Anroo Narrative: Boat

miacomet (a.k.a. u/roipoiboy)

January 2020

(1) **Po ekici-tol manaa ntero noxèlaa re vanroo etamè.**

po	e-kici-tol	manaa	n=ntero	n=o-xèlaa	re	v-anroo
1s	LCL-tell.story=PRSP	first.time	NMZ=archipelago	NMZ=POSS=partner	be	POSS=local

e-tamè
LCL-travel.to

'I'll tell you about the first time I visited the islands where my girlfriend is from.'

(2) **Po oxèlaa-kuu ral ntaica-jè ye mailu.**

po	o-xèlaa=ku	ral	ntaica=jè	veenkara	ye	maila-u
1s	POSS=partner=ERG	self	leave.behind=DUR	ID:forgetting	with	bad.habit-OBL

'My girlfriend always gets lost.'

(3) **Vaca npe a jè hoo, nkiku ñèl vovor.**

v-aca	npe	a	jè	hoo	nki=ku	ñèl	vovo-r
POSS=town	in	TOP	be.in-RA	however	3=ERG	path	find-RA

'But when we're in her hometown, she navigates.'

(4) **Po etroha-ci sarke, kotù aca vefo wo ha.**

po	e-troha=ci	sarke	kotù	aca	v-efo	wo	ha
1s	LCL-fall=CMP	lean	boat	town	POSS=stew	have	DP

'I had gotten sick, Port Sickness[1] or something.'

---

[1]**Kotù aca vefo** *'boat town stew'* refers to getting sick when arriving in a new place because of being exposed to unfamiliar diseases.

(5) **Iim-cii olu a jè, npo eexaar-zoo omo npe ecùl xaa nook ehili.**

iim=ci	olu	a	jè	npo	e-xaa-r=zo	omo	npe	e-cùl	xaa
eat=CMP	at.past.time	TOP	be.in-RA	1p	LCL-want-RA=INCH	home	in	LCL-go	so.that

nook	e-hili
head	LCL-put

'*After lunch, we decided to go home to rest.*'

(6) **M nki sarke to troha vo.**

m	n=nki	sarke	to	troha	vo
fact	NMZ=3	lean	too	fall	see

'*It turned out[2] she was sick too.*'

(7) **Halce nki vur omo npe fan ro, npo evovor, iltè ehili-zo.**

halce	n=nki	vu-r	omo	npe	fan	ro	npo	e-vovo-ra	iltè
boat	NMZ=3	say-RA	house	in	return	TOP.ACC	1p	LCL-find-RA	and.so

e-hili=zo
LCL-line.up=INCH

'*We found the boat that she said went home, so we got in line.*'

(8) **Po vu, 'Hee tu… Xetri ncùl vico hojè…'**

po	vu	hee tu	xetri	n=cùl	v-ico	hojè
1s	say	confuse	reason	NMZ=go	POSS=price	overwhelming

"*Weird…' I said, 'Wonder why the price is so high…[3]* ''

(9) **Halce-ku hoo ele took ga.**

halce=ku	hoo	ele	took	ga
boat=ERG	however	harbor	leave	DP

'*Anyway, the boat headed out as expected.[4]* '

---

[2]**M…troha vo** *'the fact…got seen'* is an idiom for 'to turn out to be true, to be found out.'

[3]Questions are often formed by topicalizing the thing being asked about and following it with a comment meaning 'what is it?' Why-questions are often constructed using the word **xetri** *'reason'* and a relative clause. Even without the comment, it's understood as the beginning of a question. It's common informally to muse about things by dropping the comment.

(10) **Yor cooru ga. Hokok. Took omo kozo.**

yor   cooru ga hokok took omo   kozo
and.then turn   DP square leave home not.in.right.place

'And of course it turned. 90 degrees. Away from home.'

(11) **'Omu a tro, npoku ntaa la npe ecùl-jè?'**

omo-u   a   tro   npo=ku ntaa la   npe e-cùl=jè
home-OBL TOP without 1p=ERG what place in   LCL-go=DUR

"If we're not going home,[5] then where are we going?"'

(12) **Nki taho, 'Re me Tiimto Iye.'**

nki taho re me   tiim-to   iye
3   reply be not.be south-fork island

'She replied, 'Maybe it's Tiimto Island.''

