GRAMMAR NOTES ON ARIFAMA – MINIAFIA

by

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(42 pages)

<u>Please note</u>: This paper is tentative and in need of revision in the light of further study since it was written.

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INTRODUCTION

This paper is submitted to fulfill the requirements of the Grammar
Essentials for Arifama-Miniafia as spoken in the Miniafia dialect. The corpus
used in the analysis was collected in Utukwaf Village and also at Ukarumpa
between the dates January 1974 and March 1975. Of that time approximately 6
months were spent in Utukwaf itself.

Texts in the corpus were primarily narrative and collected in the following
manner. First, they were recorded on magnetic tape. Second, a literate
Miniafia man, Gideon #2 Mes, transcribed them from tape. Last, I went over the
tapes and transcriptions with Gideon to ascertain internal consistency and also
to work out translations into English (both literal and free). I am indebted to
Gideon, his father (Gideon #1), Koyari Baida, Carson Rataba, Marjory Yarob, and
Violet Mes who at various times served as story tellers.

In the analysis of the data I wish to express gratitude to my language
teacher, Rodney Yabubi, for his patient and kind assistance as I have tried to
unravel the "mysteries" of his language. I hope that this preliminary analysis
reflects the language truthfully, if not adequately.

Lastly, I wish to say thank you to Elizabeth Murane. Her prior experience
in the field of grammar analysis proved a goldmine of useful clues and helpful
guidance to me as we worked out various difficulties in this analysis.

1. <u>Stems</u>

1.1. <u>Derived Stems</u>. Miniafia has several types of derived stems.

A − Verb stem + <u>yan</u> = adjective or noun

    1) <u>morobo</u> 'he died' + <u>yan</u> = <u>moroboyan</u> 'dead'

    2) <u>kaifa</u> 'he kept' + <u>yan</u> = kaifayan 'keeper'

B − <u>bai</u> + verb stem/adjective = noun (gerund)

    1) <u>bai</u> + <u>tab</u> 'it cooked' = <u>baitab</u> 'cooking'

    2) <u>bai</u> + <u>yow</u> 'he fought' = <u>baiyow</u> 'war'

    3) <u>bai</u> + <u>bais</u> 'he helped' = <u>baibais</u> 'help'

    4) <u>bai</u> + <u>gewasin</u> 'good' = <u>baigewasin</u> 'goodness' '*blessing*'

C − <u>i</u> + intransitive verb stem = transitive verb stem

    1) <u>i</u> + <u>tab</u> 'it cooked' = <u>itab</u> 'he cooked (it)'

    2) <u>i</u> + <u>rurub</u> 'he bathed' = <u>irurub</u> 'he bathed (him)'

D − Reduplication + verb stem = noun

    1) <u>sikof</u> 'he hung'   <u>sikosikof</u> = 'hanger'

    2) <u>dudun</u> 'he hammered'   <u>dududun</u> = 'a hammer'

    3) <u>botan</u> 'he held'   <u>botabotan</u> = 'handrail'

Derived stems are common and maybe coined and used with relative freedom. The texts I have elicited are primarily narrative, historic, and basically active and do not involve very many of these derived words.

1.2. <u>Compound Stems</u>. Compound stems have not been observed. Those instances where two stems appear to combine are actually close knit sequences of two words which constitute a phrase. Example: <u>mar</u> 'day' + <u>bow</u> 'it got them' = <u>mar bow</u> 'lightning'.

With a change in tense, person markers maybe added to the verb stem, and/or tense markers. With the following results:

mar ebowabow = 'lightning is striking'

mar nabow = 'lightning will strike'

In addition, we feel that these are two words because no nonsuspect consonant clusters occur within a word.

2. Words

2.1. Class Separation. While there are definite classes of words in Miniafia, there is also the capability for an item from one class to also function as an item in another class. The following class changing typeshave been observed.

A - Some adjectives take verbal prefixes and function as a verb.

1) kakafiy-in 'respected'
respect-sing.

a -kakafiy 'I respect'
1s-respect

2) huruf-ih 'wet'
wet -pl

i -huruf 'you got wet'
2s- wet

B - Some nouns take verbal affixes and act as a verb.

1) boy 'paddle'

a -boy 'I paddle'
1s-paddle

2) yahib 'tree name'

ku-yahib 'you (sing.) sweep'
2s-tree name

C - Some verb stems occasionally accept possessive pronominal prefixes and act as a possessed noun.

1) wa?an 'he did it'

ana   -wa?an 'his actions'
3s poss.-do

2) yamo 'he hunted'

ana   -yamo 'his hunting'
3s poss.-he hunted

D - Some adjectives accept possessive pronominal affixes and act as a noun.

1) virurumin 'long'

ana   -virurumin 'his length'
3s poss.-long

2) kikimin 'small'

kikim-u 'smallness-my'
small-1s poss.

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Of these types of class changing items the ones most encountered are those which become verbs by the addition of verbal prefixes. Items from the smaller closed classes of words (i.e. pronouns, prepositions, etc.) have not been observed to change classes.

2.2. Distinct Word Classes

A – Nouns. A noun occurs as the subject, object, or indirect object of the verb. It fills the head slot in any noun phrase, the referent slot of a possessive phrase, the axis slot of an axis-relator type phrase, and the apposition slot of an appositional phrase. Nouns take noun affixes and must be divided into subclasses based on the possessive affixes they accept and also how or whether they are pluralized.

1) Possession. Possession is of four types. One of these is a phrase and will be dealt with under phrases. The other three are affixes indicating remote, intimate, and parental possession.

	Remote	Intimate	Parental
my	au-	-u	-i
thine	a-	-∅	-t
his	ana-	-n	-h
our(excl)	ai-	-i	-i
our(incl)	ata-	-t	-t
your	a-	-∅	-t
their	hai-	-hi	-hi

a) Remote. These markers are prefixes and are used with animals, objects, and some adjectives and verb stems (see:2.1).

au-haru ana-bar
my-dog   his-house

Of the nouns of this class, all but one optionally occur without possession (of 'friend' must occur possessed).

b) Intimate. This set of suffixes is obligatorily used with body

parts, wives, offspring, younger siblings, and purpose/benefactive words.

arib-u	awa -hi
hair-my	wife-their

c) <u>Parental</u>. These suffixes occur obligatorily with some nouns from kinship terms. These relationships all involve respect of the speaker.

tama	+ i	hina	+ i
father	my	mother	my

iya	+ i
uncle/aunt	my

2) <u>Pluralization</u>. Plurals are affected in several ways.

a) Most nouns cannot be pluralized, their number being reflected on by modifying ajectives.

1)
haru	gagamɨ +ih	= 'large dogs'
dog	large pl(3p)	

2)
uma -u	kikimɨ +ih	= 'my small hands'
hand-my	small pl(3p)	

b) A second class of nouns makes their plural by adding -<u>ina</u> to nouns possessed by either 1st or 3rd persons or -<u>ana</u> to nouns possessed by a 2nd person. This class of nouns is the same as that taking parental type possessive suffixes.

1)
tama -h	tama -h -ina	'his fathers'
father-his	father-his-pl	

2)
hina -t	hina -t -ana	'your mothers'
mother-your	mother-your-pl.	

c) A third method of indicating plural form is used by the kinship term <u>tei-</u> 'younger sibling' but no other examples have been found. In this word, -<u>ti-</u> is attached to the stem before the possessive marker is added.

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1) tei   -ti-n   = teitin   'his younger siblings'
   younger sibling-pl-his

2) tei -it-t   = teitit   'our younger siblings'
   stem-pl-our(incl.)

d) Some nouns are pluralized by reduplication.

    1) natun   'his son'   natunatun   'his sons'

    2) regah   'chieftain'   regaregah   'chieftains'

e) Those words indicating female persons are pluralized by changing their forms in the following ways:

    1) babite   'adolescent girl   baibitar   'adolescent girls

    2) babin   'woman   baibin   'women'

    3) babine   'old woman   baibinaʔah   'old women'

3) <u>Source</u>. Nouns and place names are optionally suffixed by -ne (V)ne meaning 'from'.

B. <u>Verbs</u>. Verbs, along with nouns, form the two most open and numerous classes of words in Miniafia. A verb fills the predicate slot in a clause and a head slot in the verb phrase. Verbal prefixes are different from all other sets of affixes though there are a few homophonous forms.

