

# PROCESSES AND ROLES IN DENÍ CLAUSE STRUCTURE

By  
Gordon Koop

Preliminary Version – 1977  
Online Version - 2008

Associação Internacional de Lingüística  
SIL Brasil  
Anápolis - GO

## ABSTRACT

There are three types of processes expressed by the verb and the roles of a clause in Dení: action processes, mental processes, and relational processes. Action processes fall into the two main categories of non-motion and motion. Mental processes include the locutionary process, the cognition process, the perception process and the desiderative process. Relational processes include attributive relations, identification relations, ambient relations, possession relations, and presentation relations. Each type of process has nuclear (inherent) and peripheral (non-obligatory) roles.

## INDEX

0. Introduction	4
1. Action Process	4
1.1. Non-Motion	4
1.1.1. Nuclear roles	4
1.1.1.1. Agent only	4
1.1.1.2. Agent and patient	5
1.1.1.3. Patient only	6
1.1.1.4. Agent and result	6
1.1.1.5. Agent and range	7
1.2. Motion	8
1.2.1. Nuclear roles	8
1.2.1.1. Agent only	8
1.2.1.2. Agent and patient	8
1.2.1.3. Patient only	9
1.2.1.4. Agent and goal	9
1.2.1.5. Agent and range	10
1.3. Peripheral roles for action processes	11
1.3.1. Temporal	11
1.3.2. Range	12
1.3.3. Instrumental	13
1.3.4. Subordinate	14
1.3.5. Included	16
2. Mental process	17
2.1. Locutionary process	17
2.1.1. Speaker and proposition and addressee	18
2.1.2. Speaker and addressee only	20
2.1.3. Speaker only	21
2.2. Cognition process	21
2.2.1. Experiencer and phenomenon	21
2.2.2. Experiencer only	22

2.3. Perception process	22
2.3.1. Experiencer and phenomenon	22
2.3.2. Experiencer only	23
2.4. Desiderative process	23
3. Relational process	24
3.1. Attributive	24
3.2. Identification	26
3.3. Ambient	27
3.4. Possession	28
3.5. Presentation	28
4. Causative	29
Footnotes	30
References	32

## 0. Introduction.

In any given language the experiential content of a clause expresses factual information by the use of three semantic entities: processes (expressed by verbs), participants (expressed by nouns, pronouns, or noun phrases), and circumstantials (expressed by nouns, noun phrases, adjectives, and adverbs).

This paper describes Dení<sup>1</sup> clauses in terms of the type of process expressed by the verb and the roles, i.e., participants and circumstantials, as defined by the relation of a participant to a process. The three processes discussed, with their corresponding roles, are Action, Mental, and Relational.

## 1. Action Process.

Action processes express an activity; they describe what someone does or what happens. They are divided into two action types: non-motion and motion. These are signalled only by the semantics of the verb, but the division is justified for Dení by the fact that certain affixes operate only on motion verbs.

### 1.1. Non-motion.

The non-motion action verbs include action verbs not describing spatial motion. The roles upon which they operate are divided into two categories: nuclear and peripheral.

#### 1.1.1. Nuclear roles.

The nuclear roles are obligatory to the verb process. With non-motion verbs the following sets of nuclear roles can occur: agent only, agent and patient, patient only, agent and result, and agent and range. There are certain verbs whose nuclear roles change depending on the context. These include kushi 'to flail', 'to cut with flailing motion', 'to whip'; and zedi 'to hunt'. Thus, when someone is whipped, that person is the patient, but when a field is cut with flailing motion, that field is the result of the action. Similarly, when an animal is hunted, the animal is the patient of the action, but when an area is hunted, the area has the peripheral role of range.

##### 1.1.1.1. Agent only.

An agent is the initiator or doer of the action. The agent role is characterized by volition. The following examples are non-motion action with obligatory agent role marked by bound subject affixes (3rd person is a zero affix), and sometimes in addition by a free pronoun or noun phrase.

