	test suggestion of friction at the onset of the breath-group.	<i>yă</i> 'frying-pan'
ž	Like <i>z</i> in English <i>azure</i> but without lip-thrust. Resembles <i>j</i> in French <i>jamais</i> or <i>r</i> in Mandarin <i>rén</i> ('human being'). Tongue is brought back into position for producing the American <i>r</i> .	žé 'stone'

7.1.1 *The Palatal, Alveolar, and Retroflex Orders*

In articulation of the palatal stops, i.e. *č*, *čh*, *ňčj*, *ňčh*, the tongue-tip touches the lower teeth and the tongue-blade touches the gum-ridge. In articulation of the alveolar stops, i.e. *c*, *ch*, *ňj*, *ňch*, the tongue-tip rests on the gum-ridge or just forward of it. In articulation of the retroflex stops, i.e. *č̣*, *č̣h*, *ṇ̌j*, *ṇ̌ch*, the tongue-tip rests in back of the gum-ridge. There is a distance of 1/4 to 1/2 of an inch between the alveolar and the retroflex tongue positions.

Note that the palatal stops do NOT occur together with *i* [i], the ALLOPHONE of phoneme /i/. In addition, the palatal stops have following [j] or [i] coloration.

7.1.2 *Neutralization of Certain Consonants*

The phonemic symbols *c* [ts], *c* [tʃ], and *č̣* [tʃɪ] have been intentionally chosen for their similarity in form, since the three contrasting phonemic orders they represent can be neutralized in the speech of certain individuals. The resulting ARCHIPHONEME may be actualized as either [ts], [tʃ], or [tʃɪ] depending on the speaker.

7.1.3 *Consonants Affected by the Vowels i and i*

ASSIBILANT ORDER	ALVEOLAR ORDER	RETROFLEX ORDER
<i>c</i>	<i>c</i>	<i>č̣</i>
<i>ch</i>	<i>ch</i>	<i>č̣h</i>
<i>cz</i>	<i>ňj</i>	<i>ṇ̌j</i>
<i>neh</i>	<i>ňch</i>	<i>ṇ̌ch</i>

This order does not occur with [i]. This order does not occur with [i]. This order does not occur with [i]. It also has following [ɪ] coloration.

The allophonic vowel *i* [i] when it occurs following a consonant in the assibilant order has accompanying friction, thus resembling [z]. In a narrow phonetic transcription, the word *ci* 'to bear fruit' could also be written [tszɪ].

After a consonant in either the alveolar order or the retroflex order, the allophonic vowel *i* has prolonged accompanying friction, thus resembling [ʃʃ]. A narrow phonetic transcription could also represent the word *ci* 'not' as [tʃʃ] or [tʃʃʃ].

The only exception to the foregoing phonemic pattern is the Green Miao word *si*[†] (KN) 'name for the fourth-born son in the Sincized name series'. On the basis of present material, this word can be classed as EXTRA-SYSTEMATIC.

7.1.4 *Free Variation of the Velar plus Lateral Order*

The following order has FREE VARIATION which is phonetically striking to an Occidental hearing Green Miao for the first time.

kl [kl~tl]
khl [khl~thl]
ŋl [ŋgl~ndl]
ŋkhl [ŋkhl~nthl]

7.2 VOWELS AND VOWEL-CLUSTERS

Taken together, there are fifteen symbols representing the vowels and vowel-clusters in Green Miao (Mong Njua): *a*, *ai*, *aŋ* [aŋ, ǣ], *ao* [ao, aɔ], *au* [au, ou], *aw* [aʉ], *e*, *eŋ* [ɛ, eŋ, ĩ, iŋ], *i*, *i* [ī], *oŋ* [oŋ, uŋ, ɔ̄, ũ], *u*, *ua*, *w* [ʉ], *wŋ*.

Note: In the following Green Miao examples, the tones and consonants are held constant.

SYMBOL	DESCRIPTION	MIAO EXAMPLE
<i>a</i>	At times, like English <i>a</i> as in <i>father</i> ; at times like <i>a</i> in Parisian French <i>la</i> .	<i>tã</i> 'to be true'
<i>ai</i>	Like English <i>ai</i> in <i>aisle</i> .	<i>tãi</i> 'dish, cup'
<i>aŋ</i>	At times like <i>-ang</i> in German <i>lang</i> ; at times like <i>-ang</i> in Marseille French <i>sang</i> . (See <i>-ŋ</i> below.)	<i>tãŋ</i> 'to be finished'
<i>ao</i>	Like <i>ao</i> in Japanese <i>kao</i> 'face'. Consists of <i>a</i> as in English <i>father</i> plus <i>o</i> as in English <i>lone</i> but much shorter and without vocalic glide: [a + ɔ]. Technically transcribed as: [aɔ, a:, aO, ɔ].	<i>tão</i> 'to wait for'

- au* Consists of *a* plus non-syllabic *u*: [a + u]. (See descriptions of the vowels *a* and *u*.) Like *au* in German *Sau*. Variants are *ou* [Λo] as in English *poultry*, and *o* [o:] as in German *ohne*. *t̄au* 'to follow, obey'
- aw* Unlike any vowel-cluster in English or German. Consists of *a* as in English *father* plus the vowel here transcribed by the letter *w*, q.v. Phonetic-ally transcribed as: [au]. *t̄aw* 'fire; firewood'
- e* Like English *ei* in *weigh* but without the palatal off-glide. Closely resembles *e* in German *See*, the *é* in French *parlée*. *t̄e* 'hand'
- eŋ* At times like *-en-* in German *denken*, or *-ain* in Marseille French *main*; at times like *-ing* in English *ring*. (See *-ŋ* below.) *t̄eŋ* 'to be pregnant (of animals)'
- i* Like English *ee* in *see* but without the palatal off-glide. Closely resembles *i* in French *machine*. Occurs after all consonants except those in the assibilant, alveolar, and retroflex orders. (See 7.1.3) *t̄i* 'to turn around'
- (*i*) Unlike any vowel in standard English. Almost identical to Thai *y* [i] in *myy* 'hand'. Technically described as a HIGH CLOSE CENTRAL UNROUNDED VOWEL. (See Haas, *The Thai System of Writing*, 1956, pp. x-xi.) Can be phonetically approximated by placing tongue and lips in position for English *ee* [i] and then vocalizing for English *oo* [u]. This vowel is actually an ALLOPHONE of /i/ above and only occurs after consonants in the assibilant, alveolar, and retroflex orders. (See 7.1.3) In vocalic type, the positional variant *i* [i] is quite close to the phoneme /w/ [w], and in the speech of certain Green Miao it merges with the latter. The speakers of Baan Khun Sathaan, however, very definitely distinguish these two vowels and have stated that the merging of [i] and [w] is "sub-standard" Green Miao. *ch̄i* 'goat'
- oŋ* This is pronounced with a very close *o*, or an open *u*. At times like *-ung* in German *Hunger*; at times like *-ond* in Parisian French *ronde*. (See *-ŋ* below.) *t̄oŋ* 'to dye fast'

- u* Like English *oo* in *too* but without vocalic lengthening. Closely resembles *u* in German *Huhn*. *tù* 'level place'
- ua* The usual pronunciation is that of *u* + non-syllabic *a*: [ua]. These are namely the two vowels *u* and *a* described above. At times heard as *o*+*a*: [oa], resembling the *oa* in English *boa*. Other variants are: [uə, oə, ɔ]. *túa* 'to die'
- w* Unlike any vowel in standard English or German. Closely resembles, however, the *-ou* in *you* of the Oklahoma dialect of American English; also resembles the *u* in standard Swedish *du*. May be technically described as a HIGH CLOSE CENTRAL ROUNDED VOWEL: [ɯ]. Can be phonetically approximated by placing tongue and lips in position for English *oo* [u] and then vocalizing for English *ee* [i]. Can also be somewhat approximated by uttering German *ü* or French *u* in *tu*. *tù* 'which?'
- (*wη*) Same as above plus *-η*, q.v. This is, however, an 'extra-systematic' vowel-cluster, only occurring in the word *hũη* 'terribly, awfully'. *hũη* 'terribly, awfully'
- (*-η*) Occurs only in syllabic-final position and is realized as nasalization of the preceding vowel, at times accompanied by a weakly articulated velar nasal. This latter sound resembles the *-ng* in English *song*. *tãη, tẽη, tõη*
(See above.)

7.2.1 Contrastive Series

The following two groups of vocally contrastive words are here given to illustrate the difference between the two vowels which (in this work) are rendered by *i* and *w*.

GROUP 1:

- cí* 'gall, bile'
cĩ 'to flee'
cî 'not'
cì 'to boil down'
cê 'to shove (a log into fire)'
cî 'noosetrap'
cî† 'to build; forgive; be important'

GROUP 2:

- cú* 'small bell-shaped button'
cũ 'owner, master, lord'
cw 'to smell, have an odor'
cù (no meaning)
có 'to constrain, stop, defer going'
cõ 'tethering post, picket'
cò† 'to pound (in order to make a hard surface)'

7.3 TONES

SYMBOL	PITCH	DESCRIPTION
/ʼ/	[55] [54]	high or high falling
/ˊ/	[35]	high rising
/no mark/ or /ˊ/	[33 :]	middle level
/ˋ/	[22]	lower level
/ˋˊ/	[41]	full falling
/ˋˊ/	[11 : + ḥ] [31 + ḥ]	low 'breathy'
/ˋˊ/	[214 : + ʔ] [21 + ʔ]	falling-rising glottalized

REMARKS: The tonal diacritics used here have been arbitrarily chosen. Besides a diacritic phonemic symbol, a descriptive name has been given each tone as a mnemonic device. In referring to their phonetic values, the numeric system of Y. R. Chao has been employed, where [5] is the highest and [1] the lowest pitch of the tone language under consideration. (See Chao, *Mandarin Primer*, p. 24.)

The symbol [:] indicates that the tone in question actualizes as a two-mora vowel. Tones without length markings actualize as one-mora vowels. The symbol [ḥ] stands for voiced aspiration or 'breathiness'. The first allophone of tone /ˋˊ/ is usually heard in utterance final position, but in all positions in precise speech. Otherwise, a /ˋˊ/-tone word followed by another word is actualized as the second allophone. The symbol [ʔ] here stands for glottalization or 'creaky voice'.

The diacritic /ˊ/ for the middle level tone will only be used to denote a sandhi variant. All words having the middle level as a BASIC tone will be written without a diacritic. This is indicated by the label '/no mark/'.

7.3.1 Tone Paradigms

Contrast between the seven tones of Green Miao may be illustrated by the following sets of otherwise identical syllables. Each set of seven syllables is here labelled a 'series', and in each series the consonants and vowels are held constant.

SERIES 1:

<i>táu</i>	'pumpkin'	<i>tāu</i>	'to follow, obey'
<i>tǎu</i>	'to dam up (water)'	<i>tāu</i>	'bean'
<i>tau</i>	'to get; to be able; did (past tense indicator)'	SERIES 2:	
<i>tàu</i>	'axe'	<i>ndú</i>	'to be wet'
<i>táu</i>	'a type of high wide-bladed grass, <i>Panicum plicatum</i> Lam'	<i>ndǔ</i>	'to fell (a tree)'
		<i>ndu</i>	'to spit'

ndü 'loom, to weave'
ndú 'sky'

ndü 'edge'
ndú⁺ 'to be tight, be tightened'

7.3.2 Miao Examples of Tones (Mnemonics)

In teaching intelligent Miao to read and write their own language, the author has found it of great help to couple each tone with a Miao verb of high frequency containing that tone. The Miao word *šán* 'tone, pitch' is prefixed to each mnemonic verb, and the learner memorizes in the following manner: 'high falling tone' = *šán.páu*, 'high rising tone' = *šán.kw̃*, etc.

SYMBOL	MIAO EXAMPLE
/ʼ/	<i>páu</i> 'to know'
/ʹ/	<i>kw̃</i> 'to carry on the shoulder'
/no mark/ or /ʼ/	<i>ɲua</i> 'to do, make, be'
/ʹ/	<i>hà</i> 'to speak'
/ʹ/	<i>não</i> 'to eat'
/ʹ/	<i>lũ</i> 'to come'
/ʹ ⁺ /	<i>tãw</i> ⁺ 'to exit'

7.3.3 Tone Sandhi

In the speech of certain individuals and especially certain villages, a word or syllable with a high-falling /ʼ/ or a full-falling /ʹ/ tone often (but not always) effects a change in the tone of the following word or syllable. This phenomenon is referred to as tone SANDHI, a term taken from the ancient Hindu phoneticians. (The word *sandhi* in Sanskrit means 'linking, combination'.)

Tones /ʼ/ (high-falling) and /ʹ/ (low breathy) may be regarded as dominant tones. They do not appear ever to change due to the proximity of other tones. Changes are found in all the other tones. These are outlined below:

- (1) /ʹ/ becomes /ʹ/ After a high-falling or a full-falling tone, the full-falling, lower level, and falling-rising glottalized tones change to the *low breathy* tone.
- (2) /ʹ/ becomes /ʹ/ After a high-falling or a full-falling tone, the high-rising tone changes to a *middle level* tone.
- (3) /ʹ/ becomes /ʹ/ After a high-falling or a full-falling tone, the middle level tone changes to a *lower level* tone.
 (Note: /ʹ/ = /no mark/.)

As an example, note the compound word *té.mblé* 'rice-field, rice-ladang' which in the speech of the villagers of Kang Ho changes phonetically to *té.mblẽ*.

In the speech of the majority of Khun Sathaan inhabitants, however, tone sandhi does NOT occur. These latter, furthermore, regard tone sandhi as merely an example of 'sloppy speaking'.

Considered on a numerical basis, the Green Miao who use tone sandhi are definitely in the majority. (I am counting not only the Green Miao of Naan Province but also of the contiguous provinces.) There is, however, a general agreement among all Green Miao whom I questioned that the 'standard' for 'correct speech' was the pronunciation of Headman Nju Tu (*n̄ju⁺ tú*) of Khun Sathaan Village. Since Nju Tu very definitely disapproves of tone sandhi, it will not be indicated in the body of this work.

Tone changes in this category are particularly noticeable in words preceeded by one of the first five numerals (which all end in a high tone): *ɲí, ɲáo, pé, pláu, cí*.

8. CRITERIA FOR INDICATION OF LOAN-WORDS

Loan-words in Green Miao are borrowed from either Tai or Chinese. The Tai loans come from Thai (Siamese), Yon (Lanna), Lao, or Shan. The Chinese loans come from Southwestern Mandarin (here taken to include mainly Yunnan Mandarin and Szechuan Mandarin). The Miao in Thailand refer to this branch of spoken Mandarin as *šúa* which they translate by the Thai word *h̄sɔ̄*. McFarland (1944 : 1017) translates *h̄sɔ̄* as 'Yunnanese (Chinese) traders who run mule caravans from southern China into northern Thailand'. The Chinese speaking the *h̄sɔ̄* language are also referred to in ethnographic literature as 'Haw', 'Ho', and 'Panthay'. (cf. Sz *chōng huá* 'China')⁸

⁸ "Les populations mixtes : A coté des groupements ethniques précédents, groupements bien différenciés, il y a place pour un certain nombre de populations mixtes, c'est-à-dire produites par le croisement de races diverses, et surtout par le mélange des premiers des tribus indigenes. C'est ainsi qu'a pris naissance la plus grande partie de la population agricole de cette province, population caractérisée par des individus au type faiblement mongolique. Ces derniers, qu'il serait plus rationnel de désigner sous le nom de chinoisés que de Chinois, sont représentés : 1° par les *Min-kia* et les *I-kia* des environs de Tali-fou et du Nord du Yun-nan ; 2° par les *Han-jen* ou *Han-tcia*, les *Lou-jen* ou *Peunn-jen* de la partie centrale et du Sud de la province ; 3° par les *Hos du Nord de l'Indochine et surtout du Haut Laos*. Ce dernier terme est appliqué par les *Thai* aux chinoisés de leur région, venus du Yun-nan ou d'autres régions du Celeste Empire." L. Gaide (1905), "Notice ethnographique sur les principales races indigènes du Yunnan et du Nord de l'Indochine, précédée de renseignements généraux sur la province du Yunnan et principalement sur la région des Sip-Song Pan-Na", *Revue Indochinoise*, 8, 853-854.

In the opinion of the present author, the Haw [*hɔ̃ɔ*] dialect of Southwestern Mandarin cannot be immediately equated with the Mandarin spoken by the Chinese populations living in the major cities of Yunnan and Szechuan provinces.⁹ Rather, the *hɔ̃ɔ* dialect represents a 'lingua franca' used by all of the minority groups and various hill-tribes found today in these two areas. The *hɔ̃ɔ* dialect is, of course, based primarily on Yunnan and Szechuan Mandarin, but in certain terminology and in pronunciation it often differs radically. Many Chinese inhabiting the countryside of Yunnan and Szechuan also speak *hɔ̃ɔ* as a mother-tongue. (The Yunnan Chinese mentioned by McFarland above belong to this category.) It is very probable that this latter type of border-dwelling Chinese actually constitute a 'mixed' ethnic group, stemming from intermarriage between Chinese soldiers of former eras and hill-tribe women. In addition, there is another ethnic group inhabiting Southwestern China which lives exclusively in the mountains and is known traditionally as 'the Mountain Chinese'. This group also speaks *hɔ̃ɔ*.

Since to date no scholarly publication on either *hɔ̃ɔ* or Yunnan Mandarin has been obtainable, reference in this dictionary has been limited to Szechuan Mandarin. (See 6.)

CRITERIA:

- (1) All unanalyzable and quasi-analyzable *polysyllabic* words.
- (2) All kin numeratives and titles.
- (3) All words relating to the telling of time.
- (4) All artifacts, utensils, instruments, tools, weapons, and articles of clothing. (Note: An ARTIFACT is defined here as A PRODUCT OF HUMAN WORKMANSHIP WHICH CAN BE USED OR CARRIED BY A SINGLE PERSON.)
- (5) All higher numerals (collective selectors), e.g. *chén* 'thousands'.
- (6) All quantifier substitutes, e.g. *tía* 'single'.
- (7) All words consisting of extra-systematic phonemes, e.g. *kue*[†] 'to be expensive', *sia* 'a feminine given name'.
- (8) Words concerning which the informant voluntarily proffered the information that they were taken from another language, e.g. *món* 'to have fun'.

⁹ "Even if you could come here I doubt if I could be of much help to you. I did learn Yunnanese mandarin, but it was the language of Kunming and Paoshan, bit cities, not the language of the mountains, which is quite different; or rather it has all kinds of expressions and pronunciations in it that are different. If your Meo are anything like the Yao we have lived with, it is this mountain Yunnanese that they have picked up rather than what would be called Yunnanese mandarin." [Correspondence with the Rev. Eric J. Cox, c/o Post-office, Amphē Ngao, Changwat Lampang — 17 Sept. 1963].

9. ORDER OF LISTING FOR HOMONYMS (HOMOPHONES)

9.1 SEQUENCE OF MAIN ENTRIES

WORD-CLASS OR SEMANTIC GROUP

1. Nouns (N)
2. Mass nouns (mN)
3. Nominals (noun substitutes) (NI)
4. Abstract nominals (abstract nouns) (aNl)
5. Kinship terms (which are nouns) (K)
6. Kinship terms (which are 'bound forms') (K)
7. Localizers (L)
8. Selectors (Sl)
9. Selector substitutes (Sls)
10. Verbs/Adjectives (V)
11. Verbals (Verb substitutes) (Vl)
12. Restricted modifiers (RM)
13. Quantifiers (Q)
14. Quantifier substitutes (Qs)
15. Collective selectors (incl. higher numerals) (cSl)
16. Pronouns (Pr)
17. Pronominals (pronoun substitutes) (Prl)
18. Clan names (C)
19. Given names (G)
20. Kin numeratives (KN)
21. Place names (Pl)
22. Titles (Tl)
23. Initiators (Int)
24. Connectives (Joining particles) (J)
25. Terminators (Tr)
26. Multilocal particles (mlP)
27. Duolocal particles (dlP)
28. Words not belonging to any other category

TYPE OF SYLLABLE

29. (Phonemic) variants (of words listed elsewhere)
30. 'Bound forms', *i.e.* words written with a hyphen (-) joined directly to either the initial or final letter of the entry, *e.g.* /-čhá, qúa-/. (For bound forms labelled [K], see No. 6.)

31. Words followed by the marker '(in)', e.g. /li (in) *táw li* small basket)
32. Words followed by the indication 'See below:'
33. 'Loan-components', *i.e.* words written with a small cross (†) to the upper left or upper right of the initial or final letter of the entry respectively e.g. /[†]*ěi*, *yáŋ*[†]/

9.2 ADDITIONAL RULES OF SEQUENCE

(1) WORD-CATEGORIES NON-APPLICABLE TO SEQUENCE:

There are four word-categories considered as SECONDARY GROUPINGS. These secondary groupings do NOT affect the order of listing homonyms. Of these, two groupings are etymological and two semantic. They are to be regarded as word-groupings established on a different basis (level) from those listed above. The four secondary groupings are here given:

Chinese loan-words (Ch)

Tai loan-words (T)

Religion: terms pertaining to the supernatural (R)

Weaving terms (W)

(2) POLYSYLLABIC WORDS:

A word consisting of two or more syllables will be listed as if its *initial* syllable alone were the main lexical entry.

Everything else being equal, a monosyllabic word will PRECEDE a polysyllabic word.

Example: /*fúa* (*tǔ*) 'cloud'

fúalán (*lén*) 'occidental person'

fúatà (*lén*) 'king, sovereign'

(3) HOMONYMOUS WORDS FOLLOWED BY NUMERALS:

If two (or more) homonymous entries are followed directly by numerals enclosed in parentheses, then list by the numerical order of these numerals.

Example: /*lào* (1) (J) or (connective introducing . . .)

lào (2) (J) consequently, also, even, even though/

(4) HOMONYMOUS NOUNS:

In the case of two (or more) homonymous nouns, list by the alphabetical order of their selectors.

Example: /*té* (*klài*) 'dry (hill) field'

té (*lí*) 'land, earth'

(5) ENGLISH GLOSSES:

If two (or more) entries are completely equal in every way, then list by the alphabetical order of the respective *initial* English gloss (translation).

Example: /*lúa (tù)* 'donkey'
lúa (tù) 'rabbit'/

10. ZOOLOGICAL AND BOTANICAL LISTING

An equality-sign (=) means 'identified with' and is used with Thai and Yon (Lanna) names. An abbreviation (capital letter or capital plus small letter) refers to a certain work on zoology or botany from which the Latin name of the lexical entry has been taken. A numeral joined to this abbreviation by a colon (:) denotes the year of publication, while a numeral connected by a dot (.) refers to the appropriate page. See examples below.

péláη (tù) 'areca palm', *Areca catechu* Linn. (= Th *màag*, W.599)
lón cú (tù) 'hog-badger', *Arctonyx collaris dictator* (= Y *lyn* or *mǎu lyn*, G:19.123)

In the above sample entries, "W.599" stands for [Wanandorn, page 599]. "G:19.123" stands for [Gairdner, 1919, page 123].

