

Chapter 2

Reference Section

This information is so important that it belongs in chapter 1, but we didn't want to scare you away with too much too soon. Do not try to memorize this information until you understand how it works; by then you'll know most of it anyway. It is easy to find here in the front of the book and all the charts are here together. The same information will be presented in expository format throughout the chapters that follow, so just use this chapter for reference; scan it and move on, but complete explanations are not given here. The charts will be repeated as needed throughout the book.

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VERBAL AFFIXES

The first thing you will use this chart for is to recognize a verb when you see one. Then by stripping off the affixes you will find the root that you can look up in a dictionary.

NOTES:

1. The affix sets are named after their Irrealis non-potential form (“-ON”, “MA-”, etc.) because it provides a distinct label for each affix set. This is a convenience only and doesn't represent any particular linguistic truth; any other labeling scheme would yield ambiguous labels.
2. In this study we give the name of an affix set in all caps: -ON, “the affix set -ON {gi-, -on, -a, etc}” and the reference to a specific individual affix is in lower case: -on, “the affix -on”.

3. -x- means either that (1) x is an infix, and/or (2) x is a secondary affix and combines with primary affixes. When secondary affixes function alone as primary affixes (p- forms only), it is because they are serving as non-finite (surrealis mode) forms of the modality affixes.
4. x-, x is a prefix
5. -x, x is a suffix
6. x-...-y, x is a prefix and y is a suffix, the unit known as a circumfix, with ... symbolizing the root; depending on your school of thought this can be analyzed as a single affix or (like I do) as two affixes combined.
7. adj., adjective, an attributive or quality word
8. subj., grammatical subject
9. potent-incho, potential modality and inchoative aspect, which are semantically equivalent or at least use the same affixes. Potential modality is a statement not referring to strict reality, expressed in English by such words as can, could, would, happen to, manage to, might, may, etc. Inchoative aspect is a nuance of attributive verbs (“is [quality]”) that expresses the nuance or aspect “becomes [quality]”. For more information see the discussion of MA- below and sections in the main text regarding the MA- paradigm.

MODALITY AFFIXES			PLURALIZED			
	FINITE		NON-FINITE	FINITE		NON-FINITE
	Realis	Irrealis		Realis	Irrealis	
ATTRIBUTIVE	na-	ma-	pa-(caus.) ka-(imper.)	nanga-	manga-	panga-
K (inchoative/potential)	naka-, nakag-	maka-, makag-	paka-, pakag-			
K (perfect aspect)	naka-	maka-				
H (causerless)	nahi-, naha- (>)	mahi-, maha- (>)	hi- (>)			
IMPERFECTIVE	naga-, nag-	maga-, mag-	paga- pag-	nanag-, nagpang-	manag-, magpang-	panag-, pagpang-
K (inchoative/potential)	nagka-	magka-	pagka-			
H (causerless)			paghi-			
KH (inchoative/causerless)			pagkahi-, kahi- (>)			
REFLEXIVE (ig-)	nag-...(-in-)...- (an)(ay) (<), nanggi-	mag-...(-in-)...- (an)(ay) (<), manggi-	pag-...(-in-)...-(an)(ay) (<), panggi-	nanag-...(-ay)	manag-...(-ay)	panag-...- (ay)
K (inchoative/potential)	nagka-...(-in-)...- (an)(ay) (<)	magka-...(-in-)...- (an)(ay) (<)	pagka-...(-in-)...-(an)(ay) (<)			
causative	nakig-, kig-, tig- (<)	makig-, kig-, tig- (<)	pakig- (<)			
PERFECTIVE	ni-, mi-	mo-	ø- -um-	nang-	mang-	pang-
(inchoative/potential)		CVredup-...-um-, tali-				
VOICING AFFIXES						
-ON (perfective/intentional)	gi-	-on	-a	gipang-	pang-...-on	pang-...-a
K (inchoative/potential)		ka-...-ón, ka-...-onón				
N/M/M (inchoative/potential)	na-	ma-	ma-	napang-	mapang-	
G (imperfective)	gina-	paga-...-on	paga-...-a			
-AN	gi-...-an	-an	-i	gipang-...-an	pang-...-an	pang-...-i
K (inchoative/potential)	gika-...-an	ka-...-an	ka-...-i	nanga-...-an	manga-...-an	manga-...-i
N/M/M (inchoative/potential)	na-...-an	ma-...-an	ma-...-i		mapang-...-an	
G (imperfective)	gina-...-an	paga-...-an	paga-...-i			
H (causerless)	(na)(hi-)...-an, (na)(hing-)...-an, (na)(ha-)...-an (>)	(ma)(hi-)...-an, (ma)(hing-)...-an, (ma)(ha-)...-an (>)	(ma)(hi-)...-i, (ma)(hing-)...-i (>)			
I-	gi-	i-	i-	gipang-	ipang-	ipang-
K (inchoative/potential)	gika-	ika-	ika-	gikapang-	ikapang-	ikapang-
N/M/M (inchoative/potential)	na-	ma-	ma-			
G (imperfective)	gina-	iga-	iga-			
H (causerless)	nahi-, naha- (>)	mahi-, maha- (>)	mahi-, maha- (>)			
IG- (temporal)	maó'y pag-, (sa) pag-	ig-, inig-, maó'y i-	ig-, inig-, maó'y i-			
IGKA- (inchoative/temporal)	(sa) pagka-	igka-, inigka-	igka-, inigka-			

