Vitann (Speedlang challenge)

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1 Phonology

The Vitann's phonology features several oddities, as a contrast between slack and breath voiced fricatives with no voiced stops and an ejective vibrant, which is unique among human languages.

1.1 Consonants

	Labial	Coronal	Dorsal	Glottal
Nasal	m	n	ŋ ‹ñ›	
Plain plosive	p	t	k kp	ʔ ‹'›
Tenuis plosive	p'	t'	k' kp'	
Plain affric.		ts ‹q›	tʃ ‹c›	
Tenuis affric.		ts' ‹q'›	tʃ' ‹c'›	
Slacked fricative	f	s	ʃ ‹x›	
Breathy fricative	v	z		ɦ ‹h›
Glide			l ˜j ‹l›	
Plain vibrant		r		
Tenuis vibrant		r'		

Table 1: Consonant inventory

-Occlusives (nasals, plosives and affricates) and the glide have a contrastive geminated counterpart;
-The realization of the glide is totally free, ideophonically ruled, including the realization of the lateral allophone, being usually "darkened" (velarized and/or pharyngealized) or palatal.

1.2 Vowels

All vowels have contrastive length, which modifies the quality and ATR with long vowels being tenser and more advanced than their short counterparts.

	Front	Central	Back
High	i̠ː ɪ	ɨ̠ː ɨ	ˌuː ʊ
	⟨ii⟩ ⟨i⟩	⟨yy⟩ ⟨y⟩	⟨uu⟩ ⟨u⟩
Middle	ẹː ɛ		ˌɤː ʌ ɔ̣ː ɔ
	⟨ee⟩ ⟨e⟩		⟨ooe⟩ ⟨oe⟩ ⟨oo⟩ ⟨o⟩
Low		ạː a	
		⟨aa⟩ ⟨a⟩	

Table 2: Vowel inventory

2 Prosody

The rhythm is not well clear-cut, although the lack of vowel alteration and since the quantity contrast occurs whether the vowel is stressed, it would be inferred that the rhythm is syllabic or moraic. Stress accent always bears the first syllable (and mora) of the stem, thus it is contrastive.

3 Phonotactics

Vitann shows a rather strict phonotactic set of rules, hereunder the main ones:
   -The syllable has a CV(K)(P) pattern, although unstressed ones, especially grammemes, heavily tend to follow a CV pattern. In the former/default pattern, the K symbol marks the fricative /s/, a glide or any first part of a geminated consonant, counting as a double (or "heavy", in a moraic-ish perspective) coda.
   As for the later coda part, marked by the P symbol, it is restricted to nasals and plain plosives (including geminated consonant's second part);
   -Subsequently, contrastive gemination only occurs in coda and intervocalic positions;
   -The vibrants only occur in onsets;

3.1 Boundary sandhi (coalescence)

When a simple plosive coda is followed by an onset sharing the same manner of articulation, a coalition happens, whose nature is ruled whether: the coda is geminated and one of or both consonant is/are nasal. This phaenomena mainly occurs with suffixes and for the only four coda-ending prefixes: *ken-, han-, man- and hak-*. Here the entire list of the patterns;

Simple non-nasal coda + non-nasal onset: regressive assimilation of point of articulation;

ex: /-k/ + /t-/ > /-tt-/

Geminated non-nasal coda + non-nasal onset: progressive assimilation of point of articulation;

ex: /-kk/ + /t-/ > /-kk-/

Simple non-nasal coda + nasal onset: regressive assimilation of point of articulation and shift of the coda to a nasal;

ex: /-k/ + /m-/ > /-mm-/

Geminated non-nasal coda + nasal onset: regressive assimilation of point of articulation and shift of the coda to a nasal;

ex: /-kk/ + /m-/ > /-mm-/

Simple nasal coda + non-nasal onset: regressive assimilation of point of articulation;

ex: /-n/ + /k-/ > /-nk-/ [ŋk]

