

# Sonora Reference Grammar

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y      y

*MarcinOn*

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# 1 OVERVIEW

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## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

Sonora is a long-term, ever unfinished project largely created just as an artform – art in the form of language. It is a constructed language – a *conlang* – which has been designed for no purpose other than artistic pursuit. It is not meant to be entirely realistic or easily useable, nor is it ever intended to be fluidly spoken nor used as a form of communication. Sonora is instead a project that has served to teach me many linguistic concepts and terminology while making something unique in a niche that very few ever enter.

This project has grown much from its original intention as one of many languages for a tabletop role-playing game world (until I learned how hard it is to actually make a language) to its new state as a personal art project. As it is tied to me and my views of the world, many of the decisions made in the creation of this language have to do with bits and pieces of my own life experience. As a hobbyist programmer, the numeral system is hexadecimal, referent pronouns act as if establishing variables, and adjectives are noun-based – or object-oriented. Though the language is *a priori* (or the words are made up with no basis in evolution from an ancestor language), you may see influence from English and Polish – the two languages I speak – as well as French, German, Irish, Icelandic, and Finnish – the languages I hope one day to be able to speak. You may even be able to find references to various fandoms in the lexicon if you look closely.

Despite my best efforts, as I am not a linguist this grammar may yet be full of errors and inconsistencies. The language could even prove to not be at all functional to a discerning eye. It seems functional enough to mine and that's enough. However, it may be that somewhere down the line this grammar is revisited and heavily revised – it wouldn't be the first time.

The intention behind this reference grammar is not to be a way of teaching or learning the language of Sonora. It is instead intended to be used as a comprehensive structure of the language, and can be used as a guideline when translating to or from Sonora – indeed, that is my most common use of it. As part of this, it is not written as a linguistic study or broken down into the most scientific terms, for the intention remains to keep this a useable handbook moreso than a truly expansive point-by-point detailing of the language. Indeed, I doubt Sonora would hold up to such scrutiny.

This guide is structured in steadily increasing scope – the first sections describing phonology and word formation, the next the various word classes and their unique morphology and use cases, then building out to syntax with word order and clauses, and finally presenting a phrasebook and sample texts that bring the language together.

You will also find examples throughout with glosses and translations, typically presented in the following four-line format. Note that Sonoran text is written vertically and has been rotated for ease of layout.

↘↘	↘↘↘↘	↘↘↘↘↘↘	↘↘↘↘↘↘↘↘	↘↘↘↘↘↘↘↘↘↘	↘↘↘↘↘↘↘↘↘↘↘↘	○
<i>kjs</i>	<i>jstrj</i>	<i>serja</i>	<i>wljn</i>	<i>wrbwme .</i>		
PART.PRS.SMPL	star.PL	shine	during	night.LOC		
‘The stars shine throughout the night.’						

In summary, Sonora is and will forever remain a personal project and nothing more. As such, this reference grammar is a simple extension of that project – a physical marker of the time and effort put in and perhaps a conversation starter on the coffee table. Yet despite this, I hope this grammar might still manage to spark an interest and appreciation for linguistics and language as an art form in any who decide to pick it up.

MarcinOn, 2023

## 1.2 GLOSSES AND LIST OF TERMS

This book utilizes Leipzig Glossing Rules, although it follows them rather loosely. The following is a list of glosses and their related terms.

1	1 <sup>st</sup> person	INCL	inclusive
2	2 <sup>nd</sup> person	INS	instrumental
3	3 <sup>rd</sup> person	INTJ	interjection
ACC	accusative	INTR	interrogative
ADV	adverb	IPFV	imperfective
AN	animate	LOC	locative
ALE	alethic	MUT	mutative
AUG	augmented	NEG	negative
CL	clitic	NOM	nominative
CONJ	conjunction	PART	particle
CPV	comparative	PC	paucal
DAT	dative	PER	permissive
DES	desiderative	PFV	perfective
DET	determiner	PL	plural
DIM	diminutive	POT	potential
DIR	directed	PREP	preposition
EQV	equative	PRS	present
EXCL	exclusive	PST	past
EXH	exhibitive	REFL	reflexive
FPST	far past	RFR	referent
FUT	future	SG	singular
GEN	genitive	SMPL	simple
IMP	imperative	SPV	superlative
INAN	inanimate	SBRD	subordinating

## 2 PHONOLOGY

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### 2.1 CONSONANTS

Sonora has an inventory of 14 consonants, many of which undergo allophony under various conditions. Each consonant phoneme present including all allophonic variants can be found in this chart.

	Bilabial	Labio-dental	Dental	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar
<b>Plosive</b>	p			t d		k g
<b>Nasal</b>	m			n	ɲ	ŋ
<b>Trill</b>				r		
<b>Fricative</b>		f v	θ~ð	s~z	ç	x~ç
<b>Approximant</b>				l	j	
<b>Affricates</b>		pʃ		tʃ dʒ		kx ɣy

Of these 23 sounds, 14 are presented as basic letters, found in the following list.

⟨p t k d g f v s ʃ h m n l r⟩  
[p t k d g f v s θ x m n l r]

#### 2.1.1 Voicing

Fricatives assimilate voicing of adjacent stops. When preceding or following a voiced stop [d g], unvoiced fricatives become voiced. Additionally, whenever any unvoiced fricative is found adjacent to [v], it becomes voiced to match.

⟨f s ʃ h⟩  
[v z ð ç]

Similarly, the sole voiced fricative becomes unvoiced when preceding or following an unvoiced stop [p t k]. It does not adjust to match adjacent unvoiced fricatives.

⟨v⟩  
[f]

#### 2.1.2 Palatalization

The vowel [i] palatalizes certain consonants quite forcefully. Whenever any of the following consonants are followed by the vowel (j), they palatalize. However, except in the case of the nasal, this palatalization also makes

plosives become fricatives, uniting them into a similar sound with a slightly different onset.

⟨p t k h n⟩  
[p̥ç t̥ç k̥ç ç n]

**2.1.3 Velarization**

Nasal sounds velarize when preceding velar sounds [k g].

⟨n⟩  
[ŋ]

**2.1.4 Affricates**

Combinations of plosives and fricatives form affricates when placed together.

⟨pf ts ds kh gh⟩  
[p̥f̥ t̥s̥ d̥s̥ k̥x̥ g̥y̥]

**2.2 VOWELS**

Sonora has 3 true vowels and 2 semivowels. There is no length distinction, but a pseudo-vowel harmony system increases the number of phonemes to a total of 7. These phonemes can be found in the following table.

	Front	Center	Back
Close	i ɪ		u
Mid	ɛ ø		o
Open		a	

These sounds are written as the following.

⟨a e j o w⟩  
[a ɛ i o u]

**2.2.1 Semivowels and Diphthongs**

Sonora’s semivowels are [i] and [u]. Whenever found adjacent to another vowel, they become consonants as seen below. This prevents the formation of true diphthongs, which are not permitted in Sonora.

⟨j w⟩  
[j w]

When used together, ⟨j⟩ typically takes the place of the consonant, forming the following sounds.

⟨jw wj⟩  
[ju uj]

However, when ⟨w⟩ follows any stop ((p t k d g)), it instead takes the place of the consonant, forming these possibilities. (Note a single exception – the word ⟨kwj⟩ is realized as [‘kuj]).

⟨pwj twj kwj dwj gwj⟩  
[pwi twi kwi dwi gwi]

### 2.2.2 Vowel Harmony

Sonora has a system of pseudo-vowel harmony that changes vowel sounds when following certain consonants. Only vowels ⟨e o⟩ are affected by this system, as seen following.

⟨e o⟩  
[ɪ ø]

Words can follow either light harmony or dark harmony – light harmony is the default form and dark harmony has to be triggered. However, dark harmony can be prevented from triggering by the presence of a light harmony consonant. The following list shows light and dark harmony consonants.

Light	Dark
⟨p t k f⟩	⟨d g v ʃ⟩

The first of these consonants to appear in a word determines the harmony for the rest of the word, regardless of any other determining consonants within the word. Any vowels that precede a determining consonant follow light harmony, even if the rest of the word is dark.

تَـرَا  
*tera*  
[‘tɛ.ra]  
earth

پَاغْسَوْتْ  
*pagsot*  
[‘pag.zot]  
nail

اِكْوَسْ  
*ekwos*  
[‘ɛ.kwos]  
equality

وِلْ  
*vel*  
[‘vɪl]  
water

دْرَاكُونْ  
*drakon*  
[‘dra.køn]  
dragon

اَوْرُوْمْ  
*ogrom*  
[‘o.grøm]  
giant

## 2.3 PHONOTACTICS

Maximally, the syllable structure of Sonora permits syllables of CCCVCCC, within a set of rules that have minimal exceptions – typically for interjections. Geminate letters are never permitted in Sonora.

### 2.3.1 Nucleus

The nucleus of the syllable V stands for either a single vowel or a combination of one vowel and one semivowel in any order, forming make-shift diphthongs.

### 2.3.2 Onset

Onset consonants must follow the following pattern, and in general can only contain two letters with one exception.

{s} | Stops: {ptkdg} | Stops | Fricatives: {fvsph} | Sonorants: {mnl} | {r}

These rules apply:

1. S can be followed by any consonant other than itself.
2. Any stop followed by another stop must match voicing and can only move inwards to alveolar sounds, allowing for only 3 Stop | Stop combinations: {pt}, {kt}, {gd}
3. Fricatives must match voicing to a stop they follow.
4. Stops and fricatives cannot be followed by nasals {m} or {n}.
5. {l} cannot be followed by {r}.
6. The only permitted three-letter onset cluster is {s} | Stop | {l} or {r}.

### 2.3.3 Coda

Codas similarly follow a pattern and cannot contain more than three consonants.

Sonorants: {mnlr} | Stops: {ptkdg} | Fricatives: {fvsph} | Stops | Stops | {r}

Once again, a set of rules applies:

1. {m} can only be followed by {p}, and must then immediately terminate.
2. {n} cannot be followed by {p}.
3. Any stop followed by another stop must match voicing and can only move inwards to alveolar sounds, allowing for only 3 Stop | Stop combinations: {pt}, {kt}, {gd}

4. 3-consonant codas must end with ⟨r⟩, but cannot be Sonorant | Fricative | ⟨r⟩.
5. As an exception to rule 4, 3-consonant codas can also be ⟨r⟩ or ⟨l⟩ | Stop | Stop, as long as it follows rule 3.

## 2.4 STRESS ASSIGNMENT

Sonora typically places stress on the second-to-last syllable of a word. However, words with three syllables or more that end in a consonant followed by an ⟨r⟩ will instead move the stress to the third-to-last syllable and give an optional secondary stress to the final syllable of the word.

اِسْكِيْتَر :

*esket*

[ˈes.ket]

skeleton

اِسْكِيْتَر :

*olgedam*

[olˈɡɪ.dam]

stench

اِسْكِيْتَر :

*lwmos*

[ˈlu.mos]

light

اِسْكِيْتَر :

*ortomatr*

[ˈor.to.matr]

clock

Note that words that have been formed by derivation from other words may sometimes break these rules, typically following the original stress of the first word that created the derivation and unstressing all following syllables.

There is no perfect pattern to find these and largely requires memorization.

اِسْكِيْتَر :

*posdeplat*

[ˈpoz.dɛ.plat]

lunch

اِسْكِيْتَر :

*avlwfapet*

[avˈlu.fa.pɪt]

airport



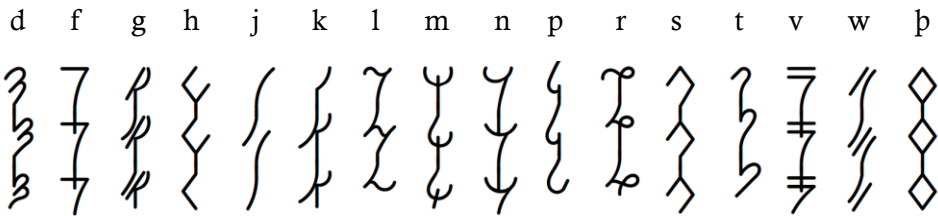
### 3 ORTHOGRAPHY

Sonora is written left to right across the page in a vertical alphasyllabary, where vowels are placed to the right of the consonant that they follow. The following orthography has been split into consonants and vowels to illustrate the differences between how each is written.

#### 3.1 CONSONANTS

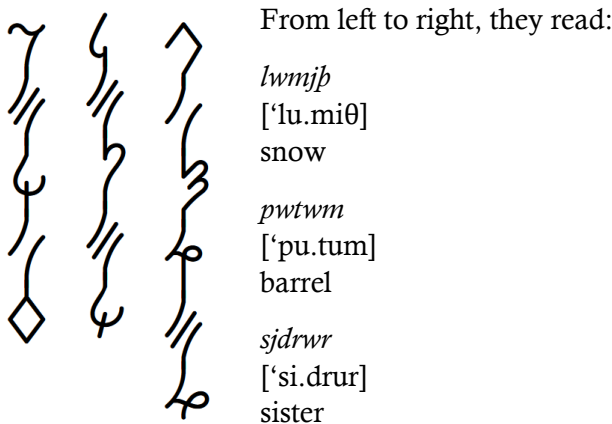
Consonants have three forms – initial, medial, and final. The first consonant of each word takes the initial form (even if preceded by a vowel) and the final consonant takes the final form (even if followed by a vowel).

Each consonant is shown in all three forms below.



Consonants are written in one chain with vowels added later, much like dotting is and crossing ts in cursive latin script. As the semivowels j and w are written as consonants, some words may appear to lack vowels, creating only one chain of letters.

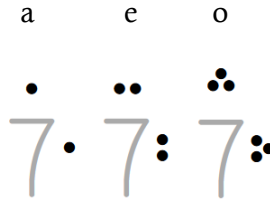
The following are examples of words written in Sonoran script.



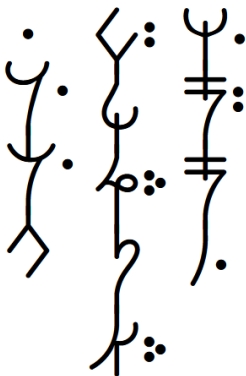
### 3.2 VOWELS

Vowels are comprised of dots which are added either at the top of the first consonant of a word or to the side of whichever consonant the vowel follows.

Each vowel is shown in both forms below, using a gray f to stand in for a consonant.



