

Speedlang 11: Ghilá

Lord Norjam

March 2022

Contents

1	Introduction	1
1.1	Meta	1
1.2	The Dhiló	1
2	Phonology	2
2.1	Consonants	2
2.2	Vowels	3
2.3	Suprasegmental Phonology	4
2.4	Prosodic Structure	4
2.4.1	Syllable Structure	4
2.4.2	Stress	4
2.4.3	Reduplication	4
2.4.4	Minimum Word Requirement	4
2.4.5	Ideophonic Template	5
3	Orthography	5
4	Morphology	5
4.1	Pronouns	5
4.1.1	Independent Pronouns	5
4.1.2	Reflexive Pronouns	6
4.2	Nouns	6
4.2.1	Gender	7
4.2.2	Number	7
4.2.3	Possession	8
4.3	Verbs	8
4.3.1	Evidentiality	8
4.3.2	Agreement Prefixes	9
4.3.3	Aspect	10
4.3.4	To be	11
4.4	Prepositions	11
5	Syntax	11
5.1	Topicalisation	12
6	Discourse	12
7	Tasks	13
7.0.1	Smoyds	13
7.0.2	Dialogue	14

Abbreviations

1	first person	M	masculine
2	second person	NEG	negative
3	third person	NONFIRSTH	nonfirsthand
AGT	agentive	PAT	patientive
COP	copula	PFV	perfective
DEM	demonstrative	PL	plural
F	feminine	POSS	possessive
FIRSTH	firsthand	REFL	reflexive
HAB	habitual	REL	relativiser
INCH	inchoative	SG	singular
IPFV	imperfective	TOP	topic

1 Introduction

1.1 Meta

Ghilá is a language made for Speedlang 11, a challenge wherein one must construct a language in a limited timeframe—in this case, two weeks and two days. The challenge included five requirements for the conlang, as well as an optional challenge, which are presented here.

First was to include phonemic diphthongs, distinct from vowel and vowel-glides sequences. The diphthongs /ai/, /ei/, and /oi/ behave like vowels in that they reduce in the same manner and do not experience hiatus like other vowels. Second was to have at least one phoneme with a limited distribution which depended on grammatical factors. This requirement is met by the voiced fricatives (/β/, /z/, and /ɣ/), which only appear in feminine nouns. This is a result of irregular lenition caused by the feminine infix. The other three constraints are grammatical in nature. I had to make use of root-template morphology, so I implemented a minimum word requirement, and also a templatic requirement for ideophones (Section 2.4.5). Next, I needed discourse markers, which I fulfilled in Section 6. Finally, some sort of evidentiality was needed. I fulfilled this in Section 4.3.1. The optional challenge was to create a script, which I unfortunately did not have time to fulfil.

Apart from the constraints presented within the challenge itself, I challenged myself to include a couple further constraints. I have never made a language with phonemic tone, so that was something I decided to include in some capacity. Likewise, I wanted this language to be topic-prominent.

1.2 The Dhiló

Ghilá is spoken in the Northern Great Lakes region of the Central continent. It is a language isolate, but is a member of the Great Lakes *Sprachbund*. The word *ghilá* refers solely to the language, with the word *dhiló* referring to the ethnic group it is spoken by. The Dhiló inhabit the region between the three southernmost lakes of the region, which they term *Bòhò Fubó* ‘Big Lake,’ *Tsahà gùPílunà* ‘The Eye in the Right,’ and *Tsahà gùGhilè* ‘The Eye in the Left.’ These lakes are bordered by two major rivers, which the Dhiló call *Bòhò Gabà* ‘Big River’ and *Gabà tsàigEidà* ‘River through the Eyes.’

There are three main Dhiló towns, namely *Nilá* ‘Home,’ *mágEidà* ‘Between the Eyes,’ and *Qhógabà* ‘Two Rivers.’ This document focuses on the Nilá lect of Ghilá, but I may touch on the southern lects in the future. The general layout of these geographical features, as well the Dhiló towns, may be seen in Figure 1.

