

# Subordinate Clauses in Macushi

Miriam Abbott  
(UFM International)

## 14 Subordinate Clauses

The most general distinction between main and subordinate verbs is the absence of tense. This causes the subordinate verb to depend on the tense marking of the main verb. Compare the subordinate clauses in (217a) and (218a) with the main clauses in (214b) and (218b).

(217) a. si'na ya'tî tîpo, attî-'pî  
bushrope cut after 3:go-PAST  
'After cutting the bushrope, he went.'

b. si'na ya'tî-'pî-i-ya  
bushrope cut-PAST-3-ERG  
'He cut the bushrope.'

(218) a. t-eerepamî pe e-ewomî-'pî t-ewî' ta  
3:REFLX-arrive DENOM 3-enter-PAST 3:REFLX-house in  
'Arriving, he entered his house.'

b. e-erepamî-'pî. e-ewomî-'pî t-ewî' ta.  
3-arrive-PAST 3-enter-PAST 3:REFLX-house in  
'He arrived. He entered his house.'

In these examples above, the absence of tense clearly indicates subordination. However, in some types of subordinate clauses, tense does occur (219, 220).

(219) aw-enna'po-'pî-kon epu'tî-'pî-i-ya  
2-return-PAST-COLL know-PAST-3-ERG  
'He knew you all returned.'

(220) mîrîrî era'ma-'pî-i-ya, tî-rui nî-kupî-'pî  
that see-PAST-3-ERG 3:REFLX-brother OBJ:NOMLZR-do-PAST  
'He saw that, what his brother had done.'

In these cases, though tense occurs, other factors are present which clearly indicate subordination. (See especially (v) below)

The various types of subordinate clause constructions that occur are:

(i) Where the verb has been nominalized by the addition of one of the affixes described in sect. 15.4 (220). These function as subject (221), or object (222) complements, or as predicate complements in equative clauses (223).

(221) moropai to' era'ma-nenan nîrî wanî-'pî tu'ke  
 and 3:PRO:PL see-SUBJ:NOMLZR also be-PAST many  
 'And the ones who guarded them also were many.'

(222) mîrîrî e-epîrema to' eta-'pî paapa'-ya  
 that 3-pray-INST:NOMLZR hear-PAST god-ERG  
 'God heard his prayer, (what he prayed).'

(223) mîîkîrî yarakkîrî asa-koi pepîn uurî  
 3:PRO with walk-SUBJ:NOMLZR NEG:NOMLZR 1:PRO  
 'I'm not the one that walks with him.'

(ii) Where the verb has been nominalized by a suffix (as in (i)), and is followed by a post position, the whole construction being a post positional phrase that functions in the clause as an indirect object (224) or an oblique constituent (225).

(224) mîîkîrî-ya tî-maimu tîrî-'pî  
 3:PRO-ERG 3:REFLX-word give-PAST  
 tî-n-aipontî-san pia  
 3 REFLX-NOMLZR-sent-NOMLZR to  
 'He gave his (own) word to the ones whom he had sent.'

(225) te-es-erinka-sannon yarakkîrî attî-'pî  
 ADVBLZR-DETRANSVZR-siny-NOMLZR with 3:go-PAST  
 'He went with the ones who sing.'

(iii) Where the verb does not have a nominalizing suffix but there is a subordinating particle in the clause final position. Most of the examples in sect. 14.2 are of this type.

(iv) Where there is neither a nominalizing affix or subordinating particle but where an adverbial derived form of the verb occurs (226).

(226) e-erepamî-'pî moro' tî-poka-i  
 3-arrive-PAST fish ADVBLZR-arrow-ADVBLZR  
 t-aatausinpa-i pu'kuru  
 ADVBLZR-happy-ADVBLZR very  
 'He arrived very happy, (having) arrowed fish.'

