WAFFA SYNTAX - CLAUSES

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(Grammar)

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I. CLAUSE NUCLEI.

1. FOUR TYPES OF CLAUSE NUCLEI.

1.1 Verbal Clauses.

In verbal clause types the verbal predicate is the only obligatory slot. The Verbal clause nuclei can be divided into Transitive, Intransitive and Ditransitive by the optional but nuclear inclusion of the Object and Indirect Object slots. Note the following formulae for the nuclei of the Transitive, Intransitive and Ditransitive clauses.

(a) Trans Cl = ± S: n/NP/des/Cl inc ± O:n/NP/des/ Cl inc + P:v/VP

(b) Intr Cl = ± S: n/NP/des Cl inc + P: v/VP

(c) Ditr Cl = ± S: n/NP/des/Cl inc ± O: n/NP/des/ Cl inc ± IO: n/NP/des/Cl inc + P: v/VP

In the above and all following clause types the fillers of the Subject, Object and Indirect Object slots are described under, "Nominal Slot Fillers in Waffa" (1969) and the fillers of the Predicate slot are described under, "Waffa Syntax - Verbs and Verb Phrases" (1969). In the above clause types it is possible for the Subject slot to occur twice in one clause (the second occurrence being just prior to the Predicate slot in Transitive and

Intransitive clauses and prior to the Indirect Object in Ditran-
sitive clauses.)   The only examples found to date have been in
the first person Personal Pronouns.   When there are two
(synonymous) subjects it may be that the first subject and even
the object perhaps are acting as TOPIC at the Sentence level.

e.g.   Exp   S(Sentence Topic)   Tense S   P

   mo   inna   ta   taara-vai-tana   fai   ta   varia-ara-vai.

   well now   we   two-reft-dual   Fut   we   sit-1stpl-Stat

Well now we two will sit down.

(Sentence Topic)

S   O   woo   Tense S   P

na   vaidi   voo-vai   vaa   na   vara   uyu   kia-u-noo.

I   man   a-reft   Past   I   get   pull   Comp-1st sing-Ind

I have already pulled on another man.   (He was sick and

scaly and he became well again.)

Examples of Transitive Clause:

Sentence Topic   Tense S   O   P

ni   nnammutuaa   tuanaa-kua   fai   na   i   haara   kiaa-nara.

my   enemy   real-Perf   Fut   I   you shoot   Comp-Fut

I will shoot you completely, my real enemy.

S   O   P

gioonna   yoketaa   voo-vai   inna   haitatuu-nno...

woman   good   a-reft   him   look good-ss

a good looking woman looked good at him...

	Exp	S	Aux 1	O		P
	mo	nnunna-ivo	numa	inna	yuku-uvaa	ta-i-kio...
	well	sister-S	came	his	foot-O	see-3rd sing-ds

Well, the young sister came and saw his footprint...

Examples of Intransitive Clause:

Exp	S		L	P
mo ii	ngiaabai-vo		nnau-na	vari-noo.
well that	old man-S		house-in	sit-Ind

Well, that old man is sitting in the house.

Tense	S	P	
Fai	na	vi-ee	kiaa-nara-vee.
Fut	I	go-ss	Comp-Fut-Ind

I will go completely.

Tense	S		P
fai	ni	puara-ivo	nni-nara.
Fut	my	pig-S	come-Fut

My pig will come.

Examples of Ditransitive Clause:

Tense	S	O		IO	P	
fai	na	mminnaa	voo-vai	i	iima	kiaa-nara.
Fut	I	thing	a-reft	you	do	Comp-Fut

I will completely do a thing to you.

Exp	S	O	IO	P
ee	na	hokoba	i	mmia-u-kai...
	I	long	you	give-1st sing-ds

Hey, I gave you a long one...

S	O	P	IO	P
mimi-va	kavii-vai	habati	ni	mi-kiai...
Mimi-S	sw potato-reft	lift	me	give-ds

Mimi lifted the sweet potato (from the coals) and gave it to me...