The Dhiló primarily fish from the three lakes (*Khìfubó*) for their livelihoods, but they also grow crops and keep some livestock, as well as occasionally hunting if necessary. They also trade with the other people groups in the Northern Great Lakes region (*fufùbòdó* ‘lake people’), the nomads of the desert and the steppe (*xáxadó* ‘dry people’), the people of the mountains (*gógoidó* ‘mountain people’), and the merchants who trade via *Bòhò Gabà* (*Hu’úbeidú* ‘bringers’)

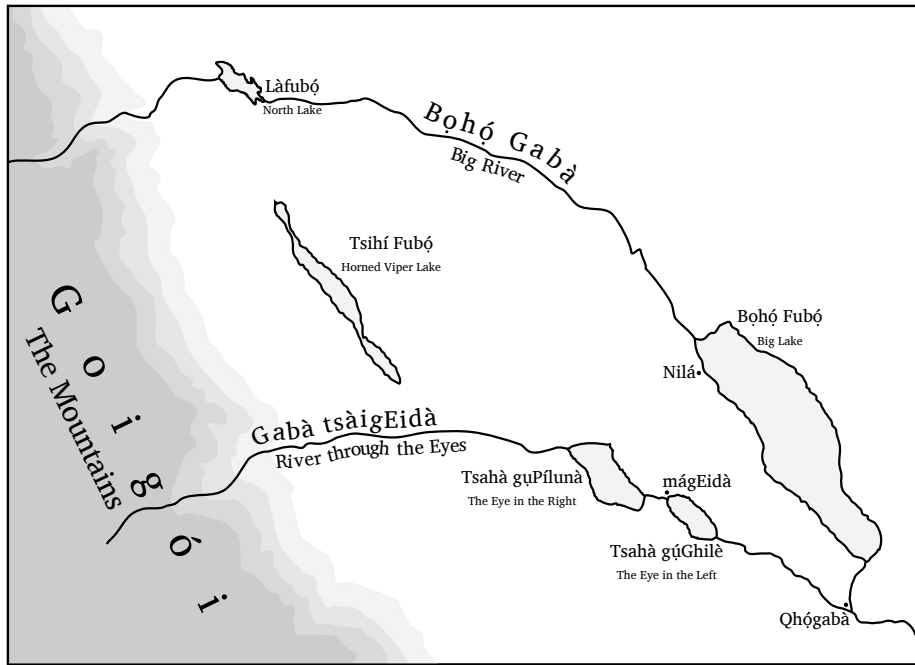


Figure 1: Range of the Dhiló

2 Phonology

Ghilá has 26 phonemic consonants, which is slightly greater than average. It also has a ten vowel system, comprising 7 monophthongs and 3 diphthongs, all of which may take either of the phonemic tones. The language has a simple syllable structure, with a CV(S) template. Ghilá also undergoes various allomorphic and morphophonological phenomena.

2.1 Consonants

Ghilá’s consonant inventory is presented in Table 1. The inventory is not particularly unusual, except for the presence of /ð/ as a coronal fricative in contrast to /s/.

As illustrated, there is a three way contrast between aspirated, plain, and voiced non-glottal stops, though the voiced uvular stop is missing. There are three nasals, four voiced and three voiceless fricatives, an affricate, and three approximants. The voiced fricatives /β/, /ð/, and /ɣ/ are in a limited distribution, only appearing in feminine nouns. [j] exists allophonically, but is not phonemic. I present a romanisation system for Ghilá in Table 2, though normally Ghilá is written in its own native script, discussed in more detail in Section 3.

	Labial	Coronal	Velar	Uvular	Glottal
Plosive	p ^h p b	t ^h t d	k ^h k g	q ^h q	ʔ
Nasal	m	n	ŋ		
Fricative	ɸ β	s ɸ	x ɣ		ʃ
Affricate		ts			
Approximant	w	r l			

Table 1: Ghilá consonant inventory

	Labial	Coronal	Velar	Uvular	Glottal
Plosive	ph p b	th t d	kh k g	qh q	ʔ
Nasal	m	n	ng		
Fricative	f bh	s dh	x gh		h
Affricate		ts			
Approximant	w	r l			

Table 2: Ghilá consonant romanisation

There is very little consonantal allophony in Ghilá, though some assimilation takes place with uvulars. Syllable-final coronal sonorants will, however, assimilate to the place of articulation of a following consonant segment. However, /r/ does not assimilate before uvulars and remains [r].