Vowels are added after all the consonants of a word are written and producing words such as:



From left to right, they read:

- ananas*  
[a'na.nas]  
pineapple
- hemrotko*  
[xem'rot.ko]  
fence
- mavevja*  
[ma'vi.vja]  
grandmother

### 3.3 NUMERALS

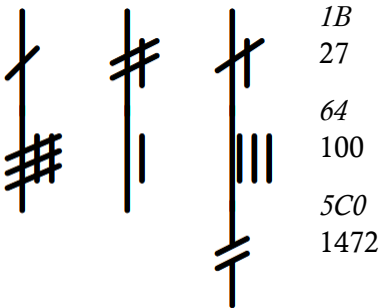
Sonora has a base 16 system, and thus has glyphs for all numerals from 0 to F.

Each numeral is shown below.



Such numerals are placed in sequence to form larger numbers, as seen below.

From left to right, these form:



### 3.4 PUNCTUATION

Sonora does not rely on a lot of punctuation, including only a full stop to end sentences (regardless of their type), a hyphen to add a side clause or for addition of referent pronouns, quotation marks to denote speech, and parentheses to denote clarifying material.

Sonora always includes a space both before and after a full stop, but not between an opening quotation mark or parentheses and the next letter or between a closing quotation mark or parenthese and the previous. Hyphens include spaces both before and after when used for side clauses, but utilise no spaces when used for referent pronouns.

Each type of punctuation is shown below with gray text for contextualization.



From left to right, these are:

A full stop.

A hyphen used for a side clause.

A hyphen used for a referent pronoun.

Opening and closing quotation marks.

Opening and closing parentheses.

### 3.4.1 Combining Punctuation

Some punctuation can be used in tandem – most commonly the end of a quote or clarifying material at the end of a sentence, pairing quotation marks or parentheses with a full stop. As a full stop always takes a space after the final word and quotation marks or parentheses do not, the quotation mark or parentheses is placed first, followed by a space and finally the full stop.



# 4 NOUNS

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Nouns are the primary building block of many Sonora concepts and encompass – as in most languages – any person, place, or thing, both physical and metaphysical.

## 4.1 DEFINITENESS

Sonora does not require any indication of definiteness when presenting nouns. Demonstrative and referent pronouns can be used for distinction whenever required.

For example, the word *dwen* refers to either ‘a man’ or ‘the man’ depending on context. Should further clarification be required, one can add a demonstrative determiner such as *seta* ‘this’ to indicate *seta dwen* – ‘this man’.

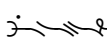
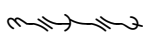
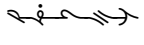


## 4.2 ANIMACY

All nouns belong to one of two noun classes – animate and inanimate. These groupings do not originate grammatically, but naturally based on the animacy of the noun in question. Nevertheless, they do have an effect on various grammatical facets and must be known.

### 4.2.1 Animate Nouns

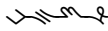
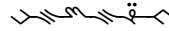
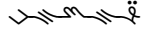
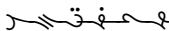
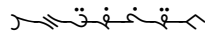

Animate nouns (AN) include all living beings – from ants to trees. They also include parts of those beings that grow in visible ways (typically growing noticeably in the course of a month), such as fruits, nails, and hair. Other animate nouns include any noun that moves of its own accord – the sun and clouds across the sky, water and fire.

Animate nouns include:

	<i>amjwr</i>	‘love’
	<i>dwnwm</i>	‘human’
	<i>gratwn</i>	‘apple’
	<i>jgnes</i>	‘fire’
	<i>lwna</i>	‘moon’



However, nouns ending in a word-final ⟨r⟩ that follows another consonant must first break up the consonant cluster with a vowel, duplicating the last vowel of the word. The ending *-es* is then added for the paucal and the ending *-e* for the plural. These endings do not change based on animacy in the nominative case.

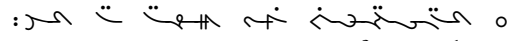
 <i>hwdr</i> dog ‘Dog’	 <i>hwdwres</i> dog.PC ‘Dogs’	 <i>hwdwre</i> dog.PL ‘Dogs’
 <i>nwmeratr</i> computer ‘Computer’	 <i>nwmeratares</i> computer.PC ‘Computers’	 <i>nwmeratare</i> computer.PL ‘Computers’

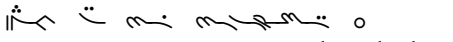
### 4.3.1 Using the Paucal and Plural

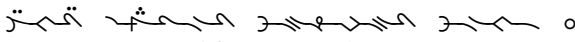
The paucal number is context dependant, and usually translates to something similar to ‘some’, contrasting against a plural ‘many’.

When counting individual items or persons, the paucal number is typically used from 2 to 5. The paucal is also generally used when talking about a subset of a larger group, especially if that subset is a quarter or less.

For example, in a 52 card deck of playing cards, describing the spades will typically be done with the paucal number as they are a subset of the larger group of cards, even though they number well beyond 5.

  
*ent je jerv tfa samlepjet .*  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN eat two sandwich.PC  
 ‘I ate two sandwiches.’

  
*vos je dja djgdje .*  
 have.PRS.SMPL 1.SG.AN A finger.PL  
 ‘I have ten fingers.’

  
*neste kfotjt mwrhwt mjsj .*  
 PART.PST.IPFV cat.PC hunt mouse.PL  
 ‘The cats were hunting the mice.’

### 4.3.2 Mass Nouns

Some nouns are defined as mass nouns – typically those where its impossible or incredibly difficult to count out a single instance of the noun. This includes liquids such as water, concentrated groups of small individuals such as sand or hair, or non-physical nouns such a honesty.

Mass nouns cannot take certain quantifier or number demonstratives such as ‘each sand’ or ‘four honesty’, and are never declined for the paucal or plural number. Instead a mass noun can be paired with another noun and the preposition *do* to further define amount.

ᠮᠠᠰᠤ ᠵᠡᠯᠠ ᠲᠤ ᠠᠨᠢ ᠠᠨᠢ  
*felsa do vel*  
bottle of water  
‘Bottle of water’

ᠣᠭᠳᠡ ᠲᠤ ᠬᠡᠰᠢ  
*ogdje do hesp*  
particle.PL of sand  
‘Grains of sand’

ᠠᠨᠢ ᠵᠢᠯᠡᠰᠠ ᠲᠤ ᠷᠡᠬᠢᠯᠢᠰ  
*wna jlketsa do rehlys*  
one instance of honesty  
‘One instance of honesty’



## 4.4 CASE

Sonora distinguishes between five cases, two of which are unmarked. The full list of cases is as follows.

### 4.4.1 Nominative

The subject of the sentence takes on the unmarked nominative case (NOM). Though unmarked, the nominative subject must always be found within the verb clause of a sentence and can thus be found by word order.

sa dwen herem .  
PART.PRS.IPFV man.NOM walk  
'The man is walking.'

toles hvwk aranjt pjkw .  
PART.PRS.SMPL some spider.PC.NOM bite  
'Some spiders bite.'

### 4.4.2 Accusative

The direct object of the sentence uses the accusative case (ACC). The accusative is unmarked, and differentiated from the nominative by word order – accusative objects are always found outside of the verb clause, though it does not matter where outside of the clause.

en dwna jerv pomra .  
PART.PRS.IPFV woman.NOM eat orange.ACC  
'The woman is eating an orange.'

kofe tos polfet dortan .  
coffee.ACC PART.PRS.IPFV cup.NOM contain  
'The cup contains coffee.'



#### 4.4.6 Declension

Case declensions vary for animacy and number, as can be seen in the following tables. The nominative and accusative have been grouped together because they are differentiated through word order and their inflections are identical.

There are three noun groups that follow differing declension patterns. Nouns that end in most consonants, ⟨j⟩, or ⟨w⟩ take the first form, nouns ending in the other three vowels or voiced consonants ⟨d⟩, ⟨g⟩, ⟨v⟩ the second form, and nouns that end in any consonant followed by an ⟨r⟩ the third form.

First form declensions – for nouns ending in unvoiced consonants, ⟨j⟩, or ⟨w⟩.

	NOM/ACC		DAT		LOC		INS	
	AN	INAN	AN	INAN	AN	INAN	AN	INAN
<b>SING</b>		-∅		-a		-e	-om	-on
<b>PAUC</b>	-jt	-jet	-at	-ag	-ek	-en	-wm	-wn
<b>PL</b>	-j	-je	-aj	-aje	-je	-jn		

The following show examples of first form declensions.

پوتل  
*potel*  
table

ستيلت  
*stjlt*  
knife

.هتقر  
*alder*  
parent

پوتلت  
*potela*  
table.DAT

ستيلتجت  
*stjltjet*  
knife.PC

.هتقر  
*alderj*  
parent.PL

پوتلت  
*potele*  
table.LOC

ستيلتجت  
*stjltag*  
knife.PC.DAT

.هتقر  
*alderaj*  
parent.PL.DAT

پوتلوم  
*potelom*  
table.INS

ستيلتن  
*stjlten*  
knife.PC.LOC

.هتقر  
*alderje*  
parent.PL.LOC

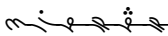
ستيلتوون  
*stjltwn*  
knife.PC.INS

.هتقر  
*alderwm*  
parent.PL.INS


For nouns ending in voiced consonants ⟨d⟩, ⟨g⟩, ⟨v⟩ or vowels ⟨a⟩, ⟨e⟩, or ⟨o⟩. Nominative/accusative and locative endings drop any word-final vowels before being suffixed to the noun, however locative endings only do so for ⟨a⟩, ⟨e⟩, and ⟨o⟩ and do not drop any vowels if the final letters are ⟨j⟩ or ⟨w⟩.


	NOM/ACC		DAT		LOC		INS	
	AN	INAN	AN	INAN	AN	INAN	AN	INAN
<b>SING</b>		-∅		-va		-er	-nom	-non
<b>PAUC</b>	-jt	-jet	-vat	-vad	-erk	-erd		
<b>PL</b>	-j	-je	-vaj	-vaje	-ert	-end	-nwm	-nwn

The following show examples of second form declensions.

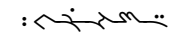
  
*djagrog*  
 barbarian

  
*radjo*  
 radio


  
*eskald*  
 ladder

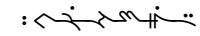
  
*djagrogva*  
 barbarian.DAT

  
*radjet*  
 radio.PC

  
*eskaldje*  
 ladder.PL

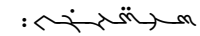
  
*djagroger*  
 barbarian.LOC

  
*radjovad*  
 radio.PC.DAT

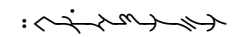
  
*eskaldvaje*  
 ladder.PL.DAT

  
*djagrognom*  
 barbarian.INS

  
*radjerd*  
 radio.PC.LOC

  
*eskaldend*  
 ladder.PL.LOC


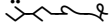
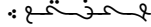


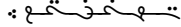


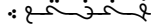


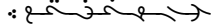

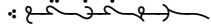
  
*radjonwn*  
 radio.PC.INS

  
*eskaldnwn*  
 ladder.PL.INS

For nouns ending in any consonant followed by an ⟨r⟩. Duplication of the final vowel before the word-final ⟨r⟩ as described in 4.3 Number only occurs in the paucal and plural numbers.

	NOM/ACC		DAT		LOC		INS	
	AN	INAN	AN	INAN	AN	INAN	AN	INAN
<b>SING</b>		-∅		-a		-e	-om	-on
<b>PAUC</b>	-es	-jet		-av	-et	-en	-mj	-nj
<b>PL</b>	-e	-je		-a	-je	-jn		

The following show examples of third form declensions.

· 		· 
<i>atr</i>	<i>hestr</i>	<i>ortomatr</i>
tree	horse	clock
· 		· 
<i>atra</i>	<i>hesteres</i>	<i>ortomatarje</i>
tree.DAT	horse.PC	clock.PL
· 		· 
<i>atre</i>	<i>hesterav</i>	<i>ortomatara</i>
tree.LOC	horse.PC.DAT	clock.PL.DAT
· 		· 
<i>atrom</i>	<i>hesteret</i>	<i>ortomatarjn</i>
tree.INS	horse.PC.LOC	clock.PL.LOC
		· 
	<i>hestermj</i>	<i>ortomatarnj</i>
	horse.PC.INS	clock.PL.INS

### 4.5 POSSESSION AND THE GENITIVE

Possession is indicated in Sonora by the use of the genitive clitic *ap*. This clitic occurs directly before the possessing noun, though the clitic and noun can occur before or after the noun that is being possessed.

The genitive is used in Sonora not only for physical possessions, but for relationships between people and for clear connections between objects which occurs when one object belongs as part of another object such as “the house’s fence” or one object is located close to another “the tree’s river”.

This construction can also be chained for compound possession.

||> <|| .> .> ||> <||>  
*valte ap avjn*  
 wing CL.GEN bird  
 ‘The bird’s wing’

:> <||> .> <||> <||>  
*orenje ap drakon*  
 coin.PL CL.GEN dragon  
 ‘The dragon’s coins’

<||> <||> .> <||> <||>  
*hemrotko ap hwm*  
 fence CL.GEN house  
 ‘The house’s fence’

<||> <||> .> <||> <||> .> <||>  
*swlajdra ap sjdrwr ap kep*  
 dress CL.GEN sister CL.GEN 3.SG.AN  
 ‘His/her sister’s dress’

#### 4.5.1 Plural Possessive

The possessive clitic *ap* has a plural form *ape* which is used to distinguish two subjects being owned by one possessor.

<||> : <||> <||> .> <||>  
*jarla e dsjlka ap djda*  
 fish and gecko CL.GEN child  
 ‘The fish and the child’s gecko’

<||> : <||> <||> .> <||>  
*jarla e dsjlka ape djda*  
 fish and gecko CL.GEN.PL child  
 ‘The child’s fish and gecko’

<||> : <||> .> :> .> <||>  
*preljn e flwvjn ape eta avljm*  
 July and August CL.GEN.PL this year  
 ‘This year’s July and August’

### 4.5.2 Possessive Declension

Whenever the genitive occurs in a case that requires declension, both the noun being possessed and the possessor decline case according to the animacy required by the possessed noun. This may cause an animate possessor to decline according to inanimate declension, though pronouns are not affected by this exception and decline case regularly.

sat . apjt fljgja wpwr  
PART.PST.PFV bee fly over  
'The bee flew over...'

lwmjetaj ap vjkjelanra .  
flower.PL.DAT CL.GENfarmer.DAT  
'...the farmer's flowers.'

sat dwen herem dsj jlrame ap dwrgwte .  
PART.PST.PFV man walk in park.LOC CL.GEN town.LOC  
'The man walked in the town's park.'

kj johton falmjt  
PART.PRS.IPFV leader signal  
'The leader is signalling...'

falwmon ap ffwlkon ap kem .  
flag.INS CL.GEN nation.INS CL.GEN 3.SG.AN.INS  
'...using his nation's flag.'