1.2 Non-verbal Clause.

(d) A Equational Clause also occurs.

Equat. Cl. nuclei = ±Item: n/NP + Compt: n/NP/des

Examples of Equational Clause:

```
Compt
ni    nnau-vai.
my    house-Equ
It is my house.
```

```
Item Compt
na    vaidi    yoketaa-vai.
I     man      good-Equ
I am a good (healthy) man.
```

```
Item          Compt
ni    nnau-vo    kiisa    nnau-vai.
my    house-S    small    house-Equ
My house is small.
```

2. SUB-TYPES OF CLAUSE NUCLEI.

The sub-types of the clause nuclei differ in two ways:
(1) in the suffixation of the verb which fills the predicate
slot and (2) the expected response. These clause sub-types
are declarative, interrogative, imperative, avolitional and
contrary to fact. These all occur with transitive,
intransitive and ditransitive clauses. The Equational clause
only occur with the declarative and interrogative.

Examples of the Declarative Clause types.

```
S                    O              P
ari    nnaata-ivo    raunna-ivaa    mmata    ki-oo...
his    wife-S        daughter-O     bear     Comp-ss
his wife had given birth to a daughter...
```

```
S              L        P
nnaata-ivo     i-vau    nni-kio...
wife-S         that-on  come-ds
his wife came there...
```

```
S    O                         IO   P     IO   P
na   mmayaaya    voo-vai        i    kiaa  i    mmi-nara.
I    message     a-reft         you  say   you  give-Fut
I will tell you a message.
```

The interrogative clause type can be divided into two

further sub-types.

(a) Interrogative information which includes an

interrogative word in one of the clause slots other

than Predicate, ~~which~~ *The interrogative word* optionally takes the particular

inflection of that slot (nuclear or periphery).

Examples of the Interrogative Information:

```
Tense O          P
fai  dee-vaa     varaa-nara.
Fut  what-O      get-Fut
Which one will I get?
```

```
S   L          P
a   dee-vau     varia-nna-nnee?
you what-on     sit-2nd sing-Ig
Where will you sit?
```

```
Tense S        O         IO   P
fai  duoono    yeenna    ni   mi-nara.
Fut  who       food      me   give-Fut
Who will give me the food?
```

```
Item    Compt
giaa    nnau-vai-nnee?
who     house-Equ-Ig
Whose house is it?
```

(b) Interrogative corroborative with the expected response of 'yes' or 'no'.

Examples:

```
O                        P                        Transitive
fayai    aa-yauvaa    haa-nna-nnee?
animal   this-pl reft shoot-2nd sing-Ig
Did you shoot these animals?
```

```
S              Tense      P                       Intransitive
ni    vuai    va-inna    ngia-nna-nnee?
my companion Past-cont   come-2nd sing-Ig
My friend, have you come already?
```

```
S   O         IO   P                              Ditransitive
a   voo-vai   ni   mi-nara-nnee?
you a-reft    me   give-Fut-Ig
Will you give me one?
```

```
Item    Compt                                     Equational
aa-nna    ni    nnau-vai-nnee?
this      my    house-Equ-Ig
Is this my house?
```

Examples of Imperative Clause types:

```
S   O   P
a   ni   taa-nee.
you me   see-Imp
You look at me.
```

```
S              Pur         P
kaaneo        toori-ra    kua-nee.
mother-S      bamboo-Pur  go-Imp
Mother, you go for bamboo.
```

```
O                        IO   P
i   suru    voo-vai      ni   mia-nee.
your bow    a-reft       me   give-Imp
Give me one of your bows.
```

Examples of Avolitional sub-clause type:

Voc   O   P
vaidi-so   ngii   haa-nara-innoo.
man-voc   you bite ~~shoot~~-Fut-Avol
Men, it is not good that it (the pig) bites you.

O   P
ni   tee-voo   kiaa...
me   see-avol   say
Thinking, lest they see me...

