

M A R I N G   P H R A S E S

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## MARING PHRASES

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Abbreviations and Symbols

-	morpheme break
.	used to separate two English words or abbreviations which are a translation of only one vernacular morpheme
1	first person
2	second person
3	third person
act	actual aspect (similar to past tense)
app	appositional
co	coordinate
dem	demonstrative
desc	descriptive
dir	directional
ds	different subject subject following
du	dual
hab	habitual aspect
loc	locative
obj	object
ph	phrase
pl	plural
pot	potential aspect
rel	relation marker
s	singular
ss	same subject following
subj	subject

# 1.

## MARING PHRASES

### 0. INTRODUCTION

A phrase in Maring is defined as a construction in the grammatical hierarchy between word and clause levels which is potentially composed of two or more words: at least one nuclear item which is obligatory to the phrase and various optional items which expand or modify the nuclear items. Phrases usually expound clause level slots. However, there is embedding of phrases within other phrases.

Phrases have been grouped into two major categories- non-verbal and verbal. The non-verbal include eight phrase types that usually expound locative or temporal slots in clauses but always have the meaning of orientation in time or space; six noun phrase types that expound subject and object slots; a Manner phrase which may expound the manner slot of clauses; an Intensifier phrase which expounds the modifier slot of the Basic Noun Phrase, or the manner slot of clauses; Numeral phrases expounding the number slot of the Basic Noun Phrase; and the Repetitive Phrase which expounds locative or manner slots on the clause level or the modifier slot in the Basic Noun Phrase. A Limitational Phrase covers the semantic concept of restriction. An Adjunct Phrase expounds the adjunct slot of the Auxiliary Adjunct Verb Phrase.

## 2.

### 1. NON-VERBAL PHRASES

#### 1.1 Axis-Relator Phrase

The Axis-Relator Phrase consists of an obligatory Relator preceded optionally by an Axis. The slots never change position.

Slots:	+ <u>Axis</u>	+Relator
Fillers:	noun	<u>reema</u>
	locative	<u>meedi</u>
	noun phrase	<u>meedeema</u>
	locative phrase	

#### Examples:

- (a) maleema reema 'along the road'  
road location.marker
- (b) kuo reema 'up'  
up location.marker
- (c) keeno jeneeb kai gu meedi  
over.there centre.post below in.the.general.area subj.pl  
'the centre posts down there'
- (d) kadi gu meedeema '(places) over there'  
over.there in.the.general.area obj.pl

3.

In the following phrase the Axis-Relator Phrase fills the Head slot of a Limitational Phrase.

- (e) kusip kemaj reema yang 'right near Kudjip'  
Kudjip near location.marker just  
Axis Relator
- (f) kasede gu reema  
there in.the.general.area location.marker  
'over there'
- (g) kam keeme keeme reema  
far down down location.marker  
'way down'
- (h) daram yodoi ra reema  
drum big a location.marker  
'in a big drum'
- (i) maleema kub reema  
road middle location.marker  
'on the middle of the road'
- (j) misin keeno kar reema  
mission over.there car location.marker  
'in the mission car.'

### 1.2 Co-ordinate Locative Phrase

The Co-ordinate Locative Phrase consists of two obligatory Location slots. Each Location is thought of as a different locality to the other Location.

Slots:	+Location	+Location
Fillers:	locative	locative Repetitive phrase (locative)

Examples:

(a) keese keengase 'here and there'  
there here

(b) yu kam keema keema ki needi ra  
man far down down there these a  
'one of the men way down over there'

In this example the first Location is filled by a Co-ordinate Locative Phrase, the second location of which is filled by a Repetitive Phrase and the whole Co-ordinate Locative Phrase is filling the Modifier slot of a Basic Noun Phrase.

### 1.3 Location Relationship Phrase

In the Location Relationship Phrase the obligatory Direction always follows the obligatory Head. Locative suffixes -se, -de and -sede never occur affixed to the locative in the Direction slot. The Direction slot signifies the direction in relation to the Head and is not referring to the direction of the Head itself.



