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Malagasy Verbal Voice System – Part 2/April 6, 2001
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Point # 1: The Notion of Argument of a Verb.

**Point # 1.1: The Keenan-Comrie Hierarchy & Cut-off Points.
Passive & Keenan-Comrie Hierarchy (1977):**

(1) Subject > Direct Object > Indirect Object > Oblique > Genitive

French:

(2)a. *Le receveur de la Poste a envoyé un colis à Henri.*

the master of the post has sent a parcel to Henry
DO

b. *Un colis a été envoyé à Henri par le receveur de la Poste.*
a parcel has been sent to Henry by the master of the Post
DO>Su

(3)a. *Le receveur de la Poste a envoyé un colis à Henri.*

the master of the post has sent a parcel to Henry
IO

b. **Henri a été envoyé un colis par le receveur de la Poste.*
Henry has been sent a parcel by the master of the Post
IO>Su

English:

(4)a. The Postmaster sent Henry a parcel.

IO DO

b. Henry was sent a parcel by the Postmaster.
IO>Su

(5)a. The Postmaster sent a parcel to Henry.

DO IO

b. A parcel was sent to Henry by the Postmaster.
DO>Su

Malagasy:

(6)a. *N-andeha t-any Taipei i Petera.*

past-go perf-to Taipei art Peter
'Peter went to Taipei.'

DIRECTION-Oblique

b. (T-any) Taipei no n-a-leha-n' i Petera.
(Perf-to) Taipei part past-passive2-gone-to-by art Peter
**Taipei was gone to by Peter.*

**Point # 1.2: Contrast Core vs Periphery.
The Verb & its Arguments**

(7) *The cat devoured the rat.*
 Subject **Verb** D.O.
 Ext. Arg. **Verb** Int. Arg

 Predicate

<.....**CORE**.....> = all the arguments accompanying V

(8) *The publisher sent her a (review) copy (of the book).*
 Subject **Verb** I.O. -----D.O.-----
 Ext. Arg. **Verb** Int. Arg. Int. Arg.

 Predicate

<.....**CORE**.....>

(.....) = **PERIPHERY**

CORE = *The publisher sent her a copy.*
 Arg# 1 V Arg#2

PERIPHERY = *...(review)...(of the book)*

Point # 1.3: Incorporation & the Case of Javanese.

A. The case of an Instrument-Oblique:

(9)a. Polisi-ne n-(t)embak para demonstran nganggo bedhil-e
 police-Def shoot PL demonstrator with rifle-Def
 Su DO **Instrument**
 < **CORE** > **Periphery**
 'The police shot the demonstrators with the rifle.' Suhandano (1994:55)

b. Polisi-ne n-(t)embak-ake bedhil-e marang para demonstran
 police-Def shoot rifle-Def rifle-Def PL demonstran
 Su V-ake **?DO** DO
 < **CORE** >
 'The police shot the demonstrators with the rifle.'

c. Bedhil-e di-tembak-ake marang para demonstran dening polisi-ne
 rifle-Def shoot to PL demonstrator by police-Def
 Su **Passive-V-ake** ?
 < **CORE** > **Periphery**
 'The rifle was used by the police to shoot the demonstrators.'
 Suhandano (1994:55-56)

**Point # 2.1: The Notion of Adjunct in Malagasy.
Adjunct with an *Inona*-word 'Why/How'**

- (16)a N-aninona no tsy n-ianatra i Paoly?
Past-why part neg **past-study** art Paul
 Adjunct [- Control]
 'Why did Paul not study?'
 b. *N-aninona no tsy n-i-anar-an' i Paoly?
Past-Pf-Passive2-study art Paul
 [- Control]
 'Why did Paul not study?' Randriamasimanana (1999)b.

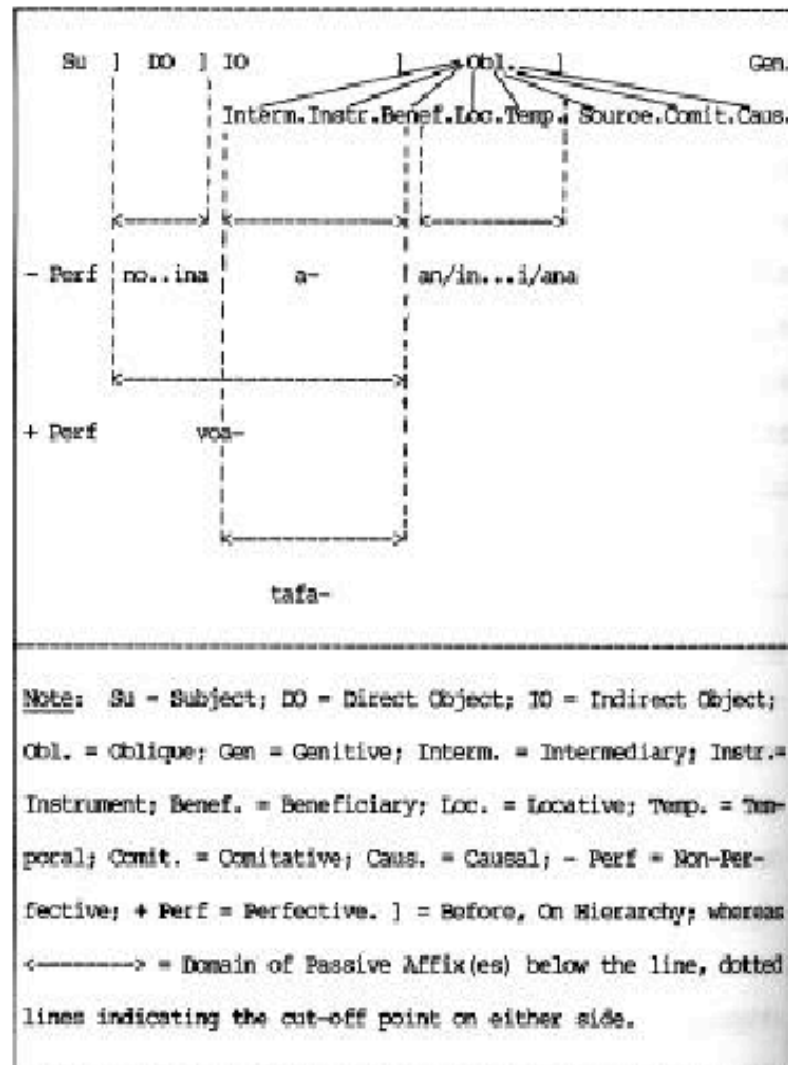
Malagasy *Inona*-words lie outside the domain of a simple S