(v) Where the verb stem occurs without nominalizing affixes but is clearly functioning as a nominal, this being indicated by its potential for (a) being followed by the particle pe 'DENOM' whose function is to denominalize a nominal and thus form an adverbial (227), (b) co-occurring with the prefix tîî- '3:REFLX' when the third person subject is coreferential with the subject of the main clause (sect. 4) (228,229), and (c) occurring with the ergative suffix -ya, which causes the whole nominalized clause to function as subject of the superordinate (transitive) clause (230).

- (227) e-erepamî pe e'ma arakkita ewaronpamî-'pî  
 3-arrive DENOM path middle become:might-PAST  
 'As he arrived in the middle of the path, it became night.'
- (228) tîw-enna'po epu'tî-'pî-i-ya  
 3:REFLX-return know-PAST-3-ERG  
 'He knew (of) his returning.'
- (229) t-ekkari aretî'ka-sa'-tîu-ya yai aw-enna'po-'pî  
 3:REFLX-food finish-CMPL-3-REFLX-ERG at 3-return-PAST  
 'When he finished his food, he returned.'
- (230) kure'ne e-es-enupa-'pî-ya ayawî pe  
 much 3-DETRANSVZR-teach-PAST-ERG crazy DENOM  
 a-ku'-sa' mîrîrî  
 2-make-CMPL A.I.  
 'Your much learning made you crazy.'

#### 14.1 Relative Clauses.

There are no regular finite forms of relative clauses. There are three main types of construction by which the function of a relative clause can be expressed.

(1) Simple nominalization, as described in sect. 15.4. This results in an appositive relationship with another noun phrase, (sect. 2) usually with an intonational break. The nominalized construction can also occur alone without a head noun (cf. 231 and 232). The head noun can occur either before (226) or following (233) the relative clause, depending upon what is being emphasised or highlighted (sect. 9). The head noun and the nominalized modifier frequently occur in a discontinuous sequence, separated by the main verb, functioning either as direct object (234) or as subject (235) of the clause (see also sect. 2).

- (231) surara-yamî to' era'ma-nenan wî'tî-'pî Manaus pona  
 soldier-PL 3:PRO:PL see-SUBJ:NOMLZR go-PAST Manaus to  
 'The soldiers, the ones who guarded them went to Manaus.'
- (232) to' era'ma-nenan wî'tî-'pî Manaus pona  
 3-PRO:PL see-SUBJ:NOMLZR go-PAST Manaus to  
 'The ones who guarded them went to Manaus.'
- (233) u-n-era'ma-'pî pemonkon ekaremekî-u-ya sîrîrî a-pî'  
 I-OBJ:NOMLZR-see-PAS7 person tell-1-ERG S.I. 2-to  
 'I will tell you (about) the man, the one I saw.'
- (234) taitai wî-pî-u-ya maama, pemonkon yanî pî'  
 taitai kill-PAST-1-ERG maama person eat at

tîî-ko'man-se-n  
 ADVBLZR-live-ADVBLZR-NOMLZR  
 'I killed taitai, mother, the one who kept eating people.'

(235) warayo' wîî-pî, tîkîi-pan e'-katî-pî  
 man go-PAST cripple-NOMLZR DETRANSVR-crooked-PAST  
 'The man went, the one who is crippled, the one who is crooked.'

The possibilities with regard to the grammatical relations which can be relativized are restricted to the different types of nominalizations: subject nominalization (-koi, -nen, -tîpon, -ton) (236), object nominalization n- (237), instrument nominalization -to' (238) and event adverb nominalization t- -sen (239). (See sect. 15.4).

(236) mîîkîrî woro'ke es-eurîma-koi  
 3:PRO parrot DETRANSVR-talk-SUBJ:NOMLZR  
 'That parrot is one who speaks.'

(237) sararu ti-nyo n-arima-pî yanumî-pî-i-ya  
 meat 3:REFLX-husband NOMLZR-sent-PAST pick.up-PAST-3-ERG  
 'She picked up the meat that her husband had sent.'

