

MIANMIN SENTENCE STRUCTURE

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ABBREVIATIONS

abil	abilitative	indep cl	independent clause
alt	alternate	int	interrogative
amp	amplification	N	
B		neg	negative
ben	benefactive	npt	near past
bro	brother	O	
C		obj	object
cm	class marker	P	
cont	continuant	p	plural
co-ord	co-ordinate	per	person
cust	customary	pr	present
D		pred	predicate
dep cl	dependent clause	pt	past tense
des	desiderative	pu	punctilliar
diff	different	proc	process
ds	different subject	S	
dur	durative	S	sentence
E		seq	sequence
el	elder	sg	singular
emp	emphatic	sgf	singular feminine
F		sgm	singular masculine
f	future	sim	simultaneous
fo	focus	sis	sister
fpt	far past	ss	same subject
H		stat	stative
hab	habitual	subj	subject
I		T	
imp	imperative	ts	time span
ind	indicative	Y	
		y	younger

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1 | first person |
| 2 | second person |
| 3 | third person |

symbols

+	obligatory occurrence of specified item or items
\pm	optional occurrence of specified item or items
n(superscript)	item can occur any number of times
n(subscript)	final item
< >	a class of items of which the bracketed item is a member
∞	varies morphophonemically
\emptyset	zero allomorph

0 INTRODUCTION

This paper deals with the types of contrastive sentences found in the Mianmin language. Mianmin is a language spoken by approximately 1500 people situated in the Telefomin sub-province of the West Sepik Province of New Guinea.

The data for this paper has been collected over a period from Oct. 1969 until Aug. 1975 under the auspices of the Summer Institute of Linguistics. The material has been collected from various informants of all ages and many dialects. The chief language helper has been Daning Mutumab, a young man of about 19 years of age. He has helped collect and transcribe the texts on which this paper is based. I am indebted to Velma Foreman for her help and encouragement during the writing of this paper. It has been written during a workshop held at Ukarumpa, E.H.P., Sept.-Nov. 1975.

A sentence in Mianmin has been defined as a clause or series of clauses in which the final verb is marked for different subject (ds). The final base of a Co-ordinate Sentence is always marked for ds. All other sentence types can embed into the Co-ordinate Sentence in which case they will be marked for same subject (ss) unless embedded in the final base of the sentence, when they will be marked for ds.

In Mianmin there are sixteen contrastive sentence types which will be described here. Sentences are contrasted by a combination of features, the most common of which are the conjunctions, which occur as bound or free forms and are the links joining two or more clauses to form a sentence. Other contrastive features might be the presence or absence of a co-ordinate link in addition to other conjunctions, tense and subject person restrictions.

Since all of these sentences can embed into the Co-ordinate Sentence this has caused problems in the analysis of same and different subject markers and consequently of sentence breaks. Frequently there would be a clause marked for same subject (ss), and the subject of the next clause would be different or vice versa. What was the answer? Embedding. When ss marker would occur and the next subject would be different, it would be found that another sentence type was embedded into the Co-ordinate Sentence at that point and the ss marker would be in agreement, not with the first base of that embedded sentence, but with the final base. Sometimes also, in close-knit sentence types where one base is sub-ordinate to the other the sub-ordinate base will not be marked for same or different subject but the other base will be left to carry this affixation.

Co-ordinate Sentences are linked by $\langle -ta \rangle$ which is a suffix on the verb. $\langle -ta \rangle$ has two sub-members, $-a$ 'co-ordinate link' linking explanatory, descriptive or hortatory material, background material or out of sequence events, and $-ta$ 'sequence focus link'. The link $-a$ occurs most commonly in descriptive, explanatory and hortatory discourse, but also occurs in narrative discourse giving background information etc., and $-ta$ occurs most commonly in narrative discourse

where information is generally given in sequence of events. It also has been observed to occur on verbs in explanatory or descriptive text to give special focus or to highlight that particular event. It has also been noted occurring with o 'when' as -to and thus highlighting that particular clause of a Completive-Event Sentence. Examples of this will be given in the Co-ordinate Sentence and in the Completive-Event Sentence sections.

In most sentence types it has been noted in the bi-dimensional arrays that both dependent and independent clauses can fill the final base of the sentence. The independent clause occurs in the final base of a sentence only where the paragraph boundary also occurs. In all other places, sentences end with a dependent clause. The independent clause also occurs in the first base of a few sentence types, Alternative Sentence, Reason Sentence which is a sub-type of the Completive-Event Sentence, and the Cause-Result Sentence.

Most sentences have the same tense throughout. This is unmarked except in the verb of the final base and then only if the sentence fills the last base of a paragraph.

This paper does not represent an exhaustive study of Mianmin sentence types. Most of the results have been based on narrative text, with a fair amount of time spent on explanatory text. Very little time has been spent on hortatory materials and this area will have to be explored more thoroughly, perhaps resulting in more sentence types.

Chart II - Medial (dependent) Verb Morphology

+				
Stem	+ Aspect	+ Time interval ₁ Subj preview	+ Subj per	+ Time interval ₂
	- <u>biaa</u> cont	- <u>n</u> ss - <u>∅</u> ds - <u>b</u> cont - <u>s</u> ds seq	- <u>i</u> lsg - <u>eb</u> 2sg - <u>e</u> 3sgm - <u>o</u> 3sgf - <u>ob</u> lp - <u>ib</u> 2/3p	- <u>bio</u> time span (ts)
Note: Either Time Interval ₁ or Time Interval ₂ obligatorily occurs on a verb but seldom do both ever occur together.				

Mianmin Verb Morphology

Note: Verbs have prefixes also but these have not been shown as they are not pertinent to sentence level analysis.

1 MULTI-BASE SENTENCES

1.0 Introduction

The multi-based sentences, except for the Process Sentence, are all linked by -ta. Process Sentence is linked by ole 'when'. In all these sentences, except for the Co-ordinate Sentence, the maximum number of bases has generally been observed to be 3-4. In the Co-ordinate Sentence as many as 31 bases have occurred. This was in a descriptive text and is unusual, the more common number of occurrences being 6-7.

1.1 Co-ordinate Sentence=

Slots	+ Base ₁	+ Link	+ (+Base ₂ + Link) ⁿ	+ Base _n
Fillers	dep cl any sentence type	< <u>-ta</u> >	dep cl any s. type	< <u>-ta</u> > indep cl any s. type
Special Features	Tenses on all bases are the same but not marked Verbs of all non-final bases marked for ss			Verb marked for ds if dep cl tense if indep cl

Rules:

- (1) This is a multi-base construction with two obligatory bases.
- (2) The focal verb in each base carries the ss marker -n with the subject of each base being the same.
- (3) The second base optionally occurs up to 29 times with this multiplicity of occurrence being uncommon.

- (4) Sometimes the bases will be reduplicated to show duration or to give emphasis.

Description:

The Co-ordinate Sentence expresses the idea of events occurring in sequence or giving a listing of events. This is the most common sentence type and all other sentence types except the Alternative Sentence have been seen to embed in this sentence. The link may be filled by -ta or -a or a combination of both. This construction can have as many as 31 bases but the normal length is 6-7. The 31 base construction occurred in a descriptive text.

Examples:

1. ... nele Hak kakam daa eta halo-n-e/-ta/
 I Hak river mouth side it broke-ss-3sgm-seq.fo
nemeb daak-n-o/-ta/ nena-n-o/-ta/
 me.took down-ss-3sg-seq.fo me.kill-ss-3sg-seq.fo
toomo blim-o-be
 stones nothing-cm-ind

'... I was on the mouth of the Hak River side and it (the bridge) broke and it took me and I fell and there were no stones.'