# 5.

## Location Relationship Phrase

Slots:	Head	Direction
Fillers:	noun	locative Area Locative Phrase

### Examples:

- (a) kusip kemaj 'near Kudjip'  
Kudjip near
- (b) ying yigok 'inside the house'  
house inside
- (c) waneemai kai gu 'below Waneemai'  
Waneemai below in.the general.area

## 1.4 Positional Locative Phrase

In the Positional Locative Phrase the obligatory Position slot occurs before or after the obligatory Direction. The fillers of the Position slot may take the suffix -se 'in the direction of', but not -de or -sede.

Slots:	Direction	Position
Fillers:	<u>kuo</u> 'up' <u>Keeme</u> 'down' <u>kuio</u> 'direction' <u>ka</u> 'direction' <u>keeno</u> 'over there' <u>keenga</u> 'here' <u>ki</u> 'there'	<u>yigok</u> 'inside' <u>amang</u> 'middle' <u>meer</u> 'outside' <u>keenga</u> 'here' <u>keeno</u> 'over there'

## Positional Locative Phrase

Examples:

- (a) amang    keenga                      'here in the middle'  
middle    here
- (b) yigok    keeno                      'inside over there'  
inside    over.there
- (c) keeme    meer-se                      'down outside'  
down    outside-wards
- (d) kuo    yigok                      'up there inside'  
up    inside

1.5 Distance Locative Phrase

The Distance Locative Phrase consists of an obligatory Distance slot followed by an obligatory Direction slot which may be repeated.

Slots:	Distance	(Direction) <sup>n</sup>
Fillers:	<u>kema</u> 'near'	<u>kuo</u> 'up'
	<u>kemaj</u> 'very near'	<u>keeme</u> 'down'
	<u>kam</u> 'far'	<u>keeno</u> 'over there'
		<u>keenga</u> 'here'
		<u>ki</u> 'there'
		<u>kuio</u> 'dir.'
		<u>ka</u> 'dir. opposite to <u>kuio</u> '

Rules: 1. When the Distance slot is filled by kam the Direction

slot can be repeated a number of times for emphasis.

2. The order of the slots cannot be reversed.

3. The fillers of the Distance slot do not take the suffix -se, -de or -sede.

Examples:

- (a) kam ki 'a long way over there'  
far there
- (b) kam keene keene 'far away down there'  
far down down

1.6 Height Locative Phrase

The Height Locative Phrase consists of an obligatory Height slot followed by an obligatory Direction slot. There is a restriction as to the fillers of the slots.

Slots:	Height	Direction
Fillers:	<u>piak</u> 'above'	<u>kuo</u> 'up'
	<u>kai</u> 'below'	<u>keene</u> 'down'

Rules: 1. When the height is filled by piak only kuo can fill the Direction slot.

2. When kai fills the Height slot only keene fills the Direction.

3. Kuo usually follows but may precede piak.

4. Keene always follows kai.

5. The fillers of the Height slot may take the suffix -se only.

## Height Locative Phrase

Examples:

- (a) piak      kuo      'up above'  
       above      up
- (b) kai      keeme      'down below'  
       below      down
- (c) kuo      piak      'up above'  
       up      above
- (d) piak-se      kuo      'up above'  
       above-wards      up

1.7 Area Locative Phrase

An Area Locative Phrase is any phrase which includes the word gu 'in the general area of' or kadi 'that way' wherever a person is pointing. Either gu or kadi occurs before or after any locative word. Gu also may occur with kadi, but in this case it always follows kadi.

Examples:

- (a) amang      kadi      'in the middle there'  
       middle      that.way
- (b) piak      kadi      'up there'  
       above      that.way
- (c) kadi      gu      reema      'over there'  
       that.way      in.the.general.area      location.marker
- (d) gu      keeno      'over there'  
       in.the.general.area      over.there

### 1.8 Nominal Directional Phrase

In the Nominal Directional Phrase the obligatory Direction usually follows the obligatory head. It is also permitted to precede the Head, though this occurs infrequently.