2.2 Vowels

There are seven phonemic vowels in Ghilá, as well as three phonemic diphthongs, presented in Table 3. This is a large vowel inventory.

	Front	Central	Back
Close	i		ɯ u
Mid	e		ɤ o
Open		a	
Diphthongs	ei	ai	oi

Table 3: Ghilá vowel inventory

Ghilá, notably, has the vowels [ɯ] and [ʌ]. These are orthographically represented by <ɯ> and <ʌ>, respectively.

The diphthongs [ei], [ai], and [oi] are true diphthongs and not underlying vowel sequences, since they do not experience vowel hiatus like other vowel sequences. For example, the sequence /úá/ arises as [əʃiá] in the word *qhuhábhilè*, whereas the diphthongs do not experience this hiatus. Additionally, diph-

things may experience hiatus with another vowel, where a vowel-glide sequence would not.

Vowels do not have much allophonic variation, though the front vowels /i/ and /e/ become backed to [i] and [ɜ] after uvulars.

2.3 Suprasegmental Phonology

Ghilá has two tonemes: L and H. These are represented in the romanisation as a grave and acute accent respectively (<̀> and <́>) on stressed vowels. Prosodic words may have multiple L and H tones.

2.4 Prosodic Structure

This section presents multiple prosodic aspects of Ghilá: syllable structure, stress, reduplication, and two templatic constraints: the pervasive minimum word requirement, and the isolated ideophone template.

2.4.1 Syllable Structure

Syllables in Ghilá consist of a vocalic nucleus and obligatory onset consonant, with an optional sonorant coda.

2.4.2 Stress

Ghilá has bound feet, which are right headed and assigned right to left. This means that the main prominence of a prosodic word is on the final syllable, with stress being assigned to every other syllable leftwards from there.

The nuclei of unstressed syllables, including diphthongs reduce in vowel quality to [ə] and lose their tone.

2.4.3 Reduplication

The base reduplicative template in Ghilá is one mora.

2.4.4 Minimum Word Requirement

Content words conform to a minimum requirement of two syllables. If a root, including any affixes, does not meet this requirement, then the final vowel in the root will be added on to the end of the root to add another syllable. If this results in an open syllable, which will be the case in roots of the form √CV, [fi] will arise as the onset of the second syllable.

(1) Ghilá minimality

∅-√pùná	puná	‘cooking pot’	No change
∅-√qìl	qìlì	‘tilapia’	Vowel doubling
∅-√bú	buhú	‘basket’	Vowel doubling and hiatus

2.4.5 Ideophonic Template

Curiously, all ideophones (a class of words with meanings related to sensory information) adhere to the template C₁VC₂VC₂V. Each vowel has the same quality and tone, and both C₂ are the same. For example, *tsúmmú* ‘lumpy’

3 Orthography

logographic

4 Morphology

Both the nominal and verbal morphology of Ghilá are rich with clitics and affixes which are inflectional. It is highly agglutinative, almost bordering on polysynthesis, though it lacks noun incorporation.

4.1 Pronouns

There is one set of independent personal pronouns in Ghilá, as well as a pair of reflexive pronoun clitics.

4.1.1 Independent Pronouns

When the topic of a sentence is a pronoun, the independent form is used. These pronouns block the appearance of the topic clitic. The independent pronoun forms are listed in Table 4.

	MASC	FEM
1SG	<i>nilá</i>	<i>simá</i>
2SG	<i>kiró</i>	<i>liró</i>
3SG	<i>riró</i>	<i>ngiró</i>
1PL	<i>soimá</i>	
2PL	<i>tsiró</i>	
3PL	<i>qaró</i>	

Table 4: Independent Pronouns

The following examples demonstrate the independent pronouns as the topic of various sentences.

(2) **nilá néiwseidé qhòhò tahá**

<i>nilá</i>	<i>néi-</i>	<i>w-</i>	<i>s<eid>é</i>	<i>∅-</i>	<i>qhò</i>
<i>1SG.M.TOP</i>	<i>1SG.M.AGT-</i>	<i>3SG.M.PAT-</i>	<i>net<FIRSTH></i>	<i>M.SG-</i>	<i>fish</i>

tahá
DEM

“I caught that fish.”