Geminated nasal coda + non-nasal onset: progressive assimilation of point of articulation;

ex: /-nn/ + /k-/ > /-nn-/

Simple nasal coda + nasal onset: regressive assimilation of point of articulation;

ex: /-n/ + /m-/ > /-mm-/

Geminated nasal coda + nasal onset: progressive assimilation of point of articulation;

ex: /-nn/ + /m-/ > /-nn-/

Simple nasal coda + simple glide onset: regressive assimilation then shift of the coda to the glide;

ex: /-n/ + /l-/ > /-ll-/

Geminated nasal coda + simple glide onset: coalescence to /ɲɲ/;

ex: /-nn/ + /l-/ > /-ɲɲ-/

Glide coda + vibrant onset: regressive assimilation;

ex: /-l/ + /r-/ > /-rr-/

/t/ coda + glide or /ʃ/ onset: coalescence to /tʃ/;

ex: /-t/ + /ʃ-/ > /-tʃ-/

/tt/ coda + glide or /ʃ/ onset: coalescence to /ttʃ/;

ex: /-tt/ + /ʃ-/ > /-ttʃ-/

/t/ coda + /tʃ/ onset: coalescence to /ttʃ/;

ex: /-t/ + /tʃ-/ > /-ttʃ-/

As for complex codas, other than geminates, such a processus does not occur, instead of it the epenthetic vowel (/i/) is inserted between coda and onset.

4 Morphology

Vitann is highly agglutinative, favouring suffixation over prefixation (and circonfixation, which is marginal) and head-marking. Some fusional (as telicity) features appears, hence the notion of stem is more accurate than that of root, but the very majority of the flexion and derivation is conveyed through affixal and clitic concatenation, whose patterns are neat enough to be mappable in "slots".

Word order is not so rigid but the predicate strongly tends to appears at the head of the sentence (V1 order), and the arguments order tend to promote the non-topical (or indefinite) one, being prone to imply some ambiguity in the roles of arguments since Vitann lacks a noun case marking.

As most VO-order languages, Vitann is heavily head-initial (or "right-branching") with strict determinee-determinant order (including numerals, noun complements and demonstratives). Moreover, spatial-movement processes displays an extreme verb-framed morphosyntax.

Furthermore, the morphology counts some oddities too, such as the non-topicality mandatory marking, the use of subordination morphology for matrix clauses, sometimes mandatorily -for négation and yes/no interrogation- a phenomena called "insubordination", the blur between pronouns and hyperonymic lexemes -making the pronoun category an open class. Another unusual feature is that any root is technically an ergative verb, being able to be used both intransitively and transtively (with or without agent argument) without requiring flexion nor derivation morphological modification, and relying on a polypersonal agreement.

Finally, subordinate clauses' morphology deeply diverges from the matrix one's.

Also, it is not clear if the alignement is fluid-S or austronesian-like, since predicate can convey a complex set of valency affixes allowing to fronting any type of argument, including adjuncts.

4.1 Stem alternation

A significant number of stems, especially those denoting active, perceptive and/or abstract processes, consist of pair of two roots distinguishing each other:

-morphologically, by several non-concatenative and unproductive yet recurrent processuses, most commonly ablaut, and/or simple-geminated alternances on the coda;

-semantically, by telicity, with some still "active" implications, as the telic form being unallowed with negation and yes-no interrogation.

Usually, the telic form bear the posterior vowel and/or the geminate coda;

maap "writing, tagging, marking" [atelic form] - *muup* "writing up, registration, fill up (with text)" [telic]; *hat* "working, labour, industry" [atelic] - *hott* "ouvrage, achieving, erect" [telic];
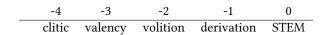
4.2 Affixal and clitic slot presentation

-4	-3	-2	-1	0
clitic	valency	volition	derivation	STEM

Table 3: Prefixal slots

0	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	+6	+7	+8
STEM	derivation	aspect-tense mood	evident.	person (A-set)	valency/ agentive	person (B-set)	valency/ patientive	clitic

Table 4: Suffixal slots in matrix clause

0	+1	+2	+3	+4	+5	+6	+7	+8	+9
STEM	derivation	aspect-tense	evident.	negation	person (A-set)	valency/ agentive	person (B-set)	valency/ patientive	clitic

Table 5: Suffixal slots in subordinate clause

Slots +4 and +5 (+5 and +6 in a subordinate clause) behave interdependently and form a recursive chunk since the +6 slot hosts increasing valency affixes, both causatives and applicatives and the +4/+5 slot hosts the agreement marker -always an A-set form- of the pertaining argument introduced by the valency.

