SUBTRACTION

Subtraction. For subtraction, this frame may be used: number-'í number bich'ââ hnjíō'îi'-gu da'kúí'? "When one number is taken away from another number, how many are there?" "Number" here means any numeral in Mescalero Apache. -í (or) -'í "the, the one that" is a topic, definite, or relative enclitic. This enclitic can change a verb into a noun. Bich'ââ "away from him/her/it" is a postposition. Bich'ââ is formed by combining bi- "him/her/it/them" (3rd person pronoun object prefix) and -ch'ââ (or) -ch'â- "from, away from" (postposition stem). Hnjíō'ìì' is a verb that means, "one took it" (referring to a small or indefinite object). It is also possible to use other verbs for subtraction such as hnjíō'â "one took it" (referring to a solid or round object), hnjíōlá "one took it" (referring to two objects of any kind or a rope-like object), and hnjíōjaash "one took it" (referring to more than two objects). All of these verbs are in the "perfective mode," meaning that the action they describe is complete. The second number has been taken away from the first number. -gu is a subordinate enclitic that means "while, when, toward, instead." When the enclitic -gu is added to the perfective verbs listed above, the English translation would be "when one has taken it away." In the complete sentences listed in the following table, the translations would be "When one has taken the second number way from the first number, how many are there?" Da'kúí' or da'kúi is a particle that means, "How many?" Here, da'kúí' functions as a verb meaning, "How many are there?"

| Subtraction | | |
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| Number-'í number bich'ââ hnjíō'ìì'-gu da'kúí'? | | |
| Subtraction Problems | Answers | Pronunciations, Analyses, and |
| | | Notes |
| Tsaa'bìì'-í dîî' bich'ââ njíō'ìì'- | dîî' | [tsaa'.bìì.'í dîî' bi.ch'ââ |
| gu, da'kúí'? | [dîî'] | n.jíõ.'ìì'.gu da'.kúí'] |
| "When four is taken away from | "four | |
| eight, how many are there?" | | tsaa'bìì' [tsaa'.bìì'] "eight" |
| | | (particle) |
| | | -í (or) -'í "the, the one that" |
| | | (definite, topic, or relative |

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| Number-'í number bich'ââ hnjíō'ìì'-gu da'kúí'? | | |
| Subtraction Problems | Answers | Pronunciations, Analyses, and |
| | | Notes |
| | | enclitic) (This enclitic can |
| | | change a verb into a noun.) |
| | | dîî' "four" (particle) |
| | | bich'ââ [bi.ch'ââ] "from |
| | | him/her/it, away from |
| | | him/her/it" (postposition) |
| | | bi- "him/her/it/them" (3 rd person |
| | | pronoun object prefix) |
| | | -ch'ââ (or) -ch'â- "from, away |
| | | from" (postposition stem) |
| | | njíõ'ìì' [n.jíõ.'ìì'] "one took it" |
| | | (referring to a small or indefinite |
| | | object) (3a person, ni-perfective |
| | | mode, transitive verb) |
| | | -gu "while, when, toward, |
| | | instead" (subordinate enclitic) |
| | | da'kúí' [da'.kúí'] (or) da'kúi |
| | | [da'.kúi] "how many" (particle) |
| Dishdíní-'í 'aashdlai' bich'ââ | táá'díní 'aashdlai' | [dish.dí.ní.'í 'aa'sh.dlai' |
| hnjíő'ìì'-gu, da'kúí'? | [táá'.dí.ní 'aa'sh.dlai'] | bi.ch'ââ hn.jíõ.'ìì'.gu da'.kúí'] |
| "When five is taken away from | "thirty-five" | Note: The long vowel [aa] is |
| forty, how many are there?" | | "creaky" during the last half of |
| | | its pronunciation. We mark such |
| | | "creakiness" by inserting a |
| | | glottal stop ['] after the vowel |
| | | and prior to [sh]. |

