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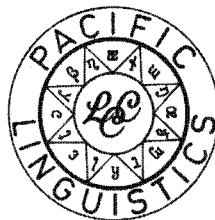
PACIFIC LINGUISTICS

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STUDIES IN LANGUAGES OF CENTRAL
AND SOUTH-EAST PAPUA

by

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MAGI PHONOLOGY AND GRAMMAR--FIFTY YEARS AFTERWARDS

N. P. THOMSON

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

Magi (or Mailu as it is sometimes called) is a Non-Austronesian language of the south coast of Papua spoken by some 5,500 people living between Cape Rodney and Gadaisu in Orangerie Bay.¹ It is probably the best known of all Non-Austronesian languages of Papua since it was first described by W. J. V. Saville of the London Missionary Society as early as 1912.² Since then, however, nothing further has been published on it, although the language has changed in a number of respects in the intervening fifty years.

In this paper I present a restatement of Saville's account of the grammar of Magi as a tribute to his pioneering work. In the process I shall not only be attempting to bring it up-to-date but also to clarify certain ambiguities inherent in it.³

2.0 PHONOLOGY

2.1 Consonant Phonemes

There are twelve consonant phonemes in Magi:

| | Bilabial | Alveolar | Velar | Glottal |
|-------------|----------|----------|-------|---------|
| Stops Vl. | p | t | k | ʔ |
| Vd. | b | d | g | |
| Nasals | m | n | | |
| Lateral | | l | | |
| Semi-vowels | w | y | | |

These consonants contrast in analagous or identical environments as follows:

| | | | | |
|---|-----|------------------|------|-----------------------|
| Ø | au | <i>cloud</i> | -- | |
| b | bau | <i>knife</i> | baba | <i>capsize</i> |
| d | dau | <i>skin cast</i> | dada | <i>adultery</i> |
| g | gau | <i>touch</i> | gaga | <i>eyelash</i> |
| k | kau | <i>ashes</i> | kaka | <i>conjunctivitis</i> |
| l | lau | <i>length</i> | lala | <i>blood</i> |
| m | mau | <i>air</i> | -- | |
| n | nau | <i>fish sp.</i> | -- | |
| p | -- | | papa | <i>feather</i> |
| t | tau | <i>fruit sp.</i> | tata | <i>slip</i> |
| w | wau | <i>day</i> | wawa | <i>mark on tree</i> |
| y | iau | <i>image</i> | -- | |
| ʔ | ʔau | <i>leg</i> | ʔaʔa | <i>parrot sp.</i> |

Of the twelve consonant phonemes t, w, and l have allophonic variants as follows, and y is found word initial only, and then only with

certain vowels--see Section below:

(i) /t/ is heard nowadays as either t or s although ts was apparently once normal (Malinowski (1915)) but is seldom heard in the contemporary situation. However, familiarity with English has brought about a perception of the difference between the t and s, and so words are beginning to become standardised, although there are as yet no contrasts available. However there is already strong pressure in certain words for either t or s to be used.

Examples:

saro write seri many sini be sora fast suna think
tata slip teva post ti?i spit tomo crab turuna knee

These illustrate the usual way that various words are written and spoken, as a general rule, but saro/taro contrast does not exist--to the average Magi speaker nowadays, due to the influence of English, and a printed New Testament of many years standing, taro (write) just sounds unsophisticated.

(ii) /l/ includes both [l] and [r] as in English, as well as all flapped intermediates. However, as with the t/s phoneme above, there is a marked tendency to standardise these sounds in keeping with English. There are no contrasts as yet available.

Examples:

lala blood lele play limu hair lolo swim
raranai ask erere change riri judge rorove fish
lugu tobacco
rura trip

These illustrate the usual pronunciation and orthography. Initial r is uncommon, hence erere as no initial re- has been noted.

(iii) /w/ includes both [v] and [w] as in English. However in the speech of most people v never precedes o or u, and w never precedes e or i. There are a proportion of people who use w only, finding it very difficult to pronounce a v. The only case then in which a contrast is possible (although not yet elicited) is where this phoneme precedes an a, e.g.

vara away veve ashes vivi fish sp. --
wawo read -- -- wowo whistle wuwu powder

illustrate the usual pronunciation and orthography.

N.B. va is the causative particle, and wa is a handle. Although it is still not possible to contrast these two, this is their usual

method of pronunciation, and it is likely that this may become one of the first contrasts as the different allomorphs of v-w become established as phonemes in their own right.

2.2 Vowel Phonemes

Magi has five vowels:

| | Front | Central | Back |
|------|-------|---------|------|
| High | i | | u |
| Mid | e | | o |
| Low | | a | |

which contrast in analogous and identical environments as follows:

| | | | | | |
|-----|-------|------|--------------|--------|-----------------------|
| da | not | dae | hang | aeae | turtle |
| daa | smell | dai | weight | aiai | to come |
| | | aoao | | aoao | to gaze |
| | | dau | skin cast | auau | to hold |
| de | at | ea | | ea | faeces |
| | | dei | temporarily | ei | do |
| | | eo | | eo | with |
| | | deu | pull | eu | fire |
| di | with | dia | what | iniesa | it is about to (rain) |
| dii | juice | | | bio | cup from coconut |
| | | | | biu | fall |
| do | cease | oa | | oa | sea urchin sp. |
| | | doe | back | boe | emerge |
| | | dou | lake | boi | keep |
| du | trust | dua | pandanus sp. | bou | blunt |
| | | | | bua | personal name |
| | | dui | persist | bue | pour |
| | | | | bui | twist |

2.3 Vowel Sequences

2.3.1 Vowel clusters are common. In some the components retain their individual force, while in others they combine to form diphthongs, as soon as they are approximated, even when belonging to different words, e.g.

| | | | |
|----------|-------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| nena | breath | ve?a | anger |
| nenauria | he took a rest | uriuri | (an auxiliary type verb) |
| ve?auria | he was angry, but | ve?a ogoda bau uria | he was very angry. |

Vowel clusters which become diphthongs are: ae, ai, ao, au, ei, oe, oi, ou.

2.32 Like vowel clusters occur, and while in common speech these are often slurred, correctly pronounced (as the people themselves recognise) they are both sounded, e.g.

mudaaʔa I am about to rise enereenere different
ibiibi to be moope pawpaw ubuubu to create

This also occurs in the case of some diphthongs, e.g.

aeae turtle aiai to come aoao to gaze auau to hold
eiei aux. vb. ououri to covet

2.4 Syllables

These are of two types: V, CV.

All possible combinations of these occur, with the probable exceptions of ye, yi, yu. Also noted is that where two syllables are combined in one word, the only combination not elicited is when a y is placed between two vowels.

| | | | | | |
|-----|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Ø | ana tree | ena his | ina my | ona thing | uru house |
| b | baba capsiz | bebe butterfly | bibi push | bobo pour | bubu close |
| d | dada adultery | dede taro sp. | didi claw | dodo pene- trate | dudu sound of rain |
| g | gaga eyelash | gege part of net | gigi pipe | gogo collect | gugu mudwasp |
| k | kaka conjunc- tivitis | ekeke cough | kiki decant | koko hole in taro | kuku close |
| l/r | lala blood | lele play | lili scrape | lolo swim | uru sink luma sweat |
| m | madi song | medi fish sp. | lima all | moda tree sp. | muda rise |
| n | name that is | dema because | mida fish sp. | oma thief | uma take it |
| | mana empty | nene white ant | nini vein | nodo swallow | nunu part of palm |
| p | papa feather | pepe fish sp. | pipi corner | popo arrange- ment of baskets | pupu rotten leaves |
| s/t | tata slip | seri many keta high tide | isi eat | oso small one | susu sprinkle |
| v/w | wawa mark on tree | veve ashes | vivi fish sp. | wowo whistle | wuwu unskilled |
| y | iau image | -- | -- | iou run | -- |
| ʔ | ʔaʔa parrot sp. | leʔa saw ʔeva carry | ʔiʔi firmly | ʔoʔo stupidly | ʔuʔura prayer |

2.5 Stress

The stress on a word is usually on the second last syllable. Although it does sometime occur on the third last syllable, it never

occurs on the last syllable in a polysyllabic word, e.g.

dí-a + á-da = di-á-da (*which thing = what*),
 di-á-da + ma = di-a-dá-ma (*what + cause = for what cause, why*)
 ó-ni + a = ó-ni-a (*he went*) but ó-ni + ?a = o-ní-?a (*I went*)
 ó-ni-a + na = o-ni-á-na (*when he went*) and
 o-ní-?a + na = o-ni-?á-na (*when I went*)

But note that ma (*cause*) and de (*if*) when added to verbs do not cause this shift in stress, and are thus written separately.

3.0 ORTHOGRAPHY AND OTHER CONVENTIONS

In the forthcoming description the following orthography and other conventions are used in writing Magi material:

3.1 Orthography

The orthography used in this paper corresponds to that used by Saville except that the glottal stop is included. The following chart shows these symbols in relation to the phonemes of Magi as discussed above:

| | |
|-----------|---------------------------------------|
| Saville: | a b d e g i k l r m n o p s t v w i - |
| Present: | a b d e g i k l r m n o p s t v w i ' |
| Phonemes: | a b d e g i k l - m n o p - t - w y ? |

Note that in these orthographies separate letters have been assigned to the allophones l and r of /l/, s and t of /t/, and v and w of /w/. However, although it is admitted that it would be preferable theoretically to omit one of each of the pairs l/r, t/s, and v/w this would meet great resistance on the part of the people themselves since they have become used to Saville's orthography although they are not averse to the marking of glottal stop by use of an apostrophe. However throughout this paper, for clarity, the usual apostrophe has been replaced by ?.

3.2 Word Boundaries

3.2.1 Verb Complex

Saville wrote the verb complex as one unit. This has made the reading of Magi difficult and inaccurate due to the complex verb structure, and so the following break up of the verb into separate words is suggested:

±(neg) ±(caus) ±(base 1) ±(base 2 +ai/ra) ±(adv.man) ±(adv.deg 1)
 ±(adv.deg 2) ±(direct) ±(trans) ±(refl) ±(repet) ±(asp + mood)
 + tense + pers ± subju/imper) ±(part)

except in the following cases.

(1) Where the particle causes a shift in stress to the final syllable of the (asp + mood + tense + pers ± subju/imper) word (henceforth known as the t-pi--tense-person indicator), the particle is suffixed to this word, as in Magi no polysyllabic word has stress on the final syllable, e.g.

su-su-é-sa + na = su-su-e-sá-na but su-su-é-sa + ma = su-su-é-sa ma
 written: susuesana susuesama
 (see 2.5)

(2) Where the t-pi is very short due to the rules of its formation, see Section 4.21.12.1, when the aspect and mood markers are nil (in punctiliar indicative or subjunctive moods), except where the si distant past, or na recent past tense markers stand, e.g.

oni + l + Ø + a + ?a = oni la?a but oni + Ø + Ø + a + ?a = onia?a but
 ?oma + Ø + Ø + si + a = ?oma sia and ?oma + Ø + Ø + na + ?a = ?oma na?a

(3) When a verb stem is made up of base 1 + base 2, and in this combination each of the bases has lost its original meaning, then they should be written as one word. When they retain their separate meanings, while still modifying each other, then they should be written separately, e.g.

osi (talk) + ?ero (back) = osi ?ero (answer, talk back to)
 but osi (talk) + lobo (break) = osilobo (forgive)
 mini (give) + ?oi (across) = mini ?oi (give across, to transfer)
 but poeo (?) + ?oi (across) = poeo?oi (ransom--as poeo is not used in any other ways)

3.22 Other Words

(1) Where two words, when juxtaposed show stress patterns which suggest it, they should be joined, see Section 2.5 e.g.

á-bo + na + de = a-bó-na de (where at) written: abona de
 á-bo + de = a-bó-de (where at) written: abode

(2) Where the final and initial vowels of two words which are juxtaposed are pronounced as a diphthong, and where the stress falls on this diphthong, the two words should be joined, e.g.

nenáúria, ve?áúria as in 2.31, but note vé?a ogóda bau úria,
 and negative vé?a dá úria.

3.3 Abbreviations and Symbols

' (acute sign above vowel)--syllable with stress
 (1) singular
 ld 1st person dual

| | | | |
|-------------|---|--------|------------------------------|
| ldo | 1st person dual as object | | |
| lp | 1st person plural | | |
| lpo | 1st person plural as object | | |
| ls | 1st person singular | | |
| lso | 1st person singular as object | | |
| (2) | dual | | |
| 2/3d | 2nd/3rd person dual | | |
| 2/3d/po | 2nd/3rd person dual/plural as object | | |
| 2/3d/po/lsj | 2nd/3rd person dual/plural as object with 1st person singular subject | | |
| 2/3p | 2nd/3rd person plural | | |
| 2/3s | 2nd/3rd person singular | | |
| 2so | 2nd person singular as object | | |
| 2so/lsj | 2nd person singular as object with 1st person singular subject | | |
| (3+) | plural | | |
| a < b | a is derived from b | | |
| + | obligatory | | |
| ± | optional (in formulae) | | |
| () | optional (in text) | | |
| = | equals, becomes, is transformed into | | |
| , or / | or | | |
| ... | incomplete sentence, etc. | | |
| siba...i | discontinuous elements | | |
| adj | adjective | imper | imperative mood |
| adv | adverb | imperf | imperfect aspect |
| alt | alternative | ind | indirect |
| am | agent marker | indic | indicative mood |
| AN | Austronesian | infin | infinitive mood |
| asp | aspect | instr | instrumental |
| benefac | benefactive | man | manner |
| caus | causative | mkr | marker |
| cl | clause | NAN | Non-Austronesian |
| cond | conditional mood | neg | negative |
| cont | continuous aspect | o, obj | object |
| deg | degree | ocp | objectival clause of purpose |
| direct | direction indicator | part | particle |
| dip | distant past tense | pers | person marker |
| emp | emphatic | phr | phrase |
| fut | future tense | pos | positional marker |
| habit | habitual aspect | pres | present tense |
| im | instrumental marker | | |

| | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------|-------|------------------------|
| prin | principle clause | sm | subject marker |
| punct | punctiliar aspect | sp | species |
| pur | purpose marker | sub | subordinate clause |
| refl | reflexive | subj | subject |
| repet | repetition | subju | subjunctive mood |
| rp | recent past tense | temp | temporary |
| s | subject | t-pi | tense-person indicator |
| scp | subjectival clause of purpose | trans | transitive converter |

In examples the structure being illustrated is underlined.