2. ... kekuo tribela ye ge-ob so-n-om/-ta/ yole
 raft three there made-lp sleep-ss-?-seq.fo then
omala omet-n-ob/-ta/ unom metat-n-ob/-ta/
 put.in.water went-ss-lp-seq.fo go down-ss-lp-seq.fo
Finalua fif tab-ø-ob-ta ...
 Finalua join down-ds-lp-seq.fo

'... we made three rafts, slept, the next day then we put them in the water and went and we went down to where the Finalua River joins ...'

3. ... bomanota ne deibe-n-i/-ta/ fonde dim ele
 morning I left.them-ss-lsg-seq.fo thurs on this
te-n-i/-ta/ balubib daak tili so-n-om/-ta/
 come-ss-lsg-seq.fo airstrip down come sleep-ss-?-seq.fo
balu tem dlet-n-e/-ta/ te-n-ob/-ta/
 plane in bring.us-ss-3sgm-seq.fo come-ss-lp-seq.fo
tlesine tl-ob-bio-be
 station come-lp-pt-ind.

'... In the morning I left them and on Thursday I came down to the airstrip and slept, the next day the plane brought us and we came to the station.'

4. ... ni kukub ole itamo ge-n-ob/-a/
 our custom this dance make-ss-lp-co-ord
nana-b-ob otane ole awem-ba-be
 thus.do-cont-lp but this forbidden-neg-ind
 '... this is our custom that we build a dance house and
 we do this but it isn't sacred.'

5. ato baa un-i-bu/-a/ Daninge ni dabwalo aaye
 half talk go-lsg-ts-co-ord Daning we two water
abeye kekuo welo ge-n-ob/-a/ tat-n-ob/-a/
 Abeye raft cut make-ss-lp-co-ord down-ss-lp-co-ord
aaye mab beselib kikan-o-be
 water ? big too.much-3sg-ind

'I have told half my story, we two made a raft on the
 Abey River and went down but the water was too big.'

6. ... tluume eta halo-n-ob/t-ta/ yana-n-o/-ta/
 bridge it broke-ss-lp-seq.fo us.kill-ss-3sgf-seq.fo
Milifanim ole sema bi/-a/ tubu was
 Milifanim she nothing stop-co-ord held over
un-ø-o/-ta/ ...
 went-ds-3sgf-seq.fo

'... we broke the bridge and fell, but Milifanim didn't
 fall, she went over.'

7. sinangwano Fitibkanibo unom wat-n-o/-a/
 long.ago Fitibkanib went over-ss-3sgf-co-ord
Kelefobib wato kweisamo ge-n-o/-ta/
 Telefomin over spirit.house build-ss-3sgf-seq.fo
met-n-o/-ta/ Tifalmine ana debab
 up-ss-3sgf-seq.fo Tifalmin.man him.kill him.brought
tab te-n-o/-ta/ kweisamo
 down come-ss-3sgf-seq.fo spirit.house
gilibma-n-o/-ta/ gaa
 dance-ss-3sgf-seq.fo cooked.in.earth.oven
dowo-n-o/-ta/ kweisamo
 eat-ss-3sgf-seq.fo spirit.house
walube-n-o-bio
 commenced.for.them-ss-3sgf-ts

gem-binab-io-be
build-hab-3p-ind.

'Long ago Fitibkanib went over and built a spirit house at Telefolib, she went up and killed a Tifal man, brought him down and danced in the spirit house, she cooked in an earth oven, she started a spirit house for them which they build.'

1.2 Parallel Sentence=

Slots	+Base ₁	+Link	+(-Base ₂	+Link) ⁿ	+Base _n
Fillers	dep cl	<- <u>ta</u> >	dep cl Co-ord S	<- <u>ta</u> >	dep cl
special Features	Verb is the same in each base. Verb in each base is affixed by one of the following: - <u>na</u> 'thus', or a cont.marker - <u>b</u> ; - <u>biaa</u> , or a combination of both.				

Rules:

- (1) This is a multi-based construction in which there are two obligatory base tagments. The optional Base₂ tagmeme has been seen to occur up to three times.
- (2) Tense is the same throughout.
- (3) Verb may be marked for same or different subject and this is shown by the markers - ø signalling different subject and -n signalling same subject.

- (4) The structure of the sentence is parallel - each base containing the same tagmemes i.e. Subject Object Predicate. The fillers in at least one of the tagmemes remain the same in all bases, and the fillers of at least one tagmeme change, although they remain in the same semantic domain.
- (5) The verb always remains the same in each base.
- (6) The verbs are affixed by one of the following: -na 'thus', or a continuant marker -b or -biaa, or a combination of both.
- (7) The affixes which occur on Base₁ will usually continue to occur on all the verbs in all the bases of the sentence. In one example, however, the verb of Base₁ was affixed with -na and -s 'ds seq' while the verbs of the other bases of the sentence were affixed with -na and -b.
- (8) This sentence always embeds into Base₂ of Summary Sentence.

Description:

The Parallel Sentence is used to express the idea that all the activities/states are the same and are going on, or are in existence at the same time.

Examples:

1. ... Wiae te-b-e/-a/ Abeye te-b-e
Wia.river come-cont-3sgm-co-ord Abey.river come-cont-3sgm
/-a/ Usake ye te-b-e-a ...
Co-ord Usake.river there come-cont-3sgm-co-ord
 '... The Wiae river and the Abey river and Usake come together there ...'
2. ... i ye Kelepoli kikibo Kemeli ye Kemeli
they there Telefomin close Kemelmins there Kemelmins
ye te-na-ib/-a/ Sokai ye
there come-thus-3p-co-ord Sokamins there
te-na-ib/-a/ Wamei ye te-na-ib/-a/
come-thus-3p-co-ord Wameimins there come-thus-3p-co-ord
da Amaloui ye te-na-ib/-a/
down Amaloumins there come-thus-3p-co-ord
tamabo Waiteni ye te-na-ib/-a/ Usalei
go.down Waimin there come-thus-3p-co-ord Usaleimins
teni ye te-na-ib/-a ...
people there come-thus-3p-co-ord

'... Close to Telefomin people are the Kemelmins, then the Sokamins are there, the Wameimins are there, the Amaloumins are there, the Waimins are down there and the Usaleimins are there ...'

3. ... eka klaye aalingwali Nemsin aie kobolo ana
 and and.a uncles Nemsin's father cassowary it.kill
eile anana-na-b-e/-ta/ eka ne ninge
 pig it.kill-thus-cont-3sgm-seq.fo and my bro.y
Eleob eta koboli isu ina-na-b-e/-ta/
 Eleob he cassowary two kill-thus-cont-3sgm-seq.fo
klaye Dabiabe digin eta eile mak
 and.a Dabiab deacon he pig a
ana-na-b-e/-ta/ komok eta kobolo mak
 kill-thus-cont-3sgm-seq.fo head.man he cassowary one
wana-na-b-e/-ta/... ne aie
 kill-thus-cont-3sgm-seq.fo my father
Temsakmin komok eta eilo ble kobolo
 Temsakmin head.man he pig sorry cassowary
wana-na-b-e/-ta/ eka klaye mak ele aaling
 kill-thus-cont-3sgm-seq.fo and and.a one here uncle's
miine Kweilomfub eta kobolo mak
 child Kweilomfub he cassowary one
wana-na-b-e-ta ...
 kill-thus-cont-3sgm-seq.fo

'... and Uncle, Nemsin's father killed a cassowary, and he killed a pig and my younger brother Eleob killed two cassowaries and the deacon Dabiab killed another pig and the head man killed a cassowary and my father, the Temsakmin head man, killed a pig, sorry, a cassowary, and Uncle's child Kweilomfub killed a cassowary ...'

4. ... Daninge eile mak ana-na-s-e/-a/
 Daning pig one kill-thus-ds.seq-3sgm-co-ord
Emoseb ale mak ana-na-b-e/-a/
 Emoseb's father one kill-thus-cont-3sgm-co-ord
Bensole mak wana-na-b-e-a/...
 Bensol one kill-thus-cont-3sgm-co-ord

'... Daning killed a pig and Emoseb's father killed one and Bensol killed one ...'

