

# Navajo

Multivaluation @ Frankfurt

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## 1 Language Information

- Source: Young and Morgan (1980)
- Glottlog: <http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/nava1243>
- ISO-identifier: nav
- Speakers:
- Location: United States
- Geneology: Athabaskan-Eyak-Tlingit > Athabaskan-Eyak > Athabaskan > Apachean > Southwestern Apachean > Western Southwestern Apachean > Navajo

## 2 Nominal Morphology

There is a pluralizing prefix that marks plurality on the noun. Usually, it is not required because number is indicated on the verb. The pronouns have form for duoplural with the meaning 'two or more'.

## 3 Verbal Morphology

The number of the verb can be singular, dual, duoplural, or plural. It can be expressed by an incorporated pronoun, by the context, by a special verb stem or by the pluralizing prefix.

## 4 Conjunction

The coordinating conjunctions in Navajo are the following: *áádóó* 'and, and then', *áádóó bik'ijí* 'and then', *dóó* 'and', *-ii* 'and, and thereupon', *'índa*, *'índída* 'and then', and *ńt'ée'* 'but, so, and'.

- (1) Bìh sélhì 'áádóó hooghangóó nánìtì.  
?  
'I killed a deer and then carried it back home.' [Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 65]
- (2) T'óó ha'í'ánígo ndiish'na' dóó tá'ádésgiz 'áádóó bik'ijì' kintahgóó shìl dah  
?  
'adiilwod.  
  
'I got up at down and washed myself, and then after that I started for town.'  
[Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 65]
- (3) Ndiish'na' dóó 'íyáá.  
?  
'I got up and ate.' [Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 65]
- (4) Shí dóó shideezhí 'ólta'di 'iidáá.  
?  
'My younger sister and I ate at school.' [Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 65]
- (5) T'óó'góó ch'íníyáá dóó chidí bìl dah diilwod, kintahjigo.  
?  
'He went out and drove off in the car, headed for town.' [Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 65]
- (6) T'éédáá' lééchaá'í léi' nihìl yah 'íyáii' neeztì.  
?  
'Last night a (strange) dog came walking in on us and lay down.' [Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 66]
- (7) Bibee'eldòoh haiyílfhanii' 'ani'jìhí yil 'adeesdòoh.  
?  
'He jerked out his gun and shot the burglar.' [Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 66]
- (8) She'esdzáá tsin la' néidiitáii' náshidílfhaal.  
?  
'My wife picked up a stick and hit me.' [Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 66]
- (9) Nááts'ózi shida'niilhíí' nt'ée' t'áá shòq sih shaa nédiz'á.  
?  
'The Japanese were going to execute me, but fortunately they spared my life.'  
[Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 66]
- (10) Kintahdée' shìl ná'oolta' nt'ée' chidí bikee' la' sits'áá'.  
?  
'The Japanese were going to execute me, but fortunately they spared my life.'  
[Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 66]

## 5 Disjunction

*ka'apa* 'or' marks disjunction, *doodaii* 'or' and *doodago* 'or' as well.

- (11) si tuama ka'apa si wəwene  
CLASS.MARKER-man CONJ CLASS.MARKER-woman  
'the man or the woman' [Sneddon, 1975, p. 149]
- (12) Tó doodaii' abe' ndlâ.  
?  
'Either drink water or milk.' [Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 65]
- (13) Łizhinígíí doodaii' hichí'ígíí shaa ní'aah.  
?  
'Give me either the black one or the red one.' [Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 65]
- (14) Bíni 'íidéeshtah. Doodago 'éiyá yóó 'adeeshwol.  
?  
'Let me go to school or else I'll run away.' [Young and Morgan, 1980, p. 65]

## 6 Postpositions

Some of the postpositions can contract with adverbials, some with nouns.

1. *-yaa* 'under'
2. *-de* 'above'
3. *-naa* 'across'
4. *-tah* 'among'
5. *-k'i* 'on, on top of'
6. *-iih* 'into'
7. *-ii* 'within, inside of'
8. *-it* 'with, in company with'

## References

- Sneddon, James N. (1975). *Tondano Phonology and Grammar*. Canberra: The Australian National University.
- Young, Robert W. and William Morgan (1980). *The Navajo Language: Grammar and Colloquial Dictionary*. Albuquerque: University of New Mexico Press.