(3) **qaró ngungtsùgobé**

qaró ngü - ng - tsùg <ob> é
3PL.TOP 3SG.F.AGT - 3PL.PAT - tell.off <NONFIRSTH>

“Apparently, they were told off by her.”

4.1.2 Reflexive Pronouns

There are two reflexive pronouns in Ghilá, a masculine, =kè, and feminine, =kíl. These are enclitics. Their use is demonstrated in the following examples.

(4) **ligílalí hìngeimkhéidokíl**

li - gíla = lí ì - ngei - m -
2SG.F.POSS - husband = TOP PFV - 3SG.F.AGT - 3SG.F.PAT -
kh <éid> o = kíl
return <FIRSTH> = REFL.F

“Your husband returned (himself).”

(5) **hòhorò gùkè hárgahàhobà**

hohò = rò gù = kè á - r - gahàh <ob> à
drake = TOP to = REFL.M HAB - 3SG.M.AGT - quack <NONFIRSTH>

“A drake quacks to himself, or so I’ve heard.”

If the reflexive pronoun refers to a group of mixed gender, the masculine is used.

(6) **simá rírodé gisòihuféidukè**

simá ríro = dé gi - sòì - hù -
1SG.F.TOP 3SG.M.TOP = and PFV - 1PL.AGT - 1PL.PAT -
f <éid> u = kè
wash <FIRSTH> = REFL.M

“He and I, we washed ourselves.”

4.2 Nouns

Nouns in Ghilá inflect for gender, number, and possession, and noun phrases take topic and prepositional clitics. There is a large amount of derivational morphology from the root forms of nouns.

4.2.1 Gender

There are two grammatical genders in Ghilá: **masculine** and **feminine**. All nouns fall into one of these two categories. The gender of a noun is usually predictable from its morphological structure, though there are some exceptions to this rule. Noun modifiers and verb conjugation will agree with noun gender.

The base masculine prefix is \emptyset - (see Section 2.4.4), and the base feminine prefix is *il*-. The feminine prefix, like all prefixes of the form VC-, will move to the right and become an infix if it will avoid an onsetless syllable.

(7) **bòhò gabà**

\emptyset - bò \emptyset - gàb
M - big *M* - river
“big river”

(8) **philàwawà thilái**

ph <il> àwawà th <il> ái
<*F*> *squishy* <*F*> *fruit*
“squishy berry”

Grammatical gender in Ghilá maps somewhat approximately to the genders of Dhiló society, though there are a few terms which are masculine semantically while being grammatically feminine, like *gilá* ‘husband.’

4.2.2 Number

There are two morphologically marked numbers on Ghilá nouns: **singular** and **plural**. Plurals are regularly formed by reduplicating the first mora of the root. If this results in a word which meets the minimal word requirement, then no epenthetic vowel lengthening will occur. Additionally, there is a separate plural feminine prefix, which occurs after the reduplicative prefix. This prefix, *àts*- will also shift to the right to avoid an onsetless syllable and vowel hiatus.

(9) **nahá**

\emptyset - ná
M - *ná-tree*
“ná-tree”

(10) **naná**

na~ ná.
PL~ *tree*
“ná-trees”

(11) **ghilèr**

il - ghèr
F - *cooking.pot*
“cooking pot”

(12) **ghèghatsèr**

ghè~ gh <ats> èr
PL~ <F.PL> *cooking.pot*
“cooking pots”

4.2.3 Possession

Nouns will take prefixes if their possessors are pronominal, but otherwise possession is marked by apposition, with the possessor coming first. Possessive prefixes are identical to the verbal agent agreement forms. The following examples demonstrate the use of the possessive prefixes.

(13) **wá, nangáhalí gùm phéréideidù**

wá na - ngáha = lí gùm phe - réi -
Oh 1SG.M.POSS - mother = TOP to.her IPFV - 3SG.M.AGT -
d <eid> ù
meet <FIRSTH>

“Ah, my mother, you are meeting her.”

(14) **qafóholí rakhàxaxà**

qa - fóho = lí ra - khàxaxà
3PL.POSS - village = TOP 3SG.M.AGT - run.down

“Their village, it is run down.”

4.3 Verbs

Ghilá has a rich verbal morphology, with affixes for evidentiality, person agreement, and aspect. Verbs can also take directional proclitics derived from prepositions.