1.3 Simultaneous Sentence =

Slots	+Base ₁ (Event)	+Link	⁺ -(+Base ₂ (Event)	+Link) ⁿ	+Base _n (Event)
Fillers	dep cl Quote S Co-ord S	<- <u>ta</u> >	dep cl	<- <u>ta</u> >	dep cl indep cl Process S Dur S
Special Features	Verb with - <u>b</u> 'cont' and - <u>ø</u> <u>ds</u> or - <u>biaa</u> 'cont' and - <u>n</u> 'ss'		same as Base ₁		

Rules:

- (1) This is a multi-based construction with two obligatory base tagmemes.
- (2) The verb of each non-final base must be affixed by one of the continuant markers -b or -biaa. The same affix does not have to be used throughout the sentence.
- (3) Subject may be the same or different and this is shown by the markers - ø signalling different subject or -n signalling same subject with the subject of the next base corresponding to the subject preview marker of the preceeding base.
- (4) The optional base tagmeme has only been seen to occur three times.

Description:

The Simultaneous Sentence is used to express the idea of two or more activities taking place at the same time. This is an obligatory two base construction with an obligatory link filled by -ta and an optional base that has been seen to occur up to three times.

Examples:

1. ngam-b-i/-ta/ daak-n-e-ta ...
 called-cont-lsg-seq.fo down-ss-3sgm-seq.fo
 'While I called, it went down...'
2. afu-biaa-n-i/-a/ baa-n-an-a
 hold-cont-ss-lsg-co-ord talk-pu-lsg-int
 'While I hold it do I talk?'
3. ... yole Wilima taman deib te-biaa-n-ob/-ta/ eka
 then Wilima river road come-cont-ss-lp-co-ord and
 Bensole imin make wana-na-n-e ole ...
 Bensol again one kill-thus-ss-3sgm then
 '... then while coming down the Wilima river road Bensole
 killed one ...'
4. ... eka imin aala un-ong gena-b-ib/-ta/ naka
 and again sleep go-des talk-cont-3p-seq.fo man
 mine eleyem tam be-b-e/-ta/ ayale
 one one in went-cont-3sgm-seq.fo light
 ofa-n-e-ta ...
 it-put-ss-3sgm-seq.fo
 '... and again, while they wanted to sleep, one man went
 inside and the light was there ...'
5. ni weengo deskin ka-b-eb/-ta/ ne
 our language translate do-cont-2sg-seq.fo I
 kobo klaa kemhaalim-b-i-be
 you very sorry.for.you-pr-lsg-ind
 'While you translate our language, I am very sorry for
 you'

6. okok ke-b-eb/-ta/ nesa mesen osa alin osa
 work do-cont-2sg-seq.fo I Pam she Eileen she
alukum klayam biala-n-ob/-a/ okok ke-b-uo-be
 all good are-ss-lp-co-ord work do-pr-lp-ind
 'While you are working, I and Pam and Eileen are all well
 and we are working.'

7. ... tem tam biala-n-ob/-a/ imeno wem-b-ob/-a/
 inside in are-ss-lp-co-ord taro eat-cont-lp-co-ord
laite kimin imin tubu eka kimin imin
 light die again light and die again
tubuna-s-e-a ...
 light-ds.seq-3sgm-co-ord
 '... while we were inside eating taro, the light died,
 lit and died again ...'

8. ... aagamey teme ye omtenana-biala-n-e/-a/
 driftwood in there held.fast-cont-ss-3sgm-co-ord
ye ngam-b-e/-a/ "..."
 there call.out-cont-3sgm-co-ord
ngam-b-e/-a/ wente-b-ob/-a/
 calls.out-cont-3sgm-co-ord hear-cont-lp-co-ord
bi-n-e-a/...
 be-ss-3sgm-co-ord
 '... while he was held fast in the driftwood, he called
 "...", and we heard him until ...'

9. Ukarumpa ele biala-n-i/-a/ Gode okoko okok
 Ukarumpa here am-ss-lsg-co-ord God's work work
ke-biala-n-i/-ta/ Kingdeng sel ib dowan
 do-cont-ss-lsg-seq.fo Kingdeng people you news
weeng mak wente-b-i/-ta/ biala-n-ib/-a/
 talk one hear-cont-lsg-seq.fo am-ss-3p-co-ord
Kingdeng seli kukub misiam wafubl-ø-io-bo
 Kingdeng people custom bad hold-pr-3p-emp

'While I am here at Ukarumpa doing God's work, I hear
 news about you people at Kingdeng, you are there and the
 Kingdeng people hold a bad custom.'

1.4 Process Sentence=

Slots	+Base ₁ (Event)	+Proc. Link ₁	+Proc. Link ₂	+ (+Base (Event)	+Proc.) ² Link	+Base _n (Event)
Fillers	dep cl Completive -Event S Amp S Parallel S	<u>ole</u> <u>ale</u> <u>yole</u>	<u>ole</u> <u>yole</u>	dep cl	<u>ole</u>	dep cl indep cl Seq S Sim S
Special Features	Subj. may be same or diff.					

Rules:

- (1) This is a multi-based construction with two obligatory base tagmemes.
- (2) There is one obligatory link tagmeme filled by various forms of 'then'.
- (3) Optionally there can be two process links together, the second one generally being filled by yole 'then'.
- (4) Subjects of each base can be the same or different.

Description:

The Process Sentence is used to express the idea of things being done in close sequence or to express the order in which they are done.

Examples:

1. ... amisaalo hobim ke-ib /ole/ ta-n-ob-a ...
door open do-3p then go.inside-ss-lp-co-ord
'... they opened the door then we went inside ...'
2. ... blimano /ole/ yole /eito/ kla-biaa-n-ib-a ...
finished.it then then decorations make-cont-ss-3p-co-ord
'... it was finished and then they made decorations ...'
3. ... sistao amo ye ge-ib /ole/ eka neswali amo
sister house there build-3p then and nurses house
ye ge-na-ib /ole/ eka mete-n-ib-a ...
there build-thus-3p then and up-ss-3p-co-ord
'... there they built sister's house, then the nurses'
house then they went up ...'
4. ... itamo Neksebe amo ye ge-ib /ole/ eka ibmeto
over Nekseb house there built-3p then and on.top
gabmane okok nakai amo ye gena tla-ib
government work men house there built come-3p
/ole/ eka ta-n-ib-a ...
then and over-ss-3p-co-ord
'... and over there they built Nekseb's house, then on
top they built houses for the government workmen and
then they went over ...'
5. ... yole ute Finalua defabam omet-n-ob /ale/
then on.top Finalua.river head over-ss-lp then
/ole/ Usake dim tab tla-n-ob-a ...
then Usake on down came-ss-lp-co-ord
'... then we came over the head of the Finalua River and
followed the Usake River down ...'
6. ... naka mine emaye omo-n-e /ale/
man one himself get.it-ss-3sgm then
omginim-ø-e /ole/ makile besa daha-b-ib
hangs.it-ds-3sgm then others nothing help-cont-3p
/ale/ amgi-n-amab-e ...
then hangs-pu-f.sg-3sgm
'... this man himself gets it and hangs it then others
help him unsuccessfully, then he, the one who will hang
it, ...'

2 THREE BASE SENTENCES

2.0 Introduction

In the three base sentences one base is optional and only two are obligatory. The difference between this type and the multi-based type is that in the three base sentences three bases appear to be the maximum. In the Quote Sentence and the Summary Sentence it is the first base that is optional, in the Alternative Sentence and the Amplification Sentence the final base is optional. While in the Amplification Sentence three bases have been noted as maximum, it is possible, with more material, that this might be found to be expandable.