4.0 GRAMMAR

4.1 Sentence Structure

This section describes the general structure of statements in Magi. Questions differ from statements only in that they contain interrogative words (Section 4.27) or end with a question tag (Section 4.28).

There are three sentence types--simple, compound and complex--defined by the number and nature of clauses they contain.

4.11 Simple Sentences

These contain only one clause. There are two types defined by whether they contain a verb complex or not. Those that do will be called Verbal, while those that do not will be called Non-Verbal.

4.11.1 Verbal Sentences

These have the following structure:

\pm adv of time \pm subj \pm obj \pm ind.obj \pm benefac \pm instr/agent \pm adv of place \pm negative + verb complex

where the subject, object, indirect object, benefactive, and instrument/agent are all manifested by some noun (4.22), pronoun (4.23) or combination of noun and adjective(s) (4.24).

The order of elements is not fixed, except for Adverbs of Time which usually come first and the Verb Complex which always comes last, since Subjects of transitive verbs, Indirect Objects, Benefactives, and Instruments/Agents are all marked as indicated further below. However, emphasis may be given to particular elements by placing them first in the sentence. Compare, for example,

Egi ma wa?ai ana ma kea sia.

man sm dog stick im hit did

The man hit the dog with a/the stick.

with

Ana ma egi ma wa?ai kea sia.

stick im man sm dog hit did

*The man hit the dog with a/the stick or It was a stick
that the man hit the dog with (not a stone).*

The following subsections describe and illustrate the nature and use of the above simple sentence elements further.

4.11.11 Adverbs of Time

See Section 4.25.4.

4.11.12 Subjects

Subjects of intransitive verbs are unmarked. Definite subjects of transitive verbs are marked by ma, indefinite ones (e.g. *whoever*, *anyone*) by na ma.

Examples:

egi aina
man he.came
the/a man came

ogoda egi aina
big man he.came
the/a important man came

egi ogoda aina
man big he.came
a/the big man came

egi ?omu aina
man one he.came
one/a man came

egi osia
man he.said
the/a man said

egi ma oserila
man sm he.told.me
the/a man told me

noa ma oserila
he sm he.told.me
he told me

egi ?omu na ma kea sibaga de,...
man one sm hit may.you if,...
should anyone hit you...

4.11.13 Objects

The object may be a noun or pronoun or combination noun-plus-adjective as already noted. Pronoun objects take the same form as subject ones (see Section 4.23) and may be omitted since the number and person of objects is also indicated in the verb--see Section 4.21.15.2--although ambiguities may arise, as indicated by the last example below.

Examples:

la ma emegi oseria?a.

I sm men told.them

I told the men.

la ma omoa oseria?a.

I sm them told.them

I told them.

la ma oseria?a.

I sm told.them/you

I told them/you.

4.11.14 Indirect Objects

These are marked by the simple postpositions or direction markers *de*, *la*, *ma* given in Section 4.26.1, except that *ena varo* or *na* occurs before *la* to when the indirect object refers to only one person. Examples:

Noa ma wa?ai la isiisi minia.

he sm dog direct food he.gave.it

He gave the dog food.

Noa ma egi ?omu na la isiisi minia.

he man one direct food he.gave.it

He gave food to one/a man.

Noa ma emegi la isiisi miniata.

he sm men direct food(s) he.gave.them

He gave food(s) to the men.

Noa ma Onaga ena varo la isiisi minia.

he Onaga direct food he.gave.it

He gave Onaga food.

4.11.15 Benefactives

The benefactor of an action is sometimes marked by *na de*, *varo de* or *?owara de*, and sometimes by rendering the verb transitive.

Examples:

Ina abai ma wa?ona ?omu mai minila.

my father sm canoe one make he.gave.me

My father made a canoe for me.

Ina abai ma Onaga na de wa?ona ?omu maia.

my father sm Onaga benef canoe one make.he.did

My father made a canoe for Onaga.

Emegi ma avesa omana varo de ana ?oi gudu siata.
 men sm women benef trees cut they.down.did
The men cut the trees down for the women.

4.11.16 Instruments/Agents

Instruments are marked by ma (which, it will be noted, is the same as that used to mark the subject of transitive verbs (see Section 4.11.12 above)), and agents by ena varo ma, e.g.,

Egi ma wa?ai ana ma kea sia.
 man sm dog stick im hit he.did
The/a man hit the/a dog with the/a stick.

Noa ma mio gomana ma maia.
 he sm snake stone im he.killed
He killed the snake with a stone.

Gilo ma gea ma ana ?oi gudu isa.
 axe im we sm tree cut we.down.did
We cut the tree down with an axe.

Noa vara egi ena varo ma eboebo amari laesa.
 he heal man am well again is
He becomes well again by the help of a healer.

Noa ma ena kava ena varo ma riba autuinia.
 he sm his friend am word sent
He sent word through/per his friend.

4.11.17 Adverbs of Place

See Section 4.25.3.

4.11.18 Negative Markers

Sentences are usually made negative in Magi by placing da before the verb complex.

Examples:

ia onia?a
 I I.am.about.to.go
 I am about to go.

ia da onia?a
 I neg I.am.about.to.go
 I am not about to go.

Note, however, that the form kokoa finish may be used to imply a negative condition or state. For example, compare

| | | |
|-------------------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| da marai egi | | marai kokoa egi |
| neg sick man | with | sick finish man |
| the/a man who is/was not sick | | the/a man who is no longer sick |

4.11.19 Verb Complexes

See Section 4.21.

4.11.2 Non-Verbal Sentences

These have the following structure:

± adv of time + subj + complement + (asp + mood + tense + pers)

That is, they have no verb base and certain other elements corresponding to those of Verbal Sentences just described except for the cases noted below in Section 4.11.24. These sentences express the idea of *be* in English. The following are relevant observations about these sentences:

4.11.21 The subject is always unmarked, but is often followed by either an emphatic particle or the corresponding pronoun, not followed by (asp + mood + tense + pers). Examples:

Kadiba noa omana vere.
Kadiba he their chief
Kabida is the chief.

Eva ?oni ina wa?ai.
this emp my dog
This is my dog.

Ne mari ogoda laesa.
that village big it.is.at.present
That village is big.

4.11.22 The complement may be manifested by a noun or noun-plus-adjective combination or an adjective (4.24).

Examples:

Gana wa?ai ogoda, ele ina kiwonai.
your dog big and/but mine small
Your dog is big but mine is small.

Eva ?oni da gana wa?ai, noa ina.
this emp neg your dog he mine
This is not your dog, it's mine.

4.11.23 Certain of the aspect, mood, tense and person indicators described in Section 4.21.1 and its subsections below may occur with complements to indicate various states, time relations etc. between the subject and the complement.

Examples:

Wa?ai ogoda sineia.
dog big he.used.to(be)
The dog was big.

Ga adaua ogodasana, eva wa?ai gana sinisa.
you so big.will.be.when this dog yours he.be.will
This will be your dog when you grow up.

Kadiba vere sinisa.
Kadiba chief he.be.will
Kadiba will be chief.

Kadiba ogodaisa.
Kadiba he.big.will(be) or he.big.might(be)
(future is never definite)
Kadiba might be big.

4.11.24 The verb base sinisini may be used for *to be* when the subject is animate. See, for example, examples (2) and (3) Section 4.11.23 above. ibiibi may be used in a similar way for inanimate subjects, e.g.

Ana ogoda ada de ibi neiata.
trees big that at be they.used.to
Big trees used to be there.

There is also the sense of *stand*, or *remain*. See also 4.24.1 (2).

4.11.25 Non-verbal sentences are made negative by adding *da* before the complement, e.g.

Kadiba da ogoda laesa.
Kadiba neg big he.at.present
Kadiba is not big.

Ia da wa?ai, ia egi ?ei.
I not dog I man emp
I'm not a dog, I'm a man.

Noa da eboebo.
it neg good
It is not good.

Noa da ina.
it neg mine
It is not mine.

These contain two or more simple sentence type clauses joined by conjunctions or mere juxtaposition.

Two or more clauses are coordinate if they are joined by one of the following conjunctions:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| ele | and, but (without strong contrast) |
| aba, ba | or |
| noga | and, but (without strong contrast) |
| ada ?omu bu?a | (lit. thing one only) but (with strong contrast) |

noa aia, ele ia da eri?a = noa aia, *nogo ia da eri?a = he came,
and/but I didn't see (him)*

noa isaea, aba da isaea, ... = *he ate, or didn't eat, .. = whether
he ate (it) or not, ..*

Noa aia, ada ?omu bu?a ia ma ?oni da eri?a.
 he came, but I sm emph not see him
 = He came, but I didn't see him.

Two or more clauses are in apposition if they are juxtaposed but the thought of the first continues through the second. These second parts are often explanatory to the first, or part of it, and may be introduced by name *that is to say*.

Noa idara sia, ne laea ma noa verua la wunua sia.
 he rose that way im he fight to ready was
 = He got up, and was thus ready to fight.

Noa ma egi ?omu eria, name, ne egi noa ma boade va areva sia.
he sm man one saw, that.is that man he sm already make heal did
He saw the man whom he had already healed.

Verbs of saying, thinking, knowing are usually followed by an appositional clause with or without name *that is* or *evaua*, *neaua*, *adaua like this, that*.

Examples:

Noa isaea, aba da isaea, ia da vegarai ?ei.
he ate or not ate I not know emph
I don't know whether he has eaten or not.

Noa osia, noa Iruna la onisa.
he said he Iruna to go-will
He said he would go to Iruna.

Note that in reported speech, however, the tense of the verb usually remains the same as that of the direct speech quoted, but the person changes, e.g.

Noa osia, name, noa bae dabasana ?ei.
he said (distant past) that he arrive-had (recent past) emph
He said that he had just arrived.

Finally, in a sequence of events verbs without tense-person indicators may be used in all but the final clause, e.g.

Noa ma ogoda egi ena ona ?evara, gabi, ena deni ma onia.
he sm big man his things lift shoulder his after from went
He lifted up the things belonging to the important man, shouldered them, and followed him.

4.13 Complex Sentences

Complex sentences contain two or more clauses, one of which is the principal or main clause and the remainder subordinate or dependent clauses.

In Magi subordinate clauses usually precede the main clause and are marked either by free elements or changes in the verb complex as illustrated by the following types of subordinate clauses that occur:

4.13.1 Time Clauses (*when*)

These are marked by the particle *na* suffixed to the tense-person indicator of the verb complex. They also frequently contain *adaua thus* within the clause.

Examples:

Noa aia-na, ia oni?a.
he come-when I went
When he came I went.

Noa adaua aisa-na ia onisa?a.
 he thus come.will-when I go.will
 When he comes I'll go.

4.13.2 Purpose Clauses (*in order to*)

There are several ways of forming these:

(i) by using the subjunctive mood (see 4.21.13.4) in the purpose clause-to-be, e.g.

Noa aia, ina varo de osi avini-saisi.
 he came with me talk discuss-subju
 He came to discuss with me (lit. that he might discuss with me).

(ii) by using the infinitive form of the verb (see 4.21.13.2), with or without the subjunctive suffix, e.g.

Noa aia, ina varo de osi avini-la.
 he came with me talk discuss-to
 He came to discuss with me.

(iii) by affixing *ma* purpose marker to the clause which indicates that the action in it is done with a view to proceeding on to another action, e.g.

Noa aia ma, ina varo de osi avini losia.
 he came pur with me talk discuss was
 He came in order to discuss with me.

Note that all three forms can be used to convey much the same idea although it has been noted that in certain situations there is preference, but the criteria for these decisions have not been elicited. There are circumstances in which a chain of causes and effects can be described by the use of all three in a sentence, e.g.

Noa aia ma, ia ma ?u?ura isanai-la seisa?aisi oserila.
 he came pur I sm prayer lead-to do.must tell.me
 He came to tell me that I must lead prayers.

4.13.3 Conditional Clauses (*if*)

These clauses are usually sentence initial, unless preceded by a time clause. They are marked by the conditional mood (4.21.13.3), and a final particle, e.g.

de pure condition
 -na de time conditional (strong) = *if and when*

-na time conditional (weak) = *when (but it is not likely)*
 ma reason conditional = *so that (but it is not likely)*

A conditional clause in a sentence usually causes all verbs to be expressed in the conditional mood. In this regard the future tense is regarded as conditional (see again 4.21.13.3).

Examples:

Noa ai baea, aba ?oinomo. Noa aisa, aba ?oinomo.
he come may or perhaps (not) *he come-will or perhaps (not)*
He may come or he may not.

Noa ai baea de, ia oni ba?a. Noa aisa de, ia onisa?a.
he come may if I go would *he come-will if I go-will*

Noa ai baeana, ia oni ba?a. Ena ai baeana de, ia oni ba?a.
he come may.when I go would Cf. *his come may.when at I go would*
Should he come, I would immediately go. *I would go when he comes.*

Noa ai baea ma, ia oni ba?a...
he come may sm I go would
Should he come so that I would be enabled to go,...

4.13.4 Reason Clauses (*because*)

These are sentence final clauses and may be introduced by *ena bo* *its reason* and/or may terminate with *-na ?eidema because*, or start with *adano* and end with *de* (combination = *lest*), e.g.

Noa ini eia, ena bo iaia ogoda sinia.
 Noa ini eia, iaia ogoda siniana ?eidema.
 Noa ini eia, ena bo iaia ogoda siniana ?eidema.
he eye did its reason pain big was because
= He cried because of the severe pain.

Noa da aina adano egi ?omu maibausa de.
he not come lest man one kill.him
He did not come lest someone kill him.

Note that if the reason clause marked by *na ?eidema* is introduced by *?ato perhaps* it corresponds to the reading *in case* in English, e.g.,

Noa da aina ?ato guba ini sana ?eidema.
he not come perhaps rain fall.will because
He did not come in case it rained.