(238) wa'ka yarî-pî-i-ya yei ya'tî-to'  
 axe carry-PAST-3-ERG wood cut-INST:NOMLZR  
 'He carried away the axe, the thing with which wood is cut.'

(239) mîrîrî t-ena'-se-n yapi'sî-pî-i-ya  
 that ADVBLZR-eat-ADVBLZR-NOMLZR receive-PAST-3-ERG  
 'She received that, the one that can be eaten (fruit).'

(2) A sequence of two clauses, the second being an equative clause which modifies a constituent of the first clause. There are two main clauses in (240). The first is an intransitive clause which happens to have as subject a nominalized postpositional phrase (sect. 15.4). The second is an equative clause, in which inkamoro is the subject and teeserinkasannonkon is the predicate nominal that is the primary modifier of the subject of the first clause. A further modifying noun phrase (or phrases) may occur in the equative clause, as indicated by the noun phrase in parenthesis. The predicate nominal in the equative clause is frequently a derived nominal as in (240), but it can also be a simple noun phrase, as in (241).

(240) Marakkan po-n-kon erepamî-pî,  
Maracanã from-NOML2R-COLL arrive-PAST  
 te-es-rinka-sannon-kon inkamoro  
 ADVBLZR-DETRANSVR-sing-NOMLZR-COLL those

(erepamî-'san)

(arrive-SUBJ:NOMLZR)

'The ones from Maracanã arrived. Those are ones who sing, the ones who arrived.'

(241) Marakkan po-n-kon erepamî-'pî. u-yonpa-yamî  
Maracanã from-NOMLZR-COLL arrive-PAST. 1-relative-PL  
inkamoro.

those

'The ones from Maracanã arrived. Those are my relatives.'

(3) Question words occurring as relative pronouns or indefinite pronouns (sect. 16): o'non pata in (242) and î' pensa in (243).

(242) paapa-ya mîîkîrî enepî-'pî sîrîrî pata pona, o'non  
God-ERG 3:PRO bring-PAST this place to which

pata uurî'-nîkon ko'mamî manni pata ya'  
place 1:PRO-COLL live that place in

'God brought them to this place, to this place where we live.'

(243) mîrîrî yai, î' pensa kono' iipî yai tî-mî-ri-kon  
that at what time rain come at 3:REFLX-field-POSSN-COLL

pîmî to'-ya

plant 3:PRO:PL-ERG

'At that time, at the time when the rain comes they will plant their fields.'

## 14.2 Adverbial clauses.

I distinguish below six distinct semantic types on the basis of the particular subordinating particles that occur with them. These particles always occur at the end of the subordinate clause. In the case of contrary-to-fact constructions, in addition to the subordinating particle, there is a special nominalized form in the main clause (14.2.2). In all types, the subordinate clause may occur before or after the main clause.

### 14.2.1 Time clauses.

There are six types of adverbial time clauses distinguished by their subordinating particles: tîpo 'after' (244, 245), rawîrî 'before' (246), tîpose 'until' (247), yai 'at the time of' (248, 249), ya 'if, when' (that is, it can have either a temporal (250) or conditional (251) meaning).

(244) si'na ya'tî tîpo attî-'pî  
bushrope cut after 3:go-PAST  
'After cutting the bushrope, he went.'

(245) tî-nre yenpo-sa-i'-ya tîpo ka'ne'-pe iponi  
3:REFLX-child birth-CMPL-3-ERG after fast-DENOM cord

ya'tî-∅-ya pepîn  
 cut-2-ERG NEG  
 'After she has given birth to her child, you are not to cut the cord quickly.'

(246) maas a t-utî rawîrî Jesus-ya tî maimu tîrî-'pî  
 yet ADVBLZR-go before Jesus-ERG 3:REFLX-word give-PAST  
 tî-n-aipontî-san pia  
 3:REFLX-OBJ:NOMLZRZR-send-NOMLZR to  
 'Before he had yet gone, Jesus gave his word to the ones he had sent.'