- 1)     agt  
      mede #-aharikemeza-ru  
      (they 3p-feast-nonfut=fem)  
      'They feasted.'
  
- 2)                     agt  
      naku haha-'i-na-ru  
      (then laugh-1pp-vb=cls-nonfut=fem)  
      'Then we laughed.'

- 3) agt  
u-vi-tha-ru  
 (1ps-sit-down-nonfut=fem)  
 'I sat down.'

Dení has no coordinate conjunction. A group of agents which are manifested as nouns or noun phrases, are simply indicated as a group by juxtaposition. Occasionally kanani/kanavi follows the last item of a list to indicate 'that one as well', but this seems to be optional. These remarks apply as well to patient and other roles.

- 4) agt agt  
u-kha da'u u-kha tu mede #-vada-ru  
 (1ps-poss son 1ps-poss daughter they 3p-sleep-nonfut=fem)  
 'My son and my daughter are sleeping.'

### 1.1.1.2. Agent and Patient.

The patient suffers the result of an action. It is a passive role. The patient is optionally manifested by a noun phrase. Patient may be deleted from the surface form. The following examples have agent and patient as obligatory roles.

- 5) pat agt  
mapupi vishi-'u-na-kusha-ri  
 (m.vine cut-1ps-vb=cls-middle=of-nonfut=masc)  
 'I cut off the mapupi vine.'
- 6) pat agt  
shina hishi-'u-na-ru  
 (snuff sniff-1ps-vb=cls-nonfut=fem)  
 'I sniffed snuff.'
- 7) pat agt  
pu-kha api ukuru-#-na-ri  
 (3p-poss flute play-3p-vb=cls-nonfut=masc)  
 'He played his flute.'
- 8) pat agt  
 ahi u-kha vekama ba-'u-ni-'a  
 (over=there 1ps-poss v.leaves pick-1ps-vb=cls-vb=marg)  
 'I was picking my vekama leaves over there.'
- 9) pat agt  
u-kha huhuka a-ki-di-aru  
 (1ps-poss knife 1ps-noun=cls-lift-nonfut=fem)  
 'I picked up my knife.'

10)                    agt                    pat                    agt  
u-karipene Hataruni aba mavavi #-khazama-ru  
 (1ps-y.sister Hataruni m.fish                    3p-cook-nonfut=fem)  
 'My younger sister Hataruni cooked the mavavi fish.'

11)                    agt  
 paza i-ka-daphi-ari  
 (there 1pp-noun=class-eat-nonfut=masc)  
 'There we ate (fruit).'

12)                    pat                    agt  
 metha eheve-deni kushi-'i-na-ru  
 (yesterday child-people whip-1pp-class=marker-nonfut=fem)  
 'Yesterday we whipped the children.' (to make them strong)

The following example is a rather special case of the patient role. The patient acts somewhat as an instrument, and in the surface structure, always takes the instrument suffix -za. However, it is not merely used to do the action, but undergoes it as well, and is therefore included here as in the nuclear patient role.

13)                    pat                    agt  
kahapa-za u-kena-ri                    hupha-tu-na-mita-ri  
 (bottle-inst 1ps-throw-nonfut=masc run-away-vb=cls-iter-nonfut=masc)  
 'I threw a bottle at it; it ran away.'

### 1.1.1.3. Patient only.

In the following examples the subject in the surface structure is in the patient role. These verbs cannot have agent roles.

14)                    pat  
ukhabi muna-ri  
 (my father die-nonfut=masc)  
 'My father died.'

15)                    pat  
puni-kha eheve khi-na-ru                    hibanamutha  
 (she-poss child born-vb=cls-nonfut=fem today)  
 'Her child was born today.'

### 1.1.1.4. Agent and result.

The result role expresses the product of an action. The result role is manifested as a noun phrase, but may be deleted. The following examples illustrate agent and result as nuclear roles.