Finally, compare Noa ina varo la osi avini losia, ena bo noa aia --which indicates that the possibility of *discussing with me* only presented itself after *he had come*--with Noa aia ma, ina varo la osi avini losia--which indicates that *he came for the purpose of discussing with me*.

4.13.5 Duration Clauses (*until*)

These are marked by an initial *ee*, *ena toa* (lit. *yes, its sign*) *until* and/or a final *-na la bu?a to only*, e.g.

Noa bae owonia, noa mari la bae daba siana la bu?a.
 Noa bae owonia, ee, ena toa noa mari la bae daba sia.
 Noa bae owonia, ee, ena toa noa mari la bae daba siana la bu?a.
he walk did until he village to arrive did to only
He continued walking until he reached the village.

4.13.6 Adjectival Clauses (*who, which*)

These often take the place of relative clauses in English, and are marked by *-na* which is affixed to the descriptive verb, converting it into an adjective (see 3.1.17), e.g.

Ina va arevai?ana egi ma tanikiu oserila.
my make heal-did-na man sm thankyou told-me
The man whom I healed thanked me.

4.13.7 Quotation Clauses

These are usually marked by an introductory verb of speaking, and sometimes closed by another, but either of these may be omitted, e.g.

Noa ma raranai siata, "Aea abona la oniso?o?"
 Noa ma (raranai siata), "Aea abona la oniso?o?" osia.
he sm ask did.them you where to go-will he.said
 Noa ma, "Aea abona la oniso?o?" raranai siata.
he you where to go-will ask did.them
He asked, "Where will you go?"

4.2 Parts of Speech

4.21 Verb Complex

Verb complexes may be broken into the following parts:

± caus ± base 1 ± base 2 ± ai/ra ± adv man ± direct ± trans
 ± refl ± repet ± asp ± mood ± tense ± pers ± subju/imper
 ± part.

From this it can be seen that the essential, that is, obligatory or nuclear, parts of the finite verb complex are:

+ base 1 + asp + mood + tense + pers

Other parts of the verb will be termed peripheral. Nuclear parts will be considered first.

4.21.1 Nuclear Parts of the Verb Complex

For descriptive purposes whatever combinations constitute the essential parts preceding the part under consideration will be termed the *stem*. For example, in

| | | | | | | |
|--------|--------|------|------|------|---|--------------|
| oni | lo- | Ø- | si- | a | = | oni losia |
| base 1 | imperf | mood | d.p. | 2-3s | = | he was going |

the base oni forms the stem for lo-si-a, oni-lo forms the stem for si-a, and oni-lo-si forms the stem for a, the personal indicator. It should also be noted that the whole verb complex in this section will be written with hyphens between the constituent parts, irrespective of the rules suggested for the orthographical break up of these verbs in Section 3.21 above. Note also, that although each part is illustrated as described further examples of both regular and irregular verb complexes are given in Appendices 1 - 3.

4.21.11 Base 1

This is usually bisyllabic, e.g. oda- *place, put*, but may be monosyllabic, e.g. iou- *run*, or polysyllabic, e.g. ?adema *ask, request*.

4.21.12 Aspect

The aspects of the verb are punctiliar, imperfect, habitual, continuous. These have the following markers:

| | |
|-------------|-------------|
| punctiliar: | Ø |
| imperfect: | lo |
| habitual: | sinei, susu |
| continuous: | owoni, owoi |

4.21.12.1 Punctiliar Aspect (Ø)

Example: oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- a = onia
 go-punct-mood-tense-pers = he went

Example: oni- lo- Ø- si- a = oni losia
 go-imperf-mood-tense-pers = he was going

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|--------------------|
| oni- 1- Ø- a- ?a | = | oni la?a |
| go-imperf-mood-tense-pers | = | I am going |
| oni- 1- Ø- o- ?o | | oni lo?o |
| go-imperf-mood-tense-pers | = | you/they are going |
| oni- la- Ø- es- a | = | oni laesa |
| go-imperf-mood-tense-pers | = | he is going |

4.21.12.3 Habitual Aspect (sinei, sinei)

In this aspect sinei indicates habitual actions in the distant past except after some verb stems ending in an i when si is omitted,

ʔoma-sinei- Ø- Ø- a = ʔoma sineia
 steal-habit-mood-tense-pers = he used to steal
 oni- nei- Ø- Ø- a = oni neia
 go-habit-mood-tense-pers = he used to go

oni-susu- Ø- a- ?a = oni susu?a
go-habit-mood-tense-pers = I am always going, I
usually go

oni- lo- Ø- is- a = oni loisa
go-habit-mood-tense-pers = he will always go, he
will be going

4.21.12.4 Continuous Aspect (owoni, owoi)

The continuous aspect is marked by the use of owoni derived from va oni *cause to go* for movement away from, or owoi derived from va ai *cause to come* for movement towards the point of reference, which is in most cases the person spoken to, e.g.

noa oni-owoni- Ø- es- a = noa oni owoniesa
he go-cont- mood-tense-pers = he is keeping on going (i.e.
away from you)

noa ai- owoi- Ø- es- a = noa ai owoiesa
he come-cont-mood-tense-pers = he is keeping on coming
(i.e. towards you)

This is irrespective of the positional relationship of speaker and hearer, but as these are usually together, except when messages are sent by letter, radio, etc., it is easy to see how the mistaken idea arose that the point of reference was the speaker (Saville 1912).

The exception is when the person spoken to, (i.e. the hearer) is the subject of the verb, i.e., when the subject is in the second person.

Examples:

?eva- goi-owoi- b- Ø- a = ?eva goi owoiba
carry here cont-mood-tense-pers = continue to bring (it)
here
 ga oni-owoni- Ø- s- a = ga onlowonisa
you-s go cont-mood-tense-pers = you will keep on going

The difference in use of the various non-punctiliar aspect markers is often very fine. If the incompleted action is considered as taking place within the space of one day, the imperfect is generally used, but if over a longer period of time then the habitual is used. The distinction between either of these and the continuous is often very fine.

4.21.13 Mood

The moods are indicative, infinitive, conditional, subjunctive and imperative, the last two being derived from the indicative and conditional moods by the addition of suffixes *isi* and *i* to the tense-person indicators of those moods respectively. The mood indicators are:

indicative: Ø
 infinitive: (duplication of base) + *la*, stem + *la*
 conditional: *siba*
 subjunctive: Ø...*isi*, *siba*...*isi*
 imperative: *siba*...*i*

4.21.13.1 Indicative Mood (Ø)⁶

Example: oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- a = onia
go-punct-indic-tense-pers = he went

4.21.13.2 Infinitive Mood (duplication of base + la, stem + la)

This mood is formed by duplicating the whole or part of the verb base and suffixing la,

Examples:

| | | | | |
|--------|---|---------------|---|--------------|
| oni | > | oni-oni la | = | onioni la |
| go | > | go to | = | to go |
| ausari | > | aus-ausari la | = | ausausari la |
| hold | > | hold to | = | to hold |

or by the use of the stem plus la if the stem is a combination of more than one base, or a base plus an adverb,

Examples:

| | | | | |
|-------------|---|----------------|---|---------------|
| raranai | > | raranai-la | = | raranai la |
| ask | > | ask -to | = | to ask |
| oni gudu | > | oni-gudu-la | = | oni gudu la |
| go descend | > | go-descent-to | = | to go down |
| oni eboebo | > | oni-eboebo-la | = | oni eboebo la |
| go well | > | go-well -to | = | to go well |
| auri gudu | > | auri-gudu-la | = | auri gudu la |
| sit descend | > | sit-descend-to | = | to sit down |

4.21.13.3 Conditional Mood (-siba)

This mood is marked by -siba, e.g.

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| ?oma- Ø- siba- Ø- ?a | = | ?oma siba?a |
| steal-punct-cond-tense-pers | = | should I steal, I should steal |

Note however that

(i) after some stems ending in i the si is omitted,

| | | |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| oni- Ø- ba- Ø- ?a | = | oni ba?a |
| go punct-cond-tense-pers | = | I should go |
| oni-owoni-ba- Ø- ?a | = | oni owoniba?a |
| go cont-cond-tense-pers | = | I should keep on going going |

(ii) siba is modified to (si)bo before ?o,

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------------|
| ?oma- Ø- sibo- Ø- ?o | = | ?oma sibo?o |
| steal punct-cond-tense-pers | = | they should steal |
| oni- Ø- bo- Ø- ?o | = | oni bo?o |
| go punct-cond-tense-pers | = | they should go |

(iii) (si)ba is modified to (si)bi before a or l, but the final i is omitted in 2-3p.s. (second or third person singular), i.e. before aea (or a),

?oma Ø- sibi- Ø- ava = ?oma sibiava
steal-punct-cond-tense-pers = they(2) should steal

oni Ø- b- Ø- aea = oni baea
go-punct-cond-tense-pers = he should go

(iv) the conditional mood has no distinction of tense, hence the absence of any tense markers in the above examples, but in the case of a purely future sense of the verb the future indicative of the verb is used, as future action has an inherent conditional quality of its own.

(v) the conditional (and imperative) mood has no habitual aspect of itself, and thus for habitual sense, the imperfect is used,

oni- lo- siba- Ø- ?a = oni losiba?a
go-imperf-cond-tense-pers = I should be going, I should keep on going

(vi) when the conditional mood is used in a sentence, then all the following finite verbs are usually put in the conditional mood or its associated forms (future indicative or imperative), e.g.

la marai sini bila de, la muramura isi ba?a.
I sick be should if, I medicine eat should
If I should be sick, I should take medicine.

(vii) conditional mood is often used to tell a mythical story, parable, etc.

4.21.13.4 Subjunctive Mood

As already noted this is formed by adding isi to the tense-person indicator of the indicative future and conditional mood forms,

e.g. noa oni- Ø- Ø- s- a- isi = noa onisaisi
he go-punct-indic-fut-2/3s-subju = he should go

noa oni- lo- sib- Ø- aea- isi = noa oni losibaeaisi
he go-imperf-cond- Ø -2/3s-subju = would that he might always go

This mood is used as follows:

(1) for an indirect command, e.g.

wawo- Ø- Ø- ise-sa- isi = wawoisesaisi
read-punct-indic-fut-lp-subju = let us read

(2) in objectival clauses of purpose (4.13.2), e.g.

noa oseri-la, ia ?u?ura isanai- Ø- Ø- sa-?a- isi
he told-me I prayers lead-punct-indic-fut-ls-subju
 = *He told me that I would lead prayers.*

(3) with the conditonal mood, to express an optative command,
 e.g.

noa ai- Ø- b- Ø- aea- isi = noa ai baeaisi
he come-punct-cond- Ø -2/3s-subju = would that he might
come

(4) with *usi do* as an auxilliary, to express intention, e.g.

i- Ø- Ø- sa-?a- isi usi- l- Ø- a- ?a- na
eat-punct-indic-fut-ls-subju do-imperf-indic-pres-ls-when
isa?aisi usi la?ana = when I am going to eat

isi- lo- Ø- isa-?a- isi usi- nei- Ø- Ø- ?a- na
eat-imperf-indic-fut-ls-subju do-habit-indic-d.p.-ls-when
isi loisa?aisi usi nei?ana = whenever I used to be
about to eat

Note that this last case is a special case of the objectival clauses of purpose illustrated in (2) above.

4.21.13.5 Imperative Mood

There are several types:

4.21.13.51 Normal Imperative

As already noted (4.21.13) this is formed by adding *i* to the tense-person indicators of conditional mood forms:

oni- Ø- bi- Ø- ava- i = oni biavai
go-punct-cond-tense-2/3d-imper = Go! (to two people)
 kea- lo- sibi- Ø- la- i = kea losibilai
hit-imperf-cond-tense-lso-imper = always hit me!

However, note here that:

(1) in the singular intransitive imperative the *i* is omitted,

e.g.

oni- Ø- b- Ø- a- Ø = oni ba
go-punct-cond-tense-2/3s-imper = Go! (to one person)

and in the plural intransitive imperative the *i* is modified to *u*, and the preceding *?o* is modified to *a*, thus causing the (si)ba to be

modified to (si)bi (see 4.21.13.3), e.g.

oni- Ø- bi- Ø- a- u = oni biau
 go-punct-cond-tense-2/3p-imper = *Go!* (to 3+ people)
 oni- lo- sibi- Ø- a- u = oni losibiau
 go-imperf-cond-tense-2/3p-imper = *Go always!*

(11) emphasis can be obtained by adding the particle ne, e.g.

kea-owoni-bi- Ø- a- i -ne = kea owonibiai ne
 hit-cont-cond-tense-2/3d/po-imper-emp = *Keep on hitting them hard!*

This can be further accentuated by omission from this of the tense-person-imperative as well as the ba/bi part of the conditional mood marker(s), e.g.

kea- Ø- si- Ø- Ø- Ø- ne = kea sine
 hit-punct-cond-tense-pers-imper-emp = *Hit!!!*

4.21.13.52 Temporary Imperative (stem + i + dei)

This is formed by adding i + dei to the following stem: caus + r.p.stem + trans.pers.mkr. The meaning of this mood is *please allow (me) to (Verb) for just a short time*, e.g.

va- on- Ø- Ø- e- la- i- dei = va onelai dei
 caus-go-punct-imper-r.p.-lso-imper-temp = *let me go for a moment*
 va-oni Ø- Ø- Ø- Ø- Ø- dei = va oni dei
 caus-go-punct-imper-tense-pers-imper = *let him go for a moment*

This last is in accordance with the fact that there is no third person singular transitive marker, and the i imperative marker is omitted following an i.

4.21.13.53 Irregular Imperatives and Related Forms

Sometimes the ba/bi of the normal imperative form (4.21.13.51) is omitted, e.g.