2.1 Quote Sentence=

Slots	+(+Base ₁ (Opening)	+Link)	+Base ₂ (Quote)	+Base ₃ (Closure)
Fillers	noun phrase dep cl Sim S Co-ord S Contrary to Expectation S Completive - Event S	<u>a</u> <u>o</u> <u>ole</u>	any sentence type exclamations paragraph discourse	dep cl indep cl
Special Features	filled by a limited class of verbs: <u>banamin</u> 'to talk' <u>ngalin</u> 'to call out' <u>funalin</u> 'to think' Verb is generally affixed with ss marker		Quotation always ends with indep. verb with mood marker	filled by some form of <u>genalin</u> 'to say'

Rules:

- (1) This is a three base construction with two bases obligatory-Base₁ being the optional base.
- (2) The tenses of Base₂ and Base₃ can be same or different with no restriction of tenses.
- (3) Base₁ is filled by a limited class of verbs: 'to talk', 'to call out', 'to think'.
- (4) The verb of Base₁ is generally marked for same subject except when -b 'cont' occurs on the verb. The same subject marker here anticipates the subject of Base₃ which is always the same as Base₁.
- (5) Base₂ is a direct quotation, always ending in a verb with mood marker.
- (6) Base₃ is filled by genalin 'to say'. This can be stem, stem plus link, stem plus normal affixation or stem plus banamin 'to talk', ngalin 'to call', funalin 'to think' in any form.
- (7) When a noun phrase is the filler of Base₁ it identifies the speaker.

Description:

The Quote Sentence is reported speech and can embed in several sentence types, but most commonly occurs embedded in the Co-ordinate Sentence. Any sentence type can embed in the Quotation Base of a Quote Sentence. Paragraphs and discourses can also embed in this base. The Quote Sentence has an obligatory Closure Base.

Examples:

1. ... mine baa-n-e /o/ "... un-om-o / ge
 son talk-ss-3sgm when go-lp-imp say
 baa-s-e-ta ...
 talk-ds.seq-3sgm-seq.fo
 '... when the son said, "... we must go" thus he said ...'
2. ... unang nakai a i /ibo fatna-n-ib-e
 women men and they you want.do-ss-2p-int
 ge-s-ib-a ...
 say-ds.seq-3p-co-ord
 '... the men and women said, "What have you done?" ...'

3. ... ni dei-n-ob-a uno-n-ob-a nini bib
 we left-ss-lp-co-ord go-ss-lp-co-ord our place
am un-omab-bio-bo / ge-t o ...
 place go-f.p-lp-emp say-seq.fo when
 '... when we say, "We will leave and go to our place"..."
4. ... ye ngam-b-e/-a/ "eilono eilono"
 there calls.out-cont-3sgm-co-ord "eilono eilono"
ngam-b-e-a ...
 calls-cont-3sgm-co-ord
 '... he calls out "Eilono eilono!"
5. ... baa-n-e /o/ un-in-e / ge baa-s-e-a ...
 talk-ss-3sgm when go-2p-imp / say talk-ds-seq-3sgm-co-ord
 '... when he said 'go!' ...'
6. balue te dleb un-ek-o / ge baa-n-ib-a ...
 plane come us.get go-3sgm-imp say talk-ss-3p-co-ord
 "'The plane must come and get us" they said ...'
7. ... taiye kontlaak kei-ob-o-bo / ge-ib-a ...
 thus contract make-lp-pr-emp say-3p-co-ord
 '... "thus we make a contract" they said ...'
8. ... fatnamin ota okok ke-b-ib-e-se / ge
 what it work do-pr-3p-int-? say
baa-nam-ib-ba-be
talk-pu-2p-neg-ind
 '... you can't say "What kind of work do they do?"
9. ... ge-n-om-o / ge-n-ob-a ...
 work-pu-lp-imp say-ss-lp-co-ord
 '... we said "We must do it" ...'
10. ... eka imin i / mo ina-om-o / ge-ta ...
 and again they abil kill.them-lp-imp say-seq.fo
 '... and again they said "Let's kill them" ...'
11. ... baa-ib /o/ kobo ole benda ota okok n-al-e /
 talk-3p when you this paint it work be-2sg-imp
ge-s-ib-a ...
say-ds.seq-3p-co-ord
 '... when they said "You must be a painter" ...'

2.2 Alternative Sentence

The Alternative Sentence has two sub-types, Stated Alternative and Assumed Alternative.

2.2.1 Stated Alternative

Slot	+Base ₁ (Alt ₁)	+Co-ord Link	+Alt Link	+Base ₂ (Alt ₂)	+Co-ord Link	+ (+Link	+Base ₃)
Fillers	dep cl stat cl indep cl	< -ta > -tia o 'when'	<u>bleka</u> 'or'	dep cl stat cl indep cl	< -ta >	<u>bleka</u>	indep cl Co-ord S
Special Features				If this is the final base of sentence it has a final verb with int mood marker			Final verb with an int mood marker.

Rules:

- (1) This can be a three base construction but the most common occurrence is only two bases.
- (2) Tense can be the same or different on all bases with no restriction of tenses.
- (3) The final base of sentence is always filled by an independent clause with interrogative mood marker.
- (4) The optional Base₃ can be either a repetition of first alternative (Base₁), putting added emphasis on this, or it can be a third alternative. The third alternative has only been found through elicitation and never in text to date. The informant, while agreeing to a third alternative did not seem completely happy about it.
- (5) This sentence does not imbed in any other sentence type but expounds only an Interrogative Paragraph.

Description:

The Stated Alternative Sentence expresses the idea of two or more alternatives, and always occurs as a question. The construction is most commonly a two base construction with the optional third base coming in usually to reinforce the first alternative. This sentence does not seem to occur commonly in text and may be limited to a particular type of discourse. Sometimes the Co-ordinate Link is filled by o 'when/at this time', or sometimes -tia 'focus interrogative' instead of the Sequence Focus Link -ta.

Examples:

1. besa un-ang ge-n-eb/-ta/ bleka/
 nothing go-des say-ss-2sg-co-ord or
 okok kem un-amab-eb-a
 work do go-f.sg-2sg-int
 'Are you going for nothing or are you going to work?'
2. ob ai esa ob biem osa ka-ib-bio /bleka/
 your father he your mother she die-3p-fpt or
 sma bl-ib-a
 still are-3p-int
 'Have your father and mother died or are they still living?'

3. homon /bleka / elekiem-a
many or just.one-int
'Many or just one?'
4. eka ob nengo meleli mo bl-ib /bleka/ blim-a
and your y.sis children abil are-3p or nothing-int
'And does your younger sister have children or not?'
5. obo komok sena-ya /bleka/ komokwali blim-a
your headmen with-i.tc or headman nothing-int
'Do you have a headman or not?'
6. kim deib bi-n-eb-ta Australia un-amab-eb
on road until-ss-2sg-co-ord Australia go-f.sg-2sg
/bleka/ fatna-nan-amab-eb-e
or what-do-f.sg-2sg-int
'Will you go by road to Australia or what?'
7. ob bibo Australiao sinanggwan bib /bleka/ un
your place Australia ancient place or temporary
bib-a
place-int
'Is your place, Australia, an established place or a temporary place?'
8. isa tobtlim-bin-ib-bu/-a/ bleka/ tekein
they ignorant-cont-3--fpt-co-ord or know
ke-bin-ib-bu-a
do-cont-3p-fpt-int
'Were they ignorant or did they have knowledge?'
9. ibmaye walo wem-biaa-n-ib/-ti-a
yourselves buy eat-cont-ss-2p-seq.fo-int
/bleka/ Dokta eta weye-b-e-ta
or Doctor he buy-cont-3sgm-seq.fo
wem-biaa-n-ib-ti-a
eat-cont-ss-2p-seq.fo-int
'Did you buy it yourselves and eat it, or did the doctor buy it and you ate it?'