Slots:	Head	Direction
Fillers:	noun place name Nominal Directional Phrase Limitation Phrase Basic Noun Phrase Double Headed Noun Phrase Location Relationship Ph.	locative Limitation Phrase Coord. Loc. Phrase Positional Loc. Ph. Area Locative Phrase

#### Examples:

- (a) togoleepo      keeno      'Singorapa'  
Singorapa      over.there
- (b) ying    kuo      'at home'  
house    up
- (c) keenga    nukmai      'the road here'  
here road
- (d) kuo    ying    guiak    reema      'to the rafters of the  
up    house    rafter    location.marker      house'
- (e) kusip    keeno      nukmai    'the road to Kudjip'  
Kudjip    over.there      road

1.9 Basic Noun Phrase

Slots:	± Possessive	± Head	± Colour	± Quality	± Number	± Possessive	± Specifier
Fillers:	pronoun	<u>noun</u> <u>Basic Noun Ph.</u> <u>pronoun</u> <u>Double Headed Noun Ph.</u> <u>App. Noun Ph.</u> <u>Possessive Ph.</u>	des. (colour)	des. <u>Repetitive Ph.</u>	<u>numeral</u> Numeral Ph.	pronoun	<u>dem.</u> <u>Repetitive Ph.</u>

The Basic Noun Phrase consists of six optional slots. Any one of the tagmemes can manifest the phrase, it being possible for the head to be omitted when it is clear by context. The possessive slot is discontinuous. If the possessor is named the pre-Head part of the slot will be present as well as the post-Head. If the pre-Head Possessive is filled by a pronoun, the same pronoun will re-occur in the post-Head Possessive unless the Specifier slot indicates whether the Basic Noun Phrase fills the subject or object slot on the clause level. The demonstratives ri 'this', and meedi 'these' mark subject, while reema 'that' and meedeema 'those' mark object.

Examples:

(a) anya                nan        ri        yang  
       my.father        my            this        just  
       'my father'

(b) karapos    mai    ri    yang  
       jail        big        this just  
       'the big jail'

(c) In this example the Specifier slot is filled by a Repetitive  
       Phrase.

yu    needi    needi  
       man    these    these  
       'these man'

(d) takun    romai  
       moon    two  
       'two months'

(e) Takun    romai-k    ri-k  
       moon        two-and        this-and  
       'three months'

(f) bokis    yeneeko    mawa    needi  
       boxes    their    big        these  
       'their big boxes'

(g) waba    romai    romai    yang  
       boys    two        two        just  
       'four boys, two at a time'

- (h) yidok   yodoi   yodoi   yodoi   needi  
 people   big   big   big   these

'very important people'

- (i) wudi   needi   yang  
 good   these   just

'these good things'

- (j) karapos   kogong   yodoi  
 jail   work   big

'big jail work'

- (k) medi   veneeko   yang   ra  
 Mendi   they   just   a

'the Mendi people'

#### 1.10 Double Headed Noun Phrase.

Slots:	+Head	+Head
Fillers:	noun Co-ordinate Noun Phrase	noun Appositional Noun Phrase Double Headed Noun Phrase

The Double Headed Noun Phrase which consists of two obligatory Head slots often fills the Head slot in a Basic Noun Phrase. This phrase type has the connotation of either purpose or possession or type. The first Head could not be regarded as a filler of the pre-Head Possessive slot of the Basic Noun Phrase as the post-Head slot is obligatorily absent in this phrase type.



Examples:

- (a) In this example the first two words form the Double Headed Noun Phrase, which fills the Head slot of a Basic Noun Phrase.

karapos    kogong    yedoi

jail            work            big

'big jail work'

- (b) tukmenga            yameenge

Kwima.people    house

'a Kwima house'

- (c) abeera    ying

lady            house

'a house for women'

- (d) apeeng    senang

tree            axe

'a tree axe'

- (e) ni                            mamai                            yameenge

her.father            her.brother            house

'her father and her brother's house'

- (f) koj    beejong                            yong

pig    shoulder.blade                            handle

'a shoulder of pig (including from leg)'

- (g) apeeng yub      koi  
 tree    water    juices  
 'sap'
- (h) nan   bokis   geep   ri  
 I       box       bundle   this  
 'my box'

### 1.11 Co-ordinate Noun Phrase

A Co-ordinate Noun Phrase consists of two or more obligatory Head slots filled by a noun or noun phrase joined and followed by optional Connector slots filled by co-ordinators. An optional Summary slot may follow the final Connector slot.