?oma- Ø- si- Ø- a- u = ?oma siau
 steal-punct-cond-tense-2/3p-imper = *Steal!* (to 3+)
 ai- Ø- Ø- Ø- a- u = aiaiu
 come-punct-cond-tense-2/3p-imper = *Come!* (to 3+)
 mini- Ø- Ø- Ø- la- i = minilai
 give-punct-cond-tense-lso -imper = *Give me!*

If then *dei* is added to these forms a further form of temporary imperative (4.21.13.52) is formed, e.g.

oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- Ø- Ø- Ø- *dei* = *oni dei*
 go-punct-cond-tense-pers-imper-temp = *Go (you sing)! (but don't be long)*

similarly

oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- Ø- *ava-* *i-* *dei* = *oniavai dei*
Go (you 2)! (but don't be long)
 oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- Ø- *a-* *u-* *dei* = *onlau dei*
Go (you 3+)! (but don't be long)

Similar to this is the statement form, in which the stem is the future stem, e.g.

oni- Ø- Ø- *sa- ?a-* *i -dei* = *onisa?ai dei*
 go-punct-indic-fut-pers-imper-temp = *I will go now for a short time.*

4.21.13.54 Odd Irregular Imperatives

aien or *aiba* *Come (you sing)!* Both forms are found though *aien* is the more common.

Some imperatives have no extant conjugated verbs, e.g.

boisiau *Let us go!*

noga na *Open your mouth!*

uma *Here, take it!*

umai *Here, give it to me!* }

These two forms are used to attract attention as when the hearer has his head turned away.

4.21.14 Tense

There are four tenses: distant past, recent past, present and future. The distant past usually refers to any time in the past, up to but not including the day before or the day of speaking. The recent past usually refers to time in the past of the day before or the actual day of speaking. The present refers to action in the process of taking place, whether (as for example in habitual aspect) it started in the distant past, or (in the punctiliar) on the point of occurring, e.g. *I always go, I am on the point of going.* The future refers to any action to take place in the future, excluding that which is so close that the present is used (see present--*I am on the point of going*).

The four tenses are marked by the following markers:

distant past: si
 recent past: na
 present: a
 future: isa

4.21.14.1 Distant Past Tense (si)

Examples: ?oma- Ø- Ø- si- a = ?oma sia
 steal-punct-indic-d.p.-pers = he stole
 kea- Ø- Ø- si- la = kea sila
 hit-punct-indic-d.p.-pers = he/they hit me

Note, however, that

(i) the s of the si is omitted except when followed by an a or l, e.g.

 ?oma- Ø- Ø- i- ?a = ?omai?a
 steal-punct-indic-d.p.-pers = I stole
 kea- Ø- Ø- i- gia = keaigia
 hit-punct-indic-d.p.-pers = he/they hit us

(ii) the si is omitted completely after some stems ending in i and sometimes u, e.g.

 mini- Ø- Ø- Ø- gia = minigia
 give-punct-indic-d.p.-pers = he/they gave us
 ai - ?orau Ø- Ø- Ø- ?o = ai ?orau?o = ai ?orauio
 come-together-punct-indic-d.p.-pers = they gathered together
 ?oma-sinei- Ø- Ø- a = ?oma sineia
 steal-habit-indic-d.p.-pers = he used to steal

4.21.14.2 Recent Past Tense (na)

Example: ?oma- Ø- Ø- na- ?a = ?oma na?a
 steal-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = I stole (but only yesterday or today)

Note, however, that

(i) na is modified to no before ?o, e.g.

 ?oma- Ø- Ø- no- ?o = ?oma no?o
 steal-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = they stole

(ii) the n of na is omitted after e, o, or u, e.g.

 gudu- Ø- Ø- a- ?a = gudua?a
 descend-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = I descended

and in some stems ending in *i*, in which case the final *i* of the stem is also omitted, or if the stem has a final *si* this *si* is completely omitted, e.g. (*oni* = *go* and *isi* = *go*). See also (v) below.

on- Ø- Ø- a- ?a = *ona?a*
go-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = *I went*
oni- owon- Ø- a- ?a = *oni owona?a*
go- cont-indic-r.p.-pers = *I kept on going*
i- Ø- Ø- a- ?a = *ia?a*
eat-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = *I ate*

(iii) *na* is modified to *se* before *a* or *l*, and to *s* in 2/3s, e.g.

?oma- Ø- Ø- se- ava = *?omaseava*
steal-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = *they/you(2) stole*
kea- lo- Ø- se- la = *kea losela*
hit-imperf-indic-r.p.-pers = *they (etc.) were hitting me*
?oma- lo- Ø- s- a = *?oma losa*
steal-imperf-indic-r.p.-pers = *he was stealing*

(iv) in some stems ending in *i* the *i* is omitted, e.g.

oni go on- Ø- Ø- a- ?a = *ona?a*
go-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = *I went*
on- Ø- Ø- Ø- aea = *onaea*
go-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = *he went*
oni-owon- Ø- a- ?a = *oniowona?a*
go-cont-indic-r.p.-pers = *I kept on going*
va- on- Ø- Ø- e- la = *va onela*
caus-go-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = *caused me to go*

mai do ma- Ø- Ø- n- aea = *manaea*
do-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = *he did*
sei do se- Ø- Ø- ne- ava = *seneava*
do-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = *they/you(2) did*

(v) in stems ending in *si* the *si* is omitted, e.g.

isi eat i- Ø- Ø- a- ?a = *ia?a*
eat-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = *I ate*
usi do u- Ø- Ø- a- ?a = *ua?a*
do-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = *I did*

The only exceptions to (v) are *osi to say* (in which the *si* is replaced by *e*) and *isi to eat* when followed by the 2/3s emphatic personal ending *aea*, e.g.

osi say oe- Ø- Ø- a- ?a = oea?a
 say-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = *I said*
 isi eat is- Ø- Ø- Ø- aea = isaea
 eat-punct-indic-r.p.-pers = *he ate*

4.21.14.3 Present Tense (a)⁷

Example: oni- Ø- Ø- a- ?a = onia?a
 go-punct-indic-pres-pers = *I go (am on the point of departing)*

Note, however, that

(i) a is modified to o before ?o, e.g.

oni- Ø- Ø- o- ?o = onio?o
 go-punct-indic-pres-pers = *they/you are about to go*

oni- 1- Ø- o- ?o = oni lo?o
 go-imperf-indic-pres-pers = *they/you are going*

(ii) a is modified to ese before a or l, and to es in 2/3s, e.g.

oni- Ø- Ø- ese- ava = onieseava
 go-punct-indic-pres-pers = *they/you(2) are about to go*

kea- Ø- Ø- ese- la = keaesela
 hit-punct-indic-pres-pers = *they (etc.) are about to hit me*

oni-susu- Ø- es- a = oni susuesa
 go- cont-indic-pres-pers = *he usually goes, he always goes*

4.21.14.4 Future Tense (isa)

Example: ?oma- Ø- Ø- isa- ?a = ?omaisa?a
 steal-punct-indic-fut- pers = *I shall steal*

Note, however, that

(i) isa is modified to iso before ?o, e.g.

?oma- lo- Ø- iso- ?o = ?oma loiso?o
 steal-imperf-indic-fut- pers = *they/you are stealing*

(ii) isa is modified to ise before a or l, and to is in 2/3s, e.g.

?oma- Ø- Ø- ise- ava = ?omaiseava
 steal-punct-indic- fut- pers = *they/you(2) will steal*

?oma- Ø- Ø- is- a = ?omaisa
steal-punct-indic-fut-pers = he will steal

(iii) when a stem ends in i (and sometimes in u) the i of isa is omitted, except when the stem ends in si, in which case this si is omitted. Both these rules work together in some stems, e.g.

oni go: oni- Ø- Ø- sa- ?a = onisa?a
go-punct-indic-fut-pers = I shall go

bau die: bau- Ø- Ø- se- la = bausela = bausela
die-punct-indic-fut-pers = I shall die

osi say: o- Ø- Ø- isa- ?a = oisa?a
say-punct-indic-fut-pers = I shall say

isi eat: i- Ø- Ø- sa- ?a = isa?a
eat-punct-indic-fut-pers = I shall eat

usi do: u- Ø- Ø- sa- ?a = usa?a
do-punct-indic-fut-pers = I shall do

4.21.15 Person Indicators

These are elements which refer to the number and person of subjects and objects in sentences. There are two sets corresponding to the distinction intransitive versus transitive verbs.

4.21.15.1 Intransitive Indicators

These agree with the subject of the verb in number (singular, dual or plural) and person (either first or second/third) and have the following form:

| | Singular | Dual | Plural |
|-----|-------------------|------|--------|
| 1st | ?a | uta | sa |
| 2/3 | a, aea (alt.emp.) | ava | ?o |

Examples:

oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- ?a = oni?a
go-punct-indic-d.p.-1s = I went

oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- a = onia you(1)/he went

oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- uta = oniuta we(2) went

oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- ava = oniava you/they(2) went

oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- -sa = onisa we(3+) went

oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- -?o = oni?o you/they(3+) went

oni-owoni- Ø- Ø- a = oni owonia

go cont-indic-d.p.-2/3s = you/he continued on going

| | | | | | | |
|--------------|--------------------------|-----|------|-------|-----|------------------------------|
| | on- | Ø- | Ø- | aea | = | onaea |
| | go-punct-indic-d.p.-2/3s | | | | = | you(s)/he went (recent past) |
| | oni- | lo- | sib- | Ø- | aea | = oni losibaea |
| (alternative | oni- | lo- | sib- | Ø- | a | = oni losiba) |
| | go-imperf-cond- | Ø- | | -2/3s | = | you(s)/he might be going |
| | oni-susu- | Ø- | a- | sa | = | oni susuasa |
| | go-habit-indic-pres-lp | | | | = | we(3+) are always going |
| | oni-susu- | Ø- | a- | uta | = | oni susuauta |
| | go-habit-indic-pres-ld | | | | = | we(2) are always going |

4.21.15.2 Transitive Indicators

In general these agree with the object of the verb in number and person and are of the following form (cf. personal pronouns in Section 4.23):

| | Singular | Dual | Plural |
|---|----------|--------|--------|
| 1 | la | gua | gia |
| 2 | ga | a, ata | a, ata |
| 3 | -- | a, ata | a, ata |

Examples:

| | | | | | | |
|--|----|----|----|-----|---|-----------------------------|
| noa ma ia eri- | Ø- | Ø- | Ø- | la | = | noa ma ia erila |
| he sm me see-punct-indic-d.p.-lso | | | | | = | he saw me |
| ga ma gea eri- | Ø- | Ø- | Ø- | gua | = | ga ma gea erigua |
| you sm us see-punct-indic-d.p.-ldo | | | | | = | you saw us(2) |
| ?i?i noa ma mini- | Ø- | Ø- | Ø- | la | = | ?i?i noa ma minila |
| a.shell he sm give-punct-indic-d.p.-lso | | | | | = | he gave me a shell |
| ?i?i ga ma mini- | Ø- | Ø- | Ø- | gua | = | ?i?i ga ma minigua |
| a.shell you sm give-punct-indic-d.p.-ldo | | | | | = | you gave us(2) a shell |
| ?i?i omoa ma mini- | Ø- | Ø- | Ø- | gia | = | ?i?i omoa ma minigia |
| the.shells they sm give-punct-indic-d.p.-lpo | | | | | = | they gave us(3+) the shells |
| ?i?i omoa ma mini- | Ø- | Ø- | Ø- | ga | = | ?i?i omoa ma miniga |
| the.shells they sm give-punct-indic-d.p.-2so | | | | | = | they gave you(1) the shells |

However, there are a number of qualifications and exceptions to be made to the above generalization. These are:

- (1) when the object is third person singular the person indicator used is the intransitive one agreeing with the subject, e.g.

ʔiʔi ia ma mini- l- Ø- a- ʔa = ʔiʔi ia ma mini laʔa
the.shells I sm give-imperf-indic-pres-ls = *I am giving him the shells*

(ii) in the distant past tense, the a of the 2d/p and 3d/p object is usually lengthened to ata, e.g.

ʔiʔi ia ma mini- Ø- Ø- Ø- ata = ʔiʔi ia ma miniata
the.shells I sm give-punct-indic-d.p.-2,3d/po = *I gave you/them the shells*
 but in all other tenses the a alone is used.

(iii) when the subject of the transitive verb is first person singular the personal indicator is modified, so as to indicate this fact. This only involves the second person singular, and the second/third persons dual/plural, i.e. ga 2s.object becomes uta, this being the same as the first person dual of the intransitive indicator (something to do with *you* and *me*), e.g.

noa ma mini- Ø- Ø- Ø- ga = noa ma miniga
he sm give-punct-indic-d.p.-2so = *he gave you(s)*

ia ma mini- Ø- Ø- Ø- uta = ia ma miniuta
I sm give-punct-indic-d.p.-2so/lsj = *I gave you(s)*

a (or ata)(2/3d/po) becomes aʔa, this being the addition to the regular transitive indicator of the normal intransitive first person singular indicator, e.g.

noa ma mini- Ø- Ø- Ø- ata = noa ma miniata
he sm give-punct-indic-d.p.-2/3d/po = *he gave you/them*

ia ma mini- Ø- Ø- Ø- aʔa = ia ma miniaʔa
I sm give-punct-indic-d.p.-2/3d/po/lsj = *I gave you/them*

noa ma mini- la- Ø- ese- a = noa ma mini laesea
he sm give-imperf-indic-pres-2/3d/po = *he gave you/them*

ia ma mini- la- Ø- ese- aʔa = ia ma mini laeseaʔa
I sm give-imperf-indic-pres-2/3d/po/lsj = *I gave you/them*

(iv) transitive indicators are also used with some verbs in a reflexive sense, thus agreeing with the subject. Adjectives which are used predicatively also often take these reflexive tense-person indicators, e.g.

vegarai- la- Ø- ese- la = vegarai laesela
know-imperf-indic-pres-lso = *I know*

ʔame- la- Ø- ese- la = ʔame laesela
happy-imperf-indic-pres-lso = *(I am) happy*

?ame sini- la- Ø- ese- la = ?ame sini laesela
happy be imperf-indic-pres-lso = I am happy

4.21.2 Peripheral Parts of the Verb Complex

These are the optional (±) elements given in the verb complex formula at the beginning of this section but repeated here for convenience:

± caus + base 1 ± base 2 ± ai/ra ± adv.man ± direct ± trans
 ± refl ± repet + asp + mood + tense + pers ± part

These elements will be treated in the order that they occur in this formula.