10. skul ke-bin-ib-bu-a /o/ bleka/ besa
school do-cont-3p-ts when or nothing

bin-ib-bu/-a/ bleka/ skul ke -bin -ib -bu -a
are-3p-ts-co-ord or school do -cont -3p -fpt -int

'Did they go to school at this time or did they do nothing or did they go to school?'

11. i Gode bobolo mo fum-biaa-n-ib/-ta/
they God heart abil think-cont-ss-3p-seq.fo

/bleka/ i dokobe-b-io/-ta/ bleka/
or they forget-pt-3p-seq.fo or

fum-biaa-n-ib-ti-a
think-cont-ss-3p-seq.fo-int

'Did they think about God or did they forget him or did they think about him?'

2.2.2 Assumed Alternative Sentence=

Slots	+ Base ₁ (Alt ₁) ¹	+ Alt.Link
Fillers	indep cl Completive-Event S	<u>bleka</u> 'or'
Special Features	Final verb with int mood marker.	

Rules:

- (1) This construction has one obligatory alternate tagmeme with the other alternative assumed. There is also an obligatory link.
- (2) Whereas in a two alternative construction the second alternative would carry the interrogative mood marker, in this construction the interrogative mood marker occurs in Base₁ preceding the link.

Description:

This construction is a sub-type of the Alternative Sentence and expresses the same idea, of two alternatives being given. However, only one alternative is actually expressed, with the second alternative assumed and perhaps being the alternative of 'or not' or 'or what'.

Examples:

1. ... Laio ginin gami am om-b-ib/-a/ bleka/
 Lae sick one house went-pt-2p-int or
 '... to the Lae hospital or?'
2. i skulo sin tekein ke-biaa-n-ib-ta
 they school before knowledge do-cont-ss-3p-seq.fo
i Australia ge-ib-bu/-a/ bleka/
 they Australia built-3p-fpt-int or
 'Did they have knowledge of school before and build
 Australia or?'

2.3 Amplification Sentence=

Slots	+Base ₁ (Statement)	+Link	+Base ₂ (Amplification)	⁺ - (+Link)	+Base ₃ (Amplification)
	dep cl Cause-Result S Dur S	<-ta>	dep cl indep cl Process S	<-ta>	dep cl indep cl Process S
Special Features	Same verb or a synonym in all bases. Same subject in all bases. Base ₂ and Base ₃ are an enlargement of Base ₁				

Rules:

- (1) This is a three base construction with two bases obligatory.
- (2) Verbs of all bases are the same or synonyms.
- (3) Tense is the same.
- (4) Subject is the same.
- (5) Verb of Base1 does not necessarily need to be marked for same subject to match verb of Base2 of Amplification Sentence. It may be marked for different subject in anticipation of a different subject in next sentence.
- (6) Base2 and Base3 virtually say the same thing as Base1 but give more detail. Base2 and Base3 have the same verb, or a synonym, as Base1, but don't necessarily have the same tagmemes.

Description:

In the Amplification Sentence, Base2 increases the amount of information given in Base1. This construction can have a third base in which case Base3 again says virtually the same as the other two bases, but gives more information than is given in the other two bases.

Examples:

1. ... sin tl- ϕ -e/-a/ eka i iwat mubiango
first come-ds-3sgm-co-ord and they there last
deibe tl-e-bu/-a
left come-3sgm-ts-co-ord
 '... first he came, he left those who came last and he came ...'
2. ... ni klayam kima- ϕ -ib/-a/ ni tablawali Dios
us well care.for-ds-3p-co-ord our white.men Dios
esa Lenggi esa eka Yemis esa Wesani esa ni
he Lenggi he and Yemis and Wesani he our
ayam kima- ϕ -ib-a ...
good care.for-ds-3p-co-ord
 '... they care for us well, our white men, Dios and Lenggi and Yemis and Wesani care for us well ...'
3. ... mema dim olota ota wala/-ta/ tesino tesino
now time this it went-seq.fo station station

Buka ota un-i-bio-ta ...

Buka it went-lsg-ts-seq.fo

'... now at this time I went, I went to the plantation at Buka ...'

4. ... kwinota sis kilokota tat-n-ib/-ta/ bibo
afternoon six o'clock come-ss-3p-seq.fo place
natl-ib-bio-be
come-3p-pt-ind

'... in the afternoon at six o'clock they came, they came to their village ...'

5. ... kontlaak ke-n-ib/-a/ Kelefol bibo kontlaak
contract do-ss-3p-co-ord Telefomin place contract
ke-n-ib-a ...
make-ss-3p-co-ord

'... they made a contract, they made a contract in Telefomin ...'

6. ... laso tat-n-ob/-a/ Houteni laso tat-n-ob-a ...
last down-ss-lp-co-ord Houtmin last down-ss-lp-co-ord

'... we are last, we, the Houtmin people are last ...'

7. ... "... ge-n-i/-a/ Klisten unanga nakai a
say-ss-lsg-co-ord Christian women men and
inang ge-n-i/-a/ weeng omo
thus say-ss-lsg-co-ord talk give
baabe-n-amab-i-be
talk-pu-f.sg-lsg-ind

'... thus I will say, I will say this to the Christian men and women, I will give them this talk.'

2.4 Summary Sentence=

Slots	+Base ₁ (Generic)	+Link)	+Base ₂ (Specific)	+Link +Base ₃ (Generic summary)
Fillers	dep cl	<ta>	dep cl Co-ord S Parallel S Process S Sim S	<ta> dep cl indep cl
Special Features	Verb is always marked for ss			Filled by formulaic <u>inamin</u> 'thus do'

Rules:

- (1) This is a three base construction with two obligatory bases, Base₁ being optional.
- (2) There is an obligatory link filled by <ta>.
- (3) While a dependent clause can fill Base₂ of this sentence, more frequently a multi-based sentence is embedded here.
- (4) Subject of Base₃ is the same as subject of Base₂ but if Base₂ subjects are numerous and listed individually they are summed up in the plural subject of Base₃.
- (5) Base₃ is filled by the formulaic inamin 'thus do'.
- (6) No embedding occurs in Base₃.

Description:

The Summary Sentence expresses the idea of various actions/states occurring (Base2) which are summed up in Base3. Optionally Base1 occurs with a general statement, Base2 becomes more specific, giving more details, and Base3 sums it up. Any of the multi-based sentence constructions can embed in Base2 but no embedding occurs in Base3. Base3 is always filled by the formulaic 'thus do'.

Examples:

1. tl-ø-ob/-ta/ ina-ø-ob bina-bo
 come-ds-lp-seq.fo thus-ds-lp hab-emp
 'We came, thus we did in the past.'

2. ... yole Usake dim tla-n-ob/-ta ne ye
 then Usake on came-ss-we-seq.fo and there
 bi-n-ob/-ta/ wate-n-ob/-ta/ bibo warabungo
 are-ss-lp-seq.fo over-ss-lp-seq.fo place place.where
 watl-ø-ob-bio/-ta/
 waters.come.together come-ds-lp-ts-seq.fo
 ina -ob bina -bo
 thus -lp hab -emp
 '... we followed the Usake river down, we came and came
 until we came over, we came to the place where the waters
 meet, thus we did in the past.'

3. ... bablun tle-b-o/-a/ salwe-biaa-n-ob/-a/
 rolling came-cont-3sg-co-ord shot.it-cont-ss-lp-co-ord
 dilim-biaa-n-ob/-a/ ota min amit
 yodelled-cont-ss-lp-co-ord it ? always
 ina-biaa-n-ob-a ...
 thus-cont-ss-lp-co-ord
 '... while it came rolling we shot at it and yodelled,
 we always did this ...'

4. ... mululo klaa toma-na-ib /ole/ ole/ buo
 headdress good fastened-thus-3p then then stop
 olabba-na-ib /ole/ binala tem-na-ib /ole/
 fix-thus-3p then tested test-thus-3p then
 na ina bi-a ...
 thus thus be-co-ord
 '... they fastened the headdresses, put them in place,
 tested them to see if they would hold, thus they did ...'

