

## Chapter 3

### Word Classes

This chapter describes different word classes in Kayan Lahta. There are two primary word class categories, major word class and minor word classes. Nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs are considered the major word classes. Pronouns, classifiers, demonstratives, numerals, quantifiers, conjunctions, localizers and topic marker are considered the minor word classes.

#### 3.1 Major word classes

The four major classes: nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs are discussed in this section. In the noun section, proper nouns, common nouns, compound nouns, abstract nouns and nominalizers are included. Compound nouns are sub-divided into subordinate compounds, attributive compounds, coordinate compounds and idiomatic compounds. Transitivity, aspect and modals are included in the verb section.

##### 3.1.1 Nouns

In Kayan Lahta, a noun is a word class that refers to both of concrete and abstract ideas. It is a word class whose members function as a head in a noun phrase. The head noun is modified by the other elements such as adjectives, numerals and classifiers. It refers to the same entity that the whole phrase refers to. Examples (1) and (2) show noun phrases in which a common noun functions as the head.

(1) *fwiJ duJ tainʔ dəʔl*  
*dog big three clf*  
N ADJ NUM CLF  
'three big dogs'

(2) *jəŋJ duJ lwiJ maʔ*  
*house big four clf*  
N ADJ NUM CLF  
'four big houses'

In these two noun phrases, (1) and (2), the nouns, *ʃwiː* 'dog' and *jəŋː* 'house' function as heads and they are followed by adjectives, numerals and classifiers.

The schema for a noun is:

$[N_{\text{HEAD}} (\text{ADJ}) (\text{QNT}) (\text{NUM}) (\text{DEM}) (\text{CLF})]_N$

This means that nouns are optionally followed by these elements: adjectives, quantifiers, numbers, demonstratives and classifiers.

### 3.1.1.1 Proper noun

In Kayan Lahta proper nouns express the name of the person or place. They do not occur with numerals. A proper noun refers to a specific individual person or place. Examples below show proper nouns that express the name of a specific person.

(3) *aʔʔ*            *θəːviː*  
*Ai*                *hungry*  
 N.PROP        v  
 'Ai is hungry.'

The nouns that express a place can co-occur with a common noun such as a place, village, mountain etc.

The following are examples of proper nouns that express a place.

(4) *doːŋʔ*        *pəːpaːʔ*  
*village*        *Papai*  
 N                NPROP  
 'the village Papai'

(5) *doːŋʔ*        *tjuː*  
*village*        *Tju*  
 N                NPROP  
 'the village Tju'

In Kayan Lahta, proper nouns can be associated with titles. For people, the title precedes the proper noun. But, for the other proper nouns, the title can either precede or follow the noun.

(6) *mu* *aʔ*  
*miss Ai*  
 TITLE N.PROP  
 'Miss Ai'

(7) \**aʔ* *mu*  
*Ai miss*  
 N.PROP TITLE  
 'Mu Ai'

In example (6), the title precedes the proper noun that expresses a person, *aʔ*. It is unnatural for the proper noun that expresses a person to precede the title as shown in example (7). The title can precede or follow the other proper noun as in examples (8) and (9).

(8) *doʔ* *pa**pa**t*  
*village Papai*  
 N N.PROP  
 'Papai village'

(9) *Pa**pa**t* *doʔ*  
*Papai village*  
 N.PROP N  
 'Papai village'

### 3.1.1.2 Common nouns

In Kayan Lahta, a common noun names people, places, things, or ideas. Different from proper nouns, a common noun is usually found with a classifier or with both number and classifier. Sometimes it can be found with a possessive pronoun. The following examples show common nouns that occur with related classifiers.

(10) *fwi* *lwi* *daʔ*  
*dog four clf*  
 N NUM CLF  
 'four dogs'

(11) *θə**kwə**θa* *lwi* *ma**t*  
*mango four clf*  
 N NUM CLF  
 'four mangos'

(12) *plaʼbəʃtaʃ* *ɲəŋʰ* *plaʃ*  
 child two clf  
 N NUM CLF  
 ‘the two children’

In example (10), the classifier *dəʔʔ* is used for the large, four-legged animal. The classifier *maʃ* is for the fruit as shown in example (11). The human classifier, *plaʃ* is associated with a human in example (12).

In example (13), a common noun occurs with a possessive pronoun.

(13) *veʃ* *maʃ*  
 2s wife  
 PRO N  
 ‘your wife’

In Kayan Lahta, a common noun can be found with only a classifier and no number if it denotes the number one or when the noun has been previously introduced. See the example below.