    1) ayu a -waʔan   'I do it'
         I   1s-   do

    2) o   a -waʔan   'you're doing'
        you 2s. poss. do

C. <u>Adjectives</u>. An adjective fills the modifier slot of a noun phrase. Adjectives have their own set of suffixes. This affixation shows whether its referent is singular -in or plural -ih. *Actually intimate possession suffixes* { -u -/iʔt -ø -ʔ +(i)n -ʔ -i (i)ʔ(i) }

    1) haru kikim-in   'small dog'
         dog small-sing.

    2) haru roʔab kikim-ih   'two small dogs'
         dog   2   small-pl. descriptive

1) Color adjectives do not accept any kind of affixation and make the

superlative degree by using the word maiyo 'really'.

2) Some adjectives optionally act as adverbs.

1) ayu fakar-in a -rab   'I hit hard'
   I hard -s 1s-hit

In such cases the adjective fills the manner slot.

3) Descriptive adjectives are capable of two inflectional degrees: ordinary and superlative. The superlative degree is expressed by the addition of -a?in to the end of the singular, ordinary shape of the adjective.

1) gewasin 'good (sing.)'   gewasin-a?in   'very good'

2) fakarin 'hard'   fakarin-a?in   'very hard'

3) gagamin 'big'   gagamin-a?in   'very big'

Superlative degree optionally is also indicated by a phrase. This applies to all adjectives.

1) fakarin 'hard'   fakarin maiyo 'really hard'
                          hard   really

This is the normal method of showing superlative degree with color adjectives.

1) kwes 'white'   kwes maiyo   'really white'
                          white really

2) ahiy 'green'   ahiy maiyo   'really green'
                          green really

D. Adverbs. Adverbs only occur in the manner tagmeme. They accept no affixation.

1) ayu hamenamo a-nan   'I come slowly'
   1s slowly   I come

Adverbs are optionally modified by maiyo 'really'. Adverbs do not show the number of their referents.

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E. _Temporals._ Temporals are words which express time. They may not be possessed but have a set of suffixes that indicate real or unreal tense.

    1)   biyi   'when'   biyika (biyi + -ka)= 'when did'
                              biyibo (biyi + -bo)= 'when will'

    2)   maras   'day other than today'

                              marasika (maras + ika)= 'before today'
                              marasibo (maras + ibo)= 'after today'

F. _Purpose/Benefactive Words._ This class includes only two members: isa- and aur-. Both of these words are formed by suffixing the word stem with markers showing intimate possession and thus linking them to their referents. See 2.2.A.1. for the list of suffixes and 4.6.5. for examples of their use with these words within a grammatical construction. The most common English gloss for both words is 'because of' or 'on behalf of'.

G. _Accompaniment Words._ Accompaniment words fill the relator tagmeme of the accompaniment R.A. phrase. This closed class of words is subdivided as to whether the nouns involved are both alike in their mode of locomotion. Birds fly, fish swim, other animals walk, objects must be driven or carried.

    1) _Accompaniment of Dissimilars._ This involves the single stem oma- and its dual or plural suffixes (dual = -n, plural = -h) which show whether the referents are two or more in number. It applies to all associations of unlike nouns.

        1)   ayu si   oma -n   a -nan   'I carry a fish'
             1s fish with-dual we-go

        2)   ayu wa   oma -n   a -nan   'I'm going in a canoe'
             1s canoe with-dual we-go

        3)   aki wa   roʔab oma -h   a -nan   'We are going in 2 canoes'
             we canoe   two   with-pl we-go

2) Accompaniment of Similars. This involves the stem _airi_ 'together' with its affixes.

		Dual	Plural
free pronouns	1 ex.	airi	bairi
	1 inc.	airit	bairit
	2 pl.	airi	bairi
	3 pl.	hairi	bairi*

*Note: Only if one of the 3rd persons referred to is alone (_i_ 'he'). If the speaker is referring to two groups of people, he must use the phrase, _i etaimak_ 'they all'.

1) $\frac{i}{3s/pl.}$ $\frac{ayu}{1s}$ $\frac{airi}{}$ $\frac{a}{1pl\ exc.}$ $\frac{-na}{tense}$ $\frac{-n}{go}$ 'We (dual exclusive) will go'.

2) $\frac{i}{3s/pl.}$ $\frac{ayu}{1s}$ $\frac{bairi}{}$ $\frac{a}{1\ inc.\ pl.}$ $\frac{-na}{tense}$ $\frac{-n}{go}$ 'We (pl. exclusive) will go'.

3) $\frac{o}{2s}$ $\frac{ayu}{1s}$ $\frac{airit}{}$ $\frac{a}{1\ inc.\ pl.}$ $\frac{-na}{tense}$ $\frac{-n}{go}$ 'We (dual inc.) will go'.

4) $\frac{okwa}{2\ pl}$ $\frac{ayu}{1s}$ $\frac{bairit}{}$ $\frac{a}{1\ inc.\ pl.}$ $\frac{-na}{tense}$ $\frac{-n}{go}$ 'We (pl. inc.) will go'.

5) $\frac{i}{3s/pl.}$ $\frac{o}{2s}$ $\frac{hairi}{dual\ accomp.}$ $\frac{kwa}{2pl.}$ $\frac{-na}{tense}$ $\frac{-n}{go}$ 'You (two) will go'.

6) $\frac{i}{3s/pl.}$ $\frac{o}{2s}$ $\frac{bairi}{pl.\ accomp.}$ $\frac{kwa}{2pl}$ $\frac{-na}{tense}$ $\frac{-n}{go}$ 'You (pl) will go.'

H. Particles. There are subclasses of particles.

1) Responses. This is a closed set of only two members, en 'no' and ei 'yes'. They accept no affixation and fill the response tagmeme of the sentence periphery. The en also occurs as a type of linkage in a sentence type that need further analysis.

2) Pronouns. This closed class of words fills the same slots as do nouns. They are distinguished from nouns, however, on the following

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basis:

    a) They cannot be possessed.

    b) Nominal pluralizing methods cannot be employed.

    c) The pronouns in Miniafia are as follows:

ayu	'I'	_aki_	'we(excl.)'
_o_	'thou'	_it_	'we(inc.)'
_i_	'he/they'	_okwa_	'you(pl)'

3) <u>Conjunctions</u>. The word _o_ 'or' occurs between two nouns in a coordinate Noun Phrase. The word <u>baise</u> 'but' occurs between two independent clauses and sets them up in contrast to one another.

4) <u>Interrogatives</u>. This class of words includes question words such as <u>abisitan</u> 'what', <u>menika</u> 'where', and <u>yet</u> 'who'.

5) <u>Numerals</u>. This class of words includes all numbers and the terms <u>eteimak</u> 'all' and <u>eyabin</u> 'nothing'. Now English is commonly used for numbering, especially those numbers above ten.

<u>ta?imon</u>	'one'	<u>umat ron</u>	'five'
<u>ro?ab</u>	'two'	<u>umat ron ta?imon</u>	'six'
<u>tounu</u>	'three'	<u>umat ron ron</u>	'ten'
<u>kwafe?en</u>	'four'		

6) <u>Locatives</u>. Words from this relatively small, closed class fill the location slot in a clause and the axis slot in an axis-relator phrase. Locatives are divided into locationals, demonstratives, and directionals.

    a) Locationals indicate where an object or person is.

1) <u>gem</u>   <u>tafan</u> <u>inuʔin</u>   'It is on the table'
   table atop it sleeps

2) <u>gem</u>   <u>baban</u> <u>inuʔin</u>   'It is under the talbe'
   table under it sleeps

3) <u>gem</u>   <u>sisibin</u> <u>inuʔin</u>   'It is beside the table'
   table beside it sleeps

4) <u>i</u> <u>babe</u> <u>emaʔam</u>   'he is below'
   he below

5) <u>i</u> <u>itiʔi</u> <u>emaʔam</u>   'He is here'
   he here

6) <u>i</u> <u>no</u>   <u>emaʔam</u> 'He is over there'
   he over there

7) <u>i</u> <u>natiʔi</u>   <u>emaʔam</u> 'He is over there'
   he over there

b) Demonstratives overlap with locatives in that they function as locatives in the locational slot. These words function as demonstratives when they fill the modifier slot of a basic noun phrase and fill the topic slot of an equational clause.