IG- (reflexive)		ig-	ig-			
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10. The modality affix p- forms combine with affixes from other sets but not with affixes from their own sets. E.G., *magpag-, *makigpakig-, etc. are illegal. An apparent contradiction is nakapaka-/makapaka- which is allowed for two reasons: naka-/maka- are not single affixes as such but combinations of na-/ma- with -ka-, so in effect the -ka- element buffers the na-/ma-/pa- elements from being truly adjacent with each other. Since the combination of na-/ma- with -ka- and the combination of -pa- with -ka- go in somewhat different directions to provide functions that are not exactly analogous with each other, there is a combination of meanings available by combining naka-/maka- with -paka-. In short, nakapaka- or makapaka- is really four affixes.
11. Pag- as a primary affix combines with -pa-/paka-, pakig- (<), and -pang- and perhaps some other -p- forms? Studies of large text passages with computerized search engines will determine the facts in this regard.
12. Spelling alternations within an affix set do not change meaning; the label inside the parentheses indicates meaning. For example, within the -AN affix set, “K (inchoative/potential)” and “N/M/M (inchoative/potential)” are interchangeable as well as “H (causerless)” and “N/M/M-H (causerless)”

MO- {ni-, mi-/mo-/ø-, -um-}

This is the only modality affix that doesn't follow the N-/M-/P- spelling pattern and the only one that doesn't have any relationship (neither additive nor replacive) with -ka-. MO- is perfective and volitional while -ka- is inchoative and potential; the two sets of nuance do not mix since they are incompatible in meaning. -UM- is included because it is the source of mo-, even though its use has been largely abandoned. This aspect has little use for a non-finite form except imperative, which is well-covered by the bare root also known as the null affix ø-. There is no p- form of MO- since it doesn't participate in the N-/M-/P- pattern. Note below that MO- (since it has no p- non-finite form) does not combine with the voicing affixes. MO- functions as an alternate of MA- in attributive verbs since adjectives have no use for a volitional affix.

MA- {na-, ma-, -pa-; -ka-}

This is the model of all the modality affixes except MO-. It provides the N-/M-/P- spelling pattern for the main affix paradigm as well as the -ka- form for the inchoative aspect/potential modality forms. These affixes are used on roots that are more attributive than verbal and especially adjectives. The result is “subj. na- + adj. = subj. is adj.”. The na-/ma- form can be inchoative also, “becomes adj.”. -ka- makes the inchoative aspect explicit with the result a potential form that is equivalent to the inchoative aspect; the potent-incho form of MA- forms the distinct affix set MAKA- which also functions as the perfect aspect as well as the potential modality. A clause that used MAKA- to express the potential can simultaneously express the perfect by using the separate words na or pa in addition to MAKA- affixation. Some roots that include -ka- use na-/ma- in a replacive function so that the resulting affix is na-/ma- and the -ka- is omitted. This eliminates confusion between MA- and MAKA-. MAKA- can be used with dynamic verbs but MA- only works on adjectives. The affix elements na- and ma- are also used in the voicing affixes where they also have a replacive function in supplying alternate forms of the -ka- potential forms of the voicing affixes.

AFFIX COMBINATIONS

The non-finite modality affixes (P-form) function as secondary affixes to combine with the voicing affixes to form modalities of the voiced forms. Possible combinations are shown below. The Imperfective forms based on *-ga-/paga-* are shown below; because of their importance they are also included in the main chart above. Meaning and usage of the below forms is not indicated but can be learned from the chart above, where the same affix might occur more than once; below there is no duplication of any form. Combinations of modality affixes (n-/m-forms) with the p- forms below are not shown in the chart since they follow simple rules that can easily be learned:

1. volitional affixes (MO-) do not combine with anything except *-pa-* and its combined form *-paka-*; *nakig-/makig-* even though volitional and causative is self-contained semantically and doesn't combine with anything. However *-pakig-* combines with MO-, MAG- and MAKA- in ways allowed by these rules.
2. *-paki-* "request" is probably a short form of *-pakig-* since it also is causative (getting somebody to do something) and combines with the same affixes, MO-, MAG-, and MAKA-.
3. n-/m- forms do not combine with their own -p- form but they can combine with the -p- forms *-pa-* and *-paka-* if they aren't paradigm mates.
 - a. *ma-/na-* cannot combine with *-pa-* or its combined form *-paka-* as members of the MA- paradigm but as members of the -ON paradigm (see below chart) they can. As a matter of fact, *ma-/na-* (of the MA- affix set) can't combine with anything except *-ka-*; they are in a preverbal class of affixes alone by themselves, functionally, even though they provide the N-/M-/P- spelling model for most of the other modality affixes. As attributive affixes they do combine with *-on* and other affixes in the formation of adjectives etc. but these functions are not covered in this chart.
 - b. *nakapaka-* and *makapaka-* are allowed since these forms are, in terms of derivation rules, four affixes each, even though semantically *naka-*, *maka-* have their own set of functions as does *-paka-* have its own set of functions.
4. affixes combining with *pang-* are not shown below as they are all shown in the main chart and are very predictable.

NOTES ON BELOW CHART:

1. *gina-* is comprised of *-ga-* + *-in-*; *-ga-* is the stem former for all imperfective affixes and *-in-* is an alternant of *gi-*.
2. *pag-...-a*, *pag-...-i*, and *ipag-* are used only with *ayáw*
3. *ipag-* is from Bunye/Yap; *pag-i-* is from Wolff

P-FORM NON-FINITE FORM USED AS A SECONDARY VERB OR VERB STEM

primary voicing affix form ↓	-pa-	-paka-	-pag-	-paga-	-pagka-	-panggi-	-pakig- (<)	-paki-	-pagpa-
-ON									
gi-	gipa-	gipaka-	gipag-	gina-					gipagpa-
na-	napa-	napaka-							
-on	pa-...-on	paka-...-on		paga-...-on					pagpa-...-on
ma-	mapa-	mapaka-							
-a	pa-...-a	paka-...-a	pag-...-a						pagpa-...-a
nahi-									
mahi-									
-AN									
gi-...-an	gipa-...-an	gipaka-...-an		gina-...-an			gipakig-...-an (<)		gipagpa-...-an
-an	pa-...-an	paka-...-an		paga-...-an	pagka-...-an		pakig-...-an (<)		pagpa-...-an
-i	pa-...-i	paka-...-i	pag-...-i				pakig-...-i (<)		pagpa-...-i
gika-...-an	gikapa-...-an								
na-...-an	napa-...-an								napa-...-an
ka-...-an									
ma-...-an	mapa-...-an								mapa-...-an
ka-...-i									
ma-...-i									mapa-...-i
hi-...-an									
hi-...-i									
I-									
i-	ipa-	ipaka-	ipag-, pag-i-	iga-					ipagpa-
gika-	gikapa-								
ika-	ikapa-								

P- Form Affixes That Combine With Each Other

Rules:

1. No affix can repeat itself or combine with itself, eg *papa-, *pagpag- etc. are not allowed.
2. ?Possibly no affix can combine with a complex form that already includes itself, eg ?*papaka-, *pagpagka-

secondary p-form →								
primary p-form ↓	-pa-	-paka-	-pag-	-paga-	-pagka-	-panggi-	-pakig- (<)	-pang-
pa-	N/A							
paka-		N/A						
pag-	pagpa-	pagpaka-	N/A				pagpakig- (<)	pagpang-
paga-				N/A				
pagka-					N/A			
panggi-						N/A		
pakig- (<)							N/A	
pang-								N/A

search	current folder	Cebuano folder
papaka		
papag		
papang		
pakapa		
pagpa	yes	not finished
pagapa		
pagkapa		
panggi		
pakigpa		
pama		

FREAK AFFIXES

Sometimes a certain form gets frozen into a meaning and develops a usage of its own that then combines idiomatically, out of the paradigm, not according to the way that its component parts would have been able to combine separately. Examples are given below. The affix labels will be referenced in all caps as they are an affix set all to their own whose function and source do not match each other.

IPA-...-AN, IKAPA-...-AN (< ipa-)

Ipakuha-an ni Luther kay daghan ra. Luther said take some because there are so many. pj (with only one participant expressed)

Ipa- is from the I- affix set, and -AN is from the -AN affix set; normally they don't mix because they are used differently. But ipa- is such a handy combination of primary with secondary affix that it has become used in sentences like the one above with mostly omitted participants. As such its meaning has not changed but its combination with -an is quirky. In this example, kuha-an is also a somewhat frozen fixture of the language, representing a modality of -AN that means "part of" or as translated here, "some", and I say somewhat frozen only because this is a very special usage of -AN that designates as subject the entity of which some part of it is referenced by the verb's being affixed with -AN.

