

dear Debbie,

Here are some verbs of carrying in Hiw (Torres Is), the northernmost language of Vanuatu. Forms are in IPA.

Bracketed nouns (with a '+' following the verb refer to the typical object.

/təβɔŋ/	(generic) 'carry, transport' [Sg/Du agent]
/βenŋɔŋ/	(generic) 'carry, transport' [Pl agent]
/ʔlak/	'hold, carry in hand'
/sayə/	'carry in arms'
/aŋʷɔŋtəʔlɔŋ/	'carry under armpit'
/pəŋə/	'carry [baby ⁺] on o.'s side, using long cloth'
/wʔlɛ/	'carry on shoulder'
/səkʷe/	'carry [child ⁺] sitting on o.'s shoulders'
/pep/	'carry on back [child ⁺]
/kʷɔt/	'carry on back [one burden] using headstrap'
/kʷɔt ʔlenʔlen/	'carry on back [several burdens at once] using headstraps'
/wəŋɔŋ/	'carry on top of head [firewood ⁺]
/pne/	'carry using strap hanging from shoulder [handbag ⁺]
/wʔlo/	'carry around o.'s neck [necklace ⁺]
/tatəkʷe/	'carry on shoulder using a stick' (generic)
/sopep/	'carry on shoulder using a stick, with burden on back'
/ʔləβɔŋj/	'carry on shoulder using a stick, with burden on both ends'
/wotatə/	'[2 people] carry on shoulders using stick, with burden between the carriers'

None of these words is cognate with *sungi*. (and I don't think I have a cognate of that form in other Banks–Torres languages)

There doesn't seem to be any gender specialisation, even though some actions are typically associated with one gender: e.g. /pəŋə/ is more often done by women, /wotatə/ more often by men.

best,
Alex

From: an-lang-bounces@anu.edu.au [mailto:an-lang-bounces@anu.edu.au] **On Behalf Of** Deborah.Hill
Sent: Tuesday, September 02, 2014 1:21 AM
To: an-lang@anu.edu.au

Subject: [An-lang] verbs of carrying

I'm working on verbs of carrying in Longgu (Oceanic) and I wondered if anyone had any data on 'carry' verbs in other Austronesian languages (and especially Western Austronesian languages).

The two things that I'm most interested in are:

1. Is there a verb for 'carry on the head' (and if so, what is it)?
2. Are there modes of carrying that are (semantically) gender-based? (i.e. women carry things in one way, men in another).

The verb for 'carry something on the head' in Longgu is SUNGI.

Thanks for your help!

Debbie

Dr Deborah Hill
Assistant Professor,
Faculty of Arts and Design.
Teaching and Learning Fellow,
Teaching and Learning Centre.
University of Canberra
ACT 2601
Tel (02) 6201-2626
Fax (02) 6201-2649
Website: www.canberra.edu.au/faculties/arts-design/tesol--foreign-language-teaching