El poder creativo de la lengua Mapudungun y la formación de neologismos

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SUMMARY

The development of the Mapuche language, in particular, its lexical renewal, has its basis and foundation in the grammar of the same because the latter contains the rules of use of the suffix system and the morphological and syntactic procedures that characterize it. Mapudungun is an agglutinative and polysynthetic language and has an abundance of suffixes that can modify words and mark clauses. There are suffixes that change the word class and others that maintain it (such as adverbalizers, nominalizers and verbalizers), others that distinguish the elements of the verb (constant, impeditive, reportative, approximative, habitual, and other features), modal morphemes that operate as auxiliary verbs, flexional suffixes that participate in the formation of subordinate clauses and others that mark time, subject and objects.

On the other hand, Mapudungun today reflects lexical renovation and an increase in the language's functions: this process is reinforced through the study of the language's morphology and syntax. Instances of neology can be understood through theoretical and applied linguistics (Adelstein and Badarracco, 2004). Knowledge of the linguistic system allows us to linguistically explain how lexical renovation occurs and, as a result, how the linguistic planning of new words should be guided.

This is a descriptive study that fits within the current of linguistic typology (Payne 1997; Aikhenvald and Dixon 2006) and whose main objective is to analyze changes of word class, types of complex clauses and strategies of complementation in Mapudungun. "Mapudungun" means "the language of the land", a word composed of *mapu* 'tierra' and *dungun* 'speech or language', and this language figures among those that are at risk of extinction (UNESCO 2010).

The five chapters of this study describe and deepen our knowledge of word class change and the formation and construction of complex sentences through different complementation processes. Through these mechanisms, the inclination of Mapudungun to renew its lexicon and to create new registers and discourses can be observed.

In synthesis, this study is a contribution to our knowledge of Mapudungun; it allows us to understand how words are formed and how they are used to form complex sentences. It also includes discoveries that are relevant for understanding Mapudungun grammar, as well as some unpublished observations regarding the form and significance of little studied constructions in Mapudungun. In contrast to researchers who announced the imminent death of Mapudungun for lack of speakers (Guevara 1913; Lenz 1895-1897; Salas 1992; Gundermann *et al* 2007 and others), this study demonstrates, from a linguistic perspective, that it is a language of resistance, which is being revitalized; the world of music, poetry and

bilingual education have increased the number of people interested in studying Mapudungun and have led to positive social representations and an increased public use of the language.

The study is divided into an Introduction, five chapters and one Appendix. The Introduction explains the reasons and objectives of the study and contextualizes the sociolinguistic situation of Mapudungun and efforts of government programs and mapuche communities to reverse the disappearance of the language. The Introduction also contains the methodological and theoretical frame for the project, which highlights and describes the nature of this agglutinative and polysynthetic language, as well as the properties of words and an introduction to the morphology and syntax of Mapudungun.

Chapter I. **Mapudungun morphosyntactic description** shows the different word classes, either closed or open, and suffixes that allow the change or maintenance of a word class, specifying the open classes as verbs, nouns, adjectives and adverbs. It also explores the properties of language features such as polysynthetic, noun incorporation and the role of derivational suffixes in modifying verb stems and word classes.

Chapter II. **Verbal, nominal and adjectival compounds in mapudungun** describes the process of composition in different paradigmatic environments and special cases of compounds are presented. It is argued that the meaning of the compound is based on two basic rules, depending on the relationship between the elements involved: there are cases when the first element determines the second, and others where the second is a compliment of the first. The meaning of the compound depends on the relationship of the nucleus with the compliment. However, this composition is a flexible process; the same element may be at the right or the left of the main nucleus, radically changing its meaning.

Chapter III. **Derivation and word-class change. Mapudungunfe, mapudungumekey mapudungutun** analyzes the main types of derivation, particularly those that change the word class. Throughout this chapter readers will see that the possibilities of derivation depend on the abundance of derivational suffixes and on their multifunctional character. The behavior of 33 suffixes that are involved in word class change will be analyzed.

Chapter IV. **Complement Clauses and Complementation Strategies** presents different strategies in which two clauses can be linked together to form a complex sentence. It is argued that the lack of a subordinating particle or a relative pronoun does not affect the presence of clauses and complementation strategies. The chapter describes different coordinate clauses,

relative clauses and absolute clauses as well as complement clauses and complementation strategies, including serial verb constructions.

Chapter V. **Lexical renewal in Mapudungun**includes a discussion on lexical renewal and the creation of neologisms in the Mapuche language, that is, the most productive methods of creating words, including composition, derivation and nominalization in different areas such as educational, literary and legal language. Various written records in Mapudungun will be analyzed; some were spontaneously created and others written after the military occupation of the 1880s, when the Mapuche people for the first time used scripture to make their testimonies known. The others correspond to contemporary records of books, programs and translations. At the end, onomatopoeia is considered as an ancestral resource used in creating words along with reduplication.

The research also includes an appendix, which contains a corpus of Mapudungun language samples with four types of speech, its glosa and the translations into Spanish.