Ipakuhà niya kanímo ang mgá batong. He will have you take the beans. pj But: *Kuha-an (nímo, nínyo) ang mgá batong.* Take some of the beans. pj Thus ipa- has come to be a polite way of telling someone they can or should or may do something, a causative imperative, a way of making a suggestion, a way of manipulating a result with a second party as the agent. Although the main example above could be stated without omitting two of the three participants (*Ipakuha-an ni Luther sa imóha ang mgá batong.* Luther will let you take some of the beans. pj), ipa- has become somewhat frozen into a form that implies a polite request and any or all of its three participants can be omitted similarly to the following examples of progressive omission taking place as the need to repeat nominals decreases in the course of the narrative.

3. Gipatawág niya sa íyang luyoluyo...ang mgá Bataktak. He had his assistant summon...the Frogs. nmlad2
2. Pagkabuntag, gipatawág niya ang usá ka Bataktak... In the morning, he had one of the Frogs summoned. nmlad6a
1. Ang Hu-man gipatawág ug gipangutana kon unsa'y gibuhát níya sa miaging gabii. The Human was summoned and asked what he did the previous night. nmlad8

This progression demonstrates how the Realis form gipa-, which has a narrative sense rather than imperative, can be used with 1, 2, or all three of its possible participants actually expressed. Now the point of all this is that plugging ipa- onto a verb has become a convenient way of saying "I will have you do this" but without all the I-you-this; without the lecture the medicine is easier to take and the imperative has sort of the sense of "I'll let you go ahead and..." or "I'll have you do this." or, in effect, *Ipalakáw*. "Please move aside." instead of "I wish you'd get out of my way." *Ipasilhig*. "Please sweep" instead of "I'll ask you to sweep the floor." In this usage the Surrealis i- and the causative -pa- have become frozen into a word that means "please" instead of "I'll make you do this" and in fact native speakers might say in English when translating "*Ipalakáw*" in their head, "I have to please you to move aside."

The point of this discussion is that as a frozen unit, ipa-X, "please X" as a short version of "I'll let you X" or "I'll have you do X" is like a verb stem and not like an affixed root, with the result that it can take -AN because it is in effect not i + pa + X but just ipax as a cemented-together unit, *a stem that functions like a root*. So like any word it can take -AN. In general ipa- is not a frozen form or a stem former for any affix, but such is the explanation for why ipa- can be incongruously combined with -an.

add MAG-...-AN, TIG-...-AN ETC.

CASE MARKERS

except Demonstratives; see separate chart

CASE MARKERS CHARTS

Personal Pronouns	NOMINATIVE		GENITIVE			DATIVE “CEBU”	DATIVE “DAVAO”
	preposit	postposit	preposit	postposit	complement	complement	complement
sentence position:	preposit	postposit	preposit	postposit	complement	complement	complement
Singular							
1 st Person	akó	ko	akò	ko	nakò	kanakò, nakò	sa akó-a, sa akò
2 nd Person	ikáw	ka	ímo	mo	nímo	kanímo, nímo	sa imóha, sa ímo
3 rd Person	siyá	---	íya	---	níya	kaniya, níya	sa iyáha, sa íya

Plural							
1 st Person (exclusive)	kamí	mi	amò	mo	namò	kanamo, namò	sa amó-a, sa amò
1 st Person (inclusive)	kitá	ta	atò	ta	natò	kanatò, natò	sa ató-a, sa atò
2 nd Person	kamó	---	ínyo	---	nínyo	kanínyo, nínyo	sa inyóha, sa ingyo
3 rd Person	silá	---	íla	---	níla	kaníla, níla	sa iláha, sa íla

Dual Person	Dual person is the equivalent of a genitive SUB2 doer and a nominative SUBJ doee			
(1 st Person Doer with 2 nd Person Doee)	sentence position	postposit	complement	note:: find many examples to determine correct sentence position
	singular “I do to you”	ta ka	tikáw, tiká	
	plural “we do to you”	ta mo		

Phrase Markers					
<i>Contractions of this class of determiners are used variably depending on the word:</i>					
-ng = ang is fairly common; it’s hard for a beginner to tell it apart from the short form of nga which is spelled the same; the context might have to be studied to determine the difference; -ng = nga is much more common; -ng is also used for ni					
ing is almost never used in its full form but ’y is commonplace in the indefinite usage; in this book we use the word ing to <i>talk about</i> the contraction ’y that actually occurs, since ’y is hard to say; this is like when an English teacher says “apostrophe N T” instead of trying to pronounce the contraction ’nt as a separate word.					
’g for og is very common; og is also used as a particle and a conjunction and ’g is used for all these except when it means “and”, but when it means “and” it should be spelled ug					
’s for sa or si is common in speech but never written; it is pronounced əs not just s (like the final syllable of “Papa Jesus”)					
-ng can also be short for ni					
	NOMINATIVE		GENITIVE	DATIVE (CEBU)	DATIVE (DAVAO)
Definite	ang		sa	sa	sa
Indefinite	ing (’y)		og	og	og

