

YUKATEK: MAYAN

**Chan t'u'ul ichil le sahkabo'**  
 "Little Rabbit in the Cave"

From D. and A. Bolles, 1996, *A Grammar of the Yucatecan Mayan Language/The Exploits of Juan Thul, The Trickster Rabbit*. <http://www.famsi.org/reports/96072/grammar/section42.html>.

REVISED TRANSCRIPTION a la J. Bohmeyer (*JB*), 2002, *A Grammar of Time Reference in Yukatek Maya*, Lincom Europa, München. REVISED TRANSLATION by M. Bittner (*MB*) 3/23/2005.

REVISED GLOSSES (based on Bohmeyer 2002, and this text):

<u>Form(s)</u>	<u>JB gloss (stands for)</u>	<u>MB gloss (stands for)</u>
<i>in</i>	A.1.SG (set A agreement, 1st singular)	1s (1st singular)
<i>-túul</i>	CL.AN (classifier, animate)	CL <sub>α</sub> (classifier: animate)
<i>-p'éel</i>	CL.IN (classifier, inanimate)	CL <sub>β</sub> (classifier: inanimate)
<i>=a'</i>	D1 (clause-final particle: proximal deixis)	DS <sup>T</sup> (topic update: topicalize this)
<i>=o'</i>	D2 (clause-final particle: distal deixis)	DT <sup>T</sup> (topic update: topicalize that)
<i>=e'</i>	D3 (clause-final particle: textual deixis)	TM <sup>T</sup> (topic update: temporal/modal)
<i>=i'</i>	D4 (clause-final particle: location/negation)	LM <sup>T</sup> (topic update: locative/modal)

Non-stative ASPECT-MOOD markers:

<i>kéen</i>	SR.IRR (subordinator: irrealis)	[DEP (inchoative dependent)
<i>káa</i>	SR (subordinator), <i>káa</i>	DEP] (completive dependent)
<i>kap'</i>	<i>káa</i> :PRV: <i>begin</i>	[V (inchoative: 'begin')
<i>t-</i>	PRV (perfective, transitive form)	TV] (completive transitive)
<i>h-</i>	PRV (perfective, intransitive form)	IV] (completive intransitive)
<i>k-</i>	IMPF (imperfective)	V (verbal concept: evt-valued concept)

Stative ASPECT-MOOD markers:

<i>ts'o'k</i>	TERM (terminative)	PRF (perfective: final result state)
<i>táan</i>	PROG (progressive)	PRG (progressive: initial result state)
<i>óolak</i>	PEN (penative)	ALM (almost realized: penult. res. state)
<i>táak</i>	DES (desiderative)	DES (state of desire)
<i>k'a'náan</i>	NEC (necessitative)	NEED (state of need)
<i>he'</i>	ASS (assurative)	CRT (state of certainty)
<i>yan</i>	OBL (obligative)	EXP (state of expectation)
<i>búin</i>	PRED (predictive)	PRD (result state of prediction)
<i>mukah,...</i>	PROSP (prospective)	PRE (prospect: 'he/it is about to')
<i>ta'itak</i>	PROX (proximate future)	PRE <sub>1</sub> (imm prosp.: 'he/it is just about to')
<i>táant</i>	IMM (immediate past)	PRF <sub>1</sub> (short result state: 'have just ...ed')
<i>sáam</i>	REC (recent past)	PRF <sub>2</sub> (medium result state: 'have )
<i>úuch</i>	REM (remote past)	PRF <sub>3</sub> (long result state)

Verbal MOOD-CENTERING ('status') inflection (active IV, inactive IV, active TV, passive TV):