(247) iwarîka-ya violão ye'nunpa-'pî pata erenmapî tîpose  
 monkey-ERG guitar play-PAST place dawn until  
 'The monkey played the guitar until dawn.'

(248) amen uutî-sa' yai, ekaremekî-'pî to'-ya  
 recently 1:go-CMPL at tell-PAST 3:PRO:PL-ERG  
 'They told me recently, at the time I went.'

(249) mîrîrî eta-tîu-ya'-nîkon yai, inkamoro ekore'ma-'pî  
 that hear-3:REFLX-ERG-COLL at those angry-PAST  
 inî' panpî  
 again more  
 'Upon hearing it, they became even more angry.'

(250) miarî erepan-sa' ya, a-yera'ma-u-ya  
 there arrive-CMPL when 2-see-1-ERG  
 'When I've arrived there, I'll see you.'

(251) i-wî-sa-u'-ya pra a-wanî ya, miarî rî u-wî-i-ya  
 3-kill-CMPL-1-ERG NEG 3-be if there EMP 1-kill-3-ERG  
 'If I don't kill him, he will kill me there right there.'

#### 14.2.2 Contrary to fact constructions.

In contrary to fact constructions the subordinator ya is also used but in this case the main clause has a special nominalized form of the copula occurring as an auxiliary verb. (See 18.8). It is the nominalized desiderative form of the copula e'painon 'one wanting to be'.

(252) epu'-sa-u'-ya ya, a-yarakkîrî uutî-'pî e'-pai-non  
 know-CMPL-1-ERG if 2-with 1:go-PAST be-DESID-NOMLZR  
 'If I had known, I would have gone with you.'

### 14.2.3 Adversative - *tîîse* 'in spite of, even though'

(253) Davi era'ma-i-ya pra a-wanî-'pî moro a'ta ya Davi tîîse  
David see-3-ERG NEG 3-be-PAST there hole in David even:though  
'He didn't see David, even though David was there in the hole.'

(254) maasa pra Davi wî-sa-u'-ya pra tîîse amîrî wanî pepîn  
because David kill-CMPL-1-ERG NEG but 2:PRO be NEG  
*rei* *pe*  
king DENOM  
'Because, even though I don't kill David, you won't be king.'

(255) tî-pîika'tî-nen-kon erepamî pra tîîse tî-nauku-kon  
3:REFLX-help-NOMLZR-COLL arrive NEG but 3:REFLX-child-PL  
yenpo-nan  
birth-SUBJ.-NOMLZR  
'Even though their helper doesn't arrive, they give birth to their children.'

### 14.2.4 Manner clauses.

Two types of subordinate constructions are used to express manner clauses, where the verb functions as a nominal followed by the particle *pe* 'DENOM' and a derived adverbial, having the affixes *t-* *-i/* *-i'ma*. (See introduction to sect. 14 and also sect. 20).

(256) t-uutî-kon *pe* to' es-erinka-'pî  
3:REFLX-go-PL as 3:PRO DETRANSV-sing-PAST  
'They sang as they went.'

(257) Elias eporî-tîu-ya *pe* i-pî' ta-'pî-i-ya  
Elias find-3:REFLX-ERG as 3-to say-PAST-3-ERG  
'Finding Elias, he said to him.'

(258) e-erepamî-'pî moro' tî-poka-i  
3-arrive-PAST fish ADVBLZR-arrow-ADVBLZR  
t-aatausinpa-i pu'kuru  
ADVBLZR-happy-ADVBLZR very  
'He arrived very happy, (having) arrowed fish.'

(259) a-ye'ma-'pî-kon pî' te-era'tî-i pra atî-tî  
2-path-PAST-PL at ADVBLZR-turn-ADVBLZR NEG 2:go-IMP:PL  
'You all go, not turning back in your path.'