### 4.6 AUGMENTATIVES AND DIMINUTIVES

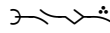
Sonora produces augmentatives and diminutives through the use of various suffixes that can be appended to a noun to indicate an increase or decrease (respectively) of presence or physical size. There is no correct pattern to which suffixes are used with which words – various suffixes might be chosen by various speakers, and suffixes can also be combined to indicate further levels of augmentation or diminution.

Suffixes typically replace any word-final vowels.

#### 4.6.1 Augmentation

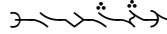
The augmentative suffixes are: *-argo*, *-egreþ*, *-olon*, *-wmar*


  
*gromþel*  
 bathtub  
 'Bathtub'

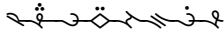
  
*mjhjo*  
 baby  
 'Baby'

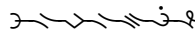
  
*nwal*  
 cloud  
 'Cloud'


  
*gromþelargo*  
 bathtub.AUG  
 'Big bathtub'

  
*mjhjolon*  
 baby.AUG  
 'Big baby'

  
*nwalagro*  
 cloud.AUG  
 'Big cloud'


  
*gromþelwmar*  
 bathtub.AUG  
 'Big bathtub'

  
*mjhjwmar*  
 baby.AUG  
 'Big baby'


  
*nwalegreþ*  
 cloud.AUG  
 'Big cloud'

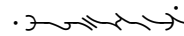
#### 4.6.2 Diminution

The diminutive suffixes are: *-jna*, *-wsja*, *-otko*, *-jrek*

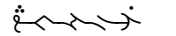
  
*ampwl*  
 lamp  
 'Lamp'

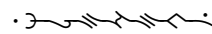
  
*lepen*  
 rabbit  
 'Rabbit'

  
*rosła*  
 plant  
 'Plant'

  
*ampwljna*  
 lamp.DIM  
 'Small lamp'

  
*lepenotko*  
 rabbit.DIM  
 'Small rabbit'

  
*rosłjna*  
 plant.DIM  
 'Small plant'

  
*ampwlwsja*  
 lamp.DIM  
 'Small lamp'

  
*lepenjrek*  
 rabbit.DIM  
 'Small rabbit'

  
*rosłotko*  
 plant.DIM  
 'Small plant'



# 5 PRONOUNS

Sonora has a suite of pronouns that can be used in place of a known noun phrase or one that can be inferred from context. Various types of pronouns inflect for various cases or numbers, with pronouns nearly always separated for animate and inanimate noun phrases. Animate pronouns take precedence over inanimate and should be used whenever a group contains both animate and inanimate nouns.

## 5.1 PERSONAL PRONOUNS

Personal pronouns replace a noun phrase in most typical contexts. These align with both noun animacy and grammatical person (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>), inflecting irregularly for both case and number. Personal pronouns in paucal and plural 1<sup>st</sup> person split for exclusivity as well. Personal pronouns replace a noun phrase wherever it would be placed within a typical sentence.

Compare the following sentences for the use of a pronoun to replace a noun.

ⲉⲛⲧ ⲁⲩⲱⲛⲧⲧⲱⲛⲧ ⲉⲃⲱⲛⲧ ⲕⲓⲃⲱⲛⲧ ⲟ  
*ent dwenjt jerv kjarse.*  
PART.PST.PFV man.PC eat cheese  
'The men ate cheese.'

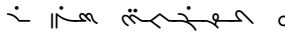
ⲉⲛⲧ ⲕⲓⲟⲥ ⲉⲃⲱⲛⲧ ⲓⲉⲃⲱⲛⲧ ⲟ  
*ent kjos jerv ged.*  
PART.PST.PFV 3.PC.AN eat 3.SG.INAN  
'They ate it.'

### 5.1.1 2<sup>nd</sup>-Person Pronouns

As animate pronouns are used in all situations where an animate noun is present, the 2<sup>nd</sup>-person inanimate is quite rare and typically used only as an exclamation. Thus, it has collapsed across all numbers and in the extremely rare case it might be inflected for case, it simply takes the 2<sup>nd</sup>-person singular.

A typical example of 2<sup>nd</sup>-person pronoun usage follows, including a sentence without the pronoun to discern the meaning.

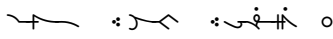
ⲕⲁ ⲛⲱⲙⲉⲣⲁⲧⲣ ⲉⲥⲕⲁⲣⲧ ⲟ  
*ka nwmeratr deskart.*  
be.PRS.IPFV computer scrap  
'The computer is scrap.'

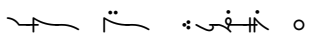

  
*ka vad deskart.*
  
 be.PRS.IPFV 2.SG.INAN scrap
   
 ‘You are scrap.’

Similarly, the 2<sup>nd</sup>-person paucal and plural have collapsed, as the number of addressees is typically known from context.

### 5.1.2 Inclusivity

Both paucal and plural 1<sup>st</sup> person pronouns split for exclusivity – inclusive (INCL) forms include the addressee, while the exclusive (EXCL) excludes them.


  
*kfj ons oprava.*
  
 go.PRS.IPFV 1.PC.AN.INCL theatre
   
 ‘We (including you) are going to the theatre.’


  
*kfj fej oprava.*
  
 go.PRS.IPFV 1.PC.AN.EXCL theatre
   
 ‘We (but not you) are going to the theatre.’

### 5.1.3 Personal Pronoun Table

The following table lists all of Sonora’s personal pronouns, inflected for each case.

Pronoun	NOM/ACC	DAT	LOC	INS
1.SG.AN	<i>je</i>	<i>ja</i>	<i>te</i>	<i>jem</i>
2.SG.AN	<i>va</i>	<i>va</i>	<i>ve</i>	<i>vam</i>
2.INAN	<i>vad</i>			
3.SG.AN	<i>kej</i>	<i>ka</i>	<i>ke</i>	<i>kem</i>
3.SG.INAN	<i>ged</i>	<i>ga</i>	<i>ge</i>	<i>gen</i>
1.PC.AN.INCL	<i>ons</i>	<i>ont</i>	<i>onk</i>	<i>owm</i>
1.PC.AN.EXCL	<i>fej</i>	<i>feit</i>	<i>fejk</i>	<i>fewm</i>
2.PC/PL.AN	<i>vas</i>	<i>vaj</i>	<i>vje</i>	<i>vwm</i>
3.PC.AN	<i>kjos</i>	<i>kjat</i>	<i>kjek</i>	<i>kjwm</i>
3.PC.INAN	<i>jws</i>	<i>jag</i>	<i>jen</i>	<i>jwn</i>
1.PL.AN.INCL	<i>os</i>	<i>waj</i>	<i>osj</i>	<i>wm</i>
1.PL.AN.EXCL	<i>ws</i>	<i>sag</i>	<i>wn</i>	<i>swm</i>
3.PL.AN	<i>kwj</i>	<i>kwaj</i>	<i>kje</i>	<i>kjwm</i>
3.PL.INAN	<i>jwld</i>	<i>jwlda</i>	<i>jwldj</i>	<i>jwn</i>

## 5.2 REFLEXIVE PRONOUNS

Sonora has only two reflexive pronouns (REFL) – one animate reflexive and one inanimate. These pronouns always refer back to the subject of the sentence, inflecting for case but not number.

Pronoun	ACC	DAT	LOC
PRON.REFL.AN	<i>mj</i>	<i>ma</i>	<i>me</i>
PRON.REFL.INAN	<i>sef</i>	<i>sa</i>	<i>se</i>

Reflexive pronouns change the word order of a sentence, as they are almost always required to be within the verb clause and pull any attached prepositions into the verb clause as well. There is one exception – when using a reflexive pronoun to indicate possession, it remains with the possessed noun.

ڏٺو ته جيڪو منهنجي هيرڊسا ۾.  
*dho je mj herdsa .*  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN PRON.REFL.AN.NOM injure  
 ‘I hurt myself.’

۽ ڪو به ماڻهو منهنجي لاءِ پڇو.  
*ors kep ma metjer ljstr .*  
 PART.PST.PFV 3.SG.AN PRON.REFL.AN.DAT send letter  
 ‘He is sending himself a letter.’

۽ ڪو به ماڻهو منهنجي وچ ۾ ٿوڙي ڇڏي.  
*ekset ons jlj ma lasthe orpws .*  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.PC.AN.INCL between PRON.REFL.AN.DAT throw ball  
 ‘We threw the ball between us.’

ٿوڙي ته جيڪو ڏانھن ھٿن ۾ ڇڏي.  
*tos je dortan hapo ap mj .*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN wear hat CL.GEN PRON.REFL.AN.NOM  
 ‘I am wearing my hat.’

ٿوڙي ته جيڪو ڏانھن ڀڃڪڙي ۾ ڇڏي.  
*tos je dortan vjleta ersan me .*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN wear blanket around PRON.REFL.AN.LOC  
 ‘I am wearing the blanket around myself.’

## 5.3 INDEFINITE PRONOUNS

Sonora has a small suite of indefinite pronouns for various situations where the noun is not specific. These pronouns are often paired with distributive and quantitative quantifiers to create variations.

### 5.3.1 Animate

The animate indefinite pronoun *wn* indicates a non-specified person or animate object, as well as a replacement for an indefinite action or verb. It declines similarly to any first form nouns.

*heges* *wn labrwm* .  
 PART.PST.SMPL.DIR one work  
 ‘One must work.’

*garsas* *alt wn tansa* .  
 PART.PRS.SMPL.POT all one dance  
 ‘Everyone should dance.’

*orsas* *kwalt wn tansa*  
 PART.PRS.SMPL.ALE any one dance  
 ‘Anyone can dance...’

*pje vjsa* *kep tansa sa* .  
 if PART.PRS.IPFV.DES 3.SG.AN dance PART.SBRD  
 ‘...if they want to.’

*garges* *nwlt wn labrwm* .  
 PART.PST.SMPL.POT no one work  
 ‘No one should work.’

### 5.3.2 Inanimate

The inanimate indefinite pronoun *tavra* indicates an indefinite inanimate object – a ‘thing’. It declines similarly to any second form nouns.

gdem esk ka eta tavra .  
 what CL.INTR be.PRS.IPFV this thing  
 ‘What is this thing?’

kwt je grosel alt tavra .  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN lose all thing  
 ‘I lost everything.’

nekja je spera kwalt tavra .  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN see any thing  
 ‘I don’t see anything.’

mjr nwt tavra vaksem mas eta terava .  
 PART.PRS.IPFV no thing grow out this soil.DAT  
 ‘Nothing is growing in this soil.’

### 5.3.3 Place

The pronoun *lohta* is used to describe an indefinite place. This pronoun always implies a locative declension, though it does not decline.

kw kep mj lesala lohta .  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 3.SG.AN PRON.REFL.AN hide where  
 ‘She/he is hiding (her/himself) somewhere.’

okep je targer alt lohta .  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN search all where  
 ‘I searched everywhere.’

malkfs ons kwalt lohta .  
 go.PRS.SMPL.PRM 1.PC.AN.INCL any where  
 ‘We can go anywhere.’



## 5.4 INTERROGATIVE PRONOUNS

Sonora creates content questions through the use of interrogative pronouns. These pronouns are immutable, not inflecting for case. Section 12.2 Interrogative Clauses describes the creation of interrogative clauses.

Pronoun	Person /Object	Location	Instru-ment/Tool	Reason	Method/Process
ANIMATE	<i>ktem</i>	<i>ktaden</i>	<i>ktaton</i>	<i>kwtwn</i>	<i>ktwnon</i>
INANIMATE	<i>gdem</i>				

### 5.4.1 Person or Object

Asking for person or object, *ktem* and *gdem* are only divided by animacy distinction. When asking about a person, *ktem* should always be used. When asking about an object, *gdem* is typical unless that object is known to be animate.

:esk pa ktem tamla .  
 CL.INTR PART.PRS.IPFV who speak  
 ‘Who is speaking?’

:esk jd va  
 CL.INTR know.PRS.IPFV 2.SG.AN  
 ‘Do you know...’

ent ktem jerv pjskijnje en aj .  
 PART.PST.PFV who eat cookie.PL PART.SBRD yes  
 ‘...who ate the cookies?’

gdem esk vjen vas polf .  
 what CL.INTR PART.PRS.IPFV.DES 2.pc.an drink  
 ‘What do you want to drink?’

### 5.4.2 Location

Asking about location, *ktaden* on its own asks for a location in time – when – but when paired with the preposition *kfo* asks for the location in space - where.

ⲕⲧⲁⲃⲏⲛ ⲉⲥⲕ : ⲕⲁⲣ . ⲕⲑⲏⲩ ⲕⲑⲑⲙⲟⲩ ⲁⲃⲑⲓⲁ .  
*ktaden esk akar kqjmov adqja .*  
when CL.INTR PART.FUT.PFV movie begin  
'When will the movie begin?'

ⲕⲑⲟ ⲕⲧⲁⲃⲏⲛ ⲉⲥⲕ ⲕⲑⲑ ⲩⲁ .  
*kfo ktaden esk kqj va .*  
to where CL.INTR go.PRS.IPFV 2.SG.AN  
'Where are you going?'

### 5.4.3 Tool

When asking about an instrument or tool that was used, the pronoun *ktaton* can be substituted.

ⲕⲧⲁⲧⲟⲛ ⲉⲥⲕ ⲓⲗ ⲩⲁ ⲉⲕⲱⲓⲣ .  
*ktaton esk jl va ekwjr .*  
what.INS CL.INTR PART.PRS.IPFV 2.SG.AN write  
'What are you writing with?'

### 5.4.4 Reason and Method

The pronoun *kwtwn* is used for questions that ask about the reason for an action. Similarly, *ktwnon* is used for the method or process behind an action.

ⲕⲱⲧⲱⲛ ⲉⲥⲕ ⲥⲁ ⲩⲁ ⲧⲣⲉⲥⲁ .  
*kwtwn esk sa va tresa .*  
why CL.INTR PART.PRS.IPFV 2.SG.AN run  
'Why are you running?'

ⲕⲧⲱⲛⲟⲛ ⲉⲥⲕ ⲕⲉⲓⲧ ⲩⲁ ⲛⲟⲩⲓⲁ ⲙⲉⲧ ⲧⲁⲩⲣⲁ .  
*ktwnon esk kejt va novja met tavra .*  
how CL.INTR PART.PST.PFV 2.SG.AN make that thing  
'How did you make that thing?'



