

Notes on Anong, a New Language

Sun Hongkai
Institute of Nationality Studies
Chinese Academy of Social Sciences

Translated by Lǐ Fèngxiáng¹

Through preliminary research and comparison, it has been found that the Anong language is quite different from the Nusu and Rouruo languages spoken by the Nu peoples in Bijiang and Lanping. However, it is similar to the Trung language. Therefore, I suggest that Anong and Trung should be classified as belonging to the Chingpo language branch of the Tibeto-Burman language family. In this paper, I will give a brief description of the phonology, morphology, and syntax of the Anong language as it is spoken in the Muguja Township of Fugong County (Yunnan).

SOUND SYSTEM

I. Consonants

There are 64 consonants in the Anong language, 45 of which are simple consonants and the rest are consonant clusters.

1) Simple consonants:

p	t	t̚		k	ʔ
pʰ	tʰ	t̚ʰ		kʰ	
b	d	d̚		g	
			ts	tɕ	tɕʰ
			tʰs	tɕʰ	tɕʰʰ
			dz	dʒ	dʒʰ
	f		s	ɕ	x
	v		z	ʑ	ɣ
ɱ	ŋ			ŋ̃	ŋ̃
m	n		ŋ	ñ	ŋ
	ɬ	l			
	l				
		ɭ			

¹ The translator wishes to thank Graham Thurgood for his help with certain parts of the text.

Notes on the simple consonants:

1. Unaspirated voiceless stops and voiceless affricates have a relatively low frequency of occurrence. In some words, the voiced stops and affricates are in free variation with their voiceless counterparts.

2. The nasals *m*, *n*, *ɲ*, and *ŋ* all may be syllabic.

3. The palatals *tɕ*, *tɕʰ*, *dʒ*, and *ʃ* are articulated a little back in the mouth. The phonetic value is similar to that of *c*, *cʰ*, *j*, *ɲ*, and *ç*.

4. The phonetic value of the retroflex stops *ʈ*, *ʈʰ*, *ɖ*, and *ɳ* is similar to that of the palatals *ɕ*, *ɕʰ*, *ɖ*, and *ɲ*. In some words in speech, the retroflexes are in free variation with the non-retroflex stops *t*, *tʰ*, *d*, and *n*.

5. The phonetic value of the retroflex affricates *tʂ*, *tʂʰ*, *dʐ*, *ʂ*, and *ʐ* is similar to that of the palatals *tɕ*, *tɕʰ*, *dʒ*, *ʃ*, and *ʒ*. In some words in speech, the two retroflex sounds *ʂ* and *ʐ* are in free variation with *s* and *z*, respectively.

6. As an independent consonant, *ɹ* is variable. Sometimes it is pronounced as *z* or *ʒ*, and sometimes it assimilates to a following *i*.

7. The glottal stop *ʔ* occurs as both an independent consonant and in combination with other consonants in consonant clusters. The syllabic nasals *ɱ*, *ɳ*, *ɲ*, and *ŋ* are preceded by a glottal stop, but these are not treated as consonant clusters in this work [*ʔɱ*, *ʔɳ*, *ʔɲ*, and *ʔŋ*].

<i>p</i>	<i>pi</i> 31	'pen'	<i>ph</i>	<i>phi</i> 35 <i>du</i> 55	'key'
<i>b</i>	<i>bwi</i> 31	'snake'	<i>ɱ</i>	<i>ɱu</i> 55 <i>ɳu</i> 31	'start; begin'
<i>m</i>	<i>mi</i> 55	'hemp'	<i>f</i>	<i>fau</i> 31	'lock'
<i>v</i>	<i>vi</i> 55 <i>ka</i> 31	'bottle'	<i>ts</i>	<i>tsui</i> 55	'crime; sin'
<i>tʂʰ</i>	<i>tʂʰi</i> 55	'rain'	<i>dz</i>	<i>la</i> 35 <i>dzi</i> ? 31	'hot pepper'
<i>s</i>	<i>si</i> 31 <i>di</i> 55	'true; real'	<i>z</i>	<i>zin</i> 53	'ask'
<i>t</i>	<i>ti</i> 53	'half'	<i>tʰ</i>	<i>tʰi</i> 55	'one'
<i>d</i>	<i>di</i> 55 <i>ba</i> 35	'spider'	<i>ŋ</i>	<i>ŋo</i> 31 <i>iunŋ</i> 55	'stay; remain'
<i>n</i>	<i>nen</i> 55	'goods'	<i>ɬ</i>	<i>ɬau</i> 53	'seek; look for'
<i>l</i>	<i>lim</i> 53	'bury'	<i>ɭ</i>	<i>ɭi</i> 31 <i>ɭu</i> 53	'compensate'
<i>ʈʰ</i>	<i>ʈʰi</i> 31 <i>maŋ</i> 31	'old'	<i>q</i>	<i>qim</i> 55	'kick'
<i>ɳ</i>	<i>ɡwi</i> 31 <i>ɳi</i> 55	'kneel'	<i>ɭ</i>	<i>ɭi</i> 31 <i>ɭi</i> 31	'return (money)'
<i>tʂ</i>	<i>pau</i> 31 <i>tʂi</i> 55	'newspaper'	<i>tʂʰ</i>	<i>tʂʰi</i> 31	'fart'
<i>dʒ</i>	<i>dʒi</i> 31	'swell'	<i>ʂ</i>	<i>ʂa</i> 55 <i>ʂi</i> 31	'urine'
<i>ʐ</i>	<i>ʐi</i> 55	'be'	<i>ɹ</i>	<i>ɹi</i> 31 <i>ʔunŋ</i> 55	'mountain'

tɕ	tɕi 55 p ^h i 55	'narrow'	tɕ ^h	ɑ 31 tɕ ^h iŋ 31	'exchange'
ɕ	ɕi 31	'copper'	ŋ	ŋu 55 ŋu	'weave'
fi	fiŋ 55	'fingernail'	ɕ	ɕim 55 bu 31	'full'
k	ko 31 p ^h u 55	'fox'	kh	khin 53	'cook; boil'
g	ɑ 31 gi 31	'lift'	ŋ	ŋe 31 ŋu 31	'weigh'
ŋ	ŋi 31 sa 31	'monkey'	x	ɑ 31 xi 55	'laugh'
y	yw 55	'shadow'	ʔ	ʔi 55 bu 31	'goose'
h	ɑ 31 hiŋ 35	'bowl'			

2) Consonant clusters: Consonant clusters can be divided into three categories. The first category is formed by prefixing a glottal stop to the voiced nasals, voiced laterals, voiced stops, and voiced affricates; the ten clusters in this category are ʔb, ʔd, ʔɕ, ʔg, ʔdz, ʔɕ, ʔm, ʔn, ʔŋ, and ʔŋ. The second category includes clusters of bilabials, labio-dentals, velar stops, fricatives, and nasals combined with the semi-vowel ɹ; the nine clusters in this second category are pɹ, phɹ, bɹ, mɹ, fɹ, vɹ, khɹ, gɹ, and xɹ. The third category consists of a single three-part consonant cluster: ʔbɹ.

ʔb	ɑ 31 ʔban 55	'a bamboo species'
ʔd	ʔdem 55	'on credit'
ʔɕ	ʔɕaŋ 55	'crawl'
ʔg	ʔgam 55	'remember by cutting notches on wood'
ʔdz	ʔdzɹin 55 ɛ 31	'defecate'
ʔɕ	ʔɕw 55 ŋu 31	'bite'
ʔm	tɕ ^h e 55 ʔmu 31	'daughter'
ʔn	ɑ 31 ʔna 31	'dye'
ʔŋ	ɑ 31 ŋe 35	'apply'
ʔŋ	ʔŋɑ 31 ɛ 31	'ruminate'
pɹ	pɹw m 55 no 31	'untie'
p ^h ɹ	ɑ 31 p ^h ɹi 31	'ancestor'
bɹ	bɹi 53	'four'
mɹ	ɑ 31 mɹaŋ 55	'angry'
fɹ	da 31 fɹi 55	'turtledove'
vɹ	ɑ 31 vɹi 55	'rope bridge support'
khɹ	khɹi 53	'sweet'
gɹ	de 31 gɹi 55	'dog'
xɹ	xɹum 53	'sift'

ʔbɿ ɕa 55 ʔbɿum 35 'stride over'

II. Finals (vowels):

There are altogether 77 finals. Ten of them are simple vowels, sixteen of them are diphthongs, four syllabic nasals, and forty-seven finals with consonant endings.

1. The simple vowel finals are: /i, e, ɛ, a, ɔ, o, u, ʊ, y, and ɪ/. The following are notes on these vowels:

1) The position of the tongue for /e/ is a little low, and its phonetic value is close to that of /E/. The phonetic value of /ɛ/ is close to that of /æ/.

2) The phonetic value of /a/ is actually the same as that of /A/. When it occurs before /n/ and /l/ in word final position, its phonetic value is close to that of /a/.