- (260) t-ewan yanu'-nîpî-'pî Jesus-ya ka' era'ma-i ma  
 3:REFLX-heart lift-TRNSTVZR-PAST Jesus-ERG heaven see-ADVBLZR  
 'Jesus lifted up his heart looking to heaven.'

#### 14.2.5 Purpose clauses.

There are two types of purpose clauses, motion and non-motion. The motion purpose clause occurs only as a complement of verbs of motion: for example, intransitive wî tî 'go', iipî 'come', epa'ka 'to go out', ena 'to fall', enna'po 'to return', erepamî 'to arrive' and yarima 'to send'. The verb stem in the subordinate motion purpose clause occurs with one of the suffixes -i or -se 'purpose of motion'. Verbs with weak final syllables, replace that syllable with -se. All others occur with -i. The subject of the derived motion purpose clause is never overtly expressed the subject being coreferential with the subject of the main verb.

- (261) uutî sîrîrî, taitai wî-i  
 I:go S.I. taitai kill-PURP  
 'I'm going to kill taimai.'
- (262) tiaron-kon wî tî-'pî moro' yapi'-se  
 other-COLL go-PAST fish catch-PURP  
 'Others went to catch fish.'
- (263) moropai su'minan-se to' epa'ka-pî tî-'pî poro pona  
 and play-PURP 3:PRO go:out-ITER-PAST outside to  
 'And they went outside to play.'

The non-motion purpose clause occurs as the complement of verbs other than those involving motion. The subordinate verb occurs with the suffixes -to'pe 'purpose, when the subject is 1st or 3rd person' and -pa 'purpose when the subject is 2nd person or the same person as the subject of the main verb'. The subject is always overtly expressed by the 1st or 3rd person markers occurring as a suffix on to'pe on transitive verbs and on intransitive verbs, as a prefix. When -pa occurs, the subject is not overtly expressed but is clear from the context if the 2nd person is indicated or the same person of the main verb.

- (264) to' enepî-'pî-i-ya warayo'-ya to' ese' tî tî to'pe  
 3:PRO:PL bring-PAST-3-ERG man-ERG 3:PRO:PL name give-PURP  
 'He brought them for the man to name them.'
- (265) toron yarima-'pî-i-ya tuna apa-sa' epu'tî-pa kai'ma  
 bird send-PAST-3-ERG water dry-CMPL know-PURP intention  
 'He sent the bird in order to know if the water was dried up.'
- (266) waku'ka-ya tî-nta yenkara'ma'pî  
 dove-ERG 3:REFLX-mouth open-PAST

te-es-erinka-pa  
 ADVBLZR-DETRANSVR-sing-PURP  
 'The dove opened his mouth to sing.'

- (267) tuna, amîrî era'ma-i yinî pî' wai apo' yinî'-se attî-pa  
 water, 2:PRO get-PURP come at 1:be fire quench-PURP 2:go-PURP  
 'Water, I came to get you to come quench the fire.'

#### 14.2.6 Cause clauses.

The verb in the subordinate cause clause functions as a nominal and is followed by the postposition wenai 'on account of, by means of'.

- (268) mîrîrî eta-tîu-ya'-nîkon wenai innape i-kupî-'pî  
 that hear-3:REFLX-ERG-COLL on:account:of true 3-make-PAST  
 to'-ya  
 3:PRO:PL-ERG  
 'On account of hearing that, they believed it.'

- (269) u-yepotorî, insemoro kî-taruma'tî-i imakui'pî to'  
 1-lord those NEG-punish-IMP badness 3:PRO:PL  
 nî-kupî wenai  
 OBJ:NOMLZR-do on:account:of  
 'My lord, don't punish them because (on account of) the badness they do.'

Reason-result clauses occur with subordinating the particles ye'nen 'because' or mîîto'pe 'because'. The particle may follow a fully nominalized form of the verb (272) or a verb that functions as a nominal (270, 271, 273). (See introduction to sect. 14, type (v)).

