

Notu-Ewage clauses

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by Doug & Margaret Parrington

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2.0 LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

S	Subject
O	Object
P	Predicate
IP	Imperative Predicate
Per	Periphery
E	Exclamatory
C	Connector
Co	Conditional
T	Temporal
D	Demonstrative
F	Focus
L	Locative
I	Infinitive
Me	Means
Ma	Manner
Rb	Reason/Benefactive
Io	Indirect Object
NCl	Noun Clause
Np	Noun Phrase
Pr	Pronoun
Vp	Verb Phrase
R	Relator
Rp	Relator Phrase
Re	Reciprocal
Q	Question
Qu	Quotative
qm	Question Marker
Du	Dubitative
N	Negative
sP	Stative Predicate
sPp	Stative Predicate Phrase
INP	Interrogative Predicate
INVP	Interrogative Verb Phrase

3.0 INTRODUCTION

Notu-Ewage, a member of the Binadere language family, is a language of the Northern District of Papua New Guinea. It is spoken by about 10,000 people living in a 5 mile coastal strip between Bakumbari and Pongani.

A group of villages further along the coast and bordering the Korafe people also comprises Notu-Ewage speakers but a study of possible dialect differences has not yet been made.

Data for this paper is taken from tape recorded and transcribed texts.

It is expected that further clause level expressions will fit into the descriptive framework of this paper, as they become known.



4.0 SURVEY OF CLAUSE TYPES

There are five clause types differing significantly from one another

The type occurring most frequently is the declarative clause.

Thirteen varieties of the declarative clause have been observed.

The interrogative clause makes use of a different form of the verb and a relator or question marker must be present. The dubitative clause expresses a different concept from the interrogative. The dubitative marker is obligatory while the relator is never used in this type of clause.

The imperative clause expresses command or request and uses a different verb form.

The stative clause expresses a relationship between an optional subject and a stative predicate tagmeme.

5.0 DESCRIPTION OF CLAUSE TYPES

5.1 DECLARATIVE CLAUSE

Declarative clauses may be intransitive or transitive, dependent or independent. There is no passive voice.

The only obligatory item is the predicate tagmeme.

The optional tagmemes are subject, object and peripheral tagmemes.

The peripheral tagmemes may be exclamatory, connector, temporal, locative, means, manner, reason/benefactive, indirect object, focus, conditional, reciprocal, infinitive and relator.

The varieties of declarative clauses which have been observed are prohibitive, reflexive, causative, conditional, benefactive, purpose, qualifying, negative and exclamatory.

One of the appropriate optional peripheral tagmemes becomes obligatory when making the above semantic differences in the various varieties of declarative clause.

The largest number of tagmemes observed together in a declarative clause is six.

The predicate mostly occurs clause final and normally the subject occurs before the object. The peripheral tagmemes may occur in any position. The order may vary according to focus, especially of subject and object.

In the bidimensional arrays, items in the peripheral columns are the peripheral tagmemes while the items in the subject, object and predicate columns are the fillers of those three tagmemes.

Bi-dimensional array for the Declarative Clause

<u>± Per</u>	<u>± S</u>	<u>± Per</u>	<u>± O</u>	<u>± Per</u>	<u>± P</u>	<u>± Per</u>
E	Np	Me	Np	R	Vp	Io.
C	Pr	T	Pr	T		Ma
T		Ma		Rb		Rb
L		L		L		L
Co		F		Io		
				N		
				Re		
				I		

Examples of the declarative clause follow, grouped according to ^{variety.} ~~sub-type~~.

5.1.1 Transitive Clause

The nuclear element is the obligatory transitive predicate tagmeme.

Margaret awawa nangoda sasaka vevera edo

Margaret D our water hot having.made

Margaret, having made our tea,

5.1.2 Intransitive Clause

The intransitive predicate is obligatory, ~~an object is obligatorily absent.~~

awasedo nati da bugusera

that's.why village to we came

That's why we came to the village.

5.1.3 Prohibitive Clause

The obligatory tagmeme mana is the nuclear element of the prohibitive clause. It occurs immediately following the subject and negates in a prohibitive sense, all that follows.

na mana book ajigurena

I can't book I.am.reading

I can't read the book. (In the sense of being prevented)

5.1.4 Reflexive Clause

Nuclear elements are an obligatory predicate and the obligatory reciprocal morpheme mina.

ungo kondade mina mina etera

They help Re did

They helped each other

5.1.5 Causative Clause

The only item in this clause is the obligatory predicate which is filled by the appropriate medial form of the verb 'to do' or occasionally of the verb 'to say'.

burigi bugae / etero / betetira
 quickly they.did.not.come they.having.done.it he.died
 Because they did not come quickly he died.

