

# **Jamamadí Sentence Structure**

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1. Scope of paper

This paper will deal mainly with the surface structure of Jamamadí sentences in both monologue and dialogue discourse. It should be a fairly complete treatment of the surface structure, but will also deal, to a lesser degree, with the deep structure, or relationships of clauses with the sentences. This part will be incomplete.

### 1.2. Relationship of clauses to sentences

Reference will be made to the various types of clauses, which fill sentence slots, but the only types contrasted here are dependent versus independent.

#### 1.2.1. Independent clauses

An independent clause is considered, for the purposes of this paper, to be any clause that contains: a. any theme suffix; or, b. a filler of the explanation slot on clause level. The theme suffixes are: dialogue (-ni, -no 'comment', -ra, -a 'declarative', and -hi, -ho 'imperative'); monologue (-ke, -ka 'comment', -m, -mani 'conditional', and -ra, -a 'declarative'). The explanation slot is post-predicate and can be filled by nouns, noun phrases and dependent clauses. In most clauses the predicate is the final slot within the clause and the explanation slot is the only thing that optionally occurs after it.

#### Examples of independent clauses:

- a. With theme suffixes.  
Tati awa me ka-na-ni  
Tati garden (wood) pl. cut-stem=clos.-theme  
Tati and the others are cutting (wood) garden.
- b. With explanation slot.  
oda-ra waka-ne-mete yomahi  
us-obj. break-stem=clos.-time onça  
It would have eaten us, the onça.

#### 1.2.2. Dependent clauses

A dependent clause is any clause which does not have either a theme suffix or filler of the explanation slot. It is considered dependent since it is obligatorily followed by an independent clause either immediately or by other dependent clauses, which in turn will be followed by an independent clause. A dependent clause may never stand alone or be utterance final except when filling the explanation slot of an independent clause.

#### Examples of dependent clauses:

yima kote-ya yome atori oda ita  
knife short-inst. onça skin(N) we skin(V)  
We skinned the onca with a piece of knife.





### Examples:

me o-kiyoa me o-wa-ro-m me o-wi-awi-ra-ro-a  
them I-follow them I-see-time-theme them I-see-neg-time-theme  
I followed them but I never saw them.

"fai o-ka yima-ra" "ti-ka yima dara-o-na-m  
where I-poss. knife-obj. you-poss. knife carry-I-stem=clos.-theme  
ti-ka yima dara-o-ni-awi-ra"  
you-poss. knife carry-I-stem=clos.-negative-theme  
"Where's my knife?" "I am not carrying your knife."

### 2.2.3. Adversative

The adversative sentence consists of two propositions in which, in deep structure, there is a relationship of adversity between the two predicates. However, there are no overt markers to distinguish this sentence from other types, as was the case in sec. 2.2.1 and 2.2.2.

### Examples:

aba me oda ati sawi-ra hiaru me oda kiyoa-ro-a  
fish pl. we say follow-theme queixada pl. we follow-time-theme  
We said we were going fishing but we (went hunting) followed the queixada.

yara rifi-ra ati da-ne koye-ra hiri-na-mata-no  
Brazilian rifle-obj. say give-theme lie-obj. tell-stem=clos.-time-theme  
The Brazilian said he would give (me) a rifle but he lied.

### 2.2.4. Consequence

The consequence sentence is distinguished from other types chiefly by deep structure. However, there is a high percentage of cases in which the theme ending for the final clause is -in.

### Examples:

toiso ini-ra di Anderetao-ka-na-mari-ka  
tree limb-obj.the Andre shot-inst.-stem=clos.-time-theme

me ha-ne-mari-ka  
they laugh-stem=clos.-time-theme  
Andre shot a tree limb, therefore they laughed at (him).

yodi            tao-o-ka-na-mar-o-a            'taye'  
hindquarters shot-I-inst.-stem=clos.-time-theme 'sound of gun'

bade                    so-ne-mar-o-ka  
deer                    fall-stem=clos.-time-theme  
I shot him in the hindquarters 'taye' the deer fell.