## 5.5 REFERENT PRONOUNS

Sonora has a method of referencing nouns in context in order to lessen ambiguity in future conversation. Such references typically last only the length of the conversation.

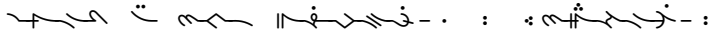
Using referent pronouns (RFR), one can index a noun, tying it to a vowel (allowing for a maximum of five indexed nouns at a time). In order to make it clear that indexing is happening rather than a declension, it is common to put a glottal stop [ʔ] before the vowel index. When that noun is later referred to by a personal pronoun, that vowel will be linked with the pronoun and make it clear what is being referenced. Vowels can be chosen at random, though it is common to index in order of a, e, o, j, and finally w.

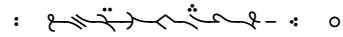
This type of referencing is typically only used with nouns that are expected to remain in conversation for a while, which can also be an indication of interest in continuing a topic of conversation.

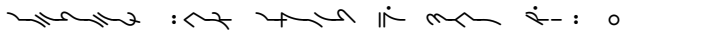
ڤت ڤت ڤت . ڤت ڤت ڤت .  
*rwt je kondre awtomron-a ap jem*  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN drive car.INS CL.GEN 1.SG.AN.INS  
 'I drove my car...'

ڤت ڤت ڤت . ڤت ڤت ڤت .  
*kfo hwma ap ja.*  
 to house.DAT CL.GEN 1.SG.AN.DAT  
 '...to my house.'

ڤت ڤت ڤت . ڤت ڤت ڤت ڤت ڤت .  
*vo ged-a es novwm ved.*  
 have.PRS.IPFV 3.SG.INAN CL.ADV creation PART.EXH  
 'It [the car] is new.'


  
*kft je dsj vrahwma-a e odvoljna-e*
  
 go.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN into bank.DAT.RFR and arena.DAT.RFR
   
 ‘I went to the bank, the arena,...’


  
*e rwkensjotr-o*
  
 and grocery-store.DAT.RFR
   
 ‘...and the grocery store.’


  
*kwtwm esk kft va dsj ga-e*
  
 why CL.INTR go.PRS.PFV 2.SG.AN into 3.SG.INAN.DAT.RFR
   
 ‘Why did you go to it [the arena]?’

# 6 VERBS

Verbs describe actions taken by subject nouns. Sonoran verbs are composed of two parts – a particle and a stem. Verbs are typically listed as: stem, particle; in order to make them easier to search, though a particle will in most cases precede a stem in sentence construction.

## 6.1 VERB CLAUSE

Comprised of particle and stem, verbs surround the subject of a sentence, with the particle preceding the subject noun and the stem following it. This creates the standard verb clause, though various sentence structures will adjust the location of each of these pieces. However, as both the nominative and the accusative case are unmarked, it's important to note that the nominative or subject noun will always be found directly after the verb particle if the particle is part of the sentence.

ⵏ ⵎⵏⵏⵉⵙ ⵉⵎⵎⵉⵏ ⵏ  
*en dwen jerv.*  
PART.PRS.IPFV man eat  
'The man is eating.'

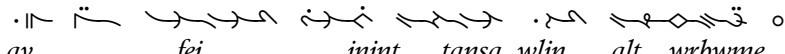
ⵏ ⵎⵏⵏⵉⵙ ⵉⵎⵎⵉⵏ ⵏⵙⵎⵍⵉⵓⵏ ⵏ  
*en dwen jerv samlepa.*  
PART.PRS.IPFV man eat sandwich  
'The man is eating a sandwich.'

Though each verb has a unique stem that determines the action the verb represents, verb particles are often shared by larger groups of related verbs. For example, the particle *sa* is typically found in verbs that have to do with the locomotion of the body, including walking, running, swimming, and climbing.

### 6.1.1 Compound Verb Clauses

Sometimes, Sonora makes use of compound verbs, chaining one verb into another. When this occurs, only the first verb uses its particle and the other will only use the stem following the stem of the first.

ⵏⵙⵎⵍⵉⵓⵏ ⵉⵎⵎⵉⵏ ⵏⵙⵎⵍⵉⵓⵏ ⵏ  
*kwt je grosel nwdwa.*  
PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN forget clean  
'I forgot to clean.'

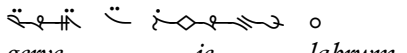

  
*av fej jnjnt tansa wljn alt wrḥwme .*
  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.PC.AN.EXCL intend dance during all night.LOC
   
 ‘We intend to dance all night.’

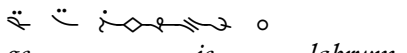
## 6.2 TENSE AND ASPECT

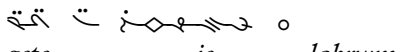
Sonoran verbs conjugate for tense and aspect, distinguishing between four tenses – far past (FPST), past (PST), present (PRS), and future (FUT) – and three aspects – perfective (PFV), imperfective (IPFV), and simple (SMPL).

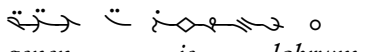
### 6.2.1 Tense

Sonoran tenses are quite strict, with tense always being correctly assigned based on conjugation, and never formed with compound or auxiliary additions. The future tense is used for all future actions, whether they be intended or hypothetical, the present actions occurring the present or actions that generally occur, and the two past tenses are used for actions that have already taken place.


  
*gerve je laḥrwm .*
  
 PART.FUT.IPFV 1.SG.AN work
   
 ‘I will be working.’


  
*ge je laḥrwm .*
  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN work
   
 ‘I am working.’


  
*gete je laḥrwm .*
  
 PART.PST.IPFV 1.SG.AN work
   
 ‘I was working [recently].’


  
*genen je laḥrwm .*
  
 PART.FPST.IPFV 1.SG.AN work
   
 ‘I was working [long ago].’

Distinguishing between past tenses can be highly context dependent. Without additional context, the near past is used for events that occurred within the past year and the far past for events beyond that. However, with context, both tenses can be used at different scales. When comparing two actions, the more recent action will use the near past and the other the far,

regardless of the time difference between them. This could mean two events that happened within the last week, or within the last millennium. Context always informs these decisions, and they can occasionally be made to emphasize how one feels – poetically, one might use the far past for an event that happened within the last week but feels like it occurred long ago.

ose je dwrgjt vel potanon  
 PART.FPST.PFV 1.SG.AN boil water kettle.INS  
 ‘I boiled water in a pot’

bel nest je monga dwrpota nes.  
 before PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN buy kettle PART.SBRD  
 ‘before I bought a kettle.’

### 6.2.2 Aspect

Alongside tense, Sonoran verbs conjugate for aspect. Broadly, the imperfective is used for actions that are ongoing at the time that is being spoken about, while the perfective is used for actions that are complete at that time. The simple is used for more general statements.

In the present tense, one can use the imperfective to describe an action that is being undertaken, and the simple to make a general statement about the world. The present tense cannot take the perfective aspect.

ge kostanr kosjn.  
 PART.PRS.IPFV chef cook  
 ‘The chef is cooking.’

ges kostanr kosjn.  
 PART.PRS.SMPL chef cook  
 ‘Chefs cook.’



### 6.2.3 Conjugation

When conjugating a verb, only the verb particle is affected – the stem always remains the same.

The pattern is largely regular, but changes based on the final sound of the particle, creating seven verb groups that are listed below with their conjugation tables.

Group 1 – for verb particles ending in a, e, o, or vowel j or w.

	PFV	IPFV	SMPL
FPST	<i>-ne</i>	<i>-nen</i>	
PST	<i>-t</i>	<i>-te</i>	
PRS		<i>-∅</i>	<i>-s</i>
FUT	<i>-rv</i>	<i>-rve</i>	<i>-h</i>

Group 2 – for verb particles ending in consonant j or w.

	PFV	IPFV	SMPL
FPST	<i>-e</i>	<i>-en</i>	
PST	<i>-t</i>	<i>-te</i>	
PRS		<i>-∅</i>	<i>-s</i>
FUT	<i>-rv</i>	<i>-rve</i>	<i>-h</i>

Group 3 – for verb particles ending in f, s, þ, h, n, l, or r.

	PFV	IPFV	SMPL
FPST	<i>-e</i>	<i>-en</i>	
PST	<i>-t</i>	<i>-te</i>	
PRS		<i>-∅</i>	<i>-es</i>
FUT	<i>-ar</i>	<i>-er</i>	<i>-o</i>

Group 4 – for verb particles ending in v or voiced s, þ, or h.

	PFV	IPFV	SMPL
FPST	<i>-e</i>	<i>-en</i>	
PST	<i>-d</i>	<i>-de</i>	
PRS		<i>-∅</i>	<i>-es</i>
FUT	<i>-ar</i>	<i>-er</i>	<i>-o</i>

Group 5 – for verb particles ending in p, t, k, d, or g.

	<b>PFV</b>	<b>IPFV</b>	<b>SMPL</b>
<b>FPST</b>	<i>-e</i>	<i>-en</i>	
<b>PST</b>	<i>-ep</i>	<i>-epe</i>	
<b>PRS</b>		<i>-∅</i>	<i>-s</i>
<b>FUT</b>	<i>-ar</i>	<i>-er</i>	<i>-o</i>

Group 6 – for verb particles ending in m.

	<b>PFV</b>	<b>IPFV</b>	<b>SMPL</b>
<b>FPST</b>	<i>-e</i>	<i>-en</i>	
<b>PST</b>	<i>-p</i>	<i>-pe</i>	
<b>PRS</b>		<i>-∅</i>	<i>-s</i>
<b>FUT</b>	<i>-ar</i>	<i>-er</i>	<i>-o</i>

Group 7 – for verb particles ending in consonant clusters.

	<b>PFV</b>	<b>IPFV</b>	<b>SMPL</b>
<b>FPST</b>	<i>-e</i>	<i>-en</i>	
<b>PST</b>	<i>-et</i>	<i>-ete</i>	
<b>PRS</b>		<i>-∅</i>	<i>-es</i>
<b>FUT</b>	<i>-ar</i>	<i>-er</i>	<i>-o</i>

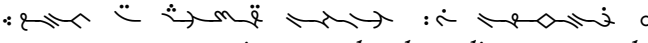



### 6.3 MOOD

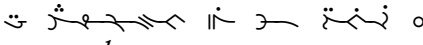
Sonoran verb particles conjugate for a variety of moods by adding a prefix. There are five regularly conjugated moods in Sonora beyond the unmarked indicative and the irregular negative and imperative.

#### 6.3.1 Alethic

The alethic mood (ALE) denotes possibility – that the subject is capable of undertaking the action described. Verb particles prefix *or-* in the alethic mood.

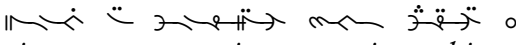

  
*orws je kondre wljn eta wrpwma .*  
 PART.PRS.SMPL.ALE 1.SG.AN drive during this night.DAT  
 ‘I can drive tonight.’

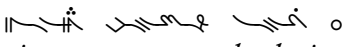

  
*orsas va tresa*  
 PART.PRS.SMPL.ALE 2.SG.AN run  
 ‘You can run...’


  
*pe norkws va mj lesala .*  
 but PART.PRS.SMPL.ALE.NEG 2.AG.AN PRON.REFL.AN hide  
 ‘...but you cannot hide.’

#### 6.3.2 Desiderative

The desiderative mood (DES) is prefixed with *vj-* and shows desire – that the subject desires to undertake the action.


  
*vjsa je mjrvn dsj morene .*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV.DES 1.SG.AN swim within ocean.LOC  
 ‘I want to swim in the ocean.’


  
*vjvo hwdr jwta .*  
 have.PRS.IPFV.DES dog bone  
 ‘The dog wants a bone.’

### 6.3.3 Directive

The directive mood (DIR) is used for situations where the subject is required to undertake the action described. The directive mood is shown by the use of the prefix *he-*.

ḥeges va nwdwa shwtr ap va .  
PART.PRS.SMPL.DIR 2.SG.AN clean room CL.GEN room  
'You must clean your room.'

nehesas avlwfel fligja wpwv vjlava .  
have.PRS.SMPL.DES.NEG airplane fly over city.DAT  
'The airplane must not fly over the city.'

### 6.3.4 Permissive

The permissive mood (PRM) created with the use of the prefix *mal-* denotes that the subject is allowed or permitted to undertake the action.

malgra va hjrwn kavamat ap va .  
PART.PRS.IPFV.PRM 2.SG.AN play friend.PC.DAT CL.GEN 2.SG.AN.DAT  
'You may play with your friends.'

malok je wrgel mjsket .  
PART.PRS.IPFV.PRM 1.SG.AN reveal secret  
'I can reveal the secret.'

### 6.3.5 Potential

The potential mood (POT) shows necessity – that the subject should undertake the action, but it is not absolutely required. This is done with the prefix *gar-*.

garkjs ons kfo vjlava .  
go.PRS.SMPL.POT 1.PC.AN.INCL to city.DAT  
'We should go to the city.'

garges va nwdwa shwtr ap va  
PART.PRS.SMPL.POT 2.SG.AN clean room CL.GEN 2.SG.AN  
'You should clean your room.'

## 6.4 NEGATION

Sonora simply prefixes *ne-* to the particle of a verb in order to denote negation (NEG). This prefix can also be prefixed to a modal prefix to negate a mood, and can be used colloquially to negate a noun, though the latter would never be seen in formal writing. Note that the prefix is shortened to *n-* when it precedes a vowel.

*nako je vemar va .*  
 PART.FUT.SMPL.NEG 1.SG.AN marry 2.SG.AN  
 'I will not marry you.'

*nekw je kwalt tavra .*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV.NEG 1.SG.AN any thing  
 'I'm not hiding anything.'

*nevjoso je domorb .*  
 PART.FUT.SMPL.DES.NEG 1.SG.AN die  
 'I do not want to die.'

*negarnekah je eljgat .*  
 PART.FUT.SMPL.NEG.POT.NEG 1.SG.AN choose  
 'I should not not choose'

## 6.5 IMPERATIVE

The imperative voice (IMP) is that which gives command – not a statement of fact, but an order to execute the action. While the directive and potential moods have similar roles, they are both statements of fact – “you must run” or “you should run”, while the imperative is a much simpler command – “run”.

In order to form the imperative voice, drop the verb particle and simply use the stem. As the imperative is only used in the 2<sup>nd</sup> person – giving a direct command to a second person – there is no need for a subject, and similarly no need for a particle that shows tense or aspect.



