

# A THREE-DIMENSIONAL ANALYSIS OF CHAM SENTENCES

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## 0. INTRODUCTION

Cham<sup>1</sup> sentences are described here in relation to the following parameters: Manifested Form, Feature Type and Truth Value Type.<sup>2</sup> Manifested form relates to the overt form of a sentence. Feature type refers to its internal function. And truth value refers to its external function in relation to the speaker-hearer situation.

## 1. MANIFESTED FORMS

With respect to manifested form, sentences may be described in terms of the following basic forms: Simple, Complex, Juxtaposed, Initial-echo, Quotative, Conjunctive and Particle-marked. There may also be combinations of these basic forms, such as initial-echo-quotative. These combinations will be discussed in section 1.8.

1.1. A *simple sentence* consists of one independent clause or a less complete version of such a clause.

Nhu buch bima<sup>o</sup> ka amek nhu.<sup>3</sup>

*he pluck mushroom for mother his*

*'He gathered mushrooms for his mother.'*

Djaup.

*correct*

*'That's right.'*

1.2. A complex sentence has a clause(s) or sentence(s) embedded in the main clause, as illustrated in the sentence below:

Nhu tabiăk nao iök thay urang dok păk lingiu paga.

*he go-out go look who person be at outside fence*

*'He went out to see who was outside the fence.'*

Embedded as the object of the sentence is the clause:

thay urang dok păk lingiu paga

1.3. Juxtaposed sentences may be divided into those which have two clauses, Simple-juxtaposed, and those which have three or more clauses, Multiple-juxtaposed. The clauses in a juxtaposed sentence are closely linked in a sequence of some kind, such as a temporal or consecutive action sequence, rather than by conjunctions.

(Simple-juxtaposed)

Mek mudoh tagök, nao mŭk lithay ka anuk huăk.

*mother woke got-up get rice for child eat-rice*

*'The mother got up (and) went to get rice for (her) child to eat.'*

(Multiple-juxtaposed)

Nhu nao hmu, tamŭ ribong, lipök mŭk hu klau dray nhach.

*he go field, enter irrigation-ditch, felt-for get able 3 cl. frog*

*'He went to the paddy, entered the irrigation ditch (and) got three frogs with his hands.'*

As shown in the examples above, simple-juxtaposed and multiple-juxtaposed sentences frequently omit the subject from the second and succeeding clauses, since the subject of the first clause most often is the understood subject of the succeeding clauses in the sentence.

1.4. Unlike some of the neighbouring languages which manifest complete echo sentences,<sup>4</sup> Cham manifests only a partial echo of the preceding sentence in the first clause of the reflector sentence. The echo clause contains a main verb or synonym of a main verb from the preceding sentence.

Sanung yau năn, tapai klao tha dray.

*think like that rabbit laugh one self*

*'Thinking that way, the rabbit laughed to himself.'*

The initial echo in this sentence repeats the sanung 'thinking' of the

rabbit in the sentence before.

1.5. A *quotative sentence* differs from other complex sentences in that it contains either a *direct* or an *indirect quotation* (see section 2 on Feature Types), and is introduced by a quotative clause.

**Direct-Quotative Sentence:**

Abao dôm thǒng tapai lach: "Dahlǎk jang nao mu-in yau ai ray."  
*snail spoke with rabbit say I also go play like older-sibling too*  
*'The snail spoke to the rabbit, saying: "I'm also having fun like you are."'*

**Indirect-Quotative Sentence:**

Nhu pathau lach brūk nǎn nhu ngǎk bloh pajǝ.  
*he politely say work that he do finish already*  
*'He politely stated that he had completed that work already.'*

A direct quotation may contain any manifesting sentence form, including both direct and indirect quotations. This is because, in a direct-quotative sentence, the quotation introducing clause is not bound to the quotation, even though the quotation acts as the object of the introductory clause. In an indirect-quotative sentence the quotation is embedded in the quotation introducing clause. Thus it cannot function as a distinct discourse in itself, as the quotation in a direct-quotative sentence can.

The main distinction prosodically is that in a direct-quotative sentence there is an obligatory pause (or juncture) before the quotation, and in an indirect-quotative sentence there is not an obligatory pause before the indirect quotation.

1.6. A *conjunctive sentence*<sup>5</sup> is: 1) one which is related to a preceding sentence by an *initial conjunction*, or a sentence consisting of clauses which are related to each other by a *sentence-initial conjunction*; 2) a sentence consisting of two or more clauses, two of which are connected by a *medial conjunction*; or 3) a sentence combining both *initial* and *medial* conjunctions.

1) **Initial conjunctions** include:

a. those which relate a sentence to a preceding sentence:

min 'but'  
 bloh 'then'

The following conjunctive expressions may also act as paragraph introducers:

bloh di năn	'finally, after that'
dôm năn	'therefore, so'
birau mừng	'just then, then'
jưng mừng	'so then, then'
năn ka mừng	'so, therefore, consequently'
kayua yau năn	'because of that'

Dôm năn patao ginong, nao mưk urang năn.

*therefore king angry so get person that*

*'So the king was angry (and) went to seize that person.'*

b. those which relate clauses within a sentence to each other:

muyah ~ yah	'if, since'
kal	'when'
tăi	'when, arriving (at that point)'
kayua ~ yua	'because'

Tăi urang mưk kan mai, urang ðôh boh ok riiô.

*when persons get fish come they see many mangoes*

*'When the fishermen returned they saw many mangoes.'*

tăi relates the first clause to the second clause of the above sentence.

2) Medial conjunctions include:

a. conjunctions that may fill either the sentence-medial or sentence-initial slots:

mìn	'but'
bloh	'then'
bloh di năn	'after that'
muyah ~ yah	'if, since'
kayua ~ yua	'because'

Yaup hray tapai nao munhum ia, mìn tũk hlay jang ðôh bao.

*each day rabbit go drink water but hour which also saw snail*

*'Every day the rabbit went to drink water, but each time (he) also saw the snail.'*

b. conjunctions that may fill the sentence-medial slot only:

ngăn	'or'
hai ~ hai lach	'or'
mưng	'then'
thống	'and'
năn	'then'
sặng	'then'