

Cahuilla internal reconstruction solution

		PERSON OF OBJECT		
		1	2	3
PERSON OF SUBJECT	1	—	?en	pen
	2	ne?	—	pe?
	3	ne	?e	pe

If we lay out the prefixes in a table, we can see that 1st person objects always start with ne and 1st person subjects always end with n, 2nd person objects always start with ?e and 2nd person subjects end with ?, and 3rd person objects start with pe and 3rd person subjects do not end with any consonant.

If we propose a 1st person morpheme ne, a second person morpheme ?e and a 3rd person morpheme pe, we only have one irregularity: the third person subject is unmarked.

We reconstruct the following pre-Cahuilla morphemes:

	OBJECT	SUBJECT
1	ne	ne
2	?e	?e
3	pe	unmarked

Using these reconstructed morphemes, we could propose the following pre-forms for these verbal prefixes:

		PERSON OF OBJECT		
		1	2	3
PERSON OF SUBJECT	1	—	?e-ne	pe-ne
	2	ne-?e	—	pe-?e
	3	ne	?e	pe

The following rule will change the pre-forms to the modern forms:

The final vowel of the subject prefix is always deleted when it follows an object prefix.