<i>-nah, -Ø, -ah, -a'b</i>	CMP,...PASS.CMP (completive)	IND.IV <sub>A</sub> , IND.IV <sub>U</sub> , IND.TV <sub>A</sub> , IND.TV <sub>U</sub>
<i>-nak, V<sub>k</sub>, Ø/-eh, -a'k</i>	SUBJ, ...PASS.SUBJ (subjunctive)	ELA].IV <sub>A</sub> , ELA].IV <sub>U</sub> , ELA].TV <sub>A</sub> , ELA].TV <sub>U</sub>
<i>-Ø, -V<sub>l</sub>, -ik, -a'l</i>	INC,...PASS.INC (incompletive)	ELA.IV <sub>A</sub> , ELA.IV <sub>U</sub> , ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> , ELA.TV <sub>U</sub>
<i>-nen, -en, Ø/-eh, n.a.</i>	IMP, ..., n.a. (imperative)	IMP.IV <sub>A</sub> , IMP.IV <sub>U</sub> , IMP.TV <sub>A</sub> , n.a.

§1.1	Yan	bin	huntul	chan	thule	AB
	Yàan	bin	hun-túul	chan	t'u'l-e'	JB? <sup>1</sup>
	EXIST(B.3.SG)	HS	one-CL.AN	DIM	rabbit-TOP	JB
	be.3s	x.SAY	one-CL <sub>α</sub>	little	rabbit=TM <sup>T</sup>	MB
	There was they say a little rabbit, ...					AB
	Once upon a time, they say, there was a little rabbit...					MB
	tu	chucpachtaal			AB	
	túun	chuk+pàach-t-a'l			JB	
	PROG:A.3	catch+back-APP-PASS.INC			JB	
	PRG.3s	catch+try+iv <sub>A</sub> \tv <sub>A</sub> -ELA.TV <sub>U</sub>			MB	
	...he was being sought after...					AB
	...who was chased...					MB
	tumen	huntul	h-dzone.		AB	
	tuméen	hun-túul	h-ts'òon-e'		JB	
	CAUSE	one-CL.AN	M-shoot\ATP-D3		JB	
	by/because	one-CL <sub>α</sub>	M-hunter= TM <sup>T</sup>		MB	
	...by a hunter.					AB/MB
§1.2	Dzoc	tun	u	canal	alcabe	AB
	ts'o'k	túun	u	ka'n-al	áalkab-e'	JB
	TERM	CON	A.3	tire-INC	run-TOP	JB
	PRF	then	3s	tire-ELA.IV <sub>U</sub>	run= TM <sup>T</sup>	MB
	When he finally got tired of running, ...					AB
	He had already got tired of running, when ...					MB
	ca	tu	yilah	humppel	zahcabe	AB
	káa	t-u	y-il-ah	hun-p'éel	sahkab-e'	JB
	káa	PRV-A.3	A.3-see-CMP(B.3.SG)	one-CL.IN	cave-D3	JB
	DEP]	TV]-3s	3s-see-IND.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	one-CL <sub>β</sub>	cave= TM <sup>T</sup>	MB
	...then he saw a cave...					AB
	...he saw a cave and...					MB
	ca	oci			AB	
	káa	(h-)òok-i'			JB	
	káa	PRV-enter-D4			JB	
	DEP]	IV].3s=enter.IND.IV <sub>U</sub> .3s= LM <sup>T</sup>			MB	
	...then he went in.					AB
	...went inside.					MB

<sup>1</sup> I (MB) am grateful to Jürgen Bohnemeyer (JB) for proofreading the transcription and glosses marked JB, as well as my English translations. Of course, I alone am responsible for any remaining errors of fact or interpretation.