(14) *plaʼbəʃtaʃ* *plaʃ*  
 child clf  
 N CLF  
 ‘the/a child’

In the example above, the common noun, *plaʼbəʃtaʃ* ‘child’ is directly followed by the classifier *plaʃ* without any number. The meaning is that there is only one child. Or if it is in a story, the child has been previously introduced.

### 3.1.1.3 Compound nouns

A compound noun in Kayan Lahta is made up of two or more words. Most compound nouns in Kayan Lahta are formed by nouns modified by other nouns or adjectives. These are very common in this language. Compound nouns can be divided into subordinate compounds, attribute compounds, coordinate compounds and idiomatic compounds.

#### 3.1.1.3.1 Subordinate compound

Subordinate compounds are derived from relationships that often are marked by the possessive in English. There are many relationships included in the idea of subordination.

a) Both elements are nouns and the first noun functions as the larger whole of which the second noun is a part of. [N-N]<sub>N</sub>

(15) θəŋJ-θəJ  
tree-fruit  
N-N  
'fruit'

(16) θəŋJ-kwiŋ  
tree-root  
N-N  
'root'

(17) t<sup>h</sup>uJ-rwiŋ  
bird-sparrow  
N-N  
'sparrow'

b) The first element is noun and the second element is also noun that occurs as a localizer. They are historically nouns but now in Kayan Lahta they only occur as locations. [N-LOCZ]<sub>N</sub>

(18) jəŋJ-k<sup>h</sup>uJ  
house-top  
N-LOCZR  
'roof'

(19) lo<sup>h</sup>ŋJ-kuʔŋ  
stone-inside  
N-LOCZR  
'cave'

c) The first element is a noun and the second element is a verb with the resulting nominal specifying one type of action normally denoted by the verb. [N-V]<sub>N</sub>

(20) ta+moŋ  
thing-do  
N-V  
'work/job'

### 3.1.1.3.2 Attributive compounds

Attributive compounds are derived from a modified noun phrase where one element modifies the head element. [N-ADJ]<sub>N</sub>

(21) *ʃəʔʔ-nəŋʃ*  
*water-sweet*  
N-ADJ  
'coffee'

(22) *baŋʃ-tʰuʃ*  
*weapon-long*  
N-ADJ  
'spear'

(23) *biʃ-poŋʃ*  
*bean-rotten*  
N-ADJ  
'soybean'

### 3.1.1.3.3 Coordinate compounds

A coordinate compound is composed by two elements that have the same meaning or the opposite meaning and neither can be clearly identified as the head.

(24) *vəʃ-veʃ*  
*younger-elder*  
N-N  
'sibling'

(25) *məiŋʃ-pʰaʃ*  
*mother-father*  
N-N  
'parents'

(26) *pʰəʔʃ-ləʃ*  
*short-tall*  
ADJ-ADJ  
'high'

### 3.1.1.3.4 Idiomatic compounds

Idiomatic compounds are those whose meaning cannot be predicted from the internal parts. There are very few examples of idiomatic compounds in this Kayan Lahta data.

- (27) *çwiJ-fəʔʔ*  
*blood-water*  
N-N  
'energy'

### 3.1.1.4 Abstract nouns

Another class of nouns is abstract nouns. Abstract nouns might express emotion. In Kayan Lahta abstract nouns are formed by adding the nominalizer *taJ* to verbs or adjectives. They cannot be used with classifiers or numerals. The following are examples of abstract nouns.

- (28) *taJshʰaŋʔpʰuJveʔ*  
*love*  
N  
'love'

- (29) *taJlwiʔ*  
*think*  
N  
'thinking'

- (30) *taJblaʔ*  
*lazy*  
N  
'laziness'

In examples (28) and (29), *taJ* is added to the verbs, *shʰaŋʔpʰuJveʔ* 'love' and *lwiʔ* 'think' to form the abstract noun. Similar to this, *taJ* is added to the adjective *blaʔ* 'lazy' to form the abstract noun *taJblaʔ* 'laziness' in example (30). The nominalizing use of this prefix is discussed in section 3.1.1.5.

### 3.1.1.5 Nominalizers

*ta/* and *ə/* are two nominalizers in Kayan Lahta. The *ta/* nominalizer is used for verb nominalization. *ə/* changes not only an adjectives but also verbs into a noun.

