2. YAEELMANI YOKUTS. (Based on oral report of Stanley Newman)

In structure Yokuts is for the most part synthetic; in technique it is agglutinative and highly symbolic. The most important morphological processes are suffixation and vocalic ablaut and the two always occur together. Less important morphological processes are reduplication and proclisis. The most far-reaching phonologic process is vocalic harmonization, but there is also a limited amount of consonantic change (mostly glottalization), of consonantic and vocalic elision, of consonantic and vocalic insertion, and of vowel shortening.

The word-classes are verbs, nouns (including as a subtype pronouns), and particles. The first two are characterized by inflection, but the latter occur always in a fixed form. The verb is the most complex of these, both morphologically and phonologically. Two types of roots are distinguished: (1) bases (fundamental unanalyzable roots), and (2) themes (composed of a stem plus a thematizing suffix). Bases are either biliteral or triliteral and always contain two vowels belonging to the same vowel harmonization series. Moreover, every base may undergo a number of ablaut changes, the ablaut grade in any given instance being defined by the suffix which follows. Two major types of suffixes are distinguished: (1) thematizing and (2) final, or word-forming, suffixes. The former may be added to a base, the coalition resulting in a theme, and to this theme in turn one or more additional thematizing suffixes may be added, each extension of this sort resulting in a new theme. A theme is converted into a word only on the addition of a final suffix, of which only one may occur in any given word.

All nouns are themes which becomes words on the addition of case-suffixes, these being the word-forming suffixes of nouns. The cases are subjective, possessive, objective, indirect objective, ablative, and locative. Relationship terms and a very few other nouns may have plurals. The independent personal pronouns and demonstratives are like nouns in that they are themes requiring
case-suffixes. They differ from nouns in distinguishing singular, dual, and plural forms. In addition the independent personal pronouns distinguish exclusive and inclusive forms in the first person dual and plural. No pronominal elements occur within the verb complex, relations between nouns and verbs being defined by the appropriate noun cases.