1) <u>itiʔi</u> <u>gewasin</u> 'this is good'

2) <u>itiʔi</u> <u>gewasih</u> 'these are good'

3) <u>sawar</u> <u>itiʔi</u> <u>gewasih</u> 'these things are good'
   things these good

4) <u>natiʔi</u> <u>gewasin</u> 'that is good'

5) <u>sawar</u> <u>natiʔi</u> <u>gewasih</u> 'those things are good'
   things those   good

c) <u>Directional.</u> One directional word has been boserved. It is <u>au</u> 'to'

7) <u>Comparative Word.</u> The word <u>kafaʔimo</u> is used to show comparative degree but is also an adjective meaning 'small'.

8) <u>Similes.</u> Two types of simile have been observed.

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a) **Verbal Simile.** The word <u>na?at</u> operates on the sentence

level between clauses. Its meaning is 'like' and it may occur

alone or in conjunction with <u>ube</u> or <u>uban</u>.

b) **Common Similes.** The words <u>ube</u> and <u>uban</u> also mean 'like' but

operate on the phrase level or in combination with <u>na?at</u>.

1) <u>hi -n</u> <u>kafa?i</u> <u>na?at uban</u> 'they went on like that
3pl go small time like like for a little while.'

2) <u>haru</u> <u>ube</u> <u>e -nu</u> <u>-nunuw</u> 'he runs like a dog'
dog like he aspect run

3. Verbs

3.1. General Description of Verb Classification. Verbs in Miniafia are separated

into classes as to their method of forming continuative aspect and also as to

whether they are transitive or intransitive.

A - **Classification as to Method of Showing Continuative Aspect.**

1) **Reduplication.** Most verbs show continuative aspect by reduplicating

a part or all of the stem.

a) A single syllable verb stem with a simple nucleus completely

reduplicates itself.

1) <u>tab</u> <u>-a</u> <u>+ tab</u> 'it was cooking'
redupl. trans. vowel he cooks

2) <u>?in</u> <u>-a</u> <u>-?in</u> 'he was sleeping'
redupl. trans. vowel he sleeps

b) A single syllable verb stem with a complex nucleus reduplicates

the 1st consonant and vowel.

1) <u>ka</u> <u>-kaif</u> 'he was keeping'
redup. he keeps

2) <u>ba</u> <u>-bain</u> 'he was stealing'
redup. he steals

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c) A stem of more than one syllable reduplicates the first syllable.

> 1) du____-dudun   'he was nailing'
>   redupl. he nails
>
> 2) ?a____-?abar   'he was steering'
>   redupl. he steers

2) The addition of the prefix b-. Stems that form continuative aspect in this way all begin with vowel initial /i/.

> 1) e -b____-it____-in   'he is giving him'
>   3s cont. gives him
>
> 2) b____-iyafar   'he was sending'
>   cont. he sends

B - Classification as to Transitivity. Verbs that accept object suffixes are classified apart from those that do not. Some intransitive stems, however, may change classes as outlined in 1.1.C.

3.2. From Verb Stem to Verb. The verb fills the Head tagmeme of Verb Phrases and the Predicate of clauses.

TrV =

+ Person	± Tense	± Aspect	+ Stem	+ Object	± Emphasis
1s =a- 2s =kuoo i- 3s = ∅ 1pl exc.=a- 1pl inc.=ta- 2pl =kwa- 3pl =teoohi-	int.naoon- cond.ta=oot-	redup.oob- (cont)	trans. stem	u=1s i ∅=2s ∅=3s i=1pl. exc. it=1pl. inc. i=2pl. ih=3pl.	-aka~-ka

Intr. V = +Person +Tense +Aspect +Stem ±Emphasis

3.2.1. Tense. There are two major tenses in Miniafia.

A - Real. This tense includes present, past, and customary actions, and their continuatives. The verb stem standing alone (or with its obligatory object marker in the case of transitive stems) represents 3rd person singular past action. The addition of emphasis indicates past with emphasis.

> 1) bat 'he stood (stands)' bataka 'he stood (emph.)'

The addition of aspect to the original stem indicates past continuative action:

    1) ba-bat 'he was standing'

    2) bi-rurub 'he was bathing (him)

The stem with present person marker only indicates a customary action, but aspect maybe added to indicate present continuing action.

    1) e-bat 'he stood'

    2) e-ba-bat 'he is standing'

B - Unreal. This tense includes verb formations which indicate possible future action. The simple addition of the tense prefix indicates the unreal tense, the shape of the morpheme indicating whether the action is intended (na- n-) or may, could or should occur (ta- t-)

    1) na-bat 'he will stand'

    2) n-i rurub 'he will bathe (him)'

    3) ta-bat 'he may stand'

    4) t-i rurub 'he may bathe (him)'

Emphasis (-aka) also occurs with this tense as does aspect, however the two may not co-occur in this tense.

3.2.2. Person as Related to Tense. Person markers are obligatory. The shape of 2nd person singular and 3rd person singular and plural markers changes to indicate present continuative or customary action.

A - Second Person Singular Marker. The shape of this marker is i in all verbs except when the action is present continuative or customary. In these cases it becomes ku-.

B - 3rd Person Markers. The shapes of these markers are ∅ for singular and hi- except in verbs expressing present continuative or customary action.

In these cases, singular becomes e- and plural te-.

3.2.3. <u>Object Markers</u>. Object markers are obligatory when a transitive stem is used. The set is closed and no alternate sets or forms have been observed.

-u	1st. sing.	-i	1st pl. (exc.)
-i	2nd sing.	-it	1st pl. (inc.)
∅	3rd sing.	-∅	2nd pl.
		-ih	3rd pl.

3.2.4. <u>Emphasis</u>. The emphasis tagmeme emphasizes the tense of the verb. It may be used with either Real or Unreal tenses. It does not occur with aspect except in real tense when the person markers indicating a present continuing action are also present.

1) <u>e -ba -bat -aka-</u> 'he is standing (emph)'
   3s Asp. stand emph

3.2.5. There are no special imperative forms that can be used to indicate affirmative commands. Such commands are implied by use of the punctilliar aspect preceded by a 2nd person subject markers. Negative comands, however, do have a special form and are made in either of two ways.

A - By means of a phrase utilizing the negative <u>men</u> with a verb made up of 2nd person marker, tense marker, and stem.

1) <u>men</u> <u>i -na -rurub</u>   'Don't bathe!'
        neg. 2s fut bathe (stem)

B - By means of the prefix, <u>abi-</u>.

1) <u>okwa abi   -rurub</u> 'Don't swim! (you pl.)'
   2pl. neg. imper. bathe

2) <u>o abi   -rurub</u>   'Don't swim (you sing.)'
   2s neg. imper. bathe (stem)

<u>NOTE</u>: Two things should be noted about this form:

   1) It is often used colloquially without the free pronoun so that the number of subject is insignificant.

2) The form is homophonous with that meaning 'I am bathing you (sing. or pl.)'

$$1) \quad \underline{\underset{2s}{\text{o}}} \; \underline{\overset{(\text{okwa})}{(\text{2pl.})}} \; \underline{\underset{\text{I-cont.}}{\text{a-b}}} \underline{\overset{-\text{irurub-}\emptyset}{\text{-bathe}}} \; \underset{\text{you(pl)}}{}$$

3.2.6. Additional inflexional affixes. No other inflexional affixes have been observed.

4. Phrases

4.1. Verb Phrases.

4.1.1. Derivative Verb Phrases.

These phrases consist of verb sequences and are of two types. An optional manner slot may occur between the two predicates in the case of the completetive type.

A - Completive: Comp. Der. V. Ph. = +V_1: sny vb. ±Mod: adv. +V_2:sawar

    1) $\underline{\underset{\text{I eat}}{\text{a-a}}} \; \underline{\underset{\text{he finish}}{\emptyset\text{ -sawar}}}$ 'I finished eating'

    2) $\underline{\underset{\text{I do it}}{\text{a-iwaʔan}}} \; \underline{\underset{\text{poorly}}{\text{kakaf}}} \; \underline{\underset{\text{he finish}}{\emptyset\text{ -sawar}}}$ 'I finished doing it poorly'

B - Repetitive. This type consists of predicate repetition and semantically indicates that the action continued or is continuing over a period of time.