4.3.1 Evidentiality

Ghilá has affixes for two different evidentialities: **-éid-** for firsthand information source, and **-òb-** for nonfirsthand information source. An evidential is obligatory on all verbs. The firsthand evidential marks verbs for which the information source is the speaker’s direct experience, which is to say, information obtained directly from the senses. The nonfirsthand marks verbs for which

the information source is something not directly experienced by the speaker – everything not covered by the firsthand. When the nonfirsthand is used with an experiential verb (that is, one where you’d expect a firsthand evidential such as ‘see’) it indicates the speaker has some doubt over whether the event happened. The following examples illustrate the use of the different evidentials. In the following examples, the speaker has seen someone put fish into a pot

(15) **Muxétílò qhòqhò qilil gúsungéingleidó**

Muxétíl = rò qhò~ qhò qilil gú= sù - ngéi -
 Múxetíl = TOP PL~ fish fish.pot in = INCH - 3SG.F.AGT -
 ng - l <eid> ó
 3PL.PAT - put <FIRSTH>

“Múxetíl, she’s started putting the fish in the fish pot (and I saw her doing it).”

(16) **bhílonggà**

bhílo = nggà
 evening.meal = COP.NONFIRSTH
 “It’s dinner time (I assume).”

4.3.2 Agreement Prefixes

The prefix pronouns are two sets of obligatory prefixes which mark the agent and patient of the verb. The agentive forms are also used to mark possession on nouns. These pronouns are listed in Table 5. The following examples illustrate the use of the prefix pronouns for verb agreement.

	Agentive		Patientive	
	MASC	FEM	MASC	FEM
1SG	<i>n-</i>	<i>s-</i>	<i>mà-</i>	<i>phè-</i>
2SG	<i>k-</i>	<i>l-</i>	<i>xó-</i>	<i>sú-</i>
3SG	<i>r-</i>	<i>ng-</i>	<i>w-</i>	<i>m-</i>
1PL		<i>sòì-</i>		<i>ù-</i>
2PL		<i>tsì-</i>		<i>thó-</i>
3PL		<i>qà-</i>		<i>ng-</i>

Table 5: Verbal Agreement

(17) **ghílarò qaséimgeidá**

ghíla = rò qa - sei - m - g <éid> á
 ghilá = TOP HAB - 1SG.F.AGT - 3SG.F.PAT - speak <FIRSTH>
 “Ghilá, I speak it.”

4.3.3 Aspect

Ghilá has four aspects which may be marked on the verb by affixes: the perfective, imperfective, habitual, and inchoative. Aspect is obligatory on all verbs.

The perfective aspect indicates a single event, which is not viewed as ongoing. It is marked by the prefix *ì-*, or *gi-* in unstressed syllables.

(18) **liró gùtsú gisòtsobà khufò**

liró gùtsú gi- sò- ts <ob> à khufò
2SG.F.TOP *to.2SG.F* *PFV- 1SG.F.AGT- see <NONFIRSTH>* *yesterday*
 “I saw you yesterday, I think”

The imperfective aspect, which marks a single ongoing action, is marked with the prefix *é-*, or *phe-* in unstressed syllables.

(19) **mimíkhali phenéingseidé bedó**

mi~ míkha = lí phe- néi- ng- s <eid> é
PL~ chichlid = *TOP* *IPFV- 1SG.M.AGT- 3PL.PAT- fish <FIRSTH>*
 bedó
now
 “I am fishing for chichlids now.”

The habitual aspect is used for an action which is repeated often, on an ongoing basis. This is marked with the prefix *á-*, or *qa-* in unstressed syllables.

(20) **Hú'ubéidurò tsaiQhógabà qaqànobé gùmeidú**

Hú'ubéidu = rò tsai = Qhógabà qa - qà -
Bringers = *TOP* to = Qhógabà HAB - 3PL.AGT -
 n <ob> é g = ùmeidú
 come <NONFIRSTH> *in = summer*

“The Hu'úbeidú, they come to Qhógabà in the summer (or so I hear).”

The inchoative aspect indicates that an event is beginning. It is marked by the prefix *sù-*.

