

LESSON MíⁿXCI

The Positional Continuative (PC)

When dealing with Kaáⁿze sentence construction, most students are curious and oftentimes confused about “continuatives,” which are always located at the end of a Kaáⁿze sentence. Are they absolutely necessary? The answer is both yes and no. The *Kanza Language for Families & Communities, Volume 1*, states, “Saying things without the positional continuative isn’t really wrong, but it doesn’t convey all the things a Kanza speaker would want to convey in a sentence. Leaving off the PC in a Kanza sentence just makes the phrase sound a bit more general, and definitely not as ongoing. Likewise, including it really goes a long way toward keeping the subject in mind, and it also says something about what the subject is (or was) doing while the action continues (or continued) on.”

Something to be aware of when working with positional continuatives is the PC refers to the SUBJECT of the sentence, and not necessarily the SPEAKER. For example, if you say, “*Khe dázhi **yayishé?***” the PC refers to the person moving around—the person being asked—and not the person speaking. This phrase is not dependent on the SPEAKER’S position, but on the HEARER’S position. In cases like this, the PC needs to reflect what the HEARER is doing at the time.

Conversely, most sentences will be more straightforward. For example, if you say, “*Aⁿhúhega **miⁿkhé,***” the PC reflects what you, the SPEAKER, is doing. Here, you’re saying I am (*sitting*) sick.

A VISUAL GUIDE TO FORMING POSITION-SPECIFIC SENTENCES

Paháⁿle, pick a state of being ...



Aⁿhúhega
(I’m sick)



Doⁿhé
(I’m fine)



Noⁿpéaⁿhi
(I’m hungry)



Aⁿmáⁿzheya
(I’m tired)

Gagóje, pick a position in space ...

Miⁿkhé

(and I’m sitting)



Akhahé

(and I’m standing)



Ayihé

(and I’m moving)



POSITIONAL CONTINUATIVES CONTINUED ...

Below is a chart of the PC's in their respective pronoun breakdowns. **Note:** PC's are considered particles because they cannot stand alone.

	Sitting	Standing	Moving
I	Miᵐkhé	Akhahé	Ayihé
You	Hniᵐkhé	Yakhashé	Yayishé
S(h)e/It	Akhá/Abá		
We	Aⁿníᵐkhé	Aⁿgakhá	Aⁿgáye
You (pl)	Hnaᵐkháshe	Hnaᵐkháshe	Baashé
They	Akhá/Abá		

Working With Positional Continuatives

Exercise 1.1

In this exercise, a *kóya* is speaking to you. Translate the sentence, paying close attention to the continuatives, then form a response in Kaáⁿze Íe. Your continuatives should correspond with how your friend addressed you. If she ended her sentence with you “walking around,” then your sentence should reflect that.

1. **KÓYA 1:** Noⁿpéaⁿhi miⁿkhé. Khe dázhi yayishé?

YOU:

2. **KÓYA 2:** Aⁿmáⁿzheya ayihé. Khe dázhi yakhashé?

YOU:

3. **KÓYA 3:** Aⁿhúhega akhahé. Khe dázhi hniⁿkhé?

YOU:

“Abá” and “Akhá” as Definite Articles *and* Continuatives

Both Abá and Akha are used in Kaáⁿze Íe to replace the English Definite Article, “the.” These words mean “the” when they follow a noun that is the **subject** of a sentence.

For example: *Shóhíⁿga abá síⁿga yuxé abá.* In this case, abá which follows the **subject** is used as “the” in this sentence: The dog chased the squirrel.

Another important factor to note is when you use “abá,” this indicates the subject is “moving around.” When “akhá” is used, it indicates that the subject “is at rest.” Therefore, because the dog is chasing (moving) the squirrel, “abá” is used.

An example of “akha” would be: *Shímihiⁿga akhá haská baché akhá.* The girl (who is probably at rest) is sewing a blanket.

In the two sentences above, you may have noticed that “abá” and “akhá” are also used at the end of the sentence as a Continuative. The Definite Article and Continuative must ALWAYS match. You cannot mix and match these words in a sentence.

NOTE: “Akhá” also indicates the subject is present and “Abá” can also indicate the subject is absent (It’s already happened.)

Summary

WORD	USE	EXPLANATION
Abá	Article	The (use with <i>animate subject</i> when <u>absent</u> and/or <u>in motion</u>)
Akhá	Article	The (use with <i>animate subject</i> when both <u>present</u> <i>and</i> <u>at rest</u>)
Abá/Akhá	Continuative	Use at end of “S(h)e/It/They” sentence and must match the Article.

Exercise 1.2

Complete the sentence using the correct Article/Continuative

1. Shídohiⁿga _____ zhaⁿ oyúⁿla zhíⁿhe akhá.

Translate: _____

Q: What does this sentence say about his “state of being?” (e.g. in the past, present, or future)

A: _____

2. Ináⁿ wíta abá wayúmiⁿ ci chéji maⁿyíⁿ _____.

Translate: _____

Q: What does this sentence say about his “state of being?” (e.g. in the past, present, or future)

A: _____

Homework

Part of the Positional Continuatives' job in the sentence is to clarify to the reader what is happening. They may seem confusing at first, but once you practice reading and using them, the easier they will become.

Translate the following conversation. Make sure to clarify which Positional Continuative is being used.

1. **Mínaⁿga:** Aⁿmáⁿzheya miⁿkhé. _____
2. **Ináⁿ:** Wishké akhahé. _____
3. **Mínaⁿga:** Shkóⁿhna hnáche yakhashé? _____
4. **Ináⁿ:** Aⁿhá. Oxléxcí aⁿyáchabe ta aⁿníⁿkhé. _____

Translate the following into Kaáⁿze Íe using the correct Definite Article and Continuative.

5. The boy is sick. _____
6. The dog ran to his house. _____
7. The girl ate a carrot. _____
8. Dad shot a deer. _____

LESSON MÍⁿXCI
Kaáⁿze Wayáje Céga

KAÁⁿZE ÍE	ENGLISH TRANSLATION	PART OF SPEECH
Chéji	To the	Adverb
Dóle	Carrot	Noun
Kóya	Friend	Noun
Kúje	Shoot at something	Verb
Náⁿge	Run, as an animal does	Verb
Oxléxcí	Soon	Adverb
Oyúxla	Under	Adverb
Wishké	Me too	Pronoun
Zhaⁿ	Tree	Noun
Zhíⁿhe	Slept	Verb