

CHAPTER III

NOUNS

Kinds of Nouns: *Min then*

Nunnak a ngei he a ngei lo he "Min" a ngeimi paohpaoh cu
noun kan ti cang. *noun* cu phun nga ah then an si.

1. Proper Noun
2. Common Noun
3. Collective Noun
4. Material Noun
5. Abstract Noun hna hi an si.

1. Proper Noun:

Proper Nouns are names of individual persons or things.
Proper noun hna hi pumpak thilpak min an si. Hi bantuk *noun*
tial tikah a hramthawknak cafang hi cafang ngan in tial a si.

Example:

- a. **Minung min:** Mary, Thawng Dun, Robert Maung Maung Win, Daw Myah, Ngun Dawh Par
- b. **Khua le ram min:** Myanmar, Yangon, Mandalay, Hakha Chin, Kachin, Shan, Chindowin
- c. **Rili, tiva, tlang, tili, hna an min.** The Ayeyarwady, The Chindwin, The Run river, The Pacific, The Suez Canal, The Inya Lake, The Red Sea, The East Indies
- d. **Tilawng, Zohsin Zung, Tadinca le Biakinn an min.** The Pyidawnyunt, The President, The Papa Win, The Working People's Daily, The Shwedagon Pagoda, The Immanuel Baptist Church, Hakha Baptist Church.

2. Common Nouns (Zapi Bawm Min)

Example:

Man, country, village, motor-car, dog, book, pen,
Umbrella, table, school, box, fish, river, town, bag,
animal.

3. Collective Noun: Minung, saram thil hna a bu min.

Example: group - bu, crowd - mibu
army - ralkapbu, navy - tiralkapbu
family - chungkhar, class - catang chung
team - bu, bawlung team
pair - a tuah, a khuah

e.g.

a group of young men = mino bu khat.
a flock of sheep = tuu run
a herd of cattle = caw run, naa run.
a hive of bees = khuaibu,
a litter of pups = uifa rual
a yoke of oxen = caw lenghnuk tuah khat
a pair of slippers = phanah tuah khat
a set of buttons = kep rual
a bunch of bananas = banhla thlar khat
a team of surgeons = sibawi bu khat
a crew of aircraft = vanlawng riantuan bu
a staff of teachers = sianginn pakhat saya hna.

4. **Material Noun:** Thlen awk tha lo thil min.

Example:

fire	- mei,	rice	- facang, buh
water	- ti,	wheat	- changvut
air	- thli,	bread	- changreu
earth	- vawlei,	sugar	- thanthlingrang
mud	- nawncek,	jaggery	- thangiahlung
sand	- thetse,	salt	- cite
wood	- thing,	meat	- saa
chalk	- thungrang,	beef	- cawsa, nasa.
mutton	- mesa, tusa,	pork	- voksa
cotton	- lapar,	cloth	- puanthan
clothe	- thitcia thil/thil puan	curry	- meh, tihang
leather	- saphaw,	hide/skin	- saphaw, savun
oil	- sathau,	plastic	- palastik
milk	- cawhnuk,	metal	- thir/dar
tea	- lakphak,	Coffee	- kawfi
gold	- sui,	silver	- ngun
coal	- lungmeihawl	drink	- dinmi

5. **Abstract Noun:**

Mit hmuh khawh lomi *noun* hi *abstract noun* an si.

Example:

happiness	=	lunglawmhnak
sorrow	=	ngaihchiatnak
kindness	=	zaangfah thiamnak
laziness	=	thathut, zaangzel
pleasure	=	lunglawmhnak
leisure	=	manh caan
friendship	=	hawikomhnak

childhood	=	ngakchiat caan
manhood	=	pasal sinak caan
fatherhood	=	pacem sinak

e.g.

hardness	=	a harnak, harnak
loveliness	=	duhnunnak
greed	=	hakkauhna
light	=	ceunak
height	=	sannak
softness	=	nemnak
love	=	dawtnak
anger	=	thinunnak
heat	=	satnak
length	=	saunak
manliness	=	pasal sinak

Countable and Uncountable Noun:

Rel khawh le rel khawh lomi min

Noun phun 5 i kan thenmi ah khan, rel khawh le rel khaw lo *noun* kan then than. Then hnih ah then an si.

1. Countable Nouns: *Common nouns* le *Collective nouns* an si.
2. Uncountable Nouns: *Proper nouns*, *material nouns* le *Abstract nouns* an i tel.

count	-	rel,
countable	-	rel khawh.
uncountable	-	rel khawh lo

Pakhat, pahnih, pathum ti i kan rel khawhmi *noun* cu apak tete in hmuh khawh i a ummi *noun* an si.

Example:

One book, two books, three books.

One dog, two dogs, three dogs.

One group, two groups, three groups.

Two flocks of birds - Vaa run hnih

Three yoke of oxen - Caw lenghnuk tuah thum.

Five pairs of slippers - Phanah tuah nga.

Proper Nouns, Material Nouns le *Abstract Nouns* hna rel khawh an si lo tiah a fiang.

Example: *Myanmar*, cu pakhat lawng a si i rel a herh lo.

Mount Everest, zong pakhat lawng a si ve ko.

Water, cu a tlawm a tam zongah 'water' a si ko i, rel awk a tha lo.

Number

Countable Nouns are divided into Singular number and Plural number. Rel khawhmi *Noun* cu 'pakhat' le a tam tiin phun hnih ah kan then.

1. Singular Number = pak relnak

2. Plural Number = pakhat nakin a tam/ pahnih nakin a tammi relnak.

Pakhat nakin a tam ahcun, pahnih a si zongah a thong sang a si zongah *Plural number* ah an lut dih.

Rel khawh lomi *Noun* phun paoh cu, pakhat cazin, *Singular number* ah an lut dih. Plural number chungah an lut kho loh. Waters, milks, golds, breads, furnitures tiah 's' fawnh in tial an si lo.