4.3 Argument morphology

4.3.1 Non-topical (or "indefinite") marking

As aforementioned, Vitann does not feature any casual marking, rather relying on argument order, polypersonal agreement and/or context. However the argument and its personal agreement both show an obligatory morphological marking of non-topicality, with focalization uses, especially in spoken language. This consists of:

-a dedicated enclitic on the involved argument: *=la* added on the involved argument, which tends to be promoted just next to the predicate, regardless of its semantic role within the process. Some paranouns have an inflected non-topical form obtained by stem alteration, such as ablaut.

-the promoting of the non-topical argument to the vicinity of the predicate, usually immediately following it;

-lenghtened versions of the 3rd person agreement markers on the predicate (see predicate morphology);

(1) *koonymimaa ñooela c'it*

koo   *-ny*   *-Ø*   *-mi*   *-maa*   *ñooe* *=la*   *c'it*

ingestion .ATELIC -IMPERF.REALIS -CONSTAT -3SG.A-SET -3SG.B-SET.NTOP cat =NONTOPIC rat

« The rat is eating a cat. »

(2) *koonymimaa c'ica ñooe*

koo   *-ny*   *-Ø*   *-mii*   *-ma*   *c'it* *=la*   *ñooe*

ingestion .ATELIC -IMPERF.REALIS -CONSTAT -3SG.A-SET.NTOP -3SG.B-SET rat =NONTOPIC cat

« A rat is eating the cat, the cat is eaten by a rat. »

An "emphatic" form of the non-topical clitic exists, derived from it by the fortition of the onset and the lenghtening of the vowel: *=caa*, permits to stress the focalization and to add an existential nuance, in an analoguous fashion to the clefting in English ("there is/this is X who/which..."). Same rules apply. It is extensively used in everyday speech;

(3) *koonymimaa c'icca ñooe*

koo	*-ny*	*-Ø*	*-mii*	*-ma*	*c'it*	*=caa*	*ñooe*

ingestion .ATELIC -IMPERF.REALIS -CONSTAT -3SG.A-SET.NTOP -3SG.B-SET rat =FOCUS cat

« There is / this is a/the rat (which is) eating the cat, it is by a/the rat that the cat is eaten. »

When both agent and patient are non-topical, it is usual to mark the predicate with the "accusative" valency affix: *-pyy*, hosted by the slot +5/+6 and paired with an A-set agreement marker (at the slot +4/+5). The two arguments' order is free, yet the patient tends to be promoted;

(4) *koonymiipyymaa c'ica ñooe*

koo	*-ny*	*-Ø*	*-mii*	*-pyy*	*-maa*	*c'it*	*=la*

ingestion .ATELIC -IMPERF.REALIS -CONSTAT -3SG.A-SET.NTOP -ACCUS -3SG.B-SET.NTOP rat =NONTOPIC

ñooe

cat

« A rat is eating a cat, a cat is eaten by a rat. »

Arguments lack a morphological number, which is inferrable by the predicative agreement or by the context, though some paranouns, when used as noun-phrase head, convey a plurative or collective nuance, cancelling any ambiguity.

4.4 Predicate morphology

4.4.1 Polypersonality agreement and pro-dropping

The person markers, including by agreement (since Vitann is heavily head-marking), are divided in two morphosemantic sets called A-set and B-set, both recognizable by their slot and their vowel:

A-set persons: usually refers to the agent and non-core arguments, as adjuncts introduced by increasing valency affixes. They are hosted by the slot +4 (+5 in subordinate clauses) and their vowel has the /i/ quality;

B-set persons: usually only refers to the patient (including experient), sometimes -optionally- to an unwilling agent. They are hosted by the slot +6 (+7 in subordinate clauses) and their vowel has the /a/ quality.