3) The phonetic value of /u/ remains unchanged when it occurs after nasals such as /m, n, ŋ/ etc. But, when it occurs after bilabial stops its phonetic value is close to that of /ʊ/. It is labialized after the other consonants, assuming a phonetic value similar to that of /y/.

4) The phonetic value of /ʊ/ is in fact the same as that of /ə/ when it occurs in loan words from Chinese. It can be pronounced as /i/ after retroflex consonants.

5) In speech, /i/ is often deleted after /ŋ/, and /u/ is often deleted after /ŋ/.

6) The alveolar vowel /l/ becomes /ɭ/ after retroflex consonants.

7) In prefixes, vowels are weak and indistinct.

i	pʰi 35 du 55	'key'
e	tsʰe 53	'deer'
ɛ	pʰɛ 55	'deceive'
a	pʰa 53	'belly'
ɔ	ɕɔ 55	'hundred'
o	pʰo 31 lo 53	'roll'
u	pʰu 55	'silver'
ʊ	pʰʊ 55 ŋam 53	'wild pig'
y	tɕʰy 55 ŋin 53	'extinguish'
ɪ	dʒɪ 55	'walk'

2. Four syllabic nasals occur:

m̥	m̥ 31	'no; not'
ŋ	kʰi 31 ŋ 55	'brew (wine)'
ɲ	ɲ 31 na 31	'domestic animal; livestock'
ŋ̥	ŋ̥ 31 ŋin 55	'claw; paw'

3. Diphthongs are divided into three types. The first type is formed with /i/, /u/, or /y/ as the first element; these occur mainly in native words: /ie, ie, ia, io, io, iu, iu, ui, ue, ue, ua, ye/. The second type is the two diphthongs beginning with /a/: /ai, au/. The third type is the triphthongs /iau/ and /uai/.

ie	u 55 ie 31	'member'	ie	a 31 tsʰie 55	'free; idle'
ia	a 31 ia 55	'k. of wasp/bee'	io	tsu 55 io 35	'main; major'
io	io 31 mum 55	'cloud'	iu	liu 35	'doubt'
iu	iu 31	'army'	ui	dzu 55	'pair; couple'
ue	kue 55 tɕy 31	'rule; custom'	ue	kue 35 pʰe 35	'national flag'
ua	ɲua 55	'fish'	ye	mu 55 xye 31	'tender maize'
ai	xo 55 tsʰai 31	'match'	au	au 31 ma 31	'aunt'
iau	pʰiau 35	'ticket'	uai	kʰuai 35 tɕi 35	'accountant'

4. Final consonants. Five consonants occur in final position: /m, n, ŋ, ŋ̥, ʔ/. The following table illustrates the vowel plus final combinations.

\vowels	i	e	ɛ	a	ɔ	o	u	ɯ	ɪ	ie	ia	io	iu	iu	ue	ua
finals \																
-m	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x		x					x
-n	x	x	x	x	x				x	x	x					x
-ŋ	x									x						
-ŋ̥	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x			x	x	x	x	x	x
-ʔ	x		x	x	x	x	x	x					x		x	x

Notes on final consonant endings:

1) /ŋ̥/ is often deleted in speech, and the preceding vowel is usually nasalized.

2) /ñ/ is very often the result of the coalescence of two syllables i.e., it becomes a part of the preceding syllable when the vowel following the /ñ/ is deleted.

3) /ɹ/ sometimes occurs in word final position in speech but it is infrequent and unstable. Sometimes it is pronounced as a retroflex vowel and sometimes it is deleted. Therefore, it is not included in my description of consonants occurring in word final position.

4) The glottal stop is unstable. It seems to be disappearing. In some words it is manifested as tension on the vowel, while in others it is simply deleted.

im	lim 53	'bury'	em	a 31 nem 55	'should'
ɛm	ɕɛm 31	'knife'	am	kham 53	'ladle out'
ɔm	a 31 sɔm 53	'three'	om	dzom 31	'hold steady'
um	jum 55	'forge iron'	um	ŋi 55 jum 31	'heart'
im	ba 31 sim 53	'flies'	uam	uam 31 ju 55	'flaxen thread'
iam	ɳiam 55	'needle'			
in	fin 55	'nail, finger-'	en	a 55 ben 31	'maternal uncle'
ɛn	ven 35	'buy'	an	jan 55	'weave (cloth)'
ɔn	ɕum 55 tɔn 55	'timber; wood'	um	a 31 kʰum 55	'cough'
in	zin 53	'ask'	ien	ien 55 tɕi 31 ɛ 31	'escape'
uen	suen 55 tshu 35	'vinegar'			
in	ɕin 31	'wipe; rub'	in	sin 35	'seven'
in	kʰin 55 nun 31	'peel'	en	i 31 fen 55	'one part'
ɛn	ben 55	'plate'	an	san 55	'daughter-in-law'
ɔn	pʰɔn 31	'five'	on	ʔon 55	'wear (hat)'
un	nun 55 nua 31	'cattle'	un	bun 31	'name'
ian	a 31 ian 31	'sheep'	ion	ion 31	'once; used to'
ion	pʰu 31 ion 53	'ghost; gods'	iun	a 31 iun 31	'drool'
iun	ŋo 31 iun 55	'remain'	uan	xuan 53	'circle; hover'
l?	tɕl? 55	'unit of weight (= 50 kilos)'			
ɛ?	dze? 55	'a drop (clf)'	a?	kʰa? 55	'chicken'
ɔ?	vi 55 kɔ? 31	'cup'	o?	pʰo? 35	'change'
u?	kʰa 55 lu? 53	'which one'	u?	bui 31 nu? 55	'snail'

1?	xua? 55	dzi? 53	'thorn in flesh'	io?	io? 55	'person (clf.)'
ue?	gue? 53		'loose'	ua?	de 53	gua? 53 'cucumber'

III. Tones.

There are four tones: high level 55, high falling 53, low falling 31, and high-rising 35. There is also an unstable mid-level tone which becomes a high-level tone when influenced by low-falling and high-rising tones, and becomes a low-falling tone when influenced by high-falling and high-level tones. Thus, in my description this mid-level tone has been treated as an environmentally-conditioned variant of other tones. The high-level and low-falling tones have a higher frequency than the other two tones. Tones carry a low functional load in terms of differentiating meaning.

1) the high-level tone:	xɛ 55 'basket',	kʰɿ̌ 55 'pocket'
2) the high-falling tone:	ʂa 53 'wild animal',	kʰɿ̌ 53 'sweet'
3) the low-falling tone:	xɛ 31 'silver',	da 31 kʰɿ̌ 31 'paint'
4) the high-rising tone:	xɛ 35 'foot',	fi 55 tʂʰi 35 'green'

IV. Syllables.

A syllable is usually composed of an initial, a final, and a tone, although some syllables consist of a final and a tone without an initial. Syllables consist of from one to five phonemes. The syllable canon is illustrated below, using C for consonant, and V for vowel; all the syllables have a tone.

1)	C	m̩ 31	'no; not'
		ŋ 31 tʰam 55	'notebook'
2)	V	o 31	'back load (clf.)'
		ɛ 31	'declarative particle'
3)	VV	iɯ 31	'seed'
4)	VVV	iau 55 tʂʰɯ 31	'demand'
		uɑ 31 kue 31	'foreign country'
5)	CV	bɛ 55	'white'
		pʰu 55	'silver'
6)	CVV	a 31 xua 35	'go mad'
		liu 35	'doubt'
7)	CVVV	pʰiau 35	'ticket'
		tiau 55 kʰɛ 31	'carve'

8)	CCV	p ^h ɿ 55	'plane, to'
		bɿ 53	'four'
9)	CCVC	ʔdɛm 55	'on credit'
		a 31 mɿan 55	'angry'
10)	CCCVC	ɕa 55 ʔbɿum 35	'stride over'
11)	VC	in 55	'sweat; perspire'
		dɛ 31 uŋ 35	'cotton'
12)	VVC	iaŋ 31	'thing; matter'
		a 31 iaŋ 31	'smoke'
13)	CVC	san 55	'kill'
		ts ^h uŋ 55	'dump (earth, soil)'
14)	CVVC	giɛn 35	'keep, deposit; entrust'
		k ^h uaŋ 31	'break by poking'

Among the fourteen types of syllables illustrated above, numbers 2, 3, 5, 6, 11, 12, and 13 have the highest frequencies. Number 10 has a very low frequency, and numbers 4 and 7 only occur in loan words from Chinese.

Lexicon

I. General characteristics.

Although Anong is a monosyllabic language, it doesn't have an overwhelmingly large number of monosyllabic words in its lexicon, due to the fact that most of the vocabulary occurs with either a prefix or a suffix.