Lack of a Thai or Yon name signifies that a drawing or photograph in the work indicated was directly identified by the informant without recourse to an intermediary language. See below.

nǒη sé~sé (tù) (Indian) 'lorikeet', *Loriculus vernalis*. (SS.336.fig.6)

In the foregoing sample entry, "SS.336.fig.6" stands for [Smythies, (color plate facing) page 336, Bird No. 6].

Identifications of fauna and flora are based on the works listed in the third bibliography below (p. 59). At times, a slight alteration in an author's terminology will be made for purposes of space economy. For example, B. E. Smythies, in the reference listed above, gives the Latin name as *Loriculus vernalis vernalis*. We have deleted the last Latin designation.

11. INTER-DIALECTICAL BORROWING

Considered practically, we are here dealing with only two Miao (i.e. Mong) languages, namely Green Miao (*món ĩjúa*) and White Miao (*món kláw*), Banded-Sleeve Miao (*món qúa.mbán*) being limited to one or two villages.

The two first-mentioned Miao (Mong) languages spoken in Thailand are complicated by the fact that there is constant dialect mixture going on, both WITHIN each language and BETWEEN the two languages. These mixtures, moreover, never remain static.

A Miao from a village in Naan Province, for example, will move with his family to Tak Province. There he settles in a village where NO dialect is in the majority. That is to say, the village is composed of Miao who have immigrated there from various parts of Thailand, Laos, and Burma. Throughout the ensuing years, the Miao children born or brought up in the new settlement begin to achieve a 'standard' language. Later, however, most of this age-group will in turn immigrate to other areas, and the language they had achieved is no longer the 'standard' for the aforementioned 'new' settlement.

At this point, I will frankly admit that the study of inter-dialectal borrowing is a discipline of its own and quite separate from that of direct lexicography. To develop the proper theoretical framework would require several years of research on this topic alone. Two of the leading experts in this field are Uriel Weinreich¹⁰ and Einar Haugen.¹¹ Even Weinreich, however, admits that the problem I faced with the Miao dialects was unique.¹²

¹⁰ See Uriel Weinreich (1953) *Languages in Conflict* (2nd edition) (New York, 1953).

¹¹ See Einar Haugen (1953) *The Norwegian Language in America: A Study in Bilingual Behavior* (Philadelphia, 1953).

¹² "Dear Mr. Lyman: I don't know of any previous studies on a situation of dialect mixture as fluctuating and as intensive as the one you describe for Meo. Whatever you accomplish in describing the situation will therefore, I think, become a contribution to socio-linguistics as well as to the description of Meo languages." [Correspondence with Uriel Weinreich, Columbia University, New York — 10 September 1962].

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TABLE I

Correspondences with the Smalley-Heimbach Orthography for White Miao

CONSONANTS

p	=	p	nd	=	ηgl	q	=	q
ph	=	ph	ndh	=	ηkhl	qh	=	qh
np	=	mb	r	=	ɛ	nq	=	ηγ
nph	=	mph	rh	=	ɛh	nqh	=	ηqh
pl	=	pl	nr	=	ñj	f	=	f
plh	=	phl	nrh	=	ñɛh	v	=	v
npl	=	mbl	c	=	ɕ	x	=	s
nplh	=	mphl	ch	=	ɕh	s	=	ʃ
t	=	t	nc	=	ñɕ	z	=	z
th	=	th	nch	=	ñɕh	xy	=	hy
nt	=	nd	ts	=	c	h	=	h
nth	=	nth	tsh	=	ch	y	=	y
tx	=	e	nts	=	ñj	m	=	m
txh	=	eh	ntsh	=	ñch	n	=	n
ntx	=	nz	k	=	k	ny	=	ñ
ntxh	=	neh	kh	=	kh	g	=	η
d	=	kl	nk	=	ηg	hl	=	hl
dh	=	khl	nkh	=	ηkh	l	=	l
						nl	=	ml

VOWELS AND VOWEL CLUSTERS

i	= i (or) ĭ	u	= u	au	= au
e	= e	o	= ao	ua	= ua
w	= w	ai	= ai	ee	= eη
a	= a	aw	= aw	aa	= aη
				oo	= oη

TONES (Lyman's order)

-b = /' 'high tone'	-j = (') 'falling tone'
-v = /' 'rising tone'	-g = (") 'breathy tone'
/no mark/ = 'middle tone'	-m = /' 'glottalized tone'
-s = /' 'low tone'	

TABLE II

The Miao Tribes and Their Locations (As Related by Mong Njua Informants)

0. <i>móη (lêη)</i>	Mong, Hmong, Miao, Meo, or Maeo (ethnic name). (= Sz <i>miáu</i> , Pk <i>miáu</i> , Th <i>méew</i> , Japanese <i>myō</i> , <i>byō</i>)
1.1 <i>móη ñjúa</i>	the Green Miao, Blue Miao. (< <i>ñjúa</i> 'to be green, blue, azure') [Location: observed in Thailand]
1.2 <i>móη lêη</i>	alternate name for the foregoing tribe. (< <i>lêη</i> 'tendon, artery; cord; seam')
1.3 <i>móη pù</i>	id. (< <i>pù</i> 'to close up an opening; to bake')
2. <i>móη kláw</i>	the White Miao. (< <i>kláw</i> 'to be white') [Location: observed in Thailand]
3. <i>móη qúa.mbáη</i>	the Banded-Sleeve Miao. (< <i>qúa</i> 'to make vertical lines' + <i>mbáη</i> 'sleeve; arm') [Location: observed in Chiangkham, Chiangrai Province, Thailand]
4. <i>móη yáo.chúa</i>	the Striped Miao. (< <i>yáo.chúa</i> 'lines running from waist to edge of skirt') [Location: formerly observed in Thailand but now seemingly absorbed by the Green Miao and White Miao]
5. <i>móη qhá.o.táu</i>	the Pumpkin-Hole Miao. (< <i>táu</i> 'pumpkin') [Location: China]
6. <i>móη pù</i>	the Tame(d) Miao. (< <i>pù</i> 'to be tame') [Location: China]
7. <i>móη náo.nêη</i>	the Man-Eating Miao. (< <i>náo nêη</i> 'to eat people') [Location: China]
8. <i>móη têη.káu</i>	the Amulet Miao. (< <i>têη káu</i> 'indigo amulet') [Location: China]
9. <i>móη chí</i>	the White-Skinned Miao. (< <i>chí</i> 'to be glistening white, white of skin-color') [Location: China]
10. <i>móη šúa</i>	the Sinicized Miao. (< <i>šúa</i> 'Chinese') [Location: China]
11. <i>móη tua.ñú</i>	the Oxen-Killing Miao. (< <i>tua</i> 'to kill' + <i>ñú</i> 'ox') [Location: China]
12. <i>móη ñđá.u.klě</i>	the Dog-Mouth Miao. (< <i>ñđá.u</i> 'mouth' + <i>klě</i> 'dog') [Location: uncertain]

**MONG NJUA — ENGLISH
DICTIONARY**

?

- ၵá hau (tù)* great barbet bird, *Megalaima virens virens* (SS. 324. fig. 1)
ၵáၵá (tù) the red-breasted parakeet, *Psittacula alexandri fasciata* (SS. 336. fig. 5)
ၵá to be bitter
táu ၵá bitter gourd (used to make dippers)
ၵáu ၵá spinach (= *Y phàg-hòm*)
ၵၢ (kláì, lí) glass; mirror
ၵၢ cào *id.*
ၵၢ.cào qhǎo.múa eye-glasses, spectacles (< *qhǎo.múa* 'eye')
ၵၢ klé water glass, drinking glass
ၵၢ ၵé rock crystal
kláì.ၵၢ mirror, flat sheet of glass
lí.ၵၢ rounded article made of glass
ၵၢၵၢၵၢ (lén) (T) school-teacher (cf. Th *paacaan* 'professor')
ၵၢ (J) phonemic variant of *ၵá*, connective expressing hesitancy when speaking, q.v.
ၵa (ၵၢ, ၵá) (Int) Hey! Say!
ၵa, ၵua ၵၢၵၢ káo yúa múa pé kláì.té nzèၢ? Hey, why must you turn over our ladang?
ၵa (J) phonemic variant of *ၵá*, connective expressing hesitancy when speaking, q.v.
ၵà (ၵၢ, ၵa) (J) particle expressing hesitancy when speaking (either on the part of the informant or the person in the story)
mòၢ phòၢ cǎu ၵà lùa lǎၢ.ၵၢၵa.ၢၢ ၵၢၵၢ [It] rammed with a loud noise into the fence of someone's cattle-corral
mon — ၵà — lၢ.ၵၢ cúa cǎo túa ၵào Come back (and see us) another time. (*lit.* "Go, resulting in coming back another time") (< *lၢ.ၵၢ* 'another time'; *ၵào* (Tr) reply particle)
ၵá phonemic variant of *ၵè* (Tr) 'emphatic complaining particle; particle emphasizing a negative answer', q.v.
ၵá (csp) meat (< *ၵá* 'meat')

- pái** (csp) to evade, elude; to keep out of the way; to detour (< *qái* 'to evade, etc.')
- pái⁺** to copulate, have sexual intercourse (= *Y sām-* (in) *sām-híi*)
pái.páu⁺ to copulate (only referring to males — either human or animal — in act of copulation) (< *páu* 'vagina')
si.pái⁺ to copulate (reciprocal term)
- pán** (csp) to be delicious (< *qán* 'to be delicious')
- pánkí (lén)** (T) (the) English, (an) Englishman (cf. Th *pankríd*)
- pán (háo)** ground, soil, earth (cf. *té* 'land')
- pán nón** good soil
pán mbláu clay
món pán dust
pán pán mud
si pán to dig up earth with one's hands
- pan** (csp) to hold; to lead, conduct (< *nyan* 'to hold, etc.')
- pán** (csp) to enter (< *ngán* 'to enter')
- pán⁺** to be plump, chubby
- páo** (Qs) two (2)
káu.páo twelve (12)
nén-nyáu.páo twenty-two (22)
páo.tú chù two cats
páo.pé two or three
páo.pé several (< *páo.pé* 'two or three')
páo.pé cān, páo.pé yān all things, all kinds
- pǎo** (Tr) completive terminator indicating gentleness when speaking to children
cǐ pǎo Run along now
- pao** to swell (up), be swollen
ehà pao id. (< *ehà* ?)
pao ea to have a goiter (< *ea* (2) 'goiter')
chúa pao.ea iodine ('goiter medicine')
nù qw.taw ehà pao pao le His foot is swollen
- pao qào pǔ** to be convex, raised; to protrude (only used in describing a woman's breast)
- pào** (Tr) reply terminator
món — pà — hǔ.zǎ cua cǎo túa pào Come back (and see us) another time
- páo** (csp) you (2nd person singular) (< *káo* 'you')
- páu** to carry high on the back (as a rucksack) (cf. *ǎi*)
káo páu kǎw, ci páu? Are you going to carry a pack-basket [or] not?
ku ci sǎn páu nǎn nǎn le I don't like to carry heavy [loads]
- páu-páu** (Int) cry for calling dogs

- ρáu-vá* (Int) cry for driving away dogs
ρáu-vá⁺ id.
ρáu-ρά id.
- ρáu* (Int) phonemic variant of *ράου* 'initial exclamatory particle preceding many utterances'; (= English 'Oh!'), q.v.
- ράου* to be overcast (of weather)
- ράου* (Int) Oh! (utterance expressing surprise or dismay)
ράου, λάνη qha λάνη ζονη Oh, [I only] taught extemporaneously, but still [things turned out] well
- ράου (ράου)* (Int) Oh! (utterance expressing affirmation or mild emphasis)
ράου, γάο λάου That's indeed right
ράου, φιάλάνη Oh, it's a white man!
- ράου* to be deprived of sanity, insane, mad, deranged; to be stupid
λί.χάο ράου That man is an idiot
- ράου (λί)* the embroidered bib front worn by women at the New Year's festival
- ράου* noise of dog howling
- ράου* (Int) Yes; Agreed. (utterance of assent)
ράου, κί μδη Yes, I'll go
- ρέ* phonemic variant of *ρί* (Pr) 'we (1st person dual)', q.v.
- ρè* (J) and then, but then (expecting an affirmative answer to a verbal action mentioned)
èi lào èi, ρè káo kláw kú tǎo.mí-nua qw.taw If I must carry (you) then (I) must, but you will untie the feet of my offspring, won't you?
- ρè (ρά)* (Tr) emphatic complaining particle; particle emphasizing a negative answer
kú ci tau ši⁺ ρè I haven't yet tried it
ci qán ρè It's not tasty at all
káo ci ζονη ρè You're a bad one!
kú máo.nǎ ρè I have a terrible toothache
- ρένη* saddle
ρένη nènη id.
- ρί* rooster's comb
- ρί* to call
ρία ci ρί πέ They won't call us
- ρί* (Qs) one (1)
ρί.pua one-hundred (100)
ρί.τῆ⁺ in a little while
ρί.yánη one kind; to be alike, uniform, equal
kú máo ρί.τῆ My whole body aches
- ρί* (Int) high-pitched cry indicating great displeasure with animals
ρί, mbua Get out of here, pig!

- ρi.yón* (Int) cry used in calling pigs
ρi.yón, lủ náo qhǎu Hey, come and eat mash!
- ρi* phonemic variant of *ρú* (Pr) 'we (1st person dual)', q.v.
- ρĩ* (csp) (K) father (< *eĩ* 'father')
- ρón-* water (archaic)
ρón-qào-ná id.
- ρón⁺* sound of a little pig
- ρú* (csp) to be hot (< *kú* 'to be hot')
- ρú* (*ρũ*) (KN) name for the fifth-born son in the Sinicized name series (restricted to adult males) (cf. Sz *wù* 'five')
- ρũ* (csp) I, me (1st person singular) (< *ku* 'I, me')
- ρũ* (KN) variant of *ρú*, q.v.
- ρu* that; distant, removed (of place and time)
- tĩ⁺ ρu* yonder, remote
cé ρu year before last
thau ρu ancient times, the old days, a long time ago
pê ρu up yonder
yǎn⁺ ρu that kind
pê cón ρu up on the mountain
ñǎn ρu down yonder
tǎo ndé ρu originally
thau.ρu, mũa ráo.tũ. A long time ago, there were two persons ('Time-ago, there were two persons')
kũ mớη pê cón ρu lủ. I'm coming from up on the mountain
- ρũ* (*tũ*) (1) duck
lǎu ρũ drake
ρũ-ρũ female duck
- ρũ-* (2) generic term for certain types of birds
ρũ-klé heron, stork (< *klé* 'water')
ρũ-té qhua eagle
- ρũ⁺ vǎη* (*tũ*) the hornbill bird; (esp.) the great hornbill, *Buceros bicornis cavatus* (SS. Fr. fig. 1)
- ρúa* (*tũ*) 1. (a) crow; 2. generic term for birds of a crow-like appearance
ρúa vòn the Malayan koel or 'crow-pheasant' (a bird of the cuckoo family)
- ρũa* (csp) feces, dung (< *qũa* 'feces')
- ρũa ñjũa* (csp?) sugar-cane (seemingly < *qũa ñjũa* 'sugar-cane')
- ρũa* See below:
- máo ρũa* venereal disease, e.g. gonorrhoea, syphilis
- ρua* to do, make, be (of temporary or occupational state) (*Con. yǎo*)
ρua.ρi.kẻ together
ρua cǎu to thank, give thanks

- ɲua hau* (Green Miao) chieftan (< *ɲua* 'to be, do' + *hau* 'head')
- ɲua.kě* together
- ɲua kua cǎ* to freeze
- ɲua kua tǎŋ* to clean
- ɲua klě tǔa tǔ* to seesaw
- ɲua.le.hǎo* that being the case
- ɲua le nǎa* for this reason, hereby
- ɲua.le.tǎŋ* why?, how?, what?
- ɲua lǔa* strong, intensive, very
- ɲua lǔa klě* to swim
- ɲua mbaw* to have the shakes (NB: If the answer to the question *chêŋ ci chêŋ?* (< *chêŋ* 'to shiver, tremble') is affirmative, then one is *ɲua mbaw*)
- ɲua mbau-šǔa ci žoŋ* nightmare
- ɲua mbǔa ɲua mbao* untidy (as a house)
- ɲua mbua* some type of sickness (?)
- ɲua.ndě* ahead, in front
- ɲua nǎo* to cook
- ɲua néŋ* to conduct religious ceremonies; accomplish the supernatural; to make magic, be magical (< *néŋ* 'supernatural force')
- ɲua* (csp) (J) but (< *kua* 'but')
- ɲua* (csp) to cry out, yell; to weep (< *qúa* 'to cry [out], yell')
- ɲua* (Sl) some of, a portion of
- ɲ.ɲua* id.
- ɲua* (csp) to grate, scrape (< *kua* 'to grate, scrape')
- ɲua*[†] phonemic variant of *ɲua* 'to grate, scrape (csp)', q.v.
- ɲw* (*ɲé, ɲi*) (Pr) we (1st person dual)
- ɲw ɲáo.léŋ* we two, the two of us
- kǔ, cǔ.šǎ, sěŋ yǎŋ, há qhwa.tǎhǎo sěŋ yǎŋ, ɲw, ɲáo.léŋ, nǎo žǎo kǎŋhú*
I, Cw Ša of Clan Yang, and Qhwa Tyhao [also] of Clan Yang (the two of us) live in the Village of Kang Ho
- ɲi.ŋjǐ kǔ ɲu mbua tǎŋ, ɲw ɲua.kě mǔŋ* In a moment (when) I have finished feeding the pigs, we'll go together
- ɲw* (csp) (K) younger sibling (< *kǔ* 'younger sibling')
- ɲw* (csp) to carry on the shoulder (< *kǔ* 'to carry on the shoulder')
- ɲw.yóŋ* (Int) cry used in calling pigs
- ɲw.yóŋ, lǔ nǎo qhǎu* Hey, came and eat mash!
- ɲw* (Tr) Terminator indicating extreme politeness [Note: This terminator is used in Miao legends but not in everyday speech]
- síw ɲw* Honorable teacher

ph (*tũ*) generic term for birds belonging to the Turnix family, i.e. the so-called 'buttonquail'
nõn ph id.

C

- cá* to celebrate (an event)
cá pé.tjau to celebrate the New Year's festival
náo cá to celebrate by feasting
- cã* (*tũ*) chichak, the small house-lizard (= Th *cĩncòg*)
cã-tũ-cã-tũ id.
- cã* See below :
ph.kháu cã a blow with the knuckles
- cá* (*tũ*) animal (\approx Th *sàd, tua*) (cf. *ηά*)
cá ñê domestic animal
cá qũ wild animal
cá ñũ fierce animal
cá ph camel
- cáehu* (*tũ*) (Ch) domestic animal (cf. Sz *kiã ch'ũ* 'domestic animal < *kiã* 'family' + *ch'ũ* 'domestic animal')
- cãli* to project or protrude slightly
cãli sú to flash (of lightning)
cĩ cãli (the lightning) is not flashing
- cã*[†] to bruise
qũu cã[†] to fall and get bruised
cã táuhau to bruise the head
nũ cã nũ hũu.tjau máo He has bruised his knee
- cãi* (dIP) first (i.e. before doing something else) (= Th *kòon*)
tja cãi ahead, before (in reference to time)
tja khua lũ.zã cãi Wait till next time
mõn nzũa cãi, kũ le mãn plẽn chũa Go and wash it first, and then
 I will daub some medicine on it
náo.mão cãi le mõn má Have something to eat before you go
kũ cẽn yũa ηαν ph.thón klé cãi I still have to carry a bucket of water
 first

- câi* See below :
púa câi chin ; jaws
- câi* See below :
lăw câi to be obstinate
- câi*⁺ to detour ; to turn aside (in order to avoid)
- cân* (C) a clan name
món-cân an alternate name for the foregoing (< *món*- 'clan')
- cân* phonemic variant of *čán* 'trunk (of a dead tree), hollow tree', q.v.
- căn* (*klăi*) bamboo which has been split and then flattened
căn púa split bamboo, flattened bamboo flooring, flattened bamboo house-walls (< *púa* 'to wall in, build a wall or floor')
- cũa cãn.púa* to split bamboo (for the purpose of walling a house)
- cãn* (*can*) (Sl) kind, sort
pi.púa cãn yãn máo all kinds of sickness
- cãn* (1) to increase (in number), multiply, add to (cf. *sãn phãn* 'to add') (Etym. s.w.n.)
- cãn* (2) [K] kinship term used in the following expressions (Etym. s.w.p.)
nên-cãn (K) relative on the female side of one's family ; one's wife's relatives
kw.ti nên-cãn (K) relatives (both cosanguineal and affinal)
- cãn* to rule, govern, manage, order ; to drive (e.g. a vehicle)
hảo cãn hu elders, ruling class
hảo kw cãn ché.klé the men who operate the (river) boats
cãn ché to drive a car
- cãn* (G) a masculine given name
cãn ku id.
cãn hũ id.
- can* to raise up, lift ; to appoint (to a position) ; to awaken (someone), wake (someone) up
can tê to raise a hand
can nũ sãw cẽn to raise him up
pi.ki nũa, can kũ nzũ~nzũ Tomorrow, wake me up very early
- can* phonemic variant of *cãn* (Sl) 'kind, sort', q.v.
- càn* to pour (cf. *láu*)
càn klé to pour water
- càn* See below :
kẽ càn kã crooked road following a contour
- cân* ramie grass, rhea grass, *Boehmeria nivea* Gaud (type used for making gunny-sacks) (cf. *mãn*) (≈ Th *pàan*, W. 490)
- cân* See below :
nú qua cân thau lủ prose-narrative (embodying a story of olden times or a quasi-legendary historical account)

- cả* (*lí*) bank (of a river or stream), embankment, brow, shore
cả mùa eyebrows
plâu cả mùa hair of eyebrows
cả lá embankment of a steeply terraced rice-field
- cả*[†] (Sl) a short period of time (often as much as half a day)
đi.cả[†] a little while
nhà cả[†] after a while
sipen[†] káo, đua nũ.nũa kú tau, đi.cả[†] kú tau As you please; (You may) do it now or after a while
- cả*[†] to be abnormally distended (as the abdomen from gas, or as a corpse which has been lying for over one day); to swell up, be swollen (as a blister or pustule)
cả.plân[†] to be bloated from over-eating (< *plân* 'belly')
cả.plân máo colic (severe abdominal pain)
tũa tãn cả si "The brave die of over-eating" (Miao proverb)
- cả*[†] *thầu* to gain (in business)
- cả*[†] phonemic variant of *chả*[†] 'to fight', q.v.
- cáo* (*áo*) Sl. for plants, bushes, trees; (Sl) trunk (of a tree)
cáo ndon the tree (< *ndon* 'tree')
cáo cáw banana tree
cáo pũ[†] hũ[†] mint (a creeping herb)
cáo ẻ[†] hã[†] that fruit tree
đi.cáo ndon one tree; one tree-trunk
pé.cáo fãnkũ[†] three banyan trees
pũ[†] đi.ễ[†].klã[†] ãáo sau cáo.ndon (Finally they) saw an eagle's nest which was on top of a tree
hyón đi.ẻ[†]on, ndon đi.cáo One bamboo-clump, one tree(-trunk)
- cáo* phonemic variant of *áo* (in) *áo ẻ[†]* 'to seek pay for something', q.v.
- cao* to order
cao quã-chá mớ[†] chúa Have the soldiers go and make an inspection
- cao* phonemic variant of *áo* 'to put down, place, lay; to release, relinquish, let go of; to excrete', q.v.
- cáo* *khén* provincial governor
- cảo* a type of spirit or demon
- cảo* phonemic variant of *ảo* (in) *đua cảo* 'to wage war', q.v.
- cảo* (*klãi, lí*) glass which reflects light
đã.cảo mirror; plate of glass; lens; glasses (i.e. spectacles)
cảo.đã id.
cảo.tén lamp chimney
đã.cảo qhảo.mũa glasses (i.e. spectacles)
- cảo* *kw[†]* to protect, look after, watch over
cảo.kãn[†] cảo.kw[†] id.