Definite-Indefinite	ang usá ka maó nga		sa usá ka	sa usá ka	sa usá ka
Name Markers	si		ni	kang, ni	kay, ni
(name-plural)	silá si		níla ni	kaníla ni	sa íla ni
Place Markers	ang		sa	sa	sa

The Case Markers of Cebuano

- The Cebu variant of the dative personal pronoun offers more opportunities for ambiguity than the Davao variant since the short form of its dative pronoun is identical to the complement form of the genitive. But there is seldom any ambiguity once all the meanings and structures in the sentence have been identified and the context of the sentence consulted.
- In this book every case marker with two or more syllables is explicitly marked for stress even if it is the penultimate syllable that is stressed (default in this book with other words is to not mark stress if penult is the stressed syllable). This is because there are so many somewhat similar words in the determiner class, and learning to identify them quickly and to say them right has to be accomplished before wrong habits set in.
- It is helpful to memorize these facts about the postposit forms:
 - *ko* can be either nominative or genitive personal pronoun
 - *ko* and *mo* can be postposed possessive adjectives meaning “my” and “you (singular)” respectively; never possessive pronouns “mine” or “yours”
 - *ka* is always nominative
 - *mo* is used for three different full forms
 - if *mo* is nominative it is plural “you” short for *kamó*
 - if *mo* is not nominative it is either
 - singular “you” short for *nímo*
 - exclusive “we” short for *namò*
 - *ta* can be either nominative or genitive, and is also used in some forms of the dual person pronoun which incorporates both “you” and “I” but usually means “I do to you” even though *ta* normally means “we”

Pronoun and nominal related terms:	In the example:	“Pedro himself ₁ ate his fish and he cooks for himself ₂ , but they still thought that fish was theirs. This is so.”	the term in question would be:
referent	the real person, place, or thing that a nominal substitutes for; the <i>referent</i> of “himself” is:		the real Pedro in the flesh

antecedent	the nominal that a pronoun substitutes for; the antecedent of “himself _{1,2} ” is:	the word “Pedro”
anaphora	the nominal that refers back to an antecedent; the anaphora of “Pedro” is:	the word “himself”
intensive pronoun	doesn’t have its own Grammatical Relation but shares one with its antecedent; Cebuano: <i>mismo</i> (from a Spanish word)	himself ₁
reflexive pronoun	has its own Grammatical Relation, different from that of its antecedent; Cebuano: <i>kaugalingon</i> “oneself” (for all genders, numbers, and persons “himself, themselves, myself” etc.)	himself ₂
possessive adjective	doesn’t stand alone, <i>modifies</i> a noun	“his” in the phrase “his fish”
possessive pronoun	stands alone, <i>replaces</i> a noun or other nominal	theirs, hers (not their or hers)
demonstrative adjective	doesn’t stand alone, <i>modifies</i> a noun	“that” in the phrase “that fish”
demonstrative pronoun	stands alone, <i>replaces</i> a noun or other nominal	this, that (not this/that fish)

DEMONSTRATIVES AND LOCATORS:

PRONOMINAL DEICTICS AS A WHOLE CATEGORY COMPRISING SYLLABIC ELEMENTS

These spelling variations are regular in the formation of these words according to a pattern that otherwise fulfills the paradigm with nearly perfect consistency; spelling variation of whole words are noted in the chart:

n/nh t/dt o/u r/d/l/y a/á/à/â (etc.)

PRONOMINAL DEICTICS								
subcateg. of pronominal deictic:			Time/place Words			Demonstratives		
other category:			adverb (here/there)			determiner (this/that)		
other use:			{verb}	existential	motion	case marker:		
tense:			future	present	past	nominative	genitive/dative	
gloss close to↓	syllabic element		affix-like syllabic element (prefix or suffix)					
	2 nd	3 rd	ø-	-a	d-	nga-	k-	ni-
<i>here-this</i> near me only	-i- or -a-	-ri	arí, ári alí! {come here}	adía día	dirí dalí!	ngarí	kirí karí ri	niíri niári íri ári
<i>here-this</i> near me & you	-i- or -a-	-ni	ánhi {come here}	anía nía	dínhi	ngánhi nánhi	kiní kaní king, ni	niíni niáni íni, áni
<i>there-that</i> near you only	-i- or -a-	-na	anhà {go or bring there}	anáa náa	dinhà dihâ(!) dirâ	nganhà	kanâ kaná kiná, nâ	nianà naanà daanà anà
<i>there-that</i> near neither	-i- or -a-	-tu	ádto {go to a place, go get}	atúa túa	dídto	ngádto nádto	kádto tu	niádto naádto niíto ádto
<i>this time</i>	-i- or -a-	-ron	arón {so that}	adúna dúna	dayón dayón!	náyon	karón ron	niáron áron