The natural environments of the area inhabited by the Nu nationality has an influence over the composition of the vocabulary of the Anong language. It has a particularly rich vocabulary for certain things. For example, the Nujiang district has a wide variety of types of bamboo because of its tropical climate. As a result, several dozen names for distinct species of bamboo can be found in Anong:

Anong	Mandarin equivalent
tha 31 ua 55	'lóngzhú'
t ^h i 31 zɿ 31	'téngzhú'
a 31 t ^h ɿn 55	'shíxīnzhú'
t ^h i 31 ŋaŋ 31	'xiàngzhú'
a 31 yuŋ 55	'dúzhú'
t ^h i 31 ma 31	'shānzhú'

In addition, there are quite a number of others without Mandarin equivalents: sɿ 55 mən 31, sɿ 31 ven 55, a 31 lu 31, a 31 ʔben 55, ma 31 ŋam 55, a 31 dɛ 31, a 31 ɟu 55, a 31 va 55, etc.

Another good example is the rich vocabulary for fishing equipment, fishing methods, and various species of fish. This is because the Anong live on the banks of the Nujang river, and fishing is a major interest of theirs.

Anong has a large number of nouns and verbs that have the same form:

ven 55	'flower; to flower'
ʂɿ 55	'fruit; to bear fruit'
in 55	'sweat; to sweat'
ŋi 55	'shit; to shit'
maŋ 55	'dream; to dream'
lim 31	'egg; to lay an egg'
ʈhim 55	'knot; to tie a knot'

II. Composition of the vocabulary.

The vocabulary of Anong can be divided into native vocabulary and loan words. The majority of the words are of Tibeto-Burman origin, as is illustrated by the following examples:

	Anong	Tibetan	Qiang	Yi	Burmese	Trung
'dog'	dɛ 31- gɿ 55	khji	khua 55	khui 33	khwe 55	du 31- gun 55
'firewood'	sɿ 55	ɕiŋ	sie 33	sɿ 33	thi 55	ɕiŋ 55
'black'	ŋi 31- xa 55 naŋ 55	nagpo	ŋi 55- ŋi 31	a 44- no 33	neʔ 55	naʔ 55
'new'	ʔo 31 se 55	gsarpo	tshi 55	a 33- ɕɿ 55	tθiʔ 55	aŋ 31- sɿ 55
'three'	a 31- sɔm 53	gsum	tshi 55	sɔ 33	tθɔ 55	a 31- sɿm 53
'fish'	ŋua 55	ŋa	dzi 33	hu 33	ŋa 55	ŋa 55- plɔʔ 55
'stone'	luŋ 55	rdo	ɛo 241	l(y) 33- ma 55	tɕauʔ 55	luŋ 55
'gall'	ŋ 31 da 31-	mkhrispa	xtɕə 55	tɕɿ 33	tθɛ 55-	xɿ 55

bladder'	khɿ 53				tɕhe 31	
'heart'	ŋi 55	sŋiŋ	xtie 55-	he 22-	ŋa 53-	ɰu 31-
	ɰum 31		mə 55	mə 55	lɔ̃ 55	mʂʔ 55
'moon'	sɿ 31-	zlaba	ɕy 33-	+o 21-	la 53	su 31-
	la 55		ɕya 55	bo 21		la 55
'nine'	du 31-	dgu	xguə 33	gu 33	ko 55	du 31-
	gu 31					gu 53
'steal'	khui 55	rku	xkə 55	khu 21	kho 55	ku 55

The preliminary statistics, although rough, show that a high percentage of the vocabulary in Anong is shared with the languages of the Yi and Jingpo groups: 14.8% with Yi, 16.1% with Lisu, 18.5 % with Jingpo, and 33.2% with Trung with only small percentages from other languages. In addition to shared native vocabulary, Anong also has some vocabulary unique to itself used to describe Anong life, habits, and local surroundings.

The loan words have multiple origins but are mainly from Mandarin Chinese and Lisu. These represent some 25% of the words analyzed. In addition, there are a few loans from Bai, from Burmese, and from Tibetan.

The Chinese borrowings can be divided into two categories: those borrowed at an early stage, which have already been phonetically assimilated, and those borrowed after liberation (1949), which still retain the Chinese pronunciation.

Examples of the first category:

lo 55 tsui 55	luózi	'mule'	da 31 mo 55	màozǐ	'hat'
tsho 55	cōng	'onion'	tshui 31 te 55	jiǎndǎo	'scissors'
so 55 thu 31	suǒ	'lock'	lo 35 tso 31	zào	'kitchen'

Examples of the second category:

tshau 35 fan 53 zàofǎn	'rebel'	gan 35 fa 31	xiànfǎ	'constitution'
khuai 35 tɕi 35 kuàijì	'accountant'	tsi 35 iu 31	zìyóu	'freedom'
thə 35 phiŋ 31 tàipíng	'peace'	nu 55 li 31	nǚlì	'try hard'

In the last few centuries a lot of intermarriage has occurred between the Nu and the Lisu nationalities, which has resulted in a considerable number of borrowings from Lisu in the Nu languages. In fact, the total number of loan

words from Lisu is about the same as that from Chinese. These loan words are usually of a cultural or religious nature. Examine the following examples:

ʃɿ 55 gwɿ 31	'celebrate'	mu 31 gua 31	gua 55	'sing'
pʰe 35	'flag'	kho 31 ʃɿ 31		'observe festival'
ñe 55 tʃɿ 31	'medicine'	tu 55 ʃɿ		'folksong'
tʃho 55 dzi 31	'photograph'	su 55 ñi 31		'culture'
la 31 tha 55	'mill'			

III. Word formation.

The word formation may be derivational, compounding, and two- or four-syllable reduplication.

1. Derivation is mainly through the addition of prefixes. This is very productive in Anong. Anong is very rich in prefixes (or, as they also may be termed, reduced syllables). The prefixes only contain simple vowels without finals. The following prefixes are of relatively high frequency.

phw 31	phw 31 le 31	'tongue'
	phw 31 la 55	'poison'
	phw 31 ie 31	'extinguish'
bw 31	bw 31 ɕin 55	'liver'
	bw 31 luŋ 55	'insect'
	bw 31 saŋ 55	'itch'
mw 31	mw 31 ɕi 31	'chin'
	mw 31 ñi 31	'cat'
	mw 31 kham	'bacteria'
sɿ 31	sɿ 31 laŋ 55 za 55	'girl'
	sɿ 31 laŋ 55	'salt'
	sɿ 31 la 55	'moon'
ʃɿ 31	ʃɿ 31 dʊŋ 31	'quilt'
	ʃɿ 31 ju 55	'pine tree'
	ʃɿ 31 tʃho 55	'pear'
du 31	du 31 gw 31	'nine'
	du 31 be 55	'goiter'
	du 31 gu 31	'pulse'
ɽu 31	ɽu 31 ʔuŋ 55	'mountain'
	ɽu 31 luŋ 35	'string of pearls'

	ɹu 31 mun 55	'cure'
ŋ 31	ŋ 31 iu 31	'seed'
	ŋ 31 khuŋ 31	'tunnel'
	ŋ 31 ŋuŋ 55	'age'
a 31	a 31 na 31	'ear'
	a 31 sa 31	'teeth'
	a 31 din 55	'mouse'

In addition to these nine frequently used, there are some infrequently used ones, such as pu 31, tshɿ 31, zɿ 31, fi 31, tu 31, thu 31, du 31, ku 31, khu 31, gu 31, etc.

Words formed by adding suffixes can also be found occasionally, but there are far fewer suffixes than prefixes. The commonly used suffixes follow below:

1) su 55 is used to form words designating persons engaged in a certain profession or activity.

a 31 tshuŋ 31 su 55	'shepherd'	khu 55 su 55	'thief'
sɿ 31 lam 55 su 55	'teacher'		

2) kha 55 is used to form words designating locations:

ma 55 ʃu 31 kha 55	'front'	lu 55 lu 35 kha 55	'opposite'
i 55 kha 55	'lower reaches; backwards'		

3) ɛ 55 is used to form certain adjectives:

aŋ 55 ɡɔ 31 ɛ 55	'strange'	ŋuŋ 31 ɛ 55	'deep'
ŋaŋ 55 ɛ 31	'black'		

4) za 55 is used to form words designating a group of people of a certain age range:

di 31 tshaŋ 31 za 55	'young fellow'	tsha 31 ma 55 za 55	'girl'
sɿ 31 laŋ 55 za 55	'young married woman'		

2. Compounding is the principal means of enriching the vocabulary. Compounds in Anong can be classified into the following types according to the relationships between roots that form the compounds.