- nữ tú cào.kw⁺ pé* He protected us
- cào* to shine; to illuminate, shine light on or through; to look through (glass lenses), look (into a mirror)
- cào ðǎ* to wear glasses; to catch the sun's rays in a mirror
- câu* phonemic variant of *chau* 'to put in, insert, put on; to contain; to wear (shoes); to apply', q.v.
- câu (câu)* to be dark, obscure, dim
- câu.ndú* darkness; dusk, twilight, evening (sunset to bed-time)
- câu.mũa* dizziness
- ñjúa câu* to be dark green
- yilǎn câu* to be navy-blue
- câu* phonemic variant of *câu* 'to be full (of food)', q.v.
- câu* to cluck, cackle
- qú câu* The hen clucks
- câu* (SI) en masse, all at once, e.g. a volley of shots
- ðí.câu* id.
- câu (câu)* to be lacking in energy or strength; to be weak, exhausted, tired
- câu.câu* very weak
- câu.žú* to sleep, to be sleepy; to soften up one's energy; to relax one's strength; to 'de-intensify' one's energy; to de-energize one's forces; to relax (from) work-tension (< *žú* 'strength')
- káo pw câu.žú, žoŋ ci žoŋ?* Do you sleep well?
- câu* to wash (only of vegetables)
- câu.žáu* to wash vegetables
- câu* phonemic variant of *câu* 'the short tailed porcupine', q.v.
- câu* phonemic variant of *câu* 'to be affected by, be afflicted with', q.v.
- câu* See below:
- ðua câu* Thank you
- ðua káo câu* id.
- ðua câu mảo* Thanks for the rice [Said when sitting down at table before eating]
- câu* phonemic variant of *câu* 'kidney', q.v.
- cáw (tủ)* banana
- cáw qù* wild banana
- cáo cáw* banana tree
- mblón cáw* banana leaf
- caw nú⁺ (tủ)* greater coucal, *Centropus sinensis intermedius* (SS. 324. fig. 10)
- càw* to put in a new place, put in another place, put aside
- càw eē⁺* to forgive
- ci té càw ħhaw, yǎo ħle hau* When you move to a new place, you ought to change headmen

- múa lí.láukáu cằw ủa của M.ghao* Take the pot and put it aside in another place
- cằw* See below :
- cằw.cúa* waterfall, rapids
- klé cằw neheη* id.
- yáo, klé cằw.cúa, ʒoη.ʒoη klaη.klé le* Yes, there is a waterfall, just right for bathing
- cằw* to be few, be less
- mu náo ʔáη cằw.cằw* The *mú*-bees who live on the ground are few
- ná.nú yúa háu cằw ʒú-gúa-ʒú* Every day, you must smoke less
- kú máa náo cằw klua káo* I have less money than you
- lí.ʒáo núa, múa túanêη cằw kằw* In this village, live the least number of people
- cằw* how much?, how many?, to some extent, to any extent [Note: This is the 'clipped form' of *pè-cằw* (*pì-cằw*), q.v.]
- cằw mao?* How many nights?
- cằw hli?* How many months?
- cằw lí hli?* id.
- cằw hyoη kú kú ʔua.nú* I have only worked for a few years
- cằw* phonemic variant of *ắw* 'chopsticks', q.v.
- cằw* phonemic variant of *ắw* 'to simmer, cook for a long time till tender', q.v.
- cằw* See below :
- náo gúa cằw* to sit in the customary sitting position (Con. *náo gúa ʔú*)
- cằw* to be idle, free from work
- cằw cằw ʔua.nú* about to go to work
- cằw* phonemic variant of *ắw* (J) 'until, so, then, therefore', q.v.
- cé* (a) one-year period of time which has already passed
- cé.núa* last year
- cé.ʔu* year before last
- cé* (*ắé*) to sow
- cé nóη* to sow seed
- cé mblé* to sow rice
- cế* (*lú*) house, home
- cế kláη* temple, esp. Yon Buddhist temple (= Y *wáđ*)
- cế mủ* bee-hive
- ắủ cế* roof
- nđế cế* roof-ridge
- váη.cế* residential area, settlement
- cế ká* market
- cế ắháo* pavillion used as a shelter or a place for rest

- pua cẽ* (to) build a house
há nzi vãn.cẽ And repair yards (and) houses
cẽ té 'ladang hut' (small but erected in the middle of the ladang where those working in the fields will often sleep for four or five nights at a time)
- cẽ* to bark (cf. *klá*)
klẽ cẽ The dog barks
- cẽ* to leave, abandon, separate from
pão cẽ to throw away
chũ cẽ to cast out (a person)
hyẽ cẽ to sweep away
thũa cẽ to reject a person
tháw cẽ id.
- cẽ*[†] to go around (something); to detour
cẽ lé cry of the *pá nzoŋ* (a jungle demon)
- cẽŋ* (*klá*) cloth made from the fur, hair, or wool of animals; (esp.) bed-covering of this material
cẽŋ pláu.yãn woolen cloth; flannel (< *pláu.yãn* 'wool')
cẽŋ pua ʒhaw.pw bed-covering, blanket (< *pua* 'to spread over' + *ʒhaw.pw* 'sleeping-place')
ʒhé cẽŋ to dust off a bed-covering
- cẽŋ* to be sure, certain; to be firm, stable; to be true, real
há cẽŋ to speak the truth
lũ cẽŋ truth (< *lũ* 'word')
kũ tú nehà tà yáo cũ cẽŋ I swear to the truth of it
- cẽŋ* (G) a masculine given name
- cẽŋ* to dress, make ready, prepare (something)
cẽŋ ɳá to dress meat (when butchering)
cẽŋ ʒãŋ-qià-nzã to dress up in one's best clothing
púa yũa tua.mbua, cẽŋ.ɳá They must (also) butcher pigs and prepare the meat
- cẽŋ* to be noa (opp. of taboo), be permitted
cì cẽŋ not permitted, taboo
cì cẽŋ kùa hle le It is not permitted (for me) to take it off (e.g. the silver 'life-ring')
- cẽŋ* (*cẽŋ, cẽŋ*) in the act of, continue to . . ., continue to be, still, as yet, in the process of (continuative action indicator) (= English *-ing*, Thai *kamlarŋ*) (cf. *ʒãŋʒi*)
cẽŋ ʒãŋʒi[†] id.
kũ cẽŋ ʒhé cẽ I'm sweeping the house
káo nã.ẽi cẽŋ náo lào cì náo? Are your mother and father still living?
kũ cẽŋ ʒãŋʒi náo.mão I am eating (my) meal

- kũ cɛŋ yǎo ʂǎw.kě mǝŋ ɲǰǎŋ mǝŋ* I am about to journey down to the city
- kũ ʂǎŋʂǎ cɛŋ yǎo nǎo.mǎo* I am going to eat
- cɛŋ* phonemic variant of *čɛŋ* (RM?) ‘up, sticking up’, q.v.
- cɛŋ* to be important
- cɛŋ.cɛŋ ɬɛŋ* very important
- cí* (*lí*) gall, bile; gall-bladder
- cí mbua* pig’s gall; pig’s gall-bladder
- cí* (Q) five (5)
- cí.ɬǎu* fifty (50)
- kǎu.cí* fifteen (15)
- lí cí.hlí* May, the fifth month
- cǐ* to flee, run away
- mǎ kǎu cǐ* So the barking-deer fled
- cǐ* phonemic variant of *ci* ‘to change (residence of persons)’, q.v.
- ci* (*cǐ*) to change residence, change location; to relocate (persons or things) (cf. *eǎŋ*)
- cí ɲí.cě mǝŋ klé.kláŋ* to move to ‘Yellow Water Village’
- mǝŋ ɲǎ cí ɰǎo hěŋ.hěŋ* The Miao like to keep on moving (their) villages continuously
- cí té cǎw ɬhaw, yǎo hle hau* “When (you) move to a new place, (you) ought to change headmen” (proverb)
- cǐ* not
- cǐ tau* not yet
- kũ cí mǝŋ* I’m not going
- cǐ* to boil down
- cǐ ɰǎo* to boil down fat
- cǐ* to shove (a log further into the fire)
- cǐ* noose-trap, noose, net (for trapping animals)
- cǐ* (SI) loss of consciousness, ‘black-out’
- ɲí.cǐ* a loss of consciousness
- tǎa ɲí.cǐ* to faint, lose consciousness; to ‘black-out’
- cǐ*⁺ to forgive
- cǐ*⁺ to be important; to be correct, adequate, proper, suitable
- cǐ*⁺ *eǎ* to be worthy, worthwhile, have worth; be highly acceptable
- cǐ*⁺ *ɲǎo* to be appropriate, suitable; to be likely (to); (preceding verbs) ought to . . . , should . . . , may . . . , likely to . . .
- cǐ*⁺ *ɲǎo ɲua* appropriate to do
- cǐ*⁺ *ɲǎo hà* appropriate to say
- cǐ*⁺ *cǐ ɲǎo* It is unlikely
- cǐ*⁺ *ɲǎo kǎo ɲǰɛŋ kũ tau* You may believe me
- cǐ*⁺ *cǐ ɲǎo yǎo ɲua mǝŋ le hǎo* It is very unlikely

- lào[†] cì[†]* It's very worthwhile
cì[†] cì[†] tũ kláncì It's utterly worthless
mòŋ cì[†] important city, chief town
mà lán qha mà lán cì[†].eá mòŋ Although only teaching extemporaneously, I am still doing something of great worth
- cì[†]* 1. to originate, give origin to, initiate; to create, bring into existence; 2. to take its origin; to arise; 3. to build, construct (Con *ɲua*); 4. to wake up (from sleep); to awake, awaken (but remain lying down) (Con *šaw, caŋ*)
cì[†] nóŋ.qá nóŋ.mbuá to initiate the breeding of livestock
yáw.šáu cì[†] hyón.ndoŋ ńjáo-cúa All-Father *šáu* created (all) jungle flora (lit. 'created bamboo, trees, and grasses')
cì[†] khlérŋ to awake, awaken (with a start)
tán.kì nzũ nzũ nũa, kũ cì[†] lí This morning, I woke up late
kũ cì[†] nzũ.nzũ I woke up very early (but didn't get out of bed)
- cì[†]* to persecute
múa cì[†] id.
cì[†] eáo to disturb, annoy
- cì[†]* to repair, restore
cì[†] ván, cì[†] cě žoŋ to repair the house and garden
- cón* to copulate
šì.cón to copulate (reciprocal term)
cón.páu to copulate (term used by men) (< *páu* 'vagina')
cón.pì id. (< *pì* 'vagina')
- cón khé* phonemic variant of *šón qhé* 'shin, shin-bone', q.v.
- cón* to winnow, sift, or separate heavier granular substances from lighter ones by using a round flat tray (of bamboo) or by using a fan (\cong Th *fàd*)
cõŋ ńjá to winnow husked-rice
cõŋ mblé to winnow paddy
cõŋ mõŋ to sift flour
ván cõŋ winnowing tray
ván cõŋ ńjá winnowing-tray (for husked-rice)
šì ván cõŋ páokù to winnow maize with a tray
- con* to pound, hammer, hit downwards; to pound into pieces (cf. *mbú*)
con páo.ehaŋ to smash a bone
con páo.žé to break rock
con táw to break (something) by pounding, smash (something)
- cõŋ (còn)* to shield or protect (something) by placing a covering over it
nán cõŋ to wear clothes
ndáu cõŋ nán waterproof cloth
- cõŋ* (Sl) all people

- [†]*cōŋ zēŋ* the people
cú (G) a masculine given name
cú See below :
cú ñchǎŋ nose bleed
củ (*tủ*) 1. tiger; 2. generic term for certain felines (\cong Y *sýa*)
củ hyoŋ Year of the Tiger
củ klí black panther
củ ñoŋ The tiger growls
ei củ male tiger
mǎu củ female tiger
củ pǎo[†]ei leopard (yellow and white)
củ pǎo[†]těŋ leopard (yellow and black)
củ qúa ŋi-ŋáo The tiger roars
củ lá the golden cat, *Felis temmincki* (= Y *sýa faj*, G: 19. 122)
kǎŋ lǎu củ insect resembling a spider
qǎo củ (a type of) taro
cu (SI) strand (of thread)
čhu cu to pull out a thread (from a piece of cloth)
ŋ[†].cu sủ a strand of thread
cu to squeeze
cu mi to milk
cu (G) a masculine given name
nủ[†] cu id.
cu phonemic variant of *ču* 'wooden tube-like apparatus for steaming glutinous rice', q.v.
-củ See below :
qhǎo-củ (*hyáŋ*) arm-pit
ndǐ eh[†]ŋ qhǎo-củ crutches
củ to spy out (something)
củ té.ṭhaw to spy out the land
củ phonemic variant of *čủ* 'to tread on, stamp on', q.v.
củ phonemic variant of *ču* (in) *túa-qúa-ču* 'to laugh', q.v.
củ[†] evǎ bed
pw sau củ[†] evǎ lǎ.šǎ khlau pw hủ eáŋ eǎ pua Sleeping on a bed is more comfortable than sleeping on a platform of flattened bamboo
củ[†] must, have to
nủ.nủ[†], củ[†] lǎw ṭúa púa Today, (you) must catch up with them
yũa củ[†] ŋyũa kúa yǎ le qủ ṭhaw cái le múa ndoŋ púa mà pǎŋ zōŋ zōŋ
I must straighten it and bind it with a splint
káo yũa củ[†] nzěŋ šá You must change your mind
cúa to scratch

- cúa ndăw yén* 'opium rake' (miniature bamboo rake with five prongs used in working the crude opium)
- cúa ẽ* to scratch
- cũa (lú)* rack suspended over the open fire-place and used to stop sparks, dry articles, or smoke food (cf. *nhán* 'platform, flooring')
- cũa* to hack, chop, chop up (with a knife); (esp.) to cut up fine, chop up into small pieces; to split (bamboo)
- múa ẽả lủ, của ỹá* to hack meat with a knife
- của ỹá tú sên* to chop (raw) meat into minute particles (in order to make an hors d'oeuvre resembling Danish 'boef tatar')
- của cãñ púa* to split bamboo (for the purpose of walling a house) (< *cãñ* 'strips of split bamboo' + *púa* 'to wall in, build a wall or floor')
- môn té lủ, mà yúa của ấu.mbuá* When (we) come home from the fields, (we) must cut up pig-fodder
- cũa (cua)* See below:
- càw.cũa* waterfall, rapids
- klé càw.cũa* water falls
- cua (lú)* crag, mass of rock
- ốỹ của* rocky mountain
- ghảo của* cave
- lủ.hẩu.của* the summit of a crag
- của* 1. resulting in, with the result (that) . . . , so that . . . (When occurring between two verbs, indicates that the second verb is a result of the action of the first); 2. to, for, of, unto, toward(s), on (When followed by a noun (or pronoun), with or without an accompanying verb, indicates that the noun is also the recipient of the action of the preceding verb)
- môn của túa* Come (and see us) again soon [Said when someone is leaving] ('go [and] come again')
- á; lủ nữa múa của kủ* Hey! Come and give it to me
- hăw, pĩ.kĩ kủ của túa ỹũ káo thậ* All right, tomorrow I'll come and chat with you
- ẵo của túa chậ pé* Come and visit us
- pány múa ẽả ấo lủ của kủ* Please hand me the knife
- cua* phonemic variant of *cúa* (in) *càw.cũa* 'waterfall, rapids', q.v.
- của (K)* term used in reference to a married woman's brothers (either elder or younger)
- ẽ klán của* (K) id. [Note: This term is generally used by children in reference to mother's brothers]
- của (G)* a masculine given name.
- cùa* phonemic variant of *ũa* 'wedge', q.v.

- cũa* (tủ) 1. rat, mouse; 2. generic term for certain rodents
cũa kầu a brown-colored rat (< *kầu* 'barking deer')
cũa nehi large guinea pig (< *nehi* 'elephant')
- cũa* (SI) bundle, stack
đi.cũa tẩu a bundle of firewood
- cũa* to forcibly expell (a liquid) from the mouth in spray
cũa klê to forcibly expell water from the mouth (usually done by the shaman)
cũa hẩu to expell whisky from the mouth (when making medicine)
cũa klê pé.zả to blow foam from mouth three times
- cũa* to be tasteless, be flat in flavor
dua kủa cũa to dilute
yén cũa.cũa tasteless opium
- cũa* phonemic variant of *chũa* 'wedge', q.v.
cũa phonemic variant of *chũa* 'to be dumb, mute; to be stupid', q.v.
-cũa general term for certain types of natural vegetation (only found in the following phrases) (cf. *sủ-*)
sủ-cũa brushland, 'bush', (esp.) the type of forest growth immediately surrounding Miao habitations [Note: Both *sủ-* and *-cũa* are 'bound' forms]
hảη-sủ-cũa id. (< *hảη-* (2) 'expanse, wide area', q.v.)
tỉ sủ-cũa in the forest, in the brush (referring to a place lying across an intervening stream or dry gully)
tẩu sủ-cũa id. (referring to a place which is on the same continuous level of ground)
pẻ sủ-cũa up in the forest, up in the 'bush'
mỏη dua-đi tỉ sủ-cũa to take a walk in the forest
hẻáo-cũa savanna-land (i.e. great tract of meadow-like land characterized by coarse grasses and scattered tree-growth)
hyỏη.ndỏη hẻáo-cũa all kinds of vegetation
- cũa*[†] 1. (N) junction of trails; 2. (V) to put up a marker indicating a junction of trails; to place an object in the middle of the trail to show that the traveller has arrived at a trail-junction (forking) of the main trail
đi.tẩu hẻη cũa kẻ a section of log to indicate a trail-junction
- cũa*[†] temporary
lủ.cẻ cũa a temporary house
- củchỏu* (Ch?) the name of a Miao culture hero (Supposedly < Sz *chủ* 'pig' + *ch'au* 'China'?)
- củ* (lủ) small bell-shaped button
củ nẻη horse bells
- củ* (G) a masculine given name

- cũ* (*tũ*) owner, master, lord
nũ.cũ kũa ɲua The authorities bade [me] do [it]
- cũyĩ* (*žãŋ*) wisdom, knowledge, scheme
cũyĩ plãŋ.plãw great wisdom
ɲi.žãŋ cũyĩ a scheme
- cw* (Sl) portion, section (of a hill rice-field)
ɲi.cw one portion (of a hill rice-field)
- cw* to small, have an odor
cw qãŋ to be fragrant, have a nice smell
cw nehã to stink, have a bad smell
- cw* See below :
eĩ qũa cũ tamarind fruit
- cw* to constrain, stop, defer going
- cw* tethering post, picket
- cw* 1. (Sl) a unit of value or weight (\cong Th *tamlyŋ* which approximates 60 grams); 2. Sl. for joss-sticks
mɲhua ɲáo.cw[†] ñã to fine (someone) two *cw[†]* of silver
ɲũa.cw[†] hyãŋ nine joss-sticks (the number used in certain ceremonies)
- cw[†]* to pound (in order to make a hard surface)

ch

- chá~chã* to be bright of countenance
- chá* to be new
žão chá the new village
kũ ti kão mbe chá I will give you a new name (lit. 'I'll fasten on you a new name')
- chá* See below :
- qũa-chã* envoy, emissary, messenger
- chãi* to be hungry
chãi plãŋ id.
kũ chãi.chãi plãŋ le I am very hungry
- chãi* breakfast
não chãi to eat breakfast
ɲi.ki, mũa žãu klãŋci ɲão lũ ɲua chãi What (vegetables) shall we have for breakfast tomorrow?