5.1.6 Conditional Clause

The conditional clause must always be introduced by edo, functioning in this type of clause as a conditional filler. The clause following this is introduced by the focus marker awa although this is occasionally omitted.

edo Robert Kainantu mambadi adira awa na mambadena
 Co Robert Kainantu to go will.do.it F I will go.

5.1.7 Benefactive Clause

A further nuclear element in this type of clause is the obligatory reason/benefactive phrase.

busu berari da embomei awa ewamei adena iso jawo awasedo
 ground all 's people F good will.do your name that's why
 I will bless all the people of the world because of you.

5.1.8 Purpose Clause

The concept of purpose is indicated by the obligatory presence of the infinitive, sometimes preceding, sometimes following the predicate.

wo gaiadi wowosisera
 fish to spear we went
 We went to spear fish.

5.1.9 Qualifying Clause

The relator phrase and focus marker awa are obligatory to this type of clause. The qualifying clause may fill the object, temporal, manner, or locative slots in a declarative clause.

imo ro sesa awa /na adena
 you.what you.are.saying F I will do
 I will do what you say.

na / iji nonde bugiri awa / na gaera
 I time what did.he.come F I do not know
 I do not know when he came.

5.1.10 Negative Clause

In this type of clause, a negative verb must fill the obligatory predicate slot. A negative verb contains the obligatory negative morpheme -ae-.

na book ajigari inono ae ena
 I book to.read sufficient not I.am.doing
 I am unable to read the book.

umo bugae
 He did not come

5.1.11 Exclamatory Clause

The nuclear element is the obligatory exclamatory predicate tagmeme

eire
 Here it is!

oure
 There it is!

oiedo
 That's the road!

eiedo
 This is the road!

5.2 INTERROGATIVE CLAUSE

Further data is expected to confirm the hypothesis that the same optional peripheral tagmenes as in the declarative clause may appear, as well as \pm qm. The predicate slot is filled by the question form of the verb which is formed by substituting -i for final -a. The question affix -ta is omitted if a relator used as a question word is present. Occasionally a declarative clause is transformed by rising intonation to make an enquiry. The relator occurs in the filler slot in questions and -ta obligatorily affixes the verb.

sine imo naso mando sekta posasi-ta

yesterday you my house new did.you.see -qm

Did you see my newhouse yesterday?

imo nonda nembesi

you where have you been

Where have you been?

George atesa

George is staying?

Is George there?

\pm Per	\pm S	\pm Per	\pm O	\pm Per	+IMP	\pm Per
E	Np	Me	Np	R	InVP	qm
G	Pr	T	Pr	T		Io
F		Ma		Rb		Ma
L		L		L		Rb
Co		F		Io		L
				H		
				Re		
				I		

5.3 DUBITATIVE CLAUSE

The interrogative predicate, the question marker -ta and the dubitative morpheme rora are all obligatory. The relator is obligatorily absent. The dubitative clause may contain the same optional peripheral tagmemes as does the interrogative clause.

<u>+Per</u>	<u>+S</u>	<u>+ Per</u>	<u>+ O</u>	<u>+ Per</u>	<u>+ InP</u>	<u>+ Q</u>	<u>+ Du</u>	<u>+ Per</u>
E	Np	Me	Np	T	InVp	qm	<u>rora</u>	Io
C	Pr	T	Pr	Rb				Ma
T		Ma		L				Rb
L		L		Io				L
Co		F		N				
				Re				
				I				

naso nga ewamei etenita rora

my car good have.I.done? Du

I might have fixed my car.

5.4 IMPERATIVE CLAUSE

The imperative clause may be transitive or intransitive. The nuclear element is the imperative predicate. The same optional tagmemes may be expected to occur as in the declarative clause. The imperative may express an abrupt command, a polite request or a farewell greeting. The hortative is frequently used to express polite request.

<u>±</u> Per	<u>±</u> S	<u>±</u> Per	<u>±</u> O	<u>±</u> Per	+ IP	<u>±</u> Per
E	Np	He	Np	R	IVp	Io
C	Pr	T	Pr	T		Ma
T		Ma		Rb		Rb
L		L		L		L
Co		F		Io		
				N		
				Re		
				I		

burigi sumbu iso ai da yei
 quickly run your mother 's place
 Run quickly to your mother!

po anumbase
 come let you sit down (Hortative)
 Come and sit down!

mambuio
 go!
 Go! (Farewell)

5.5 STATIVE CLAUSE

The stative clause consists of an optional subject filled by a noun phrase and an obligatory stative predicate filled by a stative predicate phrase. The interrogative stative clause is formed by the transform -ra to -ri within the stative predicate phrase. The stative clause is negated by the negative infix -ae-.

SCL = ± S:Np + sP:sPp

mando amone nembodiba-ra

house that big.is

That house is a big one

imo anda gagara-ri

you whose daughter.is?

Whose daughter are you?

roinge-ri

how.many are?

How many are there?

aera

It's not.

aeri

Is it not?