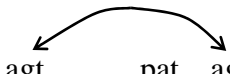
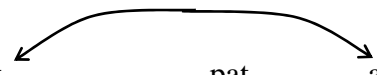
- 16)            res            agt  
 peza shaputu u-kuva-ru  
 (there basket 1ps-weave-nonfut=fem)  
 'There I wove a basket.'
- 17)            res                            agt  
u-kha    vatiza    kushi-'u-na-ru  
 (1ps-poss field    cut-1ps-class=marker-nonfut=fem)  
 'I cut (with machete) my field.'
- 18)                            agt  
 haphu-#-na-mita-ru  
 (light-3p-class=marker-iter-nonfut=fem)  
 'She lit it (the fire) again.'
- 19)            res            agt  
pu-kha    uza    #-ka-navatu-ari  
 (3p-poss house 3p-noun=cls-make-nonfut-masc)  
 'He built his house.'

#### 1.1.1.5. Agent and Range.

The range role could also be called referent role for non-motion verbs. It limits the action process to a certain field. (Grimes 1975, p. 125). For Dení, it is indicated by the oblique pronoun tupuni, which always indicates a human range in the third person. In place of tupuni can occur a noun phrase. In first and second person, range is indicated by a non-oblique pronoun.

- 20)            range                            agt  
tupuni    eheme-'i-ka-na-ru  
 (from=him hide-1pp-incl-vb=cls-nonfut=fem)  
 'We hid from him.'
- 21)            range            agt  
 peza tia e-kava-ru  
 (there you 1pp=directed-wait=for-nonfut=fem)  
 'There we waited for you.'
- 22)            range                            agt  
tupuni    kumi-kumi-'a-ka-ni-hi  
 (them    full-full-1ps=directed-incl-vb=cls-sequence=fem)  
 'I give them all full (stomachs).'



- 28)  agt. pat. agt.  
 Nani-za abuni Tata uva ka-hupha-masha-  
 (that=point-loc brother=in=law Tata me 3p=directed-run-forceful-  
 mita-ri-'a  
 iter-nonfut=masc-vb=marg)  
 'At that point my brother-in-law Tata carried me, running back fast.'
- 29) pat. agt.  
 anubeza hibuhibu-'u-ni-mura-ha  
 (wild=pig carry=on=back-carry=on=back-1p-vb=cls-uphill-sequence=masc)  
 'I carried the wild pig up the hill on my back.'
- 30) pat. agt.  
 ukha katara'a te-kha-mita-ba  
 (my hen 2p=directed-motion-iter-permis)  
 'You may bring me my hen!'
- 31) agt.  
 ava vapi a-khi-zipha-mita-ri  
 (tree surface 1p=directed-motion-by=water-iter-nonfut=masc)  
 'I brought (it) back downhill along the log toward the stream.'
- 32)  agt pat agt  
 amunehe pukha katara'a ka-kha-huna-ru  
 (woman his hen 3p=directed-motion-toward-nonfut=fem)  
 'The woman brought his hen.'

### 1.2.1.3. Patient only.

In the following example the subject in the surface structure is in the patient role, and an agent is obligatorily absent.

- 33) pat  
 hava zapani #-shuna-ru  
 (palm=berry bunch 3p-fall-nonfut=fem)  
 'The bunch of palm berries fell.'

### 1.2.1.4. Agent and goal.

The goal role indicates the location of the object at the end of the motion (Grimes, 1975, p. 120). The goal may be manifested by a noun phrase, and/or by a manner affix on the verb





### 1.3.2. Range.

The range role describes the location of a non-motion action, and the path or area traversed of a motion action (Grimes, 1975. p. 121). For non-motion action, the -za time and space location marker is usually affixed to the location word or phrase, but it can be omitted. It is never affixed to certain deictic locationals, like ahi/aha 'over there out of sight.'