- chán* to drill a hole
chán lǎw (It is) pierced through
- chǎn* to clear ground (by using a hoe)
chǎn quǎ mblé to cut off rice stubble (preparing for burning the field)
- chǎn* 1. (V) to shine (of the sun), be sunshiny; 2. (N) sunshine, sunlight (Opp. *qǎ* 'to shine of the moon')
chǎn.ndú id. ('to be sunshiny in the sky') (< *ndú* 'sky')
chǎn.ndú cǐ chǎn? Is the sun shining?
chǎn.ndú tǎw The sun comes out ('sunshine comes out')
páokw̄ tǎa chǎn maize withered in the sun (lit. 'in the sunshine')
zá chǎn to sun (oneself), dry (an object) in the sunshine, expose to the sun, be exposed to the sun
zá chǎn.ndú id.
ñdyu chǎn.ndú to remember a favor
phlu chǎn.ndú to be gay, happy (said of children) (< *phlu* 'cheek')
ndú chǎn the Dry Season
tǎu chǎn.ndú sunstroke
lí chǎn.ndú a gift freely given with no ulterior motives
chǎn.ndú lǐ sǎ to be pleasant, comfortable, agreeable, convenient (lit. 'sunshine comes [into my] life')
nǎn chǎn.chǎn.ndú It was very sunny yesterday
rua té mà chǎn.ndú kú.kú pí.nú tǎ Working in the ladang, the sun was very hot the whole day
- chan* to be accustomed to, used to; to be usual, be much; usually, very (cf. *eǎn*, *sǎw*)
cǐ chan unaccustomed to; not usually, not much
cǐ chan zǒn not very good
nǎv cǐ chan chě kǔ He doesn't usually scold me
- chán* (SI) convulsion (referring to 'fits')
tú.mǐ-ñua phén fǔa pí.chán pí.chán The child frequently has fits
- chán* (G) a masculine given name
- chǎn*[†] to pay a visit, go on an outing
mǒn chǎn[†] go for a stroll
chǎn pé tǎa Come visit us
mǒn chǎn[†] *hlua.ηgǎu* to go out with girls
kǔ mǒn chǎn[†] *sí* I'm just going for a stroll
- chǎo* phonemic variant of *chǎo* 'to coax, bother', q.v.
- chao* (*chao*) (*lí*) jacket, shirt, upper garment
chao sǎn Miao jacket (two layers)
chao mblón a jacket having one layer
chao tǐ nǎn rain-coat
cǐ chao clothes, clothing

- nǎη chao* to put on a jacket
lǎη č̣i.chao to dry clothing
zá č̣i.chao id.
tǎu hlán chao string-beans, green-beans, long-podded cowpeas
chao (lí) placenta
lí.chao ηǎ id.
ceη chǎu lí.chao cǐ tau lǐ The placenta still has to come
cháo to move (oneself)
⁺*cháo* (Ch?) See below:
⁺*tuácháo* part of China from which the Miao originally came. [Note :
 Informant stated : "From here (i.e. northern Thailand), it takes
 three months going by foot to reach ⁺*tuácháo*"]
sǎocháo (seemingly) mainland Southeast Asia, (esp.) Thailand
šúa tuácháo the Chinese
cúcháo Miao culture-hero (See entry under *cú*)
cháu phonemic variant of *čháu* 'to boil, i.e. bring to a boil', q.v.
chǎu (mN) ashes
šú chǎu ash-pile on which to build the household fire
plǎu chǎu dust
chǎu to drizzle (of rain), be misty
nǎη chǎu id. (< *nǎη* 'rain')
chau phonemic variant of *čhau* 'to sift (with a sieve)', q.v.
chàu (G) a given name either masculine or feminine
chàu phonemic variant of *čhàu* 'sieve, i.e. apparatus used for sifting', q.v.
⁺*chǎu kǎ* to cause to doubt, cause to fear (Syn. *chú kǎ*)
chǎw séη lamp wick
chǎw to do a 'third-rate' piece of work, to do a sloppy job ; to be careless,
 be sloppy ; to be badly done, be sloppily done ; to be coarse, rough
ɲua chǎw.chǎw le to do (something) carelessly, do (something) sloppily
lu.lǐ chǎw.chǎw coarse words, rough words
ɲua ɲua tau cǐ lǎw, kúa chǎw hǐ He has already built a house, but
 (it) was a horribly sloppy job !
chǎwšhǐ⁺ (Ch) enemy (cf. Sz *ch'óu k'i* 'enemy')
ɲua nǎ tuǎ chǎwšhǐ⁺ to be a great enemy
ché (lí) vehicle
ché hlau railroad train
ché šǎ hlau id.
ché mũitwǒ automobile
ché yaη ndú airplane
ché klé ship, large boat
ché kǎu váη bicycle
šái ché to ride on a vehicle

- chě* (*che*) to abuse, curse, speak abusively to; to reprimand, scold, rebuke, criticize; to mock, slander; to be in a dispute with someone
š̌.chě to quarrel, dispute, have a row (lit. 'cursing each other')
ráo.tú hǎo š̌.chě; kǔ mǒn ġhēn Those two persons are quarreling;
 I (shall) go and mediate (between them)
gùa-yǎw cì chan chě kǔ (My) husband doesn't usually scold me
- che* phonemic variant of *chě* 'to curse; to scold; to criticize', q.v.
- chē*⁺ See below:
chē⁺ *cǎo qí qán mǒn* to go back the way he came
- chen* to shiver, tremble, 'have the shakes'
múa ráo.pé yán máo chen. There are many kinds of chills
- chén* to change into, turn into, be transformed
náo zǎu qán chén ηá "to eat vegetables transformed into meat"
 (Miao proverb)
chén lǚ nǐua (It) turned into a legend
- chén* (G) a masculine given name
- chén* See below:
pē.ġhēn chén (R) legendary place where departed spirits go and where living Miao go when performing spirit-ceremonies
- chí* to be glistening white; to be white (of skin color)
món chí the White-Skinned Miao
món.chí nehài.ηáu nzáw The last-born daughter of the White Skinned Miao
- chí* to take out (grass), pull out (grass), pull up (grass)
- chí* See below:
láu chí elbow
- chì* (*tú*) goat
chì me-pē id.
- chí* See below:
túa chí larged-sized hammer (of metal)
- chí*⁺ (Sl) 'Miao forearm-span', i.e. maximum distance between elbow and tip of middle finger (approx. one-half yard)
ší.chí⁺ one 'forearm-span'
- chón* to be wafted, be blown (by wind), be carried (by water)
- chón* See below:
ɳua chón to get married
náo chón wedding feast
zán chón poetry recited during a wedding
- chón* story or floor (of a house) (cf. *chén*)
- chú* [K] kinship term (cf. *-kǔ*)
n̄ua-chú (K) sororal nephew or niece
- chǔ* phonemic variant of *chǔ* 'to play (or blow) a wind-instrument', q.v.

- chu* phonemic variant of *čhu* 'to pull out, pull up, extract', q.v.
- chũ⁺ kǎ* to cause to doubt or fear (Syn. *chũ⁺ kǎ*)
- chúa* to blow . . ., blow on (cf. *ñjáv*)
- túa chúa* The wind is blowing (something)
- chúa* phonemic variant of *čhúa* 'machine, apparatus, (loosely) instrument', q.v.
- chúa* phonemic variant of *čhúa* 'to sweep, be swept', q.v.
- chúa* See below :
- yáo chúa* lines running from waist to edge of skirt
- chũa* to remain, be left over, be lacking
- chũa páo.nú* two more days, another two days
- chũa.ci.ndau* approximately, almost (referring to a number)
- chũa.ci.ndau mũa kũ.tũ mbua* There are approximately ten pigs
- chũa.ci.ndẽ* not much longer, soon, before long, almost (referring to time) (lit. 'lacking not long')
- chũa.ci.ndẽ, yúa žoŋ-hlài* Before long, (it) will be good for reaping
- chũa pé.tũ tú há pí.tũ mĩ-nhài* I have three sons and one daughter remaining
- nũ ci chũa mên.pẽ⁺* He is semi-conscious
- ci chũa túanẽn le lâu* There were no people left at all!
- chua* to think of (something or someone now absent); to miss . . .
- chúa* (G) a masculine given name
- chúa* (mN) medicine, drug
- náo chúa* to take medicine
- klán chúa* the Medicine Deity
- nán chúa* 'medicine bag', the red triangular bag which contains the *chúa món* 'Miao medicine'
- chúa món* 'Miao medicine', a magical substance sewed up in a red triangular bag and attached to the silver torque worn around the neck
- chúa kua ñjúa* cajuput oil
- chúa yĩlãn* indigo
- chúa mũa žũ* 'strength-giving tonic', usually vitamin-B pills
- chúa ñũ⁺* poison
- ehãn chúa* to inject
- kò chúa* doctor
- ndon chúa* herbs
- hảo chúa* to vaccinate against smallpox; to vaccinate in general; to be vaccinated
- chúa fãifũa* flashlight battery (Syn. *cháo tén*)
- chúa* (mN) tea
- káo sũ chúa* id. (precise term)
- kãn sũ⁺ chúa* id.

- hàu chúa* to drink tea
mblón káo s̄i⁺ chúa tea leaves
ndon kán s̄i⁺ chúa the wild tea-plant, *Thea chinensis* Seem. (≅ Th *m̄i*η,
 W. 616)
chúa f̄w teapot
chúa to inspect, examine, investigate
túa chúa z̄áo to come to inspect the village
cao quà-ehá m̄on chúa Have the soldier(s) go and inspect
chúa té.ghaw to spy out the land
chúa s̄i to predict, prophesy, foretell the future
chúa⁺ to fork, part (of trails, streams)
s̄i.chúa to flow, together
páo.tũ klé s̄i.chúa The two streams flow together
cũ táo.ké.chúa Reaching the place where the trails fork . . .
chú extravagantly
chũ See below :
tãη chũ hand-pestle
chù (tũ) cat
m̄i.chù id.
chù-miã id.
chù.m̄i id.
chù-mláo id.
chù.m̄i p̄at̄eη tortoise-shell cat
chù.kán (tũ) the person who prepares the food at a big feast
cẽ chù.kán restaurant (neol.)
chô to omit, exclude, reject, be exempt (from); to separate, e.g. maize
 from rice
chô cẽ to reject (a person)
chô hlao tà excepting, unless, excluding (the possibility)
chô⁺ (chũ⁺) (1) 1. to exit, leave, emerge, go out, come out; (as sec. vb.) out,
 off; 2. to put forth, issue; to break out (as a rash) (cf. *tãw*) (Etym.
 s.w.n.)
chô⁺ m̄on to go out (< *m̄on* 'to go')
m̄on c̄i chô⁺ thãw to go only part of the way and then turn back
kẽ chô⁺ hão.tũ? Where does the trail come out?
cũ chô⁺ táo hãη.z̄õη lũ The tiger has emerged from the jungle
chô⁺ (chũ⁺) (2) to be apparent, become apparent, be plainly visible (cf. *tãw*)
 (Etym. s.w.p.)
nú chô⁺ The sun has fully risen (lit. 'The sun is plainly visible')
 (Con. *nú tãw* 'the sun has just appeared')
chô⁺ s̄i⁺ to reveal, manifest
gha chô⁺ to appear

č

- čã (čãŋ) knife
 čã mũ large jungle knife, machete, bolo
 ku čã knife handle
 hũ čã to sharpen a knife
- čãi See below :
 qhão čãi window
- čãŋ (cãŋ) (tũ) trunk (of a dead tree), hollow tree
 ɓi.tũ čãŋ.ndoŋ one hollow tree
 mông mía tũ.čãŋ.ndoŋ ndãw Go and take hold of that tree-trunk
- čãŋ Sl. for long pointed objects, long flat objects, vehicles, (certain tools and weapons)
 ɓi.čãŋ ndãw a letter (i.e. epistle); a piece of paper
 ɓi.čãŋ ché a wagon, an automobile
 ɓi.čãŋ ngáo a boat
 ɓi.čãŋ eua a machete
 káo čãŋ čã Your knife
 ci.čãŋ kón five needles
 ɓi.čãŋ mũ tẽŋkẽŋ a planting stick
- čãŋ (lú) flute
 čãŋ čhũ id. (< čhũ 'to play a wind instrument')
- čãŋ (lú) tube; (loosely) bamboo
 ɓi.lú čãŋ hyón bamboo container
- čãŋ (cãŋ) to fight; to wage war
 ndàru čãŋ id.
 ʂi.cãŋ to battle
 ɓi.ia ñjũ ʂi.ia.tuacháo ndàru.čãŋ tau ɓi.hyón He fought against the Chinese for one year
- čáo (cáo) See below :
 čáo nge to seek pay for something, seek payment on a debt
- čão to turn, return, do again, repeat; to turn (change one's direction); again, back (cf. English re-)
 čão qãŋ id.
 čão lũ to come back, come again (< lũ 'to come')
 čão.qãŋ lũ id.

čǎo môn to go back, go again (< *môn* 'to go')
ñēñ čǎo quǎ to read backwards (< *ñēñ* 'to read')
čau qhau čǎo to put on shoes backwards
łua čǎo whirlwind
môn čǎo.qǎñ lǔ (I'll) go and come back
môn mà pǎo-pé.nú čǎo.qǎñ lǔ Go but come back soon (lit. 'in a few days')
łi.mao tǎñ.ki čǎo môn šái When night-time was over and dawn had arrived, (they) would go back to look at the ladang
čǎo hà klua łi.žǎ šái Say (it) once more!
ni.núa, kú čǎo.qǎñ séñ.tú klua łi.žǎ Now, I am pregnant again
yǎo ci žoñ, mà kǎo čǎo.qǎñ túa If it still is not better, you just come back

- čao* (*cao*) to put down; to place, lay; to release, relinquish, let go of; to excrete (cf. *čau* 'to put in')
čao cè to lay aside, put away from one
čao phlǔa to release, set free
čao phlǔa cè to leave . . . alone, leave . . . in peace
čao nēñ to unstring a bow
čao šá to trust, have faith in
čao šá phlǔa to relax, set one's heart at rest ('to let the heart go free')
čao quǎ to defecate ('excrete dung')
čao ži to urinate ('excrete urine')
múa łǔ čao to place the main beam of the husking-treadle in the 'rest' position
kú pǎñ kǎo cǎw nēñ ñǰañ čao nēñ môn nǎo žǎu I'll help you lift off the horse's load and turn the horse loose to graze
čao quǎ-čǎ môn múa mũ.tóñ (He) released (his) emissary to go and get a gold spear
čáo (mN) fat, grease, oil; (fig.) essence (cf. *čǎo* 'to be fat')
čáo mbua lard ('pig-oil')
čáo ndoñ latex, resin, gum ('tree-oil')
čáo máñ rubber, guttapercha
čáo pǎñ kerosene (< *pǎñ* 'earth, ground')
čáo tǎu peanut oil
čáo thǔ turpentine
čáo tén 1. lamp-oil; 2. flashlight battery (cf. *čúa fáifúa*)
šǎñ čáo to put oil (in a lamp)
yǎo kǎo čǎo, kǎo ñchǎñ "(I) am your oil (and) your blood" (proverb)
čǎo (*cǎo*) war
ndǎu čǎo to wage war, make war

- dua čão* id.
nã-túa čão a great war
tú-čảo soldier
tủ-thấu čão person in charge of battle-spirits at a funeral
čảo to be fat, plump, corpulent, fleshy (cf. *čảo* 'fat, grease, oil')
čảo phậ to be fat, be stout
čảo zũ zũ getting fatter and fatter
hỹảo čảo a type of tender-leaf grass
nỉ.nũa, kủ čảo túa lữw At present, I'm getting fatter and fatter
não chúa nữa mà káo yũa čảo mi-ỹjĩ túa You will put on weight, if
you take this medicine
čảo See below :
ñchu čảo to walk completely around the house, circle the house
čáu ể (tủ) crab
čáu ể té scorpion
čáu to scratch in the ground (as a chicken)
čáu ndũ čáu té to scratch furiously (< *ndũ* 'sky' + *té* 'earth')
qá.qũ mớη čáu zĩ náo The wild-chicken was scratching in the barley
(for something) to eat
čẫu to kindle, ignite, light
čẫu tãw to light the fire
čẫu té to fire the ladang (i.e. burn off the brush and small trees)
čau (tủ) nail, claw, hoof
čau tẽ fingernail
čau (cau) to put in, insert, put on; to contain; to wear (shoes); to apply
(cf. *čao*)
mũa . . . čau id. ('to take and put') (< *mũa* 'to hold')
čau nỹ put in salt
čau mblé to store rice
čau sá to take an interest in, be eager, diligent
sá čau to be interested
cỉ čau sá not interested
čau qhau to weak shoes
čau ỹhĩ to apply fertilizer, apply manure
chánh čau.mblé granary for storing rice
lao.fw čau klé.kú thermos (to keep water warm)
mũa chúa čau hũ to put medicine into . . .
mũa chúa čau hũ qhão.ỹđầu Put the medicine into (your) mouth
cẽ čau klán spirit-house (especially made for the 'Ox Sacrifice'
Ceremony) (lit. 'house-to place-spirits')
čau klé to put in water (for a period of time); to put water in
mũa káo qv.taw čau klé.sũ Soak your foot in hot water

- hī čau yéŋ* cup filled with boiled-down opium
ǵhaw čau (eating) table (Syn. *čōŋ*)
ǰáo.lú pǔ čau hǎo.ehua.ǵhaw two gallon-tins to put things in
čhǎw čau klé cask for storing water
- čau* six (6), a numeral
čau.ǵǎu sixty (60)
čau hli June, the sixth month
kǎu.čau sixteen (16)
- čàu (càu)* to be full (of food), full (after eating), satiated
náo čàu to eat one's fill, eat until satiated
- čàu (G)* a masculine given name
čàu phonemic variant of *càu* 'to be dark, obscure, dim', q.v.
- čǎu (čǎŋ)* hammer
múa čǎŋ.čǎu lǔ, mbú ŋǵa.hlau to hammer nails with a hammer
- čǎu (lú)* ear of corn, ear of maize
čǎu páokw id. (< *páokw* 'maize')
páokw ɲua čǎu The maize is forming 'ears'
- čǎu (cǎu) (tǔ)* the short-tailed porcupine, *Acanthion brachyurus* (Con. *mblōŋ*)
 (≅ *Th mên*, G:19.124)
- čǎu (cǎu)* to be affected by; to be inflicted with; to suffer (something);
 to be wounded [Note: This word is equivalent to English 'passive
 voice' but always in a pejorative sense]
čǎu mblua to suffer punishment
čǎu plǎu id.
čǎu láo to suffer imprisonment
čǎu klǎŋ tǔa to be possessed by spirits (with the result) dying
čǎu sú tǔa to be struck by lightning
čǎu phǎo tǔa to die from a gun-shot wound
tǔ čǎu nǎŋ.ŋdyúa (It) bit wounding the squirrel
kǔ čǎu čǎu káo le ndǎw I trod on your paper
ŋáo sǐ.čǎu žoŋ to get along well together, live in good fellowship
 ('affecting each other')
káo čǎu máo šǎŋ šǎŋ ti ŋǎu páo.ehaŋ You have a deep cut (wound)
 down to the bone
- čǎu* phonemic variant of *cǎu* 'to be lacking in energy or strength; to be
 weak, exhausted, tired', q.v.
- čǎu (cǎu) (lú)* kidney
čǎu mbua pig's kidney
eǐ čǎu.mbua mango
- čǎw (cǎw) (eǐ,tǔ)* chopsticks
ǰí.eǐ čǎw a pair of chopsticks
ǰí.tǔ čǎw one chopstick

čāv (*cāv*) to simmer, cook for a long time till tender (cf. *cũ* 'to simmer')
čāv mùa mùa le id.

čāv ηά to boil meat for a long time (so that it will be tender)

čāv See below :

ghăo čāv hollow of the knee

čāv (*cāv*) (J) accordingly, consequently, according to custom, as is your custom, as one might expect, as was expected, according to expectation, as planned, indeed

lí.ηáo.ndoη čāv ndán lāv The wooden ship, as planned, floated off

múa pí.tũ čāv eua lí.ηáo.klau There was one person who, consequently, built an iron ship

mà klé.klân čāv nán ηàu lí.mblá-té nua Then flood-waters did indeed immediately inundate the world

lí.ηáo.ndoη mà čāv ndán láu The wooden ship really did float (as was expected)

čé phonemic variant of *cé* 'to sow', q.v.

čéηγi⁺ (Ch) January (cf. Sz *chén yuě* 'January')

čěη (*cěη*) (RM) sticking up, rising up

šāv čěη to get up, arise, stand up

nũ šāv čěη cĩ He got up and fled

čì to be dispersed, be scattered

čì to carry low on the back (e.g. as a rucksack), (Con. *páu* 'to carry high on the back')

čì klé to carry water (in a long bamboo tube on the back)

yáo káo čì kũ mǒη hũ pǎη "If you carry me down to the ground . . ."

(part of a legend where a human speaks to an eagle)

čì (*lí*) trousers, pants

čì.chao clothes, clothing (< *chao* (jacket')

táu čì crotch of trousers

pí.łě čì.chao one suit of clothes

nehua čì to wash pants

túa.klân càu pí.lí čì One *klân* is enough (for) one pair of pants

kũ lí čì kháu kháu hlân My trousers are shabby

nzi čì.chao to mend clothing

čì to be entangled (of rope)

čóη (*lí*) mountain

čóη pǎo.pǎo (a) round mountain peak

hǎu čóη peak, summit of a mountain

tǎo čóη on the mountain (ridge), up on the mountain (ridge)

ňjúa čóη ñjúa hǎη all hills and valleys

pí.sáη čóη one side of a mountain

mboη čóη the mountain-tops

- kũ mōŋ pĕ ċōŋ ɣu lũ* I'm coming from up on the mountain
- ċōŋ (cōŋ) (*lũ, śáŋ*) anatomical term (Occurs in the following expressions)
- ċōŋ.qhé (cōŋ.khé) shin, i.e. of leg, shin-bone (derogatory term)
- ċōŋ.hláu (cōŋ.hláu) id. (polite term)
- nũ mũa kã.eháŋ ndáw ċōŋ.qhé* He has a sore on his shin
- ċōŋ (*lũ*) (1) bench; table (cf. ċōŋ (2) 'door')
- ċōŋ *pũ yáw* (R) the Ancestral Altar ('ancestral bench') (Syn. *thán pũ yáw*)
- ċōŋ *qhĕŋ* stool
- ċōŋ *ñáo* bench, seat, chair
- ċōŋ *cáw hũ* stand (for placing things on)
- ċōŋ *măo* eating-table
- ċōŋ *ndĕ* (a) long bench; (esp.) carpentry-bench
- ċōŋ (*lũ*) (2) door (cf. ċōŋ (1) 'bench; table')
- qhăo.ċōŋ* id.
- ċōŋ *váŋ* gate of garden-fence
- ċōŋ *lōŋ* wall-gate
- kláŋ qhăo.ċōŋ* the Door Deity
- ndáu thăi ċōŋ* door-curtain
- páw ċōŋ* threshold
- páŋ kaw qhăo.ċōŋ* Please close the door
- ċōŋ⁺ (Sl) tenth
- ŋ.ċōŋ* one-tenth
- ċú to repeat
- ċú cry for calling chickens
- ċú ċú id.
- ċũ (*lũ*) roof
- ċũ *cĕ* roof of a house
- ñđĕ ċũ* roof-post
- klúa ċũ.cĕ* roof-ridge
- ñđáu ċũ* the junction of the two crossing boards (or: poles) placed at the meeting point of roof-ridge and gable on all Miao houses [Note: This junction of the ends of the two boards forms an angle of 45 degrees]
- tĕ.mblōŋ ċũ.cĕ ci žoŋ táŋ lãw* The leaves on the roof are now completely spoiled
- ċu (*cu*) (*lũ*) wooden tube-like apparatus (at times jar-like) for steaming glutinous rice (≅ Y *hăj nŷŋ khăw*) (cf. *ċáŋ* 'tube')
- hũ máo hũ ċu* to steam (glutinous) rice in the foregoing artifact
- paŋ ċu* the steam inside the foregoing artifact
- ċu *néŋ* (R) 'occult tube', a closed annular tube of cast-iron filled with pieces of metal and used as a rattle

ĕù (ĕù, cù) See below :

túa-qùa-ĕù to laugh ; to feel hilarious, feel amused

túa-qào-ĕù id.

kláŋ túa-qùa-ĕù The demon is laughing

ĕú (cú) to tread, trample, stamp on

kũ ĕú ĕâu káo le ndǎw I trod on your paper

hsáo ĕú.ĕú klá⁺i.ĕá Don't stamp on the board

ĕua See below :

máo ĕua leprosy

ĕúa (cúa,cúa) (tú) wedge

ŋí.tú ĕúa phua táw a wedge for splitting wood

ĕón.táu ŋí⁺ qùa-ĕúa "An axe-butt ruins a wooden wedge" (proverb.)