Rep. Ph = +(+V: any vb)^n

    1) $\underline{\underset{\text{they went}}{\text{hi -nan}}} \; \underline{\underset{\text{they went}}{\text{hi -nan}}}$ 'They kept going'

    2) $\underline{\underset{\text{they fight}}{\text{hi -yow}}} \; \underline{\underset{\text{they fight}}{\text{hi -yow}}} \; \underline{\underset{\text{they fight}}{\text{hi -yow}}}$ 'they kept on fighting'

NOTE: A maximum of four repetitions have been noted in text.

4.1.2 Process Verb Phrases

A - Initiatory

    1) $\underline{\underset{\text{3s will begin}}{\emptyset\text{ -na -busuruf}}} \; \underline{\underset{\text{3s will eat}}{\emptyset\text{ -na -a}}}$ 'he will being to eat'

    2) $\underline{\underset{\text{we will start}}{\text{ta-na -busuruf}}} \; \underline{\underset{\text{we will work}}{\text{ta-na -bow}}}$ 'we will start to work'

B - Motion

1) <u>a -na -n</u> <u>a -na -rurub</u>   'I will go to bathe'
    1s tense go 1s tense bathe

2) <u>a -rabon</u> <u>a -tar</u>   'I will go across to cut'
    1s go across 1s cut

4.1.3. Idiomatic

A - Meteorological

1) <u>mar</u> <u>∅-to</u>   'day break' or 'it got light'
    day it got

2) <u>mar</u> <u>∅-fo</u>   'twilight' or 'it became dark'
    day ?

B - Metaphorical

1) <u>bayu</u> <u>mih</u> <u>a -mo -morob</u>   'I am hungry'
    food for 1s aspect hungry

2) <u>muh -i</u> <u>e -fot</u>   'stop thinking that'
    gall bladder your 3s close

4.1.4. Desiderative Verb Phrases.

This type consists of +Des:kok + H:any verb. The tense of the head must always be unreal since the action has not been yet realized.

1) <u>ayu</u> <u>a -ko -kok</u> <u>a -na -b</u>   'I want to get it'
    I 1s asp. desire 1s tense get(it)

4.2. The Noun Phrase

4.2.1. Basic Noun Phrase.

This phrase consists of an optional demonstrative slot filled with a demonstrative, an obligatory head filled by a noun or a compound noun phrase, an optional quantifier slot filled by a numberal, and up to two optional modifier slots filled by adjectives. Noun phrases have always been observed to occur with a head.

B.N.Ph. = $\pm$Dem:dem +H:n/com.n.ph. $\pm$Q:no. $\pm$Mod$_1$:adj. $\pm$Mod$_2$:adj.

1) + Dem. + Head $\pm$ Q
    <u>iti?i</u> <u>oro -orot</u> <u>tounu</u> <u>gagami-h</u>   'these three big Utukwaf men'
    these (pl) men three big pl

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4.2.2. <u>Substantive Noun Phrase</u>. This Phrase type consists of an obligatory item slot filled by a noun or a place name followed by a second obligatory item slot filled by a noun.

$$\text{Sub.N.Ph.} = +\text{Item}_1 \text{:n/pl.n} +\text{Item}_2 \text{:n}$$

1) +Item$_1$ +Item$_2$
    <u>aiwob</u> <u>orot</u>   'chief'
    chief   man

2) <u>Utukwaf</u> <u>kek</u>   'child from Utukwaf'
    Utukwaf   child

3) <u>Kayara</u> <u>for</u>   'wild pig'
    bush   pig

4.2.3. <u>Pronominal Phrase</u>

$$\text{Pr.Ph.} = +\text{H:ps.pn/pr.n.} \pm\text{Mod:}\underline{akis-}/\underline{ar-}$$

The pronominal phrase consists of an obligatory Head filled by a personal pronoun or a proper noun and an obligatory modifier slot filled by <u>ar-</u> 'possession' or <u>akis-</u> 'only' whose suffixes agree with the pronoun in the Head. The slots cannot be expanded and modifiers are quite limited. When the modifier slot is filled by a first or second person form the head is not filled by a proper noun.

1) <u>ayu</u> <u>akis-u</u>   'I myself' or 'I alone'
    I   only I

2) <u>i</u>   <u>akis-ih</u>   'they themselves' or 'they alone'
    they only they

3) <u>David</u> <u>ar   -in</u>   'David's'
              poss. 3s

4) <u>o</u> <u>ar   -i</u>   'thine'
    2s poss. 2s

4.2.4. <u>Possessive Phrase</u>. There are two types of possessive phrases: basic and emphatic.

A - <u>Basic Possessive Phrase</u>. This phrase consists of an obligatory

possessor filled by a noun, basic noun phrase, an appostion noun phrase, or

a pronominal phrase and an obligatory item slot filled by a possessor noun

or a noun phrase.

B.Poss.Ph. = +Poss:n/b.m.ph./ap.ph./pn.ph. +ITEM:poss.n./b.m.ph.

1) <u>Utukwaf</u> <u>orot</u> <u>Rodney</u>   <u>ana-for</u> <u>ro?ab</u> <u>kikimih</u>
   Utukwaf man   his pig 2   small(pl)

   'Rodney, the Utukwaf man's two small pigs'

2) <u>Gideon</u> <u>akis-in</u>   <u>ana-bar</u>   'The house of Gideon himself'
   Gideon only he   his house

<u>NOTE</u>: When the modifier is <u>ar-</u>, the Item does not accept possessive prefixes.

1) <u>Gideon</u> <u>ar</u> <u>-in</u> <u>bar</u>   'Gideon's house'
   Gideon poss. 3s house

B - <u>Emphatic Possessive Phrase</u>. This phrase consists of an optional

Referent filled by a proper noun, place phrase, appositional noun phrase or

a basic noun phrase, an optional Item slot filled by a noun or basic noun

phrase and an obligatory possessor filled by a pronominal phrase whose only

filler for the modifier slot is <u>ar-</u>.

Emph.Poss.Ph. = ±REF:pr.n./pl.ph./ap.n.ph/b.n.ph ±ITEM:n/b.n.ph.
                +POSS:pn.ph.: +H +Mod:<u>ar-</u>

1) <u>Utukwaf</u> <u>orot</u> <u>Rodney</u>   <u>for</u> <u>ro?ab</u> <u>kikim-ih</u>   <u>i</u> <u>ar</u>   <u>-in</u>
   Utukwaf man Rodney   pig 2   small (pl) he poss. he

   'the two small pigs are Rodney's, the man from Utukwaf'

2) <u>Gideon</u> <u>bar</u> <u>i</u> <u>ar</u>   <u>-in</u>   'Gideon's house'
   Gideon house he poss. he

4.3. <u>Co-ordinate Phrases</u>. A co-ordinate phrase consists of two or more obligatory

heads optionally joined by a conjunction. The fillers of the head slots determine

the specific co-ordinate phrase type.

co.ph. = +H +(±CONJ. + H)^n

The number of heads possible appears to be open, but no more than three have been observed in text. Also, the heads of such phrases are not greatly expanded and each head more often than not contains no more than two words.

4.3.1. <u>Co-ordinate Noun Phrases</u>. This phrase type consists of an obligatory head filled by any noun phrase, an optional conjunction filled by o 'or' and an obligatory head filled by any noun phrase.

Co.N.Ph. = +H:any n.ph. +(±CONJ: o +H:any n.ph.)

1) <u>wah</u> <u>oh</u>   <u>havu</u>   'taro, banana, and betel nut'
   taro banana betel nut

2) <u>wah</u> o <u>oh</u>   o <u>havu</u>   'taro, banana, or betel nut'
   taro or banana or betel nut

3) o a <u>-for gagami-n</u>   <u>ayu</u> <u>au-haru furumi-n</u>
   you your pig big (sing.) I my dog black (sing.)

   'your big pig and my black dog'

4.3.2. <u>Co-ordinate Numeral Phrases</u>. This phrase type consists of an obligatory head slot filled by a number, an optional conjunction slot filled by o 'or', and an obligatory head slot filled by a number.

Co.Num.Ph. = +H +(Conj.:o + H)^n

1) <u>ro?ab</u> o <u>tounu</u>   'two or three'
   2   or three

4.3.3. <u>Co-ordinate Temporal Phrase</u>. This phrase consists of an obligatory head filled by a temporal, an optional conjunction slot filled by o 'or' and an obligatory head slot filled by a temporal.