Example:

a cup of water = ti hrai khat

two cups of water = ti hrai hnih

three cups of tea = lakphak hrai thum

four glasses of milk = cawhnuk thlalang hrai li

five loaves of bread = pawngmungh tlang nga

six pieces of chalk = thung tlang ruk

seven lumps of ice = tikhal tlang sarhi

ten ticals of gold = sui tikal pahra

Formation of Plural Number:

Plural Noun a si canning

1. *Singular Noun* pakhat ah 's' kan betchih tikah *Plural Noun* a chuak.
e.g.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>
cat	cats	river	rivers
pencil	pencils	ocean	oceans
book	books	bag	bags
boy	boys	horse	horses
girl	girls	parent	parents
chair	chairs	calculator	calculators
table	tables	house	houses

2. Nouns ending in, s, sh, ch, or x form the plural by adding es to the singular.

s, sh, ch, x pakhat khat in a dongmi *Singular Noun* cu *es* fonh le betchih tikah, *Plural Noun* a chuak.

e.g.

Singular	Plural	Meaning (Laihloh)
ass	asses	khacer
bus	buses	baska
gas	gases	kes
class	classes	sianginn'khan then
glass	glasses	thlalang hrai
bush	bushes	rambur
brush	brushes	bras
dish	dishes	khengkur
ditch	ditches	tiluhor
branch	branches	thingnge
bench	benches	thutdansau
watch	watches	suimilam/ nazi
match	matches	zuamnak/ meilah
box	boxes	kuang
fox	foxes	cenghngia
tax	taxes	ngunkhuai
ax	axes	hreitlung

3 (a) Most Nouns ending in 'o' also form the plural by adding es to the Singular. 'o' he a dongmi *Singular Noun* cu 'es' bet chih tikah *Plural Noun* a chuak.

Singular	Plural	Meaning	Singular	Plural	Meaning
hero	heroes	miraltha	mango	mangoes	hai
echo	echoes	awhrawh	buffalo	buffaloes	naa
potato	potatoes	aalu	volcano	volcanoes	meitlang
tomato	tomatoes	khazianchin	cargo	cargoes	thil
motto	mottoes	caangthim			
		biathlur			

Note:

- 'o' cafang kha *Consonant* nih a hmaisat tikah *plural* kha 's' chap a si.
- 'o' in a dong i, 'o' kha a dang vowel nih a hmaisat a si ahcun, 's' lawng chap in plural ah a cang.

Singular	Plural	Meaning
zoo	zoos	saram zuatnak
bamboo	bamboos	rua/ mau
cuckoo	cuckoos	tlertlung
studio	studios	hmanthlak sernak khan
piano	pianos	piano
dynamo	dynamos	dainamo

4. a. *Noun* pakhat kha 'y' in a dongh tikah 'y' kha 'i' ah aa thleng i 'es' kha betchap tikah *plural noun* a si.

Singular	Plural	Meaning	Singular	Plural	Meaning
fly	flies	fikfa	spy	spies	mingiatu
baby	babies	nauno	lady	ladies	nungak
body	bodies	pum	city	cities	khualipi
army	armies	ralkap	story	stories	tuanthu
country	countries	rampi	duty	duties	tuavo

- b. 'y' in a dongmi *Noun* ah 'y' hmaisattu ah vowel cafang a si ahcun 's' fonh in *plural noun* a si.

Singular	Plural	Meaning	Singular	Plural	Meaning
day	days	chun	key	keys	tawh
ray	rays	nikahmi	monkey	monkeys	zawng
play	plays	zat-laan	donkey	donkeys	khacer
boy	boys	pangakchia	toy	toys	tunu

5. 'f' asiloah 'fe' in a dawngmi noun cu 'f' asiloah 'fe' kha 'ves' in thlen tikah *Plural Noun* a si.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Meaning</i>	<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
calf	calves	cawfa/naafa	half	halves	acheu
leaf	leaves	thinghnah	leaf	leaves	thinghnah
shelf	shelves	hrawl	thief	thieves	mifir
wolf	wolves	cinghngia	life	lives	nunnak
wife	wives	nupi	knife	knives	namte

6. *Noun* pariat hna cu *Singular* in *Plural* ah a thlen tikah a chung cafang aa thleng.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
man	men	mipa
woman	women	minu
foot	feet	ke
tooth	teeth	haa
mouse	mice	cangpin zu
louse	lice	hrik, thah
dormouse	dormice	zu mui a kengmi vawlei vak

7. *Noun* pahnih cu 'en' kan betchap tikah *Plural Noun* an si.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
ox	oxen	caw lenghnuk
child	children	ngakchia

8. *Compound Noun* pakhat *Singular* in *Plural* ah thlen dingah *Noun* a thlur ah 's' betchih in *Plural Noun* a si.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
arm-chair	arm-chairs	Kutchuan thutdan
book-case	book-cases	cauk bawm
book-shelf	book-shelves	cauk hrawl
maid-servant	maid-servants	sinumnu
man-servant	men-servant	sinumpa
chairman	chairmen	khuahun/ lutlai
washerman	washermen	thil supa
passer-by	passers-by	michawklet
pick-pocket	pick-pockets	zalpurh firhmang
step-mother	step-mothers	nu-ei
step-father	step-fathers	pa-ei
step-son	step-sons	fapa-ei
step-daughter	step-daughters	fanu-ei
mother-in-law	mothers-in-law	nupile nu (Pi)
father-in-law	fathers-in-law	nupile pa (Pu)
son-in-law	sons-in-law	fanule va.
daughter-in-law	daughters-in-law	fapale nupi
sister-in-law	sisters-in-law	unaule nupi/ vale far
brother-in-law	brothers-in-law	nupile an ta
news-paper	news-papers	tadinca
step-child	step-children	fa-ei