(13) **Tiimto Iye lar ecùl.**

tiim-to   iye   lar e-cùl
south-fork island past LCL-go

'We passed Tiimto Island.'

(14) **'Yor Ha'iye Tor a, re me.'**

yor   ha-iye   tor   a   re me
and.so big-island mountain TOP be not.be

"Maybe it's Ha'iye Tor, then."

(15) **Ha'iye Tor lar ecùl.**

ha-iye   tor   lar e-cùl
big-island mountain past LCL-go

'We passed Ha'iye Tor.'

---

[4]**Ga** is a discourse particle marking that the speaker had assumed something would be true and expects the listener to as well.

[5]Topicalizing a phrase with **tro** carries the meaning of 'other than that, if not that, since that isn't the case.'

(16) **Ni logepè troha npo lar.**

ni   logepè   troha npo lar
two   quarter[6]   fall   1p   past

'An hour passed.'

(17) **Kotù-ku iye npe tol-zo, yor mane volo so zil.**

kotù=ku   iye   npe tol-zo   yor   mane volo so   zil
boat=ERG   island at   be.near=INCH and.then   pontoon   hanging.from attach

'The boat came up to an island and was moored.'

(18) **Troha klèra ñii Hepep Iye.**

troha klèra ñii   hepep   iye
fall   hear   call ID:long.things island

'We learned it was called Hepep Island.'

(19) **Lo-ku npo enra-cii ximi kaxùnta.**

lo=ku   npo e-nra-=cii   ximi   kaxùnta
body.of.water=ERG   1p   LCL-give=CMP stomach.unrest ID:rough.seas

'The rough seas had made us sicker.'

(20) **Npoku kotù entaica sùnru ntau ñiiñiiñii.**

npo=ku   kotù e-ntaica   sùnru   ntau   ñiiñiiñii
1p=ERG   boat LCL-leave ID:lumbering bump   ID:crowd

'We lumbered off the boat into a throng of people.'

(21) **'Iye npe a jè, npoku nèl enolra soo loo.'**

iye   npe a   jè   npo=ku   nèl   e-nol-ra   soo   loo
island in   TOP be.in 1p=ERG   path   LCL-try-RA   take   DP

"As long as we're on the island, we might as well explore.[7] "

---

[6]People in the Southern Archipelago divide the day into 12 'hours' (two hours long) which are subdivided into four 'quarters' (thirty minutes long) which are in turn subdivided into 24 'minutes' (actually 75 seconds long but who's counting). The Anroo words for each of these are loaned from Mwaneḷe, for example **logepè** *'quarter'* is loaned from **loŋep**.

(22) **'Nèl onuuk a jè, cleloo loo!'**

nèl onuuk a jè c<l>eloo loo
path above TOP be.in <AGT>flow DP

"Before we find a path, how about a toilet!"

(23) **Gèl ntaica xaa iye vo-zo.**

gèl ntaica xaa iye vo=zo
footprints leave so.that island see=INCH

'We walked around a bit to see the island.'

(24) **Npoku waam nra kasol ntù soo plezè anroo.**

npo=ku waam n=nra kasol ntù soo plezè anroo
1p=ERG drink NMZ=give health choose take elder local

'We bought refreshing drinks from an old local.'

(25) **Kare-kare xèlaa-kuu ece npa anroo vu!**

kare~kare xèlaa=ku ece npa anroo vu
thank~thank partner=ERG knowledge have local speak

'Good thing my girlfriend speaks the local dialect!'

(26) **Npo towoon yùnto lo npe, iltè hùù sita-ku hak ximi soo.**

npo towoon yùnto lo npe iltè hùù sita=ku hak ximi soo
1p relax be.near sea in and.so good.smelling air=ERG all stomach.unrest take

'We relaxed by the sea and the fresh air made us both feel better.'

(27) **Kozotook re me hak xi npo cexo.**

kozotook re me hak xi n=npo cexo
mistake be not.be all thing NMZ=1p provide.for

'Maybe that mistake was all we needed.'

---

[7]The expression **nèl nol soo** *'to explore'* translates literally as *'to try to get a path'*, which is important to getting the joke in the next sentence.