man struck the child with it; mîx. sī'dēda bEgwā'nEmaxa g'înā'nEmsa tlē'sEm the man struck the child with the stone.

The terminals da, xa, and sa might be interpreted as nominative, accusative, instrumentalis of an article, if it were not for their intimate connection with the preceding verb. The pronominal object and the instrumentalis at the end of the subject in our first example also show that we have here really an incorporation of the noun in the verbal expression. The terminal a, which characterizes the subject followed by an object (like the terminal a in bEgwa'nEma of our example), must be explained as the retained a of the compound pronominal ending aq (as in mîx.81'daq), and seems to me one of the strongest proofs of our interpretation. The connection between subject of the first person and object elucidates the same point: mîx. [7] dEnLaq I strike him, where -La- is inserted between the subject first person -En and the pronominal object -q; and mix.81'dEnLaxa g:ina'nEm I strike the child, which form is strictly analogous to the form with pronominal object. The nouns which form subject, object, indirect object or instrumentalis in the sentence always enter the verbal expression in their full form. They do not lose their wordforming suffixes, as they often do in composition with various other classes of suffixes.

The construction of the sentence is therefore analogous to that found in other American languages, most of which incorporate object and indirect object, although the degree and character of incorporation vary. Mexican and Kootenay embody the object freed of its word-forming affixes, and often replace it by the pronominal object. Chinook, Sioux, and many other languages incorporate only the pronominal representative in the verb, and place the noun as apposition at the end of the sentence. Kwakiutl pursues the same method as Chinook, but, instead of placing the nouns as appositions, it places them immediately following the representative pronoun, thus creating a word-complex held together by pronominal particles.