- 45)            range            range  
uza-za    karuma    vapi-za    u-vi-tha-riza-ni  
(house-loc    k.log        surface-loc    1ps-sit-down-up=on-compl=fem)  
'I sat down on the karuma log by the house.'
- 46)            range  
amushini-za    ka-ki-di-tivaha        eteruni  
(plaza-loc        3p-noun=cls-lift-request    hide)  
'They will with your permission, take the hide off in the plaza.'
- 47)            range  
aha                shuna-ni  
(over=there    fell-compl=fem)  
'It fell over there.'
- 48)            range  
vahimasha    kathuma-ri  
(far=away        look-nonfut=masc)  
'He's looking (at something) far away.'
- 49)            range  
saku haba    ipu-ni-za    haka-'u-na-vaha-mita-ri  
(sack    basket    lip-fem-loc    insert-1ps-vb=cls-around-iter-nonfut=masc)  
'I turned (the top of) the sack down over the lip of the basket.'

For motion actions, the range role (the path or area traversed) may be explicitly stated, but more often than not, it is merely implied. The one or more manner affixes on the verb plus the context make the location known to the knowledgeable speaker of Dení. The range and manner affixes are underlined in the following examples:

- 50)            manr  
tu-kha-bakusha-nava  
(away-motion-alongside-vb=marg)  
'He ran alongside (the stream).'  
(This could also be: alongside the bank, alongside the trail, alongside the log, but the context shows it was alongside the stream).

- 51) range                    manr  
adami i-khi-muri-nava  
 (bank 1pp-motion-up=incline-vb=marg)  
 'We walked up the bank.'
- 52) range                                    manr    manr  
ava vapi bishana hupha-zipha-huna-ri  
 (tree surface cat            run-by=water-toward=speaker-nonfut=masc)  
 'The cat ran downhill along the log toward me.'
- 53) range                    manr  
kuriza i-kha-ri-vaha-mita-ru  
 (lake 1pp-motion-vb=marg-around-iter-nonfut=fem)  
 'We came back around the lake.'
- 54)                    manr  
 u-khi-meri-nava  
 (1ps-motion-downstream-vb=marg)  
 'I walked downstream.'
- 55)                                    manr    manr  
 mede kuna-hi-zipha-kusha-ri  
 (they swim-vb=marg-by=water-in=middle-nonfut=masc)  
 'They swam across (the stream).'
- 56)                                    manr  
 uhari-'a    a-kha-rita-mita-ru  
 (one-vb=marg 1ps-directed-motion-down=an=object-iter-vb=marg)  
 'I brought one down (the tree).'
- 57)                                    manr  
 vashuri    tu-khi-maha-ru  
 (vashuri bird away-motion-up=suspended-vb=marg)  
 'The vashuri bird flew up (toward the sky).'

### 1.3.3. Instrumental.

The instrumental role describes the instrument used to perform non-motion action, or the means of transport for motion action. It could therefore also be termed a vehicle role for motion verbs (Grimes, 1975, p. 122). In Dení, both the instrument and the means of travel are manifested as a noun or noun phrase to which is suffixed -za 'instrument'.

- 58) inst  
akure-za varibuni muthi-na-ru  
 (needle-inst ear pierce-vb=cls-nonfut=fem)  
 'She pierced her ear with a needle.'
- 59) inst  
 shashara shiba-za ka-ki-di-ari  
 (machete stone-inst 3p-noun-class-sharpen-nonfut=masc)  
 'He's sharpening the machete on the stone.'
- 60) inst  
ava-za tapa daka-'i-na-ru  
 (wood-inst corn pound-1pp-vb=cls-nonfut=fem)  
 'We pounded the corn with the pestle.'
- 61) inst  
 niza manaku avizau-za e-khi-tha-mita-ru  
 (later next airplane-inst 1pp-motion-downstream-iter-nonfut=fem)  
 'Then, next, we went back downstream on the plane.'
- 62) inst  
kanua-za uri-#-tha-puni  
 (canoe-inst paddle-3p-downstream-vb=marg)  
 'He paddled downstream in the canoe.'
- 63) inst  
 pua pukha uza motorcicleta-za hupha-tu-ka-na-mita-ri  
 (he his house motorcycle-inst run-3p-incl-vb=cls-iter-nonfut=masc)  
 'He ran back to his house on the motorcycle.'
- 64) inst  
 hina kahu-za!  
 (let's=go car-inst)  
 'Let's go by car!'