ĕúa (ĕua) to open up, open out (restricted usage)

ĕúa lu to yawn

ĕúa ñđáú to open the mouth wide

ĕúa qhǎo.ñđáú id.

ĕúa during, on, in

káo yú nú.tú ĕúa hyon.tú? When were you born?

ĕúa to be solid, firm, secure ; to be sturdy, well made, well built

ĕúa ĕúa very solid, very firm ; very sturdy

ĕúa-qùa-ñjêŋ id. (< ñjêŋ RM)

kũ yúa qhũ žon.žon le pǎŋ ĕúa.ĕúa I will dress (the wound) properly
and tie it up securely

ĕúa (cúa) 1. to be incapacitated physically, be disabled physically; to have a permanent physical defect ; (esp.) to be dumb (i.e. mute) ; 2. (fig.) to be dumb (i.e. stupid)

ĕúa qhũ to be lame, be crippled

túanêŋ ĕúa 1. disabled person, person who has a physical defect ;
2. (a) fool, stupid person

ĕúa⁺ step (in walking)

ŋí.káu ĕúa one step

ĕw (lí) boil, abscess, pustule, carbuncle

máo ĕw to have boils, suffer from boils

lu.ĕw pǎi pǎu lǎw The pus has drained out of the boil

lu.ĕw núa èau phua This abscess should be lanced

ĕw term denoting the smallest digit

ĕw ndĩ little toe ; little finger

ndĩ ĕw id.

ĕw ndĩ taw little toe

ĕw ndĩ tẽ little finger

ĕw (G) a masculine given name

ĕw See below :

- pw khw' čw'* to lie on one's stomach
nzěŋ khw' čw' to turn over on one's stomach
čw' (G) a feminine given name

čh

- čhá* to receive a sharp, sudden sensation (either painful or pleasurable); to get thrilled; to produce neuralgic pain (\cong Th *s'aw*)
čhá pua.lúa.klá It will cause intense pain
fón.páo táw že.že, kũ čhá hũ A grenade exploded right nearby (me), and I was awfully terrified
kũ làoš' čhá, thau lùa súa čáu kũ qhǎo.cù I am very ticklish when someone touches my armpit
hlua.ŋáú hlua.ńǎú nǎo čhá thau pw pua.kě A young woman and a young man feel a thrilling sensation when they sleep together
- čhá* See below:
qúa-čhá soldier, military person
cao quá-čhá mōŋ chúa Have the soldiers go and inspect
kũ yǎo quá-čhá I am a soldier (by profession)
kũ pua quá-čhá I am a soldier (at present but only for a certain limited period of time)
kũ pua klua quá-čhá lũ I have already been a soldier (i.e. for a certain period of time and now discharged)
- čhá (G)* a feminine given name
- čhài (tũ)* pin-like object; object of a type which can be inserted into something (Ety. s.w.n.)
čhài páo.tũ two pins
mũ.čhài pláu-hau 'spear-pin' for putting in (a woman's) hair
- čhài* to pierce, penetrate; to fasten (into), pin (in), drive in; to stab; to embroider (Ety. s.w.p.)
káo čhài ci čhài? Have you penetrated (it)?
- čhài* See below:
tái čhài pán vase
- čhǎo (chǎo)* to coax, bother
mĩ-ñua čhǎo.čhǎo the child is coaxing, bothering, etc.

- ĕhao* phonemic variant of *chao* 'jacket, short, upper garment', q.v.
- ĕháu* (*cháu*) to boil, i.e. bring to a boil (cf. *mbau*)
ĕháu kùu mbau id.
ĕháu klé to boil water
ĕháu chúu to steep tea
klé ĕháu boiling water; water which has been boiled
klé ĕháu lāw ào cì ĕháu? Has the water been boiled?
kũ yũ ĕháu klé nũ I will boil this water
- ĕhau* (*chau*) to sift (with a sieve) (cf. *ĕhâu* 'sieve')
ĕhau mǒŋ to sift flour
ĕhau sua mblé to winnow rice-bran
káo ĕhau kláŋci? What are you sifting?
- ĕhàu* (*chàu*) (*lú*) sieve, i.e. an apparatus used for sifting (cf. *ĕhau* 'to sift with a sieve')
ĕhàu mǒŋ flour sieve
ĕhàu ĕhau mǒŋ id.
- ĕhǎw* (*lú*) a type of vessel, (esp.) cask, tank; large-sized pail or bucket
ĕhǎw ĕau klé large container for water storage
ñđáu.lú ñđáu.ĕhǎw "The mouths of all kinds of vessels . . ." (part of a line from a proverb)
- ĕhǎw* to create; to establish; to found; to construct
ĕhǎw té ĕhǎw t̄haw to found a nation, create a (new) state
nũ.páo ĕhǎw žào sáthāŋ (The Patriarch) *nũ páo* first established the village of Khun Sathaan
- ĕhón* to sharpen (by rubbing without using water); to whet
ĕhón ĕǎ to sharpen a knife
- ĕhũ* (*chũ*) to play (or blow) a wind-instrument
ĕhũ ĕáŋ to play the flute
ĕhũ hyu to blow the clarion
ĕhũ qēŋ to blow the mouth-organ, to play the mouth-organ
ĕáŋ ĕhũ flute, musical wind-instrument made from a joint of reed
- ĕhu* (*chu*) to pull out, pull up, extract
ĕhu nǎ páo cê to pull a tooth
ĕhu cu to pull out a thread from piece of cloth
há mǒŋ ĕhu t̄au.pǎu And [we] go [and] pull up the soya-beans
- ĕhúa* (*chúa*) (*ĕáŋ, tũ*) machine, apparatus, (loosely) instrument
ĕhúa ndũa spinning-wheel
ĕhúa ĕhau sũ id. (< *sũ* 'thread')
- ĕhúa eáŋ yēŋ ndĩ* instrument for impressing a seal or 'chop'
ĕhúa šau.ndǎw 1. printing press; 2. typewriter
ĕhúa ndǎu.ndǎw typewriter
pháo lú ĕhúa revolver, pistol

- ti čhúa* 'driving-belt' of a machine
čhúa (*chúa*) to sweep, be swept (Con. *ǰhé* 'to whisk')
qv čhúa broom
čhũa to eradicate; to tear down; to demolish (cf. *čhúa* 'to sweep, be swept')
čhũa pǎo cẽ to tear down (e.g. a house)
múa čhúa pǎo cẽ id.
qv čhũa a type of brush
ǰhé qv.taw qúa čhũa to brush the dust off one's feet as testimony
 against the people one has been with
čhủ See below:
pǎw čhủ rank tiger-odor
-

e

- éa* (*éaη*) scissors (cf. *ěa*)
ǰi.éaη éa a pair of scissors
éa lú shears
múa éaη éa ěa ndáu kúa hle Use the scissors to cut the dressing off
éa néη (*éaη*) (R) large metal ring about 15 cm. in diameter with pointed
 handle which is stuck into the ground in front of the altar
éa (G) a given name either masculine or feminine
ěa to cut, cut off, chop
ěa táw to cut wood
kũ mǒη ěa žáu.něη I'm going to cut horse fodder
múa ěa lú, ěa ndoη to cut wood with a knife
múa éaη éa ěa ndáu kúa hle Use the scissors to cut the dressing off
ea (*lú*) 1. forepart of the throat, (esp.) cartilage of the larynx; 2. goiter
ea yéη Adam's apple
ǰao ea to have a goiter (< *ǰao* 'to be swollen')
chúa ǰao.ea iodine ('goiter medicine')
lú ea goiter (= Y *khɔɔ nǎη*)
płěη ea to daub a goiter (with iodine)
éa (*lú*) paper money, (esp.) baht or tical (the monetary unit of Thailand)
 (Con. *ñá* 'silver money')
ǰi.lú éa one baht, one paper bill

- ñá.éá* riches, wealth
ñá.éá hyáŋ ndáw (R) spirit-money (crude paper money used as an offering to the spirits)
múa éá to have money, have ticals
- éá* (Sl) a Miao unit of weight equivalent to ca. 3.75 grams (\cong old Thai weight called *sàlyŋ*)
ŋí.lú melika ñá kí yí.éá An American silver dollar weighs eight *éá*
kí yéŋ pua éá to weigh opium in *éá*
núa kí čau.éá This weighs six *éá*
- éá* (a) form of oral artistic expression. See below :
lú.éá love songs relating to recent happenings, love songs of our present epoch, romantic lyrics relating recent events. The content of the *lú.éá* always relates to 'affairs of the heart' (*ñiyai*) [Note This art-form may be described musically as syllabic singing (chanting) with a slight tendency towards ornamentation (dividing) of the syllables] (< *lú* 'speech; tale, story')
há lú.éá to serenade, to sing a song, to intone a chant
lú.éá túa song sung when a loved one dies (either man or woman may sing it, but not married people)
há lú.éá ŋí.éí to sing one verse of a song
- cá* (*kláí*) board, plank
ŋí.kláí éá a board, plank
éá pua spread-out planks, (esp.) flattened bamboo (\cong Y *péén púu*)
- éá* to be cold (of weather; of food and liquid; of parts of the body) [Note : Denotes cold of a more intense degree than *nao*, q.v.]
klé éá cold water (which has been boiled)
žáo núa éá hǔ This village is very cold
pua mǎo éá hǔ to cook cold rice
- cái* (*cái*) to take, get hold, receive, accept
qě cái (to) hire, lease, rent
- éǎŋ* to move (one's) residence (cf. *ci*)
- éǎŋ* (*lí*) sleeping-place (e.g. bed-room, bed, bamboo platform, or any place where people habitually sleep) (Con. *žhaw*)
éǎŋ qhúa 'guest platform' (raised flooring of planks facing the open fire-place where customarily all visitors spend the night)
- éǎŋ* 'that which is eaten with rice', i.e. meat, eggs, vegetables, chilli, etc. (= Pk *ts'ái*)
múa éǎŋ múa eua all kinds of food, (fig.) all kinds of things, every sort of thing ('there is *éǎŋ*, there is *eua*') (< *eua* 'cooked standard rice')
- éǎŋ-* See below :

- êñ-mũa* to be embarrassed, be ashamed, lose face
êñ-ghảo.mũa id.
- êñ* (G) a masculine given name
- êo* to itch
sêñ êo restless, unsettled
máo sêñ êo worry
kủ ghảo.mũa lá lá êo êo le My eyes are red and itchy
- êo~láu* red-colored (of horses)
nêñ-êo~láu red-colored horse
- êo* See below :
êo ñê to be destitute, be at a loss (e.g. for words); (fig.) to suffer, be suffering; to endure hardship, endure distress; to be poor
củ êo to persecute
- êủ* to alter, change; to trade, exchange (Syn. *êủ*)
mũa êủ cẻ to change, replace, set aside
- êủ* to be enough, sufficient; sufficiently
êủ sá to be satisfied
tũa.klân êủ ði.lủ chao One 'waa' is enough (for) one jacket
lủ.cẻ nữa kủ êủ.sá I am satisfied with this house
- êủ* to paw
nêñ êủ tẻ The horse is pawing with his foot
- êủ (lủ)* chisel
- êủ* to carry on the head
êủ táu.hau id.
- êủ* to alter, change; to trade, exchange (Syn. *êủ*)
- êủ* 1. to be able, know how, be versed in, be skilled in; person who is versed (used in reference to activities requiring skill which has been learned); 2. given to . . . , full of . . . (\cong Th *chân-*)
tủ êủ an able person
pũa êủ hà lủ.món He can speak Miao
món.ñjũa êủ hà lủ.món.kláu The Green Miao can speak the White Miao language
êủ pũa qả given to belching
êủ hà clever speaker, (esp.) person clever at deceiving by means of plausible sounding lies; (by extension of foregoing) 'con-man' (= Th *chân-phứud*)
êủ.ndủ cẻ qẻ sủ A clever weaver doesn't waste thread
- êủ* (G) a masculine given name
- êẻ (lủ)* fault, guilt, sin
củ êẻ to forgive
zả nữa kủ zảñ káo êẻ . . . I forgive you this time . . .
- êẻñ* to fry (in deep fat) (cf. *nthen*) (Con. *kỉ*)

- ηγά *eḡ* ḡáo meat fried in deep fat
eḡ to be used to, accustomed to; ever
eḡ chan id.
eḡ chan šaw id.
ci eḡ not accustomed to; never
káo eḡ pu⁺ cũ lão? Have you ever seen a tiger?
- ceḡ (hí)* shelf, (bamboo) sideboard
eḡ ndú (W) the warp beam
ei (léḡ) (K) (1) father (cf. *nzi* 'father') (Etym. s.w.n.)
léḡ.ei (K) id. (< *léḡ*, Sl)
ei.chá (K) step-father
ná.ei [K] parents ('mother and father')
koḡ pi.léḡ ei to share the same father
- ci-* [K] (2) kinship term (See below) (Etym. s.w.p.)
ei-klán (K) maternal uncle
ci-klán.hlí (K) eldest brother (married woman speaking)
ei-láu (K) husband's elder brother
ci-nzáw (K) 1. younger paternal uncle; **2.** term of respectful address to an older man
ei-žéḡ ei-kóḡ (K) ancestors
ei-krú (K) brother-in-law (woman speaking of sister's husband)
- ei-* (3) (a) male (person, animal, or plant) (Etym. s.w.p.)
ná-ei married couple
tú-ei male (of four-footed animals)
ci-cú male tiger
ei-nehi bull elephant
ei-šú male hemp
- ei-* (4) person who is expert in . . . (Etym. s.w.p.)
ei-néḡ shaman, priest, spirit medium (= Y *mšo phi*)
tú-ei-qéḡ the *qéḡ* player at funerals
ei-néḡ-qiá-yáw a person of great knowledge, intelligent person
- ei* (5) the 'male' of certain inanimate objects taken in a figurative sense (Etym. s.w.p.)
žé-ei pestle ('male stone') (Opp. *žé-ná⁺* 'mortar')
pi.chí žé-ei a pestle (instrument for pounding ingredients)
- ei (hí)* 1. fruit, nut, berry; 2. generic term for fruits, nuts, berries, and certain vegetables (= Th *má-*, MI *buah*)
ei ndoḡ fruit, nut
šáo.pé.yáḡ ei several kinds of fruit
ndoḡ ei.klúa peach tree
ei.klúa ndoḡ id.
pláu.hí ei.klúa four peaches

- nđon ci múa eĩ* The tree has no fruit
eĩ lủ gán zĩ tangerine
eĩ lủ pomelo
eĩ gáu ẻào páo citron, lemon
- eĩeón* 1. ancestor(s); 2. the favors bestowed by parents or grandparents who have died (Cf. Sz. *tsù tsōng* 'ancestor')
pủ.yáw.eĩeón (K) ancestors (collective term)
- eĩ* to prevent, hinder; to separate (from each other); to forbid; to admonish, rebuke
chúa eĩ yỏn fly repellent
- eĩ* 1. to be tight, tight-fitting, compact, packed, congested, crowded;
 2. (contents) to pack, be packed tightly into; to jam, crowd (a place);
 3. tightly, compactly (cf. *eĩ* 'to be narrow, cramped of space')
eĩ.eĩ very crowded, very pressing
- eĩ* See below:
hủn-eĩ.yẻn second-growth forest (10-12 meters in height)
- ⁺*eĩ* (Ch) loan-component which functions in Mandarin as either a 'diminutive suffix' or a 'noun suffix', e.g. Sz *-tsỹ*, Pk *-tsy* < *tsỹ* 'child, son; egg, seed' [See Chao and Yang (1947), pp. 58-59; Chao (1948), p. 40; Simon (1958), pp. 769 and 798]. This form in Green Miao never occurs alone and only functions as a noun suffix in the following type words borrowed in their entirety from one or more dialects of Southwestern Mandarin
fủeĩ beard (cf. Sz *hủ-tỹ* 'beard')
hủeĩ ocean, sea (cf. Sz *hủ-tỹ* 'sea')
khủweĩ button (cf. Sz *k'ỏu-tỹ* 'button')
lủeĩ mule (cf. Sz *lủ-tỹ* 'mule')
pủoẻĩ leopard (cf. Sz *pủ-tỹ* 'panther, leopard')
- eĩ* to bear (fruit)
eĩ eĩ to bear fruit
- eĩ* to propitiate (spirits), worship (spirits)
eĩ klán to 'support' a spirit (i.e. to keep a spirit supplied with food, drink, money, and entertainment)
- eẻ* to join, (esp.) join by soldering
mủa eẻ ẻua nủ-eẻ to join a couple in marriage
- eẻ* village elder, dignitary, person of high standing, person advanced in either age or rank; headman, chief (\cong Th *thủw*, *phủuthủw*)
ẻua eẻ ẻua lủu village chieftain
- eẻ* (Sl) point (in time or space), at the point of . . . ; point, level (which has been reached, attained); as far as, up to (such and such a point) (\cong Th *khẻẻ*); from, since (\cong Th *tẻẻ*)
eẻ nủa (lit.) at this point (in time), on this occasion (fig.) from this point

- eì nũa môn* 1. to go on from here ; in addition to this ; 2. from now on ('from this point on')
- šá eì hão klá* (It's) as high as that!
- eì hão lủ, tủ klủ.mũa* *čáw qhế tau qhão.mũa lảw.* From then on, the man who was blind of eye consequently was able to open his eyes forever more ('Point-that from, Sl. blind (p.o.) consequently open able eyes (cmp.)')
- đi.eì* since, from (a certain starting point)
- đi.eì kủ nảo tau mảo* Since being able to eat . . .
- eì (eì)* (Sl) couple, pair (Con. *ngáw, thảo*)
- đi.eì* *chảw* a pair of chopsticks
- mũa pé.eì tủ nản* (He) has three sons and daughters-in-law
- eì* to arrange (in consecutive order), put in order
- eì* all, each, every (cf. *chua* 'every')
- mũa tủ.tủ eì* all the pigs, all pigs ; every pig, each pig
- nủ.qủ lủ.lủ eì* all stars ; every star, each star
- eì* RM of *klủ* 'to be black'
- klủ eì* to be jet black
- klủ-qủa-eì* id.
- ndủ.klủ ndủ.eì le qhão kủ.tw* "The heavens (concerning one's future) are as dark as the hole in a carabao horn" (proverb)
- eì* (in) *sủ eì* cheek bone
- eì* phonemic variant of *ěi* 'trousers, pants', q.v.
- eì*⁺ 1. Chinese character, letter (of the alphabet) ; 2. (≅ Th *traa*) (a) seal, (a) stamp, trade-mark (if a picture)
- eì*⁺ (Sl) verse
- hả lủ cả* *đi.eì*⁺ to sing one verse of a song
- eì*⁺ to be narrow ; to be cramped (of space) (cf. *eì* 'to be tight, be tightened ; to be crowded')
- eon ndủ* (W) harness and heddles
- eón ndon* bush
- eón*⁺ (a) wrinkle
- eù* (G) a masculine given name
- eù* stove (Miao type)
- qhão-eù (lủ)* id. (< *qhão* 'hole')
- klán qhão-eù* the Stove Deity
- eù* (aNI) knowledge
- qha eù* to impart knowledge
- eù* Sl. for ribbon-like objects : ropes, strings, cords, thread, wire, strips of cloth, turbans, trails, tracks, paths, roads
- đáo.eù kě* two trails
- đi.eù ndủu* a long strip of cloth

- hlua eú.tv?* which rope?
túa eú sũ.klau single strand of wire
púa eú hlán his sash
- eú* See below:
ɖua eú to pretend
- eú* 1. to reach, arrive; 2. concerning, about; to, for, as far as
túa yúa eú will soon arrive
yúa túa eú will arrive
eú šã to be tired, short of breath
šái eú it seems that
eú.eí till, until
kũ ɖua té eú.eí kũ nú pón I work (on) the ladang until the sun sets
nũ eú eú šã, ɣa nũ câu zũ He is very tired; let him sleep
eú n̄j̄n̄ h̄n̄ down in the canyon
túa eú kũ z̄áo (He) came to my village
- eú⁺ l̄áo* spice, condiments, flavoring for food
- eua* (*n̄ua*) period of time (usually a few days, never more than a mont)
 (cf. *ph̄ua*)
eua n̄ua these few days
eua.n̄ua ph̄n̄ l̄u l̄u n̄n̄ During this time (of the year), it's always raining
ɖi.n̄ua eua a few days
- eua* to build, construct, make (cf. *ɖua*)
eua n̄n̄ to make a bow, construct a bow
eua ɖi.l̄u n̄n̄-ŋáo l̄u.l̄u to build a very large ship
- eua* 1. to be lacking in stickiness; to be non-glutinous (Opp. *mbl̄au⁺*);
 2. abbrev. for *m̄áo eua*, q.v.
m̄áo eua cooked standard rice (Con. *m̄áo mbl̄au⁺*)
mbl̄é eua regular paddy (Con. *mbl̄é mbl̄au⁺*)
m̄úa eán̄ m̄úa eua all kinds of food, (fig.) all kinds of things, every sort of thing ('there is *eán̄*, there is *eua*') (< *eán̄* 'that which is eaten with rice')
- eua* (*čán̄*) type of machete or broad knife used by the Miao for cutting small trees, brush, and grass [Measurements: length of handle: 25 cm; length of blade: 34 cm; width of blade (at broadest point): 5.5 cm]. NB: The blade of the *eua* has a hooked end which prevents it from hitting stones
eua l̄á (*čán̄*) small curved knife
m̄úa eua l̄u, l̄úa té to clear the ladang (of weeds) with a jungle-knife
- eua* to continue; to be joined, connected
š̄i.eua connected together

ḡǎo.nũ⁺ nũa, pĩ.kĩ pé yũa eua mớη We shall continue this work
tomorrow

ndāv.nũa eua mớη mớη.pũ From here, (we) continue on to Miang
Pua

eũ (hĩ) frame

ḡũa⁺ eũ frame for packs

lẻη eũ cloth drying-frame (for drying paper pulp)

eũ See below

eũ tũ? What kind? To what extent?

eũ⁺ (SI) pair (special usage)

ḡ.eũ⁺ kũa a pair of split horns used for divination by the shaman

eh

ehá to grill, toast, roast (by open fire) (cf. *ḡi*)