9. Rel khawhmi *Noun* zeimaw zat cu *Singular* le *Plural* dang lo in an i khat.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
sheep	sheep	tuu
deer	deer	sazuk
swine	swine	vok
fish	fish	nga

hundredweight	hundredweight	112 lb (UK), 100 lb (USA)
yoke	yoke	leng hngawngbah
stone	stone	lungtum

10. Acheu *Noun* cu *Plural* cia in an um nain *Singular* zongah aa thleng lo. Cuticun i rinh an si.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
scissors	scissors	cehrep
tongs	tongs	cengceh
pincers	pincers	phawinak cehrep
breeches	breeches	bawngbitawi
trousers	trousers	bawngbisau
arms	arms	hriamnam
fetters	fetters	ke hrennak cikcin
thanks	thanks	lawmhnak
measles	measles	hmaihu zawtnak
small pox	small-pox	raise hma
spectacles	spectacles	mitbenh
mumps	mumps	biangpaw
draughts	draughts	khingcanghnak
billiards	billiards	biliad lentecelhnak

11. Acheu fonhkhawm *Noun* (Collective Noun) hna cu, *singular* an si nain, *plural noun* ah cu ning cun hman an si.

Example:	cattle	=	sañil
	people	=	mi, minung
	poultry	=	ar le compei
	vermin	=	rungrul, tholung, thakza
	gentry	=	upat tlak minung

1. Many people came to the stage show.
2. The cattle are grazing in the field.
3. My uncle keeps poultry in his farm.

12. Acheu noun cu plural an si nain, singular rian an òan.

Example:

News	=	Tadinca, thawngpang.
Means	=	Sullam,
Physics	=	Thil le a thazang.
Mechanics	=	Sehthil remh thiamnak.
Politics	=	Ramhruainak fimnak, Ethics = lungthin
Economics	=	Hunchonak, Mathematics = Kanaan.

1. The latest news is printed on the front page.
2. By this means he hopes to succeed.
3. Physics is my favourite subject.
4. Mathematics is an interesting subject.

Exercise 2

A tanglei *Singular Nouns* hna hi *Plural Nouns* ah òial.

Cow	Cattle	pig	swine	toy	day
fly	tax	branch	brush	navy	army
watch	motto	tomato	zoo	thief	chief
child	foot	woman	tooth	sister-in-law	
maid-servant	class-room	door-bell.			

Exercise 3

A tanglei *Plural Nouns* hna hi *Singular Nouns* ah tial hna.
 houses babies flock classes crowd fish mice zoos
 judges proofs calves leaves wolves boxes photos
 potatoes copies wives knives pick-pockets
 passers-by grand-mothers daughters-in-law fishermen
 washer-women news-papers church-bells

Exercise 4

A tanglei *Singular Nouns* hna hi *Plural Nouns* ah tial hna.
 Bus Boy flock crowd fish mice
 book-shelf zoo cattle news sheep mathematics
 leaf leave class handkerchief watch hand-bag
 tomato people roof thief milk coffee
 happiness stage-show

Gender: A nu le a pa

Noun hna hi a nungmi he nunnak a ngei lomi he, anu le apa ah, a tanglei bantukin phun li ah then an si.

1. **Masculine - Gender** = A pa phun paohpoah.

e.g. man bull boar king
 boy cock father stallion

2. **Feminine - Gender** = A nu phun paohpaoh.

e.g. women cow pig queen
 girl hen mother mare

3. Apa le anu komh in hmanmi **Common - Gender**.

e.g. people child teacher fowl parent heifer
 student baby person cattle cub chicken

4. **Neuter - Gender** = Nunnak a ngei lomi.

e.g. book pen table tree
 water house town river.

Masculine gender le Feminine gender an i pehtlaih ning

1. *Masculine* ah 'ess' kan bet chih ahcun *Feminine gender* a si.

<i>Masculine gender</i>	<i>Feminine gender</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
Actor	Actress	Minta, Mintami, fidi, dinu
Count	Countess	Tlangbawipa/nu
Conductor	Conductress	Hlahruaitupa/nu.
Director	Directress	Hruaitupa/nu.
Governor	Governress	Ramthen hruaitupa/nu.
Giant	Giantess	Mikeipa/nu.
God	Goddess	Pathianpa/nu
Heir	Heiress	Rocopa/nu
Host	Hostess	Khualzohtupa/nu, inntek
Hunter	Huntress	Ramvaipa/nu
Lion	Lioness	Chindeihpa/nu
Tiger	Tigress	Pawpipa/nu
Porter	Portress	Thil phorpa/nu
Prince	Princess	Siangpahrangfapa/nu
Waiter	Waitress	Hotel cabuai hngakpa/nu
Master	Mistress	Bawipa/nu
Headmaster	Headmistress	Sayacipa/nu

2. Biafang pahnih thum fawnh in, *Masculine* cu *Feminine* ah aa thlenning.

<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Feminine</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
Grand-father	Grand-mother	Pu/Pi
Grand-son	Grand-daughter	Tupa/tunu
Step-father	Step-mother	Paei/Nuei
Father-in-law	Mother-in-law	Pucing/Picing
Brother-in-law	Sister-in-law	Nupi le anta/unauva le unau/far
School-master	School-mistress	Sayapa/Sayanu
Post-master	Post-mistress	Carek uktupa/Nu
Land-lord	Land-lady	Hotel Inn neitu
He-goat	She-goat	Meetum/Meepi
Jack-ass	She-ass	Khacerpa/Nu
Peacock	Peahen	Aw tawpa/nu
Cock-sparrow	Hen-sparrow	Pithlungpa/nu

3. *Masculine* zei mawzat hna cu *Feminine* he biadang pi an si.

