A GRAMMAR

OF

RESÍGARO

by

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VOLUME II

Chapter 4

GROUP LEVEL

The Group is set up as a level of construction above the Word and below the Piece, for describing certain structures in the Verb hierarchy. Strictly speaking, it may be termed a sub-level, since it is not relevant to the other classes.

Types are set up within the Group on the basis of internal structure, and sub-classes are set up on the basis of distribution in the Verb Piece and in other structures.

4.1. Verb Group.

4.1.1. Contrast.

The Verb Group (VG) has the following contrastive-identificational features:-

i) Its Head is filled by a verb word.

ii) In its complex form, the periphery is filled by a Basic filler (cf. below), an adjective stem, a Noun Phrase, a Concomitant Phrase, an .Instrument Phrase, or a relator.

4.1.2. Variation.

Two types of Verb Group are set up on the basis of internal structure.

$$VG_i = +H:Vb_{1/2}$$

$$VG_{ii} = +Periph:Basic/AjSt_4/NP_2/CP_2/IP/relr +H:Vb_1$$

When the filler of the Peripheral slot is an NP, this does not have a greater expansion than $\pm$Lim:Pn +H:Nn, and if the Limiter tagmeme occurs, assimilation between the two is obligatory. The pronoun does not necessarily refer to the same extra-linguistic entity as the Clause-level Subject of the verb in the Predicate.

In a dictionary check that produced 392 different verb groups, the numbers corresponding to each type and sub-type were as follows:-

Type i:		239
Type ii:		153
being, Sub-type i:	148	
with khû :	101	
with jû :	45	
with tô? :	2	
Sub-type ii:	5	

4.1.2.1. Verb Group Type i, "Simple".

All verbs occur in Verb Group type i.

e.g. khû "to make, to do"

jû[1] "to be"

a?mitû "to eat"

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[1]In the imperative, jû becomes iizû. cf. 3.1.2.6.1.1.(i), above.

Chapter 5

PIECE LEVEL

The Piece is set up as a level of construction above
the Group and below the Phrase, for describing certain struc-
tures in the Verb hierarchy. Strictly speaking, it may be
termed a sub-level (like the Group), since it is not rel-
evant to other classes.

Types are set up within the Piece on the basis of in-
ternal structure. It is not necessary to set up sub-classes
at Piece level.

5.1. Verb Piece.

5.1.1. Contrast.

The Verb Piece (VbPce) has the following contrastive-identi-
ficational features:-

i) It consists of a Head and (in type ii) an Auxiliary, both
of which are filled by Verb Groups.

ii) When the Auxiliary occurs, the filler of the Head slot
is marked with an auxiliary indicator.

5.1.2. Variation.

The Verb Piece may be simple or complex, and different types
are established accordingly.

$VbPce_i = H:VG$

$VbPce_{ii}$ (Composite formula)

$$= \underline{\pm}aux \ ind \ +H:VG \ \overline{+}aux \ ind \ +Aux:VG$$

5.1.2.1. Verb Piece Type i, "Simple".

This consists of a sub-class 1 or 2 Verb Group only.

e.g.　a?mitû　"to eat"

khû　"to do"

jû　"to be"

kainêe khû　"to kill"

kainêe jû　"to die"

5.1.2.2. Verb Piece Type ii, "Complex".

Two sub-types of complex Verb Piece are established.

5.1.2.2.1. Sub-type i, "Positive Action".

$$VbPce_{ii.i} = \ +H:VG_{1/2} \ +aux \ ind:\propto \left\{ {-ne \atop -?kê} \right\} \ +Aux:\propto VG_1$$

where $\propto$ reads:　-ne occurs with i?pí and tsâ?(nu)

-?kê　"　"　khû

The Verb Group filling the Head slot is modified in accordance with the following rules:-

i) Any final vowel except /i/ becomes /e/. /i/ remains unchanged.[1]

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[1] cf. 3.1.2.4.(i) and 3.1.2.6.2.1.(xi), above.
The only exception to this rule is the verb group te?khí "to fetch", where final /i/ becomes /e/:
　　te?khêne no?pí　"I go to fetch"
　　te?khêekê nokhû　"I used to fetch"

Chapter 6

PHRASE LEVEL

The Phrase is set up as a level of construction above

the Word[1] and below the Clause. "Phrase" is defined as a

sequence or potential sequence of words which functions as

a unit, as in Pickett:

> "By 'potential sequences' I mean a sequence of words
> or a single word which is potentially expandable to
> a unit of two or more words by addition of optional
> modifiers. Traditionally, phrases have been assumed
> to be composed of more than one word. [Here she refers
> to Bloomfield, 1933:178.] In descriptions with the
> tagmemic model, however, conciseness and simplicity
> of statement are gained by considering phrase to in-
> clude those single words which are potentially expand-
> able to full phrases.... In addition to providing
> conciseness, such a description also more accurately
> reveals the structural relationships, since when the
> single noun which is potentially head of a phrase occurs
> in the Subject slot, it is not a different kind of unit
> but a representative of the phrase unit." (1960:33)

Phrases are divided into classes on the basis of their

distribution in Clause-level slots. Some classes of phrase

are endocentric (consisting of a Head plus or minus various

modifiers), while others are exocentric (consisting of an

Axis and a relator). The endocentric phrases are described

first, and then the Axis-Relator phrases.

Types are set up within most classes on the basis of

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[1]The Verb Phrase is a special case, coming as it does above
the sub-level Piece in the verb hierarchy.