- (270) mîî pe nai, moro' poka-sa'-Ø-ya ye'nen  
 proud DENOM 2:be fish arrow-CMPL-2-ERG because  
 'You are proud because you arrowed fish.'
- (271) kaikusi emikku-'pî t-ewî' ta tîî-ma'ta-i  
 jaguar go:home-PAST 3:REFLX-house in ADVBLZR-shame-ADVBLZR  
 tî-yo' ton yapi-sa'-tîu-ya pra tî-wanî ye'nen  
 3:REFLX-food BEN catch-CMPL-3:REFLX-ERG NEG 3:REFLX-be because  
 'The jaguar returned home ashamed because he hadn't caught his meat food.'
- (272) uurî e'-ka'nama pepîn ta-'pî-i-ya. Iwarîka  
 1:PRO DETRANSVR-scratch not say-PAST-3-ERG monkey  
 e'-ka'nama-koi mîîto'pe.  
 DETRANSVR-scratch-SUBJ:NOMLZR because  
 'I'm not scratching", he said. Because monkeys are ones that scratch.'

- (273) anna wîtî sîrîrî presidente yewî' ta  
 1:EXCL go S.I. president house to  
 es-surîma-i ka' e'-soroka  
 DETRANSVZR-speak-PURP heaven DETRANSVR-scatter  
 pe man mîîto'pe  
 as 3:be because  
 'We are going to the president's house to talk (with him) because the sky is going to fall.'

### 14.3 Copula complement clauses.

There are two types of subordinate clauses that always occur as the complement of the copula: desire and negative.

#### 14.3.1 Desire clauses.

Statements of desire are expressed as the complement of the copula wanî or ena 'become', or ko'mamî 'remain'. There are two constructions, depending on whether the subject of the desire is coreferential with the subject of the action or state that is desired. If it is coreferential, the suffix -pai 'DESIDERATIVE' is added to the adverbialized form of the verb. The subject is expressed only in the copula which is syntactically the main verb.

- (274) i-sa'manta-pai wai  
 ADVBLZR-die-DESID 1:be  
 'I want to die.'
- (275) waikin ena-'pî tuna an-enî-pai  
 deer become-PAST water ADVBLZR-drink-DESID  
 'The deer became thirsty (wanting to drink water).'
- (276) to' yaka'ma-pai uu-ko'mamî sîrîrî see-pata yu' ya  
 3:PRO:PL lose-DESID 1-remain S.I. this-place bush in  
 'I still (remain) want to lose them here in this place, in the bush.'

If the subject of the desire is not coreferential with the subject of the action or state desired, the postposition yu'se follows the verb, which functions as a nominal (see introduction to sect. 14 type (v)). In this case the subject of the desire is expressed in the copula and the subject of the action/state desired is expressed in the subordinate clause.

- (277) maikan era'tî yu'se iwarîka wanî-'pî  
 fox turn DESID monkey be-PAST  
 'The monkey wanted the fox to turn.'
- (278) wîri' yepi'tî yu'se e-ena-'pî  
 woman cure DESID 3-become-PAST  
 'He became wanting to cure the woman.'

- (279) u-yewî' ta enna'po yu'se pra sa-ko'mamî-'pî  
 1-house in 1:return DESID NEG:3-remain-PAST  
 'He kept wanting me not to return to my house.'

### 14.3.2 Negation clauses.

Negation of a sentence occurs as a negative adverbial complement of the copula, (see sect. 12 for explanation and examples).

### 14.4 Indirect discourse.

Indirect statements (281, 282), questions (283, 284) or commands (285, 286), occur in subordinate constructions as object complement clauses. These take the form of an indirect quotation as the complement of transitive speech verbs such as: taa 'say', eta 'invite,tell' ekaremakî 'tell', esatî 'ask', ekaranmapo 'question' and epu'tî 'know, feel'. When they occur with the intransitive speech verb eseurîma', they must be followed by a postposition or an adverbial.