Co.Tmp.Ph. = +H:temp ±Conj.:o +H:temp

1) <u>bon</u> <u>maras</u>   'today and tomorrow'
   today tomorrow

2) <u>bon</u> o <u>maras</u>   'today or tomorrow'
   today or tomorrow

4.3.4. <u>Co-ordinate Location Phrase</u>. This phrase type consists of an

obligatory head filled with a place name or a location relator axis phrase,

an optional conjunction filled by <u>o</u> 'or', and an obligatory head filled by a

place name or a location relator axis phrase.

Co.Loc.Ph. = +H:pl.n/ra.ph. ±Conj.:<u>o</u> +H:pl.n./r.a.ph.

1) <u>Utukwaf</u> <u>Tufi</u>   'Utukwaf and Tufi'
   Utukwaf Tufi

2) <u>Utukwaf</u> <u>o</u> <u>Tufi</u>   'Utukwaf or Tufi
   Utukwaf or Tufi

3) <u>bar</u>   <u>amaim</u> <u>oyaw</u>   <u>amaim</u>   'at the house and in the mountains'
   house there mountain there

4.4. <u>Co-ordinate Adjective Phrase</u>. This phrase consists of two obligatory

heads, each filled with an adjective, and an accompaniment slot filled by

<u>oman</u> 'with'

Co.Adj.Ph. = +H:adj. +H:adj. +Accomp.:<u>oman</u>

1) <u>furumin</u> <u>kwes</u> <u>oman</u>   'black and white'
   black   white with

4.5. <u>Appositional Phrase</u>. This phrase type consists of 2 obligatory tagmemes,

the Item and the Apposition.

$$\text{Ap.Ph. = +Item:} \begin{Bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{kinship term} \\ \text{noun} \\ \text{pronoun} \\ \text{co-ord.n.ph.} \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{Bmatrix} \text{temporal} \\ \text{locational} \\ \text{loc.R.A.Ph.} \end{Bmatrix} \end{Bmatrix} \text{+Apposition:} \begin{Bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \text{proper noun} \\ \text{pronoun} \\ \text{poss. ph.} \\ \text{kinship term} \end{bmatrix} \\ \begin{Bmatrix} \text{temporal} \\ \text{locational} \\ \text{loc.R.A.Ph.} \end{Bmatrix} \end{Bmatrix}$$

<u>NOTE</u>: Fillers within the brackets are permitted to co-occur, i.e. temporals
       co-occur only with temporals.

4.5.1. <u>Appositional Noun Phrase.</u>

Ap.N.Ph. = +Item:n/pn/n.ph. +Ap:n/n.ph.

1) <u>tein</u>   <u>Mes</u>   'His younger sibling, Mes'
   his younger sib. Mes

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$$\text{Ap}$$

2) i ⌐Awanu kabai⌐   'it, the Awanu stone'
    it Awanu stone

    ⌐item⌐   Ap⌐
3) ⌐bai i⌐ ⌐ayu au-bai⌐   'the food, my food'
    food it   I   my food

4.5.2. Temporal Appositional Phrase.

Temp.Ap.Ph. = +Item:temp. +Ap:n/pr.n.

1) maras   Sande   'tomorrow Sunday (next Sunday)'
    tomorrow Sunday

2) maras   mar oman 'tomorrow morning'
    tomorrow day with

4.5.3. Locational Appositional Phrase.

Loc.Ap.Ph. = +Item:loc. +Ap:loc/n.ph.

    ⌐item⌐   Ap.
1) ⌐babe⌐bar   ta   amaim⌐   'down at the other house'
    down house other there

2) no   amaim   'there, over there'
    over there   there

4.6. Relator Axis Phrase.
These phrases consist of an obligatory axis which is related to the clause in which it is occuring by a relator which always occurs after the axis.

Rel.Ax.Ph. = +Ax:prn.   +Rel:accomp.
             N. Ph.   loc.
             pl. n   wat 'inst'
             B. Poss. Ph.   purp.
             Loc.

4.6.1. Accompaniment R.A. Phrase.
In the accompaniment R.A. phrase the axis is filled by nouns, pronouns, N.P., and the relator are the listed under accompaniment words (see 2.2.F).

    +axis⌐   +relator⌐
1) ⌐ayu o⌐   ⌐airit⌐   'you and I together'
     I you   we two together

2) ⌐for mamu⌐ oman   'a pig and a bird together'
     pig bird together

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3) <u>it</u> <u>bairit</u>   'we together'
   we we all together

4.6.2. <u>Location R.A. Phrase</u>. <u>amaim</u> is the only relator that occurs with

locatives, nouns, and place names to form the location R.A. phrase.

    1) <u>Utukwaf</u> <u>amaim</u>   'at Utukwaf'
   Utukwaf there

    2) <u>biya-u</u> <u>amaim</u>   'at my place'
   body-my there

    3) <u>tafan</u> <u>amaim</u>
   atop there   'there on top'

4.6.3. <u>Instrument Phrase</u>. Nouns fill the axis of the Instrument R.A. phrase

and instrument is expressed by the relator, <u>wat</u>.

    1) <u>a</u> <u>-u</u> <u>wat</u>   'on foot'
   leg my inst.

    2) <u>wa</u>   <u>wat</u>   'by canoe'
   canoe inst.

4.6.4. <u>Resemblance R.A. phrase</u>. This phrase consists of an obligatory axis

filled with a noun and one of two obligatory relators, <u>ube</u> or <u>uban</u>. Both

relators mean 'like'.

    Res. R.A.Ph. = +Axis:n/pn. +relator:ube/uban

    1) <u>na?at</u> <u>uban</u> 'like that'
   that like

    2) <u>haru</u> <u>ube</u>   'dog like'
   dog like

4.6.5. <u>Purpose R.A. Phrase</u>. This phrase type consists of an obligatory axis

filled by a noun or a pronoun and an obligatory relator filled by <u>isa-</u> or

<u>aur-</u>. The two items take the same intimate possessive suffixes and their

grammatical function appear to be identical with the third and more common

purpose relator, <u>imih</u>.

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1) <u>ayu</u> <u>aur -u</u>   'for me'
   I purp. 1s

2) <u>bar</u>   <u>isa -n</u> 'for the house'
   house purp. 3s

4.7. <u>Adjective Phrase</u>. This phrase consists of an obligatory adjective optionally modified by the negative and/or the superlative.

Adj.Ph. = ±Neg. +H:adj. ±Super:maiyo

1) <u>(yabat)</u> <u>men</u> <u>kikimin</u>   '(the storm is) not small'
   storm   neg. small(sing.)

2) <u>men gewasin maiyo</u>   'not very good'
   not good-s really

4.8. <u>Long Phrase</u>. Long phrases have not been found in the texts analysed. For this reason I do not know whether a tendency exists to shift the location of such phrases within the clause or not.

5. <u>Clauses</u>

5.1. <u>Independent Clause</u>. Four basic clause types occur in Miniafia. They are equational, transitive, intransitive, and quotative. Idioms, disideratives, and other types of speech all fit into one of these three patterns, depending on the type of action or the lack of it.

5.1.1. <u>Equational Clause</u>. This clause type consists of obligatory Topic and Comment tagmemes preceded optionally by Time and Location. The equational clause is set apart from other clause types in that it takes different obligatory tagmemes and has no predicate. Further, peripheral tagmemes are quite restricted.

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Equat. Cl. =	± T	± L	+ Topic	+ Comment
	Temporal	Locative	any noun noun ph. negative <u>men</u>	noun adjective pronoun noun phrase poss. noun ph. clause negative en locative

NOTE: In text only one of the two optional Tagmemes has been noticed to occur but through elicitation I obtained examples of both Tagmemes occuring in the same utterance.

1) Example from Text:

<u>T</u>   <u>topic</u>   <u>Comment</u>
bon   tuwar ta   en   'Today (there is)
today   war other no   no more war'

2) Elicited form: <u>bon</u>   <u>itiʔi</u> <u>tuwar</u> <u>ta</u>   <u>en</u>   'Here today (there
today here   war   other no   is) no more war'

The peripheral Tagmemes optionally exchange positions. The obligatory slots however remain in the stated order.