#### 1.3.4. Subordinate.

The subordinate participant is indicated by a bound person affix prefixed to vizehe, and always refers to an animate being. This participant may or may not be involved in the same type of action as the agent, but he is always present at the action, and somehow involved in the action that the agent initiates. The subordinate participant is never indicated by a noun phrase in addition to vizehe, but only by the bound person affix on vizehe. The subordinate participant is not included in the bound subject pronoun of the verb.

- 65) subord  
 apu #-vizehe bu'u-na-ri  
 (grub he-subord dig-1ps-vb=cls-nonfut=masc)  
 'He being along, I dug out grubs.'  
 (He participated, but I was the one who decided to do it, and took the lead.)
- 66) subord  
 #-vizehe uni'i kuru-'u-na-miti-hi  
 (he-subord another=one weave-1ps-vb=cls-iter-fem)  
 'He being along, I wove another one (basket).'  
 (He watched and waited for its completion.)
- 67) subord  
 makina luz-vehina i-vizehe kathuma-vaha-za  
 (machine light-purp 1pp-subord look-around-loc)  
 'We being along, he looked over the machine that gives light (generator).'  
 (We looked at it too, but he was the guide.)
- 68) subord  
i-vizehe pashu puvi-pa-ri-ha  
 (1pp-subord water drink-exist-nonfut=masc-masc)  
 'We being along, he drank water.'  
 (We all drank too, but it was in his house where he had taken us.)
- 69) subord  
 Nani-za i-vizehe ima vati-na-ri  
 (That=point-loc 1pp-subord talk tell-vb=cls-nonfut=masc)  
 'At that point, we being along, he told stories.'  
 (He did all of the talking, and it was about things unfamiliar to us.)
- 70) subord  
 zumezamani u-vizehe kati-ka-masha-ri-'a  
 (morning 1ps-subord start=off-3p-forcefully-nonfut=masc-vb=marg)  
 'In the morning, I being along, he took off (in boat).'
- 71) subord  
 pua tu-vizehe ta-khi-maha-mita-ri<sup>3</sup>  
 (he 3p-subord 3p+away-motion-up=suspended-iter-nonfut=masc)  
 'They being along, he went back up (into the air in spirit's vehicle).'
- 72) subord  
I-vizehe #-kha-mita-nava  
 (1pp-subord 3p-motion-iter-vb=marg)  
 'We being along, he went back.'



The following examples do not fit well with the previous examples, yet don't seem to fit anywhere else either. In the first example the possessive -kha precedes the -mani, and the included noun seems to be in the patient role. In the second example, the included nouns and pronoun are in the patient or instrument role, depending on the exact meaning of the verb. For English the surface object of 'fill up with' would be in the instrument role, while the surface object of 'eat' would be in the patient role. For Dení, this use of 'fillup' or 'fill in' is used exclusively to indicate that the agent ate till he was full. Filling up a container is a different verb altogether. In the third example, the included nouns are preceded and followed by a form of the verb 'do'.

Due to the unavailability of an informant, it was impossible to check these out further.

- 80)           incl  
ava-kha-mani   tei-'u-kha-ri-masha-ba  
 (tree-poss-with   shoot-1ps-motion-nonfut=masc-forceful-permis)  
 'Shoot it with the tree!'  
 Context: (The agent said this to himself when a wild pig he was aiming at stopped behind a tree.)

- 81)                           incl                           incl                           incl  
 nani-za           vama naphani-mani, neri-mani, de'i-mani  
 (that=point-loc alligator egg-with           neri=fish-with those-with  
 kumi-'i-za-vaha-puni  
 fill=up-1pp-in-around-fem)  
 'At that point with alligator eggs and neri fish, with those we filled up.'