As for the non-topical 3rd person markers, they are recognizable by the lenghtening of the vowel. The reflexive person does not have A-set version;

	A-set [-i-]	B-set [-a]
1sg	*-si*	*-sa*
2sg/pl	*-hi*	*-ha*
3sg	*-mi*	*-ma*
3sg non-topical	*-mii*	*-maa*
1pl	*-ki*	*-ka*
3pl	*-pi*	*-pa*
3pl non-topical	*-pii*	*-paa*
reflexive		*-kp'a(a)*

Table 6: Polypersonality

4.4.2 Aspect-tense-mood

Vitann expresses tense, grammatical aspect and mood through a same affixal set, hosted by the slot +2, with tense and aspect undistinctively encoded by suffixes series paired by mood: realis and irrealis. The suffixes, stacked by series, are the following:

Aorist (or "non-past"): realis: unmarked; irrealis: -*ra*;

Imperfect: realis: -*ny*; irrealis: -*naa*;

Perfect: affirmative-realis: -*ta*; affirmative-irrealis: -*ñoo*; non-affirmative: -*k'a*;

Remote (or "true/plain") past: realis: -*qy*; irrealis: -*qaa*;

At this set can be added the tenseless-aspectless mood suffix -thus non-appearing in a subordinate clause-: the:

Optative-imperative: -*paan*;

The aorist can indicate a general present or a timelessness, but can be used as a future tense too, with nuances according to the mood: a certain and/or planned future in the realis form (fatalist with involitive prefix) and a more hypothetical or expected futur in the irrealis one. It is why the aorist is sometimes called "non-past";

(5) *koomimaa ñooela c'it*

koo	-Ø	-Ø	-*mi*	-*maa*	*ñooe*	=*la*	*c'it*
ingestion	.ATELIC	-AORIST.REALIS	-CONSTAT	-3SG.A-SET	-3SG.B-SET.NTOP cat	=NONTOPIC	rat

« The rat eats/will/is about to eat a cat. »

The perfect has two suppletive (a pair and a single) suffixes depending on polarity: affirmative (realis -*ta*, irrealis -*ñoo*) and negative (-*k'a*);

(6) *kootamimaa ñooela c'it*

koo	-*ta*	-Ø	-*mi*	-*maa*	*ñooe*	=*la*	*c'it*
ingestion	.ATELIC	-PERFECT.AFFIRM.REALIS	-CONSTAT	-3SG.A-SET	-3SG.B-SET.NTOP cat	=NONTOPIC	rat

« The rat has eaten a cat. »

The optative, when used for requests, is often attenuated by encoding the addresse by a paranoun (usually *coo* or elders kinship titles, see below);

(7) *kooñoomima koso pan* [koso, pan]

koo	-*ñoo*	-Ø	-*mi*	-*ma*	*koso*	*pan*
ingestion	.ATELIC	-OPTATIVE	-CONSTAT	-3SG.A-SET	-3SG.B-SET grandparent	this (non-human)

« (Please) eat it. »

4.4.3 Evidentiality

Vitann etablishes the following evidential distinctions, by the means of suffixes hosted by the slot +3;

Constative: unmarked, process directly experimented by the addresser or certainty;

Reportative: *-vo*: reported process, sometimes used sarcastically (especially with the 1rd person);

Inferential: *-lee*: process inferred by the addresser; can be used for doubt too;

Precative-performative: *-cee*: process deemed highly probable; used with "declarated" processes, especially in official, religious and legal contexts;