4.21.21 Causative

The causative indicator *va* is placed immediately in front of base 1 making it transitive, e.g.

ia nani- l- Ø- a- ?a = ia nani la?a
I hear-imperf-indic-pres-ls = I am hearing

ia ma va- nani- la- Ø- ese- a?a = ia ma vanani laesea?a
I sm caus-hear-imperf-indic-pres-2/3d/po/lsg = I am teaching (them)
see 3.2(3).

ia ma da va- nani- la- Ø- ese- a?a = ia ma da vanani laesea?a
I sm not caus-hear-imperf-indic-pres-2/3d/po/lsg = I am not teaching (them)

4.21.22 Base 2

Very frequently a second base is added to the first one, thus modifying it, e.g.

ida- Ø- Ø- isa-?a = idaisa?a
stand-punct-indic-fut-ls = I shall stand (i.e. not sit)

muda- Ø- Ø- isa-?a = mudaisa?a
rise-punct-indic-fut-ls = I shall climb (i.e. the hill)

ida- muda- Ø- Ø- isa-?a = ida mudaisa?a
stand rise-(=base 2)-punct-indic-fut-ls = I shall climb up and stand (i.e. on the box)

4.21.23 ai/ra

4.21.23.1 ai

This is an indicator marking some degree of relationship between the subject and something else, somewhat in the form of an indirect object, e.g.

| | | | | | | |
|---------|----------------------|----|----|----|---|-----------------------------|
| osi- | l- | Ø- | a- | ?a | = | osi la?a |
| say | imperf-indic-pres-ls | | | | = | <i>I am saying, talking</i> |
| osi-ai- | l- | Ø- | a- | ?a | = | osiai la?a |
| say- | imperf-indic-pres-ls | | | | = | <i>I am talking about</i> |

Note that when the stem ends in an a, this a is omitted before the ai, e.g.

| | | | | | | |
|---------|----------------------|----|----|----|---|---|
| mud-ai- | l- | Ø- | a- | ?a | = | mudai lasa |
| rise- | imperf-indic-pres-lp | | | | = | <i>we are climbing together</i> <i>(i.e. the hill)</i> |

4.21.23.2 ra

This is an indicator marking some degree of direction away from the existing situation toward something else, and is probably derived from the particle la to, e.g.

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------------|----|----|----|---|--|
| ida- | l- | Ø- | a- | ?a | = | ida la?a |
| stand- | imperf-indic-pres-ls | | | | = | <i>I am standing</i> |
| ida-ra- | l- | Ø- | a- | ?a | = | idara la?a |
| stand- | imperf-indic-pres-ls | | | | = | <i>I am (in the act of)</i> <i>standing up</i> |
| eu la paea-ra- | l- | Ø- | a- | ?a | = | eu la paea-ra la?a |
| fire to toss- | imperf-indic-pres-ls | | | | = | <i>I am tossing (them) into</i> <i>the fire</i> |

4.21.24 Adverbs of Manner

These take the same form as their corresponding adjective. There may be more than one such adverb of manner in the same verb complex, e.g.

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----|----|--------|---|--|
| isi-?apu-ineinea- | Ø- | Ø- | isa-?a | = | isi ?apu ineineaisa?a |
| eat all quickly-punct-indic-fut-ls | | | | = | <i>I shall eat (it) all</i> <i>up quickly</i> |

Note also that

(1) adverbs of manner can sometimes stand without a base, this being understood, e.g.

va- ineinea- Ø- Ø- is- a = va ineineaisa
 caus-quickly-punct-indic-fut-2/3s = *let him (do it) quickly*

(11) adverbs of manner may be intensified by the addition of adverbs of degree (see 4.25.2), e.g.

noa lou-ineinea-ogoda- lo- Ø- si- a = noa lou ineinea ogoda losia

he run-quickly- big -imperf-indic-d.p.-2/3s = *he was running very quickly*

noa lou-ineinea-ogoda- bau- lo- Ø- si- a
 he run-quickly- big -very-imperf-indic-d.p.-2/3s
you(s)/he was running extremely quickly

noa lou-ineinea-ma?ato-ogoda-vage- lo- Ø- si- a
 he run-quickly-little- big -less-imperf-indic-d.p.-2/3s
you(s)/he were/was running a little less extremely quickly

(111) adverbs of manner have no fixed position relative to direction indicators (4.21.25) and the reflexive indicator ?ero (4.21.27), e.g.

| | |
|--|--|
| $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{goi-?ero-ineinea} \\ \text{?ero-goi-ineinea} \\ \text{goi-ineinea-?ero} \\ \text{ineinea-goi-?ero} \end{array} \right\}$ | Ø- Ø- is- a |
| | |
| | |
| | $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{ineinea-?ero-goi} \\ \text{?ero-ineinea-goi} \end{array} \right\}$ |

give- back-here- quick- punct-indic-fut-2/3s
he will give it back here quickly,
or he will return it quickly

where goi = direction indicator, ?ero = reflexive indicator (see 4.21.27) and ineinea = adverb of manner.

4.21.25 Direction Indicators

Two direction markers goi (derived from ai *come*) indicating direction towards, and goni (derived from oni *go*) indicating direction away from the point of reference (see 4.21.12.4), are used in Magi, e.g.

?eva goi- Ø- Ø- s- a = ?eva goisa
 carry here-punct-indic-pres-2/3s = *you(s)/he will bring (it) here*

?eva- goni- Ø- Ø- s- a = ?eva gonisa
 carry there-punct-indic-pres-2/3s = *you(s)/he will take (it) there*

Note also that direction indicators have no fixed position relative to adverbs of manner (4.21.24) and the reflexive indicator ?ero (4.21.27). See examples in 4.21.24 note (iii) above.

4.21.26 Transitive Converter (mini)

This form (which is in itself the verb *to give*) is used to convert an intransitive verb to a transitive one. Thus by its use the object which may be very vaguely implied in the intransitive verb is then specifically expressed, e.g.

| | |
|--|-------------------------------|
| va mata- Ø- Ø- is- a | = va mataisa |
| caus-clear-punct-indic-fut-2/3s | = you(s)/he will explain (it) |
| va mata-mini- Ø- Ø- se- a | = va mata minisea |
| caus-clear-trans-punct-indic-fut-2/3d/po | = will explain (it) to them |

From the following examples it will be seen that there is a difference between the effect of the use of mini and ai (see 4.21.23), and a further difference, at least in some cases, between these transitivized verbs and regular transitive verbs, e.g. (using the verbs *osi speak, talk* and *oseri tell*)

| | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| base 1-ai-trans-asp-mood-tense-pers | meaning |
| o- Ø- Ø- Ø- Ø- iso- ?o = oiso?o | you/they will talk, speak |
| osi- a- Ø- Ø- Ø- iso- ?o = osiaiso?o | you/they will talk about (something) |
| osi- Ø- min- Ø- Ø- isa- ga = osi minisaga | (someone) will talk to you(s) |
| oser- Ø- Ø- Ø- Ø- isa- ga = oserisaga | (someone) will tell you(s) |

4.21.27 Reflexive Indicator (?ero)

?ero in a verb complex indicates that the action performed refers back to the subject. That is it covers both the traditional reflexive sense and the sense of something being returned back to its original position. Compare the following:

| | |
|--|--|
| ia eri-unaunari-ai-?ero-susu- Ø- a- ?a = ia eriunaunariai ?ero susua?a | |
| I see- pity- ai-refl-habit-indic-pres-1s = I always love myself | |
| ia mini- imogo-?ero- Ø- Ø- isa-?a = ia mini imogo ?eroisa?a | |
| I give-slowly-refl-punct-indic-fut-1s = I shall give myself (something) slowly | |

ia ma mini-?ero-imogo- Ø- Ø- ise- a?a = ia ma mini ?ero
imogoisea?a
I sm give-back-slowly-punct-indic-fut-2/3d/po/ls = I shall return
(something) to them slowly (or late)

Note, however, that ?ero as a reflexive is always followed by intransitive personal indicators (see 4.21.15) in contradistinction to the sense *return to* as in the last example above, and that its position relative to adverbs of manner (4.21.24) and direction indicators (4.21.25) is quite free.

4.21.28 Repetitive Indicator (amari)

amari again, is usually used immediately before the tense-person indicator to indicate repeated action, e.g.

noa ena woi kea-?ero-amari- lo- Ø- si- a = noa ena
woi kea ?ero amari losia
he his self hit-refl-again-imperf-indic-d.p.-2/3s = he was
hitting himself again

4.21.29 Particles

There are a number of particles which may be added at the end of the verb complex to indicate the relationship of one clause to another. These particles are:

- (1) -na when (Time Clause--4.13.1), e.g.

oni- Ø- Ø- sa-?a- na... = onisa?ana...
go-punct-indic-fut-ls-when... = when I will come...

- (2) -na who, which (Adjectival Clause--4.13.6), e.g.

oni- la- Ø- es- a- na egi... = oni laesana egi...
go imperf-indic-pres-2/3s- man... = the man who is going...

- (3) ma in order to (Purpose Clause--4.13.2), e.g.

Noa ida-ra- Ø- Ø- si- a ma osi-ai- Ø- Ø- si- a
he standup-punct-indic-d.p.-2/3s say- -punct-indic-d.p.-2/3s
Noa idara sia ma, osiai sia.

He stood up in order that he might confess.

- (4) de if, used with conditional mood and future indicative (Conditional Clause--4.13.3), e.g.

noa ai- Ø- b- Ø- aea de... = noa ai baea de...
he come-punct-cond-tense-2/3s if... = if he should come...

- (5) -na-de when-at (Adverbs of Time--4.11.11), e.g.

noa va- kokoa- Ø- Ø- si- a- na de... = noa va kokoa siana
de...
it caus-finish-punct-indic-d.p.-2/3s-when at... = at the finish of...

Similarly -na-ma and -na-la are occasionally used.

(6) -na and ma are also used with the conditional mood to indicate some degree of uncertainty, e.g.

noa osi- Ø- b- Ø- aea- ma = noa osi baea ma
 he say-punct-cond-tense-2/3s- = *he could say (that) in order that...*

noa osi- Ø- b- Ø- aea- na = noa osi baeana
 he say-punct-cond-tense-2/3s-when = *should he say that, then*

(7) -na-?ei and ?oni--Emphatics, e.g.

ia oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- ?a-na ?ei = ia oni?ana ?ei
 I go-punct-indic-d.p.-ls- -emph = *I did go.*

ia oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- ?a ?oni = ia oni?a ?oni
 I go-punct-indic-d.p.-ls emph = *I did go.*

compare ia ?oni oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- ?a = ia ?oni oni?a
 I emph go-punct-indic-d.p.-ls = *I went.*

ne avesa ?ei ma bu?a
 that woman emp sm only
that woman (and only her)

(8) -na-?eidema because (Reason Clause--4.13.4), e.g.

ia oni- Ø- Ø- Ø- ?a-na ?eidema = ia oni?ana ?eidema
 I go-punct-indic-d.p.-ls- because = *because I went*

(9) ne (Emphatic Imperative--4.21.13.51 Note (11)).

4.21.3 Other Miscellaneous Aspects of Verbs

4.21.31 Voice

All verbs in Magi are in the active voice. There is no true passive voice. However, a passive sense may be obtained by using an unstated but understood indefinite third person plural subject, e.g.

noa kea- Ø- Ø- i- ?o = noa keai?o
 him hit-punct-indic-d.p.-2/3p = *(they) hit him = he was hit*

4.21.32 Auxiliary Verbs

There is quite a selection of verbs which are used as auxiliaries. These are used with nouns or other verbs to form new verbs often introducing fine distinctions in meaning, e.g., islisi can be used both as a noun *food* and as a verb *to eat*. However, if one wants to express the idea of eating food then one must use the form islisi

seisei to eat food. *isiisi* alone could only be used if there was an object of the act of eating, say, a fish, e.g.

noa ma ?orebe isaea

he ate a fish

If there were no specific object of the eating to be mentioned, *isiisi* would become the object (i.e. *food*) and *seisei to do* would act as an auxiliary verb, e.g.

noa isiisi senaea

he had food = he has (already) eaten

The most common auxiliary verbs in Magi are: *usiisi*, *seisei*, *eiei*, *maimai*, *iniini* and *ariari*.

4.21.33 Verbs as Nouns

There are two ways of nominalizing verbs:

(1) by taking the infinitive form less *la* and optionally adding an auxiliary, e.g.

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| sunasuna | < | sunasuna la |
| <i>thoughts</i> | < | <i>to think</i> |
| ?ui?ui-la > ?ui?ui | > | ?ui?ui seisei |
| <i>to sleep > sleep</i> | > | <i>sleep (doing sleep)</i> |

(2) by adding *na* to any verb complex other than infinitives, e.g.

| | |
|---|----------------------------|
| ena ?ui- susu- Ø- es- a- na = ena ?ui susuesana | |
| <i>his sleep-habit-indic-pres-2/3s-na = his habitual sleeping</i> | |
| ena suna sineiana | < |
| <i>his thoughts used-to-he-na</i> | < |
| <i>(the thoughts/desires that he used to have)</i> | |
| | noa suna sineia |
| | <i>he think used-to-he</i> |

Note, however, that this form is the same as would be used as an adjective (4.13.6), e.g.

| |
|--|
| noa ?ui- susu- Ø- es- a- na egi = noa ui susuesana egi |
| <i>he sleep-habit-indic-pres-2/3s-na man = He is a man who is habitually sleeping.</i> |

4.21.34 Verbs as Adjectives

There are two ways of adjectivalizing verbs:

(1) by taking the infinitive form and deleting *la*, e.g.

?ui?ui egi
sleeping man

(2) by adding na to any verb complex, e.g.