Table 8 Verb nominalization

	Examples	Gloss	Example	Gloss
a.	<i>mo/</i>	'make/do'	<i>ta/ mo/</i>	'job/ work'
b.	<i>aŋ/</i>	'eat'	<i>ta/ aŋ/</i>	'food'
c.	<i>iŋ/</i>	'shadowy'	<i>ə/ iŋ/</i>	'shadow'
d.	<i>s<sup>h</sup>aŋʔ/</i>	'join'	<i>ə/ s<sup>h</sup>aŋʔ/</i>	'joint'

Table 9 Adjective nominalization

	Examples	Gloss	Examples	Gloss
a.	<i>bu/</i>	'white'	<i>ə/ bu/</i>	'whiteness'
b.	<i>bwaŋ/</i>	'fat'	<i>ə/ bwaŋ/</i>	'grease'
c.	<i>lə/</i>	'tall'	<i>ə/ lə/</i>	'highness'
d.	<i>p<sup>h</sup>iə/</i>	'short'	<i>ə/ p<sup>h</sup>iə/</i>	'shortness'

In other Kayan dialects, a nominalizer nominalises not only the word but also a phrase. But no example is found in this Kayan Lahta data.

### 3.1.2 Verbs and verb morphology

In this section, verb and verb morphology are discussed.

#### 3.1.2.1 Copula

In Kayan Lahta, copulas are used to link the subject to the complement. The following table give the different copula used in different situation. See 5.3.1.



Table 10 Copulas in Kayan Lahta

Locative copula	<i>oʃ</i>
Existential copula	<i>oʃ</i>
Equative copula	<i>mwaʰ</i>

### 3.1.2.2 Aspect and modals

Kayan has no grammatical tense marking. Aspects and modals are used to make temporal distinctions in Kayan Lahta. This section shows different aspects and modals in Lahta. Aspect and modals are discussed in chapter 6.

Table 11 Aspect in Kayan Lahta

Aspect	Meaning	
<i>həʃ</i>	complete	See 6.3.1
<i>kaʰ</i>	negative result	See 6.10.7
<i>oʃ</i>	on going	See 6.3.3
<i>mjaŋ lɛʰəʃ</i>	finish	See 6.3.2
<i>daʃ</i>	ability	See 6.3
<i>moʃ</i>	cause	See 6.6

### 3.1.3 Adjective

In Kayan Lahta, adjectives are the words that modify nouns or noun phrase in a sentence. They identify, describe or qualify the nouns. They are preceded by the head noun that they modify and followed by the classifier or a quantifier phrase in a noun phrase. The following examples are adjectives that modify nouns.

- (31) *pluʃ piʃ plaʃ*  
*child small clf*  
 N ADJ CLF  
 'a small child'

- (32) *jəŋJ duJ lwiJ maʔ*  
*house big four clf*  
 N ADJ NUM CLF  
 'four big houses'

In examples (31) and (32) the adjectives *piʔ* 'small' and *duJ* 'big' follow the nouns, *pluʔ* 'child' and *jəŋJ* 'house' and precede the classifier *plaJ* and the quantifier phrase *lwiJ maʔ* 'four house'.

The following examples are predicative uses in sentences.

- (33) *pʰuʔʔ plaJ mɛJ blaʔ*  
*son clf top lazy*  
 N CLF TOP ADJ  
 'The son is lazy.'

- (34) *ʃwiJ kəʃmiJ ləʔ*  
*dog tail long*  
 N N ADJ  
 'dog's long tail' or 'The dog's tail is long.'

In example (33), the adjective follows the topic marker *mɛJ*. In the example (34), the topic marker is omitted.

### 3.1.4 Adverb

In Kayan Lahta, adverbs are the words that modify verbs in a sentence. They can also modify adjectives and other adverbs.

In example (35), the adverb modifies the verb and it follows the verb.

- (35) *pʰuʔ dəJ pʰaʔ ŋaŋʔ laʃkwaʔloJ*  
*father conj father sit together*  
 N CO.CONJ N V ADV  
 'The father and the son are sitting together.'

Most of the adverbs are reduplicated. In this case, having two adverbs means 'very'. see example (36).

- (36) *bəʃuJ lwaŋJ lwaʔ lwaʔ sʰaŋʔ*  
*PaO run slowly slowly elephant*  
 N.RPOP V ADV ADV N  
 'PaO runs very slowly after the elephant.'

## 3.2 Minor word class

The minor word classes: pronouns, classifiers, interrogatives, demonstratives, quantifiers, conjunctions and localizers are discussed in this section.

### 3.2.1 Pronoun

A pronoun is a pro-form that can replace a noun, noun phrase or another pronoun. If the noun has been already mentioned, a pronoun is used to avoid repetition in the discourse.

(37) *aʔɪ*     *ŋəʔmaŋɟ*     *muɟ*  
*Ai*     *dream*     *Mu*  
NPROP    V                    N.PROP  
'Ai dream of Mu.'

(38) *veɫ*     *ŋəʔmaŋɟ*     *ɲaɫ*  
*2s*     *dream*     *1s*  
PRO     V                    PRO  
'You dream of me.'