| Subtraction | | |
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| Number-'í number bich'ââ hnjíō'ìì'-gu da'kúí'? | | |
| Subtraction Problems | Answers | Pronunciations, Analyses, and |
| | | Notes |
| | | |
| | | dishdíní [dish.dí.ní] "forty" |
| | | (particle) |
| | | -í (or) -'í "the, the one that" |
| | | (definite, topic, or relative |
| | | enclitic) (This enclitic can |
| | | change a verb into a noun.) |
| | | 'aashdlai ['aa'sh.dlai] "five" |
| | | (particle) |
| | | táá'díní [táá'.dí.ní] "thirty" |
| | | (particle" |
| | | bich'ââ "from him/her/it, away |
| | | from him/her/it" (postposition) |
| | | bi- "him/her/it/them" (3 rd person |
| | | pronoun object prefix) |
| | | -ch'ââ (or) -ch'â- "from, away |
| | | from" (postposition stem) |
| | | hnjíő'ìì' [hn.jíő.'ìì'] "one took |
| | | it" (referring to a small or |
| | | indefinite object) (3a person, ni- |
| | | perfective mode, transitive verb) |
| | | -gu "while, when, toward, |
| | | instead" (subordinate enclitic) |
| | | da'kúí' [da'.kúí'] (or) da'kúi |
| | | [da'.kúi] "how many" (particle) |

| Subtraction | | |
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| Number-'í number bich'ââ hnjíō'ìì'-gu da'kúí'? | | |
| Subtraction Problems | Answers | Pronunciations, Analyses, and |
| | | Notes |
| Naa'kidntuu'-í táá'díní āee' | dáiédntuu' guustaa'díní | [naa'.kid.n.tuu.'í táá'.dí.ní āee' |
| bich'ââ hnjíõ'ìì'-gu, da'kúí'? | nguust'éí | bi.ch'ââ hn.jíõ.'ìì'.gu da'.kúí'] |
| "When thirty-one is taken away | [dá.āéd.n.tuu' guu's.taa'.dí.ní | |
| from two hundred, how many | n.guu's.t'éí] | naa'kidntuu' [naa'.kid.n.tuu] |
| are there?" | "one hundred sixty-nine" | "two hundred" (particle) |
| | | -í (or) -'í "the, the one that" |
| | | (definite, topic, or relative |
| | | enclitic) (This enclitic can |
| | | change a verb into a noun.) |
| | | táá'díní "thirty" |
| | | āee' "one" (particle) |
| | | dáāédntuu' [dá.āéd.n.tuu'] "one |
| | | hundred" (particle) |
| | | guustaa'díní [guu's.taa'.dí.ní] |
| | | "sixty" (particle) |
| | | nguust'éí [hn.guu's.t'éí] (or) |
| | | hnguust'éí [n.guu's.t'éí] "nine" |
| | | (particle) |
| | | bich'ââ "from him/her/it, away |
| | | from him/her/it" (postposition) |
| | | bi- "him/her/it/them" (3 rd person |
| | | pronoun object prefix) |
| | | -ch'ââ (or) -ch'â- "from, away |
| | | from" (postposition stem) |
| | | hnjíő'ìì' [hn.jíő.'ìì'] "one took |
| | | it" (referring to a small or |

| Subtraction | | |
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| Number-'í number bich'ââ hnjíō'ìì'-gu da'kúí'? | | |
| Subtraction Problems | Answers | Pronunciations, Analyses, and |
| | | Notes |
| | | indefinite object) (3a person, ni- |
| | | perfective mode, transitive verb) |
| | | -gu "while, when, toward, |
| | | instead" (subordinate enclitic) |
| | | da'kúí' [da'.kúí'] (or) da'kúi |
| | | [da'.kúi] "how many" (particle) |
| Dáãédntuu' ãee'-í | tsaa'bìì'díní táí' | [dá.āéd.n.tuu' āee.'í |
| tsaa'bìì'dzáada bich'ââ | [tsaa'.bìì'.dí.ní táí'] | tsaa'.bìì'.dzáa.da bi.ch'ââ |
| hnjíő'ìì'-gu, da'kúí'? | "eighty-three" | hn.jíõ.'ìì'.gu da'.kúí'] |
| "When eighteen is taken away | | Note: The long vowel [áa] has |
| from one hundred one, how | | falling tone. |
| many are there?" | | |
| | | dáāédntuu' [dá.āéd.n.tuu'] "one |
| | | hundred" (particle) |
| | | -í (or) -'í "the, the one that" |
| | | (definite, topic, or relative |
| | | enclitic) (This enclitic can |
| | | change a verb into a noun.) |
| | | āee' (or) āe' "one" (particle) |
| | | tsaa'bìì'dzáada |
| | | [tsaa'.bìì'.dzáa.da] "eighteen" |
| | | (particle) |
| | | tsaa'bìì'díní "eighty" (particle) |
| | | táí' "three" (particle) |
| | | bich'ââ "from him/her/it, away |
| | | from him/her/it" (postposition) |
| | | |