## 6.6 VALENCY

Sonora recognizes intransitive, transitive, and ditransitive verbs, but notably does not allow for impersonal verbs. Certain verbs can change transitivity simply based on whether a patient noun is added to the clause.

### 6.6.1 Intransitive Verbs

Intransitive verbs do not take an object, relying only on the nominative subject. A variety of intransitive verbs can be made into transitive verbs by adding a patient noun, but many cannot.

ḡe      ṡe      laḡrwm .  
PART.PRS.IPFV    1.SG.AN    work  
'I am working.'

rw      ṡe      kondre .  
PART.PRS.IPFV    1.SG.AN    drive  
'I am driving.'

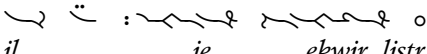
jl      ṡe      ekwjr .  
PART.PRS.IPFV    1.SG.AN    write  
'I am writing.'

### 6.6.2 Transitive Verbs

Transitive verbs take a nominative subject and an accusative direct object noun. These verbs are sometimes formed out of intransitive verbs, while other transitive verbs might even form ditransitive verbs with the addition of recipient noun.

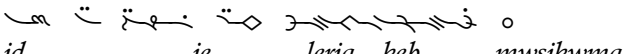
nes      ṡe      monga sokjet .  
PART.PRS.IPFV    1.SG.AN    buy    sock.PC  
'I am buying socks.'

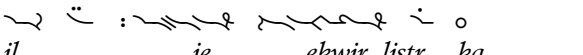
rw      ṡe      kondre awtomr .  
PART.PRS.IPFV    1.SG.AN    drive    car  
'I am driving a car.'


  
*jl je ekwjɹ ljstr.*
  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN write letter
   
 ‘I am writing a letter.’

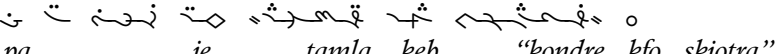
### 6.6.3 Ditransitive Verbs

Ditransitive verbs take a nominative subject, an accusative direct object, and a dative indirect object. The vast majority of ditransitive verbs are derived from transitive verbs through the simple addition of the indirect object, which is conventionally added after the accusative recipient.


  
*jd je lerja keɓ mwsjkwma.*
  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN teach 3.SG.AN music.DAT
   
 ‘I am teaching him music.’



  
*jl je ekwjɹ ljstr ka.*
  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN write letter 3.SG.AN.DAT
   
 ‘I am writing her a letter.’


Speech and quotations are also realized as ditransitive verbs, though they have a slightly different construction that is further detailed in Section 12.5 Quotes.


  
*pa je tamla keɓ “kondre kfo skjotra”.*
  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN speak 3.SG.AN drive to store.DAT
   
 ‘I told her to drive to the store.’

### 6.6.4 Impersonal Verbs

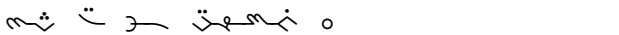
Sonora does not recognize impersonal verbs, disallowing constructions such as “it rains”. Any clauses that rely on impersonal verbs in other languages must be translated in a more directly descriptive way in Sonora.


  
*ha twmtwr dora .*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV rain fall  
 ‘Rain is falling.’ [It is raining.]

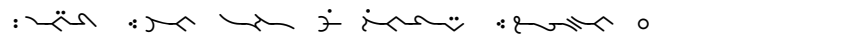
  
*kj nwlw lwmos serja .*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV no light shine  
 ‘No light shines.’ [It is dark.]

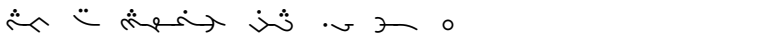
### 6.6.5 Reflexivity

Sonora allows any transitive or ditransitive verbs to be reflexive by the use of the reflexive pronouns *mj* and *sef*. Whenever these pronouns are used, the word order of the sentence changes, bringing the reflexive pronoun into the verb clause along with any attached prepositions. The sole exception to this is when reflexive pronouns are used as part of a genitive construction.

  
*dho je mj herdsa .*  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN PRON.REFL.AN.NOM injure  
 ‘I hurt myself.’

  
*ors keþ ma metjer ljstr .*  
 PART.PST.PFV 3.SG.AN PRON.REFL.AN.DAT send letter  
 ‘He is sending himself a letter.’

  
*ekset ons jlj ma lasthe orpws .*  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.PC.AN.INCL between PRON.REFL.AN.DAT throw ball  
 ‘We threw the ball between us.’

  
*tos je dortan hapo ap mj .*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN wear hat CL.GEN PRON.REFL.AN.NOM  
 ‘I am wearing my hat.’

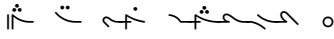


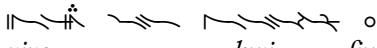




### 6.7.5 To Have – *vo*

	PFV	IPFV	SMPL
<b>FPST</b>	<i>ve</i>	<i>ven</i>	
<b>PST</b>	<i>vot</i>	<i>fe</i>	
<b>PRS</b>		<i>vo</i>	<i>vos</i>
<b>FUT</b>	<i>vov</i>	<i>vore</i>	<i>voh</i>


  
*vo je tfa kfotjt.*
  
 have.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN two cat.PC
   
 ‘I have two cats.’


  
*vjvo kwj ffwlk.*
  
 have.PRS.IPFV.DES 3.PL.AN nation
   
 ‘They want to have a nation.’

# 7 ADVERBS

Sonora does not distinguish between adjectives and adverbs, using the same construction to form these property words in ways that affect nouns, pronouns, and verbs equally. However, adverbs are not a distinct type of word – Sonora forms adverbs from nouns in a process of adverbialization.

Adverbs are created by use of the clitic *es* and one of a set of adverbial particles. These particles change depending on how the adverb is being used, as well as to show comparatives or superlatives, equatives, and negatives.

## 7.1 ADVERBIALIZATION AND AGREEMENT

Adverbs are formed from nouns by the use of the clitic *es* and an adverbial particle that follows the noun. A noun that is being adverbialized this way must match its parent noun in case, and this match breaks the rules of animacy – an animate noun adverbialized for an inanimate object takes an inanimate ending and vice versa.

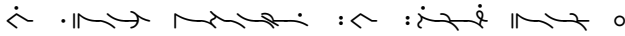
Adverbs or adjectives can be added in series without repeating the clitic *es*, grouping them by the particle they take

᠋ᠳᠠᠩ ᠡᠰ : ᠋ᠭᠣᠯ ᠨᠠᠯ  
*dwen es                   glok            nal*  
man CL.ADV   happiness PART.MUT  
'The happy man'

᠋ᠵᠢᠷᠪᠣ ᠡᠰ : ᠋ᠹᠢᠵᠠ ᠪᠡᠳ  
*jrvo es                   frjga ved*  
winter CL.ADV   cold PART.EXH  
'The cold winter'

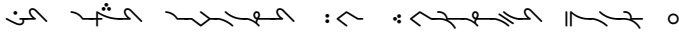
᠋ᠬᠠᠳᠢᠷ ᠡᠰ : ᠋ᠡᠯᠠᠬᠢᠷᠠ ᠪᠡᠳ ᠣᠫᠤᠯ ᠨᠠᠯ  
*hwdr es                   elakra ved           opol nal*  
dog CL.ADV   speed PART.EXH   fear PART.MUT  
'The fast, fearful dog'

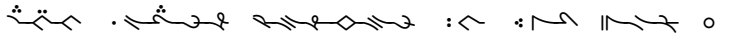
᠋ᠬᠠᠮᠤ ᠡᠰ : ᠋ᠣᠭᠢᠷᠣᠮ ᠮᠠᠪᠢᠷᠬᠠᠭ ᠢᠷᠢᠲ ᠪᠡᠳ  
*hwm es                   ogrom mwrkag rot ved*  
house CL.ADV   giant brick red PART.EXH  
'The giant red brick house'


  
*sa avjn fljgja es elakra vjk.*
  
 PART.PRS.IPFV bird fly CL.ADV speed PART.ADV
   
 ‘The bird is flying quickly.’

### 7.1.1 Adverbial Particle

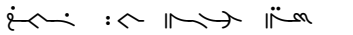
The adverbial particle *vjk* denotes an adverb – ensuring the noun is known to be affecting the verb of the sentence.

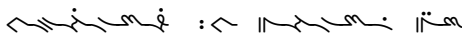

  
*pat kfot khjrt es oskerwt vjk.*
  
 PART.PST.PFV cat yell CL.ADV roar PART.ADV
   
 ‘The cat yelled loudly.’

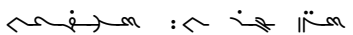

  
*koses awtomr gwrpwm es oft vjk.*
  
 PART.PRS.SMPL car break CL.ADV repetition PART.ADV
   
 ‘The car breaks repeatedly.’

### 7.1.2 Exhibitive Particle

The exhibitive particle *ved* describes a noun, showing qualities it exhibits – qualities by which it affects others. This involves physical descriptions such as colour or likeness, physical qualities such as quickness or strength, as well as qualities that affect the emotions of others. The exhibitive particle can also be used to show what another noun is composed or comprised of.


  
*rasja es vjn ved*
  
 grass CL.ADV green PART.EXH
   
 ‘The green grass’


  
*swlajdra es vljdja ved*
  
 dress CL.ADV beauty PART.EXH
   
 ‘The beautiful dress’


  
*strand es kag ved*
  
 shore CL.ADV rock PART.EXH
   
 ‘The rocky shore’

### 7.1.3 Mutative Particle

The mutative particle *nal* describes a noun by showing how it is affected by outside traits. This involves emotional states such as joy or fear, physical states of being such as hunger or death, and can be used to show metaphorical comparisons between nouns.

ᄃᄂᄃᄂ : ᄃᄂ ᄃᄂᄃᄂ ᄃᄂ  
*mjsa es fama nal*  
 grass CL.ADV hunger PART.MUT  
 ‘The hungry mouse’

ᄃᄂᄃᄂᄃᄂᄃᄂ : ᄃᄂ ᄃᄂᄃᄂᄃᄂᄃᄂ ᄃᄂ  
*swlajdra es vljdja nal*  
 dress CL.ADV beauty PART.MUT  
 ‘The beautified dress’

ᄃᄂᄃᄂ : ᄃᄂ ᄃᄂᄃᄂ ᄃᄂ  
*dwna es kfot nal*  
 woman CL.ADV cat PART.MUT  
 ‘The catty woman’

## 7.2 DEGREE

Sonora inflects adverbial particles for degree, with inflections for comparatives, superlatives, and equatives. When used to compare two nouns with comparative or equative particles, the verb *vo* (to have) and the dative preposition *tag* are used.

ᄃᄂ ᄃᄂᄃᄂ : ᄃᄂ ᄃᄂᄃᄂᄃᄂᄃᄂ : ᄃᄂᄃᄂ ᄃᄂ ᄃᄂᄃᄂ ᄃ  
*vo mjsa es mjekswr egved tag kagva .*  
 have.PRS.IPFV mouse CL.ADV miniature PART.EXH.EQV than rock.DAT  
 ‘The mouse is as small as a rock.’

ᄃᄂ ᄃᄂᄃᄂ : ᄃᄂ ᄃᄂᄃᄂᄃᄂᄃᄂ ᄃᄂᄃᄂ ᄃᄂ ᄃᄂᄃᄂᄃᄂᄃᄂ ᄃ  
*vo mjsa es mjekswr naved tag arkadjava .*  
 have.PRS.IPFV mouse CL.ADV miniature PART.EXH.CPV than mountain.DAT  
 ‘The mouse is smaller than a mountain.’

ᄃᄂᄃᄂ : ᄃᄂ ᄃᄂᄃᄂᄃᄂᄃᄂ ᄃᄂᄃᄂ ᄃ  
*mjsa es mjekswr praved*  
 mouse CL.ADV miniature PART.EXH.SPV  
 ‘The smallest mouse’









# 8 DETERMINERS

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Determiners (DET) are a class of words that denotes the reference of a noun phrase in context, typically applying quantity, uniqueness, or distance from the speaker. Certain categories of determiners can be used as pronouns, but in grammatically correct conversation they are typically placed immediately before the noun phrase they reference.

## 8.1 DEMONSTRATIVES

Demonstratives refer to entities by distance from the speaker in context. Sonora has three demonstratives, each of which takes an animate and inanimate form. Demonstratives do not decline for number.

### 8.1.1 Proximal Demonstrative

The proximal demonstrative is *seta* when used for an animate noun and *eta* for inanimate nouns. This demonstrative indicates an object or objects near to the speaker.

seta jarla  
this.AN fish  
'this fish'

eta grotjo  
this.INAN cave  
'this cave'

seta jarlj  
this.AN fish.PL  
'these fish'

### 8.1.2 Medial Demonstrative

The medial demonstratives are used for objects near the listener or addressee, especially in comparison to another object that has been referenced by the proximal demonstrative. The medial demonstrative takes the form *mata* in the animate and *met* in the inanimate.

زه نخر  
*mata jarla*  
that.AN fish  
'that fish (near you)'

شقه حتر  
*met grotjo*  
that.INAN cave  
'that cave (near you)'

زه نخر  
*mata jarlj*  
that.AN fish.PL  
'those fish (near you)'

### 8.1.3 Distal Demonstrative

The distal demonstrative is used for object far from both the speaker and the listener. This demonstrative takes the forms of *eder* for the animate and *egr* for the inanimate.

زه نخر:  
*eder jarla*  
that.AN fish  
'that fish (far from us)'

شقه حتر:  
*egr grotjo*  
that.INAN cave  
'that cave (far from us)'

زه نخر:  
*eder jarlj*  
that.AN fish.PL  
'those fish (far from us)'

## 8.2 QUANTIFIERS

Quantifiers are used to determine subgroups from a set of nouns, and comparative quantifiers are additionally used to compare the size of noun sets.

### 8.2.1 Distributive

Distributive quantifiers deal with the group as a whole, distributing amongst members.

Indicating all or each member of a group, the distributive *alt* is used in two primary situations – whenever distributing to each member of the group, or when indicating the group as a whole.

Despite being used for an indeterminate number of items (typically multiple), *alt* is paired with the singular form of a noun.

ᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ . ᄃᄃᄃ . ᄃᄃᄃ ᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ ᄃ  
*mjres alt atr vaksem.*  
PART.PRS.SMPL all tree grow  
'All trees grow.'

ᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ . ᄃᄃᄃ . ᄃᄃᄃ ᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ ᄃ  
*mjr alt atr vaksem.*  
PART.PRS.IPFV all tree grow  
'Each tree is growing.'

ᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ ᄃᄃᄃ . ᄃᄃᄃ . ᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ ᄃ  
*vjvo je alt atlws.*  
have.PRS.IPFV.DES 1.SG.AN all book  
'I want every book.'

The distributive *kwalt* indicates at least a singular item from the set, though which is indeterminate. This is used to determine that any member (or possibly more than one) of the group matches the criteria, but not how many or which.

: ᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ ᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ ᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ ᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃᄃ ᄃ  
*ens kwalt derjan jerv rosľj.*  
PART.PRS.SMPL some animal eat plant.PL  
'Some animals eat plants.'



٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥  
*vo je prast ptenj .*  
 have.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN most egg.PL  
 ‘I have the most eggs.’ / ‘I have most of the eggs.’

٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥  
*oft ons trjna prast loffe dsj jlrame .*  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.PC.AN.INCL find most bench.PL within park.LOC  
 ‘We found most of the benches in the park.’

Describing roughly more than half of a set, the quantifier *mros* indicates many, much, or a lot of, and is usually used with the plural number.

٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥  
*vos mros paj es rot ved .*  
 have.PRS.SMPL many berry.PL CL.ADV red PART.EXH  
 ‘Many berries are red.’

٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥  
*vo je mros djgdje .*  
 have.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN many finger.PL  
 ‘I have many fingers.’

٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥  
*oft ons trjna mros lwmjetj dsj atwrwme .*  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.PC.AN.INCL find many flower.PL within forest.LOC  
 ‘We found many of the flowers in the forest.’

Indicating some or several, the quantifier *hvwk* describes roughly less than half of a set and is typically used with the paucal number.

٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥  
*vos hvwk glomhjt es rwken ved .*  
 have.PRS.SMPL some berry.PC CL.ADV food PART.EXH  
 ‘Some mushrooms are edible.’ [Some mushrooms are food.]

٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥  
*jd je hvwk dwntjonjt .*  
 have.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN some mayor.PC  
 ‘I know some mayors.’

٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥ ٥  
*oft ons trjna hvwk esketjet dsj grotjer .*  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.PC.AN.INCL find some skeleton.PC within cave.LOC  
 ‘We found some of the skeletons in the cave.’

Indicating few or barely any, a minority of the set is described by the quantifier *þew*. This quantifier is usually paired with the paucal number.

*sas þew jarljt hvepa* .  
 PART.PRS.SMPL few fish.PC jump  
 ‘Few fish jump.’

*jd je þew mjasketjet* .  
 know.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN some secret.PC  
 ‘I know few of the secrets.’

*oft ons trjna þew orenjet dsj vrahwme* .  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.PC.AN.INCL find some coin.PC within bank.LOC  
 ‘We found few coins in the bank.’

### 8.2.3 Comparative

Comparative quantifiers give comparison in the size. They can stand alone or be paired with the preposition *tag* to compare the size of two sets.

When indicating a group of greater size, the comparative quantifier *þlws* is used.

*heg je rwkjan þlws vraha* .  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN need more money  
 ‘I need more money.’

*vo va þlws gratwnj tag pomravat* .  
 have.PRS.IPFV 2.SG.AN more apple.PL then orange.PC.DAT  
 ‘You have more apples than oranges.’

The quantifier *genþ* is used to indicate a set of acceptable size – that there is enough of the item. When used comparatively, it is used instead to indicate groups of an acceptable ratio.

*vo je genþ vraha* .  
 have.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN enough money  
 ‘I have enough money.’



### 8.3.2 *kont*

The interrogative *kont* is used to ask for number or amount. As the number is unknown, this determiner uses the singular form of the noun it asks about.

kont      oren   esk      heg      va      rwkjan .  
 how-many   coin   CL.INTR   PART.PRS.IPFV   2.SG.AN   require  
 ‘How many coins do you need?’

kont      ogd      do   hesp   esk      vo      eta   strand .  
 how-many   particle of sand   CL.INTR   have.PRS.IPFV   this   beach  
 ‘How many grains of sand are on this beach?’

### 8.3.3 *wkwa*

Used only with the genitive particle *ap*, the interrogative *wkwa* asks for belonging.

esk      pat      hwdr   ap      wkwa   khjrt .  
 CL.INTR   PART.PST.PFV   dog   CL.GEN   whose   yell  
 ‘Whose dog barked?’

paja   ap      wkwa   esk      en      va      jerv .  
 berry   CL.GEN   whose   CL.INTR   PART.PRS.IPFV   2.SG.AN   eat  
 ‘Whose berry are you eating?’

## 8.4 NUMBERS

Sonora classes numbers as determiners though they may be sometimes used as nouns. As with any determiner, numbers are placed before the noun they affect. More information on numerals can be found in section 12.4 Numerals.

tos      je      dortan   tfa   jswenjet .  
 PART.PRS.IPFV   1.SG.AN   carry   two   chair.PC  
 ‘I am carrying two chairs.’

kj      vjt   ampjastjet   serja .  
 PART.PRS.IPFV   five   lightbulb.PC   shine  
 ‘Five lightbulbs are shining.’





## 9.2 JSE

The preposition *jse* is used to identify a noun in place of another noun. It uses the dative case, giving a noun that was replaced by the preceding noun. *jse* should always be placed immediately after the noun that replaces the following noun.

كفتج جسه هودورا  
*kfotj jse hwdwra*  
cat.PL instead-of dog.PL.DAT  
'cats instead of dogs'

انت فحجش : هودورا هودورا جسه وناونا .  
*ent fej polf olwt jse vjonava .*  
PART.PST.PFV 3.PC.AN.EXCL drink beer instead-of wine.DAT  
'We drank beer instead of wine.'

## 9.3 MJOT AND VERP

The prepositions *mjot* and *verp* are used to clarify dative cases when required, though they can often be omitted due to context. Both maintain the dative case.

The preposition *mjot* is used to specify an action was taken with or alongside a noun. This does not indicate a tool used (as that is the purpose of the instrumental case), but a companion or accomplice to the action.

اوت جع جنجت مچوت كواما .  
*av je jnjnt mjot kavama .*  
PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN plan alongside friend.DAT  
'I am planning with a friend.'

دوت جع جراجك مچوت هودرا اپ جا .  
*dhot je gravjk mjot hwdra ap ja .*  
PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN fight alongside dog.DAT CL.GEN 1.SG.AN.DAT  
'I fought alongside my dog.'

The preposition *verp* is used to specify the inverse of *mjot* – against whom or what an action is taken.

اوت جع جنجت وراپ كواما .  
*av je jnjnt verp kavama .*  
PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN plan against friend.DAT  
'I am planning against a friend.'

dhot je gravjk verp hwdra ap ja .  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN fight against dog.DAT CL.GEN 1.SG.AN.DAT  
 'I fought against my dog.'

## 9.4 PAR

The preposition *par* indicates the purpose or cause of an action or situation. It is used with the dative case, detailing a noun which caused the action to take place.

pa fej tamla par kjat .  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.PC.AN.EXCL speak about 3.PC.AN.DAT  
 'We are talking about them.'

pat fej grjma par partana .  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.PC.AN.EXCL argue about beard.DAT  
 'We argued over the beard.'

en je jerv par strosa .  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN eat about stress.DAT  
 'I am eating due to the stress.'

## 9.1 PHA

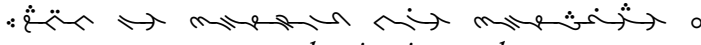
The preposition *pha* denotes an action or situation for every member of a specified group, using the dative case.


ka feksr ap vel tfa orenjt pha felsava .  
 be.PART.PRS.IPFV price CL.GEN water two coin.PC per bottle.DAT  
 'Water costs 2 coins per bottle.'

mato wna ljpt delagd pha pobwna .  
 PART.FUT.SMPL one point deduct per mistake.DAT  
 'One point will be deducted per mistake.'

## 9.2 SJAN

The preposition *sjan* indicates the absence or lack of an item, inverting a noun used in the instrumental case.

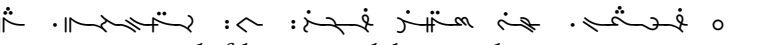

  
*orosos wn dwrgjt sjan dwrpotanon.*  
 PART.PRS.SMPL.ALE one boil without kettle.INS  
 ‘One can boil water without a kettle.’

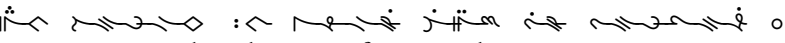

  
*rw je kondre rotfelo ap je sjan manwn.*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN drive bicycle CL.GEN 1.SG.AN without hand.PC.INS  
 ‘I’m riding my bike without my hands.’

## 9.3 TAG

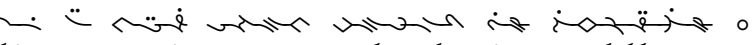
The preposition *tag* is used for comparison with adjectives and determiners. It presents a second noun (or set of nouns) that is being compared against. This preposition uses the dative case.

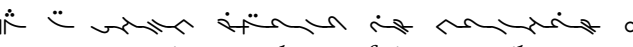
When used with adjectives, *tag* gives comparison of the trait to a second noun.


  
*vo avlwfel es elakra naved tag awtomra*  
 have.PRS.IPFV plane CL.ADV speed PART.EXH.CPV than car.DAT  
 ‘The plane is faster than the car.’


  
*vos lwmjþ es frjga naved tag twmtwra*  
 have.PRS.SMPL snow CL.ADV cold PART.EXH.CPV than rain.DAT  
 ‘Snow is colder than rain.’

When used with determiners, *tag* is used with comparatives that denote the size of sets.

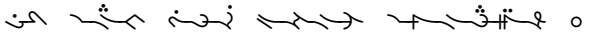

  
*kja je spera plws hwmjt tag laþkrenag.*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN see more house.PL than factory.PC.DAT  
 ‘I see more houses than factories.’

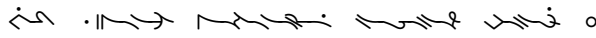

  
*vo je plws gafetjt tag stjltag.*  
 have.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN more fork.PL than knife.PC.DAT  
 ‘I own more forks than knives.’

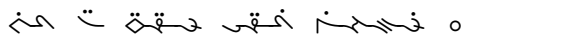
## 9.4 TIME AND SPACE PREPOSITIONS

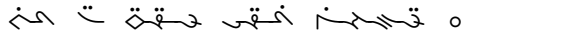
A large group of Sonoran prepositions deal with time and space, many of them utilizing the dative and the locative case to double in meaning.

Typically, the dative case is used for situations in which a noun is in movement towards a location in time or space, while the locative is used for situations where a noun is stable at a time or place.


  
*pat kjos tamla wljn kfjlover.*  
 PART.PST.PFV 3.PC.AN speak throughout movie.LOC  
 'They talked throughout the movie.'


  
*sat avjn fljgia wpwr hwma.*  
 PART.PST.PFV bird speak over house.DAT  
 'The bird flew over the house.'


  
*sat je berem preta falwma.*  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN walk up-to banner.DAT  
 'I walked up to the banner.'


  
*sat je berem preta falwme.*  
 PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN walk up-to banner.LOC  
 'I walked in front of the banner.'

The full table of time and space prepositions is as follows.

	<b>DAT</b>	<b>LOC</b>
<i>dsj</i>	into	in, within
<i>dwn</i>	under, beneath	beneath, below
<i>ersan</i>	around	encircle
<i>farþ</i>	behind	behind
<i>ilj</i>	between, through, among	between, among
<i>kfo</i>	to, nearing	at, near
<i>ljsko</i>	next to	beside
<i>mas</i>	out of, off	out, without, outside of
<i>nesen</i>	from, past/beyond	distant to, beyond
<i>preta</i>	up to	in front of
<i>tapr</i>	following	after
<i>wljn</i>	during	throughout
<i>wpwr</i>	over, across	above
<i>wr</i>	onto	on
<i>þel</i>	until	before



### 10.1.2 *akt*

The alternative conjunction *akt* presents non-contrasting alternatives between items or ideas, allowing for either choice to be made.

ⲕⲑⲟⲧ ⲁⲕⲧ ⲙⲱⲉⲣ

*kfot akt hwdr*

cat or dog

‘the cat or the dog’

ⲉⲛⲟ ⲉⲛⲟ ⲉⲧⲉⲛⲟ ⲕⲑⲁⲣⲥⲉ ⲁⲕⲧ ⲙⲁⲙⲡⲟⲛ .

PART.FUT.SMPL 1.SG.AN eat cheese or cold-cut

‘I will eat cheese or ham.’

ⲉⲥⲕ ⲥⲁⲧ ⲕⲉⲡ ⲡⲉⲣⲉⲙ ⲁⲕⲧ ⲥⲁⲧ ⲧⲣⲉⲥⲁ ⲁⲓ .

CL.GEN PART.PST.PFV 3.SG.AN walk or PART.PST.PFV run yes

‘Did he/she walk or run?’

### 10.1.3 *jl*

The conjunction *jl* combines alternative and cumulative conjunctions, presenting the possibility of alternation between or addition of two-non-contrasting ideas, allowing for either choice or both choices to be chosen.

ⲕⲑⲟⲧ ⲙⲱⲉⲣ ⲙⲱⲉⲣ

*kfot jl hwdr*

cat or dog

‘the cat and/or the dog’

ⲉⲛⲟ ⲉⲛⲟ ⲉⲧⲉⲛⲟ ⲕⲑⲁⲣⲥⲉ ⲓⲕⲧ ⲙⲁⲙⲡⲟⲛ .

PART.FUT.SMPL 1.SG.AN eat cheese or cold-cut

‘I will eat cheese and/or ham.’

ⲉⲥⲕ ⲥⲁⲧ ⲕⲉⲡ ⲡⲉⲣⲉⲙ ⲓⲕⲧ ⲥⲁⲧ ⲧⲣⲉⲥⲁ ⲁⲓ .

CL.GEN PART.PST.PFV 3.SG.AN walk or PART.PST.PFV run yes

‘Did he/she walk and/or run?’





### 10.1.6 *por*

The illative conjunction *por* presents a logical consequence to an item or idea. It is the inverse of the conjunction *jret*.

ھا لۋمچې دورا پور توس چه دورتان مانتل ۍ  
*ha lwmjþ dora þor tos je dortan mantel*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV snow fall so PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN wear coat  
 ‘It is snowing, so I am wearing a coat.’

دھوت ون هرډسا اوتومر-ا .  
*dhot wn herdsa awtomr-a*  
 PART.PST.PFV one damage car.RFR  
 ‘The car was damaged, ...’