- (280) î' kai'ma i-kupî-'pî-i-ya pî' es-eurîma-'pî  
 how 3-do-PAST-3-ERG at DETRANSVZR-speak-PAST  
 'I spoke about how he did it.'

Indirect speech differs from direct speech in that direct speech can only function as object complement of the quotative taa 'say' verb. The system of pronominal reference is, of course, the other major distinguishing characteristic of indirect speech as opposed to direct speech. Compare the pronouns used in the embedded complements in the pairs of examples below, (a) showing indirect and (b) direct speech complements. (See sect. 1 for fuller explanation of direct speech). Indirect commands express a polite command. Compare the indirect commands (282, 283) (a), with the direct commands (b). (See sect. 11 for more explanation of the imperative system.)

- (281) a. es-enyaka'ma-pai tî-wanî ekaremakî-'pî-i-ya  
 DETRANSVZR-work-DESID 3:REFLX-be tell-PAST-3-ERG  
 more-yamî yarakkîrî  
 child-PL with  
 'She told (me) she wanted to work with children.'
- b. more-yamî yarakkîrî es-enyaka'ma-pai wai,  
 child-PL with DETRANSVZR-work-DESID 1:be  
 ta-'pî-i-ya u-pî'  
 say-PAST-3-ERG 1-to  
 '"I want to work with children," she said to me.'
- (282) a. paapa yapurî-tîu-ya'-nîkon ekaremekî-'pî to'-ya  
 god praise-3:REFLX-ERG-COLL tell-PAST 3:PRO:PL-ERG  
 'They told (me) they were praising God.'

- b. paapa yapurî anna-ya, ta-'pî to'-ya u-pî'  
 God praise 1:EXCL-ERG say-PAST 3:PRO:PL-ERG 1-to  
 "We are praising GOD," they said to me.'
- (283) a. o'non pata attî esatî-'pî-u-ya  
 which place 3:go ask-PAST-1-ERG  
 'I asked (her) where she was going.'
- b. esatî-'pî-u-ya. "O'non pata attî?" ta-'pî-u-ya i-pî  
 ask-PAST-1-ERG which place 2:go say-PAST-1-ERG 3-to  
 'I asked (her). "Where are you going?" I said to her.'
- (284) a. anî' pe a-wanî ekaranmapo-'pî-u-ya  
 who DENOM 3-be question-PAST-1:ERG  
 'I questioned (him) who he was.'
- b. ekaranmapo-'pî-u-ya. "Anî' pe a-wanî mîrîrî  
 question-PAST-1-ERG who DENOM 2-be A.I.  
 ta-'pî-u-ya  
 say-PAST-1-ERG  
 'I questioned (him). "Who are you?" I said.'
- (285) a. miarî tî-nîmî-to'pe anna-ya taa-sa-i'-ya wanî-'pî  
 there 3:REFLX-wait-PURP 1:EXCL-ERG say-CMPL-3-ERG be-PAST  
 'He told us to wait for him there.'
- b. ta-'pî-i-ya anna pî', "u-nîmî'tî miarî ya'", ta-'pî-i-ya  
 say-past-3-ERG 1:EXCL to 1-wait-IMP:PL there in say-PAST-3-ERG  
 'He said to us, "Wait for me there." he said.'
- (286) a. inkamoro-ya taa pî' man penane João yarî-pa  
 those-ERG say at 3:be tomorrow John take-PURP  
 u-yesa'-kon pia  
 1-boss-COLL to  
 'They said for you to take John to the boss tomorrow.'
- b. penane João yaa-ta u-yesa-kon pia, ta'pî to'ya.  
 tomorrow John take-IMP:MOT 1-boss-COLL to say-PAST 3:PRO:PL-ERG  
 ' "Tomorrow you go and take John to the boss," they said.'