5. ... i ye Kelepoli kikibo Kemeli ye Kemeli
 they there Telefomin close Kemelmin there Kemelmins
ye te-na-ib/-a/ Sokai ye
 there come-thus-3p-co-ord Sokamins there
te-na-ib/-a/ Wamei ye te-na-ib/-a/
 come-thus-3p-co-ord Wameimins there come-thus-3p-co-ord
da Amaloui ye te-na-ib/-a/ ta mabo
 down Amaloumins there come-thus-3p-co-ord go down
Waiteni ye te-na-ib/-a/ Usalei teni
 Waimins there come-thus-3p-co-ord Usalei people
ye te-na-ib/-a/ na-ob...
 there come-thus-3p-co-ord thus-1p

'... the Kemelmins are there close to the Telefomins, and then the Sokamins and then the Wameimins, then the Amaloumins, and the Waimins, and the Usaleimins thus we are ...'

3 TWO BASE SENTENCES

3.0 Introduction

In the two base constructions, the bases in all sentence types except the Indirect Quote Sentence and the Negative-Positive Amplification Sentence are linked by a conjunction. In the Indirect Quote Sentence the bases are linked by a Co-ordinate Link. The Negative-Positive Amplification Sentence has no link. The Contrary to Fact and the Cause-Result Sentence also have an obligatory Co-ordinate link along with the conjunction. All the rest, except for the Condition Sentence and the Contrary to Exception Sentence have an optional Co-ordinate Link with the conjunction.

3.1 Completive - Event Sentence

The Completive-Event Sentence has two sub-types, Completive-Event Sentence and Reason Sentence.

3.1.1 Completive-Event Sentence=

Slots	+Base ₁ (Completive) Event)	+Co-ord Link	+Temporal Link	+Co-ord Link	+Base ₂ (Sub-sequent Event)
Slots	dep cl Quote S Amp S Co-ord S Contrary to Expectation S Indirect Quote S	< -ta >	<u>o</u> 'when'	< -ta >	dep cl indep cl Completive-Event S Dur S Process S Sim S Quote S
Special Features	Tense same in both bases				

Rules:

- (1) This is a binary construction with two obligatory base tagmemes.
- (2) Tenses of both bases are the same with no tense restrictions.
- (3) Subjects of both bases can be same or different.
- (4) The Completive-Event Link is obligatory and is filled by o 'when'. This sentence type may also have one optional Co-ordinate Link which can occur either before or after Completive-Event Link.

Description:

The Completive-Event Sentence expresses the idea of a second action beginning (Base₂) while the first action (Base₁) is still going on, or immediately after its completion. This sentence type optionally takes the Co-ordinate Link which can occur either before or after the Completive-Event Link. When occurring before, the -ta and o change to -to.

Examples:

1.tam tla dilibia unom ga- ϕ -ib /o/
 out come about go say-ds-3p when
 watlabinam- ϕ -ob ole ...
 restrain-ds-lp then
 '... when they come out and are about to go to other
 places, we restrain them ...'
2. ... Finalua fiftabie tab un- ϕ -ob /o/ aagamey aaye
 Finalua join down to-ds-lp when driftwood water
 makob sin' ye fu ge-n-e-bio-ta ...
 like before there fight fasten-ss-3sgm-ts-seq.fo
 '... when we went down where the Finaluo River joins, the
 river was in flood as before ...'
3. ... daak waa unang ga- ϕ -eb /o/ senabie
 down swim go say-ds-2sg when crocodiles
 isa ye kena-omab-ib-a ...
 they there kill.you-f.p-3p-co-ord
 '... when you swim, the crocodiles will get you ...'
4. ... biaa- ϕ -ib /o/ dleb te-n-i-ta ...
 stop-ds-3p when bring.them come-ss-lsg-seq.fo
 '... when they stop, I will bring them and come ...'
5. ... baa-n-e /o/ "... " ge baa-s-e-a
 talk-ss-3sg when say talk-ds.seq-3sg.-co-ord
 wat-n-ib-a ...
 over-ss-3p-co-ord
 '... when he said "...", they went over ...'
6. ... imine inanam- ϕ -ob / o-ta / o-ta unang sena
 again kill-ds-lp when-seq.fo it women also
 Daninge sena ita alukum dowonam-in-o-be
 Daning also they all eat-cust-3sg-ind
 '... when we kill the next time, it is the custom for the
 women and Daning to eat also.'
7. ... Mande Tunde okok kem una- ϕ -ob / o-ta balubib
 Mon Tue work do go-ds-lp when-seq.fo airstrip
 kene blima-n-amab-e-be
 edge finish-pu-f.sg-3sgm-ind

'... when we have worked Monday and Tuesday, the airstrip edge will be finished.'

8. ... ge /t-o / o-biaa-n-ob/-t-o/
 say seq.fo-when talk-cont-ss-lp-seq.fo-when
de uno-n-ob-a ...
 leave go-ss-lp-co-ord

'... when we say thus, while we are talking, we will leave and go ...'

9. ... Boblik ten ita eka Kemei teni tem Soka teni
 Boblik people they and Kemei people with Soka people
tem na-ta ita yana-ib-bio/-t-o/
 with thus-seq.fo they kill-3p-ts-seq.fo-when
eka nile besa ...
 and we nothing

'... when the Boblikmins and the Kemeilmins and the Sokamins together killed them, we did nothing ...'

10. ... hap bilong Buka okok un-ø-i-bio/-t-o/
 place of Buka work go-ds-lsg-ts-seq.fo-when
Buka aaye kene wage nambis weat okok un-ø-i-bio
 Buka water edge ? seaside there work go-ds-lsg-ts
bi-ta ...
be-seq.fo

'... when I went to Buka to work, Buka is beside the sea, I worked there until ...'

3.1.2 Reason Sentence=

Slots	+Base1 (Reason)	+ Link	+Base2 (Event)
Fillers	indep cl	<u>o</u> 'when'	dep cl indep cl Dur S
Special features	the verb in this base is always marked for future tense		past or present tense

Rules:

- (1) This is a binary construction and has two obligatory base tagmemes.
- (2) The tenses are always different, the verb of Base₁ being future and the verb of Base₂ being past or present.

Description:

The Reason Sentence expresses the idea that because something is going to happen (Base₁) the event of Base₂ has happened or is happening. This construction obligatorily has two bases and one link filled by o 'when'.

Examples:

1. ... wala bungo un-amab-e /o/ inange beten kem
water join go-f.sg-3sgm when thus pray do
kem-n-e-a ...
do-ss-3sgm-co-ord
'... because he is going to the place where the waters meet, he prayed ...'
2. ... ne meme isa skul kem-omab-ib /o/ samo
our children they school do-f.p-3p when happy
klaa ye bele-b-ib bi-ta ...
good there dance-cont-3p be-seq.fo
'... because our children will go to school, they were happy and danced until ...'
3. ... naka eli skuli amisaalo beselabe-omab-ib /o/
men these school.boys door open.for-f.p-3p when
unangi imeno nini-b-io-be
women taro scrape-pt-3p-ind
'... because these men will open the door for the school boys the women scraped taro.'

3.2 Cause-Result Sentence=

Slot	+Base1 (Cause)	+Cause-Result Link	+Co-ord Link	+Base2 (Resultant Event)
Fillers	dep cl indep cl Sim S Process S	<u>keso</u> 'so'	<- <u>ta</u> >	dep cl indep cl Cause-Result S Sim S Completive-Event S Quote S Co-ord S
Special features				

Rules:

- (1) This is a binary construction with two obligatory base tagmemes.
- (2) The Cause-Result Link is filled by keso 'so'
- (3) Co-ordinate Link is obligatory.
- (4) Subjects can be same or different.
- (5) Tenses can be same or different with no restriction.