<i>Masculine</i>	<i>Feminine</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
Bachelor	Spinster/Lady	Patling/Nutling
Bean	Belle	Val dawh, Leng dawh
Bridegroom	Bride	Nupithipa/Vangeinu
Husband	Wife	Va /Nupi
Uncle	Aunt	Tang/Ni
Nephew	Niece	Tupa/Tunu
Gentleman	Lady	Patling/Nutling
Widower	Widow	Pahmei/Nuhmei
Bull/ Ox	Cow	Cawtum/Cawpi
Dog	Bitch	Uitum/Uipi

Drake	Duck	Compeipa/ Compeinu
Drone	Bee	Khuaipa/Khuainu
Horse/Stallion	Mare	Rangtum/ Rangpi
Ram	Ewe	Mehehtum/ Mepi
Fox	Vixen	Cinghngiatum/Pi
Hero	Heroine	Teitupa/ Teitunu
King	Queen	Siangpahrang/nu
Father	Mother	Kapa/Kanu.
Boy	Girl	Ngakchiapa/nu
Brother	Sister	Taa/Far

Exercise 5

1. Atanglei *Feminine* hi *Masculine* ah ser hna.

actress	princess	mistress	bride	widow
daughter	bitch	duck	hen	hostess
ewe	she-goat	pea-hen	step-mother	spinster
landlady	vixen	mare	niece	sweetheart

Exercise 6

Atanglei *Masculine* hi *Feminine* ah ser hna.

king	prince	actor	master	waiter
grandson	lover	heir	hero	husband
bachelor	headmaster	brother-in-law		
		governor		
		widower		

Exercise 7

A tanglei hi zei Gender dah an si. Tial hna.

boob	dogbird	tree	house	children	doctor
nurse	cousin	husband	bride	wind	water
cock	girl-friend	headmaster	queen	porter	

Case of Nouns: *Noun then hna*

Biatlang pakhat cu, then thum ah kan then.

Cu hna cu;

1. Subject = tuahtu, a situ.
2. Verb = tuahtu nih a tuahnak, a situ a sinak.
3. Object = a ingtu, a hmu theitu.

e.g. Shwe Win killed a snake.

A cunglei bia hi a tanglei bantukin then a si.

Subject	Verb	Object
Shwe Win	killed	a snake.
Shwe Win	is killing	a snake.

There are four cases a Noun can perform. *Noun* pakhat nih phun li in rian a tuan khawh.

1. Nominative case
2. Accusative case
3. Dative case
4. Possessive case hna an si.

1. *Nominative case:*

a. Biatlang pakhat ah *Noun* pakhat cu a tuahtu (Subject) a si tikah *Nominative Case* kan ti.

e.g. 1. U Mya drinks a cup of tea every morning.

2. A girl buys a hand-bag.

b. Verb (to be) a tlintertu *Noun* a si. It is the complement of the verb to be. (am, is, was, are, were, hna hi to be timi Verb an si).

e.g. 1. Robert is a doctor. Robert le doctor (1) an si.

2. Mary is my class-mate. Mary le classmate zong mi pakhat an si.

2. *Accusative case:*

a. *Noun* pakhat cu a ingtu *Noun* a si tik ah le *Verb* nih a chim chan a si tikah *Direct object* kan ti.

e.g. 1. U Myint shot a tiger.

2. A dog bites a boy.

b. *Noun* pakhat cu a ingtu a si tik i, *preposition* he an vun i zulhcolh tikah, *accusative case* a si.

e.g. 1. The children play in the garden.

2. Your pencil is on the table.

3. *Dative Case noun* pakhat cu *verb* pakhat nih a chimchanmi *Noun* (direct object), a bawmtu *noun* (indirect object) rian a tuan tikah, *dative case* kan ti. A noun is in the dative case when it is the Indirect object of a verb.

e.g. 1. She gave the child a sweet. or (sweet = direct object).

2. She gave a sweet to the child. (child = indirect object).

Give bring buy sell show teach
tell read promise elect lend appoint
timi hna hi ingtu (object) pahnih a ngei khomi *Verb* an si.
e.g.

1. (a) She gives the child a sweet. (sweet D.O. child=I.O)
(b) She gives a sweet to the child. (child = I.O)
2. (a) The teacher teaches us a new lesson. (Lesson=D.O)
(b) The teacher teaches a new lesson to us. (us = I.O)
3. (a) A man buys his son a toy. (son = I.O)
(b) A man buys a toy for his son. (toy = D.O)
4. (a) I lend my friend ten kyats. (Friend = I.O)
(b) I lend ten kyats to my friend. (ten kyats = D.O)

Object pahnih kha an umnak *sentence* (b) bantukin kan thlen tikah, *preposition* khawh in a rami *noun* paoh cu *indirect object* a si.

4. Possessive Case: Ngeitu (ta) timi Noun.

(a) ('S) kha Singular Noun pakhat i kan betchap tikah *Possessive Case*, ngeitu *Noun* a si.

e.g. Mary's book = Mary cauk.
My friend's name = Ka hawipa min.
Woman's work = Nu rian.
People's desire = Mizapi duh.
The children's pencils = Ngakchia hna khedan.

(b) *Plural Nouns* i 's' in a dongmi ah cun (') te kha kan betchap i, *Possessive Case*, a ngeitu *Noun* a si.

e.g. girls' clothes = Nungakchia thil hna/ngakchia hna thil
boys' books = Pa ngakchia cauk hna.
birds' nests = Vate buu hna.

Possessive Case hmannak phunhnh a um. A pakhatnak cu a cunglei i kan chimciam i hna hi an si i, a pahnihnak lawng kan chim cang lai.

2. *Noun* pahnih bawm in an ngeihmi, *Noun* hmuhsaknak ah a hmanung deuh *Noun* ah ('s) kha betchih a si. Cun *Noun* pahnih nih a dang veve in an ngeihmi a si ahcun ('s) kha *Noun* an pahnih in betchih veve an si.