?ui- la- Ø- es- a- na egi = ?ui laesana egi
sleep-imperf-indic-pres-2/3s-na man = the man who is sleeping

Compare this with:

?ui?ui sei- la- Ø- es- a- na egi = ?ui?ui sei laesana egi
sleep do-imperf-indic-pres-2/3s- man = the man who is doing
(all) the sleeping

4.21.35 Emphasis in the Verb

Emphasis can be given to an action by the following means;

(1) by using emphatic adverbs of manner, e.g.

noa vegarai-egena- Ø- Ø- si- a = noa vegarai egena sia
he know- true- punct-indic-d.p.-2/3s = he knew truly/properly

(2) by using particles (see 4.21.210), e.g.

noa vegarai- Ø- Ø- si- a- na- ?ei = noa vegarai siana ?ei
he know- punct-indic-d.p.-2/3s-na-emph = he did know

noa vegarai- Ø- Ø- si- a- ?oni = noa vegarai sia ?oni
he know- punct-indic-d.p.-2/3s-emph = he did know

Further emphasis can be obtained by omitting the tense-person indicator and using the ?ei particle compare 4.21.13.51(11), e.g.

noa vegarai ?ei
he most certainly knows/knew

(3) by a combination of the above two means, e.g.

noa vegarai egena ?ei
he really does/did know properly

4.22 Nouns

Nouns may be proper, common, or abstract. There are primary nouns, and nouns derived from verbs (see 4.21.33). Adjectives may also be used as nouns, e.g. eboebo good may be used to mean the good or goodness:

ena mai susuesana eboebo
his do does good
the good that he does

ena eboebo
his good
his goodness

4.22.1 Number

There is no differentiation of number except that

(i) ?oeva *child* has the plural form ?o?oeva *children* and egi *man* has the plural form emegi *people*, but egi garu *men* (as opposed to *woman*);

(ii) groups of relations, friends, etc. are frequently indicated by the use of the word iva, e.g.

kava *friend*

kava iva *friends*

?oeva *child*

?o?oeva = ?o?oeva iva
= ?o?oeva iva garu *children*

However, if number is important it is indicated by the addition of garu *many* or ?omu *one*, e.g.

avesa *woman/women*

avesa ?omu *one woman/a woman*
avesa garu *women/many women*

4.22.2 Gender

There is no differentiation of gender, but if it is important it is indicated by:

egi *man*

avesa *woman*

arabae *male animal*

sina *female animal*

These are compounded with the noun concerned, e.g.

owai *grandparent*

egi owai *grandfather*

avesa owai *grandmother*

bora?a *pig*

arabae bora?a *boar*

sina bora?a *sow*

4.22.3 Derived Nouns

See Section 4.21.33.

4.22.4 Classifiers

These are sometimes used with another noun, especially borrowings, e.g. tiusde samu *Tuesday* (lit. *Tuesday day*) which probably indicates that the noun nature of the borrowing is not fully realised, or that the meaning of the term on its own is not clear. Classifiers are very often used with adjectives or adjectival phrases/clauses, e.g.

?au odiodi *ada*

foot putting thing

shoe

obasai egi

harangue man

preacher

4.23 Pronouns

Magi pronouns distinguish between singular, dual, plural number, first, second and third persons. There is no differentiation of gender. Subject and object have the same forms:

| Person | Singular | Dual | Plural |
|--------|----------|--------|--------|
| 1 | ia | guadai | gea |
| 2 | ga | aadai | aea |
| 3 | noa | omadai | omoa |

From these are derived the possessive forms:

| Person | Singular | Dual | Plural |
|--------|----------|-------|--------|
| 1 | ina | guna | gena |
| 2 | gana | ana | ana |
| 3 | ena | omana | omana |

and some of the transitive personal markers of verbs (see Section 4.21.14.2). Examples:

| | | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| ia ma eriuta | <i>I saw you</i> | ina wa?ai | <i>my dog</i> |
| ga ma erila | <i>you(s) saw me</i> | gana wa?ai | <i>your(s) dog</i> |
| ga ma erigua | <i>you(s) saw us(2)</i> | ena wa?ai | <i>his dog</i> |
| guadai ma eriga | <i>we(2) saw you(s)</i> | guna wa?ai | <i>our(2) dogs</i> |
| guadai ma eriata | <i>we(2) saw them</i> | omana wa?ai | <i>their dogs</i> |

(N.B. Objects in Magi may be direct or indirect objects in English--there is no way of deciding whether any particular verb is inherently transitive or not.)

4.24 Adjectives

4.24.1 General

Adjectives may be used attributively, either before or after the noun they qualify, and predicatively, either with a verb equivalent to English *to be*, or without it. In the last of these four possibilities the adjective is often followed by a tense-person indicator, thus virtually converting it into a reflexive verb (see 4.11.23). The actual mode employed when thus using an adjective depends largely on the emphasis required. Examples:

(1) Attributive

- (a) mari ogoda
 village big
 i.e. the village is big

(b) ogoda mari
big village

i.e. not the small one

(2) Predicative

(a) mari ogoda ibi susuesa
village big is

i.e. the big village is/remains there

(b) mari ogoda laesa
village big (is)

i.e. it is the big village that
is there now (present imperfect)

4.24.2 Demonstratives

eva this, these

ne that, those (not distant; that one I have just been
talking about)

ada that, those (distant)

As pure demonstratives these are placed before the nouns they qualify,
or may stand alone, e.g.

eva egi this man

eva emegi these men

ne egi that man (nearby, or
that I have just been
talking about)

ada egi that man (over there
there)

eva samu this day (today)

ne samu that day (that I
have just been
talking about)

ada samu at some other day

Eva egi ma ne egi eva samu ada gabu de kea sia.
this man that man(close) today at that place(over there) hit (him)
This man hit that man today over there.

Eva eboebo ogoda bau.
this good big very
This is very good.

4.24.3 Numerals

Adjectives of number or quantity usually follow the noun they
qualify, e.g.,

wa?ai ?omu dog one

wa?ai seriada dogs many

wa?ai garu dogs (many)

wa?ai wuwuru dogs all/many

wa?ai aiseri dogs three

wa?ai ima ?omu dogs five

Magi has a complex system of numbers based on fives and tens,
extending to 999, but this is largely superceded by English numerals.

| | Cardinals | Ordinals | Distributives |
|-----|---|---|---------------------|
| 1 | ?omu | va ?omuisana (future) va ?omu siana (past) (isana---alt.) | ?omuinama |
| 2 | ?ava | va ?avaisana, va ?ava siana (deni---alt.) | ?avainama |
| 3 | aiseri | va aiserisana, etc. (deni bau---alt.) | aiserianama |
| 4 | tourai | va touraisana, etc. (ena deni bau---alt.) | touraianama |
| 5 | ima ?omu | va ima ?omuisana, etc. | ima ?omuinama |
| 6 | ima lilia ?omu | va ima lilia ?omuisana, etc. | ima lilia ?omuinama |
| 7 | ima lilia ?ava | etc. | etc. |
| 8 | ima lilia aiseri | etc. | etc. |
| 9 | ima lilia tourai | | |
| 10 | nanau ?omu | | |
| 11 | nanau ?omu ?omu | | |
| 12 | nanau ?omu ?ava | | |
| 13 | nanau ?omu aiseri | | |
| 14 | nanau ?omu tourai | | |
| 15 | nanau ?omu ima ?omu | | |
| 16 | nanau ?omu ima lilia ?omu | | |
| 20 | nanau ?ava | | |
| 50 | nanau ima ?omu | | |
| 60 | nanau ima lilia ?omu | | |
| 100 | nanau gabana ?omu | | |
| 101 | nanau gabana ?omu ?omu | | |
| 999 | nanau gabana ima lilia tourai nanau ima lilia tourai ima lilia tourai | | |

Cardinals and distributives always follow the noun they qualify, whereas ordinals always precede the noun they qualify.

4.24.4 Order of Adjectives

Where there are several adjectives they may be placed variously, largely depending on individual emphasis, e.g.

dubaduba ogoda wa?ai *black big dog*, i.e. the most noticeable thing being the colour

dubaduba wa?ai ogoda *black dog big*, i.e. no particular emphasis

ogoda dubaduba wa?ai *big black dog*, i.e. the most noticeable thing is the size.

4.24.5 Derived Adjectives

4.24.51 Adjectives from Verbs

See Section 4.21.34.

4.24.52 Adjectives from Nouns

These often indicate a part of something, but the possessive pronoun is omitted. The order is the same as if the possessive pronoun were still present, e.g.

?ama ?a?ama coconut water < ?ama ena ?a?ama coconut its water

4.24.6 Comparison of Adjectives

There is no special comparative or superlative forms of adjectives (or adverbs) but when a comparison is made between two things, as in, for example, a comparison of size, one will be said to be large and the other small, it being understood that this is merely in a comparative sense, and that actual size does not enter into the matter at this stage, e.g.

Domara ogoda, ele Mailu kiwonai

Domara big and Mailu small

i.e., Domara is bigger than Mailu, it being realised that in actual fact both are large.

Finer distinctions can be made by using adverbs of degree to modify the adjectives (or adverbs) involved, e.g.

Mailu ?oni mari ogoda, Kurere ma?ato kiwonai vage, Loupomu ma?ato
Mailu a village big Kurere little small little Loupomu little
kiwonai, Aroana kiwonai, ele Ubuna kiwonai bau, ada ?omu bu?a
small Aroana small and Ubuna small very but

Domara ogoda egena ?ei.

Domara big true

Mailu is a big village, Kurere a little smaller, Loupomu still smaller, Aroana is small, and Ubuna very small, while Domara is bigger than any.

4.25 Adverbs

Adverbs modify verbs, adjectives and other adverbs. They have no special form and the same item may function as both adjective and adverb in different positions. The following are the principal types:

4.25.1 Adverbs of Manner

All Adverbs of Manner occur inside the verb complex--see Section 4.21.24.

4.25.2 Adverbs of Degree

These modify adjectives or other adverbs and follow the words they modify, except for *ma?ato little* which precedes them, e.g.

| | |
|--------------------------|--|
| ogoda <i>big</i> | ineinea ogoda } <i>very quickly</i> <i>quickly big</i> |
| bau <i>very</i> | ineinea ogoda bau } <i>extremely quickly</i> <i>quickly big very</i> |
| ma?ato <i>little</i> | ineinea ma?ato ogoda vage } <i>a little less extreme-</i> <i>quickly little big less ly quickly</i> |
| vage <i>less, little</i> | |
| egena ?ei <i>true</i> | ogoda egena ?ei } <i>very big</i> <i>big true</i> |
| | Loupomu ma?ato kiwonai } <i>Loupomu (village) is</i> <i>Loupomu little small quite small</i> |
| | Ubuna kiwonai bau } <i>Ubuna is very small</i> <i>Ubuna little very</i> |

4.25.3 Adverbs of Place

These express location, direction towards, direction from etc. They typically consist of some head word or words represented by a noun, pronoun or noun phrase and a postposition (see Section 4.26). For example, *uru ena godana de* in the following example represents the location where the person referred to by *he* sat.

Noa uru ena godana de auria.
he house its underside at he.sat
He sat under the house.

The following are common *here* and *there* forms derived from demonstratives (Section 4.24.2):

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| eva no <i>it is here</i> | ne no <i>it is there(close)</i> | ada no <i>it is there(distant)</i> |
| eva de <i>here</i> | ne de <i>there(close)</i> | ada de <i>there(distant)</i> |
| evana de <i>here</i> | nena de <i>there</i> | adana de <i>there</i> |
| evana ma <i>from here</i> | nena ma <i>from there(close</i> <i>or that I have</i> <i>just been talk-</i> <i>ing about)</i> | adana ma <i>from there(distant)</i> |
| evana la <i>to here</i> | nena la <i>to there(close)</i> | adana la <i>to there(distant)</i> |

Example:

Egi omu ma ne sarosaro adana ma evana la eva goia. "Eva
man one that letter there from here to carry towards did "here
no," oserila. Nena ma noa nena la onia, ele nena de adi auri
is" told-me there from he there to went and there at yet sit
susuesa. ?adi, noa ne de.
does certainly he that at

A man brought that letter that we were talking about from away over
there to here. "Here it is," he told me. Thereafter he went over
there, not far away, and is still there. Assuredly he is still there.

Other examples are given in Section 4.26 (Postpositions) already re-
ferred to.

4.25.4 Adverbs of Time

These are either single word elements (e.g. ilowo yesterday) or
multi-word elements with a structure similar to that of Adverbs of
Place except that the head word is typically a time word.

Examples:

ilowo egi aina.
yesterday man came
The man came yesterday.

Biga de egi aina.
morning at man came
The man came in the morning.

Samu aua de egi ai susuesa.
day each at man come does
The man comes every day.

Note that time phrases are usually marked by de at and may have a com-
plex structure of their own. Consider the following:

Omana oni owoni?ona de,...
their go were-while at
While they were in the process of going,...

Here the action has the affixed particle -na (for which see 4.21.33)
giving it the effect of a noun, thus taking the possessive omana their,
that is, Upon their going,.... Compare this with a conditional clause
(see 4.13.3):

Omoa oni owonibo?o de,...
they go were-had if
Had they been going,...

or a conditional phrase of time, e.g.

Omana oni owonibo?ona de,...
their go were-had-while at
If and when they had been going along,...

A further type of time phrase uses the infinitive with a negative, to indicate time before, e.g.

Ena marai da sinisini de egi aia.
his sickness not be at man came
The man came before he became sick.

Common single word adverbs of time are:

| | | | |
|----------|----------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| eva samu | today | isou | tomorrow |
| ilowo | yesterday | deni samu | day after tomorrow |
| arie | day before yesterday | | |

4.25.5 Comparison of Adverbs

Adverbs are compared in the same way as adjectives (see Section 2.24.6).

4.26 Postpositions

These may be simple or complex.

4.26.1 Simple postpositions are direction markers. There are three of these:

| | | |
|----|--------------------------------------|------|
| de | (indicates no direction; stationary) | at |
| ma | (indicates direction away from) | from |
| la | (indicates direction towards) | to |

Examples:

| | | |
|---------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| Mailu | <u>de</u> | at Mailu |
| Derebai | <u>ma</u> | from Derebai |
| eva | <u>de</u> | (lit. at this (place)) here |
| adana | <u>ma</u> | (lit. from that (place)) from there |
| adana | <u>la</u> | (lit. to that (place)) to there |

Note that these cannot be used with the personal nouns or pronouns (see next section).