4.4.4 Valency

Forming the most numerous affixal category, the valency affixes belong to both grammar, by modifying the argument's weight of the predicate, and lexicon, by being prone to specialize the meaning of the predicate they join, hosted by more than one slot, depending on their subcategory: increasing (slot +5/+6, and -3 for circonfixal locative applicatives), decreasing (slot +7/+8) and the single accusative (slot +5/+6 too);

Increasing valency; the agreement of the added argument is normally always an A-set affix;

-huu: causative, usually with an indirect nuance ("let X to, have X to" in English"). It is useful to remind that every stems are inherentely ergative in Vitann, hence can get an agent introduced without any morphological process needed;

ken-(...-cuu): instrumental applicative, the introduced argument, usually referring to a inanimate or abstract item, acts as a tool granting the process to be performed;

ken-...-huu: another causative-like valency, conveying a nuance of help or monitoring, the introduced argument -always referring to an animate "rational" entity- contributes to the process rather than causes it;

-cuu: comitative applicative, the introduced argument usually refers to an animate entity assisting one of the core arguments (agent or patient); this suffix is extremely frequent with nouns to express alienable possession;

-fuu: dative applicative, the introduced argument is the beneficiary/donee of the process if animate, the destination if inanimate, especially a location;

-suu: locative applicative, the introduced argument is the maleficiary of the process if animate, the location if inanimate;

-huu: inessive applicative or permissive, the introduced argument is -when inanimate- wherein the process is perfomed, or the human entity who allows the agent (more rarely the patient) to perform the process; in common register, this suffix tends to be used without increasing the valency and convey a potential meaning (similar to the modal "can" in English, expressing both capacity and permission nowadays);

-kpuu: relational, superessive and comparative applicative, rather polysemic, as indicating that the introduced argument is below (spatially), dominated (if human) or have less of the property denoted by the predicate than one of the core arguments: the agent if transitive or the patient if intransitive. It can be used without increasing the valency, conveying an elative meaning, especially with unaccusative processes;

ken-...-kpuu: abessive or ablative, the introduced is without or out of what the process is performed; can have some causative-like uses, the introduced argument is usually abstract and/or internal to the agent then; it is also productively used with an "essive" meaning, as with nouns of professions or status ("as a, in a quality/role of");

In addition to these affixes, all productive (some other fossilized ones exists, perceived as derivational by speakers), a large amount of properly locative valence increasing affixes can be added to the predicate, sometimes simultaneously.All prefixal or circonfixal (with *-suu* or *-fuu* interchangeably with respectively locative or lative nuance), they are mainly added to stems denoting spatiality (movement or position), making Vitann a heavily verb-framed language (as opposed to English which is rather satellite-framed by the means of "phrasal verbs");

Examples of such affixes are: *han-...-suu/-fuu*: "up to, above", *t'y-...-suu/-fuu*: "out of, off, outside", *man-...-suu/-fuu*: "at, on, according to, "chez", about", *hak-...-suu/-fuu*: "through, accross, via", *moe-...-suu/-fuu*: "down, below", *xii-...-suu/-fuu*: "around, about, during";

Decreasing valency:

-zon: inergative, often used as an antipassive, with two main purposes: a durative and/or unaimed process, often in combination with imperfect tense-aspect, or to ensure the pivot with another predicate where the argument is the patient;

Accusative valency:

]
-pyy

4.4.5   Volition

Two prefixes, for what is unclear -like valency affixes- to determine whether they are lexical (derivational) or grammatical, allow to indicate the volition -or the lack thereof- of the agent argument. This affixes are hosted in the slot -2;

mee-; volitive, stresses the purposefulness of the agent, always human then; often conveys a nuance of conation, effort, especially with atelic stems and/or processes of perception;

he-; unvolitive, stress the unwillingness of the agent (hence the initiator in this case) and/or its lack of control over the process; it can be used without agent argument, in order to stress the adversativeness;

4.4.6   Subordinate morphology and mandatory insubordination

A subordinate clause have it predicate headed by the subordinator clitic *ka=*, itself headed by a relational (or "prepositional") clitic or a conjunction when used as a true subordinate, similarly to the adjunct arguments, though not mandatorily -in fact never in common use- introduced by an agreement on the predicate of the matrix clause.