1) Coordinate compounds:

a 31 phw 31 'father' + a 31 mw 31 'mother' ==>

a 31 phw 31 a 31 mw 31 'parents'

o 55 pha 31 'uncle' + o 55 ma 31 'aunt' ==>

o 55 pha 31 o 55 ma 31 'aunt and uncle'

2) Modifier-modified or modified-modifier compounds:

a) modified + modifier:

la 31 + tca 55 'tea' + phum 55 'round' ==> la 31 tca 55 phum 55
'bowl-shaped compressed mass of tea leaves'

luŋ 55 'stone' + sw 55 'sharpen' ==> luŋ 55 sw 55 'whetstone'

b) modifier + modified:

ca 31 ja 31 + buŋ 55 'string' ==> ca 31 ja 31 buŋ 55 'noodle'

khen 55 'vegetable' + tshi 31 'juice' ==> khen 55 tshi 31 'vegetable soup'

3) Supplemental compounds:

cuŋ 55 'firewood' + thon 55 'section' ==> cuŋ 55 thon 55 'wood'

si 55 'tree' + dzuŋ 55 'plant (clf.)' ==> si 55 dzuŋ 55 'tree'

4) Governing-governed compounds:

la 31 'hand' + tchuŋ 55 'hoop' ==> la 31 tchuŋ 55 'bracelet'

la 31 phuŋ 55 'head' + xuan 55 'wrap' ==> la 31 phuŋ 55 xuan 55 'scarf'

5) Predicative compounds:

a 31 xe 35 'foot' + di 31 sa 31 'lame' ==> a 31 xe 35 di 31 sa 31 'cripple'

a 31 na 31 'ear' + bu 31 dw 55 'deaf' ==> a 31 na 31 bu 31 dw 55 'deaf
person'

3. Four character reduplication. This kind of compound falls into the following subtypes according to the pattern of reduplication.

1) AABB: maŋ 55 maŋ 55 fim 31 fim 31 'full of bumps and hollows'

pha 55 pha 55 laŋ 31 laŋ 31 'flat-shaped'

2) ABAB: ba 31 tcha 55 ba 31 tcha 55 'whisper'

kha 55 məŋ 55 kha 55 məŋ 55 'sound of whispering in
a soft voice'

3) ABAC: ka 31 thaŋ 35 ka 31 phaŋ 35 'from top to bottom'

tchi 31 fi 55 tchi 31 bo 55 'from north to south'

4) ABCB: kha 55 gam 55 ma 31 gam 55 'sound of groaning in pain'

khu 55 doŋ 55 ie 55 doŋ 55 'sway back and forth'

4. Two character reduplication. Although this type is not productive, it is often found in the language.

Nouns: tchuŋ 55 tchuŋ 55 'jug' Adjectives: sin 55 sin 55 'smooth'

daŋ 31 daŋ 31 'hillside'	khe 55 khe 55 'hard'
phe 55 phe 55 'basket'	ba 35 ba 31 'thin'
Verbs: ga 31 ga 31 'plane'	Adverbs: tɕhuŋ 55 tɕhuŋ 55 'in vain'
ma 31 ma 31 'speak sarcastically'	si 31 si 31 'reliable'
ɕuŋ 55 ɕuŋ 55 'stable'	dzu 55 dzu 55 'straight'

GRAMMAR

I. PARTS OF SPEECH

The words in Anong are divided into eleven parts of speech according to their meanings, forms, and functions in sentences. The eleven parts of speech are nouns, numerals, classifiers, pronouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs, conjunctions, mood markers, interjections, and auxiliaries.

1) Nouns have the following grammatical properties:

(1) Nouns can be followed by the auxiliaries zɪ 31 ŋwa 31 or muw 53, which mark plurality. These two auxiliaries have the same grammatical function. Both can be used after animate nouns. The only difference is that muw 53 can also be used after inanimate nouns.

a 31 tshaŋ 31	'person'	ta 55 tɕha 55	'friend'
a 31 tshaŋ 31 zɪ 31 ŋwa 31	'people'	ta 55 tɕha 55 zɪ 31 ŋwa 31	'friends'
a 31 tshaŋ 31 muw 53	'people'	ta 55 tɕha 55 muw 53	'friends'
a 31 be 55	'goat'	ŋua 55	'fish'
a 31 be 55 zɪ 31 ŋwa 31	'goats'	ŋua 55 zɪ 31 ŋwa 31	'fish'
a 31 be 55 muw 53	'goats'	ŋua 55 muw 53	'fish'
si 55 dzuŋ 55	'tree'	tɕhim 31	'house'
si 55 dzuŋ 55 muw 53	'trees'	tɕhim 31 muw 53	'houses'

(2) Nouns can be prefixed to denote possession: a 31 is used for first person, ŋwa 31 is used for the second person, and ŋ is used for the third person.

first person

second person

third person

a 31 phuw 31 'my father'	ŋwa 31 phuw 31 'your father'	ŋ phuw 31 'his father'
a 31 muw 31 'my mother'	ŋwa 31 muw 31 'your mother'	ŋ muw 31 'his mother'
a 31 khaŋ 31 'my g f '	ŋwa 31 khaŋ 31 'your g f '	ŋ khaŋ 31 'his g f '
a 31 tɕhi 31 'my g m '	ŋwa 31 tɕhi 31 'your g m '	ŋ tɕhi 31 'his g m '

The rule governing the use of the auxiliary word l31 is as follows: it is not used from ten through twenty; it is optional from twenty through ninety-nine; above a hundred, it has to be used between two 'places'.

(2) Approximate numbers can be expressed in a number of ways.

a) By combining two adjacent numbers and putting the marker daq 31 after the combination:

phəŋ 31 ioʔ 55 kuŋ 55 ioʔ 55 daŋ 31
 5 clf. 6 clf. daŋ 31
 'five or six people'

a 31 ŋ 55 tsha 55 a 31 sɔm 53 tsha 55 ioʔ 55 daŋ 31
 2 10 3 10 clf. daŋ 31
 'twenty or thirty people'

thi 31 tsha 55 a 31 sɔm 53 ioʔ 55 bɔi 31 ioʔ 55 daŋ 31
 1 10 3 clf. 4 clf. daŋ 31
 'thirteen or fourteen people'

b) By using the marker daq 55 or the prefix ŋ 31 to mean 'several, a few, some'.

daq 55 ioʔ 55 'several'
 daŋ 55 tsha 55 'several dozen' ŋ 31 tsha 55 'several dozen'
 daŋ 55 ɕa 55 'several hundred' ŋ 31 ɕa 55 'several hundred'

c) By putting ka 31 thəŋ 55 after specific numbers to express 'more than; over'.

thi 31 tsha 55 ka 31 thəŋ 55 ioʔ 55 'more than ten'
 thi 31 ɕa 55 ka 31 thəŋ 55 ioʔ 55 'more than one hundred'
 a 31 sɔm 53 tsha 55 ka 31 thəŋ 55 ioʔ 55 'more than thirty'

(3) Fractions. Fractions are expressed by numerical phrases connected by an auxiliary word.

sɔm 53 thui 55 daq 31 kha 31 thi 31 thui 55
 3 part aux. 1 part 'one-third'

phoŋ 31 tɰw 55 doŋ 31 kha 31 a 31 ñ 55 tɰw 55
 5 part aux. 2 part 'two-fifths'

(4) Multiples are expressed by putting kha 55 after the specific number.

thi 31 kha 55 'once' phoŋ 31 kha 55 'five times'
 thi 31 ɕa 55 kha 55 'a hundred times'

Sometimes multiples are expressed in Lisu.

thi 31 fu 55 'once' phoŋ 31 fu 55 'five times'
 thi 31 ɕa 55 fu 55 'a hundred times'

(5) Ordinals are formed by putting kw 31 phaŋ 55 or ʔi 55 phaŋ 55 before a numeral.

kw 31 phaŋ 55 thi 55 'first'
 kw 31 phaŋ 55 a 31 sɔm 53 'third'
 kw 31 phaŋ 55 thi 31 tsha 55 'tenth'
 kw 31 phaŋ 55 thi 31 ɕa 55 'hundredth'

Ordinals for dates are formed by putting si 31 la 55 'month' before the numeral.

si 31 la 55 thi 55 ñi 31 'first day of the month'
 si 31 la 55 a 31 sɔm 53 ñi 31 'third day of the month'
 si 31 la 55 ɕen 55 ñi 31 'eighth day of the month'
 si 31 la 55 thi 31 tsha 55 phoŋ 31 ñi 31 'fifteenth day of the month'

3) Classifiers. The Anong language is rich in classifiers, which fall into two categories.