Example:

1. Mary is Robert and Rosemary's daughter.
2. We bought books from U Hla and son's company.
3. Khin Khin's and Mu Mu's blouses are pink.
4. I have read Mu Mu's and San San's novels.

Exercise 8

Change the following singular possessive noun from Singular number to Plural number.

Example:

A mother enjoys her child's talk.
Mothers enjoy their children's talk.

1. A student should not leave the room without the teacher's permission.
2. A man's duty is to earn a living for his family.
3. His son's conduct shocks him.
4. My neighbour's dog barks at a stranger.
5. The price of this watch is high.

Exercise 9

Correct the following sentences. A tanglei biatlang ah palhnak remh hna.

e.g. I borrow the ruler of my friend.

I borrow my friend's ruler.

1. The hind leg of the dog is hit by a stone.
2. Have you read the life story of General Aung San?
3. We study Myanmar's history at school.
4. Do you like his shirt's colour?
5. The candle's light is very dim.
6. Thi Thi and Mu Mu's books are on the table of the teacher.
7. Have you seen the latest film of Shwe Yin Htaike?

Exercise 10

A tanglei biatlang i a telmi *Noun* pakhat cio i, a phun, a nambar, a *gender* le a *case* hna hi langhter hna.

e.g. Nwe Nwe is doing her homework.

Nwe Nwe = Proper Noun, Subject, Nominative case, Feminine, Singular number.

homework = Dative case, Singular, Neuter gender.

- e.g.
1. Tun Tun is solving a problem.
 2. Their mother is mending old clothes.
 3. Fortune favours the brave man.
 4. The cat is sleeping on a chair.

CHAPTER IV

ADJECTIVE

An Adjective is a word that adds something to the meaning of a noun. *Adjective* cu *Noun* asiloah a dang *Adjective* kong a chimtu a si.

Kinds of Adjectives: *Adjective then hna*

1. Descriptive Adjectives = Sullam chimtu Adjectives.
2. Demonstrative Adjectives = Hmuhsaktu, a langhtertu Adjectives.
3. Quantitative Adjectives = Atlawmtam langhtertu Adjectives.
4. Numerical Adjectives = Atlawmtam zat langhtertu Adjectives.
5. Distributive Adjectives = Phawzamtu Adjectives.
6. Interrogative Adjectives = Biahlnak Adjectives.
7. Possessive Adjectives = Keimahta, kata ti hmuhsa' ngeitu.
8. Proper Adjectives = Minfang Adjectives.

1. **Descriptive Adjectives** cu *Noun* pakhat a si canning biafang a fiantertut a si.

- e.g.
- | | | |
|-------|---|--------------|
| big | = | a ngan |
| fat | = | a thau |
| clean | = | a thieng |
| good | = | a tha |
| rapid | = | a rang |
| thin | = | a pan, a der |

new	=	a thar, a hler/hlir
tall	=	a sang
long	=	a sau
wide	=	a kau
pretty	=	aa dawh
small	=	a hme
young	=	a no
low	=	a niam, a din
high	=	a sang
rich	=	a rum
clever	=	a fim
quick	=	a rang
short	=	a tawi
dull	=	a bua, ngaihnuam lo.
narrow	=	a bi, ceprep.
poor	=	sifah/ derthawm.
bright	=	dawh/tleu, lungvar.
dirty	=	a thurhnawm
stupid	=	bu aa/hruh.
slow	=	fum/nuar,
bad	=	thalo, a chia.
ugly	=	dawhlo, muichia
slow	=	khulnuar/duhsah/huamsam

1. I have a big cat. It is black and white.
2. Thida is a pretty, young girl.
3. Mg Kyaw is brave, but his brother is timid.

2. **Demonstrative Adjectives** : *Demonstrative Adjectives* cu hmuhsak in a chimtu biafang a si.

e.g. this	=	mah hi	these	=	mahna hi
that	=	mah khi	those	=	mah hna khi
such	=	cu bantuk	such	=	kha bantuk

Take this pencil and leave that pencil.

These grapes are sweet, and those mangoes are sour.

Tun Tun is crooked. I hate such a person.

They are kind and generous. I like such people.

An siang, zaangfah an thiam. Cu hna cu ka duh hna.

3. **Quantitative Adjectives**: *Quantitative Adjectives* cu, rel awk thalo thil a tlawmtam, a chimtu biafang a si.

e.g. a little	=	a tlawmte
some	=	zeimawzat
half	=	a cheu
much	=	tampi
any	=	zeizat paoh, azeipaoh
whole	=	a dihlak, a pumning
sufficient	=	a zatawk
little	=	chimtlak lo a tlawmte
no	=	a si lo, zehmanhlo
enough	=	a zatawk
a lot of	=	tampi
all	=	a zate, a dihlak.

1. There is a little water in this tub, but there is much water in the other tub.
2. I have some sugar. Would you like to take ^{more} any sugar?
3. There's no curry left, Tin Way has eaten the whole pot.

Tin Way nih meh a ei dih.

4. I don't have enough money to buy a watch = Nazi cawknak phaisa a za in ka ngei lo.

4. **Numerical Adjectives:** *Numerical Adjective* cu rel khawhmi *noun* kong chimtu biafang a si. A fiangmi, *Definite numeral*, le a fiang lomi, *indefinite numeral*, tiah then hnih ah then a si.

a. Definite numeral hi, *Cardinal number* le *Ordinal number* ah then an si.

Cardinal numbers : One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve, thirty, forty, fifty, sixty, one hundred..

Ordinal numbers : First, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eight, ninth, tenth, eleventh, twenty first, twenty third, twenty fourth.