5.1.2. <u>Transitive Clause.</u> This clause type consists of an obligatory predicate and eight optional peripheral Tagmemes. The possibilities are outlined by the formula below. The transitive clause is different from the other clauses in that it takes an optional object and also has its predicate filled with a transitive verb.

Trans.Cl. =	±Neg.	± T	+Purp.	± L	± S	±Ac	±O/IO	±M	+P
	men	Temporal	<u>imih</u> 'for'	Locative	noun n.ph. prn.	Accomp.	noun n.ph. or prn.	any adv.	any Trans. Verb

Of the optional slots only a maximum of four have been observed in text.
Elicitation resulted in some examples of more of these tagmemes within the same
construction, but the language helper disliked its resultant length.

The Predicate, Negative, Subject, Object, and object slots usually follow
the order given here. The other optional slots, however, change their positions
in the construction freely without any observable affect on the meaning of the
utterance.

1) From text:

	S		L	T	O		P	Accompl.
aki	a		ine	bon	kek		a -itufu	sawar
we(excl	leg-our		it-from	today	children		we-bore	finish

"We have borne children"

2) From text:

Purp.				O	
imih	it	ai -efan	bar -imih	tafaram-amih	
That's why	we(incl)	our-place	house-for	village-for	

P
hi -nuwet
they-look

'that's why they looked for our own place, house, & village.

3) Elicited:

Neg.	T	Purp.		L	S	Ac.	O	P	Accompl.
men	bon	imih		iti-i	orot	bairi	haru	a -rab	sawar
not	today	that's why		here	man	with	dog	we-hit	finish.

'That's why we men didn't finish hitting the dog today'

5.1.3. <u>Intransitive Clause</u>. This clause type consists of an obligatory predicate
and different peripheral optional tagmemes. All eight of these tagmemes have
never been observed to be present together in the same construction in text.
Elicited utterances on the other hand, have been obtained which contain all eight
optional tagmemes in one clause. In text, a maximum of four optional tagmemes
have been observed to occur in one clause. Intransitive clauses never occur
withthe object tagmeme and intransitive verbs always manifest the predicate.

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Intr. Cl.= +Neg.	±Pur/Inst	± T	± L	± S	± Ac	± M	+ P
Neg. men	Purp/or Instrument filled by -amaim or imih or isan	Temporal	Locative	Subj. filled with a n.,prn. or a n. ph.	Accompaniment	Manner filled with an adverb	any intr. verb

NOTE: Of the tagmemes in this clause type, Predicate, Negative Subject, Accompaniment, are normally found in the same positions. All other tagmemes can and do optionally move around within the clause with no obserable change in meaning resulting. The Manner slot is generally found near the predicate, but not always.

Text has yeilded some examples of two Locative or two Temporal slots occuring within the same clause. The two fillers may be the same or different. Study to date has not shown the significance of the extra slots when they contain the same fillers.

1) From text:
```
        S                  L      T       L         P
aki      tamaina   Turihu ufi   Tuturin amaim hi  -tufuw
we(excl) fathers-our Turihu later Tuturin there they-born
```
'Our fathers were born at Turihu or later at Tuturin'

2) From Text:
```
        S          M          P
komur  bai?ab   na?at     ∅ -sawar
year   how many  like that it-finished
```
'How many years went by like that?'

3) From text:
```
T           S           T        P
bon    iba         -u  marasika ∅ -o
today brother-in-law my  before    he said
```
'Before (but) today my brother-in-law said'

4) Elicited:
```
Neg. S    Ac    Inst.        L         T     M
men orot bairi ahay -amaim iti?i-maim bon   omet
not  man with  spear with  here  place today hard

     P
hi  -ni  -yow
they will fight
```

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'The men will not fight hard with spears here today'

5.1.4. <u>Quotative Clause</u>. This clause type consists of two subtypes which will be described separately: introductive and summary. These are different from other clauses in that their nuclear tagmemes are different; fillers are restricted, and peripheral slots are limited.

A) <u>Introductive Quotative Clause</u>. This clause subtype consists of an obligatory predicate preceded by two optional tagmemes (author & adressee). Either predicate optionally occurs alone and both are permitted to occur in one clause.

Intro. Quot. Cl. =	± Author	± Adressee	+ [+Predicate	± Predicate]
	prn. noun	prn. noun	<u>uw</u> 'said'	<u>o</u> 'said'
	<u>orot</u> man	<u>babin</u> woman	<u>∅ -uw</u> 3s say	<u>∅ -o</u> 3s say

B) <u>Summary Quotative Clause</u>. This is a sterotyped clause that is optionally used to close a quotation. It consists of a simile construction <u>i na?at ube</u> followed by the predicate, <u>uw</u>, conjugated to manifest proper subject tense, aspect, and object.

Sum. Quot. Cl. =	+ Sim.	+ P
	<u>i na?at ube</u> like that	<u>∅-uw</u> 3s say

5.2. <u>Sequences of Verbs</u>. It is common in this language to have sequences of different verbs. Six verbs have been observed in one such string. These strings usually show either consecutive actions or types of action engaged in within the same time period.

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Example: <u>hi -ma?</u>   <u>hi -tar</u>   <u>hi -bow</u>   <u>hi -a</u>   <u>hi -ma?</u>   <u>hin</u>
      they stayed they chopped they worked they ate they stayed they went

'They stayed, they chopped, they worked, they ate, they stayed, they went'

Such sequences are interpreted as separate clauses each consisting of one obligatory predicate for the following reasons.

1. They are each complete forms in themselves since they fulfill the requirements of the basic clause type patterns.

2. They optionally occur separately each with its own subject, manner word, or other optional tagmemes characteristic of the basic clause types.

The final verb of many of these series is <u>hin</u> 'they went' or <u>hima?</u> "they stayed'. At present, the exact function of these words is not understood. It may later be found that these words act as a summary of the action on the sentence level.

Sequences of two verbs in which one of them is restricted as to its affixation are considered verb phrases and have been dealt with under that section.

5.3. <u>Merged Sentences</u>. If the example given above were to have one or more additional non-verbal slots preceding it, it would be considered a merged sentence.

1.   Ac   L   P   P   P   P   P
1. <u>bairi</u> <u>imaim</u> <u>hi -ma?</u>   <u>hi -tar</u>   <u>hi -bow</u>   <u>hi -a</u>   <u>hi -ma?</u>
    WITH there they stayed they chopped they worked they ate they stayed

      P
    <u>hin</u>   'They lived together'
    they went

In this case, all the verbs of the sequence share the accompaniment and also the locative and therefore, the entire utterance is considered one merged sentence.

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```
          Neg.    O        P              P              P
      2.  men isikar i -na -b   i -na -kakir i -n  -it -u
          not stick   you will get you will break you will give to me
```

'Don't get the stick, break it, or give it to me.'

5.4. Dependent Clauses. Dependent clauses have the same form as independent ones except that a word is added to the construction that makes the whole dependent.

5.4.1. Included Clauses.

A) Object Clause.

```
                      O
          ┌───────axis─────────┐
          ┌ O        P    ┐relator   P
      1.  ei   hi -tari -tar  imaim a-?it-in
          wood they aspect chop there I see 3s
```

'I saw where they were chopping wood.'

B) Temporal Clause.

```
                  T            S        P
          ┌────axis───, relator┐
          ┌ O     P ┐
      1.  bel  ∮ -rab ana-veɣa sabu   hi -ru?ay
```

'When he hit the bell, the people gathered.'

C) Location Clause.

