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## A grammar of Cheke Holo

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### Citation

Boswell, F. A. (2018, November 21). *A grammar of Cheke Holo*. LOT dissertation series. LOT, Utrecht. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/67082>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)

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**Title:** A grammar of Cheke Holo

**Issue Date:** 2018-11-21

## Propositions

1. Language use among Cheke Holo speakers of Santa Isabel island, Solomon Islands, is vigorous in every domain of life and shows no signs of lessening. (this dissertation, chapter 1)
2. In CH grammar, nominalization of verbs occurs in four different phonemic environments. (this dissertation, chapter 2)
3. While in Oceanic languages a gender distinction is very rare, CH distinguishes masculine (*mana*) and feminine (*na'a*) in third person singular pronouns. *Mana* is used when a man is speaking and refers to a man. *Na'a* is used when a female is speaking, and when a male refers to a female. When a female refers to either a male or a female, she uses *na'a* in both instances. (this dissertation, chapter 3)
4. Oceanic languages typically have a limited number of adjectives, though CH demonstrates just the opposite, a very large set of adjectives. (this dissertation, chapter 5)
5. CH is best described as a past/non-past language, rather than future/non-future. (this dissertation, chapter 8)
6. In Solomon Islands, the number of languages dying is not as high as some linguists project or report.
7. Standardized spelling of loan words presents challenges for producing literacy materials in minority languages.
8. Once children have acquired literacy skills in their own language, they can make the transfer to literacy skills in a national language more easily.
9. Orthography development is a complex, multi-faceted process, often intertwined with governmental, educational, historical, literary, religious, and societal norms and expectations. While each of these can exert pressure on the establishment of an orthography, historical precedent in the language is often the prime factor with which to contend.
10. A healthy supply of Rittersport dark chocolate with hazelnuts works wonders when figuring how to proceed with dissertation writing.