O   IO   P
maisa   yeenna-ivaa   ni   mi-nara-innoo.
bad   food-O   me   give-Fut-Avol
It is not good that you give me bad food.

Examples of Contrary to Fact sub-clause type:

S O   P
a ni   nnau-vaa   tuqinnaa-nna-tiri.
you my   house-O   make good-2nd sing-Cont to fact
If you had fixed my house...

S   L   P
a   aa-vau   varia-u-tiri.
you this-on   sit-1st sing-Cont to fact
If you had sat here...

S O   IO   P
a sikau-vaa   ni   mia-nna-tiri.
you stone-O   me   give-2nd sing-Cont to fact
If you had given me the money...

II. CLAUSE PERIPHERY.

   The fillers of the clause periphery slots have been described

under "Nominal Slot Fillers in Waffa" (1969).

   Cl = $\pm$ Mar: Potential Cl Mar. + Nuc: Cl nuc

   Potential Cl Margin = $\pm$ Tense: vaa/fai $\pm$ Time: temp/time

      nouns/NP $\pm$ Neg: neg $\pm$ Aux_1: dir v $\pm$ Aux_2: dir adv

$\pm$ M$_1$: adv $\pm$ L: nouns/NP/Inc Cl $\pm$ ($\pm$Ac: noun/NP/Inc Cl

$\pm$ Inst: noun/NP/Inc Cl) $\pm$ ($\pm$ Refc: noun/NP/IncCl

$\pm$Ben: n/NP/Inc Cl $\pm$Pur: n/NP/Inc Cl) $\pm$ M$_2$: des

The order of the tagmemes within the clause is free with the following exceptions: The Reference, Benefactive, Purposive and Manner$_2$ tagmemes usually occur immediately preceding the Predicate tagmeme. The position of the Indirect Object tagmeme is also immediately preceding the Predicate tagmeme but when the Benefactive tagmeme occurs in the same clause the Indirect Object tagmeme occurs in the sentence topic position.

Any tagmeme (other than the Predicate tagmeme) which is manifested by a long phrase or included clause usually occurs clause initially. The Object, Indirect Object, Location and with less frequency the Accompaniment tagmemes are interspersed among the tagmemes of the discontinuous verb phrase which manifests the Predicate tagmeme. The Object tagmeme in a discontinuous verb phrase ~~this~~ ~~position~~ often adds information or makes more specific the object of the clause.

Two Manner and two Location tagmemes have been noted to occur in a clause. The Reference tagmeme occurs very seldom with the Object and Manner tagmemes in a clause.

The maximum number of tagmemes per clause is six. The most frequent number of tagmemes per clause is two or three. The occurrence of six tagmemes in a clause is most infrequent. Examples:

Tense

```
Tense  S   O             P          P
vaa    na  puara-ivaa    ha-u-ko /  kua-i-noo.
past   I   pig-O         shoot-lst  sing-ds  go-3rd-sing-Ind
I shot the pig and it is going.
```

```
Tense  S   P
fai    na  datai-nara-vee.
Fut    I   how-Fut-Ind
How will I?
```

Time

```
Time     S   P
turau    na  kua-nara.
tomorrow I   go-Fut
Tomorrow I will go.
```

```
   Time            L                       P
...heenanaanna   aa-pi  titi  yooqee  tummua-unna-vai.
   morning        here-place our place  come-lst pl-Stat
In the norming we came down here to our own place.
```

```
Time            P
mmuakiaa  suai  kaafai-ra   vari-oo...
all       time  scaly-nom   be-ss
All the time he was scaly...
```

Negation

```
Neg  P
sa   aatuukia-tee.
not  afraid-Imp pl
Don't be afraid.
```

```
Neg      S              O          P
hameeta  nnaakara-ivo   nnaamma    nna-i-noo.
not      child-S        milk       eat-3rd sing-Ind
The child isn't drinking milk.
```

```
Neg     S       O                               P
hama    vaidi   ni   kiannu     aa-vaa     hitua-a-vai.
not     man     my   eggs       this-O     uncover-3rd.pl-Stat
Men didn't uncover these eggs of mine.
```