(21) **...reidò, tsàiTsihí Fúbòrò sùséigeidù...**

reidò tsài = Tsihí Fúbò = rò sù - séi -
then to = *Horned.Viper* Lake = *TOP* *INCH- 1SG.F.AGT-*
 g <eid> ù
 go <FIRSTH>

“...and so then, to Horned Viper Lake I set out...”

4.3.4 To be

There are two verbal enclitics meaning ‘to be’ in Ghilá, a firsthand and non-firsthand. The topic, which it attaches to, is always an argument, and there is almost always a comment to which the topic relates. These do not co-occur with the topic clitic. The firsthand enclitic is = *ntsà*, or = *àntsà* if the topic it attaches to ends in a consonant. The nonfirsthand clitic is = *nggà*, or = *ànggà* if the topic ends in a consonant. These are not mandatory to express the predication of nouns and adjectives, but reinforce the information source.

(22) **tsírontsà weré**

tsíro = ntsà weré
2PL.TOP = COP.FIRSTH awake

“You all are awake.”

(23) **gulám gabínggà biló ghoríl**

gu = lám gabísi = nggà b <il> ó ghoríl
in = this stream = COP.NONFIRSTH big <F> eel

“A big eel is in this stream (I think).”

If there isn’t a second argument, then the clitics have a sense of ‘There is...’ or ‘It is...’

(24) **nàhantsà**

nàha = ntsà
sun = COP.FIRSTH

“It’s the sun”

4.4 Prepositions

There are a few prepositions in Ghilá. I don’t have time to put them in here but the main ones are *tsài* =, which is used for motion, and *gú* =, which isn’t. They are clitics, and they’ll lose their vowel if they attach to a word starting with a vowel.

5 Syntax

Ghilá is a topic-prominent language, so the most pertinent information is fronted and nominalised into the topic. Outside of the topic-comment structure, word order is largely verb-final, though it may be moved around the clause. If a topic is already prescient then no topicalisation occurs.

5.1 Topicalisation

If the topic is not a personal pronoun, or one of the predicating enclitics (Section 4.3.4), then it must take the topic enclitic. This enclitic has two allomorphs, depending on number of syllables in the phonological word it attaches to. If the word has an odd number of syllables, including the enclitic, it will be =*rò*. If the word has an even number of syllables, it will be =*lí*.

(25) **dohó gụ́píluná gúnarò reidòbanlí hárotsòbaphár**

dohó gụ́ = píluná gún = narò r- eid <òb> a
man at = west at = sunset 3SG.M.AGT - look <NONFIRSTH>
 -n =lí há- ro- ts <òb> a =phár
 -REL =TOP HAB- 3SG.M.AGT - see <NONFIRSTH> =NEG

“As for the man who looks to the west at sunset, he cannot see.”

6 Discourse

Ghilá has a class of discourse markers which contextualise conversational information. Usually they occur before or after an utterance, but in some cases (like if hedging, or making a list), they can come inside a sentence. Discourse markers are not attested in writing. A list of some discourse markers in Ghilá follows:

1. *bé* – affirms previous statement
2. *hé* – mirative, expresses surprise or realisation
3. *qhél* – grabs attention
4. *hòì* – same as qhél
5. *numerals* – may be used to divide discourse into sequential events, or to list items
6. *reiphá* – hedges the phrase, indicates much uncertainty
7. *gikéitseidà* (masculine)/*hiltseidà* (feminine) – questions whether prior information is known by the other participant(s)
8. *nòm* – makes the previous statement irrelevant, whether it be the speakers own or another’s (like ‘whatever’)

7 Tasks

7.0.1 Smoyds

1508

(26) **phergéidunlí gúl hirtsobà**

phe - r- g<éid> ʉ - n = lí gúl ì-
 IPFV- 3SG.M.AGT- go<FIRSTH> - REL = TOP to.me PFV-
 r- ts<ob> à
 3SG.M.AGT- see<NONFIRSTH>

“As he was going (which I saw), he saw me (apparently).”