(1) Nominal classifiers. This category can be further subdivided into quite a number of subcategories according to their characteristics and the environment in which they are used.

a) Classifiers describing the shape of objects: loŋ 55 'clf. for round objects', loŋ 31 'sheets, thin slices', tham 55 'sheets, layers', buŋ 55 'long narrow soft strips or pieces', kho 55 'long narrow pieces'.

b) Classifiers for units of weight and measurement:

thon 55	'armspread, span'
bu 31 tha 55	'handspan i.e., thumb and middle finger'
lu 55	'weight (50 grams)'
ga 55	'weight (100 grams)'
du 55	'measure for grain (1 decaliter)'
phen 55	'measure for grain (1 liter)'
cu 55	'weight (1/2 gram)'

c) Classifiers for time:

ñu 55	'year'
ñi 31	'day'
sa 31	'morning'
di 31 tshu 55	'generation'
ia 55	'night, evening'

d) Classifiers for abstract concepts:

tsh 31	'things, goods'
ia 31	'matter'
nu 31	'unit e.g., work unit'
thi 31 za 31	'problem; question'

e) Classifiers for collectives:

zi 31	'crowd'	za 55	'group'
ka 35	'clump'	m 31 si 55	'bunch'
dzu 55	'pair'	ba 31 nu 53	'some; few'

Classifiers have the following properties:

1) Can be reduplicated to mean 'in turn' or 'one by one'.

thi 55 io? 55 io? 55	'one by one'
thi 55 dzu 55 dzu 55	'plant by plant'
thi 55 ñi 31 ñi 31	'day by day'
thi 55 bu 31 bu 31	'pile by pile'

2) Can be preceded by kha 55 and followed by nu 31 gu 55 to mean 'each; every':

kha 31 io? 55 nu 31 gu 55	'each person'
kha 31 ia 55 nu 31 gu 55	'each night'
kha 31 dzu 55 nu 31 gu 55	'each plant'

kha 31 [oŋ 55 nu 31 gu 55 'each piece'

3) Can use the noun itself as a classifier:

ñi 55 thi 55 ñi 55	'eye one eye'
eye one eye	
phan 55 thi 55 phan 55	'leg one leg'
leg one leg	
ven 55 thi 55 ven 55	'flower one flower'
flower one flower	
ɕəm 55 thi 55 ɕəm 55	'tree leaf one tree leaf'
leaf one leaf	

2. There are a limited number of verbal classifiers: dzaŋ 31 'cì', dam 55 'xià', so 31 'húi, biàn', zì 31 'jiào', buəm 31 'dùn'.

IV. PRONOUNS

Pronouns can be divided into five categories: personal pronouns, demonstrative pronouns, interrogative pronouns, reflexive pronouns, and indefinite pronouns.

1. Personal pronouns. Personal pronouns can be further divided into first, second, and third persons. In terms of number, there are singular, dual, and plural. The first person dual and plural have inclusive and exclusive forms.

		singular	dual	plural
first person	inclusive	ŋa 55 or a 31 io 31	ŋa 55 iuŋ 55 si 31	ŋa 55 iuŋ 55 (ŋe 31 ni 35)
	exclusive	---	a 31 iuŋ 55 si 31	a 31 iuŋ 55
second person		ŋa 55	ŋe 31 ŋuŋ 55 si 31	ŋu 31 ŋuŋ 55
third person		ŋ 55	ŋ 55 ŋuŋ 55 si 31	ŋ 55 ŋuŋ 55

2. Demonstrative pronouns. There are two types of demonstrative pronouns, one type referring to something close by and the other to something further away. To refer to something close by ia 55 is used; it has two pronunciation variants: ie 55 and ie 31. To refer to something further away, khu 55 is used. To refer to something above, na 55 is used. To refer to something below, ti 55 is used. khu 55 is used to refer to something on the same level from the speaker's viewpoint.

ia 55 bam 31 nui 31 a 55 a 31 io 31 kha 31 ie 55,
this clf. aux. I aux. be
'This one is mine,

khu 55 bam 31 nui 31 a 55 na 31 kha 31 ie 55.
that clf. aux. you aux. be.
...that one is yours'

ti 55 bam 31 nui 31 a 55 a 31 khaŋ 31 kha 31 ie 55,
that-above clf. aux. grandfather aux. be,
'The one below is grandfather's,

na 55 bam 31 nui 31 a 55 a 55 ben 31 kha 31 ie 55,
that-below clf. aux. maternal uncle aux. be,
...the one above is uncle's

3. Interrogative pronouns. Different referents require different interrogative pronouns. To refer to people kha 55 io? 55 'who' is used; to refer to things kha 55 tshi 31 'what' is used; to refer to locations kha 55 a 31 'where' is used; to refer to quantities kha 55 daŋ 55 'how much/many' is used; and, to refer to states and appearances kha 55 di 55 'how' is used. All of these interrogative pronouns can be reduplicated to denote plurality except the one referring to quantity.

kha 55 io? 55 'who'
kha 55 io? 55 kha 55 io? 55 'which people?'

kha 55 tshi 31 'what'
kha 55 tshi 31 kha 55 tshi 31 'which things?'

kha 55 a 31 'where'

kha 55 a 31 kha 55 a 31

'which places?'

4. Reflexive pronouns. Reflexive pronouns can occur independently and can be combined with another pronoun. When combined with another pronoun, the prefixial and the suffixial elements can be omitted.

	singular	dual	plural
1st	a 31 io 31 luŋ 35	a 31 ɲuŋ 55 si 31 luŋ 35	a 31 ɲuŋ 55 luŋ 35
2nd	ɲa 31 luŋ 35	ɲɛ 31 ɲuŋ 55 si 31 luŋ 35	ɲɛ 31 ɲuŋ 55 luŋ 35
3rd	ŋ 31 luŋ 35	ŋ 31 ɲuŋ 55 si 31 luŋ 35	ŋ 31 ɲuŋ 55 luŋ 35

5. Indefinite pronouns. The indefinite pronouns are a 31 tshaŋ 31 'other people' and a 31 tshaŋ 31 tʃhi 55 'somebody'.

ia 55 nu 31 a 55 a 31 tshaŋ 31 kha 31 ie 55
 this auxiliary other people aux be
 'This is somebody else's'

a 31 tshaŋ 31 tʃhi 55 m 31 em 55 nu 31
 somebody not eat Mood
 'Somebody hasn't eaten yet!'

V. VERBS

Verbs have the grammatical categories of person, number, aspect, voice, mood, and direction, which are realized by inflections such as affixation, inflexion, and so on.

1. Person and number. Person and number are expressed through prefixes and suffixes. This is illustrated below with the word khi 55 'bite; gnaw'.

	Singular	Dual	Plural
person			
first	khiŋ 55	khi 55 se 55	khi 55 i 31
second	ɲ 31 khi 55	ɲ 31 khi 55 se 55	ɲ 31 khi 55 ɲu 31
third	khi 55	khi 55	khi 55

From the inflections of this verb, we see that the first person singular requires the suffix -ŋ, the dual requires the suffix se 55, plural requires the suffix ɿ 31, the second person singular requires the prefix ŋ 31, the dual requires the prefix ŋ 31 and the suffix se 55, and the plural requires the prefix ŋ 31 and the suffix ŋw 31, while the third person forms are all unmarked.

In addition to these, there are also rules governing the sound changes marked by variation of initials and finals of the verb roots. The inflections of verb roots have to agree not only with subjects but also with objects according to specific conditions. Since the length of this article is limited, I will not cite any examples to illustrate these rules.

2. Aspect. Aspect is marked by suffixes. Verbs have the following aspects: future progressive, progressive, past progressive, past, and perfect.

1). Future progressive is marked by the the suffix bu 55 or uə 55 and expresses an action which will be started. bu 55 can be used with all three persons, whereas uə 55 can only be used with the third person.

ə 31 ɿə 31 ə 55 loŋ 55 **bu 55** ɛ 55
I aux. go-back **bu 55** ɛ 55
'I will go back'

ŋ 31 ŋw 55 khen 55 ven 35 ɛ 55 **uə 55**
they vegetable buy ɛ 55 **uə 55**
'They will buy vegetables'

2) Progressive is marked by the suffixes no 31, ɛ 55, or no 31 ɛ 31 and expresses an action which is ongoing.

mo 55 do 55 du 31 ba 31 tʰaŋ 55 kha 31 ə 31 ɿə 35 sɿ 31 ə 31 gu 55 ɛ 55
car bridge on aux slowly go ɛ 55
'The car is going slowly on the bridge'

ŋ 31 ŋw 55 tʰim 31 kha 31 la 31 tʰum 55 ə 31 tʰi 55 zɿn 55 sa 55 no 31 ɛ 31
they home aux door bolt **no 31 ɛ 31**
'The door of their house is bolted'

3) Past progressive is marked by the suffix **dze 31** (or, **dzu 31**, **dzi 31**) and expresses an action which was already going on. The suffix **dze 31** has two variants: **dzu 31** and **dzi 31**. The former is used with the first and second person singular and dual, while the latter is used with the first person plural.

a 31 io 31 a 55 ɬa 55 thi 31 gam 55 ven 35 **dzu 31** ɲa 31
 I aux meat one pound buy **dzu 31** suffix
 'I bought a pound of meat'

tshi 55 dzaŋ 55 a 31 **dze 31**
 rain down **dze 31**
 'It (was) raining'

4). Past aspect is marked by the suffix **ie 31** and expresses an action which occurred in the past.

ɲa 55 pei 31 tɕin 55 dzi 55 buŋ 55 **ie 31**
 I Beijing go **ie 31**
 'I went to Beijing'

5). Perfect aspect is marked by the suffix **thaŋ 31** and expresses an action which has not only started but has also finished. The suffix is usually used together with the past aspect marker **dze 31**.