The most remarkable feature of the Vitann's subordination is not only its abundant use for matrix clauses in itself but its mandatory character with non-affirmative polarity, hence with negation and yes/no questions;

-Negative default suffix: *-c'u* (slot +4);

-Negative dubious/restricive: *-c'yy*, "perhaps (no)" (slot +4);

-Yes-no interrogative clitic: *=c'uu*, usually complementary with the negation, the current negative affix is derived from this clitic;

(8) *kakoonyc'umimaa ñooela c'it*

ka=	*koo*	*-ny*	*-Ø*	*-c'u*	*-mi*	*-maa*	*ñooe*
SUBORDINATIVE=	ingestion	.ATELIC	-IMPERF	-CONSTAT	-NEGATION	-3SG.A-SET	-3SG.B-SET.NTOP	cat

=la	*c'it*
=NONTOPIC	rat

« The rat is not eating a cat. »

(9) *kakoonymimaac'uu ñooela c'it?*

ka=	*koo*	*-ny*	*-Ø*	*-mi*	*-maa*	*=c'uu*	*ñooe*
SUBORDINATIVE=	ingestion	.ATELIC	-IMPERF	-CONSTAT	-3SG.A-SET	-3SG.B-SET.NTOP	=Y-NO.QUESTION	cat

=la	*c'it*
=NONTOPIC	rat

« Is the rat eating a cat? »

Furthermore, subordinate predicates have their own tense-aspect-mood (and for valency for relatives clauses) morphology, making them similar to non-finite clauses in ASE languages in a certain manner, yet allowing an independent rection. Note that the use of subordinate clauses is far more extensive than in european languages, including where the latter uses non-finites clauses or even catenative verbs.

The subordinate clauses only permits the use of the realis versions of the aspect-tense-mood affixes (slot +2) (whence the omission of the mood in the slot +2 in the two later gloses), simultaneously with the use of a specific perfect affix with negation and yes-no questions (-*k'a*, see supra);

(10) *kakook'ac'umimaa ñooela c'it*

ka=	*koo*	*-k'a*	*-Ø*	*-c'u*	*-mi*	*-maa*
SUBORDINATIVE=	ingestion	.ATELIC	-PERF.NONAFFIRM	-CONSTAT	-NEGATION	-3SG.A-SET	-3SG.B-SET.NTOP

ñooe	*=la*	*c'it*
cat	=NONTOPIC	rat

« The rat does not have eaten a cat. »

4.4.7 Verbal framing and movement/relational verbs

4.5 Paranouns ("pronominal" open class)

In Vitann, virtually any word conveying a very vague, almost empty meaning can be used as a paranoun, a phrase highly prone (or even sometimes, almost always) to be the head of a noun phrase, or to replace it as it is done by the pronouns in most human languages.

Most of them behave like person pronouns, especially for 2nd and 3rd persons, with politeness, deixis and/or plurality, with some overlapping between the three. All of them fetch a 3rd person agreement marker on the predicate.

As previously said, some of them diverge from other nouns morphologically too by displaying a non-concatenative flexional non-topical form.

Here some of the most common paranouns;

pa (ntopic: *pe*) "this one (human), this person, he/she/they", neutral-polite 2/3rd person;

pan (ntop: *penn*) "this one (non-human), it", impolite 2/3rd person; deferent 1st person;

coo "face, this one just here, he/she/they", polite 2/3rd person;

ha (ntop: *he* (rarely used)) "the former, he/she/they/it"; human anaphoric 3rd person;

han (ntop: *henn* (rarely used)) "this one, it" (non-human), 3rd person/deixis; non-human anaphoric 3rd person;

hakpo (ntop: *hekpo* (rarely used)) "another (one), he/she/they/it"; human obviative 3rd person (derived from *ha* by echo-reduplication);

hankpo (ntop: *hekkpo* (rarely used)) "that one, another (one), it" (non-human); non-human obviative 3rd person;