§1.3	Tu	tuclíc		beya,		AB
	túun	tukl-ik		bèey-a		JB
	PROG:A.3	<i>think</i> -INC(B.3.SG)		<i>thus</i> -D1		JB
	PRG.3s	<i>think</i> -ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s		<i>thus</i> =DS <sup>†</sup>		MB
		He's thinking like this,				AB
		He was thinking like this:				MB
§1.4		“Machiz!				AB
		“Machis!				JB
		...				JB
		<i>oh.my</i>				MB
		“Wow!				AB
		“Oh my!				MB
§1.5	Ua	cu	ocol	le	uinic uaye	AB
	wáah	k-u	òok-ol	le	wúinik way-e'	JB
	ALT	IMPF-A.3	<i>enter</i> -INC	DEF	<i>human here</i> -TOP	JB
	IF	V-3s	<i>enter</i> -ELA.IV <sub>U</sub>	<i>the</i>	<i>human here</i> =TM <sup>†</sup>	MB
			“If the man comes in here, ...			AB/MB
	yan	tun	u	dzoncen.		AB
	yan	túun	u	ts'on-ik-en		JB
	OBL	CON	A.3	<i>shoot</i> -INC-B.1.SG		JB
	EXP	<i>then</i>	3s	<i>shoot</i> -ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> -1s		MB
			...he has then to shoot me.			AB
			...he'll shoot me.			MB
§1.6	Bi-x	tun	cin	in	bete?	AB
	Bi-x	túun	kin	in	bèet-eh?	JB
	<i>how</i>	CON	SR.IRR:A.1	A.1.SG	<i>do</i> -SUBJ(B.3.SG)	JB
	<i>how</i> -WH	<i>then</i>	[DEP.1s	1s	<i>do</i> -ELA].TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	MB
			How am I going to do it?			AB
			So what am I to do?			MB
§1.7	N-in	caah	in	lath	le zahcabo.	AB
	ninka'h	in	lat		le sahkab-o'.	JB
	PROSP	A.1.SG	<i>hold.up</i> .SUBJ(B.3.SG)	DEF	<i>cave</i> -D2	JB
	PRE.1s	1s	<i>hold.up</i> .ELA].TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	<i>the</i>	<i>cave</i> =DT <sup>†</sup>	MB
			I'm going to hold up the cave.			AB/MB
§1.8	Ua	cu	ocol		uaye	AB
	wáah	k-uy	òok-ol		way-e'	JB
	ALT	IMPF-A.3	<i>enter</i> -INC		<i>here</i> -TOP	JB
	IF	V-3s	<i>enter</i> -ELA.IV <sub>U</sub>		<i>here</i> =TM <sup>†</sup>	MB
			If he comes in here, ...			AB/MB

cin	ualic	tie			AB
k-in	w-a'l-ik	ti'-e'			JB
IMPF-A.1	A.1-say-INC(B.3.SG)	LOC(B.3.SG)-D3			JB
V-1s	1s-say-ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	OBL.3s=TM <sup>T</sup>			MB
...I say to him ...					AB
...I'll say to him that...					MB
desde	zihcene				AB
desde	síih-ik-en-e'				JB
since	be.born-SUBJ-B.1.SG-TOP				JB
since	be.born-ELA].IV <sub>U</sub> -1s=TM <sup>T</sup>				MB
...since I was born...					AB/MB
tin	lathic	le	zahcaba.		AB
tíin	lat-ik	le	sahkab-a'.		JB
PROG:A.1	hold.up-INC(B.3.SG)	DEF	cave-D1		JB
PRG.1s	hold.up-ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	the	cave=DS <sup>T</sup>		MB
...I'm holding up this cave."					AB
...I've been holding up this cave."					MB
§1.9	Ca tun tu	lathah	le	zahcabo."	AB
	káa túun t-u	lat-ah	le	sahkab-o'."	JB
	káa CON PRV-A.3	hold.up-CMP(B.3.SG)	DEF	cave-D2	JB
	DEP] then TV]-3s	hold.up-IND.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	the	cave=DT <sup>T</sup>	MB
Then he held up that cave.					AB
So then he began to hold up the cave.					MB
§2.1	Zam lelo				AB
	sáam le'l-o'				JB
	recently DEM-TOP				JB
	PRF <sub>2</sub> that=DT <sup>T</sup>				MB
After a while...					AB/MB
cu	tal	le	h-dzono.		AB
k-u	tà-al	le	h-ts'òon-o'		JB
IMPF-A.3	come-INC	DEF	M-shoot\ATP-D2		JB
V-3s	come-ELA.IV <sub>U</sub>	the	M-hunter=DT <sup>T</sup>		MB
...there comes that hunter,					AB
...the hunter did come.					MB
§2.2	Cu yalic	beya,			AB
k-u	y-a'l-ik	bèey-a'			JB
IMPF-A.3	A.3-say-INC(B.3.SG)	thus-D1			JB
V-3s	3s-say-ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	thus=DS <sup>T</sup>			MB
he says like this,					AB
And (sure enough) he said:					MB