Description:

The Cause -Result Sentence expresses the idea that because of a certain action or situation (Base₁) another action or situation is resulting (Base₂).

Examples:

- 1. ... de-o /keso-a/ "... " ge-n-i ye
 thus-it so-co-ord say-ss-lsg this
 '... it does thus so I think"... "'

2. ... hengmino mo omkeima-im blim /keso-ta/
sin abil confess-cust.pt. nothing so-seq.fo
baabke-n-ob-ta ...
talk.to.you-ss-lp-seq.fo
 '... you haven't confessed your sins, so we must talk to you ...'
3. ... san ole ye blima-o /keso-a/
tops they there finish-3sg so-co-ord
deib-na-b-ob-ta ...
left.them-thus-cont-lp-seq.fo
 '... the taro tops were finished, so we left them ...'
4. ... abilane /keso-a nakai nakai 10 pela men
heavy so-co-ord men men ten men
nita te-n-ob-ta ...
we came-ss-lp-seq.fo.
 '... it was heavy so ten men came ...'
5. ... dili daab bema tle-b-ib /keso-a/
up down ? come-cont-3p so-co-ord
yate-n-i-a ...
saw-ss-lsg-co-ord
 '... they walked on the stairs, so I saw them ...'
6. ... omano /keso-a/ tliaubos-o-a ...
hurt so-co-ord angry-3sgf-co-ord
 '... it hurt, so she was angry ...'
7. ... yole boman-ang genam-o /keso-a/ eno memei
then morning-des say-3sgf so-co-ord el.sis children
manggolom-s-ib-a ...
cry-ds.seq-3p-co-ord
 '... then it was almost dawn, so the elder sister's children cried ...'
8. ... usan eta bi-o /keso-a/ watem ute baa-i
tail it is-3sgf co-co-ord saw.it on.top talk-lsg
o senabio mak ambi-o-bo ge-s-i-ta ...
when crocodile one sleep-3sgf-emp say-ds.seq-lsg-seq.fo
 '... the tail was there, so when I saw it and came up and said "A crocodile sleeps" ...'

9. ... une un-ob /keso-a/ ometda yatemen de
 go go-lp so-co-ord turn look left
 deibe-n-ob-a ...
 left-ss-lp-co-ord
 '... we went so, we turned and looked at them ...'

3.3 Conditional Sentence=

Slots	+Base ₁ (Condition)	+Conditional Link	+Base ₂ (Event)
Fillers	dep cl Process S Indirect Quote S	<u>mole</u> 'if'	dep cl indep cl Co-ord S Process S Quote S Completive-Event S
Special Features	Tenses are the same in both bases Never occurs in past tense Subj may be same or diff		

Rules:

- (1) Binary construction with two obligatory base tagmemes.
- (2) Tenses are always the same and are restricted to habitual and future.
- (3) Subjects may be the same or different.
- (4) There is an obligatory link filled by mole 'if'.

Description:

The Conditional Sentence expresses the idea that one state/action must exist (Base₁) before another can be begun (Base₂). Because of the conditional nature, the tenses are restricted to habitual and future.

Examples:

1. ... ge-ib /mole/ omo-n-ob/-a/
say-3p if it.get-ss-lp-co-ord
'... if they say this, we will get it ...'
2. ... nita ye wanuba-n-ob-bu-a ge-ib /mole/ ele
we there kill-ss-lp-ts-co-ord say-3p if this
nita ya eil ita ye yenauba-n-omab-bu-a ...
we this pig it there kill-pu-f.p-lp-co-ord
'... if they say we shot his pig, we will kill pigs for him ...'
3. ... eka eka unin imaye ina-na-ib /mole/
and and food.eaters themselves kill-thus-3p if
imaye dleb te-n-ib-a ...
themselves bring come-ss-3p-co-ord
'... and if those who eat food themselves kill it, they themselves must bring it ...'
4. ... ae timamo bi-o /mole/ timam tab
yes men's.house is-3sg if men's.house in
dla-biaa-n-ib ale ...
put-cont-ss-3p then
'... yes, if there is a men's house they put it in the men's house then ...'
5. obo gem-b-eb-biaa /mole/ ne baatne-n-al-e
you sick-pr-2sg-cont if me tell.me-pu-2sg-imp
'If you are sick, tell me!'
6. memalo kobo ne futano olo watemeb /mole/ klaa
now you my letter this see if good
fu-n-a ...
think-ss-co-ord
'Now if you see my letter, remember ...'

7.... utl-ib /mole/ matni sma aala-biaa-Ø-ob o
come.up-3p if some still sleep-cont-ds-1p when
doha-in-e
wake.us-2p-imp

'... if you wake up, when some of us still sleep, wake us!'

3.4 Contrary to Fact Sentence=

Slot	+Base ₁	+Co-ord Link	+Conditional Link	+Base ₂
Fillers	dep cl	< <u>-ta</u> >	<u>mole</u> 'if'	dep cl indep cl paragraph
Special Features	Tense is the same in both bases and is restricted to past			

Rules:

- (1) This is a binary construction with two obligatory base tagmemes.
- (2) There are two obligatory link tagmemes, the Co-ordinate Link filled by -ta and the Conditional Link filled by mole.
- (3) Tense is the same in both bases and is restricted to past.

Description:

The Contrary to Fact Sentence expresses the idea that something might have happened (Base₂) and condition under which it would have happened (Base₁) but in actual fact it never did happen. The implication is that the condition was never met. In this construction the Co-ordinate Link as well as the Conditional Link are always obligatory and the tense is always past.

Examples:

1. aaye yalanam-in bi-o/-ta mole / ni 1973 e
 water get.us-cust be-3sg-seq.fo if we 1973

 dime tab bi-o-be ni baka yalob-on-e
 time down be-3sg-ind we together get.us-3sg-imp

 'If the water were going to get us, in 1973 when we were
 down there, it would have got us.'

3.5 Durative Sentence=

Slots	+Base ₁	⁺ Co-ord Link	+Dur Link	⁺ Co-ord Link	+Base ₂
Fillers	dep cl Sim S	< <u>-ta</u> >	verb <u>nin</u> 'to be'	< <u>-ta</u> > <u>ole</u>	Dur phrase dep cl indep cl Quote S Co-ord S
Special Features	Verb must have a cont stem or be suffixed by either one of the cont markers <u>-b</u> or <u>-biaa</u> or by <u>-bio</u> 'time span'		Filled by verb stem, or verb stem plus <u>-n</u> 'ss' plus the person marker.		

Rules:

- (1) This is a binary construction with two obligatory bases.
- (2) There is an obligatory Durative Link with two optional Co-ordinate Links. It is possible for all three links to occur in a sentence.
- (3) Tense is always the same. The verb in the Base₁ must be either a continuant stem or be suffixed either by a continuant action marker or a time span marker.

- (4) The Durative Link must be filled by nin 'to be'. It can be optionally affixed, but if affixed, must be affixed with same subject marker and a person marker which agrees with final base. Should a Co-ordinate Sentence be embedded in the final base the person marker and same subject marker would agree with and anticipate the verb of the final clause.
- (5) The Durative Link can be repeated for added effect, giving the idea of the event going on for a long duration.

Description:

The Durative Sentence conveys the idea that the first action (Base₁) goes on over a long period of time until the next action (Base₂) begins. This is a two base construction with a Durative Link. The Durative Link can be filled by some form of nin 'to be' and it can be repeated numerous times in order to emphasize the fact that this action goes on and on. Also the first base plus the Durative Link can be repeated numerous times to give the same effect.