kaan (ntop: *ka(a)nk*) "mind, self, myself, I", neutral 1st person (with 1rd singular person agreement on the predicate); can be used as an emphatic reflexive (with reflexive agreement);

kanka (ntop: *kanna*) "cross, inter-, swap, each other", reciprocal (with 3rd plurial person agreement on the predic.);

koso "grandparent", polite 2nd person, mostly used with requests and orders;

minn "grandma, old woman", polite feminine 2nd person;

tekk "grandpa, old man", polite masculine 2nd person;

raan "sister", affective 2nd person between women;

pat "brother", affective 2nd person between men;

loep "ancestor's spirit", 2nd person to the ancestor's spirit or extremely polite;

qiin "forest's spirit", 2nd person to the forest's spirit or extremely polite, rarely used;

k'all "celestial god", 2nd person for prays;

xam "chtonian god", 2nd person for prays;

pinn "fauna and flor, (eco)system, complex and abstract thing, it", 3rd person for concepts and systems;

The following paranouns diverge form their homologues both semantically, since they denote quantity or totality, and syntactically, since they are combinable by juxtaposition with others paranouns -except between them-;

ma? (ntopic: *me?*) "nobody (with negation), who?, which? (human)", human interrogative;

man? (ntopic: *menn?*) "nothing (with negation), which?", non-human interrogative;

myy "some(body), any", human plurative (derived from *ma?*);

myyn "some(thing), any", non-human plurative;

lot "village, town, people, all (the), everybody", human collective; polite 2/3rd person plurative-collective;

tann (ntopic: *tank*) "sea, whole, full (of), total, everything", non-human collective;

nip (ntopic: *nepp*) "small, loaf, few, a little", paucative;

kpu "waste, overmaturation, tumor, excess, too much/many", excessive; inclusive 1st person (with the 1st plural person agreement (instead of the 3rd one)); cognate of the additive clitic *=kpo* "too, also, even";

ten "correct, fruit, right, sufficient, enough", optimal, sufficient quantity;

k'aa (ntop: *k'ee*) "hunger, nobody", human absence, uncompatible with negation;

k'aan (ntop: *k'een(n)*) "hollow, empty, hunger, not, nothing", non-human absence, uncompatible with negation;

k'ahaa (ntop: *k'ehee*) "whoever, anybody", human interchangeability, uncompatible with negation (reduplicated form of *k'aa*);

k'ahaan (ntop: *k'eheen(n)*) "whatever, anything", non-human interchangeability, uncompatible with negation;

(11) *maattavopisuumifuukimaa myylla lot kpu fopa sohyn, cookazaanka ha* [myyn, lot, kpu, pa, hyn, ha]

    maap   *-ta*   *-vo*   *-pi⁴*   *-suu⁴*   *-mi³*   *-fuu³*

    writing, tagging .ATELIC -PERF.AFFIRM.REALIS -REPORT -3PL.A-SET -APPLIC.LOC -3SG.A-SET -APPLIC.DATIVE

    -ki¹   *-maa²*   *myyn*   *=la²*   *lot¹*   *kpu¹*   *fo=*

    -1PL.A-SET -3SG.B-SET.NTOP some(thing) =NONTOPIC everybody too many-much DATIVE-LATIVE=

    pa³   *so=*   *hyn⁴ coo=*   *ka=*   *zaam*   *-ka¹*

    this (human) DETRIMENT-LOCATIVE= that COMITATIVE= SUBORDINATIVE= cautiousness, care -1PL.B-SET

    ha¹

    human.anaphora

    « It is said that all of us (including adressee) have thoroughly written something for them (human) over there. »