§2.3	“Ah chan thul. “Ah chan t’u’l. <i>ah</i> DIM <i>rabbit</i> <i>ah</i> little <i>rabbit</i> “Ah, little rabbit. “Ah, Little Rabbit.	AB JB JB MB AB MB
§2.4	Dzoc in caxlitech, ts’o’k in kaxt-ik-ech TERM A.1.SG <i>search</i> :APP-INC-B.2.SG PRF 1s <i>find</i> -[ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> -2s I’ve just found you. I’ve found you.	AB JB JB MB AB MB
§2.5	Beyhora kin in dzonecha!” be’ðora k-in in ts’on-ech-a’ <i>now</i> SR.IRR:A.1 A.1.SG <i>shoot</i> -SUBJ.B.2.SG-D1 <i>now</i> [DEP.1s 1s <i>shoot</i> -ELA].TV <sub>A</sub> -2s=DS <sup>T</sup> Now I’m going to shoot you!”	AB JB JB MB AB/MB
§3.1	“Ay nohoch dzul, ma teni!” “Ay nohoch ts’u’l, ma’+téen-i’!” <i>oh</i> big <i>sir</i> NEG+EMPH-D4 <i>oh</i> big <i>sir</i> neg+EMPH=LC <sup>T</sup> “Oh, old gentleman, that wasn’t me!” “Oh, respected sir, please don’t!”  cu yalic ti, k-u y-a’l-ik ti’ IMPF-A.3 A.3SG- <i>say</i> -INC(B.3.SG) LOC(B.3.SG) V-3s 3s- <i>say</i> -ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> -3s OBL.3s he said to him.	AB JB JB MB AB MB  AB JB JB MB AB/MB
§3.2	Desde zihcene Desde síih-ik-en-e’ <i>since</i> <i>be.born</i> -SUBJ-B.1.SG-TOP <i>since</i> <i>be.born</i> -ELA].IV <sub>U</sub> -1s=TM <sup>T</sup> Since I was born...  uay yanen ten tela. way yàan-en tèen te’l-a’. <i>here</i> EXIST-B.1.SG <i>me</i> <i>there</i> -D1 <i>here</i> <i>be</i> -1s <i>me</i> <i>there</i> =DS <sup>T</sup> ...here I’ve been here. ...I’ve been here in this place.	AB JB JB MB AB/MB  AB JB JB MB AB MB

§3.3	Tin	lathic	le	zahcaba.	AB
	Tiin	lat-ik	le	sahkab-a'.	JB
	PROG:A.1	<i>hold.up</i> -INC(B.3.SG)	DEF	<i>cave</i> -D1	JB
	PRG.1s	<i>hold.up</i> -ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	<i>the</i>	<i>cave</i> =DS <sup>†</sup>	MB
		I'm holding up this cave.			AB
		I've been holding up this cave.			MB
§3.4	Ua	mae,			AB
	Wàah	ma'-e'			JB
	ALT	NEG-TOP			JB
	IF	<i>not</i> =TM <sup>†</sup>			MB
		If not, ...			AB
		Otherwise, ...			MB
	cu	lubul			AB
	k-u	lúub-ul.			JB
	IMPF-A.3	<i>fall</i> -INC			JB
	V-3s	<i>fall</i> -ELA.IV <sub>U</sub>			MB
		...it falls."			AB/MB
§4	"Am	beyo?"			AB
	"Am	bèey-o'?"			JB
	<i>oh</i>	<i>thus</i> -D2			JB
	<i>oh</i>	<i>thus</i> =DT <sup>†</sup>			MB
		"Oh, is that so?"			AB/MB
	cu	yalic	le	h-dzone,	AB
	k-u	y-a'l-ik	le	h-ts'òon-e'	JB
	IMPF-A.3	A.3- <i>say</i> -INC(B.3.SG)	DEF	M- <i>shoo</i> ∧ATP-D3	JB
	V-3s	3s- <i>say</i> -ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	<i>the</i>	M- <i>hunter</i> =TM <sup>†</sup>	MB
		says the hunter.			AB
		said the hunter.			MB
§5.1	"Beyo."				AB
	"Bèey-o'."				JB
	<i>thus</i> -D2				JB
	<i>thus</i> =DT <sup>†</sup>				MB
	"Like that"				AB
	'That's right.'				MB
	cu	yalic	chan	thul.	AB
	k-u	y-a'l-ik	chan	t'u'l.	JB
	IMPF-A.3	A.3- <i>say</i> -INC(B.3.SG)	DIM	<i>rabbit</i>	JB
	V-3s	3s- <i>say</i> -ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	<i>little</i>	<i>rabbit</i>	MB
		says the little rabbit.			AB
		said Little Rabbit.			MB