### 2.2.5. Direct quote

Since both the quote and the quotative of a direct quote have theme endings, they are considered to be paratactic. The quote is usually only several clauses in length. In one instance of a longer quote the quotative was used twice, thus making the quote into two sentences. Examples:

yoi      tao-ti-ka-na-hi                    Bendito ati-ne-mari-m  
monkey shoot-you-inst.-stem=clos.-theme Bendito said-stem=clos.-time-theme  
Bendito said, "Go shoot a monkey."

## 2.3. Hypotactic sentences

Hypotactic sentences = + dependent clause<sup>n</sup> + independent clause

Hypotactic sentences are composed of one or more dependent clauses plus one independent clause. They are subdivided here on the basis of their deep structure relationships.

### 2.3.1. Purpose

The purpose clause is always marked by a morpheme within the verb. The purpose is marked at times on the independent clause but most often on the dependent clause.

#### Examples:

fa    ki-ne-bona                    to-ko-miri-a  
water look-stem=clos.-purpose away-go-downstream-theme  
He went downstream to look at water (for fish).

Baosi-ya to-ko-me-ne    bani me    tao-ne-bonaha  
Baosi-at    away-go-?-theme meat plural shoot-stem=clos.-purpose  
He went to Baosi to shoot meat (queixada).

didisa-ra diwa-ka-na                    fa    abe-ra  
bow-obj.    carry on shoulder-with-stem=clos. water being-obj.

disa-ne-bona-ne  
shoot-stem=clos.-purpose-theme  
He is carrying a bow on his shoulder in order to shoot fish.

It will be noted in these examples, (and I believe it to always be the case) that the actor in each of the two clauses is the same. When one actor does something for the purpose or benefit of another it becomes a different sentence type (see 2.3.2.).

### 2.3.2. Action result

In the action result sentence one actor does something to enable a second actor to do something else; or, one actor does something because of a preceding action by another actor.

#### Example:

makobote di Arniso me yori-hi-ka-na me  
 later the Arniso them poked-by him-inst.-stem=clos. them  
 waka-o-na imati fe-ye-nao owa-ra  
 broke-by me-stem=clos. electric=eel lie-in-? me-obj.

yiri-ka-ne-mari-ka  
 shock-inst.-stem=clos.-time-theme

Later they (the little fish) were poked by Arniso, they (little fish) were broken (killed) by me, the electric eel lying in (the log) shocked me.

There are no formal markers as far as I can see for the deep structure relationships. The formal markers here are very similar to the sequence sentence (section 2.3.3.).

### 2.3.3. Sequence

Sequence sentences tend to be long and quite loosely related. I have recorded sentences of at least 15 clauses. The only logical link between the various clauses is that the actions occurred one after the other. There are other possible relationships within the sequence as will be seen in the examples, and some of these relations may be overtly marked, but the connections are as yet not clearly understood.

#### Example:

<sup>a</sup>yome oda koro-nisa <sup>b</sup>yima kote-ya yome atori <sup>c</sup>yome atori  
 onça we throw-down knife short-with onça skin(N) onça skin(N)

oda ita <sup>d</sup>yome atori oda mamana <sup>e</sup>yome atori mamani oda  
 we skin(V) onça skin(V) we stretch onça skin(N) stretching we

hawa-to-ni-a yome atori oda na-wina <sup>f</sup>oda  
 finish-process-stem=clos.-temporal onça skin we cause-hang we

amo-ka-na yama soki-ya  
 sleep-two-stem=clos. thing dark-at

<sup>a</sup>We threw down the onça, <sup>b</sup>with a short knife we skinned the onça, <sup>c</sup>we skinned the onça, <sup>d</sup>we stretched the onça skin, <sup>e</sup>having finished the stretching of the onça skin we hung it up, <sup>f</sup>the two of us went to sleep at dark.