ḡá.ehá cw qáη The grilled meat smells good

eha (SI) part, portion; bit; some

ḡi.eha mblẻ tú kláη.kláη le A portion of the rice (crop) is yellow
already

páη ḡi.eha há (Yes, he) helps a bit

ḡi.eha sáu khlau sáu pu Some (of them) extend above (the line)

ci.hsáo ḡa ḡi.eha mớη pu.ndẻ Let's not have some (people) walking
ahead

eha phonemic variant of *ehà* (J) 'in order to, then, etc.', q.v.

ehà sẻ food, victuals

ehà (eha, ehá, hà) (J) so, in order to, then, and then, subsequently, con-
sequently, accordingly, as a consequence

... *ehà le zỏη* all right

pẻ ehà zũ⁺ zẻ, tũa ḡũ há We then grind (corn) with the millstone and
pound (rice) with the husking-treadle

sái yáη.tũ ehà zỏη (We will) see which kind is effective

mà púa ehà mớη sái Accordingly he went to look

mà klẻ ehà le ḡẻ Consequently, the water began to ebb

yảo kũ ndũa, mà pláη ehà zỏη mi-ḡjẻ If I vomit, then (my) stomach
consequently feels a bit better

- chá* wealth ; money
thw chá to covet others' wealth
lêṅ chá to receive money
chá.ei.mi a diety or culture hero
chá mē eĩ a type of oral art-form seemingly equivalent to English 'proverb'
hà chá mē eĩ to tell proverbs
chá phonemic variant of *chà* (J) 'in order to, then, etc.', q.v.
chài (1) (SI) half a time unit
ṽi.chài hli half a month
ṽao.hli chài two and a half months
kàu.čau chài sixteen and a half (years old)
ṽi.chài ḡhúamòṅ half an hour
chài (2) SI. for one of a pair (of bodily extremities, or articles of clothing which come in pairs)
ṽao.chài tē two hands
ṽi.chài ḡē one leg
chài.mbán the arm
chài.ḡē the leg
chài.tē ṽao.ṽao ṅýú.ṅýú le (His) hand is swollen and hard
ṽi.chài qhau one shoe
chài to interpret, translate ; to mean
tau thǎo kua kũ chài cua nú tau páu nua (He) asked me to translate so that he (could) acquire knowledge!
chài tà ṽi.tũ cá qua ṽi.tũ túanēṅ (It) means that each animal was roped out (of the herd) by a (certain) man
chán storage place, granary
chán čau mblé granary for paddy
chán ndáu wardrobe
chán ñá place for keeping money
chán wound, sore
chán eá ringworm
chán qáw cancer
ká chán wound, sore, infection
qhǎo chán wound, deep cut
qhǎo chán chá scar
qhǎo.chán chǎu.kǎ bruise
qhǎo chán fúa pyoderma, a pustular (pus-formed) condition of the skin
ndáu.qhǎw qhǎo.chán (a) bandage
kǎ.chán lú ñchǎṅ (The) wound is bleeding
chán.khũ stock (of a rifle), gun-stock
chán.khũ phǎo id. (< *phǎo* 'gun')

- ehán* to add to, increase
hà ehán ʳí.ñjǐ to say a little more (in explanation)
- ehǎŋ* to snatch away from
pé mǒŋ eǎŋ púa le ží We'll go and snatch away their (i.e. the bees')
 honey
- ehǎŋ* to be stiff
ehǎŋ-qià-ñdǐŋ to be extremely stiff
ñdǎu ehǎŋ lock-jaw
kú ehǎŋ ʒé-klán I have a stiff neck
kú ehài tǐ chǎŋ.ehǎŋ le My hand is stiff
- ehan* bone
páo ehan id.
ehan mǎo cartilage
ehan ʒǎŋ qǎu spine
ʒào ehan a joint of bones
ehan páokw corncob
ʒào qé ehan a joint of bones
hlw ehan marrow
- ehán* to prick
ehán chúa to inject medicine, give an injection, inoculate
kón ehán chúa hypodermic needle
tháo káo ehán kǔ le mǐ-ñua ʳí.kón ká Please give my child a shot
púa chán páo-pé.kón chúa They gave him several injections
- ehán.tán* beam, rafter
ehán.tán cǐ id. (< *cǐ* 'house')
- ehán* to sneeze (cf. *ehú*)
- eháo.sén* to bother, trouble, annoy; to be bothersome, troublesome, annoying
ʒǎo.ñua yau.yau núa eháo.sén hǔ These little children are awfully annoying
- eháo.ei*⁺ purposely, intentionally
púa eháo.ei⁺ čao nǐ eú.sǎ He purposely laid down his life
- eháo* phonemic variant of *hsáo* 'don't', q.v.
- ehao* to be indigo-blue; to be grey
ehao klí to be dark-brown
ñjúa ehao to be blue-green
yǐlán ehao to be sky-blue
ǎŋ ehao the color of parts of the hardened earth floor of a Miao house (< *ǎŋ* 'earth')
- eháo*⁺ to yank back
eháo táu-hau to yank back someone's head
- ehau* See below :

- chúa ehau sũ* spinning-wheel
- ehàu* See below:
- múa chũa ehàu nêñ* to force medicine on a horse
- ehăw* to come up out of . . . (restricted usage)
- klê ehăw* Water bubbles up out (of the ground)
- qhăo.klê.ehăw* (a) spring
- páokw ehăw pua tũ yán* The maize tassels have come out
- ehàu* to be stuffed up, stopped up, plugged
- ehàu ñjũ* to have a stuffed up nose (from having caught cold)
- ehàu qan* to be hoarse
- máo ehăw t̃jê-klán* bronchitis
- ñdyáu túanên, ehàu ci tau* "People's mouths cannot be plugged"
(Miao proverb)
- ehăw* to worry, doubt, be troubled, be anxious
- ehăw.sén* id.
- ci.hsáo ehăw* Don't be worried
- ehê⁺* to clear off, pick off, finish off . . .
- ehê⁺ té* to finish preparing the field after burning; to clear the ladang
by reburning
- ehê⁺ záu* to pick off extra leaves when cleaning vegetables
- ehén* (Ch) (cSl) thousands (cf. Sz *ts'ian*)
- pí.ehén* one thousand (1,000)
- ehén* to inspect, examine, look for, search for
- ehén ndăw* to examine a record, look up a record; (fig.) to examine
(one's) destiny, foretell (one's) fate, foretell the future (< *ndăw*
'written material; records') [Note: The Miao ritual known as
ehén ndăw is carried out by throwing down 'divination sticks'.
The fate of everyone in the family is "examined" in this man-
ner]
- ci múa ndăw túa ehén* No books came to be examined
- té.t̃haw ehén túanên* The country is making a census
- ci múa lén.tũ s̃úa ehén* There was no one to count or examine
- ehén* to be white (of fur, feathers, body hair, human hair)
- ehén-hau* to be grey-headed, have white hair (of humans)
- nên ehén* (a) completely white-colored horse
- ehén~ehén* 1. to share, join in, participate; 2. to have the same parents
(share the same parents')
- ehén~ehén le kōñ* id. (< *kōñ* 'to share')
- kũ.t̃iehén~ehén* brothers (following the strict English meaning)
[Note: *kũ.t̃i* can apply to any two or more male Miao kinsmen]
- pũ yăo páo múa.nũ ehén~ehén* We two are brother and sister (of
the same parents)

- ǰáo.tú kw̃.tí núa ehén~ehén le kōŋ ǰí.tú ná.ěĩ* These two male kinsmen
have the same parents
- ehén* (Sl) storey, floor, level, layer
ǰáo.ehén two layers
- ehén eāŋ* special set of tools for making spirit-money; tool for making
holes in paper
- ehén⁺* to support, hold up, prop up
nǎĩ ehén qhǎo-cù crutches
ehén ǰũ the forked stick used to prop up the forepart of the husking-
treadle (*ǰũ*) when not in use
- chí* 1. Sl. for pieces of cut wood, (esp.) fire-wood; 2. Sl. for mortars and
pestles
ehí táw fire-wood
ǰí.ehí ǰé-nǎ⁺ a mortar
ǰí.ehí ǰé-ěĩ a pestle
- chí* to urge on, hasten
- chí* See below:
ǰáu chí gá parsley
- chĩ* to redeem; to ransom
- chĩ* to chop off a section
ǰí.chĩ one quick stroke (of an axe)
- chĩ* (KN) name for the seventh-born child in the Sino-Miao name series
(cf. Sz *ts'í* 'seven')
- chì* (Sl) life (in sense of life-span); eternity
ǰí.chì 1. one life, whole life; 2. forever, for always
ǰí.chì cì kǎw forever, without end, eternal
ǰí.lào ehì mǒŋ continually, going on forever
ǰí.chì ńǰũ-qià-ńǰǎ⁺ one's whole life
- chĩ táo* chopping-knife, chopper
- ehĩyĩ⁺* (Ch) July, the seventh month (cf. Sz *ts'í yuě*)
- chĩ* (Sl) simultaneous time
ǰí.chĩ at the same time, in unison, all together
ǰí.chĩ mǒŋ to go at the same time
ǰí.chĩ, ǰí.phá abreast
ǰí.chĩ hu ńǰǎu to sing in unison
- chĩ* to be even, be level, be in one unit
mě ńǎo ehĩ lào cì ehĩ? Are you all living together (as one family)
or not?
- chĩ* to force, compel; to levy (as troops)
- chĩ* (KN) name for the seventh-born son in the Sinicized name series (re-
stricted to adult males) (cf. Sz *ts'í* 'seven')
- chĩ⁺* (*lú*) (an) encirclement of stones around a grave

- ehi⁺ páo.lú* two stone encirclements
ehi⁺ to paint over . . .
ehi⁺ lí.cě to paint over the house
šāŋ ehi⁺ enamel
ehōŋ to slice angularly (as the Miao slice vegetables)
ehú to sneeze (cf. *chāŋ*)
ehù to kneel
ehù ģâu id. (< *ģâu* 'knee')
ŋpě ehù ģâu to kneel down (to someone)
ehú⁺ (tú) (a) file
ehú⁺ hlau id.
ehú⁺ 1. sin, fault, wrong; 2. to violate, transgress, be against custom
ɖua ehú⁺ to do wrong
yáo plāŋ ɖua.ehú⁺ tǎ.tǎ le Yes, truly, it was the owl who did a great wrong (legend)
ehú⁺ See below:
šāŋ ehú⁺ phě⁺ to the left side (< *šāŋ* 'side')
tě ehú⁺ phě⁺ left hand (< *tě* 'hand')
ehua all; every, each (cf. *ei* 'every, each')
ehua lēŋ every person
ehua nú every day
hǎo.ehua.ģhaw 1. things, goods, articles; food; 2. everywhere, every place (< *ģhaw* 'place; thing; time')
hǎo.ehua hǎo.ģhaw everywhere, everything
ehua tú mbua all the pigs, all pigs; every pig, each pig
ehua yāŋ everything
ehua.yāŋ ehua.cǎŋ id.
ehua ģhaw every time, everywhere
ehua zǎ every time
kǔ yúa thǎu páo.lú pǔ čau hǎo.ehua.ģhaw I shall haul two tins to put things in
kǔ sǎŋ mōŋ yúa ŋjě há páo-pé.yāŋ hǎo.ehua.ģhaw náo I want to get some salt and some things to eat
ehua~ehua See below:
páu ehua~ehua to understand; to know all about it, know completely
hlao šau púa cǎŋ yāŋ yǎo sǎŋ ehua~ehua Above all, be prudent
ehùà lead (metal)
ģw ehùà pencil (neol.)
múa ehùà ɖua made of lead
ehúà⁺ 1. to brush, rub; to wipe; to grate; 2. (a) brush (cf. *nehua*, *nzúa*, *šao*)

- chua chao* to brush a jacket
chua chò-miào to brush a cat (with a brush or cloth)
chua táu-hau to rub one's head
chua tẽ to rub one's hands
chua qhǎo.mũa to clean (or rub) one's face (with a dry handkerchief)
 (≅ *šao qhǎo.mũa*)
chua cua kũa hũ.šá Clean up [the room], i.e. 'make it clean' (but
 without using water)
chua páokw to shell maize (by rubbing hard)
chéhũ chua matches
tũ chua (a) brush (< *tũ*, Sl.)
chua qharu shoe-brush
yáqhũ chua matches
chua cua kũa ci sáo náo to erase
yanỹv chua an eraser (made of rubber)
mblái yúa chua kâu.ná The tongue must rub (against) the teeth

f

- fá* (Sl) hundredth of an ounce (Syn. *fét*)
ni.fá one-hundredth of an ounce
fǎ to dangle, be dangling; to sway back and forth while suspended, swing
 back and forth; be oscillatory
fái to divide, separate; to pay
fái kě mǒn to go separate ways
fái pua páo.šán to divide into two groups, separate into two sides
tǎw fá to divide into sides
fái ná to pay out money
fǎifúa (*hǎihúa*) (*lú*) (T) flashlight (cf. Y *fajfáa* 'flashlight')
nǎ táu-hau fǎifúa 'head' of a flashlight, (esp.) flashlight bulb
fǎi affairs to attend to, matters, dealings
múa.fǎi to be busy, occupied; to have an errand to do
múa tũ-fǎi mǒn klánçi? What's on (your) mind?
fán (Sl) side, direction (denoting the front, back, right, or left sides of an
 object only)

- pláu fán* four-sided
pé fán triangle
fán to be overgrown, weedy
kě fán.fán a trail overgrown with vegetation
eũ ñǎñ hǎñ, ɣéñ fán.fán le Down in the canyon, the sword-grass
 is quite overgrown
fǎñ to swing
fǎñ séñ to turn against, turn traitor
fán boil, bubo; (colloq.) syphilis
fánkú⁺ (tũ) 1. banyan tree; bo tree; 2. generic term for trees (usually)
 having similar aerial roots and branches
ndon fánkú⁺ id.
fánkú⁺ ñǎñ a tree related to the banyan, *Ficus microcarpa* Linn.
 (≅ Th *tónsaj jójój*, W. 387)
fánǵhǐ (Ch) yellow flag, yellow banner (cf. Sz *huáng k'í* 'yellow banner')
šúa fánǵhǐ the Chinese living in China who are in a position of power
fán⁺ táw (lú) tightly-woven cylindrical basket with cover, 15 cm. in dia-
 meter and 12 cm. in height, usually employed for carrying cooked
 rice (= Y *ǎb khǎw*)
fán⁺ eán⁺ the person who is chief cook at a funeral
fáofúa (háohúa) (tũ) the peacock-pheasant, *Polyplectron bicalcaratum* (SS.
 436. fig. 1)
fàu to cover over, (esp.) to cover over with earth; to fill up with earth;
 to hide underground
fàu té to dig up a field (turning under the weeds and other vegeta-
 tion)
fáw to look for, search for, scrutinize with care
fé to return; in return; on the contrary
fé qán to return
fě to bargain, initiate a bargain; to promise something in exchange for a
 desired request
fě yén to agree, promise (in spirit worship)
púa ehá le yúa fě kláñci They, accordingly, had to bargain something
fés⁺ sense, good sense; reliability
há ci múa fés⁺ to speak nonsense; to give unreliable advice
fé to reverse direction
lú.ǵái ǵua fé season when the wind reverses direction
fě to meet or come across (a person) by chance; to recognize
ci fě kũ (He) won't recognize me
fén (Sl) hundredth of an ounce (Syn. *fá*)
ǎ.fén one-hundredth of an ounce
fén to prepare, adjust, arrange, put in order; to perceive, apprehend

- kũ fén cì mên* I can't quite see through it
kũ fén tau mên I (now) fully comprehend
- fén* to faint, lose consciousness; to be unconscious; to collapse; to 'black-out'
- fēn* (SI) part, portion, share
ni.fēn one part
- fónpáo* (*hónpáo*) hand-grenade, bomb
fónpáo t̃ua the Atomic Bomb (neol.)
fónpáo t̃aw že.že A grenade exploded right nearby
- fón* to cover over, cover up (e.g. with cloth or paper); to cover over and fasten; to close by covering over (cf. *lu*)
nd̃aw fón thán (R) spirit-money put around the hanging altars by the shaman at New Year's time (Con. *nd̃aw lu thán*)
hyon.l̃au t̃an, ei.nén fón thán (R) When the Old Year is finished, the shaman closes the altars
- fón* See below:
fón yēn ceremony of causing the *nén* to rest for one month (cf. *fě yēn*)
- fón* to bestow (a blessing or a curse); to bless; to curse; to award
fón eũ.kě phē to curse
fón cì žon id.
fón eũ.kě žon to bless
fón mōn žon id.
fón yén kón to award; to bestow
- fōn* to dye
- fōn* (G) a masculine given name
- fū* to make a fire-break
fu té to make a fire-break around a ladang
- fū* phonemic variant of *hū* 'box-like container', q.v.
- fū* phonemic variant of *hū* 'to agree, be in concordance with', q.v.
- fúa* (*tú*) cloud
fúa pw fog, mist
fúa t̃ua air
p̃u fúa lots of clouds, very cloudy
č̃au.č̃au fúa overcast, cloudy (< *č̃au* 'to be full')
h̃an-fúa expanse of clouds
- fúalán* (*lén*) (T) Occidental, white man (cf. Th *fàràn*)
nd̃aw fúalán book written in English ('occidental book')
- fúalánsè* (*fualánsè*) (*lén*) (T) (the) French, (a) Frenchman (cf. Th *fàrànsèd*)
- fúatài* (*tù*) king, lord
fúatài té kingdom
- fúa* to pass on, pass on ahead

- fua ndé tđ* pass on ahead
- fua* (G) a given name either masculine or feminine
- fua*⁺ to crave . . .
- fua yén*⁺ to crave opium
- yén cì nǎo fua lǎw*⁺ Not to feel a craving
- fua yúa*⁺ to explode
- fua*⁺ to have fits, have convulsions
- fua ǎi.thân*⁺ a convulsion
- fua ǎi.héng*⁺ The death-convulsions are finished
- ǎi.nú fua ǎo.pé zǎ*⁺ He has several fits a day
- fua*⁺ to be prolific
- fua*⁺ See below :
- kw̃ fua*⁺ an improvised story, usually not relating to any current happening. The content relates to tales of ancient time and *not* to matters concerning love and courtship (*nǎyái*). The *kw̃ fua*⁺ is a short recital, lasting not more than one hour. It is not sung (cf. the verse-form known as *lũ.ñjúa*)
- fú (lén)* servant
- fú (lí)* dipper, ladle
- fú.táu* gourd dipper (< *táu* 'gourd')
- fú.táu hàu klé* gourd dipper for drinking water
- fù* perspiration
- ndào fù* to sweat, perspire
- niv ndào ndào fù* He is perspiring a lot
- fú (lí)* kettle, tea-kettle, teapot (cf. *qhù*)
- chúa fù* teapot
- fù klé* tea-kettle
- lao.fù chau klé.kú* thermos (for hot water)
- fúwáo* (Ch) (black) pepper (cf. Sz *fú tsiāu* 'black pepper')
- fúwěi* (*hyao*) (Ch) beard, moustache (Con. *lénfú* 'whiskers on the cheeks') (cf. Sz *fú-tsý*~*hú-tsý* 'beard')
- ǎihài fúwěi* to shave
- fúǎihài*⁺ (aNI) (Ch) authority, (delegated) power (cf. Sz *fú k'í* 'luck, good luck')
- fú*⁺ to honor, respect (cf. *thá*)
- pé yúa fú klán qhǎo.cón* We must honor the Door Spirit

h

há (J) and (connective)

chũa pé.tũ tú há ðĩ.tũ mĩ-nchài (I) have three sons and one daughter remaining

pé yũa môn̄ sái té.páokw̄ há té.mblé We must go and look (after) the corn-ladang and the paddy-ladang

há (Tr) indeed ; also (predicative terminator). NB: This terminator may be translated in various ways depending on its occurrence with: (1) verbs, (2) negated verbs, or (3) nouns solely. It merely establishes the preceding verb or noun as a predicate and is often not to be translated. Examples of usage are given below (cf. Classical Ch. *yě*)

(1) With verbs :

(‘The fact of Verb, Verb is how it is’)

Question : *káo yũa môn̄ té, ci môn̄?* Are you going to the fields or not?

Answer : *môn̄ há* Yes, (I’m) going [‘The fact of *môn̄*, *môn̄* is how it is’]

Question : *ñáo cẽ, ci ñáo?* Are (you) at home?

Answer : *ñáo há* Yes, indeed (I am) [‘The fact of *ñáo*, *ñáo* is how it is’]

(2) With negated verbs (i.e. verbs preceded by *ci* ‘not’):

(‘As for Verb’s negation, Verb’s negation is how it is’)

Question : *khẽy khẽy hli le háo?* She’s growing well, isn’t she?

Answer : *ci khẽy hli há* No, not well at all [‘As for *ci khẽy*, *ci khẽy* is how it is’⁴

Question : *pé.tũ quã-yãw ñjãñ hãñ yão lẽñ.tũ?* Who are the three men down in the canyon?

Answer : *šáo. kũ kũ ci páu há* Couldn’t say. I don’t know either [‘As for *ci páu*, *ci páu* is how it is’]

(3) With nouns solely :

(‘As for this Noun, this Noun is the one’)

nũa.nũa, pé yũa não ñá.mbua lào ñá.nũ? Today, are we going to eat pork or beef?

ñá.nũ há Beef [‘As for *ñá.nũ*, *ñá.nũ* is the one’]

nũa hãw.mão lào hãw.páokw̄? Is this rice-liquor or corn-liquor?