1555

(27) **qhél, gúfuhú girthéidoinlí, bhúbh <ats> ú tsàighilèr tsàigitsingleidó**

qhél gú= fuhú gi- r- th<éid>oi - n = lí
 hey at = water PFV- 3SG.M.AGT- boil<FIRSTH> - REL = TOP
 bhú~ bh<ats>ú tsài = ghilèr tsài = gi-
 PL~ dumpling<F.PL> in = cooking.pot in = = PFV-
 tsì- ng- l<eid>ó
 2PL.AGT- 3PL.PAT- put<FIRSTH>

“Hey, at the water’s boiling, put the dumplings in the cooking pot!”

1625 – In this smoyd, ‘Russians’ has been replaced with *Xáxadó*, foreigners from the northeastern deserts.

(28) **qárongà Xáxadó reiphá**

qáro = nggà Xá~ xadó reiphá
 3PL.TOP = COP.NONFIRSTH PL~ desert.person dunno

“They were desertfolk, I think, dunno.”

1641

(29) **bundá thaihài gúng hìseitséidanlí giséingbeidú**

bundá thaihài gúng ì- sei- ts<éid>a - n
 each apple to.3PL.M PFV- 1SG.F.AGT- see<FIRSTH> - REL
 = lí gi- séi- ng- b<eid>ú
 = TOP PFV- 1SG.F.AGT- 3PL.M.PAT- take<FIRSTH>

“I took each apple that I saw.”

1647

(30) **sílerò ngúkhuhú ginéiwfeidém**

síle = rò ngú - khuhú gi - néi - w -
cat = TOP 3SG.POSS - back PFV - 1SG.M.AGT - 3SG.F.PAT -
f < eid > ém
stroke < FIRSTH >

“The cat, its back, I stroked it.”

7.0.2 Dialogue

The speedlang requires a dialogue to be provided. Here is a conversation that took place in the northern part of Bòhò Fubó, just northeast of Nilá. Unfortunately I am not able to supply a gloss at this time.

FÚNIXÍ: hòì, Nàghilè, lám nòhòrò nòn sùpheléiwbeidór
NÀGHILÈ: kòhòhólí sùphekéiwbeidór nokè¹, hoqhí!² simá thoisésehé,
gikéitseidà?
FÚNIXÍ: soimá qhòqhò sùphesòingbeidór, nòghilè,³ dù mụgàm qasòiw-
gobèr qafáng
NÀGHILÈ: bé, nòm, kabáalá síkeirréidaphár, malà sòqonggà gụsòì. [They
begin to haul up the net]
NÀGHILÈ: hé, Fúnixí, lám kimbòrò bọbọbọ! síkeiwbéidorphár nokè hì-
seiwtséida.
FÚNIXÍ: tsutsù, tsàil pherépheséseidé. Kárárá, tsàingumú tsàigiséiwleidó
tsàirgeidùn somò!
NÀGHILÈ: wòxoxò, fìlunggà tsilí? Há’o, tsàigiséiwleidó. [She pulls the chichlid
into the boat and kills it. FÚNIXÍ unloads the rest of the fish into the boat.]
FÚNIXÍ: pùl, pé m, seséhelí sùsùsòiwbeidór.
NÀGHILÈ: simá sùgiséiwnbeidór nokíl [She brings up the fishing line and they row
to shore.]

FÚNIXÍ: Hey, Nàghilè, this net, pull it up with me.
NÀGHILÈ: Pull your net up by yourself, duckhead! I have my fishing line,
remember?
FÚNIXÍ: We need to bring in fish today, net-pot, or we’ll be eating barley
meal again.
NÀGHILÈ: Yeah, fine, but if you hadn’t overestimated your strength last
time we’d have a full drying-rack. [They begin to haul up the net]
NÀGHILÈ: Wow, Fúnixí, that emperor chichlid is massive! No wonder
you couldn’t pull it up by yourself.
FÚNIXÍ: Shit, it’s splashing water all over me. Quick, put it in the boat
before it escapes!

¹masculine comitative reflexive

²Literally duck-head, a light insult, here used with familiarity.

³Literally net-pot, another light insult used with familiarity.

NÀGHILÈ: Haha, is a little water posionous? Here, I'll put it in. [*She pulls the chichlid into the boat and kills it. FÚNIXÍ unloads the rest of the fish into the boat.*]
FÚNIXÍ: Right, next we'll bring in your fishing line.
NÀGHILÈ: I can do this myself. [*She brings up the fishing line and they row to shore.*]