In comparing clauses b and c the only difference is the deletion of the instrument in clause c; and in comparing clause d and the clause filling the temporal slot in clause e one again notices the same verb being used in both but with the completed aspect in the second occurrence. One possible way of handling this is to call this either one dependent sentence (clauses a and b) and one independent sentence (clauses c to f), or possibly two dependents (clauses a and b) and (clauses c and d) and one independent sentence (clauses e and f). I believe either of the three ways of describing this could be used and have arbitrarily left this as sequence for the present.

makobote kona-ra me wina awida me oda ka-dima awida me-ra me  
later poison-obj. they dig fish pl. we inst.-dip fish pl.-obj they

disa-na awida me oda tabasi-na awida me-re me kaba me  
shot-stem=clos. fish pl. we roast-stem=clos. fish pl.-obj. they ate they

kaba-na-toa-ro-ke

ate-stem=clos.-process-time-theme

Later they dug fish poison, we dipped (the fish poison in the water) for fish, they shot the fish, we roasted the fish, they ate the fish, they ate the fish did.

#### 2.3.4. Indirect quote

The difference between a direct quote and an indirect quote is normally the lack of a theme ending on the quote in the indirect quote and the presence on the quotative. An indirect quote may be quite lengthy, but normally tends to be only one or two clauses.

##### Example:

Fa biri bato-ri-a aba me-ra ki-ne-bona ati-ne-ne  
name of creek mouth-at fish pl.-obj. look-stem=clos.-purpose said-stem=clos.-theme

He said that he was going to look for fish at the mouth of the fa biri.

#### 2.4. Particle sentences

Particle sentence = question or response consisting of one word.

The particle sentence is very limited in its distribution and is dependent on a definite context.

##### 2.4.1. In Dialogue

The particle sentence is much more common in dialogue than in monologue discourse. Its use is in a question or a response. In questions it is dependent on a non-verbal situation.

##### Examples:

ebe where

This is shouted by a parent to a child who has gone out into the jungle or down to the stream and the child is then expected to answer where he is and what he is doing.

fa-ra water-obj.

This is spoken by a man who has been out working and comes into the house. The addressee is then expected to produce water for the speaker to drink.



### Example:

awi wa-fe tao-o-ka-na-maró adami-a mani to-ka-wa-mosa-na  
 tapir stood-water shot-I-Inst.-stem=clos.-time hill -on arm away-go-stand-hill-stem=clos.  
 hibaleya o-na-maró-ke wa-we-fori-ma-o-na namidi be-na-wama  
 wait I-said-time-theme stand-look-along-upon-I-stem=clos. neck turn-stem-around  
 be-na-wama narabi hodi tao-o-ka-na-maró tayaaai  
 turn-stem=clos.-around ear hole shoot-I-Inst.-stem=clos.-time sound of gun  
 boka-maró-ke  
 submerge-time-theme

The tapir, standing in the water, I shot, he stood with his front feet on the bank, "Wait" I said,  
 I aimed, he turned his neck, I shot him in the ear.

The proposed solution is then + partial sentence + direct quote sentence + sequence sentence. A second solution was considered which I feel to be less acceptable, but would cover the data. This would be to set up a discontinuous sentence with a quote imbedded between the two parts.

### 3. Problems

#### 3.1. Deep structure relationships

As has been stated earlier in the paper the verb suffixes help to show the relationships between clauses within sentences. It is not yet clear the full meaning of some of these relationships. The principal theme suffixes are illustrated on the chart below.

Monologue			Dialogue		
Comment	-ke	-ka	Comment	-ni	-ne
Conditional	-m	-mani	Imperative	-hi	-ho
Declarative	-a	-ra	Declarative	-a	-ra

These can join in any sequence combinations within the boxes but seldom cross between boxes. There are also three dependent suffixes, which help show relationships (-bone 'purpose', -rane 'subjunctive' and -ba 'unrealized purpose'). Although some of the combinations have been analyzed it is not yet clear what some of the other combinations mean.

#### 3.2. Paraphrastic

This is a very recent discovery and therefore has not been fitted in to the normal order in section 2. One case of the paraphrastic is:

hiame me o-wa-maki-a ati-ne-me hiame me-ra  
 queixada pl. I-see-future-theme said-stem=clos.-theme queixada pl.-obj  
 to-a-me-bona-ha  
 away-see-again-purpose-dependent=marker  
 "I'm going to see queixada" he said he's going to look for queixada.

The first part is a direct quote and would fit in section (2.2.5.) while the second part is indirect quote and would fit in section (2.3.4.). I am not sure what to do with these since they say exactly the same thing. More analysis is needed here.