In example (38) the second person singular pronouns *veɫ* substitutes for the proper noun *aʔɪ* of example (37) and the first person pronoun *ɲaɫ* substitutes the proper noun *muɟ*.

#### 3.2.1.1 Personal pronouns

A personal pronoun refers to a person or thing. A pronoun form may change according to the gender, number or person of the pronoun referent. In some languages, subject personal pronouns have to be changed in order to be used as object personal pronouns. In English, personal pronouns are distinguished by person and their grammatical roles as subject or object. Different from English, subject personal pronouns cannot be lexically distinguished from object person pronouns in Kayan Lahta.

(39) *ɲaɫ*     *ŋəʔmaŋɟ*     *veɫ*  
*1s*     *dream*     *2s*  
PRO     V                    PRO  
'I dream of you.'

- (40) *veʔ*      *ŋəʔmaŋʃ*    *ŋaʔ*  
 2s      dream      1s  
 PRO      V      PRO  
 'You dream of me.'

By looking at the two examples (39) and (40), it is clear that the subject personal pronoun for the first person singular is *ŋaʔ* and the object personal pronoun is also *ŋaʔ*. Likewise, the subject personal pronoun for the second person singular is *veʔ* and the object personal pronoun is also *veʔ*.

In Kayan Lahta, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>th</sup> personal plural pronouns are derived by adding the suffix *ŋdoʃ* to the singular form. And the 1<sup>st</sup> personal plural pronoun is derived by adding the *puʔ* to the singular form.

Table 12 Personal pronouns in Kayan Lahta

	Singular	Plural
First person (Inclusive)	<i>ŋaʔ</i>	<i>ŋaʔpuʔ</i>
Second person	<i>veʔ</i>	<i>veʔŋdoʃ</i>
Third person	<i>ŋplaʔ</i>	<i>ŋplaʔdoʃ</i>

In Kayan Lahta, pronouns replace not only noun phrase, they can replace a single noun. In these examples, the noun (42) and noun phrase (43) are replaced by the personal pronoun.

- (41) *pəʔkʰuʔʃ*    *ŋəŋʔ*    *plaʃ*    *oʃ*    *ləʔkwaʔloʃ*    *ʃəŋʃ*    *kuʔʃ*  
 man    two    clf    exist    together    house    in  
 N      NUM    CLF    V      ADJ      N      LOCZR  
 'The two men live together in a house.'

- (42) *ŋplaʔdoʃ*    *ŋəŋʔ*    *plaʃ*    *oʃ*    *ləʔkwaʔloʃ*    *ʃəŋʃ*    *kuʔʃ*  
 3pl      two    clf    exist    together    house    in  
 PRO      NUM    CLF    V      ADJ      N      LOCZR  
 'The two of them live together in a house.'

(43) *mplaɫdoɫ oɫ ɫəɫkwaɫloɫ jəŋɫ kuʔɫ*  
 3pl exist together house in  
 PRO V ADJ N LOCZR  
 'They live together in a house.'

### 3.2.1.2 Interrogative pronouns

Interrogative pronouns are used to ask questions. The following are the interrogative pronouns in Kayan Lahta.

Table 13 Interrogative pronouns in Kayan Lahta

Form	Gloss
<i>səɫmɛɫ</i>	who
<i>səɫɲɛɫ</i>	what
<i>tʰuɫ doɫ məɫ kʰɛɫ</i>	when (future)
<i>pjɲɫ doɫ məɫ kʰɛɫ</i>	when (past)
<i>ɲbɛɫ</i>	where
<i>ɲwɛɫ</i>	why
<i>aʔɫsʰaɫ</i>	how many

The follow examples show interrogative pronouns which are used in questions.

(44) *veɫ moɫ səɫɲɛɫ*  
 2s do what  
 PRO V Q  
 'What are you doing?'

(45) *veɫ ɲəiŋɫ ɛɫ baɫ səɫɲɛɫ*  
 2s cry quest happen why  
 PRO V Q V Q  
 'Why do you cry?'

In Kayan Lahta, *ɛɫ* is the interrogative marker which is used to ask questions that have a 'yes' or 'no' answer.

(46) *fuʔlkʰiŋt njonʔ εʔ θiʔʔ*  
*Phekhon language quest know*  
 N.PROP N Q V  
 'Do you know Phekhon language?'

(47) *veʔ εʔ aŋʔ mjəŋʔtʰəʔ jɛŋʔ*  
*2s quest eat finish cooked-rice*  
 PRO Q V V N  
 'Have you finished eating?'

In the examples (46) and (47), *εʔ* is used to ask the question. The interrogative marker *εʔ* is always followed by the verb in both examples.

### 3.2.1.3 Possessive pronouns

Possessive pronouns are used to indicate possessing by a person of things or another entity.