4.26.2 Complex postpositions correspond to such prepositions in English as *inside*, *outside*, *on*, *under*, *above*, *behind*, *beside*, *near* etc. In Magi these have the following structure:

(Noun/Pronoun) + possessive pronoun + positional marker + direction marker (de, ma, la)

where the possessive pronoun must agree with the head noun or pronoun in number and person (see 4.23) and the positional marker represents one of the following:

| | |
|--------------|------------------|
| tebina | near |
| guni, ausu | inside, interior |
| gabi | shoulder |
| auna, godana | underside |
| atana | top |
| deni | back |
| dele ?aura | side |
| deni ?aura | outside, behind |

A further form varo is used for persons only.

Examples:

uru ena guni la
house its inside to
into the house

uru ena guni de
house its inside at
in the house

uru ena guni ma
house its inside from
from in the house

noa uru ena godana de auria
he house its underside at he.sat
he sat under the house

noa uru ena godana la onia
he house its underside to he.went
he went under the house

noa ina tebina de auria
he my near at he.sat
he sat near me

noa gana deni de auria
he your back at he.sat
he sat behind you

Kadiba ena tebina de auria
Kadiba his near at he.sat
he sat near Kabida

Noa ma ne egi ena varo la buka minia.
he sm that man his to book he.gave
He gave a book to that man.

4.27 Interrogative Words

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| who? (as subject) | au ma |
| who? (as compliment) | auno (sing.), aumo (pl.) |
| whom? | |
| to whom? | au na la |
| whose? | au ena (sing.), au omana (pl.) |
| what? | diada (from dia ada which thing) |
| which? | dia/abo |
| where? | abode (from abo de at which, i.e. at which { place) abona de |
| whence? | abona ma |
| whither? | abona la |

dia samu de? which day at/which time at? (i.e. third, fourth, etc.)
 abo samu de? which day at/which time at?
 abo samu ma? from which time/day? (i.e. when did it start?)
 abo samu la? to which time/day? (i.e. when did it finish?)
 abo uana de? at what period of time?
 abo tauga de? at what moment of time?
 abo nina de? at what sun? (i.e. hour)

| | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Ga onisa, ba? | Ga onisa, ba, ?i? |
| You go-will, or (perhaps not)? | You go-will, or (perhaps not, but please tell me!)? |

Noa, ia di evana la ai nauta.
 he me with here to come did
 He came with me.

Lioro di ena nabu mo evana la aiava.
 Lioro his brother with here to came
 Lioro came here with his brother.

Tamaru o, torea eo le?ile?i sei susuo?o.
 boys girls too dancing do always-do
 Boys and girls always dance together.

Ogoda emegi o, ogoda avesa eo, tamaru o, torea o, ?o?oeva gigiri o,
 big men big women too boys girls children small
 omoa wuwuru mari ma iou sawo ?apui?o.
 they all village from run away completely.did
 Grown up men and women, boys and girls and small children all ran
 away from the village.

4.210 Interjections

Surprise kaie, kaiae, kaiae emegai
 Heavens! adei (lit. mother!)
 adeinadei (lit. mother-mother!)
 adeinabai (lit. mother-father!)
 Reproach aee
 Sympathy nogea
 Vocative o
 Change of
 subject ?ane
 Assertives ?adi (positive: yes)
 ?eisi (negative: no)

e.g. "Nogea, gana mauri pia?a bau." "?adi, gaidi o, ?ane ga aboua?"
 "Aee, ina mauri oreore bau." "Kaiae, nogea. Guadai bau
 apele!" "?eisi emegai, lo?oai dei!"
 "Alas, your life is very hard." "Truly, my friend, but how
 about you?" "Alas and alack, my life is very bad." "You
 don't say, I am so sorry. We are near death!" "Most
 certainly not, wait a while yet!"

5.0 TEXT

This is a translation of Luke 2:41-50 made in 1972 by Lioro
 Lapila of Loupomu village.

Lioro aua de Iesu ena abai adei Dierusalema la muda
 year each at Jesus his father mother Jerusalem to mount
 sine-i-ava, Bae-goro Suna Amama Maduna la. Iesu adaua ena
 habit-dp-2/3d walk-past think remember feast to Jesus thus his

ogo lloro 12 sin-i-a-na, omana usiusi aua maduna la on-i-?o.
big years 12 be-dp-2/3s-when their doings like feast to go-dp-2/3p
 Maduna ena samu garu kokoa si-a-na, omadai mari la oni ?ero
feast its days pl finish dp-2/3s-when they(2) village to go back
 si-ava, ada ?omu bu?a ne tamaru lesu Dierusalema de auri ?ero
dp-2/3d thing one only that boy Jesus Jerusalem at sit back
 si-a. Ena abai adei da vegarai lo-si-ata, ena bo
dp-2/3s his father mother neg know imperf-dp-2/3/po its reason
 omadai suna lo-si-ava, noa ?uta ?omu na eo. Biga ma
they(2) think imperf-dp-2/3d he group one indef with morning from
 toa lavi la bu?a omadai bae lo-si-ava, ele ena deni lesu
end afternoon to only they(2) walk imperf-dp-2/3d and its after Jesus
 baeai si-ava, omana kava iva ele omana emegi goina garu omana
seek dp-2/3d their friends pl and their people ancestor pl their
 varo de. Omadai da bosur-i-ava de, Dierusalema la oni ?ero si-ava,
with at they(2) neg find-dp-2/3d at Jerusalem to go back dp-2/3d
 ena baeai la. Samu ena va aiseri si-a-na samu de omadai eri
his seek to day its caus three dp-2/3s-adj day at they(2) see
 ?avi si-ava, Tabu-ai Ogoda Dubu de. Noa Isalaela va-nani
well dp-2/3d chosen-ai big church at he Israel caus-hear
 emegi eo auri lo-i-?o-na de, noa nani lo-si-a ma,
people with sit imperf-dp-2/3p-when at he hear imperf-dp-2/3s so
 ele omana varo la raranai ?ero lo-si-ata. Ena riba nani
and their with to question back imperf-dp-2/3d/po his word hear
 lo-i-?o-na emegi wuwuru ma pev-ai lo-i-?o, ena osi
imperf-dp-2/3p-adj people all sm amaze-ai imperf-dp-2/3p his say
 ?ero ineinea ma. Ena abai adei ma adaua er-i-ava-na, pev-ai
back quickly im his father mother sm thus see-dp-2/3d-when amaze-ai
 si-ava, ele ena adei ma oser-i-a, "Ina ?oeva, diada-ra evaua usi
dp-2/3d and his mother sm tell-dp-2/3s my child what-to thus do
 mini lo-n-agua. Gana abai di guadai unari-ore egena
trans imperf-rp-lldo your father with we(2) throat-bad true
 lo-n-agua, gana baeai de." Noa ma oseri ?ero si-ata, "Diada-ma
imperf-rp-lldo your seek at he sm tell back dp-2/3d/po what-from
 aeada ma ia baeai lo-se-la. Aeada da vegarai la-ese-a,
you(2) sm me seek imperf-rp-lldo you(2) neg know imperf-pres-2/3d/po

ba, ia ma ina Abai ena ona maimai de sin-ise-la-isi." Ada ?omu
 quest I sm my father his thing doings at be-fut-lso-subju thing one
 bu?a omada i ena oser-i-ata-na riba da vegarai si-ata.
 only they(2) his tell-dp-2/3d/po-adj word neg know dp-2/3d/po

Free Translation:

Every year Jesus' parents used to go up to Jerusalem, to the feast commemorating the Passover. When Jesus turned twelve, as was their custom, they went to the feast. When the feast days were over, they returned to the village, but the lad Jesus remained in Jerusalem. His parents did not know this, because they thought that he was with another group. They were walking from morning till night, and then they sought Jesus, amongst their friends and relations. As they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, looking for him. On the third day they found him, in the Temple. He was sitting with the Jewish teachers, listening and asking them questions. All those who heard what he had to say were amazed, on account of his discerning answers. When his parents saw him, they were amazed, and his mother said to him, "My son, why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been very upset, looking for you." He replied, "Why have you been looking for me? Or do you not know that I must do my Father's work?" But they could not understand the message that he was trying to convey to them.

NOTES

1. See Dutton (1971) for a preliminary account of its relation to other languages of the Mailuan Family and Thomson (forthcoming) for an account of its dialects and relation to other languages in the immediate area.

2. See Saville (1912; 1935a; 1935b).

3. This account is based on my six years' missionary work amongst the Magi as a medical doctor during which time I learned to speak Magi with reasonable fluency, and a further two years engaged in translation from English into Magi. In preparing this paper I have been assisted by Lioro Lapila of Loupomu village, and many others over the years. I am greatly indebted to them, and also to Rev. W. J. V. Saville, whose earlier grammar made the task of learning this language so much easier, and Dr. T. E. Dutton and Dr. A. J. Taylor for their assistance in analysing the language structure and compiling this presentation.

4. The *o* of *lo* is also omitted before an *e* in the Boru and Asiaro dialects, e.g.

oni- l- Ø- es- a = oni lesa
go-imperf-mood-tense-pers = *he is going*

and *lo* becomes *le* and *va* before *ve* and *e* respectively in the Varo dialects, e.g.

oni- le- v- es- a = oni levesa
go-imperf-mood-tense-pers = *he is going*
oni- la- v- a- ?a = oni lava a
go-imperf-mood-tense-pers = *I am going.*

5. In the Varo dialects a *v* is sometimes found between the aspect and tense markers, but only in the present imperfect indicative. This is probably an archaic form from Proto-Magi, and as it occurs nowhere else, it is hard to place. Further work on other Mailuan languages may help to resolve the problem. It presently appears to be an indicative marker, but it could be part of an imperfect marker or a present tense marker; compare, for example, the following paradigms:

| Intransitive | | Magi-West | Magi-Varo | |
|-----------------------------|-----|---------------|----------------|-------------------------------|
| sing.1 | | oni la?a | oni lava?a | <i>I am going</i> |
| | 2/3 | oni laesa | oni levesa | <i>you/he is going</i> |
| dual 1 | | oni lauta | oni lavauta | <i>we(2) are going</i> |
| | 2/3 | oni laeseava | oni laeseava | <i>you/they(2) are going</i> |
| plur.1 | | oni lasa | oni lasa | <i>we are going</i> |
| | 2/3 | oni lo?o | oni lovo?o | <i>you/they are going</i> |
| Transitive | | | | |
| sing.1 | | mini laesela | mini levesela | <i>are/is giving me</i> |
| | 2 | mini laga | mini lavaga | <i>are/is giving you(s)</i> |
| dual 1 | | mini lagua | mini lavagua | <i>are/is giving us(2)</i> |
| plur.1 | | mini lagia | mini lavagia | <i>are/is giving us(3+)</i> |
| d/pl.2/3 | | mini laesea | mini levesea | <i>are/is giving you/them</i> |
| Subject 1st person singular | | | | |
| sing.2 | | mini lauta | mini lavauta | <i>I am giving you(s)</i> |
| d/pl.2/3 | | mini laesea?a | mini levesea?a | <i>I am giving you/them</i> |

The morpheme structure of the Varo forms is illustrated by the following two examples:

| | | | | | | |
|-------|---------|--------|--------|------|---|-----------------------------|
| oni- | la- | v- | a- | ?a | = | oni lava?a |
| go- | imperf- | indic- | tense- | pers | = | (I) am going |
| mini- | la- | v- | a- | gia | = | mini lavagia |
| give- | imperf- | indin- | tense- | pers | = | (he/they) is/are giving us. |

6. In Varo dialects a *v* precedes the present marker in some instances in the present imperfect indicative, see footnote 5.

7. For this reason Capell (1969) classifies Magi as an event dominated language.

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APPENDIX 1

A Specimen Table of the Regular
Intransitive Verb *?oma steal*

1.0 PUNCTILIAR ASPECT--action taken as complete entity.

1.1 Indicative Mood

Distant Past Tense

| | Meaning of 1s | Singular | Dual | Plural |
|-------------------------|---------------|----------|------------|----------|
| <i>I stole</i> | 1 | ?oma1?a | ?oma1uta | ?oma1asa |
| (i.e. before yesterday) | | | | |
| | 2/3 | ?oma sia | ?oma siava | ?oma1?o |

Recent Past Tense

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|-----------|------------|-----------|
| <i>I stole</i> | 1 | ?oma na?a | ?oma nauta | ?oma nasa |
| (i.e. yesterday or today) | | | | |
| | 2/3 | ?omasa | ?omaseava | ?oma no?o |

Present Tense

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|---------|------------|---------|
| <i>I am about to steal</i> | 1 | ?omaa?a | ?omaauta | ?omaasa |
| | 2/3 | ?omaesa | ?omaeseava | ?omao?o |

Future Tense

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|-----------|------------|------------|
| <i>I shall steal</i> | 1 | ?omaisa?a | ?omaisauta | ?omaisesa |
| | 2/3 | ?omaisa | ?omaiseava | *?omaiso?o |

1.2 Conditional Mood

| | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| <i>I should steal</i> | 1 | ?oma siba?a | ?oma sibauta | ?oma sibasa |
| | 2/3 | ?oma sibaea | ?oma sibiava | ?oma sibo?o |

1.3 Imperative Mood

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Steal!</i> | | ?oma siba | ?oma sibiavai | ?oma sibiau |
| <i>Steal! (but not for long)</i> | | ?oma sidei | ?oma siavai dei | ?oma siau dei |

1.4 Subjunctive Mood

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| <i>I might steal</i> | 1 | ?omaisa?aisi | ?omaisautaisi | ?omaisesa1si |
| | 2/3 | ?omaisaisi | ?omaiseavaisi | ?omaiso?oisi |

1.5 Infinitive Mood

| | |
|-----------------|-------------|
| <i>to steal</i> | ?oma?oma 1a |
|-----------------|-------------|

2.0 IMPERFECT ASPECT

2.1 Indicative Mood

Distant Past Tense

| | | Singular | Dual | Plural |
|-------------------------|-----|------------|--------------|------------|
| <i>I was steal-</i> | 1 | ?oma loi?a | ?oma loiuta | ?oma loisa |
| <i>ing (i.e. before</i> | | | | |
| <i>yesterday)</i> | 2/3 | ?oma losia | ?oma losiava | ?oma loi?o |