پور کوس ځه-ا . ځه-ا گورېږم . ۍ  
*þor kost ځه-ا ځه-ا گورېږم . ۍ*  
 so PART.PST.PFV 3.SG.INAN.RFR break  
 ‘...so it broke.’

### 10.1.7 *jret*

The illative conjunction *jret* presents a logical rationale for an action or idea. It is the inverse of the conjunction *por*.

توس چه دورتان مانتل چرته ھا لۋمچې دورا ۍ  
*tos je dortan mantel jret ha lwmjþ dora*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN wear coat for PART.PRS.IPFV snow fall  
 ‘I am wearing a coat, for it is snowing.’

کوس اوتومر-ا گورېږم .  
*kost awtomr-a گورېږم*  
 PART.PST.PFV car.RFR break  
 ‘The car broke, ...’

چرته دھوت ون هرډسا ځه-ا . ۍ  
*jret dhot wn herdsa ځه-ا . ۍ*  
 for PART.PST.PFV one damage 3.SG.INAN.RFR  
 ‘...for it was damaged.’

## 10.2 SUBORDINATING CONJUNCTIONS

Subordinating conjunctions provide detail to a subordinate clause. In Sonoran, subordinating conjunctions can be used for a time when the subordinate clause took or will take place, or it can provide conditions in the form of conditional clauses.

A subordinating conjunction is always placed just before the subordinate clause, and subordinate clauses that make use of conjunctions are typically found at the end of a sentence.

### 10.2.1 Time

By utilising time prepositions (as found in section 9.5 Time and Space Prepositions) as conjunctions, one can place a subordinate clause in time. Note that the subject of the subordinate clause will take the dative or locative case depending on the meaning of the preposition.

جدهب : ة ءتجوت لرترا  
*jdeḥ je etjwṭ ljtra*  
PART.PST.PFV 1.sg.an learn read  
'I learned to read...'

تاپر اکت . ءة . اءبجا سکوول اکت .  
*tapr akt te adḥja skwǰv skol ak .*  
after PART.PST.PFV 1.SG.AN.LOC start attend school PART.SBRD  
'...after I started attending school.'

وت : ءب ءس فاما نال  
*vot keḥ es fama nal*  
have.PRS.IPFV 3.SG.AN CL.ADV hunger PART.MUT  
'He was hungry...'

ءب ءت : ءا ءءر ءبندا ءن .  
*ḥel ent ka jerv panda en .*  
until PART.PST.PFV 3.SG.AN.DAT eat bread PART.SBRD  
'...until he ate some bread.'

نەرن چەرئۆ ەت ەمتر  
*nest kep monga panda*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 3.SG.AN buy bread  
 ‘He bought the bread...’

ەن ەرن ەت ەمتر ەن ەرن ەت ەمتر  
*bel ent ke jerv ged en .*  
 before PART.PST.PFV 3.SG.AN.LOC eat 3.SG.INAN PART.SBRD  
 ‘...before he ate it.’

### 10.2.2 Conditional Clauses

Sonora also utilizes subordinating conjunctions to describe conditional clauses using the conjunction *pje*. Note that with past conditionals, the primary clause remains in the present tense and only the subordinate clause becomes a past tense.

نەسۆ چەرئۆ ت شتر  
*neso je monga rwken*  
 PART.FUT.SMPL 1.SG.AN buy food  
 ‘I will buy food...’

ەن ەرن ەت ەمتر ەن ەرن ەت ەمتر  
*pje neso je kwrwm fama nes .*  
 if PART.FUT.SMPL 1.SG.AN acquire hunger PART.SBRD  
 ‘...if I get hungry.’

ەن ەرن ەت ەمتر ەن ەرن ەت ەمتر  
*en je polf vel*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN drink water  
 ‘I would have drank water...’

ەن ەرن ەت ەمتر ەن ەرن ەت ەمتر  
*pje fe je es solfa ved vo .*  
 if have.PST.IPFV 1.SG.AN CL.ADV thirst PART.EXH PART.SBRD  
 ‘...if I were thirsty.’

# 11 INTERJECTIONS

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Interjections (INTJ) are words that occur on their own to express a feeling or reaction. These include exclamations, curses, greetings, responses, and more. Interjections typically compose their own sentences and don't typically interact with other classes of words.

The following are examples of interjections in Sonora.

· ٸ  
*aj*  
yes  
'yes'

ٸ  
*nej*  
no  
'no'

· ٸ  
*o*  
oh  
'oh'

· ٸ  
*awa*  
ouch  
'ouch'

· ٸ  
*agh*  
ugh  
'ugh'

· ٸ  
*alo*  
hello  
'hello'



Within each clause, word order is extremely important, especially within the verb clause. A subject must always be preceded by the verb particle and followed by the verb stem with only two exceptions – irregular verbs that lack a stem simply omit it, while the imperative voice moves the stem to the position of the particle and omits the particle (often omitting the subject as well).

*sa dwen herem .*  
 PART.PRS.IPFV man walk  
 'The man is walking.'

*kfi dwen .*  
 go.PRS.IPFV man  
 'The man is going.'

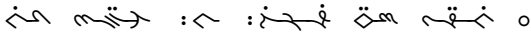
*tresa dwen .*  
 run man  
 'Run man.'

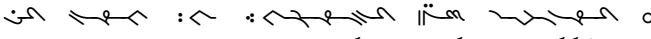
Beyond the clause construction, verb phrases are head-initial, with adverbs falling outside of the verb clause after the verb stem.

*sat dwen tresa es elakra vjk .*  
 PART.PST.PFV man run CL.ADV speed PART.ADV  
 'The man ran quickly.'

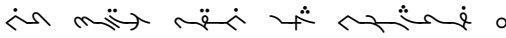
*pat wrs khjrt es oskrwt vjk .*  
 PART.PST.PFV bear yell CL.ADV roar PART.ADV  
 'The bear roared loudly.'

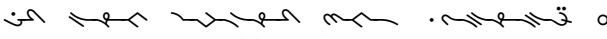
Noun phrases are similarly head-initial, with adjectives following the noun they affect.


  
*sat dwen es elakra ved tresa .*  
 PART.PST.PFV man CL.ADV speed PART.EXH run  
 ‘The fast man ran.’


  
*pat wrs es oskrwt ved khjrt .*  
 PART.PST.PFV bear CL.ADV roar PART.EXH yell  
 ‘The loud bear roared.’

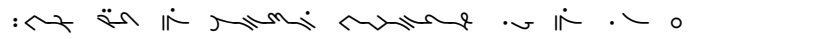
However, adpositional phrases as head-final, utilizing prepositions to give detail rather than postpositions.



  
*sat dwen tresa kfo skjotra .*  
 PART.PST.PFV man run to store.DAT  
 ‘The man ran to the store.’


  
*pat wrs khjrt dsj atwrwme .*  
 PART.PST.PFV bear yell in forest.LOC  
 ‘The bear roared in the forest.’

## 12.2 INTERROGATIVE CLAUSES

The interrogative voice (INTR) introduces the clitic *esk*, which always occurs directly before the verb particle. It is used for both polar and non-polar questions, simply indicating the sentence to be interrogative.


  
*esk get va nwdwa shwtr ap va aj .*  
 CL.INTR PART.PST.PFV 2.SG.AN clean room CL.GEN 2.SG.AN yes  
 ‘Did you clean your room?’


  
*esk get ktem nwdwa shwtr ap va .*  
 CL.INTR PART.PST.PFV who clean room CL.GEN 2.SG.AN  
 ‘Who cleaned your room?’



### 12.2.1 Polar Questions

Polar questions do not need any further syntax beyond the interrogative clitic, but are often strengthened anyway, adding the word “yes” – *aj* to the end of the sentence.

:esk .ak || va kalne tom aj .  
 CL.INTR PART.PRS.IPFV 2.SG.AN be-called Tom yes  
 ‘Are you called Tom?’

:esk :orw || va kondre aj .  
 CL.INTR PART.PRS.IPFV.ALE 2.SG.AN drive yes  
 ‘Can you drive?’

### 12.2.2 Non-polar Questions

Non-polar questions use the large suite of interrogative pronouns and determiners to ask for specifics on a topic. Such pronouns and determiners are typically brought to the start of a clause – though they do not have to be – followed by the clitic *esk* and the rest of the clause.

ktaden esk :eno :ons jerv .  
 when CL.INTR PART.FUT.SMPL 1.PC.AN.INCL eat  
 ‘When are we going to eat?’

kont gratwn esk vo ons .  
 how-many apple CL.INTR have.PRS.IPFV 1.PC.AN.INCL  
 ‘How many apples do we have?’

An exception to this involves the subject of the sentence, which cannot be brought to the start of the sentence and is never brought out in such a way.

:esk :ent ktem jerv pjskjn .  
 CL.INTR PART.PST.PFV who eat cookie  
 ‘Who ate the cookie?’

### 12.3 SUBORDINATE CLAUSES

Subordinate clauses add information to a sentence by way of a dependant clause. Forming a dependant clause in Sonoran utilizes duplication of the verb particle to make a subordination particle (SBRD), placing it at the end of the clause. This way, a subordinate clause begins and ends with a verb particle, though only the first is conjugated, leaving the subordination particle in its base form.

Subordinate clauses can be found anywhere in a sentence, though they are usually found directly after the noun they detail – even within a verb clause.

Referencing a noun within a subordinate clause is done with typical pronouns.

keje                      kɸjmov    kjat                      fej                      spera    ged                      kja  
 PART.FPST.PFV movie    PART.PST.PFV    1.PC.AN.EXCL watch 3.SG.INAN PART.SBRD  
 ‘The movie we watched...’

novja    dsj    kanader.  
 make in    Canada.LOC  
 ‘...was made in Canada.’

oren                      wn    vo                      keɸ  
 PART.PRS.IPFV.ALE    one have.PRS.IPFV    3.SG.AN  
 ‘Anyone who...’

es                      fama    nal                      vo                      jerv.  
 CL.ADV    hunger PART.MUT    PART.SBRD    eat  
 ‘...is hungry can eat.’



When combining other numbers, leading vowels replace trailing ones, except for the case of the numbers pairs beginning with a 1, which drop the trailing ‘a’ of *wna* in all situations, as well as the number 11 which pairs irregularly.

✂ ✂  
*wnwa*  
 11  
 ‘17’

✂ ✂  
*wntfa*  
 12  
 ‘18’

✂ =  
*tfakor*  
 24  
 ‘36’

##  
*djelep*  
 AE  
 ‘174’

✂ ✂ ✂  
*wna nwl*  
 1 00  
 ‘256’

✂ = ## ✂  
*wnkor septfa*  
 14 72  
 ‘5,234’

### 12.4.1 Cardinal Numbers

Using cardinal numbers is simple – they stand in as determiners directly before the noun whose number they indicate.

✂ ✂ ✂ ✂  
*kor mwɓjt*  
 four cow.PL  
 ‘four cows’

✂ : ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂  
*dja djgdj*  
 A finger.PL  
 ‘ten fingers’

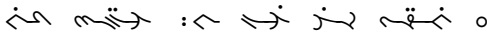
### 12.4.2 Ordinal Numbers and Frequency

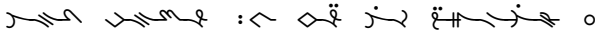
When used within an adjectival construction, numbers instead become ordinal, indicating position. This uses the exhibitive particle *ved*.

✂ ✂ ✂ : ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂  
*mwɓ es kor ved*  
 cow CL.ADV four PART.EXH  
 ‘fourth cow’

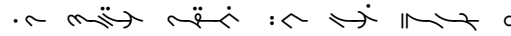
✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ : ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂  
*djgd es dja ved*  
 finger CL.ADV A PART.EXH  
 ‘tenth finger’


As they are formed with an adjectival construction, ordinal numbers cannot normally be used with verbs to form constructions such as ‘the man ran first’. Instead, this construction is formed with the mutative particle, attached to the subject.


  
*sat dwen es wna nal tresa .*
  
 PART.PST.PFV man CL.ADV one PART.MUT run
   
 ‘The man ran first.’


  
*nwt hwdr es pre nal revjnag .*
  
 PART.PST.PFV dog CL.ADV three PART.MUT awaken
   
 ‘The dog woke up third.’


Numbers can also be paired with the adverbial particle *vjk* to denote frequency.

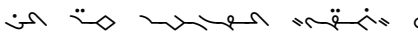

  
*sat dwen tresa es wna vjk .*
  
 PART.PST.PFV man run CL.ADV one PART.ADV
   
 ‘The man ran once.’


  
*nwt hwdr revjnag es pre vjk .*
  
 PART.PST.PFV dog awaken CL.ADV three PART.ADV
   
 ‘The dog woke up thrice.’

## 12.5 QUOTES

Sonora relays words spoken and thought – quotes – in quotation marks, though they are only implied in speech. Quotations are otherwise unmarked, acting as entirely separate sentences.


  
*pat kep tamla “kɟ je kfo hwma” .*
  
 PART.PST.PFV 3.SG.AN speak go.PRS.IPFV 1.SG.AN to home.DAT
   
 ‘He said, “I’m going home.”’


  
*pat kep khjrt “tresa” .*
  
 PART.PST.PFV 3.SG.AN yell run
   
 ‘She yelled, “Run!”’

# 13 PHRASEBOOK

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This section details common simple phrases that are used in day-to-day Sonoran. Wherever two phrases are presented, the first is colloquial and the second formal.

## 13.1 BASIC WORDS AND PHRASES

Yes

·  
aj

No

ت  
nej

Please

جسراڤ / مڇو ت جيسراڤا اپ وا .  
*jlsrav / mjot jlswra ap va .*

Thank you

گچو ت و گوا جي تاهه گچو ت و وا .  
*kjoptws / gvo je tavha kjoptws va .*

You're welcome

نولت / پورت نولت تاهه اچا تيا .  
*nwlt / pwrt nwlt tavra ejgatja .*

Sorry

پروما / گوا جي تاهه پروما وا .  
*proma / gvo je tavha proma va .*

## 13.2 GREETINGS

Hello

چاڪ ت ناڪ .  
*jastak / jag es tak nal .*

Hi, Bye

ٽاڻ  
*jave*

Goodbye

رڃگارڊ / رڃواڻا جي گارڊ ناڪ .  
*rwjgard / rwjav es gard nal .*

How are you?

جگ پاسانت آج . / اسک کا جگ اپ وا اس پاسانت نال آج .  
jag pasant aj . / esk ka jag ap va es pasant nal aj .

I am well

پاسانت / کا گد اس پاسانت نال .  
pasant / ka ged es pasant nal .