note: *aduna/duna* fits the spelling pattern of *-ron* but serves only as an existential, with no adverb meaning

Where?			ása sáa á	háin	diín	---	---	---
note: these tense designations are loose; <i>ása</i> or <i>a</i> can be used generically for any tense in casual speech; <i>háin</i> or <i>diín</i> also serves as a question word meaning “which one”; <i>diín</i> is also used to introduce relative clauses, with the meaning “in which, where”								

CHART 3: GRAPHIC VERSION OF “SPEAKER/LISTENER” POSITION WITH PRONOMINAL DEICTIC CLASSES

ME/SPEAKER

-ni class

YOU/LISTENER

-ri class

-na- class

-tu class

- ri: close to me only (here, this)
- ni: close to me and you (here, this)
- na: close to you only (there, that)
- tu: close to neither (there, that)

Postposit Position Class Template

PRON.	TIME ZONE		PRON.	PLUS/MINUS ZONE		REALITY ZONE			PRON.
nompron ¹ genpron ²	aspect affirm assert	aspect affirm assert	nompron	additive intensify limiter	additive intensify limiter	re: fact	-unfact	+unfact	nompron genpron
ka	na	na	mi	usáb ³	usáb	daw	kahâ ⁴	untà	ko
ko	pa	pa	tu	gayód	gayód	kunó	hinuon	diay	nâ
mo	nang daan	nang daan	ta	kaayo	kaayo	lagí		tingali	ta
ta	ba	ba	ko	upód ⁵	upód	ugód ⁶			ni
	bitaw	bitaw	ron			tuod			mo
	bayâ	bayâ	ka	ra ⁷	ra				mo
				lamang ⁸	lamang				tu
				gani ⁹	gani				
				usà ¹⁰	usà				

Assimilation of affixes that end in -ng- and the Alphabet used in this Study

1. the function -ng- is usually spelled -N but -ng- is more often accurate in terms of the resulting sound and alphabetizes as ng with automatic computer alphabetizing.

¹ nompron = nominative pronoun short form only

² genpron = genitive pronoun short form only

³ usáb, sab, sad, upód, pod

⁴ kahâ, kayhà, kayâ

⁵ see note on *usáb*

⁶ ugód, gud

⁷ ra, da

⁸ lamang, lang

⁹ gani, ngani, ugaling, galing, gali

¹⁰ usà, usâ, sâ, unâ

First Letter of Root = x "ngx" becomes: Example

p	m	pang- + putul = pamutul
b	m	nang- + buhat = namuhat
t	n	hing- + tan-aw = hinanaw
d	n	hing- + dawat = hinawat
s	n	nang- + singkamot = naningamot
k	ng	mang- + kaon = mangaon
ng	ng	pang- + ngalan = pangalan
l	ngl	pang- + lutu = panglutu
l	nl	or pang- + lutu = panlutu

- The practice of changing the order of the Roman alphabet from book to book stops here. This book uses a 26-letter alphabet that starts with A and goes to Z. Since the sound “ŋ” is spelled “ng”, we alphabetize according to letters used, not sounds represented. Ng is a single sound but we alphabetize it as n followed by g. K is in its normal position.
- Since O and U in Cebuano represent the same sound but are spelled according to the whims of the individual—a practice which is never going to change—the current study preserves this practice. You’ll have to learn to look for o and u twice if you don’t find it where you want it the first time. This is standard, so get used to it. The prevailing practice is usually preferred here but each individual including me has his quirks. The same goes for I and E which are also interchangeable, though E is much less commonly used.
- The sound/contraction ’y is spelled ’y in words but is spelled ing in expository writing in this study since ’y is hard to say—spelling it ’y and not recognizing where it comes from would be like talking about a “word” *n’t* in English and not mentioning that it comes from “not”.
- The use of phonetic spellings of foreign borrowings is done on a case-by-case basis. For example, despite the common use of “dy” or “diy” to represent the “j” sound, the word Jeep/Jeepney is not done that way here; it is a company name so “dyip” is not appropriate. Spanish names are spelled like the Spanish name, English names like the English name.
- The glottal stop had no alphabetical symbol in the alphabet used in the Philippines before the arrival of the Spaniards and we do not add a letter to represent it. We do denote its occurrence with marks over vowels. Default stress in our marking system is the next to last syllable (penultimate syllable), which is unmarked (bula) except in personal pronouns where all stress is overtly marked (níla) to help the student learn how the words should be said. If the final syllable instead is stressed, an acute accent is placed over the final vowel (lagí). If there is a glottal stop following the last vowel it is instead marked with an inverted v sign (dalí). If the penult is stressed and the word is followed by a glottal stop, a backwards accent is placed over the final vowel (batà). Glottal stops mid-word (tan-aw) are marked by a hyphen. If you don’t know how to pronounce a glottal stop, it is a catch in the throat that we make all the time, such as the hyphen in “uh-oh”. Most three-syllable words have equal stress on the final and first syllable of the word. Prefixes ending in g are spelled g- (pag-abót) to avoid mispronunciations like *pa-gabot.