Recent Past Tense

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|-------------|--------------|-------------|
| <i>I was steal-</i> | 1 | ?oma lona?a | ?oma lonauta | ?oma lonasa |
| <i>ing (i.e. yesterday</i> | | | | |
| <i>or today)</i> | 2/3 | ?oma losa | ?oma loseava | ?oma lono?o |

Present Tense

| | | | | |
|----------------------|-----|------------|---------------|-----------|
| <i>I am stealing</i> | 1 | ?oma la?a | ?oma lauta | ?oma lasa |
| | 2/3 | ?oma laesa | ?oma laeseava | ?oma lo?o |

Future Tense

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| <i>I shall be</i> | 1 | ?oma loisa?a | ?oma loisauta | ?oma loisesa |
| <i>stealing</i> | 2/3 | ?oma loisa | ?oma loiseava | ?oma loiso?o |

2.2 Conditional Mood

| | | | | |
|--------------------|-----|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| <i>I should be</i> | 1 | ?oma losiba?a | ?oma losibauta | ?oma losibasa |
| <i>stealing</i> | 2/3 | ?oma losibaea | ?oma losibiava | ?oma losibo?o |

2.3 Imperative Mood

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------|-----------------|---------------|
| <i>Always steal! (Be steal-</i> | | ?oma losiba | ?oma losibiavai | ?oma losibiau |
| <i>ing!)</i> (Habitually steal!) | | | | |

2.4 Subjunctive Mood

| | | | | |
|-------------------|-----|-----------------|------------------|-----------------|
| <i>I might be</i> | 1 | ?oma loisa?aisi | ?oma loisautaisi | ?oma loisesaisi |
| <i>stealing</i> | 2/3 | ?oma loisaisi | ?oma loiseavaisi | ?oma loi?o?oisi |

3.0 HABITUAL ASPECT--usually..., always..., used to..., was (more than one day)...., etc.

3.1 Indicative Mood

Distant Past Tense

| | | | | |
|------------------------|-----|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| <i>I used to steal</i> | 1 | ?oma sinei?a | ?oma sineiuta | ?oma sineisa |
| | 2/3 | ?oma sineia | ?oma sineiava | ?oma sinei?o |

Recent Past Tense

(as for Present)

Present Tense

| | | Singular | Dual | Plural |
|-----------------------|-----|--------------|-----------------|--------------|
| <i>I always steal</i> | 1 | ?oma susua?a | ?oma susuauta | ?oma susuasa |
| | 2/3 | ?oma susuesa | ?oma susueseava | ?oma susuo?o |

Future Tense

(as for Imperfect Aspect Section 4.21.12.3)

3.2 Conditional Mood

(as for Imperfect Aspect Section 4.21.13.3(v))

3.3 Imperative Mood

(as for Imperfect Aspect Section 4.21.13.51)

3.4 Subjunctive Mood

(as for Imperfect Aspect Section 4.21.13.4)

4.0 CONTINUOUS ASPECT--*keep on...*, *continue to...*

4.1 Indicative Mood

Distant Past Tense

| | | Singular | Dual | Plural |
|-------------------------|---|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| <i>I kept on steal-</i> | 1 | ?oma owoni?a | ?oma owoniuta | ?oma owonisa |
| <i>ing (i.e. before</i> | | | | |
| <i>yesterday)</i> | 2 | ?oma owonia | ?oma owoniava | ?oma owoni?o |

N.B. Alternative forms ?oma owoi?a, etc. throughout all moods and tenses, according to point of reference.

Recent Past Tense

| | | | | |
|-------------------------|-----|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| <i>I kept on steal-</i> | 1 | ?oma owona?a | ?oma owonauta | ?oma owonasa |
| <i>ing (i.e. yes-</i> | | (?oma owoi?a, | | |
| <i>terday or today)</i> | | etc.) | | |
| | 2/3 | ?oma owonaea | ?oma owoneava | ?oma owono?o |

Present Tense

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----|---------------|------------------|---------------|
| <i>I keep on steal-</i> | 1 | ?oma owonia?a | ?oma owoniauta | ?oma owoniasa |
| <i>ing (I am keep-</i> | | (?oma owoi?a, | | |
| <i>ing on stealing,</i> | | etc.) | | |
| <i>I am about to</i> | 2/3 | ?oma owoniesa | ?oma owonieseava | ?oma owonio?o |
| <i>continue stealing)</i> | | | | |

Future Tense

| | | Singular | Dual | Plural |
|---------------------------------|-----|--|-----------------|----------------|
| <i>I shall keep on stealing</i> | 1 | ?oma owonisa?a (?oma owoisa?a, etc.) | ?oma owonisauta | ?oma owonisesa |
| | 2/3 | ?oma owonisa | ?oma owoniseava | ?oma owoniso?o |

4.2 Conditional Mood

| | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----|--|-----------------|----------------|
| <i>I should keep on stealing</i> | 1 | ?oma owoniba?a (?oma owoiba?a, etc.) | ?oma owonibauta | ?oma owonibasa |
| | 2/3 | ?oma owonibaea | ?oma owonibiava | ?oma owonibo?o |

4.3 Imperative Mood

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <i>Keep on stealing!</i> | | ?oma owoniba (?oma owoiba | ?oma owonibiavai ?oma owoibiavai | ?oma owonibiau ?oma owoibiau) |
|--------------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|

4.4 Subjunctive Mood

| | | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| <i>I might keep on stealing</i> | 1 | ?oma owonisa?aisi (?oma owoisa?aisi, etc.) | ?oma owonisautaisi | ?oma owonisesaisi |
| | 2/3 | ?oma owonisaisi | ?oma owoniseavaisi | ?oma owoniso?oisi |

APPENDIX 2

A Specimen Table of the Regular
Transitive Verb *kea hit*

1.0 PUNCTILIAR ASPECT--an action taken as a complete entity.

1.1 Indicative Mood

Distant Past Tense

| Meaning | 1so (me) | 1do (us(2)) | 1po (us(3+)) | 2so (you) | 2/3d/po (you/ they) |
|--|--|-------------|--------------|-----------|------------------------|
| ...hit me (i.e., before yesterday) | kea sila | kealgua | kealgia | keauga | kea siata |
| | (when subject is 1st person singular--keaiuta) | | | | kea sia?a) |

Recent Past Tense

| | | | | | |
|--|---------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|---------------------|
| ...hit me (i.e., yesterday or today) | keasela | kea nagua | kea nagia | kea naga (kea nauta | keasea keasea?a) |
|--|---------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|---------------------|

Present Tense

| | | | | | |
|------------------------------|----------|--------|---------|-------------------|---------------------|
| ...is/are about to hit me | keaesela | keagua | keaglia | keauga (keauta | keasea keasea?a) |
|------------------------------|----------|--------|---------|-------------------|---------------------|

Future Tense

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------|
| ...will hit me | keaisela | kealsagua | kealsagia | keaisaga (keaisauta | keaisea keaisea?a) |
|-------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|------------------------|-----------------------|

1.2 Conditional Mood

| | | | | | |
|---------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| ...should hit me | kea sibila | kea sibagua | kea sibagia | kea sibaga (kea sibauta | kea sibia kea sibia?a) |
|---------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|

1.3 Imperative Mood

| | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Hit me! | kea sibilai | keasibaguai | keasibagiai | keasibagai | keasibiai |
| Hit me! (but not for long) dei | kea silai dei | keasiguai dei | keasigiai dei | keasigai dei | keasiai dei |

1.4 Subjunctive Mood

| | | | | | |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ...might hit me | keaiselaisi | keaisaguaisi | keaisagiais | keaisagaisi (keaisautaisi | keaiseaisi keaisea?aisi) |
|--------------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|

1.5 Infinitive Mood

| | |
|--------|-----------|
| to hit | keakea la |
|--------|-----------|

2.0 IMPERFECT ASPECT---incomplete action, but not a long continued or habitual action.

2.1 Indicative Mood

Distant Past Tense

| Meaning | lso | ldo | lpo | 2so | 2/3d/po |
|--|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ...was hit- ting me (i.e., before yesterday) | kea losila | kea losigua | kea losigia | kea losiga (kea losiuta) | kea losiata kea losia?a) |

Recent Past Tense

| | | | | | |
|--|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| ...was hit- ting me (i.e., yesterday or today) | kea losela | kea losagua | kea losagia | kea losaga (kea losauta) | kea losea kea losea?a) |
|--|------------|-------------|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|

Present Tense

| | | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ...is/are hitting me | kea laesela | kea lagua | kea lagia | kea laga (kea lauta) | kea laesea kea laesea?a) |
|-------------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|

Future Tense

| | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ...will be hitting me | kea loisela | kea loisagua | kea loisagia | kea loisaga (kea loisauta) | kea loisea kea loisea?a) |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|

2.2 Conditional Mood

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ...should be hitting me | kea losibila | kea losibagua | kea losibagia | kea losibaga (kea losibauta) | kea losibia kea losibia?a) |
|----------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|

2.3 Imperative Mood

| | | | | | |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|
| Always hit me, etc. | kea losibilai | kea losibaguai | kea losibagiai | kea losibagai | kea losibiai |
|------------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|--------------|

2.4 Subjunctive Mood

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|
| ...might be hitting me | kea loiselaisi | kea loisaguaisi | kea loisagiais | kea loisagaisi | kea loiseaisi |
| | | | | | (kea loisautaisi kea loisea?aisi) |

3.0 HABITUAL ASPECT--*usually..., always..., used to..., was (more than one day)...*, etc.

3.1 Indicative Mood

Distant Past Tense

| Meaning | 1so | 1do | 1po | 2so | 2/3d/po |
|--------------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>...used to hit me</i> | kea sineila | kea sineigua | kea sineigia | kea sineiga (kea sineiuta | kea sineiata kea sineia?a) |

Recent Past Tense

(as for Present Tense)

Present Tense

| | | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <i>...always hit(s) me</i> | kea susuesela | kea susuagua | kea susuagia | kea susuaga (kea susuauta | kea susuesea kea susuesea?a) |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|---------------------------------|

Future Tense

(as for Imperfect Aspect Section 4.21.12.3)

3.2 Conditional Mood

(as for Imperfect Aspect Section 4.21.13.3(v))

3.3 Imperative Mood

(as for Imperfect Aspect Section 4.21.13.51)

3.4 Subjunctive Mood

(as for Imperfect Aspect Section 4.21.13.4)

4.0 CONTINUOUS ASPECT--*keep on..., continue to..., etc.*

4.1 Indicative Mood

Distant Past Tense

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <i>...continued to hit me (i.e., before yesterday)</i> | kea owonila (kea owolla, etc.) | kea owonigua | kea owonigia | kea owoniga (kea owoniuta | kea owoniata kea owonia?a) |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|

Recent Past Tense

| | | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| <i>...continued to hit me (i.e., yesterday or today)</i> | kea owonela (kea owoela, etc.) | kea owonagua | kea owonagia | kea owonaga (kea owonauta | kea owonea kea owonea?a) |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|

Present Tense

| Meaning | 1so | 1do | 1po | 2so | 2/3d/po |
|-----------------------|---|---------------|---------------|---|---------------|
| ...continue to hit me | kea owoniesela (kea owoiesela, etc.) | kea owoniagua | kea owoniagua | kea owoniaga (kea owoniauta kea owoniesea?a) | kea owoniesea |

Future Tense

| | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| ...will continue to hit me | kea owonisela (kea owoisela, etc.) | kea owonisagua kea owonisagia | kea owonisaga (kea owonisauta kea owonisea?a) |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|

4.2 Conditional Mood

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|
| ...should continue to hit me | kea owonibila (kea owoibila, etc.) | kea owonibagua kea owonibagia | kea owonibaga (kea owonibauta kea owonibia?a) |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--|

4.3 Imperative Mood

| | | | |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Continue to hit me! | kea owonibilai (kea owoibilai, etc.) | kea owonibaguai kea owonibagiai | kea owonibagai kea owonibiai |
|---------------------|---|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|

4.4 Subjunctive Mood

| | | | |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---|
| ...might continue to hit me | kea owoniselaishi (kea owoiselaishi, etc.) | kea owonisaguaishi kea owonisagiaishi | kea owonisagaisi (kea owonisautaisi kea owonisea?aisi) |
|-----------------------------|---|--|---|

APPENDIX 3

Some Common Irregular Verbs
and their Verb Forms

1.0 RECENT PAST TENSE

| | | Singular | Dual | Plural |
|-----------------|-----|----------|----------|---------|
| <i>oni go</i> | 1 | ona?a | onauta | onasa |
| | 2/3 | onaea | oneava | ono?o |
| <i>osi talk</i> | 1 | oea?a | oeuta | oeasa |
| | 2/3 | osaea | oseava | oeo?o |
| <i>isi eat</i> | 1 | ia?a | iauta | iasa |
| | 2/3 | isaea | iseava | io?o |
| <i>usi do</i> | 1 | ua?a | uauta | uasa |
| | 2/3 | usaea | useava | uo?o |
| <i>mai do</i> | 1 | mana?a | manauta | manasa |
| | 2/3 | manaea | maneava | mano?o |
| <i>sei do</i> | 1 | sena?a | senauta | senasa |
| | 2/3 | senaea | seneava | seno?o |
| <i>ai come</i> | 1 | ai na?a | ai nauta | ai nasa |
| | 2/3 | aina | ai neava | ai no?o |

2.0 FUTURE TENSE

| | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|---------|----------|---------|
| <i>oni go</i> | 1 | onisa?a | onisauta | onisesa |
| | 2/3 | onisa | oniseava | oniso?o |
| <i>osi talk</i> | 1 | oisa?a | oisauta | oisesa |
| | 2/3 | oisa | oiseava | oiso?o |
| <i>isi eat</i> | 1 | isa?a | isauta | isesa |
| | 2/3 | isa | iseava | iso?o |
| <i>usi do</i> | 1 | usa?a | usauta | usesa |
| | 2/3 | usa | useava | uso?o |