1. There are twenty boys and ten girls in our class.
2. We are in the twenty-first century.
3. January is the first month of the year.
4. Today is my seventeenth birthday.
5. Mandalay is the second largest city in Myanmar.

b. Indefinite numerals: A fiangfai lomi number.

e.g. many = tampi
few = tlawmte
several = tampi
any = pakhatkhat
all = a zate
some = zeimawzat

no = zehmanhlo
another = a dang
enough = a za in
other = a dang

1. There are many people on the street.
2. Only a few people came to the match.
3. There are no pictures in this book.
4. Several boys are swimming in the pool.

Chinchiah awk: *Few, a few, many, several*, hna rel khawhmi *noun* ah hman an si, *Little, a little, much*, hna hi rel khawh lomi *noun* he pehtlai in hman an si, *Some, any, enough, all*, hna hi, relkhawh he relkhawh lomi *noun* hna he hman khawh an si.

5. **Distributive Adjectives:** *Distributive Adjectives* cu, thenphawtmi biafang he pehtlai in hmanmi *Adjectives* an si.

e.g. each = pakhat cio.
either = pakhat paoh, zeipaoh, pahnih ah a zeipaoh.
every = a zeipaoh/ mikip/ a zeikip
neither = pahnih ah zehmanh lo.

1. Each boy gets a present. Laksawng pakhat cio an hmu.
2. Every dog has its own day. Uico kip ni an ngei.
3. You can take either one. Na duh deuhmi i lak.
4. Neither team won the game. An team hnih in an sung.

6. **Interrogative Adjectives:** *Adjectives Biahlnak a si.*

Noun hlanah *what, whose*, biafang kha hman tikah, a vun changtu *noun* kong a hal caah, biahlnak *Adjectives* ti a si.

e.g.

1. What colour do you like? Zei muici (zawng) dah na duh?

- What kind of tree is this? Zei thingkung phun dah a si.
- What type of person is he? Zei bantuk minung dah a si?
- What longyi do you want? Zei bantuk hni dah na duh?
- Which girl wants a flower? Ngakchianu zeidah pangpar a duh?
- Whose umbrella is this? Mah hi aho nithawng dah a si?

7. Possessive Adjectives: Ngeitu Adjectives

e.g.

<i>Singular</i>	<i>Meaning</i>	<i>Plural</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
my	keimah ta, keimah i,	our	kanmah ta, kanmah i
your	na ta, nangmah ta	your	nanmah ta
his	a ta, amah ta	their	an ta, anmah ta
her	a ta, a mahnu ta	their	an ta, anmah ta
its	a ta, amah ta	their	an ta, anmah ta

- I forget to bring my knife and my camera.
Ka nam le hmanthlaknak put ka philh.
- I shall come to your house tomorrow.
Thaizing nan inn ah ka ra lai.
- We have to respect our parents.
Kan nu le kan pa kan upat hna lai.
- The girls leave their slippers outside.
Nu hna nih an phanah lengah an kaltak.

8. Proper Adjectives: Minfang Adjectives

Min fang hna hi *Adjectives* ah hman caan a tampi.

e.g.

- Foreigners admire the Myanmar dress.
Ramdangmi nih Kawl thuam an uar.

- She bought Chin bags and Kachin longyis.
Lai zal le Kachin hni a cawk.
- We visit Shwedagon pagoda.
Suidagon pagoda ah kan kal.
- He is arriving by Saturday evening train.
Zarhte zanlei tlanglawng in a phan lai.

A cunglei *Adjective* phun 8 pinah; *Noun, Verb + ing, Verb - ed, le Verb + en* hna zong, *Adjective* ah hman an si ve.

- e.g.
- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| <u>door</u> bell | = innka darkhing. |
| <u>leather</u> shoes | = saphaw kedan. |
| <u>milk</u> pudding | = cawhnuk khao. |
| <u>boiling</u> water | = titlok. |
| <u>boiled</u> egg | = chumhmi arti. |
| <u>broken</u> glass | = thlalang kuai. |
| <u>fruit</u> cake | = thei changreu |
| <u>setting</u> sun | = nitla lio |
| <u>boiled</u> water | = tithah. |
| <u>roasted</u> chicken | = arsa a ro in kiomi. |

Exercise 11

A tanglei *biatlang* ah hin *Adjective* kha char law, *Adjective* a phun na chim pinah, zeidah *noun* a bawmh timi na chim lai.

e.g.

- Yangon is a large city.
Large = a descriptive adjective, it qualifies city.
- Robert is a man of few words.
- That fat man keeps two fearful dogs.
- These men are poor farmers.
- Each student should write an essay each week.

6. The clever girl makes few mistakes.
7. Will you please lend me some money?
8. I spent all my saving last week.
9. Which pen do you like? You can take either one.
10. The Myanmar team won the decisive match at the Merdeka soccer Tournament.

Exercise 12

Fill up any suitable Adjective in the blank space and underline the Adjective. A lawnnak ah aa tlakmi *Adjective* na thlak lai i, a tangah catlang na rinpiak lai.

- e.g. 1. Sein Win is a clever boy.
2. He wears a _____ shirt and a _____ longyi.
 3. The teacher told us an _____ story.
 4. The _____ bell rings at _____ o' clock.
 5. A _____ girls are absent today.
 6. _____ people watch the _____ tournament.
 7. There is not _____ water in the well.
 8. We are now in the _____ standard.
 9. There are _____ boys and _____ girls in our club.
 10. _____ time is it? _____ ruler is this?

Comparison of Adjective: Zohchunhnak Adjective

Comparison of Adjective cu Descriptive Adjective aa thenning
cang a si. Thennum ah a then.

1. Positive Degree
2. Comparative Degree.
3. Superlative Degree hna an si.

1. Positive Degree: *Positive* timi *Adjective* cu, *Adjective* aa thawnhak biafang ning te kha a si. Phundang in kan chim ahcun, *Noun* amah pakhat a sining a chimtu a si.