(12) *maattavopisuumifuukimaa myylla k'aa kpu fopa sohyn, cookazaanka ha* [myyn, k'aa, kpu, pa, hyn, ha]

    maap   *-ta*   *-vo*   *-mi⁴*   *-suu⁴*   *-pi³*   *-fuu³*

    writing, tagging .ATELIC -PERF.AFFIRM.REALIS -REPORT -3SG.A-SET -APPLIC.LOC -3PL.A-SET -APPLIC.DATIVE

    -ki¹   *-maa²*   *myyn*   *=la²*   *k'aa¹*   *kpu¹*   *fo=*

    -1PL.A-SET -3SG.B-SET.NTOP some(thing) =NONTOPIC no(body) too many-much DATIVE-LATIVE=

pa³   *so=*   *hyn⁴ coo=*   *ka=*   *zaam*   *-ka¹*

this (human) DETRIMENT-LOCATIVE= that COMITATIVE= SUBORDINATIVE= cautiousness, care -1PL.B-SET
ha¹

human.anaphora

« It is said that none of us (including adressee) have thoroughly written something for them (human) over there. »

(13) *maattavopisuumifuukimaa myylla lot kpu fopa sohyn, cookazaamma hakpo* [myyn, k'aa, kpu, pa, hyn, hakpo]

maap   *-ta*   *-vo*   *-mi⁴*   *-suu⁴*   *-pi³*   *-fuu³*

writing, tagging .ATELIC -PERF.AFFIRM.REALIS -REPORT -3SG.A-SET -APPLIC.LOC -3PL.A-SET -APPLIC.DATIVE
-ki¹   *-maa²*   *myyn*   *=la²*   *lot¹*   *kpu¹*   *fo=*

-1PL.A-SET -3SG.B-SET.NTOP some(thing) =NONTOPIC everybody too many-much DATIVE-LATIVE=
pa³   *so=*   *hyn⁴ coo=*   *ka=*   *zaam*   *-ma⁵*

this (human) DETRIMENT-LOCATIVE= that COMITATIVE= SUBORDINATIVE= cautiousness, care -3SG.B-SET
hakpo⁵

human.obviative

« It is said that all of us (including adressee) have written something for them (human) over there while they was cautious/thorough »

(14) *maattapisuumifuukimaa myylla ma fopa sohyn, cookazaanka ha?* [myyn, ma, pa, hyn, ha]

maap   *-ta*   *-Ø*   *-mi⁴*   *-suu⁴*   *-pi³*   *-fuu³*

writing, tagging .ATELIC -PERF.AFFIRM.REALIS -CONSTAT -3SG.A-SET -APPLIC.LOC -3PL.A-SET -APPLIC.DATIVE
-ki¹   *-maa²*   *myyn*   *=la²*   *ma¹*   *fo=*   *pa³*

-1PL.A-SET -3SG.B-SET.NTOP some(thing) =NONTOPIC who? DATIVE-LATIVE= this (human)
so=   *hyn⁴ coo=*   *ka=*   *zaam*   *-ma¹*

DETRIMENT-LOCATIVE= that COMITATIVE= SUBORDINATIVE= cautiousness, care -3SG.B-SET
ha¹

human.anaphora

« Who does have thoroughly written something for them (human) over there? »

(15) *meeholñoomima loep pinn* [loep, pinn]

mee-   *hol*   *-ñoo*   *-Ø*   *-mi*   *-ma*   *loep*

VOLITIVE- see, glance .ATELIC -OPTATIVE -CONSTAT -3SG.A-SET -3SG.B-SET ancestor's spirit
pinn

(eco)system, concept

« May the spirits want it. (e.g. Arabic "insha'Allah") »

(16) *koonypima man pat?* [pat, man?]

koo	*-ny*	*-Ø*	*-pi*	*-ma*	*man*	*pat*
ingestion	.ATELIC	-IMPERF.REALIS	-CONSTAT	-3PL.A-SET	-3SG.B-SET	what?	brother

« What are you guys eating? »

[used paranouns: koso, pan, myyn, lot, kpu, pa, hyn, ha, k'aa, hakpo, ma?, loep, pinn, pat, man?]

4.6 Conjunctions and subordinator clitics

4.7 Derivation

5 Syntax

6 Pragmatics

7 Appendix

To be continued (and modified, maybe) for becoming a consistent clong ;)