7. An asterisk preceding a phrase (*bad talking) indicates it is bad grammar or otherwise wrong in some way.
8. In case you use Wolff's dictionary—and you should—study the remarks on spelling in the front and note his stress marking which is different than ours. He aligns his marking with the default stress of Cebuano words: penultimate syllables that are “closed” (end in a consonant) get stress. Otherwise, final stress is default, that is, when the penultimate syllable is “open” (ends in a vowel). He also uses no e or o in his dictionary, and while he dispenses with the former practice of alphabetizing k behind b, he does consider “ng” a “letter” that follows “n”.
9. Cebuano has sounds that are all easy to say and all are very close to English sounds. If you are going to be in the Philippines you can learn by doing, but here are some quick pointers:
 - a. The sounds p, t, and k are made without the explosive puff of air that we use in English, so they sound to us a lot like b, d, and g, and also like each other.
 - b. The sound l is clean and light, made with your tongue straight, unlike the “dark” l of English.
 - c. The sounds u and o are considered the same so are pronounced variably according to the word, the speaker, the region, and the mood the speaker is in. The same is true of e and i, which represent a single sound that might be pronounced e as in bet, i as in ski, i as in bin, or occasionally ay as in day.
 - d. The vowels are pronounced separately when they occur next to each other. AI is pronounced as two syllables but AY is pronounced as the I in rise. In the native alphabet, there was no W and we see evidence of this still when W, O, and U trade sounds. IW is pronounced “you”. The word “kuhà” can be pronounced “kwa”.
 - e. A consonant followed by Y or IY is going to change to another sound. DY becomes “j”. SY becomes “sh”. The pronoun SIYÁ is pronounced either “see-ya” or “shah”.
 - f. Cebuano has no native F, TH, Z, or V sound. Most Filipinos pronounce F like “p”, Z like “s”, V like “b”, “theme” like “team” and “this” like “dis”.
 - g. The R is trilled like the Spanish r, more or less depending on the usual things: the individual, the dialect, the region, and the mood of the speaker.
 - h. Many words with an L in the middle of the word can be spelled and pronounced with a W instead. at the discretion of the individual: dulà can be spelled duwà, ulán can be spelled uwán. Also be on the lookout for D and R changing places with each other. Sometimes Y gets involved with this sound exchange. Sometimes L.
 - i. Lots of words start with ng-. It's not hard to say, you just think it is. Also this sound is not the duplex sound of English “linger” but the single sound of “singer”. For example, “mango” is “mangga”; mangá is a different word.
 - j. The word mgá is just an abbreviation for mangá, a word used to indicate plurality of nouns. This was an innovation of the Spaniards who introduced the Roman alphabet and it's too late to change it. Prior to that, in the native alphabet it was spelled out properly.
 - k. Ug is “and”; all the other meanings of the word that sound the same should be spelled “og”.
 - l. Contractions are not usually indicated by an apostrophe in practice but (like glottal stops) they are always denoted in this study to assist the student. For example the two words may and ma'y, which sound the same, can easily be told apart. Siyay in practice will be siyá'y in this study. *Morag* is *m'o ra'g*. The exception is -ng which is not indicated by an apostrophe anywhere except irregularly in Cabonco's dictionary (which you should also own.)
 - m. English “ch” and “ts” are reversed: “pizza” is usually pronounced “peacha” and “church” usually pronounced “tsirts”.