```
                      L
          ┌───────axis────── relator┐
          ┌ O        P    ┐              P
      1.  ei   hi -tari -tar  imaim a-ma?   -am
          wood they aspect chop there I aspect stay
```

'I am staying where they were chopping wood.'

NOTE: The construction of both the Location and Temporal clause types are the same and may indicate that the Miniafia speaker does not differentiate between Locative and Temporal in these examples.

5.4.2. Subordinator Type Dependent clauses. These clauses are basically independent clauses which are made dependent by a temporal, a purpose word, or intonation.

A. Subordinator Initial (Temporal Type)

Temporal
```
        T       L        P      O       P
1.  biyibo  Utukwaf  ta-na  -n  si  ta-na   -yow
    when      "      we tense go fish we tense spear
```

'When we go to Utukwaf we will spear fish'

B. Subordinator Initial (Cause/Purpose Type)

```
        Purpose                    T       P
      P       Purp.
1.  i -na  -?af  isanamih      boro hi -na   -n
    you tense call because/for him later they tense come
```

'Because you will call, they will come.'

C. Intonation Subordinator (Conditional Type)

```
1.  ayu o  a-ta   -rab  ya  -ø   ø -na  -so?ar
    I  you I tense hit  belly your he tense sharp
```

'Were I to hit you, you would get angry.'

6. SENTENCES. Sentence level features of Miniafia have not been adequately analized, however, some general factors have been noted as follows.

6.1. End of Sentence. The end of a sentence appears to be signalled by a falling intonation and a pause of varying length. The new sentence is then signalled by a rising intonation and (especially in the case of procedural texts) word recapitulation.

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                                             Bat.
1.  ufun  tain          Mes yen.
    later younger sib(his) Mes he came up.  He stood....
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'Later his younger brother, Mes, came up. He stood....'

Nothing has been noted that would distinguish between narrative or conversational sentence endings.

6.2. Clause Joining. Rising intonation on the Predicate appears to be the primary signal which indicates that one independent clause should be linked with the next in a sentence. Two independent clauses are normally juxtaposited

with rising intonation and a lack of pause between the two. Two free conjunctions optionally serve to join clauses as well: o 'or' and baise 'but'. This, however, is less common than simple juxtaposition. Of the conjunctions, o is the more common of the two.

6.3. Conditional Sentences. There do not appear to be any conditional words as such in this language. Conditional sentences certainly occur, but the conditional state is signalled by the unreal tense on the predicate in conjunction with rising intonation linking that clause with the following one. No conditional sentences came to light in the texts analized, however, elicitation has produced what would seem to be conditional forms. The first part of each appears to be the conditional part of the statement. Reversal of the parts makes it a declarative sentence.

A. boro   taun ta -yar   men ta   -tan
    later rain may fall   neg. we(incl) may go.

'Later, if the rain falls, we won't go.'

B. boro   taun na -yar   men ta   -nan
    later rain will fall neg. we(incl) will go

'Later if/when the rain falls, we won't go.'

NOTE: Though the English glosses do not reflect it, these utterances indicate
    an attitude on the part of the speaker. The first example reflects an
    attitude that disbelieves the possibility of rain falling. The second
    example accepts rain as real and quite possible.

C. Marasika taun ta -yar   men ta   -tan   amih
    before   rain may fall   neg we(incl) may go   ?

'If it had rained, we would not have come.'

NOTE: The function of amih is uncertain in this case but often indicates
    purpose in other utterances. In all cases the initial time word is
    optional. Further study may reveal this to be a contrary to fact construction.

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6.4. <u>Number of Clauses Possible in One Sentence</u>. As many as 12 clauses have been observed to co-occur within the same sentence without the occurance of any type of connective. Two things have been noted in the texts, however:

    A. Emphasis is shown by drastically shortenning the sentences, many times right down to simple predicates.

    B. In longer sentences optional tagmemes are rare, especially after the first two clauses in the sentence.

No difference has been distinguished as to number of clauses in conversational versus narrative sentence types. <u>Long sentences</u> are shortened by using falling intonation on the clause.

6.5. <u>Co-ordinate versus Subordinate Linkage of Clauses</u>. Clauses most often are joined in a co-ordinate relationship because there are no medial verb constructions. Subordinate relationships do frequently occur within the sentence, however.

1. <u>Hai -urar</u>   <u>hai -merar</u>   <u>te -re -rereb</u> <u>Bohorot</u>
   their house underpart their front yard they aspect sweep Bohorot

   <u>oro -orot te -mi -misir a -awa -h hi -uw -i</u>
   (pl) man they aspect get up pl wife their their told them

     'The Bohorot women are sweeping under their houses and their front
     yards, and the Bohorot men are getting up and saying to their wives...'

2. <u>Na -atube hi -bat imaibo kokorok misir Afarewa uw -i</u>
   LIKE that they stand then chicken stand Afarewa tell him

     'They stood like that, then the chicken stood and told Afarewa...'

3. <u>bel ∅ -rab ana -veya sabu hi -ruʔay</u>
   bell 3s hit 3s poss day people 3pl gather

     'People gathered when he hit the bell.'

6.6. Special Interrogative forms that expect a "yes" or a "no" answer have not been observed.

6.7. Quotations are usually direct with the author often specifically mentioned in an introductive quotative clause. The quotation is optionally closed by a reitteration of the first predicate portion of the introductive quotative clause preceded by i i na?atube 'he like that'.

1. Rodney uw___ -i_ o___ "...........", i na?atube   uw___ -i
   Rodney he told him he said (quote)   he like that he told him.

6.8. Clause Sequences thus far observed have always followed a strict chronological ordering of the events narrated.

7. Sequences of Sentences

7.1. Subject Identification. The subject, once stated, need not be restated in following sentences unless changes of subject occur in between that may confuse the hearer. In that case, a restatement of the subject occurs in the Subject tagmeme slot of the clause in which the initial actor is first spoken of again.

The use of a free pronoun before a predicate is in all cases optional and does not refer to any predicate of a previous sentence.

In transitive clauses where both actor and object are the same person and number, the order of the clause level optional subject and object tagmemes becomes quite important. The subject always precedes the object in such cases. In addition an object suffix is attached to the verb stem which helps to minimize donfusion.

In the narrative texts analized so far, restatement of the actors and objects occured quite frequently. This may be because they changed frequently or because the narrator wanted to make the story easier for me to follow.

7.2. Logical Connections

7.2.1. Contrast is shown by use of the conjunction baise 'but' between two clauses. A form of contrast is also indicated by use of the conjunction, o 'or' between sentences.

1. <u>ayu</u> <u>ako</u> <u>-kok</u> <u>ana</u> <u>-n</u> <u>baise</u> <u>a-ta</u> <u>-ma</u>
   I   I asp want I will go but I may stay

'I want to go, but I may stay.'

2. <u>ф -na</u> <u>o</u> <u>men</u> <u>ф -na</u> <u>amihi</u>
   he go or neg he go   ?

'Did he go or not?'

7.2.2. <u>Result and Cause</u>. These are often indicated by simple clause sequences. The following construction is also possible.

1. <u>hi -wowan-ih</u> . <u>imih</u> <u>hi -fut</u> ....
   they force them. purp they fired

'They forced them. [Therefore] they got fed up....'

Or, it optionally occurs following the predicate, stating the cause.

1. <u>hi -fut</u> . <u>hi -wowan-ih</u> <u>imih</u>
   they tired. they force them prup.

They got fed up [because] they forced them.

No difference in structure has been noted that would set these sentence types apart from other narrative sentences.

7.3. <u>Paragraph Indicators</u>. I have not noted any special markings to indicate paragraph endings. The words <u>sawar</u> 'it finished' and <u>basit</u> 'all right' may serve this function, but my work has not brought me to any definite conclusions on that score.

7.4. A narrative is usually ended by the following statement or a variation of it:

1. <u>au-tur</u> <u>yamaninaban</u> <u>iti?i</u> <u>a-isawar</u>   'here I finish my story'
   my word   boundary here I finish

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8. Unresolved Issues.

8.1. Trouble Spots.

