

CHAPTER X 7

Biargai

FOCUS

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June 1978

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7.0. This chapter is to describe Focus in Xiangai.
Focus is permitted on the word, phrase, clause and sentence levels.

7.1. There are two main focus markers: pera/pura, and purik which consist of the Demonstrative pronouns pe- 'this' or pu- 'that', and the classifiers -ra '(NPU time/whole)' or -rik '(reason/part GPU)'. In some relationships the purik carries strong focus while the pura carries a weaker focus.

Both of these focus markers optionally are prefixed by ma- '(limiter)'. Only mabura occurs on the Sentence level.

Focus on the word level is described in Section 3.3.2.2. under Demonstrative Pronouns.

7.1. ~~fxm~~ Focus on the phrase level is described in Section 4.1.5. under Focus Periphery.

7.2. Focus on the clause level. ~~@xm~~ Clause slots optionally are followed by the Focus marker for emphasis. In sentences containing Included Clauses, the focus markers ~~peru~~ pura or ~~peru~~ purik set apart the Included Clause as adjective ~~peru~~ or noun and focus on it, thus making it a temporal subordinate sentence.

Examples:

1. A teni yenge-le-ge kang purik teni-yaga wamenak
and we over-ArU-to go that we-agl only.one
uli ma nayau uli.
kill or two kill

'And (when) we go over there, (they) kill one or two of us.'

2. ...miza purik ngela logo llisi.
did that cut and.then debark

'(When you have) found (the tree), cut (it) and then debark (it).'

- 'And (when) they brought everything arriving there to sleep, they received tobacco, and food.'

'And (when) you are there, you yourself take good care of yourself there on the school ground.'

- '(When) the leaves of the mature early yam fall down,
the yam is ripe.'

- '..or (when it is) a woman, (tell them) such and such a woman (has) died.'

~~XXXXX~~ occurs frequently between the Equational Clause and the Imperative Mood.

- 'And (when) the clay (is) too hard, soften (it) (and) put...

- | | | |
|---------|-------|---|
| any-PIU | place | 'And (when it is) good ground, plant
any kink of yam.' |
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7.3. Focus and it's interaction on the sentence level.

7.3.1. In Interrogative constructions the statement is optionally followed by the focus marker pera, followed by the question. The question may be either a clause or an interrogative word.

Examples:

1. Kusa panu pera kobo-weki mizi ma?
black very that rain-pur do or
'(It is) dark, (is it) going to rain or (not)?'
2. Wata-rik llollougeli pera tangak wiya-rik?
meat-GPU smell that when put-GPU
'The meat smells, when (was it) put (here)?'
3. Pewili tallik mizi-weki karekmak lewa ono pera.
these.PAU what do-pur car come neg that
'What (are) these men to do? the car (has) not come.'

7.3.2. In the Simultaneous Different Subject Sentence and the Simultaneous Associate Sentence the focus markers pura and ~~mark~~ optionally follows the Conjoining tagmeme to focus on the action of Base₁.

Examples:

1. Ne yeke Kaisenik yerengke ngolluk tawizeige pura
I up Kaisenik village.in still ~~DSSim~~ AS that
mantik yeke Baptais Mission Wau pulogo Sonta mizi
boy up Baptist Mission Wau there worshiping
kaima-yau-gu inuwa-yegi kozak kisi.
came-DU-act you-agl speak say.pl
'While I was still in Kaisenik village, two boys who came to worship at the Baptist Mission in Wau, told (me) about (you).'
2. Teni ngolluk ngeragi na-ni koyiya pura puli
we still food neg-eat DSSim that they
lewagella mizi.
come.up do
'They habitually come while we still have not eaten'

An example without focus

3. Lawek pu-gu orowei yagoni-le-ge no-go mo-~~xxxxxx~~-na.
 knife he-act take continue-ArU-DSS I-act back-go-ca^{go}

'As he (was~~x~~ leaving) taking the knife there, I took (it) back.'

4. An example where the DDS Sentence reversed the Bases and use focus to emphasize ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ Base₂.

Kainta paka-le-ge pura Sibu yali yango I Ku^bri
 arrived up-ArU-at that Sibu dual daughter fem Kubi
koyi-le-ge.
 to.be-ArU=at

'(When)we arrived up there, Sibu and her daughter Kubi were there.'