Slots:	+Head	+Connector	+(Head	+Connector) <sup>n</sup>	+Summary
Fillers	noun	<u>se</u>	noun	<u>se</u>	plural
	noun phrase	<u>reek</u>	noun phrase	<u>reek</u>	demon.
		<u>kai</u>	pronoun	<u>kai</u>	
		<u>kop</u>		<u>kop</u>	

One co-ordinator must be present in a Co-ordinate Noun Phrase. The same co-ordinator is always used throughout the phrase, however Phrase final se may be strengthened by the addition or reek (see example).

In a long co-ordinate string of nouns a co-ordinator usually joins the first two nouns but may be absent between the other nouns. The final co-ordinator will be present also. The common and unrestricted co-ordinators are se and reek. The co-ordinator kai is restricted to people while kop cannot be used with people or animals

Examples:

- (a) anya            se    keemowai    se  
 my.father        and   Keemowai        and  
 'my father and Keemowai'

- (b) abeeni            kogau        se        abai            asi        yoko        se  
 his.wife        Kogau        and        his.sister        later       his        and  
 'his wife Kogau and his younger sister'

- (c) bol        se        kuikapa        se        reek  
 Bol        and        Kuikapa        and        and  
 'the men Bol and Kuikapa'

- (d) blages    se        tawol        kap    sipun    senang    pir  
 blanket    and        towel        cup    spoon    knife       knife.type

se    meedi  
 and    these

'blankets, a towel, a cup, a spoon and a knife'

- (e) geera            kanam        kop        yub        kop  
 tree.type        tree.type    and        water        and  
 'firewood and water'

- (f) ama                      kai    enri    ni                      kai    mi  
 my.mother                      and    Henry    his.father and    his.mother  
  
kai    needi  
 and    these  
  
 'my mother and Henry's father and mother'
- (g) mamai                      asi                      reek                      wed                      reek  
 her.brother                      later                      and                      first                      and  
  
 'her elder and younger brother'
- (h) ni                      mi                      se  
 his.father his.mother                      and  
  
 'his father and mother'

### 1.12 Appositional Noun Phrase

Slots:	+Head	+Head
Fillers:	noun  Basic Noun Ph.  pronoun	noun  Basic Noun Ph.  pronoun

The Appositional Noun Phrase consists of two obligatory Head slots, the fillers of which may be Basic Noun Phrases, nouns, or pronouns.

Although a pronoun may fill either the first Head slot or the second Head slot, a pronoun must not occur in both Head slots in any one Appositional Noun Phrase.

**Examples:**

- (a) pul dapeena  
food food  
'food'
- (b) aleeko waba  
we boys  
'we boys'
- (c) neekem ragape  
blood blood  
'blood'
- (d) nukmai maleema  
road road  
'the road'
- (e) lase akees  
my.brother.in.law Akees  
'my brother-in-law, Akees'
- (f) medi yeneeko yang ra  
Mendi they just a  
'the Mendi people'

### 1.13 Partitive Noun Phrase

The Partitive Noun Phrase consists of an obligatory Head slot filled by a Basic Noun Phrase followed by a Partitive slot filled by a proper noun which denotes a part of the first noun.

Slot:	+Head	+Partitive
Filler:	Basic Noun Phrase	noun

Examples:

(a) kapang      yabai              seng

bird              bird.type              wing

'the wing of a Yabai bird'

(b) yu      ying              yigok

man      house              inside

'inside of the house'

(c) abeera      ying              peeleeekai

lady              house

#### 1.14 Set Noun Phrase

The Set Noun Phrase consists of two obligatory slots filled by nouns, the first being a generic noun, the second a specific type of the first.

