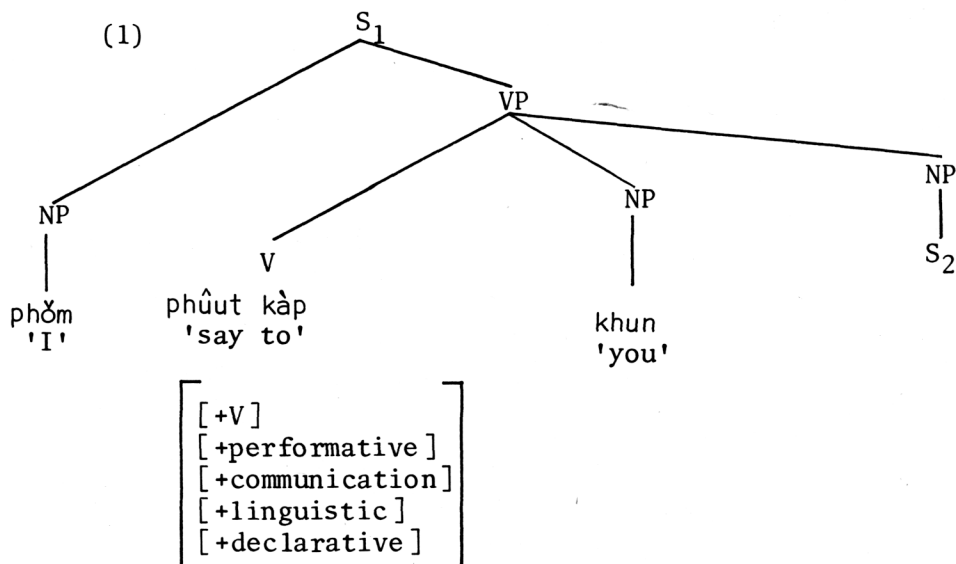


DEPENDENCY OF UNDERLYING STRUCTURE AND FINAL PARTICLES IN THAI¹

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A foreigner studying Thai always complains that final particles give him a big problem in learning spoken Thai. It is true that a foreigner can make himself understood by not using a single final particle in his speech, but his language will sound strange to the native Thai and it may be considered substandard. Final particles rarely appear in written language but they seem to be indispensable in spoken language. This paper aims at showing that the underlying structure of each of the top two or three performative sentences² collapses into a final particle in spoken Thai. It is always deleted in written language and sometimes even in spoken language.

John Robert Ross proposed that "all types of sentences have exactly one performative as their highest clause in deep structure"³ My analysis agrees with his in every aspect except that my analysis introduces two more levels of performative sentences. The topmost performative sentence is the same in every way, as illustrated in the following example.



Since there are many words in Thai used as 'I' or 'you' depending on sex and status of the speaker and the person spoken to, (1) has to undergo the copying pronoun features transformational rule before the application of a collapse rule. The features of 'you' will be copied into 'I' and the features of 'I' will be copied into 'you'. The following are lexical entries of pronouns 'I' and 'you' in Thai after applying the copying pronoun features transformational

rule.

'I'

phǒm

phǒm [+PRO] [+I] [+citizen] [+masculine] [+polite]	[+PRO] [+II] [+citizen] [+polite]
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dìchǎn

dìchǎn [+PRO] [+I] [+citizen] [+feminine] [+polite]	[+PRO] [+II] ([+citizen], [+monk]) [+polite]
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kràphǒm

kràphǒm [+PRO] [+I] [+citizen] [+masculine] [+polite]	[+PRO] [+II] [+monk], [+high ranking official] [+polite]
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ʔàattàmaa(phâap)

ʔàattàmaa(phâap) [+PRO] [+I] [+monk]	[+PRO] [+II]
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khâaphráphútthacâw

khâaphráphútthacâw [+PRO] [+I] [+citizen] [+polite]	[+PRO] [+II] ([+monarch], [+prince1]) [+polite]
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klâawkràòm

klâawkràòm [+PRO] [+I] [+citizen] [+polite]	[+PRO] [+II] [+prince2] [+polite]
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kràòm

kràòm [+PRO] [+I] [+citizen] [+masculine] [+polite]	[+PRO] [+II] [+prince3] [+polite]
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mòmchăn	<div> <div>mòmchăn</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+feminine]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+prince3]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div>
kuu	<div> <div>kuu</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>([-polite], [+intimated])</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>([-polite], [+intimate])</div> </div>
khăa	<div> <div>khăa</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>([-polite], [+intimate])</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>([-polite], [+intimate])</div> </div>
chăn	<div> <div>chăn</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+intimate]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+intimate]</div> </div>
ʔúa ³	<div> <div>ʔúa</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+masculine]</div> <div>[+intimate]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+masculine]</div> <div>[+intimate]</div> </div>
'You'		
khun	<div> <div>khun</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div>
(pháná)thân	<div> <div>(pháná)thân</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+high ranking official]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div>
phrákhuncâaw	<div> <div>phrákhuncâaw</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+monk]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div>

máhăabɔɔphít	<div> <div>máhăabɔɔphít</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+monarch]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+monk]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div>
yoom	<div> <div>yoom</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+monk]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div>
tâyfàaláʔɔɔŋ-thúliiphrábàat	<div> <div>tâyfàaláʔɔɔŋthúliiphrábàat</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+monarch]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div>
tâyfàaláʔɔɔŋ-phrábàat	<div> <div>tâyfàaláʔɔɔŋphrábàat</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+prince1]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div>
tâyfàaphrábàat	<div> <div>tâyfàaphrábàat</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+prince2]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div>
fàaphrábàat	<div> <div>fàaphrábàat</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+prince3]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> </div>
thəə	<div> <div>thəə</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> <div>[+intimate]</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>[+polite]</div> <div>[+intimate]</div> </div>
mɨŋ	<div> <div>mɨŋ</div> <div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+II]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>([-polite], [+intimate])</div> </div> </div>	<div> <div>[+PRO]</div> <div>[+I]</div> <div>[+citizen]</div> <div>([-polite], [+intimate])</div> </div>