ŋ 31 a 35 a 31 ɣu 55 tɕhi 31 ɛm 55 **thaŋ 31** dze 31 ɛ 55
 he aux meal eat **thaŋ 31** dze 31 ɛ 55
 'He has eaten'

3. Voice. There are three voices: active, causative and reciprocal. They are marked by markers put before or after the verbs, or by inflexions or sound changes.

1) Active voice is marked by putting a marker after the verb; ɬuŋ 55 is used with the first person singular; ɣɪ 31 or sɛ 31 is used with the second and third person.

	first person		second/third person	
'wash (clothes)'	dʒɛn 55	ɬuŋ 55	dʒɛn 55	ɣɪ 31
'kill'	sən 55	ɬuŋ 55	sən 55	sɛ 31 (ɣɪ 31)
'comb (hair)'	tʃaŋ 55	ɬuŋ 55	tʃaŋ 55	ɣɪ 31 (sɛ 31)

2). Causative voice is marked either by putting a marker before the verb or by the alternation of the voicing of the initial consonant of the verb root.

a) The preverbal marker sɪ 31. When the marker sɪ 31 is put before the verb, the vowel of sɪ 31 changes to agree with the vowel of the verb root. The rule for this change is as follows: When the main vowel of the verb root is a back vowel such as ɑ, ɯ, ɔ, or u, the vowel in sɪ 31 remains unchanged. When the main vowel of the verb root is ɛ, the marker sɪ 31 becomes sɛ 31. When the initial of the verb root is palatal or the main vowel of the verb root is -i, the marker becomes ɣɪ 31.

	active	causative
'cry'	ŋɯ 55	sɪ 31 ŋɯ 55 (ŋɯ 55)
'glue to'	ga 55	sɪ 31 ga 55
'eat'	ɛm 55	sɛ 31 ɛm 55
'bite (dog)'	dʒuŋ 55	ɣɪ 31 dʒuŋ 55

b) The preverbal marker dʊ 31. The marker dʊ 31 may be put before a verb to indicate the causative voice.

'to hatch'	buɯm 31	dʊ 31 buɯm 31
'melt'	gɯɪ 55	dʊ 31 gɯɪ 55
'rot'	buɯm 55	dʊ 31 buɯm 55
'put on'	gʊa 55	dʊ 31 gʊa 55

c) The initials of verbs that begin with voiced nasals or laterals become voiceless in the causative voice.

'bury'	lim 55	ɬim 55
--------	--------	--------

'drunk'	ɣaŋ 55	ɣaŋ 55
'go to bed'	ŋim 53	ŋim 53
'cry'	ŋu 55	ŋu 55 (su 31 ŋu 55)

3). Reciprocal voice. The reciprocal voice is expressed by using the marker a 31 before the verb root.

'to shoot'	vam 55	'to shoot each other'	a 31 vam 55
'to miss'	tshom 55	'to miss each other'	a 31 tshom 55
'to ask'	zin 53	'to ask each other'	a 31 zin 53

4. Mood. There are three types of mood---the indicative, the imperative, and the precative---realized either by affixation or by the devoicing of root initial consonants.

1). The indicative mood is formed by adding the suffix ε 31. In cases where the suffix ε 31 is the only marker added to the verb, the verb is also progressive in meaning.

pha 55 dza 55 ma 31 a 31	gɿ 55 tʃhɿ 31	ɛm 55	ε 31
brother	meal	eat	ε 31
'Brother is eating (dinner)'			

2). The imperative mood has three different forms: singular, dual, and plural. In addition to being marked by affixation, in some verbs the devoicing of initials also occurs. The verbs used in the imperative mood fall into the following four categories.

a). Verbs that have initial voiceless consonants, or initial voiced stops or affricates, or have initial clusters take the suffixes o 31, so 31, and ŋo 31 to express singular, dual, and plural imperative mood, respectively.

	root	singular	dual	plural
'to paste'	dzam 55	dzam 55 o 31	dzam 55 so 31	dzam 55 ŋo 31
'to cut (meat)'	bi 31	bi 31 o 31	bi 31 so 31	bi 31 ŋo 31
'to drain (in sieve)'	xɿum 53	xɿum 53 o 31	xɿum 53 so 31	xɿum 53 ŋo 31

b). Verb roots that begin with voiced fricatives, voiced nasals, or voiced laterals also take the suffixes o 31, so 31, and ŋo 31 to express the imperative; however, in addition, in roots with these the initials the initial also becomes voiceless.

	root	singular	dual	plural
'to light (a lamp)'	ve 31	fe 31 o 31	fe 31 so 31	fe 31 ηo 31
'to ask'	zin 53	sin 53 o 31	sin 53 so 31	sin 53 ηo 31
'to sell'	nem 35	ηem 35 o 31	ηem 35 so 31	ηem 35 ηo 31
'to dig (land)'	mæŋ 35	ŋæŋ 35 o 31	ŋæŋ 35 so 31	ŋæŋ 35 ηo 31
'to lick'	laŋ 55	taŋ 55 o 31	taŋ 55 so 31	taŋ 55 ηo 31

c). Verbs that begin with an open vowel syllable take the same suffixes as the types a and b immediately above. Their verb root remains unchanged, but they also take the prefix *phw 31*, which is so closely linked to the verb root (or to the auxiliary prefix) that it sometimes sounds like one syllable.

	singular	dual	plural
'to drink'	<i>phw 31 aŋ 55 o 31</i> (<i>pha 55 ηo 31</i>)	<i>phw 31 aŋ 55 so 31</i> (<i>phaŋ 55 so 31</i>)	<i>phw 31 aŋ 55 ηo 31</i> (<i>phaŋ 55 ηo 31</i>)
'to chop'	<i>phw 31 a 31-</i> <i>dza 55 o 31</i> (<i>pha 31 dza 55 o 31</i>)	<i>phw 31 a 31-</i> <i>dza 55 so 31</i> (<i>pha 31 dza 55 so 31</i>)	<i>phw 31 a 31-</i> <i>dza 55 ηo 31</i> (<i>pha 31 dza 55 ηo 31</i>)
'to eat'	<i>phw 31 em 55 o 31</i> (<i>phe 55 mo 31</i>)	<i>phw 31 em 55 so 31</i> (<i>phem 55 so 31</i>)	<i>phw 31 em 55 ηo 31</i> (<i>phem 55 ηo 31</i>)

d). Verbs that begin with the vowel /i/ take the same suffixes as types a, b, and c above, but the vowel /i/ changes to the consonant [ɛ].

	root	singular	dual	plural
'to escape'	iɛn 55	ɛɛn 55 o 31	ɛɛn 55 so 31	ɛɛn 55 ηo 31
'to shout'	iaŋ 55	ɛaŋ 55 o 31	ɛaŋ 55 so 31	ɛaŋ 55 ηo 31

3). The precative mood has two different forms. One is used to ask for permission to do something yourself, in which case the suffix *lie 31* is added to the imperative form of the verb. The other is used when one asks for permission for a third person to do something. In this case the prefix *la 31* and the suffix *lie 31* are both added to the imperative form of the verb.

a 31 io 31 a 55 le 55 dzaŋ 55 o 31 lie 3
 I once look lie 31
 'Please let me have a look'

ŋ 31 la 31 dzen 55 o 31 lie 31
 he la 31 wash lie 31
 'Please let him wash'

5. Directionality of verbs. Verbs can be marked for two types of direction suffix---centrifugal and centripetal. The choice of suffix depends on the locality of the speaker. The suffixes marking direction are mostly the weakened forms of notional words.

1). The centripetal form is realized by adding the suffixes a 31 ie 55, a 31 na 55, a 31 qa 55, and lo 31. In the following examples the verb zi 35 'carry on the back' is used to illustrate the grammatical meaning of these forms.

zi 35 a 31 ie 55 [the action starts from a position on the same level
 'carry it here' as that of the speaker and moves toward him]

zi 35 a 31 na 55 [the action starts from a lower position and moves
 'carry it up here' toward the speaker]

zi 35 a 31 qa 55 [the action starts from a higher position away
 'carry it down here' from the speaker and moves toward him]

zi 35 lo 31 [the action starts from a position away from the
 'carry it back here' speaker and moves toward him to return an
 object to its original place]

2). The centrifugal form is realized by adding the suffixes a 31 ba 55, a 31 la 31, qaŋ 55, and lu 55

zi 35 a 31 ba 55 [outward movement of an action, without
 'carry it there/away' further specifying direction]

zi 35 a 31 la 31 [the action starts from a higher position and
 'carry it down there' moves downward away from speaker]

zɿ 35 dɔŋ 55 'carry it up there'	[the action starts from a lower position and moves upward away from the speaker]
zɿ 35 ɿu 55 'carry it back there'	[the action starts from the speaker's position and moves away from him to return the object to its original place]

These directional suffixes sometimes also undergo vowel change due to the influence of the environment in which they occur.