Table 14 Possessive pronouns in Kayan Lahta

Person	Number	Possessive pronouns
1 <sup>st</sup>	singular	<i>ŋaʔ</i>
2 <sup>nd</sup>		<i>veʔ</i>
3 <sup>rd</sup>		<i>ŋplaʔ</i>
1 <sup>st</sup>	plural	<i>ŋaʔŋdoʔ</i>
2 <sup>nd</sup>		<i>veʔŋdoʔ</i>
3 <sup>rd</sup>		<i>ŋplaʔŋdoʔ</i>

In Kayan Lahta, the words used for personal pronouns and possessive pronouns are the same. As with personal pronouns, the singular form can be change into the plural form by adding the suffix, *ŋdoʔ* to the singular possessive pronouns.

(48) *ŋaʔ jəŋʔ duʔ lwiʔ maʔ*  
*1s house big four clf*  
 POSS N ADJ NUM CLF  
 'my four big house'

(49) *mplaŋdo˧t jəŋ˧l du˧l lwi˧l ma˧t*  
 3pl house big four clf  
 POSS N ADJ NUM CLF  
 ‘their four big houses’

The examples (48) and (49) show possessive pronouns in noun phrases. In a noun phrase the possessive pronouns occur before the possessed noun, typically in the initial position. (see section 4.1.2)

### 3.2.2 Classifiers

Many languages from South East Asia are languages that have classifiers. Kayan Lahta is also a language that has classifiers. Classifiers are used when the nouns are being counted or specified. Several types of classifiers: sortal classifiers, measure (mensural) classifiers, collective classifiers and auto-classifiers are discussed.

#### 3.2.2.1 Sortal classifiers

Sortal classifiers occur with a numeral or quantifier: they rarely occur with demonstratives. This type of classifiers forms a semantically based system of classifying nouns base on some distinctive feature.

The follow example shows different nouns that associated with the different sortal classifiers. The gloss associated with the classifier suggests what the distinctive semantic feature is.

*jaŋ˧taʔ˧boŋ˧t/qi˧l/nta˧t/ple˧tku˧l* **boŋ˧t**  
 candle/cane/grass/house lizard **clf-long**

(50) *jaŋ˧taʔ˧boŋ˧t ə˧l-boŋ˧t*  
 candle one-clf  
 N NUM-CLF  
 ‘a candle’

*məiŋ˧t/pʰu˧l/pʰa˧t/ve˧t/pə˧lmo˧t* **pla˧l**  
 mother/child/father/elder brother/woman **clf-human**

(51) *pə˧lmo˧t ə˧l-pla˧l*  
 woman one-clf  
 N NUM-CLF  
 ‘a woman’

mjeJ/t<sup>h</sup>waJ/taŋJkaʔʔ/t<sup>h</sup>uJθaJ/fwiJ  
 cat/pig/monkey/rabbit/dog

dəʔʔ  
 clf-animal

(52) fwiJ aJ-dəʔʔ  
 dog one-clf  
 N NUM-CLF  
 'a dog'

Table 15 Sortal Classifiers in Kayan Lahta

Classifiers	Alternative lexical use	Common semantic elements	Examples
maJ		-round things -fruit -insect -thing made of wood/house	-ring, pot, mortar -mango, egg plant -spider, louse, ant -door, house, table
baJ		-small animals -body part on head -weapons	-frog, fly, bird -teeth, ear, tongue -knife, spear
boŋʔ		-long things	-bamboo, snake, leg, hand, needle, spoon
dəʔʔ		-animal	tiger, barking deer, rabbit, gibbon, rat, dog, cat, pig, cow
f <sup>h</sup> aŋ	body hair	-body hair	-hair, eyebrow, feather
p <sup>h</sup> loŋ	seed	-small round things	-seed, eye
blaJ		-flat things	-blanket, clothing, trousers, mat
plaJ	person	-person	-person, spirit
p <sup>h</sup> aJ	ashes	?	-fire, rice field,

### 3.2.2.2 Measure (measural) Classifiers

Measure classifiers occur with a numeral or quantifier: they rarely occur with demonstratives. Semantically, measure classifiers measure nominals as containers, lengths, weights, parts and time periods. In this case, nouns denoting quantities are used as the classifiers.



- (53) *p<sup>h</sup>iʔ*            *taɪŋt*    *e<sup>h</sup>ʔ*  
*rice.husk*        *three*    *bag*  
 N                    NUM    CLF  
 ‘three bags of rice husk’

Table 16 Measure Classifiers in Kayan Lahta

Classifiers	Meanings
<i>e<sup>h</sup>ʔ</i>	basket/bag
<i>kaʔlanʔ</i>	bucket
<i>loŋʔ</i>	load

### 3.2.2.3 Collective Classifiers

Collective classifiers are used to show the group of the nouns. These could be considered a type of measure classifiers. This is the most common way that the Kayan Lahta codes the count-mass distinction. Collectives normally occur with the numeral one.