§5.2	Ti	yan	in	mama	te	ichil	le	zuuco.	AB
	Ti'	yàan	in	màama	te'l	ich-il	le	sùuk-o'	JB
	LOC(B.3.SG)	EXIST(B.3.SG)	A.1.SG	<i>mother</i>	<i>there</i>	<i>in-REL</i>	DEF	<i>grass-D2</i>	JB
	LOC.3s	<i>be.3s</i>	1s	<i>mother</i>	<i>there</i>	<i>in-rn</i>		<i>the grass=DT<sup>T</sup></i>	MB
	My mother is in the grass.								AB
	Over there is my mother in the grass.								MB
§5.3	Ua	ca		machic		le		zahcaba.	AB
	wáah	k-a		mach-ik		le		sahkab-a'.	JB
	ALT	IMPF-A.2		<i>take.hold-INC(B.3.SG)</i>	DEF			<i>cave-D1</i>	JB
	IF	V-2s		<i>take.hold.of-ELA.TV<sub>A</sub>.3s</i>		<i>the</i>		<i>cave=DS<sup>T</sup></i>	MB
	If you take hold of this cave,...								AB/MB
	cin	bin		ual		ti			AB
	k-in	bin		w-a'l		ti'			JB?
	IMPF-A.1	<i>go.INC</i>		<i>1s-say.SUBJ(B.3.SG)</i>		LOC(B.3.SG)			JB?
	V-1s	<i>go.ELA.IV<sub>U</sub></i>		<i>1s-say.ELA].TV<sub>A</sub>.3s</i>		OBL.3s			MB
	...I'm going to tell her...								AB
	...I'll go to tell her...								MB
	ca	tac		u		uanten			AB
	káa	tàal-ak		uw		àant-en			JB?
	<i>káa</i>	<i>come-SUBJ</i>		A.3		<i>help-SUBJ.B.1.SG</i>			JB?
	DEP]	<i>come-ELA].IV<sub>U</sub></i>		3s		<i>help-ELA].TV<sub>A</sub>.1s</i>			MB
	...to come help me...								AB
	...to come to help me...								MB
	tumen	dzoc		in		canal."			AB
	tuméen	ts'o'k		in		ka'n-al."			JB
	CAUSE	TERM		A.1.SG		<i>tire-INC</i>			JB
	<i>by/because</i>	PRF		1s		<i>tire-ELA.IV<sub>U</sub></i>			MB
	...because I'm already tired."								AB/MB
§6.1	"Malob"								AB
	"Ma'+lóob"								JB
	NEG+ <i>bad</i>								JB
	<i>good</i>								MB
	"O.K."								AB/MB
	cu	yalic				le		h-dzono,	AB
	k-u	y-a'l-ik				le		h-ts'òon-o'	JB
	IMPF-A.3	A.3- <i>say-INC(B.3.SG)</i>		DEF		M- <i>shoot</i> ∧ATP-D2			JB
	V-3s	<i>3s-say-ELA.TV<sub>A</sub>.3s</i>		<i>the</i>		M- <i>hunter=DT<sup>T</sup></i>			MB
	says that hunter.								AB
	said the hunter.								MB