- 82)                           incl                           incl  
 u-ni-'a           u-kha kaheru-mani   katarapa-mani   u-ni-'a  
 (1ps-do-vb=marg, 1ps-poss fish=hook-with fish=arrow-with   1ps-do-vb=marg  
 vahi-'a-thima-puni  
 walk=steadily-1ps=directed-upstream-fem)  
 'With my fish hook and my arrow, I walk steadily upstream (to get game).'

## 2. Mental process.

Mental processes describe a mental state or process experienced by a participant. Four categories of mental process are discussed: locutionary, cognition, perception and desiderative.

### 2.1. Locutionary process.

Locutionary process is expressed by verbs of saying, such as: inform, report, question, talk, say, lie. The sets of nuclear (inherent) roles are: speaker and proposition and addressee; speaker and addressee only; and speaker only. Peripheral roles of circumstantials such as temporal, locative and range (quality or extent of action) can also occur. These peripheral roles, discussed in 1.3., are not discussed again here.







### 2.1.3. Speaker only.

For other locutionary processes the only nuclear role is the speaker; these do not have a nuclear addressee role, and the proposition role is obligatorily absent.

- 100) spkr  
hie-hie-'u-ni-nava  
(shout-shout-1ps-vb=cls-vb=marg)  
'I shouted.'

Context: This is a special type of call used by a hunter in the forest to report a kill to the people in the village. They are expected to respond with a shout and a helping hand.

- 101) spkr  
ti-meza-ri  
(2ps-joke/lie-nonfut=masc)  
'You are joking/you are lying.'

## 2.2. Cognition process.

The sets of nuclear roles for the cognition process are: experiencer and phenomenon (the thing experienced), and experiencer only.

### 2.2.1. Experiencer and phenomenon.

The cognition processes like 'know', 'think', and 'forget' are expressed by the corresponding cognitive verb.

- 102) exp phen  
eneniza-pe i-navatu-ni tukhirari-'a uza  
(right=now-rel=subj 1pp-know-compl=fem every-vb=marg house)  
'As of this moment we know about every house.'

Context: Someone had pointed out each building, explaining who lived there, or what the building was used for. When the tour was done, this statement was made.

- 103) phen exp  
zama vati-'u-ka-ni-kha-ni  
(thing think-1ps-incl-vb=cls-motion-compl=fem)  
'I thought through the whole matter.'

Context: The speaker was relating how he had been asked by the people in the village to become their chief. Then he said the above, before going on to relate how he had decided to accept the position.

- 104) phen exp  
uvebenu u-vatidamutu-na-ru  
(my=tongue 1ps-forget-vb=cls-nonfut=fem)  
'I forgot my language.'

### 2.2.2. Experiencer only.

Several verbs in Dení can be glossed 'to think'. One of these, na, when preceded by a causative na- and by the possessed noun ati 'liver', means 'to think over/ to plan/to imagine'. It does not have a nuclear phenomenon role.

- 105)                    exp  
u-vati    u-na-na-ru-'a  
(1ps-liver 1ps-caus-think-nonfut=fem-vb=marg)  
'I was imagining.'

Context: He was lonely for his relatives, so he worried about their welfare, and planned how to get back to see them.

### 2.3 Perception process.

Mental processes of perception include those of seeing, hearing, smelling, etc. For Dení, there are at least two ways of expressing the process of see and hear. One is to state the phenomenon with the corresponding process verb, the other is to say, 'my eye...' or 'my ear...' without using a process verb in the clause. In all cases the experiencer is indicated by the bound pronoun on the verb or body part, and optionally by a free noun phrase as well. Nuclear roles are experiencer and phenomenon, and experiencer only.

#### 2.3.1. Experiencer and phenomenon.

Experiencer and phenomenon are nuclear roles in the following examples:

- 106) phen            exp  
tikhabi    u-nukhu  
(your=father 1ps-eye)  
'I saw your father'
- 107) phen            exp  
anubeza khi-'u-ni-nava  
(wild=pig see-1ps-verb=class-vb=marg)  
'I saw the wild pig.'
- 108)                    phen            exp  
pikhahada muvini u-varibu  
(shotgun    sound    1ps-ear)  
'I heard the shotgun go off.'
- 109)                    phen exp  
pua-deni ima # -mitha-ru  
(he-people talk 3p-hear-nonfut=fem)  
'The menfolk heard (his) talk.'