- n. Please do not try to correct the English or accent of Filipinos who believe that English is better than their language, and do not participate in the practice of calling their languages “dialects”. Filipinos have been speaking English for almost 60 years as of this writing, and they have their own version of it. And try to keep your own Cebuano pure, using the native words as much as you can, even though the celebrities and news people on TV and radio love to throw an English phrase into each paragraph. Do not participate in the belittling of the native tongues, of which there are over 100 that are not dialects since they are mutually unintelligible.
- o. I like to spell no and to as nu and tu; it looks better and sounds the same.
- p. If you want a standardized spelling routine to follow, there is one in the front of Cabonce’s dictionary. He also uses the same accent and glottal stop denotation as we do, except that he sometimes denotes a mid-word glottal stop with an apostrophe.

KEYBOARD SHORTCUTS FOR SPECIAL CHARACTERS

I used to keep a table like this one on my computer’s desktop for a cumbersome cutting and pasting routine, but I found it easier to devise a set of key combinations which I created in AutoCorrect (MS Word). Also turn off the automatic capitalization of first letters and delete the correction of a single i to the English word I.

á	é	í	ó	ú
à	è	ì	ò	ù
â	ê	î	ô	û

Á	É	Í	Ó	Ú
À	È	Ì	Ò	Ù
Â	Ê	Î	Ô	Û
Ø	ø	Ŋ	ŋ	INSERT SYMBOL

Here is the kind of key combinations I prefer since they are very easy to type (I don't like searching for ALT, CTRL, etc.). You'll have to add AutoCorrections for such English abbreviations as a.k.a., i.e., etc. if you use my combinations.

á	.a.
à	.aa.
â	.aaa.

ASPECTS AND MODALITIES

Aspects of Verb Meaning

These tables were devised to list universal concepts, many of which apply to Cebuano.

Volition, Duration, Potential. Perfective, Imperfective. Inceptive, Inchoative, Completive. Tenses out of Character.

Morphological Aspect	Morphological Aspect Description
1--Perfective	affix presents event as a single, unanalyzable whole, ignoring the stages comprising it: "He worked today."

Morphological Aspect	Morphological Aspect Description
2--Progressive Imperfective	affix focuses on the process of the event as being in progress: "He is working."
3--Habitual Imperfective	affix refers to events constituting custom, habit, routine, or tendency: "It rains in the evening."
4--Durative Imperfective	affix focuses on the process of the event as being a complex series of acts: "He carried out the murder."
5--Iterative Imperfective	affix refers to events that keep repeating: "He kept going to work."
6--Conative Imperfective	affix refers to action attempted but not completed (with any verb denoting effort): "Well it's helping a little."
7--Inceptive	affix refers to the beginning of a situation: "He was about to start working."
8--Inchoative	affix refers to change of state/entering a state: "He got tired."
9--Completive	affix describes an event that has been completed: "He finished working."
A--Narrative	Past tense assumed in the telling of a story: "The fairy godmother gave him the magic bean."
B--Aphoristic	"Gnomic": stated to indicate that is always true: "Teenagers think they know everything."
C--Historical	Present tense used to enliven narration of past events: "The Romans now put a spear in his side."
D--Quotational	Present tense used to cite something said in the past: "Ovid says..."
E--Present for Future	Present tense used to describe future situation (eg, prediction): "You live to a ripe old age but your wife lives even longer."
F--Perfect of Completion	Describes result state: "Has he arrived?" "He has arrived at (a state or place)."
G--Experiential Perfect	Indicates event has happened at least once before: "Have you (ever)...?" "I have experienced that."
H--Perfect of Persistent Situation	Action began in past now continues: "Have you been waiting long?" "I have been doing that."
I--Perfect of Recent Past	Past event is relevant now because it is so recent: "The Pope has (just) died." "He has???" "Something has (just) happened."
J--Freaky Future	Future tense used to express past meaning

Modality	Modality Description
A--POSSIBILITY/POTENTIAL	per speaker: might be
B--CERTAINTY	per speaker: surely must be
C--SUPPOSITION	per speaker: assumed/supposed to be
D--DUBITATIVE	per speaker: doubt it to be
E--EVIDENTIALITY (hearsay)	per speaker: I heard it's true
F--EVIDENTIALITY (direct)	per speaker: I saw it so it's true

Modality	Modality Description
observation)	
G--CONTRADICTION	per speaker: it's not true
H--WISHFUL	per speaker: hope it's true
I--ABILITY	re agent: able to do; manage to do/will do if there's a chance to
J--UNCERTAINTY/POSSIBILITY	re: agent: might do
K--PERMISSION	re agent: may do/allowed to do
L--OBLIGATION	re agent: must do/have to do (statement, not command)
M--DESIRE	re agent: want to do
N--INTENTION	re agent: intend to do
O--PROPRIETY/MORALITY	re: agent: should do/ought to do
P--CAUSATIVE	re: agent: causes or allows someone to do something
Q--CAUSERLESS	re: agent: happens to do (unintentional, casual, non-volitional, accidental)