

Pronouns

There are three sets of pronouns in Chabacano: nominative, accusative, and possessive. These follow Spanish usage (or Indo-European) rather than the Filipino type languages, even though the morphemes themselves are borrowed from the latter in many cases. The verbs do not have the characteristic Filipino affixes which control pronoun (or noun) constructions. The nominative set, then, functions as the actor, the accusative as goal, and the possessive as the term indicates. Chabacano pronouns follow:

	<i>Nominative</i>	<i>Accusative</i>	<i>Possessive</i>
1st sing.	yo	konmigo	dimio, mio, mi
2nd sing.	tu, bos	kontigo, konbos	dituyo, debos, tuyo, tu
3rd sing.	ele, el	konele	disuya. suyo, su
1st plural			
excl.	kamé	kanamon	diamon, amon
incl.	kitá	kanaton	diaton, aton
2nd plural	kamó	kaniño	di'iño, iño
3rd plural	silá	kanila	di'ila, ila

Examples follow:

- a *Ay tira yo konbos na agwa.* 'I will throw you into the water.'
- b *Ay eskribi yo konele.* 'I will write him.'
- c *Ya dale sila kanamon un dyario disuyo.* 'They gave us a newspaper of his.'
- d *Diamon ese.* 'That is ours.'
- e *Ya pensa sila ke tyene kosa ya pasa konmigo kay no ay mas yo bolbe.*

'She thought that something happened to me because I did not return.'

* Summer Institute of Linguistics University of North Dakota.

Frequent constitutes

Rulon Wells defines a constitute as any "sequence which is constituted by two or more I. C. 's."¹ Certain simple constitutes (i.e., those whose constituents are single morphemes) are basic to Chabacano structure.

Verbal constitutes

The most frequent verbal constitute in Chabacano is that composed of one of the particles *ay*, *ta*, or *ya* and a word base. The word base is usually borrowed from a Spanish infinitive minus the final *r*. The particles indicate the tense or aspect: *ay* for future or incomplete, *ta* for present or continuative, and *ya* for past or complete. A verb class of words can be set up with these particles as determiners, for few Chabacano word bases used in this type of constitute occur in others. Examples follow:

- Ta kosina silá.* 'They are cooking.'
Syempre ta abla silá. 'They are always talking.'
Ya kosina silá. 'They talked always.'
Ya dale silá kanamon un dyario. 'They gave us a newspaper.'
Ay kosina silá. 'They will cook.'
Ay abla silá mañana. 'They will talk tomorrow.'
Ay anda ya kamé. 'We will go now.'
Ay abla silá. 'They will talk.'

Another verbal constitute is composed of the base repeated with the connective *ke* between.² This is used for emphasis. Thus *ri ke ri* means 'laugh and laugh,' *Buska ke buska le pospero para sende su kandela*, 'She looked and looked for a match to light her candle.'

Other verbal sequences³ are constituents of more complex constitutes. Some occur without particles, and are often used as a Spanish infinitive (*kyere ele machaka*, 'he wants to smash; *ta pwede enkontra*, 'able to find'). In some cases the aspect of a verbal sequence is indicated only by context: *Bien aborido ele kay sabe le si hende' akaba su trabaho hende' konele paga*. 'She was very worried because she knew if she did not finish her work, she would not receive her pay.'

Adverbial constitutes

Certain constitutes add to the verbal sequence, or are subsidiary to it. The particle *al* plus the word base (in this case always borrowed from a Spanish infinitive) is an example: *Al oir este si komaching ya agara kon kabaw*, 'Upon hearing this, the monkey grabbed the turtle.' Another is *para* plus a Chabacano verb base: *Ya sente ele na paya para kita el mana tunók*, 'He sat down on the coconut shell in order to take out the thorns.' *Kwando* plus a verbal base or constitute may be a constituent of an adverbial constitute: *Kwando ya abaha si komaching ya klabá konele todo tunók*, 'When the monkey came down, all the thorns stuck him.'

Nominal constitutes

The following particles occur with Chabacano word bases and may be used as determiners to set up a word class of nouns. The resultant constitute has a nominal use.

si 'the' (with proper nouns), *el* 'the' (with common nouns), *un* 'a', *este* 'this',

¹ Rulon S. Wells, "Immediate Constituents," *Language*, 23, 2 (April-June, 1947), p. 84.

² See R. S. Pittman, "The Priority of Valence over Phonological Attachment and Relative Order," in his *Grammar of Teteleingo (Morelos)*, Nahuatl, Ph.D. dissertation, University of Pennsylvania.

³ This does not mean that all verbal constitutes have been mentioned above.

en 'in', *na* 'by, on, in, at, into', *del* or *de* 'of the', *kon* accusative indicator,⁴ the possessive and accusative pronouns, etc. Numerous examples are available in the text materials.

Other constitutes

Other types of simple constitutes may be located and treated similarly to the above. Conjunctive constitutes are united by an overt connection *y*. Negative constitutes with *no* or *hende* occur: *no hay, no mas, na pwede, hende* . . . *pwede*.

The above frequent constitutes act as constituents in turn to more complex constitutes and form the basis for Chabacano constructions.⁵ Further analysis is left to a later date.