Slot	+Head	+Set
Filler:	noun (generic)	species noun

#### Examples:

(a) apeang kepa

tree tree.type

'Kepa tree'

(b) yopai goleep

banana banana.type

'Goleep banana'

(c) kapang jaba

bird bird.type

'Jaba bird'

(d) bo kamane

sugar.cane sugar.cane.type

'Kamane sugar cane'

1.15 Manner Phrase

Slot:	+Head	+Modifier	+Modifier <sub>2</sub>
Fillers:	adverb	adverb intensifier	<u>ra</u>

The Manner Phrase consists of a Head slot filled by an adverb followed by an optional Modifier slot filled by an intensifier or a restricted set of adverbs followed by a second Modifier slot filled by ra

Examples:

- (a) aj      nai  
 strong    very  
 'strongly'
- (b) yipud    aj  
 straight    strong  
 'straight'
- (c) dede      yang    ra  
 slowly      just      a  
 'slowly'



1.16 Intensifier Phrase

Slot:	+Head	+( <u>+</u> Intensifier	<u>+</u> Emphasis)
Fillers:	Des.	<u>yanga</u>	<u>kunyuai</u>

The Intensifier Phrase consists of a Head slot filled by a descriptive, followed obligatorily by either Intensifier or Emphasis, or both Intensifier and Emphasis slots.

Examples:

(a) yodoi kunyuai

big really

'really big'

(b) wudi yanga

good very

'very good'

(c) wudi yanga kunyuai

good very really

'really very good'

1.17 Numeral Phrases

The numerals one and two are as follows:

ranguai      1

romai        2

Other digits except 5 and 10 are based on romai, and rik which is used for 1. The suffix -k 'and' is affixed to all numerals making up the digit.

romaik rik            3

romaik romaik        4

romaik romaik rik    7

Five and ten are phrases based on the hand, and twenty and multiples of twenty are based on the hands and feet.

ag kalase                            5

hand side

ag kala kala pola                10

hand side side all

kui ag ag meedi pola        20

foot hand hand these all

an alternative form for 20 is

kui meng ag meng                20

foot fingers hand fingers

Other numerals are a combination of the digit and ten and twenty systems.

kui   ag   ag   meedi   pola   kalase   romaik   rik  
 foot   hand   hand   these   all   side   two   one  
 'twenty-three men'

#### 1.18 Repetitive Phrase

Slot:	+Head	+Head
Fillers	descriptive demonstrative locative	descriptive demonstrative locative

The Repetitive Phrase consists of two heads filled by the same descriptive, demonstrative or locative. This repetition denotes intensity or distribution.

#### Examples

(a) yodoi   yodci

big   big

'very important'

(b) meedi   meedi

these   these

'these various ones'

- (C) keeme keeme  
 down down  
 'way down'
- (d) romai romai  
 two two  
 'two at a time'
- (e) kemaj kemaj  
 near near  
 'various places nearby'

#### 1.19 Limitational Phrase

Slots:	+Head	+Limiter
Fillers:	Non Verbal Phrase	<u>yang</u>

The Limitational Phrase consists of the Head filled by a non-verbal phrase followed by the Limiter filled by yang 'just'.

#### Examples:

- (a) anya nan ri yang  
 my.father my this just  
 'my father'
- (b) karapos mai ri yang  
 jail big this just
- (c) wudi meedi yang  
 good these just  
 'these good things'

- (d) kusip      kemaj      reema      yang  
 Kudjip      near      location.marker      just  
 'right near Kudjip'
- (e) kam   keeme   keeme   reema      yang  
 far   down   down   location.marker      just  
 'a long way down'

### 1.20 Adjunct Phrase

Slots:	+Head	+Head
Fillers:	adjunct	adjunct

The Adjunct Phrase in Maring consists of two obligatory Head slots filled by adjuncts. As adjuncts cannot occur in isolation they have no meaning of their own but they give a composite meaning to the verb phrase in which they occur.

#### Examples:

- (a) kanad   mu   dee-mon  
                                  say-1pl.ss  
                                  'we sang'
- (b) adeek   madeek   l-i  
                                  make-1s.act  
                                  'I turned over and over'
- (c) tog   pig   l-a  
                                  make-3s.act  
                                  'he felt'

(d) tu kangab au-ben

give-2s.pot

'you will teach'

## 2. VERBAL PHRASES

There are four verbal phrase types in Maring.