7.3.3. In Succession Sentences the focus marker pura or purik optionally follows the Conjoining tagmeme to focus on the deep structure of succession emphasizing ~~xxx~~ that one action is after the other.

Examples:

1. Nu-gu liyeng namek yewa logo purik ne kebirik
 you-act pig one shot and.then that I head
wini kiragi kani.
 ax will.cut emp

'After you have shot a pig then I will cut the head with an ax (I will eat it.)'

2. Yeik keriya koyi wangki bikiyet miza logo
 just hear to.be.pl later conceited and.then
pura pangayauge ngowei nigeya miza logo pura
 that round.about to.steal eating and.then that
lewege did nelegi-ra.
 above did lest-NPU

'You all just listen here, lest later after becoming conceited and after mucking around stealing (and) eating that (behavior) takes over.'

The Bases of the Succession Sentence are optionally reversed to denote emphasis. In this case the marker

logo (succession)' remains with its Base₁ and the demonstrative purik 'that' optionally separates the two Bases which have been reversed.

3. ..orowei kanta purik panga willek orozagrage
 get arrived that across in.cliffside
melazami yezi mana koma logo.
 place smoked to.be and.then

'..take (and) lace (the bodies) over in the cave after (they) have been smoked.'

§zz§z

7.3.4. In Cause-Effect Margin Sentence and Circumstance Margin Sentences the focus marker pera, pura, or purik optionally follow the Effect in reversed tagmemes and focus on the Effect. Beside the examples below see the examples that go with each sentence type.

1. Ne pi-yegi ngeragi-yeng-ki nguk mei pera ne pongo
 I he-agl food-PIU-igl asked that I down
ngeragi na ono kopong.
 food ate neg because

'I asked him for food here because I did not eat down at the house.'

2. Kailing kai ngai pura kobo mana.
 river flooding that rained (kopong is delited)
 'The river (is) flooding because (it) rained.'

3. Togo yaka yompanu kollokngagono purik
 and.then past man plenty that
Kiya-wili nayau keya nak legi....
 Kiap-PAU three circumstance

'And so (there are) many carriers since (there are) three Kiaps....'

7.3.5. In the Adversative Sentence the focus markers pura or purik terminate the Goal tagmeme and focus on the Goal.

1. Kaibek kollomeiya purik segeya yera-~~h~~h~~h~~bene
 water to.dam that instead come-pur
kiyeng tukulla meli.
 stone remove

'Instead of damming up the water, remove the stones in order for the water to run off.'

2. Nu-gu ngagozak mizi purik segeya no-go ngagozak mizi-weki
 you-act to.court~~x~~ that instead I-act to.court-pur

'Instead of you (going) to court, I purpose (to go).'

7.3.6. In the Evaluation Sentence the Statement obligatorily contains the focus marker purik 'that'.

1. kai purik wameik. 'W~~a~~ What (I) say (is) true.'
 2. Weik sakpek-ko pillik meiya towa pillik
 now yng.bro-MU-act thus say.to.him we.two thus
kellemagi purik pangke ono mena.
 will.cause that right neg emp

'Now little brother said this to him, "That we tow will cause (strife) like this (is) not right." '

- 3....yeke yereng-ke mizi purik pangke.
 up village-in do that right

'...(it is) fine that (You) send (the letter) to the village.'

7.3.7. Condition. The most facinating area of focus in Biangai is in the deep structure of Condition. It is here where we see Papua New Guinea thinking reflected in the most unique way. The Conditional Sentence is not thought of as hypothetical in the ordinary sense, but the Protasis is thought of as being in focus. TheProtasis then

is any clause with some but very little restriction to time or aspect as listed in the rules of each sentence type. When the completed aspect is used in the Protasis, the condition has occurred in the past. Completed aspect is not permitted in the Apodosis.

Degrees of focus are also combined with definiteness of time and/or limitation to provide many variations.

7.3.7.1. The Direct Conditional Sentence consists of two obligatory tagmemes, the Protasis and Apodosis. The Protasis ~~xxxxxx~~ obligatorily contains the focus markers purik, pura, and pera 'that, this'. The focus has to do with the knowledge of the possibility with an-expected-to-happen aspect of thought. The implication in this construction is considered to be strong. There are some aspect ~~xxxxx~~ restrictions in the Direct Condition. The following combinations of ~~xxxxxx~~ aspect in the Protasis and Apodosis occur: a) Actual-Non-completed; b) Completed-Non-completed; c) Stative-Non-completed; d) Equational-Non-completed; and e) Non-completed-Actual.