Chapter 7

CLAUSE LEVEL

The Clause is set up as a level of construction above the Phrase and below the Sentence. All clauses consist of a Predicate, plus or minus certain other clause-level tagmemes, such as Subject, Object, Causative Object, etc., according to clause type.

Clauses are divided into classes on the basis of their distributional possibilities in sentence types and other structures. In Resígaro the Declarative, Interrogative, and Imperative classes are distributed principally in the sentence, and the Nominalized and Relativized Clause classes are distributed recursively in the Declarative Clause and other lower-level structures.

Types are set up within each class on the basis of internal structure. These types correspond to varying degrees of transitivity, from non-transitive through to tri-transitive.

In the description which follows, the constituents of the Clause are described first, and the structure of each type of each Clause class is described next — i.e.,

clause-level tagmemes are described one by one, and then
the clauses in which these tagmemes function are described.
This is followed by a description of the distribution of
the Declarative clause.

After the description of the Declarative clause, In-
terrogative and Imperative clauses are derived by multi-
plication, and this section is followed by two which deal
with dependent clauses: nominalization and relativization.

7.1. Clause-level Tagmemes.

In view of the varied structure and widespread distrib-
ution of clause-level tagmemes, it is advantageous to des-
cribe them consecutively before going on to the descrip-
tion of the clauses themselves, instead of describing
them one at a time as they crop up in different clause
types, which at the same time would have the disadvantage
of overburdening the description of clause structure with
detail not immediately relevant and liable to distract
attention from this structure.

Clause-level tagmemes are either nuclear or peripheral.
Nuclear tagmemes are diagnostic of clause types, while per-
ipheral tagmemes are not.

For instance, if an Object tagmeme occurs in a clause,
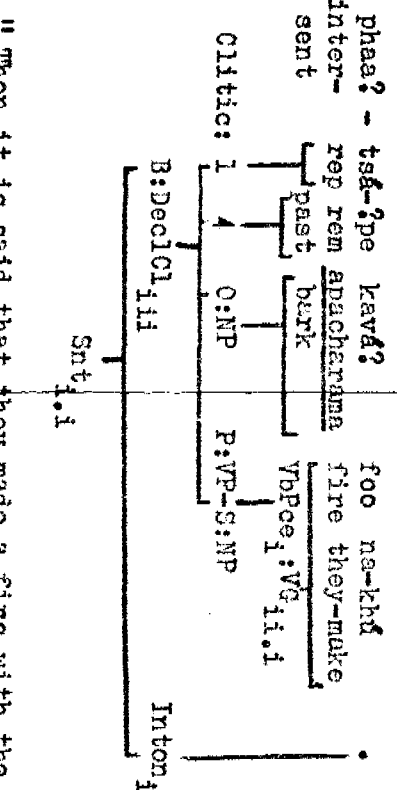that clause must be at least transitive. If a Dative Ob-

ject occurs, it must be at least ditransitive. Likewise,
if a clause cannot have an Object, it is intransitive (or
non-transitive). Thus, the presence (or obligatory absence)
of these tagmemes indicates (along with other tagmemes)
the type of clause in question.

Non-diagnostic tagmemes, on the other hand, may oc-
cur in most -- and in some cases in all -- clause types,
without affecting in any way the identification of the
clause. Examples are the tagmemes that indicate the spatio-
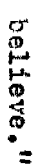temporal context of an event or state described by a clause.

Non-diagnostic tagmemes are, by their very nature,
optional.[1] Diagnostic tagmemes, however, are not always
obligatory -- so long as they are understood in the con-
text. A key example is the Object tagmeme, which is fre-
quently omitted. But the very possibility of occurrence
of a nuclear tagmeme in one construction, as opposed to its
obligatory absence in another, is diagnostic.

A problem was encountered with the Dative or Dative
Object tagmeme, which cannot occur in non-transitive and
intransitive clauses when the DOP manifesting it contains
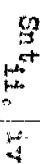an NP in the axis slot, but can occur in these clauses

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[1] Unless one analyses at levels beyond the sentence, when
certain tagmemes here viewed as optional in certain con-
texts may be seen to be obligatory because of the broader
context. However, in the present description, analysis
does not go beyond the sentence.

1. Ñekañekaagi—musi—tsá—?pe o?domáee i?p1 giiná — né
   Ñekañekaagi dual rep rem fish—to go his—wife with

"It is said that Nekañekaagi went fishing (with barbasco poison) with his wife."

2. no?domá neé
   they—fish there

"They fish(en) there."

3. phaa? — tsá—?pe kavá? foo na—khá
   rep rem apacharama fire they—make

"Then it is said that they made a fire with the bark of the apacharama tree."

4. gi?i?thé kavá? ketshe yá oo minecí?thó phaa?—tsá—?pe oo hee?kó po?tsáává—?pe — ekéftsó
   that apacharama bark burn be int and then inter—rep rem int day half rem dub

"It is said that the apacharama bark burned and then it is said that it was already mid-day, I believe."

5. hee?kó po?tsáává phaa? — tsá—?pe gimí máuyé phó?mee?kí vayaá — né va?mitsá—mó miké phaa?—tsá—?pe domá p?ña?ní ! no—minápaví · amepuí? ámó vakhá yó ·
   day half rep rem he—say wife you—roast—come we—meat eat but rep rem she—say you—wait I — hunt many fish sick be

"At midday it is said that he said, 'wife, come and cook, so that we may eat meat and other things!', but it is said that she said, 'Wait! I am hunting [i.e., fishing]. Many fish are getting sick!'"