### 2.1 Auxiliary Adjunct Verb Phrase

The Auxiliary Adjunct Verb Phrase consists of an obligatory Auxiliary slot filled by an adjunct or Adjunct Phrase followed by an obligatory Head slot filled by a verb from a restricted list of verbs.

Slots:	+Auxiliary	+Head
Fillers:	adjunct Adjunct Phrase	<u>aw</u> i    'give' <u>d</u> i    'say' <u>kani</u> 'know' <u>li</u> 'make' <u>ni</u> 'eat' <u>wi</u> 'come' <u>y</u> ei    'put' <u>y</u> i    'get'

The Auxiliary slot cannot be separated from the Head by an adverb, an Adverb Phrase, or any slot on the Clause level. The finite list of verbs in the Head slot can have

any person, number and aspect, and may be dependent or independent. The form of the Auxiliary slot never changes. The adjunct or Adjunct Phrase can never occur in any context without the appropriate Head.

Examples:

- (a) nokoneem d-a  
 cough say-3s.act  
 'he coughed'
- (b) ru le-m  
 laugh make-3pl.act  
 'they laughed'
- (c) kua ye-do  
 hidden put-3s.hab  
 'he usually hides'
- (d) mok lee-be  
 share make-1pl.ss  
 '(we) sharing'
- (e) kanad mu dee-mon  
 say-1pl.act  
 'we sang'
- (f) adeek madeek l-i  
 make-1s.act  
 'I turned over and over'

2.2 Auxiliary Nominal Verb Phrase

Slots:	Auxiliary	Head	
Fillers	noun	<u>awi</u>	'give'
	descriptive	<u>di</u>	'say'
		<u>kani</u>	'know'
		<u>li</u>	'make'
		<u>ni</u>	'eat'
		<u>wi</u>	'come'
		<u>yey</u>	'put'
		<u>yi</u>	'get'

This verb phrase is similar to the Auxiliary Adjunct Verb Phrase in the list of fillers of the Head slot, but the noun or descriptive filling the Auxiliary slot can occur in other contexts without the head, as a noun or descriptive in its own right. Also, a descriptive or an adverb may occur between the Auxiliary and the Head.

Examples:

(a) wak    l-a

skin make-3s.act

'he skinned'

(b) wak    kebale    aj    l-a

skin beautiful strong make-3s.act

'he skinned very nicely'



- (c) need      lee-be  
 bundle      make-ldu.ss  
 '(we 2) tying'
- (d) mom      ye-n  
 long      put-ls.pat  
 'I will lie down'
- (e) gaua      kie-b  
 rope      tie-3pl.ss  
 '(we) tying with a rope'
- (f) gaua      ajeenai      kie-m-cek  
 rope      strong      tie-3pl.act-ds  
 'they tied strongly'
- (g) ku      na-bon  
 stone eat-1pl.pot  
 'we will steal'

### 2.3 Auxiliary Impersonal Verb Phrase

Another type of Auxiliary Verb Phrase occurs in which the verb in the Head is restricted to a certain list of verbs and occurs only in the third person singular. Any aspect and tense may occur.

#### Examples:

- (a) ji      yi-do-k  
 darkness      say-3s.hab-ds  
 'it usually gets dark'

(b) pola d-a-k

all say-3s.act-ds

(c) keengeebok l-a

make-3s.act

'it is rusty!

(d) deepo w-o

fragrance come-3s.act

'it smells nice'

(e) ano y-a

get-3s.act

'he is tired'

#### 2.4 Close Knit Verb Phrase

The Close Knit Verb Phrase consists of two obligatory head slots each filled by a verb. No clause level slots can separate the two heads.

Slots:	+Head	+Head
Fillers:	verb	verb

In this type of verb phrase two verbs occur which can occur separately in other contexts. The two verbs together form a single meaning which is not always the sum of the two meanings. The first verb in the Close Knit Verb Phrase is always in the dependent form. The second verb can be dependent or independent.

Examples:

- (a) beel-e            yi-mon  
      rain-rel        get-1pl.act  
      'we got wet'
- (b) l-e                na-ba  
      make-rel        eat-3s.ss  
      'using up'
- (c) y-e                mee-ni  
      put-rel        be-2pl.pot  
      'you will look after'