- 133) idfr idfd  
patarahu uva-pe  
 (chief me-rel=subj)  
 'I am the one who is chief.'

### 3.3. Ambient.

The Ambient relations are used to express weather conditions. One kind of ambient is expressed by a verb or adjective with a -de verb margin, and thus has attribute as its only nuclear role.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p>134) zama zizi-de<br/>       (thing dark-vb=marg)<br/>       'It is dark.'</p> | <p>135) tada-tu-na-de<br/>       (dry-state-vb=cls-vb=marg)<br/>       'It is dry.'</p> |
| <p>136) abika-de<br/>       (hot-vb=marg)<br/>       'It is hot.'</p>             | <p>137) mimi-de<br/>       (cold-vb=marg)<br/>       'It is cold.'</p>                  |

The second kind of ambient is expressed by a verb or adjective on which the verb margin indicates the degree to which the change of state has taken place. The verb margin -ru/-ri is glossed as nonfuture tense, feminine or masculine. There is no verb margin in Dení that differentiates between present and past tense. But there is a recent completive aspect feminine or masculine indicated by the verb margin -ni/-vi. And the future tense, which never includes gender, is indicated by -tuvi.

- 138) zizi-tu-na-ru  
 (dark-state-vb=cls-vb=marg-nonfut=fem)  
 'It is getting dark/It got dark.' Literally, 'It is darkening/It darkened.'
- 139) zizi-tu-na-ni  
 (dark-state-vb=cls-vb=marg-compl=fem)  
 'It just turned dark', Literally, 'It just darkened.'
- 140) zizi-tu-tuvi  
 (dark-state-fut)  
 'It will get dark.' Literally, 'It will darken.'

Other weather conditions, which might in other languages be ambient, are non-motion action in Dení, with a nuclear patient role.

- 141) pat.  
pashu #=kha-ru  
 (water 3p-motion-nonfut=fem)  
 'The rain is falling./The rain fell.'

### 3.4. Possession.

The fourth relational process is possession. The nuclear roles are possessor and possessed. Possession is represented by the verb complex phu-ha (full-be) followed by a verb margin. In the following examples the possessor is marked by the suffix -kha (possession).

142) possr      possd  
pu-kha vatiza phu-ha-ru  
(3ps-poss field full-be-nonfut=fem)  
'He owns a field.'

143) possr      possd  
u-kha da'u phu-ha-ha  
(1ps-poss son full-be-masc)  
'I have a son.'

144) possr      possd  
u-kha tu phu-ha-miti-hi  
(1ps-poss daughter full-be-iter-fem)  
'I have a daughter again' (the first one died)

In the following example, -kha is omitted because the possessed is a body part.

145) possr      possd  
u-panadi zahani phu-ha-ru  
(1ps-wife womb full-be-nonfut=fem)  
'My wife has a full womb.' (is pregnant)

### 3.5. Presentation.

Presentation is a special kind of relational process. The only nuclear role can be called the presented, and is indicated by the suffix -pe/-pa 'relational subject'. The noun which is presented is announced as new information.

146)                      presd  
ibutu-za uza-pa  
(bank-loc house-rel=subj)  
'There are houses on the bank.'

147)                      presd  
e'ehe uva-pe  
(look=here me-rel=subj)  
'Look, here I am!' or 'Look, it's me!'



## FOOTNOTES

1. Dení (Daní) is classified member of the Arua family of the Arawakan stock, according to Rodrigues (1967). Dení is spoken by small groups on the upper Cunhuá River (Tapauá on some maps), the Xiruá, the Mamória, and the Inauini. These rivers are located between the Purus and Juruá Rivers in the state of Amazonas, Brazil. Language data used in this study is from a group of about 80 speakers living on the upper Cunhuá River. The author, under the auspices of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, has been engaged in language research on Dení since April 1975, under agreement with the Fundação Nacional do Índio (FUNAI) of the Brazilian Ministry of the Interior. The author is grateful to Bob Dooley for his helpful suggestions and criticisms during the writing of this paper.