- (54) *ʃtsəʔʔ*            *əʔ-blɔŋt*  
*mushroom*        *one-pile*  
 N                    NUM-CLF  
 ‘a pile of mushroom’

- (55) *plaʔ*            *əʔ-puʔ*  
*people*        *one-group*  
 N                    NUM-CLF  
 ‘a group of people’

### 3.2.2.4 Auto-classifiers

Auto-classifiers are very common in Kayan Lahta. Auto-classifiers mean the classifiers that are formed by repeating the head noun or the last syllable of the head noun.

Manson (2010:220) defines auto-classifiers as a semi-open class with any monosyllabic word occurring as the head noun being able to be used as a classifier.

Restrictions depend on how well known the generalised classifier is for that referent. Often the head noun is omitted when it is classified with an auto-classifier.

The followings are examples that show auto-classifiers.

(56) *mi-tʰaʌ*      *təiŋt*      *mi-tʰaʌ*  
*forehead*      *three*      *forehead*  
 N                  NUM      CLF  
 'three foreheads.'

(57) *loʰŋʌ-kuʔʌ*      *təiŋt*      *kuʔʌ*  
*stone-hole*      *three*      *hole*  
 N-N                  NUM      CLF  
 'three caves'

Table 17 Auto-classifiers in Kayan Lahta

Classifier nouns	Meaning
<i>ʃwiʌ</i>	rib
<i>ŋaŋʌtuʌ</i>	forest
<i>θaŋʌ</i>	tree
<i>laʌ</i>	leaf
<i>miʌ tʰaʌ</i>	forehead
<i>miʌ pʰiʌ</i>	eyelid
<i>foʌ pliʌ</i>	intestines
<i>doʰŋʌ</i>	village
<i>tsoʌ diaʌ</i>	elbow
<i>pʰoʔʌ</i>	flower

### 3.2.3 Demonstratives

Two demonstratives are found in Kayan Lahta. The plural forms are derived by adding the prefix *jə* to the singular form. The demonstrative adjectives are used to point out the specific nouns in the context.

(58) *ʃwi*      *ŋwɛ*    *dəʔ*  
*dog*      *this*    *clf*  
 N          DEM    CLF  
 'this dog'

(59) *ʃwi*      *jəŋwɛ*    *lwi*    *dəʔ*  
*dog*      *these*    *four*    *clf*  
 N          DEM          NUM    CLF  
 'these four dogs'

In example below, the demonstrative pronoun replaces the noun.

(60) *jəŋwɛ*      *mɛ*    *ŋpla*    *ʃwi*  
*these*      *top*    *her*    *dog*  
 DEM          TOP    POSS    N  
 'These are her dogs.'

The demonstrative pronouns can be seen in Table 18.

Table 18 Demonstrative pronouns

this	<i>ŋwɛ</i>
these	<i>jəŋwɛ</i>
that	<i>do</i>
those	<i>jədo</i>

### 3.2.4 Numbers and Quantifiers

This section describes numbers and quantifiers.

#### 3.2.4.1 Numbers

In Kayan Lahta, the numbers 1 to 9 have a monomorphemic form. They can be combined with the numeral bases to form the larger numbers. For example, if they appear before the numeral base *ʃəʔ* '10', then the result is 10 times the numbers value as in example.

(61) *təiŋt-ʃəʔ*  
three-ten  
NUM-NUM  
'thirty'

The frame for numbers is:

[N clf]

Table 19 Number in Kayan Lahta

Number	Gloss
əʔ	one
ŋəŋt	two
təiŋt	three
lwiʔ	four
ŋiŋʔ	five
s <sup>w</sup> aʔ	six
ʃ <sup>w</sup> eʔ	seven
s <sup>h</sup> uʔ	eight
k <sup>h</sup> wiʔ	nine
ʃəʔ	ten

Number	Gloss
əɭʃəɭ	eleven
ʃəɭnəŋɔʔ	twelve
ʃəɭtəiŋɔʔ	thirteen
ʃəɭɭwiɭ	fourteen
ʃəɭniŋɭ	fifteen
ʃəɭs <sup>w</sup> aʔɭ	sixteen
ʃəɭɭ <sup>w</sup> eʔɭ	seventeen
ʃəɭs <sup>h</sup> uɭ	eighteen
ʃəɭk <sup>h</sup> wiɭ	nineteen

### 3.2.4.2 Quantifiers

Quantifiers in Kayan Lahta are as shown in Table 20.