6. Nominalizations of verbs. The nominalization of verbs is realized by the addition of the suffix dem 55.

em 55 'eat'	em 55 dem 55 'something to eat'
aŋ 55 'drink'	aŋ 55 dem 55 'something to drink'
dzaŋ 55 'look'	dzaŋ 55 dem 55 'something to look at'
dzom 55 'use'	dzom 55 dem 55 'something to use'

VI. ADJECTIVES

Adjectives have the following properties.

1. The prefixes ua 55 and tɕɿ 55 are used that two adjectives are opposite in meaning. Adjectives that describe appearance and form take such prefixes. The prefix ua 55 is usually added to adjectives such as 'big', 'tall', 'long', 'wide', and the prefix tɕɿ 55 is added to adjectives such as 'small', 'short', 'short [= 'not long']', and 'narrow'.

ua 55 dʊŋ 31 'big'	tɕɿ 55 la 55 'small'
ua 55 maŋ 31 'tall'	tɕɿ 55 ñim 'short; low'
ua 55 ña 31 'long'	tɕɿ 55 ɬuŋ 55 'short'
ua 55 gaŋ 31 'wide'	tɕɿ 55 phi 55 'narrow'

2. Adjectives can be reduplicated to heighten their degree. The following examples will illustrate this property.

phu 55 'yellow'	phu 55 phu 55 'very yellow'
tɕhuŋ 35 'straight'	tɕhuŋ 35 tɕhuŋ 31 'very straight'
ba 35 'thin'	ba 35 ba 31 'very thin'

ηυη 55 'soft'

ηυη 55 ηυη 55 'very soft'

3. Adjectives can be nominalized. This can be done either by adding the suffix o 55 or by adding the prefix η 31.

buη 31 'many'

buη 31 o 55 'something large'

sin 55 'smooth'

sin 55 o 55 'something smooth'

lɪ 55 'old'

η 31 lɪ 55 'something old'

fiη 55 'cooked (ripe)'

η 31 fiη 55 'something cooked'

4. The suffix a 31 nɪ 55 can be added to show that the appearance, form, quality, nature, or character of something that is in the process of change.

a 31 mu 31 a 31 dza 31 nu 31 gam 55 a 31 nɪ 55

mama illness good a 31 nɪ 55

'mother is getting better'

VII. ADVERBS

Adverbs can be put into the following six categories.

Adverbs of degree: ηa 31 'very', a 31 du 35 thi 31 'fairly', ba 31 sɪ 31 'very; even more; especially', a 31 khui 55 'supreme; most'.

Adverbs of scope: gu 55 'also', qa 31 daη 55 'all'.

Adverbs of time: le 55 saη 55 nu 31 'now; just now', qo 55 'first', phaη 31 si 31 'then'.

Adverbs of probability: the 55 lu 55 'approximately; roughly', le 55 m 31 zɪ 55 'perhaps'.

Adverbs of manner: a 31 iaη 35 si 31 'slowly', kha 55 ma 55 ua 31 li 31 'quietly', si 31 la 55 ηem 55 ua 31 li 31 'properly'.

Adverbs of negation: m 31 'not', tha 31 'don't'.

Adverbs have the following characteristics when used in a sentence.

1. Adverbs can be reduplicated for emphasis.

de 55 sɪ 55 kha 55 a 31 ~~da 31 daη 55 da 31 daη 55~~ a 31 do 55 kho 55
this evening all all get together

mɪ 31 li 31 a 31 guη 55 ɪ 31
after have meeting suffix

'we will all get together to have a meeting tonight'

2. When functioning as adverbial, adverbs in most cases precede predicates. However, there are some that occur after predicates.

α 31 lo 31 tchen 31 α 35 thi 31 loʔ 55 ε 31 si 55 ηo 55 ε 31
 I child aux one clf. only have suffix
 'I have only one child'

ηα 31 α 55 dza 31 dza 31 pha 31 ge 55 dzi 55 ε 31 do 55
 you aux hurry hurry go aux. first
 'Hurry up, you go first'

VIII. AUXILIARIES

There are three types of auxiliaries: structural auxiliaries, nominal auxiliaries, and adverbial auxiliaries.

1. Structural auxiliaries can be further divided into eight subcategories: restrictive, causative, passive, instrumental, temporal, source of action, comparative, and associative.

1). The restrictive auxiliary *ni 55* is usually used in an emphatic construction showing possession. In most cases, it can be omitted.

pha 55 dza 55 ma 31 ni 55 tchen 31	α 31 mu 31 <i>ni 55</i> α 31 fi 55
brother ni 55 child	mother ni 55 hair
'brother's child'	'mother's hair'

2). The causative auxiliary *mi 55* is usually used in a sentence in which the doer of the action is unknown i.e., can't be identified.

η 31 kha 31 m 31 su 31 la 55 o 55 α 31 tshaŋ 31 mi 55 san 55 ε 31 ba 35
 he aux bad person mi 55 kill suffix
 'He was being killed by a bad man'

3). The passive auxiliary *kha 31* has three functions: a) after indirect speech, it denotes the recipient of an action, b) after names of places, it denotes the place of an action, and c) after the names of objects, it indicates that they are instruments.

a 31 io 31 t̥ha 31 ŋaŋ 55 kha 31 ʃɿ 55 va 31 thi 31 puŋ 55 d̥ziŋ 55
 I younger brother aux book one copy give
 'I gave my younger brother a book'

khon 55 min 31 kha 31 ba 31 ʃɿ 31 thi 31 ɔm 55 ɛ 31
 Kunming aux very far aux
 'Kunming is very far away'

a 31 t̥ʃhi 31 t̥ʃhi 55 kha 31 ʃa 55 ɔa 31 ua 55 t̥ʃhi 31 dw 31 gom 55 ɛ 31
 grandmother bag aux flour put suff
 'Grandmother uses a bag to hold flour'

4) The instrumental auxiliary mi 55 is used after the name of an instrument to show that the instrument is used in the performance of an action.

ŋ 31 va 55 mi 55 ɕuŋ 55 a 31 t̥ʃhi? 31 ɛ 31
 he axe mi 55 firewood chop suffix
 'He splits firewood with an axe'

5) The temporal auxiliary tha 35 is used after a temporal noun to show that the action is taking place then.

a 31 io 31 thi 31 t̥sha 55 a 31 ñ 55 sɿ 31 la 55 thi 55 ñi 31 tha 35 mo 31
 I one ten two month one day tha 35

ko 55 d̥zaŋ 31 kha 31 thuŋ 55 buŋ 55 ɛ 31
 aux arrive suffix
 'I arrived at Mugujia on December 1st'

6). The source of action auxiliary khuŋ 31 ne 55 or ne 55 is put after a noun or a pronoun to show the starting point of an action.

khen 55 d̥za 31 ham 35 d̥oŋ 31 ne 55 kha? 55 a 31 ñ 55 dw 31 a 31
 vegetable garden inside ne 55 chicken two clf

t̥shaŋ 31 a 31 ne 55
 run suffix
 'Two chickens ran out of the vegetable garden'

7). The comparative auxiliary *than* 55 a 31 is put after a noun or a pronoun to show that it is being compared.

*dw*31 *z*an31 *khu* 55 *kho* 55 *nw* 31 *than* 55 a 31 *ia* 55 *kho* 55 *nw* 31 *sin* 31 *ε* 31
stick that clf. aux comp. this clf. aux thin suff
'This stick is thinner than that stick'

8). There are two inclusive auxiliaries: *ne* 31 *ne* 31 *na* 55 and *ta* 55 *ti* 55. They are more or less the same in meaning and usage.

a 31 *io* 31 *ne* 31 *ne* 31 *na* 55 *phoŋ* 31 *io?* 55 *ie* 31
I (auxiliary) five clf. have
'There are five people including me'

ŋ 31 *dze* 31 *phi* 55 *nw* 31 *ta* 55 *ti* 55 *tsha* 31 *ma* 55 *za* 55 *som* 53 *io?* 55 *ie* 31
he sister aux. auxiliary women three clf. have
'There are three women, including his sister'

2. There are two determinative auxiliaries, namely, *nw* 31 and *a* 55. Sometimes the two are used together. These occur after a noun, a pronoun, or a phrase to emphasize it in the sentence.

ia 31 *khu*an 55 *nw* 31 *than* 55 a 31 *khu* 55 *khu*an 55 *nw* 31 *ta?* 55 *ε* 31
this room aux. aux. that room aux. big suffix
'That room is bigger than this room'

a 31 *io* 31 a 55 *khon* 55 *mun* 31 *khun* 31 *ne* 55 *dzi* 55 *ne* 31 *iun* 55 a 31
I aux. Kunming aux. come suffix
'I came from Kunming'

3. The adverbial auxiliary *li* 31 or *ua* 31 *li* 31 is mainly used after words or phrases to allow them to be used adverbially in a sentence.

si 31 *tha* 31 *thi* 55 *ni* 31 *thi* 55 *ni* 31 *li* 31 a 31 *ba* 35
time one day one day aux go
'Time has passed by day by day'

ŋ 31 *m* 31 *si* 31 *ŋu* 31 *m* 31 *si* 31 *ŋu* 31 *li* 31 *ph*u 31 a 31 *su* 35 a 31 *da* 55
he as say as say aux. tear fall have
'He is crying while talking'

IX. CONJUNCTIONS

The conjunction *sɿ 55* is used to connect words or phrases.

