

Cahuilla internal reconstruction problem

The forms listed below are prefixed to verbs and indicate the person of the subject and object; only those forms associated with singular subjects and objects are included. In the glosses the first pronoun indicates the person of the subject, and the second the person of the object. Synchronically, these forms are slightly irregular. Determine the earlier more regular pattern by internal reconstruction and describe the phonetic change that has taken place.

1st person: I/me, 2nd person: you, 3rd person: he/she/him/her

1. neʔ 'you-me'
2. ne 'he-me'
3. ʔen 'I-you'
4. ʔe 'he-you'
5. pen 'I-him'
6. peʔ 'you-him'
7. pe 'he-him'