ǰǎw.páokw̄ há Corn-liquor [‘As for *ǰǎw.páokw̄*, *ǰǎw.páokw̄* is the one’]

(4) Miscellaneous examples :

ŋá.mbua qán há Pork is very tasty

kú nǎ há I like it!

lái há lâu it can be done!

páu há (I) know!

púa náo.mǎo há he eats a lot (of rice)

yǎ há (I) want it!

hǎeǐ (Ch) large expanse of water, e.g. lake, ocean (cf. Sz *hài-tsy* ‘sea’)

nǎ-hǎeǐ ocean

mǐ-hǎeǐ lake

mblá-té mǎu nǎ-hǎeǐ The world was covered by an ocean (line from a Miao legend)

hǎ to smell scorched (as cloth); to be burnt (of flesh)

hà to scoop up; to serve from bowl to bowl

tái hà klé water dipper

hà to utter, give utterance; to speak, talk; to say, to chant, to tell

hà.lú to speak (about something), tell (a narration), narrate (‘speak words’)

hà ŋe to bargain (‘talk price’)

hà hǔ to agree, concur

hà lú nǐúa to recite a legend

hà lú é to sing a (certain type of) song

hà tà to state, say that . . .

hà phonemic variant of *chà* (J) ‘in order to, then, etc.’ q.v.

hǎihúa phonemic variant of *fǎifúa* ‘flashlight’, q.v.

hai (Sl) race, ethnic group

ǎi.hai túanǎn one of the races of man

hai to be pregnant (i.e. from the time pregnancy is visible) (cf. *sén*)

hai mǐ-núa id.

mbua hai mǐ-núa lào ci tau? Is the pig pregnant already?

hai to pull, draw, drag; to cart

hǎŋ (1) (*hú*, *śán*) valley, canyon, deep gorge (Etym. s.w.n.)

hǎŋ klé gully, valley (with a stream) (< *klé* ‘water’)

hǎŋ qhúa canyon or valley without a stream (< *qhúa* ‘to be dry’)

kú hǎŋ ravine, deep gorge (< *kú* ‘ditch’)

nǐúa cón nǐúa hǎŋ all mountains and valleys, hill and dale

pé.tú quá-yǎw nǐǎŋ hǎŋ yáo léŋ.tú? Who are the three men down in the canyon?

eú nǐǎŋ hǎŋ, ŋéŋ fán fán le, ǰélán mǎŋ Down in the canyon, the sword grass is quite overgrown, and it would be difficult to walk

- hǎη-* (2) expanse, wide area (Etym. s.w.p.)
hǎη-ě.yēη⁺ second-growth forest (where trees are approximately 10 to 12 meters in height) (< *ě yēη⁺?*)
hǎη-žōη virgin forest (where trees are higher than 12 meters) (< *žōη* 'jungle, forest')
hǎη-sí.cúa brushland, 'bush' (< *sí của* 'brushland')
hǎη-žōη.ndú⁺ dense jungle
hǎη-ťua the atmosphere (< *ťua* 'wind')
hǎη-fúa expanse of clouds (< *fúa* 'cloud')
nủ mớη phláo hǎη-žōη lǎw. He went hunting in the jungle
hǎη.tháw 1. (N) solder; 2. (V) to solder, seal (cf. *háo tháw*)
múa hǎη.tháw ťáo lủ hǎη to solder with solder
- hǎη* (C) a clan name
- hǎoáo* (Ch) chilli, chilli pepper (cf. Sz *huā tsiāu* 'flowery pepper') (= Th *phrítg*, MI *chabai*)
lủ.tái hǎoáo pepper mortar
- hǎo* 1. (phrase-initial) place, location, area; at, towards, to, in, on, by, out in; 2. (phrase-final) that (close by), there (close by) (Con. *ndǎw*)
 1. *hǎo ɽu* that place, there
hǎo ndǎw⁺ id. (< *ndǎw* 'place')
hǎo nũa this place, here
hǎo ndǎw⁺ nũa id.
hǎo tủ where? somewhere, anywhere ('which place?')
hǎo.ɽu hǎo.nũa here and there
hǎo.chua hǎo.ťhaw everywhere, everything
hǎo.chua.ťhaw things, goods, articles, (incl.) food
káo mớη hǎo.tủ lé? Where are you going?
 2. *ɽua le hǎo* to be (do) like that, be that way, that being the case
lêη hǎo that person
tủ hǎo that one (< *tủ*, Sl.)
lủ.cě hǎo that house (< *lủ*, Sl.)
klě hǎo that dog
kủ cỉ yũa klě hǎo; yũa klě ndǎw I don't want that dog there; (I) want that dog over yonder
thau hǎo then (at that time)
tủ.hǎo ɽáw That person is an idiot
ɽua lǎw le hǎo Follow it
- háo* (Tr) particle expressing suggestive exhortation
ñchai mblé yũa sǎ háo? The rice will (soon) be ripe, won't it?
hà le háo háo Very well, (we'll) say it's like that!
nủ.nũa, kủ.kủ le háo? Today, (it's) very hot, isn't it?

- káo nǎu.nǎu le háo?* You are very thin, aren't you?
khěη.khěη hlú le háo? (She's) growing well, isn't she?
- háohúa*⁺ phonemic variant of *fáofúa*⁺ 'the peacock-pheasant', q.v.
- háo*⁺ to mark, make a mark for a certain purpose
háo té⁺ to mark off a ladang
háo tháu⁺ to mark, brand, seal
- hǎu-* the highest point of an object, summit; the principal part of an object, main part; 'head' part (cf. *-hau-*)
hǎu-éon summit of a mountain
hǎu-plá forehead
hǎu-sáv the crown of the head
hǎu-sá chest (of body)
hǎu-tǎu knee-cap, knee
hǎu-mòη principal city or town (of a province), provincial capital
hǎu-ndú north ('summit of the sky')
táo hǎu-ndé in front
hǎu-páu fundament, fundamental(s), basis; root; base (i.e. supporting part); principal
hǎu-páu nǎ root of a tooth
- hau-* 1. head (both lit. and fig.); 2. head (in sense of a person who is in charge); 3. abbrev. for *hau-ǎo* 'village headman'; 4. the culminating point of certain objects and topographical features (cf. *hǎu-*)
hau-ǎo village headman, village chief
pua-hau headman; to be headman
tú.hǎo pua-hau That one is headman
túu-hau head (of living organism)
pláu-hau hair of the head
klao-hau bald-headed
ehéη-hau gray hair
cí té cāv tǎhau, yǎo hle hau When you move to a new place, you ought to change headmen
hau-sú arrow-head
hau-něη tip of a cross-bow stock
pǎ túu-hau fǎifúa 'head' of a flashlight, esp. the flashlight bulb
eú hau-kě a crossroads
- hau (lí)* cover, lid (for a box, pot, etc.)
- hau* (Sl) piece, chunk (seemingly restricted to meat)
mòη yúa p̄i.hau ηá (She) went to buy some meat
- hau* to boil, boil down, boil (food); to cook in water; to be boiled (cf. *ǎháu, mbau*)
hau qá to boil chicken
qá hau boiled chicken

- hau yáyén* to refine opium
hau yén id.
hàì páo.pé lú qáo háo lú hau pua mao Slice up a few tubers and cook them for supper
- hàu* to imbibe, inhale, (esp.) to drink, smoke (cf. *ηγào* 'to swallow')
hàu hǎw to drink liquor
hàu klé to drink water
hàu lúayén to smoke tobacco
hàu yáyén to smoke opium
hàu yén id.
hàu.hǎw qhí.hlua (R) the ceremony of drinking rice wine during the *qhí hlua* feast (if given to celebrate recovery from illness)
hàu.hǎw séη (R) the ceremony of drinking rice wine during the *qhí hlua* feast (if given to celebrate a birthday)
- háu* See below:
hàu hàu nóη to impregnate
- háu.páo* to purr (of cats); to breathe in the manner of a person afflicted with asthma
chò-miǎo háu.páo The cat is purring
- hǎw* to shout, yell, cry out
hǎw ñǎo id. ('to shout loudly') (< *ñǎo* 'to be loud, noisy')
hǎw cua cáehu ñchai to shout and make the animals afraid
- háu* (C) a clan name
háu (G) a masculine given name
- háu* (Int) yes, all right, 'as you say' (utterance expressing acquiescent affirmative response)
háu, kǐ ñǐú káo mǒη All right, I'll go with you
háu, pǐ.kí kú cua túa ñǐú káo thǎη Yes, tomorrow I'll come again and have a good talk with you
- hǎw* to salute by placing hands together palm to palm and raising them to a certain level of the body (e.g. stomach, chest, or face). The level decided on depends on the relative social status of the persons involved (= Th *wáj*, Pk *hé chǎng*)
- hè⁺ chǎη (lú)* camping-place or resting-place along the trail
hè⁺ to scare, terrify, frighten, molest (said of spirits and demons); to haunt (of spirits)
klán qhǎo.cǒη ci hè⁺ The Door Spirit will not haunt (us)
- hè⁺* See below:
púa hè⁺ hè⁺ to try to intimidate
- hěη* to be terrible, awful; to be severe, extreme; terribly, awfully, severely, extremely, very, overly, (too) much (Etym. s.w. *hǎw*, q.v.)
hěη hěη id. (with double emphasis)

- cí chũa hễ̄n* seldom
kủ tũ nã máo hễ̄n.hễ̄n le My tooth hurt terribly
nữ lủ ñchã̄n hễ̄n.hễ̄n le She is bleeding badly
mớ̄n ñã̄ cí zão hễ̄n.hễ̄n The Miao like to keep on moving (their) vil-
 lages continuously
hễ̄n (in) sá hễ̄n to be impatient
hēn to neigh, whinny
nễ̄n hēn The horse neighs
hớ̄n sã̄n Buddhist priest (≈ Y tũ^o cãw)
cễ̄ hớ̄n sã̄n temple, esp. Yon Buddhist temple
hớ̄n páo phonemic variant of *fớ̄n páo* 'hand-grenade, bomb', q.v.
hủ (lủ) jar, (esp.) large water-jar
hủ zế stone jar
hủ ðã̄n earthenware jar
ñđãu hủ the mouth of a jar
hủ lão lão cry for calling horses
hủ (L) in, within, inside, at
hủ lủ.cễ̄ in the house
sã̄n hủ down below (< *sã̄n* 'side', Sl.)
tão hủ inside, in
mũa chũa cãu hủ qhão.ñđãu Put the medicine in (your) mouth
hủ lủ s̄hãw while
hủ nã̄n lủ.tỹ in the snake's body
hủ ñjũa ñjã̄n between
hủ plãw among, within, in the midst of a group or section
hủ gã̄n below, under
hủ qhão.ñđãu in (your) mouth
hủ qhủ in the kettle
hủ tẻ at (or) in the field
lủ ñjão hủ gã̄n inside on the bottom
ñjẻ kủ ñáo hủ klẻ fish who live in the water
sỉ mblẻ hủ qhão.tỹ to dip out rice from the mortar with one's hands
 ('take hand, dip rice out from mortar')
cễ̄ ñáo ñjã̄n hủ The house is down below
qũ.mẻ ñáo hủ.gã̄n kủtẻ̄n The pencil is under the stool
lủ qgão mớ̄n của hủ hãeỉ The boat went to the ocean
mũa ði.tũ nã̄n ñáo hủ There was a snake living inside
tã̄n sáo kũa mbua qgã̄n hủ cễ̄ Stop the pig from entering the
 house
hủ to be clean, neat, nice
hủ sá to be immaculate
qũa hủ fresh air, pure air

- lí.tái nũa cì hũ* This cup is not clean
chũa cúa kũa hũ sá Clean up the room!
- hũ* to sharpen, whet, hone
hũ cǎ to sharpen a knife
žé hũ whetstone, grindstone
- hũšì* altogether, all, both
hũ-qũa-šì id.
- hũ.hũ* completely, all (of a number), every single one
tǎŋ hũ.hũ id. (< *tǎŋ* 'to be finished, come to the end')
mblón yũa žěŋ tǎŋ hũ.hũ The leaves will all fall off
- hu* to call, summon; to be called; to be named; to pray to
hu ŋáú to sing songs
hu plǐ to call souls
hu ɖua.le.žǎŋ? What is it called?
hu le žǎŋ? id.
món hu klán.ndú The Miao prayed to the Sky Deity
pón plǐ lǎw, hu ɖua.néŋ, hu plǐ. (If you) have lost some 'souls',
 (you) call the shamen, (who will) call the 'souls' back
 Question (holding up a book): *nũa lí.mbe hu ɖua le žǎŋ?* What's
 the name of this? What do you call this?
 Answer: *lí.mbe hu ɖua ndǎw.* It's called *ndǎw*
- hu~hu-láo* to be voracious
- hũšǎŋ* Buddhist priest (cf. *hónšǎŋ*)
- hũ.šúa* (*hũ.šáú*) sand, sandy (cf. *šúa pũa* 'sandy place')
páo.žé hũ.šúa pabbles, coarse sand, gravel
ndũ hũ.šúa shore of a sand-bank, sandy shore (< *ndũ* 'edge')
hǎŋ-hũ.šúa expanse of sand, desert
- hũ.cũ* approximately, about
hũ.cũ pè-cǎw nú? Approximately how many days?
kũ tau hǎu kǎfě hũ.cũ čau ndǐ I drank approximately six cups of
 coffee
- hũ*⁺ goods, merchandise, 'things'
mũa hũ⁺ to sell things
yũa hũ⁺ to buy things, go shopping
- hũ*⁺ (*fũ*⁺) (*klǎi*⁺) (N) small box, any small container (round or square), e.g.-
 shoe-box, compass-case; any small vessel used as a container for non-
 edible matter; (SI) small boxful, small containerful
hũ⁺ *ɖǎ* id.
hũ⁺ *mũaeĩ* cartridge box
hũ⁺ *čau yéŋ* cup filled with boiled-down opium
hũ⁺ *ndǎu yéŋ* opium tin (round container, 7×3 cm)
- hũ*⁺ (*fũ*⁺) to agree, be in concordance with

- hú⁺ šá* to be satisfied with, to agree with
ci šì hú⁺ don't agree (as evidence)
hà hú⁺ Agreed
túa hú⁺ ɲua kě to join in, participate, cooperate (< *ɲua kě* 'to be together')
cāw ɲua.le.ʔǎŋ lǎo pé yǎo hà kúa hú⁺ However it may be, we must come to an agreement
húa (G) a masculine given name
húa (J) if, if by chance, supposing that, in the event that . . .
káo mǒŋ húa káo ci pú⁺ zé tǎw "If you go (away), you'll not see the stone blossom" (Miao legend)
hǔ (*hǔŋ*) extremely, very much so, terribly, terribly much, overly (Etym. s.w.a. *hěŋ*, q.v.) (< WM *hǔŋ*~*hěŋ*)
múa zú hǔ terribly strong
zǒŋ hǔ lǎw extremely good
šǎ khlau hǔ lǎw overripe
kǔ čhá hǔ I was awfully terrified
léŋ.núa mǒŋ.kě ɲua.tau hǔ This person is extremely good at travelling
món kǎŋ cǐ zé.zǎo tǎu hǔ The Miao like to keep on moving (their) villages continuously
hǔŋ phonemic variant of *hǔ* 'extremely, very much so, terribly', q.v.

hl

- hlǎ* to sharpen (to a point)
hlǎ ʔw.mě⁺ to sharpen a pencil
hlài to cut, slice, incise
hlài mblé to cut rice, harvest rice
hlài tǎ to cut one's hand
hlài túa té.yáyéŋ to incise the principal opium ladangs
čǎ hlài The knife slices
síyíyě túa, mǒŋ hlài mblé (When) November comes, (we) go and harvest the rice

- hlán* (*eú*) belt, sash, girdle
ša hlán to put on a belt, put on a sash
hlán ñá silver belt
hlán ñà baby carrying-cloth
ndàu táw hlán to embroider a sash
- hlán* to scald
klé kú hlán scalded by hot water
- hlǎn* to grow (of plants); to put forth shoots; to bud forth
mblé hlǎn The rice is growing
ηά hlǎn tumor
- hlan* to pass (over), go over, cross over; over, across
hlan tsháo to go over a bridge
túa tsháo hlan klé to build a bridge across a stream
hlan klé, yǎo hle qhau (When) crossing a stream, you take off your shoes
- hláo* See below:
plán hláo calf (of leg)
- hlao* (RM) completely
tì hlao to turn around
ηǎo hlao to swallow
ñjèη hlao to believe completely
lèη hlao to completely receive
chài hlao to translate, interpret
càw hlao to pick up
kǔ hlao šau pw to carry well on the shoulder
- hlǎu* to project, stick out
hlǎu mblǎi to put out the tongue
- hlau* 1. iron; 2. (a) hoe
tšǎ hlau railroad track ('iron track')
ché tšǎ.hlau railroad train
sǔ hlau wire
ñja hlau (a) nail
ehaη hlau steel
tsháo hlau iron bridge (i.e. a railroad bridge)
hlau cúa chisel
hlau tšá magnet
múa tšá lǎ, tàì hlau to grasp iron with tongs
- hlǎw* to burn (something)
hlǎw hyáη to burn incense
hlǎw ndǎw to burn paper
hlǎw té to burn the field (i.e. to burn the dried and cut-down trees and vegetation on the patch of ground to be used as a ladang)

sányē túa, yúa mōn hlāw té (When) March comes, (we) must go and
burn off the ladangs

hlàw bead; marble (cf. *qai žé*)

hlé (lú) (a) grave (cf. *qhāo nzaŋ*)

hle 1. to remove the outer layer of an object; to pull off, peel off; to skin;
2. to unfasten, untie; to come unfastened (cf. *làw*)

hle.làw id.

hle chao to take off clothing, undress

hle.làw tăw to skin, pull off the skin

hle tăw.ndoŋ to peel off bark

hle qhau to take off one's shoes

ci hsáo múa kháuklúa hle Do not take the bandage off

kóŋ hle lăw The needle fell out (of the instrument)

hli to pour

múa hli id.

hli (lú) 1. (N) moon; month; 2. (SI) one of the twelve consecutive months
of the year (depending on the preceding numeral); (loosely) month
(in general)

lú.hli the moon [Note: The Moon is called *éi* 'father' by the Green
Miao]

hyaŋ.lú hli seven months

hyaŋ.hli July (the seventh month)

lú hyaŋ.hli id. [preferred usage]

pè-căw.lú hli? How many months?

pè-căw.hli? id.

áo-pé.hli several months

lú.hli táo.ndé last month, the previous month

qă.hli moonlight ('to be moon-bright')

ňjău hli The Moon (as personification or deity) (< *ňjău* 'young man,
youth')

hli ŋjăŋ 1. The moon is full; full moon; 2. 'The moon is in full
bloom'

hli sá new moon

hli ŋi moonlight

qă hli ci qă? Is the moon shining?

klăŋ náo hli lunar eclipse

ní.núa hli sá Now the moon is waxing

hli tâŋ The 15th (final) day of the waning period of the moon (with
disk entirely obscured) (lit. 'moon finish')

hli phua qán thón sá yí† The 8th day of the waxing period of the
moon (with half-disk illuminated) (lit. 'the 8th [day when] the
waxing moon is split in half')

hlí.tân hyon.tân The 15th day of the waning moon (coincides with)
New Year's day

nú.núa hlí sá le t̃ân? What day of the waxing moon is it today?

hlí η̃p̃ mà ñchai ññ yúa lù When the moon wanes, I'm afraid it
might rain

hlõη to change, make a change; to substitute (cf. *nz̃ñ*)

hlõη z̃ân to change clothes

hlõη túaññ to change people

ðí.nú hlõη ðáo.pé.cân z̃ân to change clothes several times in one
day

hlõη c̃é to move (one's dwelling-place) (< *c̃é* 'house')

hlõη z̃áo id. (< *z̃áo* 'village')

kũ yúa hlõη.z̃áo m̃ñ ñáo của s̃ath̃ân I want to move to (Khun)
Sathaan (< *m̃ñ ñáo* 'go and live in')

hlí to be large (in sense of having grown large); to increase in size; to
grow up, grow big, become mature, become adult; to be one of greater
age or rank (Etym. s.w.n.)

ẽáw hlí to mature, grow up

klé hlí flood waters

t̃ua hlí big wind

hlí q̃ua z̃ú túa to grow up

q̃ua-hlí adult, (village) elder

kh̃ñ kh̃ñ hlí le háo? She's growing well, isn't she?

ðua hlí (village) headman

-*hlí* [K] kinship term denoting one who is the eldest, the first-born, of
greater age, or who is the principal person in a certain kinship hierarchy
(Etym. s.w.p.)

tú-hlí (K) eldest son

ñá-hlí (K) first wife

ẽi-kl̃ân-hlí (K) eldest brother (married woman speaking)

m̃úa-hlí (K) elder sister (man speaking)

ñá-hlí (K) eldest brother (unmarried girl speaking)

hlí to love (as parent to child, God to man), i.e. 'a condescending love'
(Con. *ñá*)

lí s̃á hlí covetous heart

ñw hlí s̃úakl̃áw He loves everyone

hlí (RM) intensely, greatly, hard (of wind or rain)

ñân lù hlí hlí It's raining very hard

t̃ua ñj̃áw hlí The wind is blowing furiously

t̃i hlí f̃úa h̃ñ to burn intensely (< *t̃i* 'to burn')

ðua.le.t̃ân hyon.núa t̃ua ñj̃áw hlí ðua.lúa? How is it this year we
have had such high winds?