Paul and Dorothy Moran ms., 1966 and 1975, have described the phonological system of Dení as including voiceless stops /p ph (aspirated) t th k kh ?/ voiced implosive stops /b d/ voiceless affricates /ts tsh/ voiced affricate /dz/ fricatives /b h/ nasals /m n/ and flap /ř/, Vowels are /i e u a/. The orthography used in this paper has s and sh for /ts tsh/, b d z for /b d dz/, ' for /?/, and r to /ř/. The regularities of stress are of such a complicated nature that a short statement cannot be made to cover the data.

Lois Koop (1977. ms.) has charted gender agreement in Dení as follows:

verb margin used	no object (intransitive)	singular or plural feminine object	singular or plural masculine object	feminine and masculine plural object
3 person <u>feminine</u> singular or plural subject	fem	fem	fem	fem
3 person <u>feminine</u> and <u>masculine</u> plural subject	fem	fem	fem	fem
3 person <u>masculine</u> singular or plural subject	masc	masc	masc	masc
1 or 2 person subject	fem	fem	masc	fem

For a fuller description of gender and gender agreement in Dení see ms. 1977. Gender and Gender Agreement in Dení.

## ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS PAPER ARE:

<p>1ps first person singular subject</p> <p>1pp first person plural subject</p> <p>2ps second person singular subject</p> <p>2pp second person plural subject</p> <p>3p third person subject (number unspecified)</p> <p>addr addressee</p> <p>agt agent</p> <p>atnt attribuant</p> <p>atte attribute</p> <p>caus cause</p> <p>cls class</p> <p>compl complete</p> <p>determ determinitive</p> <p>exp experiencer</p> <p>fem feminine</p> <p>fut future</p> <p>idfd identified</p> <p>idfr identifier</p> <p>incl inclusive/included</p> <p>inst instrument</p> <p>inter interrogative</p>	<p>iter iterative</p> <p>loc locative</p> <p>marg margin</p> <p>manr manner</p> <p>masc masculine</p> <p>nonfut nonfuture</p> <p>o older</p> <p>pat patient</p> <p>permis permissive</p> <p>phen phenomenon</p> <p>poss possessive</p> <p>posed possessed</p> <p>possr possessor</p> <p>presd presented</p> <p>prop proposition</p> <p>purp purpose</p> <p>spkr speaker</p> <p>subord subordinate participant</p> <p>temp temporal</p> <p>vb verb</p> <p>y younger</p>
--	--

2. For a description of the directed person affixes see ms. 1976 Dení Person Affixes.

## REFERENCES

- Chafe, W.L., 1970. *Meaning and the Structure of Language*. Chicago. The University of Chicago Press.
- Grimes, Joseph E. 1975. *The Thread of Discourse*. Mouton. The Hague, Paris.
- Halliday, M.A.K. 1970. *Language Structure and Language Function*. In Lyons, John 1970. *New Horizons in Linguistics*. Penguin Books.
- Koehn, Sally Sharp 1974. ms. *Processes and Roles in Apalaí clause structure*.
- Koop, Gordon 1976. ms. *Dení Person Affixes*.
- Koop, Lois 1977. ms. *Gender and Gender Agreement in Dení*
- Longacre, R.E. 1976. *An Anatomy of Speech Notions*. The Peter DeRidder Press.
- Moran, Paul and Dorothy. 1966. ms. *Dení phonemic statement*.
- . 1975. ms. *Notes on verb structure and other aspects of Dení Grammar*.
- . 1975. ms. *Notes on Dení verb morphology*.
- Rodrigues, Aryon Dall'Igna. 1967. *Grupos Lingüísticos da Amazonia*. Atas do Simpósio sobre a Biotá Amazônica 2.29-39. Rio de Janeiro, Conselho Nacional de Pesquisas.