Table 20 Quantifiers in Kayan Lahta

Quantifiers in Kayan Lahta	Gloss
əɭpuɔʔ	every
qoʔtaɭ	many
ɭuɔʔ	all
ŋŋaɔʔ	some
əɭkwaɔʔ	half
bəɭçəɭtaŋɔʔ	few

The quantifier *əɭpuɔʔ* 'every' precedes the verb or follows the verb with a slight change in meaning.

(62) əj-ŋəŋʃ      kuʔŋ   əʃpu   əʃpu   ʃəʔ   loʃ  
*one-day      within every every die together*  
 NUM-N      LOCZR QNT   QNT   V      ADV  
 'Every person dies within one day.'

(63) əj-ŋəŋʃ      kuʔŋ   ʃəʔ   loʃ      əʃpu   əʃpu  
*one-day      within die together every every*  
 NUM-N      LOCZR V      ADV      QNT   QNT  
 'Every persons die within one day.'

In the two examples, the quantifier precedes the verb in the first example and follows the verb in the second example. In the first example, the speaker emphasizes on the quantifier 'every' when the second example emphasizes the verb 'die'. Similarly in (63), everything is destroyed but no degree of distinction is entailed.

(64) baʃʃaŋʃ      ŋkaʔ   luʔ  
*things      destroy all*  
 N      V      QNT  
 'All things are destroyed.'

### 3.2.5 Conjunctions

Conjunctions connect two words, two phrases, two clauses or two sentences. Conjunctions can be divided into two subclasses: coordinators and subordinators. Words that connect conjuncts with the same function in the sentence are coordinators. Words that connect conjuncts with different functions are subordinators.

#### 3.2.5.1 Coordinators

Coordinators connect conjuncts with the same functions in the sentence. In Kayan Lahta, *dəʃ* is the coordinator that is mostly often used.

(65) tʰaŋʔŋ      dəʃ      ʃwiʃ  
*bear      and      dog*  
 N      CO.CONJ   N  
 'the bear and the dog'

(66) *plaJ plaJ aŋJ jɛŋŋ dəJ uŋ θiJ*  
*person clf eat cooked-rice and drink alcohol*  
 N CLF V N CO.CONJ V N  
 ‘The man eats rice and drinks alcohol.’

(67) *taŋpiŋ baJ jaJ dəJ fwiJ dəʔŋ lɛŋ sʰaŋʔŋ*  
*fly clf fly and dog clf go see*  
 N CLF V CO.CONJ N CLF V V  
 ‘The fly flew and the dog looked.’

In the above examples show the conjunction *dəJ* is used to connect the different elements that have the same syntactic category. In the example (65), the conjunction connects the two nouns. In the example (66), it connects the two verb phrases and it connects two sentences in the example (67).

### 3.2.5.2 Subordinators

Words that connect conjuncts with different functions are subordinators. The two subordinators, *kəŋ* and *maŋraŋmɛJ* introduce the clause that shows either result or reason. See the examples below.

(68) *pəŋmoŋ plaJ jaJ vaŋJ kəŋ tʰaŋJ aŋJ maŋtoŋ*  
*girl clf not clean so.that ascend eat wrong*  
 N CLF NEG ADJ SUB.CONJ V V ADJ  
 ‘The girl is inappropriate to sacrifice.’ (Lit: The girl was not clean so that the spirit ate inappropriately.)

(69) *plaŋbaŋtaŋ jaŋ pɛŋŋ maŋraŋmɛJ jaJ ŋbiŋ loŋkaŋJ*  
*children not feeling-well because not sacrifice spirit*  
 N NEG V SUB.CONJ NEG V N  
 ‘Children are not feeling well because (the villagers) do not sacrifice to the spirit.’

In the example (68), the subordinator connects the two clauses where the one is the result of the other. In example (69) the the two clauses are connected by the subordinator while the one is the reason of the other.

Also no conjunction only juxtaposition, can also be used to connect the two elements. In example (70) no conjunction is used to connect the two clauses.

- (70) *pluʔ plaʔ foʔ səŋwɛʔ baʔ vaŋʔ taʔpiʔ baʔ*  
*child clf take chair clf hit fly clf*  
 N CLF V N CLF V N CLF  
 ‘The child took the chair then hit the fly.’

### 3.2.6 Localizers and prepositions

Localizers provide specific location information. In Kayan Lahta, localizers appear at the end of locational phrases.

Frame for localizers:

[NP LOCZR]

- (71) *tʰuʔ baʔ oʔ θaŋʔ fəʔ*  
*bird clf exist tree on*  
 N CLF V N LOCZR  
 ‘The bird is on the tree.’