<i>a 31 hɿŋ 35 sɿ 31 a 31 suŋ 55</i>	<i>ɛm 55 dɛm 55 sɿ 31 aŋ 55 dɛm 55</i>
bowl aux. chopsticks	eat suffix aux drink suffix
'bowls and chopsticks'	'something to eat and something to drink'

Conjunctions which are used to connect sentences are dealt with in the syntax section.

X. MODALS

The language has a rich inventory of modals, which are usually put at the end of a sentence to express a certain mood, such as interrogation, warning, rhetorical question, estimation, conjecture, declaration, etc. The examples below will give you a rough idea of the modals.

<i>ia 55 tʂhɿ 35 nuw 35 a 55 ŋa 31 a 55 m 31 so 55 o 31 mɛ 53</i>
this clf. aux. you aux. not know suff. question
'Don't you know about it?'

<i>duw 31 ba 31 kha 31 mɛ 31 gu 55 tha 35 phw 31 a 31 dza 55 ʂɿ 31 la 35</i>
bridge aux. pass aux. prefix careful suf. mood
'Be careful when you cross the bridge'

<i>a 31 io 31 a 55 dzaŋ 55 a 31 dzuŋ 55 a 31, ŋa 31 le 53</i>
I aux. see suf. you mood
'You have also seen it, right?'

XI. INTERJECTIONS

Interjections are usually used at the beginning of a sentence to express emotions, such as an emotional reply, a surprise, or a sigh.

<i>ʔo 55 ʔo 55 ɬu 53 o 31. dza 35 ɬu 53 o 31</i>
hey! hey take. quick, take.
'Hey, take it. Come on, take it!'

<i>ɛ 35 a 31 ɱɿ 55 gu 55 ba 55 a 31 le 55</i>
Oh! hair also white suffix
'Oh, my hair has turned white already'

ɤa 55 ɛ 55 saŋ 55 nu 31 gw 55 tʃhɪ 55 m 31 dʒɪ 55 da 55
 what! now also yet not leave mood
 'What! Still haven't left?'

SYNTAX

I. MEMBERS OF A SENTENCE AND WORD ORDER

A sentence in Anong consists of a subject, predicate, object, attribute, and adverbial.

1. The word order is SOV.

a 31 bɛ 55 ŋ 31 khw 55 io 55 ɛ 31
 goat horn have suffix
 'Goats have horns'

2. Nouns and pronouns precede the head noun when used attributively.

a 31 phw 31 nɪ 55 va 55	ŋ 31 mɛŋ 55
father aux. axe	he face
'father's axe'	'his face'

Adjectives, numerals, and demonstratives follow the head noun.

ŋi 55 luŋ 55 thi 55 loŋ 55	ga 31 mu 31 sɛ 55
eye one clf.	clothes new
'one eye'	'new clothes'

ɤum 55 dʒum 55 ɛ 31 dʒum 55
 tree this clf.
 'this tree'

3. Adverbials usually precede predicates. However, some of them can be placed after predicates. Please see the examples given in the adverbial section.

II. SIMPLE SENTENCES

Simple sentences can be divided into the following categories according to the mood and sentence structure.

1. Declarative sentences are indicated by either a declarative affix or a declarative modal.

ŋ 31 məŋ 55 nɯ 31 phu 55 phu 55 ɛ 31
 he face aux. yellow yellow suffix
 'His face is very sallow'

2. Interrogative sentences are formed in a number of ways. They can be formed by using interrogative pronouns, an alternative interrogative pattern, or a yes-no interrogative pattern.

ŋa 31 a 55 iɛ 55 phie 55 thi 55 dzaŋ 31 ŋ 31 dzi 55 ɛ 31 ie 55 da 53
 you aux. again one time come suf. mood
 'Have you come again?'

kha 55 ioʔ 55 ga 31 mu 31 nɯ 31 ia 55 kha 31 ɣen 55 a 31 dza 53
 who clothes aux. here put suffix
 'Whose clothes are place here?'

3. In imperative sentences the imperative form of the verb is used.

ŋa 31 khen 55 fən 31 ɛ 31 bi 55
 you vegetable buy go
 '(You) go and buy vegetables'

4. Implorative sentences use the implorative form of the verb.

ŋ 31 kha 31 iɛ 55 phie 55 thi 55 hiŋ 35 tʃhi 55 la 55 ɛm 55 lie 31
 he aux. one time time bowl again suf. eat suf.
 'Please let him eat another bowlful'

5. Exclamatory sentences contain either an interjection or an exclamatory modal.

ʔa 55 la 55 ba 31 ʃi 31 a 31 dza 31 ɛ 31
 Wow! very painful suf.
 'Wow! It's very painful'

6. With some sentences, a modal indicating estimation is used.

mu 55 sum 55 ia 55 xa 55 nɯ 31 a 55 phəŋ 31 tsha 55 gam 55
 peach this basket aux. fifty pound

the 31 lu 55 a 31 ne 31 bu 31 ŋ 35
 approximately have modal
 'This basketful of peaches is about 25 kilograms'

III. COMPLEX SENTENCES

Complex sentences can be divided into two types, compound sentences and complex.

1. Compound sentences are not usually connected by conjunctions. According to the relationship between the simple sentences, compound sentences can be divided into the following types.

1). Comparative compound sentences.

a 31 io 31 a 55 ta? 55 o 55 thi 55 nu 31 ven 35 tham 55 e 31 dzuŋ 55 a 31,
 I aux. big suf. one clf. buy prt. suffix ,

ŋ 31 a 55 tɕhem 31 o 55 thi 55 nu 31 ven 35 tham 55 e 31 dzu 31 a 31
 he aux. small suf. one clf. buy prt. suffix
 'I bought a big one; he bought a small one'

2). Progressive comparison compound sentences.

mo 31 ko 55 dzəŋ 31 ia 55 kha 31 khuŋ 31 ne 55 tɕhi 55 thi 31 jom 55 e 31,
 Mugujia here aux. very far suf.,

mo 31 ko 55 dzəŋ 31 khuŋ 31 ne 55 koŋ 31 sen 55 kha 31 ba 31 ɕi 31
 Mugujia aux. gongshan aux. even

thi 31 jom 55 e 31

far suf.

'Mugujia is very far from here; Gongshan is even farther than Mugujia from here'

3). Continuous compound sentences

ŋ 31 saŋ 55 ba 31 ɕi 31 a 31 ne 55, thi 31 ɕa 55 gam 55 ka 31 tɕhaŋ 55
 he strength very have, one 100 pounds over

gu 55 zi 35 dzo 31 e 31

emp. carry can

'He is very strong; he can even carry over a hundred pounds on his back'

2. Complex sentences with subordinating clauses usually have conjunctions. According to the relationship between the main clause and the subordinating clauses, they can be divided into the following types.

1). Transitional

ŋa 31 ma 55 ʃu 31 kha 55 a 31 io 31 kha 31 ʃi 55 va 31 le 31 ɕu 55
you from now on I aux. letter

phw 31 a 31 ʒa 55 i 35 la 53 m 31 ie 35 le 53 a 31 io 31 na 31 man 55
pref. write suf. mood I angry

ɛ 31 ie 31

suffix

'You must write to me from now on; otherwise I will be offended'

2). Cause

la 31 ma 55 ie 31 xəŋ 35 nuw 31 dɔŋ 55 kha 31 fi 31 ŋa 31 fi 55 ba 31
field this piece aux. inside aux. plow animal dung very

ʃi 31 a 31 sa 55 ʃi 31 le 31 a 31 muw 55 dzuŋ 55 ʃi 31 si 31 la 55 ɛ 31
load suf. conj. corn very good suf.

'A lot of dung was applied to this field; therefore, the corn is thriving'

3). Conditional

ŋa 31 m 31 so 55 o 55 la 55 ʒi 31 fi 31, a 31 io 31 kha 31 sin 53 zuŋ 55
you not-understand-suff conj. , I aux. ask can
'If you don't understand, you can ask me'

4). Concession

ŋ 31 a 55 tʃi 31 maŋ 31 a 55 ie 55 li 31, la 31 ma 55 a 55 tʃhi 55
he aux. old suf. conj. , field aux. very

ua 55 dzo 31 ɛ 31

do can suf.

'Although he is very old, he can still do a lot of work'