

The Tone System of San Juan Quiahije Chatino
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In this presentation, I will describe the tone system of San Juan Quiahije Chatino (Quiahije) [ISO 693-3 CTP]. Quiahije Chatino has reduced nearly all historic simple stems to monosyllables. It has a large tone system and a complex system of tonal alternations. Further, this language has ten tone phonemes and is analyzed as having fourteen tone sequences (Cruz, Manuscript). The ten phonemes include four level tones, four rising tones, and two falling tones. The fourteen tone sequences include one tone with zero sequence, which is a toneless tone; seven one-tone sequences (low mid /LM/, low high /LH/, mid high /MH/, high super-high /HS/, low /L/, high /H/, and mid low /ML/), and six two-tone sequences (low super-high /L-(S)/, high with a super-high floating tone /H+(S)/, high low with a super-high floating tone /HL+(S)/, mid with a high floating tone /M+(H)/, low with a mid-high tone /L+(MH)/, and mid low with a mid-high floating tone /ML+(MH)/). The /+(S) / floating tone, which is blocked in specific contexts from moving rightward, realizes itself on its base stem. Finally, the language presents cases where some tones prevent the linkage of the floating tone.