- (72) *jeŋʔ oʔ kəʔlaŋʔ kuʔʔ*  
*rice exist plate inside*  
 N V N LOCZR  
 ‘The rice is inside the plate.’

- (73) *mjeʔ dəʔʔ oʔ təʔmaŋʔ laʔ*  
*cat clf exist basket under*  
 N CLF V N LOCZR  
 ‘The cat is under the basket.’

These three examples show the localizers in Kayan Lahta.

Kayan Lahta has only three prepositions. Two prepositions *dəʔ* or *baʔ* can co-occur with a localizer in a locational phrase to indicate the location. They precede the locational phrase and follow the verb. Example (71) and example (74) have the same in meaning.

- (74) *tʰuʔ baʔ oʔ dəʔ θaŋʔ fəʔ*  
*bird clf exist prep tree on*  
 N CLF V PREP N LOCZR  
 ‘The bird is on the tree.’



Or

<i>tʰuJ</i>	<i>baJ</i>	<i>oJ</i>	<i>baʔ</i>	<i>θaŋJ</i>	<i>ʃəʔ</i>
<i>bird</i>	<i>clf</i>	<i>exist</i>	<i>prep</i>	<i>tree</i>	<i>on</i>
N	CLF	V	PREP	N	LOCZR

'The bird is on the tree.'

Similar to example (74), *dəʔ* or *baʔ* can occur in examples (72) and (73), before the locational phrases and after the verbs. The third preposition *dəʔ* is used for instruments and accompaniment. It is discussed more in section 5.3.3.7.

### 3.2.7 Topic marker

*mɛJ* is a topic marker which specifies what argument is the old information. The topic marker marks the topic in a sentence. In example below, the topic *ŋəʔ sʰəʔtəʔ klaʔ* is marked by the topic marker, *mɛJ*. It is ungrammatical to mark the complement as in example (77).

(75)	<i>ŋəʔ</i>	<i>sʰəʔtəʔ</i>	<i>klaʔ</i>	<i>mɛJ</i>	<i>səJkaŋʔ</i>
	<i>sleep</i>	<i>dark</i>	<i>inside</i>	<i>top</i>	<i>afraid</i>
	V	ADJ	LOCZR	TOP	V

'Sleeping in the dark makes me afraid.'

(76)	<i>*səJkaŋʔ</i>	<i>mɛJ</i>	<i>ŋəʔ</i>	<i>sʰəʔtəʔ</i>	<i>klaʔ</i>
	<i>afraid</i>	<i>top</i>	<i>sleep</i>	<i>dark</i>	<i>inside</i>
	V	TOP	V	ADJ	LOCZR

'Sleeping in the dark makes me afraid.'

The topic marker can not occur between head noun and adjective in a noun phrase. In example (77) the whole noun phrase is marked by a topic marker. It is ungrammatical for the topic marker to insert the head noun and the adjective as in example (78).

(77)	<i>sʰaŋʔ</i>	<i>duJ</i>	<i>dəʔʔ</i>	<i>mɛJ</i>	<i>bəJɬuJ</i>	<i>lwaŋJ</i>	<i>ŋiʔ</i>
	<i>elephant</i>	<i>big</i>	<i>clf</i>	<i>top</i>	<i>PaO</i>	<i>go</i>	<i>get</i>
	N	ADJ	CLF	TOP	N.PROP	V	V

'The big elephant was hunted by PaO.'

(78)	<i>*sʰaŋʔ</i>	<i>mɛJ</i>	<i>duJ</i>	<i>dəʔʔ</i>	<i>bəJɬuJ</i>	<i>lwaŋJ</i>	<i>ŋiʔ</i>
	<i>elephant</i>	<i>top</i>	<i>big</i>	<i>clf</i>	<i>PaO</i>	<i>go</i>	<i>get</i>
	N	TOP	ADJ	CLF	N.PROP	V	V

'The big elephant was hunted by PaO.'

Example (79) is the clearest example as the pronoun *naʔ* is resumed after *mɛʔ*.

(79)	<i>naʔ</i>	<i>mɛʔ</i>	<i>naʔ</i>	<i>səʔkaŋʔ</i>	<i>kʰiʔʔ</i>
	<i>Is</i>	<i>top</i>	<i>Is</i>	<i>afraid</i>	<i>tiger</i>
	PRO	TOP	PRO	V	N

'I am afraid of a tiger.'

### 3.3 Conclusion

This chapter discussed many of the word classes in Kayan Lahta. The word classes were divided into two groups: major word class and minor word class. In the first section, major word class including nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs were discussed. The minor word classes: pronouns, classifiers, demonstratives, numbers, quantifiers, conjunction, localizers and prepositions were then discussed in another section.