§6.2	Ca	tu	lathah	le	zahcaba.	AB
	káa	t-u	lat-ah	le	sahkab-a'.	JB
	káa	PRV-A.3	hold.up-CMP(B.3.SG)	DEF	cave-D1	JB
	DEP]	TV]-3s	hold.up-IND.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	the	cave=DS <sup>T</sup>	MB
					Then he held up that cave.	AB
					And he took hold of the cave.	MB
§6.3	Ca	tu	yilah	chan	thul	AB
	káa	t-u	y-il-ah	chan	t'u'l	JB
	káa	PRV-A.3	A.3-see-CMP(B.3.SG)	DIM	rabbit	JB
	DEP]	TV]-3s	3s-see-IND.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	little	rabbit	MB
					When Little Rabbit saw that...	AB/MB
	tzoc	u	tuzic	le	maco,	AB
	ts'o'k	u	tùus-ik	le	máak-o'	JB
	TERM	A.3	lie:APP-INC(B.3.SG)	DEF	man-TOP	JB
	PRF	3s	deceive-ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s	the	man=DT <sup>T</sup>	MB
					...he had just fooled that man,...	AB
					...he had fooled the man,...	MB
	ca	bini.				AB
	káa	(h-)bin-i'.				JB
	káa	PRV-go(B.3.SG)-D4				JB
	DEP]	IV].3s=go.IND.IV <sub>U</sub> .3s=LM <sup>T</sup>				MB
					...then he went.	AB
					...he took off.	MB
§6.4	Le	h-dzon	tuno			AB
	le	h-ts'òon	túun-o'			JB
	DEF	M-shoot\ATP	CON-TOP			JB
	the	M-hunter	then=DT <sup>T</sup>			MB
					That hunter then ...	AB
					Meanwhile the hunter ...	MB
	tu	tuclíc				AB
	túun	tukl-ik				JB
	PROG:A.3	think-INC(B.3.SG)				JB
	PRG.3s	think-ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s				MB
					... is thinking that...	AB
					... thought that...	MB
	he	u	zut	le	thulo,	AB
	he'	u	sùut	le	t'u'l-o'	JB
	ASS	A.3	turn\ATP.INC	DEF	rabbit-D2	JB
	CRT	3s	return.ELA.IV <sub>A</sub>	the	rabbit=DT <sup>T</sup>	MB
					...the rabbit will return.	AB
					...the rabbit would return.	MB/JB

§6.5	Tu	paatic				AB
	túun	pa't-ik				JB
	PROG:A.3	await-INC(B.3.SG)				JB
	PRG.3s	wait.for-ELA.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s				MB
		He is waiting for...				AB
		He waited for...				MB
	u	zut	le	thulo,		AB
	u	sùut	le	t'u'l-o'		JB
	A.3	turn\ATP.INC	DEF	rabbit-D2		JB
	3s	return.ELA.IV <sub>A</sub>	the	rabbit=DT <sup>T</sup>		MB
		...the return of that rabbit...				AB
		...the rabbit to return...				MB
	pero	ma	zunahi.			AB
	pero	ma'	sùu-nah-i'			JB
	but	NEG	turn\ATP-CMP-D4			JB
	but	not.3s	return-IND.IV <sub>A</sub> =LM <sup>T</sup>			MB
		...but he did not return.				AB/MB
§6.6	Bin	tu	betah.			AB
	Bin	t-u	bèet-ah.			JB
	go(INC)	PRV-A.3	do-CMP(B.3.SG)			JB
	go.ELA.IV <sub>U</sub>	TV]-3s	do-IND.TV <sub>A</sub> .3s			MB
		He made off.				AB
		He just kept on going.				MB