- a) Samu-yeng tiyi purik mabek kolleiragi-rik a
 Samu-PIU tie that now will.break-GPU and
yengelei-lei-rau mabilik.
 tree-TrU-too as.well.

'If (you) tie with Samu (rope), (it) will break immediately ~~and~~ and the poles too, as well.'

Togo yali yokampanu kozang nayau mizi xpiyau
 and.then you.two people strong two do the.two
ingenaze-wili-yegi ngai yaka waberek purik weik
 gueses-PAU-agl watch past carefully that now
no-go yali-yegi wilik mizagi kani.
 I-act dual-agl happy will.do emp

'If you two man and woman (are) two who (are) capable of doing (that) (and) watch after the guests properly, I will ~~now~~ ^{then} be happy (with) you.'

- b) Teni mabuli puli teni-yegi ngai kaiyima purik
 we all they we-agl fight came that
na-mele-ga nak-tau wik kangki ono.
 one-woman-and one-too alive will.go neg

'If they came to fight all of us, not one of (their) men or women returned alive.'

- c) Inuwa mamo-rok i-ge pulogo menalege yolu pura
 you all-act house-in there together to.be that
yaka mizi-weki kai pu-ra tak-ko mizagi-ra?
 past do-pur say that-NPU who-act will.do-NPU

'If you all stay there together in the house, who will do that work that was planned?'

- d) ~~Kai~~ Kailing yemane purik pi kaigorik kaigisagi ono.
 river big that she cloth will.wash neg

'If the river (is) high, whe will not wash clothes.'

- e) Ni panga pulogo wiziyagi purik kemageme ma pillik...
 you across there will.stay that sick or like.this

'If you stay over there (you are) sick or the like, (then mother and I will not be close enough to say 'How are you doing?')

7.3.7.2. The Indirect Conditional Sentence consists of two obligatory tagmemes, the Protasis and Apodosis. The Protasis obligatorily ~~xxxxxxxx~~ contains the focus marker mabura 'should'. It focuses on the experience of the Protasis and the Apodosis is one of suggestion or something alluded to.

1. Togo weik ngagora-go Kisimasi-ra miza logo
 and.then now message-act Christmas-NPU did and.then
walleleige purik koloyakamantik nawili mabura
 after. awhile that children some should
wezayeli-zo.
 send.them-oblig

'And so the message said, "Have Christmas and then after awhile should you have some (school age) children, you must send them.'

7.3.7.3. The Contingency Sentence consists of two obligatory tagmemes, the Protasis and Apodosis. The Protasis obligatorily contains the temporal classifier -wek '(TiU, time)' plus -ke 'at' suffixed to the final predicate of the Protasis plus the focus marker purik 'that'. The temporal classifier may be prefixed by pu- 'that' making the time more ~~specific~~ specific puwekke 'at that time'. The specific time puwekke purik is more frequent. In 30 examples, only 1 manifested the suffix -wekke purik. The focus marker purik is optionally suffixed with -tau 'also' giving the meaning of 'also when'.

1. Pura pulu-gu kisi-ra kebarek-pek kebarek unatuba
that they-act say-NPU wind big wind big
lewa-wek-ke purik pobu meleyau wizalle-bek purik
come-time-at that that-act branches stick-MU that
kebarek-pek yeik kai.
wind-MU neg say

'What they say about the wind (is) if when a big wind comes, when bamboo branches (are) hit together, the wind comes ceases.'

2. Sollo panu-rik impanu nak lawik-~~xy~~yeng ngeriyagi
origin very-GPU man one yam-PAU will.plant
puwekke purik were keriyi wei mizi ngabellak-yeng-ki.
at.that.time that first look around ground-PIU-igl

'In the very beginning at that time when a man wants to plant yam he first looks around for ground.'

3. Togo pungiziga weik peyeng lewagella
and.then after.awhile now these.things appear
puwekke purik weik lawik sisi kiri.
at.that.time that now yam stick cut'

'And then after awhile at the time when the sprouts come up, begin cutting the yam sticks.'