Auxiliary₁

```
Aux 1 P
oro   taa-nee.
go up look-Imp sing
Go up and look.
```

```
Aux 1 O                      P
oto   ni   fai-vaa    vit-ee    ngia-nee.
go    my   dog-O      get-ss    come-Imp sing
Go down and bring my dog.
```

```
Exp  S            Aux 1  L        P
mo   vaati-ivo    numa   Maura    vari-oo...
well husband-S    come   place name sit-ss
Well, the husband came up and was at Maura...
```

Auxiliary₂

```
L                       Aux 2   P
ari   keegia-ivaki      reemi   haitatuu-nno...
his   doorway-in        down    looked-ss
He looked down from in his doorway
```

```
S                       Aux 1  Aux 2  L        P
ari   nnunna-ivo        numa   reera  i-vaki   mmi-oo-nno...
her   sister-S          come   up     that-at  give-ss-cont
Her sister came and was giving her up there...
```

```
M 1        O            Aux 2  P
vuaiha     tipa-ivaa    rootu  vitai-nno...
quickly    club-O       across took-ss
He quickly (reached) across and took the club...
```

Manner 1

```
M 1      L              P
vuaiha   ari   yooqee   vi-oo    kiee-ra.
quickly  his   place    go-ss    Comp-FP
He went quickly to his place.
```

```
M 1       S             P
tireema   puara-ivo     vu-duu...
slowly    pig-S         go-ds
The pig went slowly...
```

Location

```
L                                Ben      O         P
Vuananaraa     situaa-ki-di     nii-ni   bateree   paima kia-nee.
Wonenara       store-in-from    me-for   battery   buy   Comp-Imp sing
Buy batteries for me from in the Wonenara store.
```

```
M 1      L                      P
vuaiha   ngiari   ta-i-vau      nni-da...
quickly  their    see-that-on   come-ss
They quickly came on their seeing there (they quickly came on
     their way...)(i.e. ran away.) [This is an idiom for running away]
```

```
S   L            P
a   dee-daa-di   tummua-nna-nnee?
you what-way-from come-2nd sing-Ig
From what way did you come down?
```

Accompaniment

```
Acc S                                 P        Acc O
mmaraa  urunnaakara-ivoo-ta           nn-oo/   mmaraa   seena   kata
his     children-S-with         they  ate-SS   his      relatives brothers
He ate with his children and cut and gave it also to their relatives,
                              P
        vaya-ivaa-ta      hatoka     mmi-da...
        brothers-O-with   cut        give-ss
        brothers...
```

Neg   Acc S   O   P
<u>hama</u>   <u>rapi-ra</u>   <u>mminnaa</u>   <u>voo-voo-ta</u>   <u>iya</u>   <u>tasipa</u>   <u>vai-ra</u>.
not   fight-nom   thing   another-S-with   them with   be-FP
Not another fighting thing was with them.

L   O Acc   P
<u>ti</u>   <u>yooqee</u>   <u>aa-vau</u>   <u>tiina-ivaa-ta</u>   <u>paasa-ivaa-ta</u>   <u>kagaari</u>
our   place   this-on   tin-O-with   letter-O-with   throw
They threw the tin with the letter here on our place...

    <u>kioo-duu</u>...
    Comp-ds

Instrument

M 1   Inst (Acc)   O   P   L   P
<u>vuaiha</u>   <u>mmata-ivaa-ta</u>   <u>nnaata-ivaa</u>   <u>haara</u>...   <u>i-vau</u>   <u>ki-oo</u>...
quickly   spear-O-with   wife-O   shot   there-on   Comp-ss
Quickly she shot the wife with a spear and put her there...