- e.g. 1. a long ruler = pedan saupi.
2. a high mountain = tlang sang.
3. a beautiful garden = dum dawh.

2. Comparative Degree: *Comparative Adjective* nih cun *Noun* pakhat kong a chimmi kha a sang deuh in a chim.

- e.g. 1. a longer ruler = pedan a sau deuh.
2. a higher mountain = tlang sang deuh.
3. a more beautiful garden = dum dawh deuh.

3. Superlative Degree: *Superlative degree adjective* nih cun *Noun* pakhat kong a chimmi kha a sang bik, a hlei bik in a chim.

- e.g. 1. the longest ruler = ruler sau bik.
2. the highest mountain = tlang sang bik.
3. the most beautiful garden = dum dawh bik.

Formation of Comparative and Superlative

Comparative le *Supertlative* an si canning/an i thenning

Adjective kha aw pakhat asiloah aw hnih a si ahcun *Comparative* si dingah 'er' betchih a si i, *Superlative* si dingah 'est' betchih a si.

<i>Positive</i>	<i>Comparative</i>	<i>Superlative</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
bold	bolder	boldest	raltha/deuh/bik
clever	cleverer	cleverest	fim/deuh/bik
cold	colder	coldest	a kik
fast	faster	fastest	rianrang tein

quick	quicker	quickest	rianrang tein
slow	slower	slowest	fum/nuar
young	younger	youngest	a no
strong	stronger	strongest	a thawng
sweet	sweeter	sweetest	a thlum
old	older	oldest	a tar/a hlun
thick	thicker	thickest	a chah
light	lighter	lightest	a zaang/ a ceu
bright	brighter	brightest	a ceu/fim
fair	fairer	fairest	a ngo
black	blacker	blackest	a nak/a dum

Positive Biafang hi 'e' in a dongh a si ahcun, *r* le *est* lawng fonhpiak a si.

<i>Positive</i>	<i>Comparative</i>	<i>Superlative</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
fine	finer	finest	dam/a tha
large	larger	largest	a ngan
wide	wider	widest	a kau
wise	wiser	wisest	a fim
gentle	gentler	gentlest	tha/ tluang
safe	safer	safest	tling/a him
white	whiter	whitest	a rang
brave	braver	bravest	ralthat

Positive degree kha 'y' in a dawng a si ahcun, 'y' kha 'ier' le iest' in thlen a si.

<i>Positive</i>	<i>Comparative</i>	<i>Superlative</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
dry	drier	driest	a ro/a car
easy	easier	easiest	a fawi
heavy	heavier	heaviest	a rit

lazy	lazier	laziest	thathut
happy	happier	happiest	nuamh
merry	merrier	merriest	nuamh/thanuam
pretty	prettier	prettiest	a dawhmi
fatty	fattier	fattiest	a thaumi
lovely	lovelier	loveliest	duhungmi

Positive biafang kha *consonant* cafang in a dongh i, cu cafang cu vowel cafang nih a hmaisat ahcun a donghnak cafang kha khuahpiak hnuah 'er' le 'est' betchih a si.

<i>Positive</i>	<i>Comparative</i>	<i>Superlative</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
big	bigger	biggest	angan/lian
fat	fatter	fattest	thau/ deuh/
hot	hotter	hottest	a sa/a lin
thin	thinner	thinnest	a der/a pan
slim	slimmer	slimmest	mipanzai
trim	trimmer	trimmest	a thiang
wet	wetter	wettest	a cin/a ciar
dim	dimmer	dimmest	a mui/a ceu loh

Aw hnih le aw hnihnak tam deuh aw chuakmi *Adjective* hna ah, *Comparative* ah 'more' hman a si i, *Superlative* ah *most* a si.

<i>Positive</i>	<i>Comparative</i>	<i>Superlative</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
tired	more tired	most tired	thabat
learned	more learned	most learned	cathiam
charming	more charming	most charming	dawh/iangngei
thoughtful	more thoughtful	most thoughtful	khuaruat
dangerous	more dangerous	most dangerous	tihung
beautiful	more beautiful	most beautiful	nudawh

interesting	more interesting	most interesting	ngaihnuam
difficult	more difficult	most difficult	har
expensive	more expensive	most expensive	manhar/manfak
indolent	more indolent	most indolent	thathu/zaangzel
industrious	more industrious	most industrious	mituan/mifim
suitable	more suitable	most suitable	tlaak/rem

Adjective tlawmpal hna cu *Positive*, *Comparative* le *Superlative* hna kha bialang dang cio an si.

<i>Positive</i>	<i>Comparative</i>	<i>Superlative</i>	<i>Meaning</i>
good	better	best	a tha
bad	worse	worst	a thalo
ill	worse	worst	damlo/thalo
much	more	most	tam
many	more	most	tam (rel khawhmi)
little	less/lesser	least	a tlawm
few	less	least	a tlawm
late	later	latest	a hnu
late	latter	last	a hnu/hmanung
old	older/elder	oldest/eldest	a tar/a hlun
far	farther	farthest	a hlami
fur	further	furthest	a sangmi/thuk/kau

Adjective Hmannak

1. *Adjective* cu a kong a chimmi *noun* a hmailei changtu ah chiah a si. *Article* a um ahcun, *noun* le *article* karlak ah *Adjective* cu chiah a si.
e.g.

1. Many boys and few girls play tennis.
2. Cold drinks and delicious food are available here.

3. A strong man can carry a heavy box.
4. The cleverest boy in the class gets the highest mark.

2. *Adjective* cu *Verb* a tlintertu i kan hman tikah *to be* timi *verb* *am, is, are, was, were*, zultu ah chiah a si.

- e.g.
1. I am glad. Kaa lawm.
 2. She is sad. A ngaih a chia.
 3. They are happy. An i lawm.
 4. He was healthy when he was young. = A no lioah a ngan a dam.
 5. They were poor a few years ago. = Kan hnulei kum tlawmpal cu an si a fak.