I believe that further work is needed in all areas of Miniafia grammar. Special research, however, is recognized as especially needed in the following areas: Subject identification, didactic interrogatives, conditional statements, linkage, sentence types and phenomena, and all areas on paragraph and discourse levels. As well, I recognize that my analysis thus far has been basically based on narrative texts supplemented with elicited material. This corpus must be broadened to include other types of material before anything truly definitive can be said.

Further, I would like to re-examine the tense system in the light of future research. My decision to describe it in terms of real and unreal stemmed from a desire to simplify my statement and a "feeling" I have had about how the people look at tense. This also fit in with some statements made by Arthur Capell regarding the tendency in some Austronesian groups to look at tense as real versus unreal rather than the way Indo-European languages do. Hence, my own description of Miniafia tense.

8.2. Construction Types.

8.2.1. Result and Cause. (See: Sentences 7.2.2.)

1. hi   -wowan -ih   imih hi   -fut
    they force   them purp they tired

    'They forced them. [Therefore] they got fed up.'

2. hi -fut.   hi -wowan-ih   imih
    they tired.   they force them purp.

    'They got fed up [because] they forced them.'

8.2.2. Contrary Result. This construction has not been observed. (See: Conditional Sentences. 6.3.)

8.2.3. Imperative. (See: Verb 3.6.)

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1. men i -na   -rurub   'Don't bathe!'
   neg 2s tense bathe

2. abi   -rurub   'Don't bathe!'
   Neg. imp. bathe

NOTE: The latter examples may be interpreted as either imperative or a simple

declarative.

8.2.4. "Yes" and "No" Interrogatives differ from a declarative statement by

the intonation. Declarative statements have final falling intonation and

interrogatives have rising final intonation.

1. boro i -na   -n   'Later will you go?'
   later 2s tense go

2. boro i -na   -n   'Later you will go.'
   later 2s tense go

8.2.5. Eliciting Interrogative. This form does not involve any structural

change from basic sentence formation. A question word such as biyi 'when'

or menika "where" simply precedes the statement.

1. o   i   -na   -n   'You will go.'
   Thou thou tense go

2. biy o i -na   -n   'When will you go?'
   when 2s 2s tense go

8.2.6. Didactic Interrogatives have not been observed to this point in the

analysis.

8.2.7. Negation. This involves the basic sentence simply preceded by men

'not'.

1. ϕ -na   -n   'He will go.'
   he tense go

2. men ϕ -na   -n   'He will not go.'
   neg he tense go

8.2.8. Resemblance is shown by stating the items compared followed by the

word taʔimoh 'one'.

1. yumata   -h   ta?imoh   'They look the same.'
   appearance their one

8.2.9. Verbal Simile.

1. orot e -nu -nunuw haru ube   'The man is running like a dog.'
   man he asp run   dog like

2. mamu e -robo-rob felen abe   'The bird flies like a plane.'
   bird he asp. fly plane like

8.2.10. Comparative Degree.

1. iti?i orot i -kafa?imo auyabin i urunamaim iti?i oro -orot
   this man he comp.   large   he after   this (pl) man

   'This man is larger than these men.'

2. iti?i kafa?imo awa   -n yen   i ufunamaim iti?i
   this comp.   mouth his he went up he after   this

   'This [one] is fuller than this [one].'

8.2.11. Benefaction. (See Purpose R.A. Phrase 4.6.5.)

1. o   aur -i   a-bag   'I work on your behalf.'
   thou purp thy I work

2. ayu isa -u   ∅ -iwa?an 'He did [it] for me.'
   I   purp my he   did

3. ayu aur -u   ∅ -iwa?an 'He did [it] for me.'
   I   purp my he   did

8.2.12. Causative. (See Result & Cause. 7.2.2.)

1. hi -wowan-ih   imih hi -fut
   they force them purp they tired

   'They forced them. Therefore they got fed up.'

2. tama -h   ∅ -iso?ar kek   bay e -a
   father his he force child food he eats

   'His father made the child eat the food.'

8.2.13. Verbal Comparison

A. Easier of the Difficult

1. kafa?imo ham a-iki?a?ub baise kafa?imo fokar a-sib
   comp.   easy I unbotton but   comp.   hard I tear off

   'I unbutton [it] more easily than I tear it off.'

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8.2.14. **Alternatives.**

1. me   i -na -ma   o seb   i -na -ma
   ground you will stay or veranda you will stay

   'You will stay on the ground or on the veranda.'

2. fiyow   i -na -tom   i -na -yawas en i -na -morob
   medicine you tense drink you tense better no you tense die

   'You will drink medicine and get better and [if] not you will die.'

3. seb   i -na -ma   baise men kabai tafan i -na -ma
   veranda you tense stay but neg. stone atop you tense stay

   'You will stay [on the] veranda but not atop the stone.'

4-5. seb   i -na -ma   o kabai tafan i -na -ma
   veranda you tense stay or stone top you tense stay

   '[Will] you stay on the veranda or atop the stone?'

NOTE: Rising intonation on the first clause of this utterance is the only

clue in this utterance that indicates that it is a question.

6. i ɸ -na -an o i ɸ -na -in
   he 3s tense eat or he 3s tense sleep

   '[Will] he eat or sleep?'

8.2.15. **Passive.** No passive voice has been found in Miniafia. Nor have I
found any constructions that would suggest the idea of passivity.

8.2.16. **Abstracts**

life	= yawas*	thought	= not*
death	= morob*	fear	= biru*
present	= yasisir*	joy	= yasisir*
goodness	= baigewasin	truth	= tur
weakness	= ririmamaim	peace	= nuwarob

NOTE: 1) Word classes are difficult to isolate in Miniafia and the starred

words above accept either noun or verb affixes (see: Words 2.1.).

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2) Note the homophonous form <u>yasisir</u>.

Most emotions are expressed by idioms which include the seat of the emotion followed by a predicate (see: Idioms 8.3.).

8.2.17. <u>Implied Speech</u>. I have not found any examples of implied speech in this language. Judgement must be withheld on the matter, however, until higher level phenomona are analyzed. To date, only direct quotation has been noted.

8.2.18. <u>Figures of Speech</u>. I do not feel confident enough to speculate as to frequency of occurence.

A. <u>Similes</u>.

    1. <u>kek</u> <u>i</u> <u>si</u> <u>abe</u>   'The child is like a fish.'
       child he fish like

B. <u>Metaphor</u>.

    1. <u>iti?i</u> <u>orot</u> <u>i</u> <u>haru</u> 'This man is a dog.'
       this man he dog

This statement refers to the male dog's unfaithfulness to his mate and the same quality in the man.

C. <u>Euphemism</u>.

    1. <u>orot</u> <u>ana-sawo</u> <u>ra?at</u>   'He died.'
       man his sick big

D. <u>Hyperbole</u>. I have not observed this in the language.

E. <u>Metonymy</u>. Not observed at work in this language.

F. <u>Apostrophe</u>.

    1. <u>are</u> 'Oh!'

    2. <u>O bariau</u> 'O Europeans!'

    3. <u>o mi?itube</u> 'O what!'

G. <u>Personification</u>. As yet it is not known if these examples are truly

personification or not.

1. <u>yabat ɸ -misir</u>   '[The] storm got up.'
   storm he get up

2. <u>waru ɸ -nunuw</u>   '[The] wind ran.'
   wind he run

H. <u>Irony</u>. Not observed to date.

I. <u>Synedoche</u>. Not observed to date.

8.2.19. <u>Foreign Article and Concepts</u>. With most items and concepts recently

introduced the Miniafia people bring along the foreign word or a variant form

of it as well. The word may then be affixed and used as a Miniafia word.

1. <u>ana-felen e -nan</u>   'His plane is coming.'
   his plane he is coming

The people have also accepted some English words to express concepts that

were difficult for them to express in Miniafia.

1. <u>a-ni   -trai</u>   'I will try.'
   I tense   try

Some objects have been given vernacular names however.

1. <u>ura   -ɸ   ɸ -ma?ama</u>   'chair'
   buttock your it was staying

8.2.20. <u>Ellipsis</u>. As yet use of ellipsis is not fully understood. Old

information is not repeated so it appears to act like ellipsis.

1. <u>ayu men a-ko   -kok   ta-na   -gam   ta-na   -cot</u>
   I neg I aspect desire we tense argue we tense court

'I don't want us to argue and (go) to court.'

8.2.21. <u>Cause and Effect Clauses</u>. (See: Result and Cause 7.2.2.)

Further study needs to be done in this area but reversal of order is permitted

and does not appear to affect the meaning.

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A - M

1. hi -wowan-ih   imih   hi -fut
   they force them purp. they tired

   'They forced them, [therefore] they got fed up.'

2. hi-fut hi wowan-ih imih   'They got fed up [because] they forced them.'

8.2.22. Numbers from one to five are usually referred to in the vernacular.

Numbers larger than ten are almost always said in English. Very large numbers

are usually not handled except by the cover term momurih 'many'.

8.3. Idioms.

1. nuhi   -ø   e -fot   'Stop thinking that.'
   gall bladder your   he is closing

2. ya   -n   tu-ru?um   'He tired.'
   belly his it broke

3. ya   -n   so?ar   'He got angry.'
   belly his he sharpened

4. ya   -n   ø -matar   'She became pregnant.'
   belly her it began

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