- múa* *πι.νι* *νάρ* *λή* *ήλί* *λάου* Then there came a day when the rain fell in great quantities!
- hlú* See below:
múa hlú to be conceited, be haughty
- hlúa* See below:
hyáy hlúa to stretch and bend (oneself) backward (< *hyáy* 'to stretch')
- hlua* (*eú*) rope, cord, string
ghi hlua 1. to tie string; 2. (R) a magical ceremony
khla hlua to skip rope
hlua túa ndù [W] treadle (actually a cord attached to the ankle of the weaver's right foot and which raises the heddle horses when she kicks backward)
hlua khúa sling (of a rifle)
hàu hǎw ghi hlua ceremonial consumption of rice wine
πι.ξhua eú hlua one jerk of a rope
hlua nǎη bow-string
- hlúa* to be young (of people), be unmarried (Etym. s.w.n.)
hlúa.ηgáu to be young, unmarried (of women) (< *ηgáu* 'girl')
hlúa.ñjáu to be young, unmarried (of men) (< *ñjáu* 'young man')
lǎη hlúa hlúa young person
tǎη hlúa to come of age
hǎo hlúa núa these young people
qúa-hlúa unmarried young person
hlúa.ηgáu ζοη.ηgáu tǎη ñchao le the most beautiful girl
lǎu ηγ† quá-hlúa An old husband ruins a young wife!
- hlúa* [K] kinship term (Etym. s.w.p.)
nǎ-hlúa (K) wife's sister (man speaking); female cousin who is younger than ego (woman speaking)
tài-hlúa (K) younger maternal aunt (i.e. mother's younger sister) (man speaking); younger sister (woman speaking)
- hlw* brain
hlw ehan marrow
- hlw* (*hlw*) See below:
šǎw hlw to blister, raise a blister
lǎu.taw šǎw hlw The heel is blistered
- hlw* to suck, inhale
hlw hlw to slurp up (when drinking)

hs

- hsáo* (*eháo, sáo*) don't, do not (prohibitive) (= Th *jàa*, Ml *jangan*) (cf. *ci* 'not')
- ci hsáo* id. (< *ci* 'not')
- hsáo hà* Don't speak
- hsáo môn* Don't go
- hsáo kháw qhǎo.mũa* Do not rub your eyes
- ci hsáo pua khua* Don't do it again
-

hy

- hyán* (*cw*[†]) (R) (Ch) spirit-offering, (esp.) incense, joss-sticks (cf. *hyèŋ* 'to sacrifice') (cf. Sz *hiāng* 'incense')
- hlǎw hyán* to burn incense
- ñá.eá hyán ndǎw* spirit-money (crude paper money used as an offering to the spirits) (< *ñá.eá* 'money', *ndǎw* 'paper')
- úa.cw*[†] *hyán* nine joss-sticks
- hyán* 1. Sl. for one of a pair of bilaterally symmetrical objects or objects closely associated with these, e.g. cheeks, ears, shoes; 2. Sl. for one of a pair of bilaterally associated objects, e.g. two opposing walls (cf. *ehài, sán*)
- ðáo.hyán qhǎo-cù* two arm-pits
- ðáo.hyán sú.ñjan* two (opposing) walls
- sú ei ðáo.hyán* two cheeks; two cheek-bones
- sú pù ðí.hyán* one shoulder
- ðí.hyán qhau* one shoe

- ῥι.ηυάη ἡῖέ* one ear
ῥία μάα ῥι.ηυάη ἡῖέ σί He has only one ear
ῥι.ηυάη ῥῆλυ σί ἡύ One cheek isn't clean
- ηυάη* to stretch (out)
ηυάη ἡλύα to stretch and bend (oneself) backward
ηυάη τέ to stretch out the hand
- ηυᾶῆ* phonemic variant of *ηυαη* 'to give birth', q.v.
- ηυαη* (*ηυᾶῆ*) to give birth (to), be born [Note: This verb actually refers to all mammalian life; in polite speech, however, some speakers do not use it in reference to human beings, the euphemism *γύ* 'to provide food for' being preferred] (cf. *σέη*)
ηυαη ἡύα to give birth to offspring (either human or animal)
ηυαη ἡι-ἡύα id.
ηυαη ἡύα ἡέλύαη a difficult (child-)birth
ηυαη ἡύα γόηγῖ an easy (child-)birth
ηυαη ἡι-ἡύα ῥαι a quick birth
ηυαη tú to bear a son
ἡᾶ.ἡῦα ἡυαη ἡι-ἡύα λάῦ The sow has farrowed
ἡᾶ.ἡῦ ῥύα ἡυαη ἡύα The cow is going to calve
ῥύα-ῥύ ἡυαη ἡι-ἡύα λάῦ The woman has given birth to a child
ἡαυ-ῥάο εῖ ἡυαη λάοῦα.τέ The chief's father was born in Laos
- ηυαη* (Q) seven (7)
ηυαη.ῥᾶῦ seventy (70)
λί ἡυαη.ἡλί July, the seventh month
ῥᾶῦ.ἡυαη seventeen (17)
- ηυᾶῶ* to render obeisance to a dead person by holding incense and bowing with the knees held together (male descendants only) (cf. *πε*)
ηυᾶῶ ἡᾶ ἡυᾶῶ εῖ, εῆ ἡαυ ῥον "Reverence your parents and you will be well-off" (Miao proverb)
- ηυᾶῠ* to mix, blend (in cooking); to be mixed in, mixed with
ἡῖέ ἡυᾶῠ ἡᾶο fish and rice
ῥᾶ.ἡῦα ἡυᾶῠ ῥᾶῦ pork and vegetables (a dish)
ῥᾶ.ῥᾶ.ῥί ἡυᾶῠ ἡᾶῦ fried chicken mixed with string-beans
ῥᾶ.ἡαυ ἡυᾶῠ ῥᾶῦ boiled chicken and vegetables
ῥαι ἡυᾶῠ ἡᾶο eggs mixed with rice
- ηυέη* to shove, push (small objects only); to brush off (as crumbs from a table), flick off
- ηυῆῆ* (*ἡῦ*) dragon (Chinese type) (cf. *ῥᾶῆ*)
- ηυῆῆ* (G) a masculine given name
- ηυῆῆ* See below:
- ῥᾶ σί ἡυῆῆ* to be absent-minded (Syn. *ῥᾶ σί ῥᾶῦ*)
- ηυῆῆ*⁺ surplus, remaining

- hyí* to be liquid
- hyífán* (Ch) to be happy, joyful (cf. Sz *hì huān* 'to be happy')
- śá hyífán* id. (< *śá* 'heart')
- cì hyífán* unhappy
- hyón* bamboo
- cě hyón* house made of bamboo
- čán hyón* tube of bamboo
- eǐ hyón* bamboo sprouts (a food) (< *eǐ* 'fruit')
- hlài hyón* to cut bamboo
- klǎ hyón* bamboo spoon
- mǐ hyón* pointed bamboo peg
- múa hyón* *ɽua* made of bamboo
- mblón hyón* bamboo leaf
- hyon* (Sl) year (cf. *cé núa* 'last year')
- hyon núa* this year
- lw̄⁺ hyon* next year
- lw̄⁺ sá hyon* year after next
- ná hyon* every year, each year
- ná.hyon ná.hyon* all year long every year
- pláu hyon* four years
- hyon.núa cì žon; nǎn cì lǔ* This year was bad; rain did not fall
- Names (and Traditional Order) of the Twelve Cyclical Years :
- lúa hyon* 1. Year of the Rabbit
- žán hyon* 2. Year of the Great Serpent
- nán hyon* 3. Year of the Snake
- něŋ hyon* 4. Year of the Horse
- yán hyon* 5. Year of the Sheep
- lá hyon* 6. Year of the Monkey
- qá hyon* 7. Year of the Chicken
- klě hyon* 8. Year of the Dog
- mbua hyon* 9. Year of the Pig
- nǎŋ⁺ hyon* 10. Year of the Rat
- ñá⁺ hyon* 11. Year of the Ox
- cǔ hyon* 12. Year of the Tiger
- hyón* (C) a clan name
- hyón* (G) a masculine given name
- hyu* clarion (made of carabao horn)
- čhǔ hyu* to blow the clarion
- mǎ-hyu* a bugle
- hyú⁺* to practice, make oneself proficient; to be in accord with
- hyú⁺ lǎw* to try to follow
- hyú⁺ náo* to live in accord with

- hyú*[†] (G) a masculine given name
hyúa (*tú*) shrimp
hyúa to emit a disharmonious sound, be discordant (of music)
qêñ hyúa The *qêñ* is disharmonious
qêñ núa žon; ci hyúa This *qêñ* is good; it does not grate (on the ear)
hyúa[†] *si*[†] to take care, be careful; to beware of, watch out for, be careful of
hyw (*tú*) a ghost apparition (cf. *klán*)
tú hyw id.
-

k

- ká* (*lí*) 1. market place, market; 2. store, shop; 3. city, town
cě ká market
ñjǎñ ká (down) in the market place, (down) in the city
ká.ǧua[†] (*čán*) back-rack, (esp.) back-board for carrying wood
ká (G) a feminine given name
ká yén id.
kǎ (*lí*) small box
kǎfě (T) coffee (cf. Th *kaafes* 'coffee')
kǎ.ti itch (N)
kǎ then rattan (Syn. *kha thén*)
kǎ to change ones clan
kǎ sēñ[†] id.
kǎ (Tr) interrogative particle (cf. Y *kǎ?*)
žon kǎ? Is (it) good?
kǎ ehán wound, sore, boil, infection, ulcer, cut
kǎ chán lí ñchǎñ The wound is bleeding
hsáo kháv kǎ chán Do not scratch the sore
kǎ.ti[†] See below:
ei kǎ.h[†] lamyai fruit, cat-eye fruit (= Th *lamjaj*)
kàpōñ[†] (*lí*) (T) tin-can (cf. Th *kràpǒñ* 'tin-can')
ká (Tr) particle used to emphasize a preceding assertion (cf. Y *kàa*)
páu ká (I) know
kǎ to be separate
kǎ klé ði.ñjǎ separated a little farther

- kả* quickly, fast; in a hurry (cf. *kảw~kả*, *kả~kả*)
phía cì kả mớη He didn't hurry
- kả~kả* quickly, fast; in a hurry (cf. *kả*, *kảw~kả*)
mớη kả~kả to walk very quickly, walk in a hurry
- kả⁺* mark, brand (N)
ndàu kả⁺ to brand a mark (on a person)
- kả⁺* See below:
kả⁺ klua hỏ more than that
ớη kả⁺ hláo precious, most bright
kả⁺ klua lí.nú brighter than the sun
pháu kả⁺ klua lủa tẻ to know more than other people (i.e. to be conceited)
- kải kầu (tủ)* yellow-billed scimitar babbler, *Pomatorhinus mantanus nuchalis* (SS. 36. fig. 1)
- kải* (G) a masculine given name
- kảη (tủ)* 1. insect; 2. generic term for certain types of insects and crustacea (cf. *kớη*, *yớη*)
kảη lâu củ spider
kảη náo mblé rice beetle (< *náo mblé* 'to eat paddy')
kảη zả cáo locust
kảη cẩu ể crab (< *cẩu ể* 'crab')
kảη lâu chớη centipede, millipede
kảη lỉ chớη id.
kảη lỏ silkworm
kảη mùa ñjái firefly
kảη zả~zả cicada
- kảη.ổ⁺.chủa* 1. tea; 2. fermented leaves of the tea plant chewed as a cud (≅ Th *mỉaη*)
ndon kảη.ổ⁺.chủa the wild tea-plant, *Thea chinensis* Seem. (≅ Th *tổn mỉaη*, W. 616)
hàu klé kảη.ổ⁺.chủa to drink tea
- kảη* (Sl) line, mark
kảη tẻ lines on palm of the hand
kủa pí.kảη to make a mark; to mark; to draw a line
kẻ pí.kảη to draw a scribbling line
- kảη* (Sl) complete inhalation (of opium)
pí.kảη yẻη one complete inhalation of opium (when smoking), one 'puff' of opium, one 'pipe' (i.e. pipeful) of opium
kảη táo.qảη (the) last pipe (of opium) (< *táo.qảη* 'behind')
kảη tảη.ñẻhao id.
- kảη* (G) a given name either masculine or feminine
kảηhủ (T) (Pl) Kang Ho, name of a Green Miao village (< Y *kảη hỏ*)

- kán* (in) *sv̄ kán* the Protecting Deity, q.v.
kǎn (*tú*) stem, stalk, trunk, stem-like part of any artifact
kǎn kúli stem of opium pipe
kǎn ndon tree trunk
kǎn pháo barrel (of a gun)
kǎn to govern
kǎn té.t̄h̄aw to govern a country
kǎn to be on time, in time
túa kǎn lí.s̄h̄aw lí.t̄h̄i hǎo to arrive in time for the festival
kǎn See below :
ēn̄ kǎn pua Go ahead and do it ; (or) Do it freely without hindrance
ē† kǎn pua id.
ēn̄ kǎn th̄an̄ Go ahead and converse
ē† kǎn th̄an̄ id.
kǎn See below :
cì kǎn nevertheless, despite the fact
pua.t̄h̄an̄ cì kǎn anyhow, however ; at any rate
pua.le.t̄h̄an̄ cì kǎn id.
sú n̄j̄on kú múa cǎ.lí.sú cì kǎn, cì p̄† n̄n lú há Despite the fact that
there was thunder and lighting, (I) didn't see it rain
kàn (*tú*) worm, maggot
kán Sl. for *fúa* 'cloud'
pé.kán fúa three clouds
kán to be bright, light, shining, clear ; to shine (cf. *chǎn*- 'to shine (of the sun)')
kán.ndú daylight ; dawn ; to get light (< *ndú* 'sky')
kán.ndú p̄†.ké to be bright and shining (< *p̄† ké* 'to see the trail')
kán.hũ to clear up (of weather or sickness) ; to be bright (of weather
or countenance) ; to be unclouded
kán.hũ lǎw lào cì tau? Has it cleared up yet?
kán (G) a feminine given name
kǎn̄ to be accustomed to, used to ; ever (cf. *chan̄, ēn̄, s̄aw*)
cì kǎn̄ unaccustomed to, not accustomed ; never
kǎo cì kǎn̄ never
zào kán̄hú, káo môn̄ kǎn̄ kǎ? Have you ever gone to the village of
Kang Ho?
kǎn̄ to dare to, be willing to
kǎn̄ čao ēú.sǎ to lay down one's life
môn̄ cì kǎn̄ klé.klé (He) is not a good traveller ("dare not go far")
káo kǎn̄ môn̄ cì kǎn̄? Would you be willing to go?
káo.s̄†.chúa tea (cf. *kán̄.s̄†.chúa*)
káo Sl. for rain, fevers (cf. *plúa*)

- ṛi.káo mbaw* a bout of fever
ṛi.káo nân a shower of rain
kăo to touch
kăo . . . kâñ accustomed to, used to, ever (< *kâñ* 'to be accustomed to')
kăo ci kâñ never
káo (Pr) you, your (2nd person singular)
káo ñjũ kũ you and I
káo le yours, as for you
ṛáo lén káo mblón káo, kũ mblón kũ The two of them wandered their separate ways (< *mblón* 'to wander' + *kũ* 'I, me')
káo to accuse; to sue (in a legal proceeding)
ṛáo.tũ hăo ceñ ði.káo Those two people are involved in a legal dispute (i.e. the one suing the other)
káu (*lí*) reel, spool (said in reference to a tape-recorder)
ṛi.lí káu one reel, one spool
káu (G) a masculine given name
mblá-káu id.
kău (*tũ*) barking-deer, *Cervulus muntjac* (= Th *ṛii kên*, Y *faan*, G: 19.48)
kău body dirt
chúa nzúa kău soap (< *chúa* 'medicine' + *nzúa* 'to wash off')
kău to cover, pull over, cover up
kău ñgàu completely covered up
kău vécañ to put up a mosquito-net
ñjũ tsháo kău táu-hau to pull a blanket over the head
ndáu kău nân waterproof cloth
kau to lament, moan; to howl
tshúa kau The gibbon is howling
yí kau a type of partridge ('the moaning partridge')
kàu (*lí*) (a) shade or coverage as characterized by an umbrella or parasol
kàu ndáu umbrella (< *ndáu* 'cloth')
kàu ndăw parasol (< *ndăw* 'paper')
kàu to scrape, grate
káu (*lí*) coil; loop, noose; circle, ring
káu.tshén wheel; loop
ṛáo.lí káu.tshén two wheels; two loops
káu.tshén čau láukáu circular wooden support used to hold the rice-pot upright when placed on the table
káu kháv.ñjé earring (< *kháv.ñjé* 'earring')
káu hlua loop of rope, noose of rope
káu nă loop of silver, (esp.) silver earring
káu vine
káu.mán vine, climber; grape vine

- ẽi kâu.mán* (a) grape
kâu.mán ʒhě The vine is curled up
kâu cái chin
kâu ti[†] (kâu ti) wing, fin (\cong Syn. *ti[†]*; informant stated, however, that *kâu ti[†]* is the preferred form)
kâu ti[†] ndán bee's wing
kâu ti[†] nõn bird's wing
kâu ti[†] ñjê fin (of a fish)
kâu ti[†] ché.yan.ndú wing of an airplane
kâu Sl. for *ẽua* '(a) step'
ɸi.kâu ẽua one step
kâu (kâu) (lú) tusk, fang (of mammals); ivory
kâu nã teeth, (esp.) front teeth (of humans); fang; long tusk-like teeth (< *nã* 'tooth')
kâu nehí elephant tusk
kâu ñdjàu bill, beak (of birds) (cf. *gáu*)
ʒá kâu plàn tweezers
túa kâu to germinate, sprout (from a seed) ('to come up with tusks') (< *túa* 'to come')
ɸua kâu to sprout (from a seed) (< *ɸua* 'to do, make, be')
mblé ɸua.kâu sprouting rice
túa.kú túa.kâu to grow horns and tusks
kâu (Sl) mouthful (of food), bite (of food)
ɸi.kâu one mouthful (of food), a bite (to eat)
kâu (lú) angle, corner, (esp.) sharp corner
tẽn.kâu triangle, (esp.) three-cornered piece of cloth used as an amulet
pláu lú.kâu a quartered circle
món tẽn.kâu name of a Miao tribe (See *món* 'Miao')
kâu (Qs) ten (10) (cf. *ʒáu*)
kâu.ɸí eleven (11)
kâu.ɸáo twelve (12)
lú kâu.hli October, the tenth month
kãw (G) a masculine given name
kaw (čán, tú) saw (implement)
čán.kaw (the) saw, (a) saw
tú.kaw id.
mĩ-kaw hand-saw
kaw-klán neck
kaw to close, shut
kaw qhão.čón to shut the door
kaw to saw

- kaw ndoŋ* id.
cě kaw ndoŋ saw-mill
múa tú.kaw, kaw ndoŋ to saw wood with a saw
- kàw (tú)* toad
kàw tàw The toad hops
- kàw (G)* a masculine given name
- kàw* phonemic variant of *qàw* 'wart', q.v.
- kâw* to be the end, be finished, be last, be ultimate (cf. *tâŋ* 'to be finished, be used up')
- kâw ngàu* ultimate, superlative (< *ngàu* (RM) 'to the fullest extent')
- žoŋ kâw ngàu* best, perfect
- ñâ⁺ kâw ngàu* to like (love) to the fullest extent of one's power
- èau ñchai kâw* It is most frightful
- lí.zào núa múa túanêŋ cãw kâw* In this village, live the least number of people
- ŋ.chì cì kâw* forever, without end, eternal
- kâw~kâ* quickly, fast; hurriedly
mỏŋ kâw~kâ to walk quickly, walk hurriedly, go quickly, go in a hurry
- kâw~kâ mỏŋ* id.
mỏŋ kâw~qúa-kâ id.
kâw~kâ mỏŋ ɣaŋ Hurry up and carry it
kâw~kâ le túa Come quickly
kâw~kâ mỏŋ yàw kháuklúa lú ɣa Go quickly and bring the clothes in (off the line)
- kũ mỏŋ kâw~kâ ɣán nẻŋ túa* I'll go quickly and bring the horse
- kâw⁺ (lí)* pack-basket with straps to go over the shoulders
hlua kâw⁺ straps of the pack-basket
mỉ-nehai múa kâw⁺ mỏŋ žoŋ ñchã záu The little girls take their pack-baskets and go into the jungle to look for vegetables
- kâw⁺ chì (tú)* an unidentified rodent ('the impertinent one') (Syn. *klě pâu* q.v.)
- kâw⁺* to learn, study
kâw⁺ ndãw to learn (from books), study (a book)
tú kâw⁺.ndãw student
- kâw⁺ chì* to be impertinent, insolent, fresh, forward, brash
- kâw⁺ (G)* a given name either masculine or feminine
- ké* cartridge-cap
- kě (kĩ) (éú)* road, trail, path, way
ɣua kě 1. to make a trail, build a road; 2. (fig.) to be together, together with, in company
mỏŋ kě to travel (< *mỏŋ* 'to go')

- ñjũ ðua.kě* to travel together, accompany
túa hũ ðua.kě to join in, cooperate
ñján kě the middle of the trail
ñjúa kě id.
pu⁺ kě 1. to see the trail; 2. (fig.) to be bright, clear
- kè* to mark; to scrape; to draw lines, make lines; to cross out, draw a line through
kè ði.kán to draw a scribbling line
kè pè klán pè túa to scribble
- kè⁺* partition; line, mark, stroke
ñjan kè⁺ partition (in a house)
ði.ğě kè⁺ a letter ('a body of strokes')
kè⁺ plán diaphragm (i.e. the muscular partition between the chest cavity and the abdominal cavity)
kè⁺ ká⁺ frontier, boundary line
žũ kè⁺ ká⁺ to guard the border
- kè⁺* to control (demons), cast out (demons)
kè⁺ klán mǝn id.
- kè⁺* to have disorders of the stomach (cf. *ğě⁺*)
kè⁺ quá to be constipated
máo qhán kè⁺ to have indigestion
plán kè⁺ id. (< *plán* 'stomach')
- kè⁺* separated
kè⁺ ði.nú every other day
kè⁺ klé ði.ñjĩ separated a little farther
kè⁺ ði.lú té.ğhaw sí only one country between them
- kén (lí)* beginning, commencement
lí.kén the beginning
kén púa id.
tú-kén kũ ñjěn the first one who believed
- kén (ğao)* ground, earth (cf. *ðán*)
kén ku lúá very wet ground, muddy ground
- kén* (SI) hour
náo ģăo.chúa núa ðáo.kén ði.plúa Take this powder once every two hours
- kén⁺* to enlist (men)
- kí* to fry (quickly with only a little fat or oil), (to) sauté, stir-fry, roast (in a pan with oil); to be fried (Con. *eén, nthen*)
kí čáo to be fried in fat
kí qá to fry chicken
ğá.qá kí fried chicken
páokv kí páñ popcorn ('corn [which is] pan-roasted [into a] flower') (< *páokv* 'corn, maize')

- kũtẽη* (Ch) stool, small seat (cf. Sz *kĩ* 'small table, stool'; Sz *tẽn* 'stool, bench')
- kĩ* to weigh (cf. *tẽη* 'scales')
- tẽη kĩ yẽη* scales for weighing opium
- mõη kĩ* to go and weigh (something)
- múa ẽãη.tẽη kĩ* to weigh on a scale
- kĩ* phonemic variant of *kẽ* 'road', q.v.
- ki* (Sl) pipefuls of tobacco
- ɸi.ki luayẽη* a pipeful of tobacco
- kì* to spread (of sickness), be contagious, be infectious
- eáw kì* id.
- máo kì* contagious disease
- máo.ẽua eáw kì* Leprosy spreads
- kì* See below :
- záu kì* the stinging nettle
- kì* thing, article, stuff; matter, happening
- kì.lúa* merchandise, products, articles of commerce (< *lúa* 'to do business')
- kì.láη kì.lúa* id.
- tù kì kláηçi?* What's the matter? What's happening?
- kì* morning
- táη.kì* id. (< *táη* 'time of day')
- táη.kì ẽáw.nzũ* early morning
- ɸi.táη kì* tomorrow morning
- ɸi.kì (ɸẽ.kì)* tomorrow
- ɸi.kì mao* tomorrow evening
- nú lái táη, táη.kì ẽáo túa ẽái* (Once again) they plowed (all) day until sun-down and in the morning came back to the ladang
- kì* (*kũe*, *kũi*) (Ch) to be expensive, costly (Opp. *phẽnyi* 'to be cheap') (cf. Sz *kuéi* 'expensive')
- kì khlau hũ láu* to be too expensive
- kì* (G) a masculine given name
- kóη (tũ)* 1. needle, pin; 2. Sl. for injections (of medicine)
- kóη ehãη chũa* hypodermic needle
- ñáo kóη* love grass (See *ñáo*)
- thão káo ehãη kũ le mi-ñua ɸi.kóη ká* Please give my child an injection
- kóη* merit, reward; good luck
- yẽη kóη* id.
- tau mõη tau kóη* to obtain merit and luck; be prosperous
- kóη* [K] kinship term denoting the third degree of ascent
- ẽi-kũ-kóη* (K) great aunt's husband