Examples:

1. ... ita sala deib natl-ib-bio /bi/ kwinota sis
they on road come-3p-ts be afternoon six
kilok ota tat-n-ib-ta ...
o'clock it come-ss-3p-seq.fo
'... they came on the road until at six o'clock in the afternoon they arrived ...'
2. ... ga-b-ob/a bi / kwino-ta ...
cook.in.ground-cont-1p-co-ord be afternoon-seq.fo
'... they cooked in an earth oven until afternoon ...'
3. ... klaa kima-bl-ib /bia-ta / tl-ob-o-bo
good cared.for-be-3p be-seq.fo come-1p-pr-emp
'... they cared for us well until we came.'
4. ... bobol tem amun temo klaubu-eb-bio /bi-ta/
heart in inside in make-2sg-ts be-seq.fo
uno-ta bib ayam una-eb-o-bo
go-seq.fo place good go-2sg-pr-emp
'... (if you want to turn to Jesus) you must make ready until you go to the good place.'

5. klayam okok bi-eb /bi-ta / sinan ota
 good work be-2sg be-seq.fo later it
 katem-omab-bio-be
 see.you-f.p-lp-ind
 'You work well until later we will see you.'
6. bi-eb /bi-ta / sinan ota te-n-ob-ta
 be-2sg be-seq.fo later it come-ss-lp-seq.fo
 'You stay until later we will come.'
7. ... salwe-b-ob/-a bi-n-o-a /kwin-o-a
 shot-cont-lp-co-ord be-ss-3sg-co-ord evening-3sg-co-ord
 aniango ye bliman-o-a ...
 arrows there finish-3sg-co-ord
 '... we shot at it until evening when we had no arrows
 left ...'
8. ... atem-b-ib/-a bi-n-e ole / ye
 saw-cont-3p-co-ord be-ss-3sgm then there
 dalbi-n-e-a ...
 went.out-ss-3sgm-co-ord
 '... they saw it until it went out ...'
9. ... atem-b-ib/-ta/ /bi-n-e-ta/
 saw-cont-3p-seq.fo be-ss-3sgm-seq.fo
 blimanana-n-e-ta ...
 finish-ss-3sgm-seq.fo
 '... they saw it until it finished ...'

3.6 Contrary to Expectation Sentence =

Slots	+Base ₁ (Event)	+Adversative Link	+Base ₂ (Unexpected Event)
Fillers	dep cl Contrary to Expectation S Sim S	<u>otane</u> 'but'	dep cl indep cl Co-ord S Completive-Event S Contrary to Expectation S
Special Features	Tense may be either the same or go from pt → pr Subj may be ss or ds		Verb represents an unexpected action.

Rules:

- (1) This is a binary construction with two obligatory bases.
- (2) Tenses can be either the same or go from past to present.
- (3) Subject may be same or different.
- (4) Verb of Base₂ represents an unexpected action.

Description:

The Contrary to Expectation Sentence expresses the idea that something should have happened or is about to happen (an expected event) because of the event of Base₁ but instead an unexpected event happened (Base₂). In other words, an expectancy chain is broken. This might or might not be the result of an unstated frustration action.

Examples:

1. ... Sume min esa keim ye toumbi /otane/ kobo mo
Big.One Son he clear there sit but you abil
atem-ø-eb-ba-bo
see-ds-2sg-neg-emp
 '... the Big One and His Son sit there but you don't see them'
2. ... seek buko ye om-eb-bu /otane/ monio ota beng
pass book there take-2sg-ts but money it bank
temo yo mo olaim blim ...
in there abil put-cust nothing
 '... you took your pass book, but you didn't put the money in the bank ...'
3. ... bi-eb /otane/ benge emaye dondokobke-n-e-a ...
be-2sg but bank it helps.you-ss-3sgm-co-ord
 '... you stop but the bank helps you ...'
4. ... aayo ye fuela-eb-bu /otane/ kobo mo baino-bo
water there wash-2sg-ts but you abil true-emp
ge-im blim bi-eb ...
say-cust nothing be-2sg
 '... you were baptized but you have no faith ...'
5. ... keb baino-be gal-in-o mo sbal mab ke-im
your true-ind say-cust-3sgm abil strong ? do-cust
blim-bu /otane/ Gode emaye dondokobke-n-e ...
nothing-ts but God himself helps.you-ss-3sgm
 '... your faith wasn't strong but God Himself helps you ...'
6. ... okoko ke-b-ob /otane/ okoko bumolok-o-be
work do-cont-1p but work hard-3sgf-ind
 '... we are working but the work is hard.'
7. ... ina /otane/ ne damo alukum klayam-o-be
thus but my body all well-3sg-ind.
 '... thus but I am well.'

2. ... ni nimalo mo tl-im blim / Sume
 we ourselves abil come-cust.pt nothing Big.One
emaye welolo-n-e-a ...
 himself mark.us-ss-3sgm-co-ord
 '... we didn't come of ourselves, God chose us ...'

3. ... ni mo baa-n-ob-ta tosiana skulo tosiana
 we abil talk-ss-lp-seq.fo afraid school afraid
de un-om-o eka de bibam un-om-o ge
 leave go-lp-imp and thus place go-lp-imp say
baa-n-om-ob-ba / ni bobol tem fum-b-ob-a
 talk-ss-?-lp-neg our heart in think-cont-lp-co-ord
sa makob min ayam ye nini bib dikin ye
 and like ? good there our place straight there
beye-b-o-a ...
 stop-cont-3sgf-co-ord
 '... we don't say, "We are afraid and will leave school
 and go to our place", we think that this place is straight
 and good like our place and we stay ...'

3.8 Indirect Quote Sentence=

Slots	+Base ₁ (Quote)	+Link	+Base ₂ (Closure)
Fillers	dep cl Co-ord S Alternative S	<- <u>ta</u> >	dep cl indep cl
Special Features	never filled by indep cl with mood marker. Subj. diff. in each base.		filled by a limited class of verbs: <u>genalin</u> 'to say' <u>funin</u> 'to think' <u>tememin</u> 'to see'

Rules:

- (1) This is a binary construction with two obligatory base tagmemes.
- (2) The link is obligatorily filled by $\langle -ta \rangle$.
- (3) Subject is different in each base.
- (4) Base₂ is filled by a small class of speech verbs.
- (5) Tense can be the same or different.
- (6) Base₁ is never filled by an independent clause with mood marker, whereas in the Quote Sentence the Quote Base is always filled by an independent clause with mood marker.

Description:

The Indirect Quote Sentence expresses the idea that the person is reporting on what he heard, saw, or thought but without giving it in direct speech. The Indirect Quote Sentence seems to most commonly report on what is seen; thoughts and speech more generally are expressed in Direct Quote Sentence. It would be assumed that, with more data, the verbs 'to hear' and 'to know' might also occur filling Base₂ of this sentence type.

Examples:

1. ... nita ye wanuba-n-ob-bu/-a/ ge-ib ...
 we here kill.it-ss-lp-ts-co-ord say-3p
 '... they say we shot his pigs ...'
2. eka ibo sino Mianam daak bl-ib/-a/ ne
 and you(p) before Mianmin down are-2p-co-ord I
 yatem-i-bu ...
 saw.you-lsg-ts
 'and I saw you in Mianmin ...'
3. mina-biaa-n-eb/-a/ na-b-eb/-a/
 gather-cont-ss-2sg-co-ord thus-cont-2sg-co-ord
 katem-i-bu-o
 see-lsg-pt-int
 'Did I see you gather them together thus?'

4. obo dolo-n-eb-a skul ke-b-eb-ta
 you bring.them-ss-2sg-co-ord school do-cont-2sg-seq.fo
 bleka besa dolmina-b-eb/-ta/
 or nothing them.gather-cont-2sg-seq.fo
 katem-i-bu-o
 saw.you-lsg-pt-int
 'Did I see you gather them for school or for nothing?'
5. Mianamo nimin sabmine okoko ke-b-eb/-ta/
 Mianmin what kind.of work do-cont-2sg-seq.fo
 ne katem-i-ta ...
 I saw.you-lsg-seq.fo
 'What kind of work did I see you do in Mianmin?'