M 1   O   Inst   P
<u>vuaiha</u>   <u>kieeta-ivaa</u>   <u>tongoroonga-ivaa-di</u>   <u>ruputu</u>...
quickly   head-O   mallet-O-with   hit
Quickly they hit the head with a mallet...

Inst   P
<u>seera-ivaa-di-ri</u>   <u>hanaa</u>   <u>ki-oo</u>...
stick-O-with   cut   Comp-ss
He cut it completely with a stick...

Reference

Voc   Exp   Refc   Aux 1 P
<u>napoo</u>   <u>mo</u>   <u>aanii-vaa-ra-inna</u>   <u>oto</u>   <u>buaakia-nna</u>.
father   well what-O-for-cont   go   search-2nd sing
Well, Father, for what are you going down and searching?

```
Refc                                      Aux 1 P
ivaa    kuaru   akua-ivaa-ra-ida          oro   ree-da   varia-a-noo.
his     music   sound-O-for-cont          go    dance-ss be-3rd pl-Ind
They are going up and dancing about his music sound.
```

```
Refc        P
ivaa-ra     varia-unna-no...
that-about  be-1st pl-ds
We sat about that....
```

Benefactive

```
M 2       Bene      Pur         P
kaikaa    nii-ni    fayai-ra    kua-nee.
again     me-for    animals-for go-Imp sing
Go again for animals for me.
```

```
Time                Bene        O               P
heena    gieena     i-nna-ni    hanikia-ivaa    rau    ki-oo...
night    all        him-O-for   fence-O         fasten Comp-ss
All night long he fastened the fence for him...
```

```
Exp  Tense S                            Bene                             L
mo   vaa   nnau-vo   arinnaara          gioonna-i-vai-tannaa-ni   i-vau
well past  nouse-S   itself             woman-those-reft-dual-Bene that-on
Well, the house itself stood there for those two women.
         P
     du-oo   vainoo.
     stand-ss be-Ind
```

Purposive (The Purposive is distinguished from the Reference by the absence of the Object suffix.)

```
S   Pur         P
a   aanii-ra    vi-ee   vi-ee-nna...
you what-for    go-ss   go-ss-cont
For what are you going?
```

```
Pur           P
kuruda-ra     vu-duu...
greens-for    go-ds
They went for greens...
```

```
S                       Pur           O      P
ni    gioonna-ivo       kiannu-ra     ni     tita-i-kiai...
my    woman-S           eggs-for      me     sent-3rd sing-ds
My wife sent me for eggs...
```

Manner₂

```
M 2         P
kaayau      aasanna-i-kiai-na ...
very        dry-3rd sing-ds-cont
It was very dry...
```

```
M 2         P
kati        iikia-tee.
just        do-Imp pl
Just do it.
```

```
S           M 2           P
ngia        kuta-ida      kia-a-nnee?
you         true-cont     say-2nd pl-Ig
Are you truly saying?
```

Key to Examples

Acc = Accompaniment	L = Location
adv = adverb	M = Manner
Aux = Auxiliary Predicate	Mar = Margin
Avol = Avolitional	n = noun
Bene = Benefactive	Neg = Negation
Cl = Clause	neg = negative
Comp = Completive	nom = nominalizer
Compt = Complement	NP = Noun Phrase
cont = continuous	Nuc = Nucleus
Cont to fact = Contrary to Fact	O = Object
des = descriptive	P = Predicate
dir = directional	Perf = Perfect
Ditr = Ditransitive	pl = plural
ds = different subject	Pur = Purpose
Equ = Equation	Refc = Reference
Equat = Equational	Reft = referent
Exp = Expression	S = Subject
FP = Far Past	sing = singular
Fut = Future	ss = same subject
Ig = Interrogative	Stat = Stative
Imp = Imperative	sw = sweet potato
inc = included	temp = temporals
Ind = Indicative	Trans = Transitive
Inst = Instrument	v = verb
Intr = Intransitive	Voc = Vocative
IO = Indirect Object	VP = Verb Phrase