Pleased to meet you.

جیل سوار / کا جے اس جیل سوار نال پار ونجا اپ انس .  
jlswr / ka je es jlswr nal par wnja ap ons .

Good morning

انڈم / انڈم اس گلک نال .  
andem / andem es glok nal .

Good afternoon

پوسٹان / پوسٹان اس گلک نال .  
postan / postan es glok nal .

Good evening

جیلٹس / جیلٹس اس گلک نال .  
jltos / jltos es glok nal .

Good night

وڑپووم / وڑپووم اس گلک نال .  
wrpwm / wrpwm es glok nal .

### 13.3 SURVIVAL PHRASES

I don't speak Sonoran.

نہا جے تاملہ سونورا .  
nepa je tamla sonora .

I don't understand [you].

نہجڈ جے ویمیترا وا .  
nejd je vemetra va .

Do you speak English?

اسک پاس وا تاملہ انگیلس آج .  
esk pas va tamla engljs aj .

Please speak English.

تاملہ انگیلس جیل سوار .  
tamla engljs jlsrav .

Can you repeat yourself?

o . . . . .  
esk orver va mj tolot aj .

What does this word mean?

o . . . . .  
ktwnon esk jd je vemetra eta mort .

What does this phrase mean?

o . . . . .  
ktwnon esk jd je vemetra eta vestjn .

Please speak more slowly.

o . . . . .  
tamla es plws nelakra vjk jlsrav .

I don't know.

o . . . . .  
njd je .

I'm lost.

o . . . . .  
kw je mj grosel .

Help!

o . . . . .  
awden je .

### 13.4 NUMBERS

Zero

nwl

Four

kor

One

wna

Five

vjt

Two

tfa

Six

sek

Three

pre

Seven

sep



Eight

  
*ota*

Nine

  
*njf*

Ten

  
*dja*

Eleven

  
*elep*

Twelve

  
*tseta*

Thirteen

  
*des*


Fourteen

  
*here*

Fifteen

  
*fl*

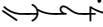
Sixteen

  
*wnws*

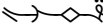
Seventeen

  
*wnwa*


Eighteen

  
*wntfa*


Nineteen

  
*wnpre*

Twenty

  
*wnkor*

Thirty

  
*wnhere*

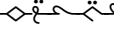
Forty

  
*tfota*


Fifty

  
*pretfa*

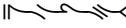
Sixty

  
*pretseta*


Seventy

  
*korsek*

Eighty

  
*vjtws*

Ninety

  
*vjtdja*


One hundred

  
*sekkor*

Two hundred

  
*tsetota*

One thousand

  
*pre herota*

Two thousand

  
*sep desws*

## 13.5 TIME, DAY, AND WEATHER

Morning

دندەر.  
*andem*

Afternoon

دندوشت  
*postan*

Evening

دندوشت  
*jltos*

Monday

دندوشت.  
*andjag*

Tuesday

دندوشت  
*tapjag*

Wednesday

دندوشت  
*kestjag*

Thursday

دندوشت  
*pjvjag*

Friday

دندوشت  
*wrbjag*

Saturday

دندوشت  
*lawjag*

Sunday

دندوشت  
*soljag*

Day

دندوشت  
*jag*

Night

دندوشت  
*wrbwm*

Week

دندوشت  
*vjkan*

Month

دندوشت  
*elwn*

It's sunny.

دندوشت  
*kj solws serja .*

It's cloudy.

دندوشت  
*orst nwalj sogvr .*

It's raining.

دندوشت  
*ha twmtwr dora .*

It's windy.

دندوشت  
*kfj vena .*

It's hot.

دندوشت  
*elh je khala .*

It's cold.

دندوشت  
*elh je frjga .*





Is breakfast included?

esk vol feksr sfera andemjerv aj .  
*esk vol feksr sfera andemjerv aj .*

I have a reservation.

vo je revarant .  
*vo je revarant .*

How much is a room per night?

kont vraha esk ka feksr ap shwtr pha wrpwmm .  
*kont vraha esk ka feksr ap shwtr pha wrpwmm .*

When is checkout time?

ktaden esk hekff je partat .  
*ktaden esk hekff je partat .*

I'd like to check out.

vjkff je partat .  
*vjkff je partat .*

### 13.8 FOOD AND DRINK

Restaurant

jerkren  
*jerkren*

Beer

olwt  
*olwt*

Café

kofhwtr  
*kofhwtr*

Wine

vjona  
*vjona*

Water

vel  
*vel*

Breakfast

andemjerv  
*andemjerv*

Juice

swn  
*swn*

Lunch

posdeplat  
*posdeplat*

Coffee

kofe  
*kofe*

Dinner

jildeplat  
*jildeplat*

Tea

the  
*the*

I'd like a table for two.

◦ .  
*vje je osgen kfo potele mjot dwnwma .*

Can I have the menu, please?

◦ .  
*tavha valjsta ja jlsrav .*

I'd like to order.

◦ .  
*vjheg je reket .*

I'll have this.

◦ .  
*heg je reket eta tavra .*

That's all, thanks.

◦ .  
*ka reketr es jomslat nal kjoptws .*

I'm hungry.

◦ .  
*vo je es fama nal .*

I'm full.

◦ .  
*vo je es nefama nal .*

I don't eat meat.

◦ .  
*nenes je jerv vrjht .*

This is delicious.

◦ .  
*vo eta rwken es jlswr ved .*



## 13.10 HEALTH

I don't feel well.

○ *nelh je santws . / elh je malvot .*      ○ *חשׁוֹן זַנְזַן תַּ:רַב*

I have a fever.

○ *vo glot ap je es khala ved .*      ○ *חַשׁוֹן זַנְזַן תַּ:רַב*

I have a runny nose.

○ *ha smwk ap je trepja .*      ○ *חַשׁוֹן זַנְזַן תַּ:רַב*

I feel like vomiting.

○ *orne je gvota .*      ○ *חַשׁוֹן זַנְזַן תַּ:רַב*

I feel dizzy.

○ *fa glot ap je jratja .*      ○ *חַשׁוֹן זַנְזַן תַּ:רַב*

I have an upset stomach.

○ *vo pojmak ap je skrap .*      ○ *חַשׁוֹן זַנְזַן תַּ:רַב*

It hurts here.

○ *vo eta tavra skrap .*      ○ *חַשׁוֹן זַנְזַן תַּ:רַב*

I have an allergy.

○ *vo je algir .*      ○ *חַשׁוֹן זַנְזַן תַּ:רַב*



# 14 SAMPLE TEXTS

The following texts are presented in Sonoran orthography, romanization, gloss, and translation.

## 14.1 ARTICLE 1 OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

vos kas alt dwnwm es nesden nal ka vapalan e vos kwj es regjn egved okrestje egnal tag ma . vos kwj jnlatja e samvjwd e garffs kwj opratr mjot ma .

*vos kas alt dwnwm es nesden nal ka vapalan e vos kwj es regjn egved okrestje egnal tag ma . vos kwj jnlatja e samvjwd e garffs kwj opratr mjot ma .*

vos kas alt dwnwm es nesden nal ka  
have.PRS.SMPL be.PRS.SMPL each human CL.ADV birth PART.MUT PART.SBRD  
'All human beings are born...'

vapalan e vos kwj es regjn  
freedom and have.PRS.SMPL 3.PL.AN CL.ADV dignity  
'...free and equal in dignity...'

egved okrestje egnal tag ma .  
PART.EXH.EQV right.PL PART.MUT.EQV than PRON.REFL.AN.DAT  
'...and rights.'

vos kwj jnlatja e samvjwd e  
HAVE.PRS.SMPL 3.PL.AN intellect and conscience and  
'They are endowed with reason and conscience and...'

garffs kwj opratr mjot ma .  
PART.PRS.SMPL.POT 3.PL.AN act alongside PRON.REFL.AN.DAT  
'...should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.'



kjane kjos spera revejwn-o kfen keþ kfj  
 PART.FPST.PFV 3.PC.AN see traveller.RFR go.FPST.IPFV 3.SG.AN PART.SBRD  
 ‘They saw a traveler traveling...’

e kane kjos eljgat revaljt par orekses  
 and PART.FPST.PFV 3.PC.AN choose compete about PART.PRS.SMPL.ALE  
 ‘...and chose to compete over...’

kwe ma es wna nal verdja mantel ap keþ-o.  
 which PRON.REF.AN.DAT CL.ADV one PART.MUT remove remove coat CL.GEN3.SG.AN.RFR  
 ‘...which of them could first remove his cloak.’

ake vena es venor ved wna nal adþja .  
 PART.FPST.PFV wind CL.ADV north PART.EXH one PART.MUT begin  
 ‘The North Wind began first.’

orse keþ-a metjer sprjgja es mwrgjwm ved  
 PART.FPST.PFV 3.SG.AN.RFR send blast CL.ADV power PART.EXH  
 ‘It sent a powerful blast...’

kfo revejwna eksen keþ-a verdja es swlakerwm  
 to traveler.DAT PART.FPST.IPFV 3.SG.AN.RFR remove CL.ADV representation  
 ‘...at the traveler, almost removing...’

vjk mantel ap keþ-o eks .  
 PART.ADV coat CL.GEN 3.SG.AN.RFR PART.SBRD  
 ‘...his cloak.’

tose revejwn ersan me dortan e etrok  
 PART.FPST.PFV traveler around PRON.REFL.AN.LOC hold and secure  
 ‘The traveler held onto the cloak and secured it...’





**tjor ap papel**

ve telwra es jomslat ved wna sonora-a panen alt dwnwmj tamla keþ-a pa . ofe dwnwmj kfen kwj-e kfo ereva kfi trjna parel dsj sjnare e ake kwj-e rakajstra ged .

pane kwj-e tamla ma "þola kejh os novja mwrkagje e kejh jwld pakan es jomslat vjk" . keje kwj-e novja mwrkagnwn jse kagvaj e tara jse klepwija . tapr met ktaden pane kwj-e tamla "þola kejh os novja vjla e tjor tolo ged petat sjel tol þor neso os kwrwm keleþor . pje nekejh os novja kej jws loso os traft mj wr telwrer es jomslat ved" .

jke gdejw þola spera vjla e tjor kejnen dwnwmj novja jws kej . pane gdejw tamla "pje akeþ alt dwnwm pas kwj tamla wna sonora pa adþja novja eta tavra voh nwl tavra aves kwj jnjnt av es nwlvod ved . wto je skrjmos sonora ap kwj þor nejdo kwj vemetra mj" .

tapr met ktaden lose gdejw traft kwj-e nesen egr lokate wr telwrer es jomslat ved e kfane kwj-e apet novja vjla . ake ged kalne papel jret dsj egr lokate wte gdejw skrjmos sonora ap telwra es jomslat ved . nesen egr lokate lose gdejw traft kwj-e wr telwrer es jomslat ved .

|| -فثثث : هتئا هنرورث :  
ve telwra es jomslat ved wna sonora-a  
have.FPST.PFV earth CL.ADV whole PART.EXH one language.RFR  
'The whole world had one language...'

○ ٠ -٠٠ : - :  
panen alt dwnwmj-e tamla keþ-a pa .  
PART.FPST.IPFV each person.PL.RFR speak 3.SG.AN.RFR PART.SBRD  
'...which all people spoke.'

٠ : : :  
ofe dwnwmj kfen kwj-e kfo ereva kfi  
PART.FPST.PFV person.PL go.FPST.IPFV 3.PL.AN.RFR to east.DAT PART.SBRD  
'The people who were moving eastward...'

○ : : :  
trjna parel dsj sjnare e ake kwj-e rakajstra ged .  
find plain in Shinar.LOC and PART.FPST.PFV 3.PL.AN.RFR settle 3.sg.inan  
'...found a plain in Shinar and they settled there.'

pane kwj-e tamla ma  
 PART.FPST.PFV 3.PL.AN.RFR speak PRON.REF.AN.DAT  
 ‘They said to each other,...’

“pola kejh os novja mwrkagje  
 come PART.FUT.SMPL 1.PL.AN.INCL make brick.PL  
 ‘...“Come, we will make bricks...’

e kejh jwld pakan es jomslat vjk”.  
 and PART.FUT.SMPL 3.PL.INAN bake CL.ADV whole PART.ADV  
 ‘...and bake them entirely.’

keje kwj-e novja mwrkagnwn jse kagvaj  
 PART.FPST.PFV 3.PL.AN.RFR make brick.PL.INS instead-of stone.PL.DAT  
 ‘They built with brick instead of stone,...’

e tara jse klepwtja .  
 and tar instead-of mortar.DAT  
 ‘...and tar for mortar.’

tapr met ktaden pane kwj-e tamla  
 after that.INAN time part.fpst.pfv 3.pl.an.rfr speak  
 ‘Then they said,...’

“pola kejh os novja vjla e tjor tolo ged  
 come PART.FUT.SMPL 1.PL.AN.INCL build city and tower PART.FUT.SMPL 3.SG.INAN  
 ‘...“Come, we will build a city and a tower that...’

petat sjel tol bor neso os kwrwm keļpor .  
 touch sky PART.SBRD so PART.FUT.SMPL 1.PL.AN.INCL gain fame  
 ‘...touches the sky, so that we become known.’





wto je skrjmos sonora ap kwj bor  
 PART.FUT.SMPL 1.SG.AN disrupt language CL.GEN 3.PL.AN so  
 ‘I will confuse their language so...’

nejdo kwj vemetra mj”  
 PART.FUT.SMPL.NEG 3.PL.AN understand PRON.REF.AN.NOM  
 ‘...they will not understand each other.’

tapr met ktaden lose gdejw traft kwj-e  
 after that.INAN time PART.FPST.PFV god scatter 3.PL.AN.RFR  
 ‘Then the Lord scattered them...’

nesen egr lokate wr telwrer es jomslat ved  
 from that.INAN location.LOC on earth.LOC CL.ADV whole PART.EXH  
 ‘...from there over the entire earth,...’

e kfane kwj-e apet novja vjla .  
 and PART.FPST.PFV 3.PL.AN.RFR stop build city  
 ‘...and they stopped building the city.’

ake ged kalne papel jret dsj egr lokate  
 PART.FPST.PFV 3.SG.INAN be-called Babel for in that.INAN place.LOC  
 ‘It was called Babel because there...’

wte gdejw skrjmos sonora ap  
 PART.FPST.PFV god disrupt language CL.GEN  
 ‘...the Lord confused the language of...’

telwra es jomslat ved .  
 earth CL.ADV whole PART.EXH  
 ‘...the whole earth.’