| Subtraction | | |
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| Numbe | er-'í number bich'ââ hnjíō'ìì'-gu c | da'kúí'? |
| Subtraction Problems | Answers | Pronunciations, Analyses, and |
| | | Notes |
| | | bi- "him/her/it/them" (3 rd person |
| | | pronoun object prefix) |
| | | -ch'ââ (or) -ch'â- "from, away |
| | | from" (postposition stem) |
| | | hnjíő'ìì' [hn.jíő.'ìì'] "one took |
| | | it" (referring to a small or |
| | | indefinite object) (3a person, ni- |
| | | perfective mode, transitive verb) |
| | | -gu "while, when, toward, |
| | | instead" (subordinate enclitic) |
| | | da'kúí' [da'.kúí'] (or) da'kúi |
| | | [da'.kúi] "how many" (particle) |
| Dáãédntuu' 'aashdlai'dzáada-'í | dáiedntuu' guustání | [dá.āéd.n.tuu' |
| nguust'éí bich'ââ hnjíõ'ìì'-gu, | [dá.āéd.n.tuu' guu's.tá.ní] | 'aa'sh.dlai'.dzáa.da.'í |
| da'kúí'? | "one hundred six" | n.guu's.t'éí bi.ch'ââ |
| "When nine is taken away from | | hn.jíõ.'ìì'.gu da'.kúí'] |
| one hundred fifteen, how many | | Note: The long vowel [aa] is |
| are there?" | | "creaky" during the last half of |
| | | its pronunciation. We mark such |
| | | "creakiness" by inserting a |
| | | glottal stop ['] after the vowel |
| | | and prior to [sh]. |
| | | Note: The long vowel [áa] has |
| | | falling tone. |
| | | Note: The long vowel [uu] is |
| | | "creaky" during the last half of |

| Subtraction | | | |
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| Number | Number-'í number bich'ââ hnjíõ'ìì'-gu da'kúí'? | | |
| Subtraction Problems | Answers | Pronunciations, Analyses, and | |
| | | Notes | |
| | | its pronunciation. We mark such | |
| | | "creakiness" by inserting a | |
| | | glottal stop ['] after the vowel | |
| | | and prior to [sh]. | |
| | | Note: The long vowel [áa] has | |
| | | falling tone. | |
| | | | |
| | | dáāédntuu' [dá.āéd.n.tuu'] "one | |
| | | hundred" (particle) | |
| | | 'aashdlai'dzáada | |
| | | ['aash.dlai'.dzáa.da] "fifteen" | |
| | | (particle) | |
| | | nguust'éí [n.guu's.t'éí] (or) | |
| | | hnguust'éí [hn.guu's.t'éí] | |
| | | "nine" (particle) | |
| | | guustání [guu's.tá.ní] "six" | |
| | | (particle) | |
| | | bich'ââ "from him/her/it, away | |
| | | from him/her/it" (postposition) | |
| | | bi- "him/her/it/them" (3 rd person | |
| | | pronoun object prefix) | |
| | | -ch'ââ (or) -ch'â- "from, away | |
| | | from" (postposition stem) | |
| | | hnjíő'ìì' [hn.jíő.'ìì'] "one took | |
| | | it" (referring to a small or | |

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| Number-'í number bich'ââ hnjíō'ìì'-gu da'kúí'? | | |
| Subtraction Problems | Answers | Pronunciations, Analyses, and |
| | | Notes |
| | | indefinite object) (3a person, ni- |
| | | perfective mode, transitive verb) |
| | | -gu "while, when, toward, |
| | | instead" (subordinate enclitic) |
| | | da'kúí' [da'.kúí'] (or) da'kúi |
| | | [da'.kúi] "how many" (particle) |