3. *Adjective* acheu cu *Subject* kong a chimtu, *Verb* tlintertu, *predicate* ah hman an si.

- e.g.
1. She is feeling cold. A khua a sik
 2. Silk feels soft. Pula cu a nem.
 3. They seem happy. A nuammi a lo.
 4. The child gets sick. Nau a zaw.
 5. U Ba Kyaw becomes rich. U Ba Kyaw a hung rum.
 6. The rose smells sweet. Mah rose rim cu a thaw.
 7. These fruits taste sour. Mah thei hna hi an thor.
 8. The leaves turn brown. Mah thinghnah an rau.

4. *Adjective* cheukhat cu a tanglei suaisam hin hman an si.

Subject	+ Verb	+ Object	+ Adjective
1. she	keeps	her room	clean
2. you	made	me	angry
3. he	paints	the window	white

5. *The* le *Adjective* a komh in hman tikah *collective noun* tluk ah hman a si.

- e.g. 1. Fortune favours the brave. Miral̄tha cu an van a tha.
 2. The blind cannot see. = Mitcaw khua an hmu lo.
 3. The wounded are taken to the hospital. = Aa hliammi sizungah an kalpi hna.
 4. The dead in the hospital are sent to the mortuary. Sizung mithi ruak inn ah an kalpi hna.
 5. The Union Flag is surrounded with the red. Alan cu a sen in kulh a si.
 6. The white are no match for the black. Minak cu mirang he chimti tlak an si lo.

Use of Comparison

1. Minung asiloah thil pahnih kha an sining aa tluk ahcun, 'as ... as' he *positive* degree kha hman an si.

e.g.

1. Ni Ni is as pretty as Wa Wa.
Ni Ni cu Wa Wa tluk in aa dawh.
2. You are as obstinate as a mule.
Nangmah cu khacer bantukin na khong.
3. Tun Tun is not as tall as Hla Win.
Tun Tun cu Hla Win tluk in a sang lo.

2. Minung pahnih asiloah thil pahnih, aa tluk lomi thil pahnih kan zohchun tikah *Comparative Adjective* kan hman.

e.g.

1. Hla Win is taller than Tun Tun.
2. Khin Thuza is prettier than Mu Mu.
3. Aung Aung is younger than Htay Aung.

4. Aung Aung is the younger of the two brothers.

5. This pen is good, but that pen is better.

6. Her essay is good, but yours is better.

3. Thil pathum asiloah a tam deuh kan tahchun hna tikah *Superlative Adjective* kan hman.

e.g. 1. Among the three sisters Thuza is the youngest.

2. Hla Hla is the eldest of the three sisters.

3. Aung Ko is the tallest boy in the class.

4. Mount Everest is the highest peak in the world.

5. Thuza is the most beautiful girl in the town.

4. Tlukceo in a karh le a zormi kan tahchun tikah *Comparative Adjective* kan hman.

e.g. 1. The older the man, the wiser he becomes.

A upa deuh a fim deuh.

2. The better the watch, the more it will cost.

Nazi a tha deuhmi cu a man a fak deuh.

3. The more leisure we have, the happier we are.

Caan lawng kan ngeih deuh le kan i nuam deuh.

4. The more you spend, the poorer you become.

Nai hmang deuhdeuh na si a fak chinchin.

5. A karh chinmi caah *Comparative* kan hman i and hmang in kan nolh than.

e.g. 1. The night becomes darker and darker.

Zan a hung mui deuhdeuh.

2. We are interested more and more in the story.

Mah tuanhu cu kan duh chinchin.

3. The weather is getting colder and colder.

Nikhua caan a kik chin.

Exercise 13

Catlangkulh chung *Adjective* hna hi a dik ahmaan ning tein tial than hna. Rewrite the words in the brackets correctly.

1. I am as (brave) as you.
2. Ko Myint is (tall) than Ko Aye.
3. Ko Hla is the (tall) of the three.
4. Among the girls Mu Mu Aye has the (good) voice.
5. This temple is the (old) building around here.
6. My knife is sharp, but yours is (sharp).
7. Diamond is the (hard) material known.
8. Rubber is (soft) than wood.
9. Your writing is not (good) than hers.
10. The sun is getting (hot) and (hot).
11. The (high) the sun the (hot) it becomes.
12. Of these two things this one is (expensive).
13. The (big) the house the (much) money it will cost.
14. No other country has (many) people than People's China.
15. Of my three sisters I love Su Su (much) than the other two.
16. The (dark) the night, the (great) the danger.

CHAPTER V

PRONOUNS: *Mincan*

There are seven kinds of Pronouns. Pronouns phun sarih a um.

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Personal Pronoun. | Pumpak Pronoun (Mincan)
e.g. I, we, you, he, she |
| 2. Reflexive Pronoun. | Mahlila Mincan
e.g. myself, ourselves. |
| 3. Demonstrative Pronoun. | Sawhkhiah Mincan
e.g. this, that, these, those |
| 4. Indefinite Pronoun. | Afiang lo Mincan
e.g. any, none, all, |
| 5. Distributive Pronoun. | Phawtzamh Mincan
e.g. each, either, |
| 6. Interrogative Pronoun. | Biahaltu Mincan
e.g. who, whom, what, |
| 7. Relative Pronoun. | Pehtlaihtertu Mincan
e.g. who, whom, which, |

Personal Prounoun: *Pumpak Mincan*

Personal Mincan hi phunthum ah a then.

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. The First Person | = the person speaking.
e.g. (I, we) bia chimtu |
| 2. The Second Person | = the person spoken to.
e.g. (you) bia ngaitu |
| 3. The Third Person | = the person spoken of
e.g. (he, she, it, they) a kong
chim ceihmi. |