- (17)a. Tsy n-ianatra i Paoly (fa) n-aninona?
 neg **past-study** art Paul (Comp) **past-why**
 [- Control] Adjunct
 < **CORE** > < **Periphery** >
 'Paul did not study; why?'
 b. N-aninona no tsy n-i-anatra i Paoly?
Past-how part neg **past-study** art Paul
 Adjunct [- Control]
Periphery < **CORE** >
 'Why did Paul not study?'
 c. Tsy n-ianatra i Paoly (fa) n-ahoana?
 Neg **past-study** art P (Comp) **past-how**
 [- Control] Adjunct
 < **CORE** > < **Periphery** >
 'Paul did not study; why?'
 d. N-ahoana no tsy n-i-anatra i Paoly?
past-how part neg **past-study** art Paul
 Adjunct [- Control]
Periphery < **CORE** >
 'How come Paul did not study?'
 e. *N-ahoana no tsy n-i-anar-an' i Paoly?
Past-how part neg **past-Passive2-by** art Paul
 'Why did Paul not study?'

Point # 2.2: The Cut-off Point for Malagasy on Keenan-Comrie Hierarchy.
 Answer is on page 1 of Handout # 4 under Point # 1.1:

Table 13

The Order of the Different Types of Oblique



Starting with **Source-Oblique**, **Comitative-Oblique** and **Causal Oblique**, Malagasy expresses these kinds of Oblique through a different (simple) clause, which no longer depends on the main verb or V.1!

Point # 2.2.1: Source-Oblique.

(18)a. N-iainga avy t-any Toamasina i Jaona.
Past-leave came past-from Toamasina art Jaona
-----Source-Oblique-----
< Periphery >
'John left from Toamasina.'

b. *T-any Toamasina no n-iainga-n' i Jaona avy.
Past-from Toamasina part past-leave-Passive2-by art John came

Point # 2.2.2: Comitative Oblique.

(19)a. N-andeha n-iaraka t-amin' i Petera i Jaona.
Past-go past-accompany past-prep art Peter art John
-----Comitative Oblique-----
'John went with Peter.'

b. *T-amin'i Petera no n-andehan-an' i Jaona n-iaraka...
Past-prep art Peter part past-go-Passive2-by John past-accompany...

Point # 2.2.3: Causal Oblique.

(17'a. Tsy n-ianatra i Paoly (fa) n-aninona?
Neg past-study art P (Comp) past-why
[- Control] Adjunct
< CORE > < Periphery >
'Paul did not study; why?'

b. *N-ahoana no tsy n-i-anar-an' i Paoly?
Past-how part neg past-Passive2-by art Paul
'Why did Paul not study?'

**Point # 2.3: The Crucial Factor = Feature [+/- CONTROL] of V.1.
The Case of Location-Oblique.**

(20)a. M-androtsaka ny rano ao an-tsinibe i Soa.
pres-pour the water into the big.jar art Soa
[+ Control] Argument
'Soa verse l'eau dans la jarre.'
'Soa is pouring the water into the big jar.'

Rabenilaina 1985: 40

b. *Ao an-tsinibe no m-androtsaka ny rano i Soa.
into the big.jar part pres-pour the water art Soa
Argument [+ Control]
Active Voice

(21)a. **M-ianatra** ao amin'ny salon i Soa.
 Pres-study in the lounge art Soa
[- Control] Adjunct
 'Soa étudie au salon.' English: 'Soa studies in the lounge.'

b. **Ao amin'ny salon** no **m-ianatra** i Soa
 in the lounge part pres-study art Soa
Adjunct [- Control]
Active Voice
 fa tsy ao an-davarangana.
 but not on the verandah
 C'est au salon que Soa étudie, mais non au véranda.'
 'It is in the lounge that Soa studies, but not on the verandah.'
 Rabenilaina 1985: 41 & 43

Sentence (21)a. has a [- Control] verb *m-ianatra* 'present-study' (note the absence of the light verb *-an(ao)*), therefore it is likely to take the prepositional phrase *Ao amin'ny salon* as an adjunct), and is appropriate in a context where we are looking at a picture showing Soa studying in the lounge. That situation contrasts with the following

(22) **Ao amin'ny salon** no **ianar-an'**i Soa fa tsy ao an-davarangana.
 in the lounge part study-passive but not on the verandah
Argument [+ Control]
Passive2
 'C'est au salon qui est le lieu où Soa étudie, mais non au véranda.'
 'It is in the lounge that Soa should study, not on the verandah.'

where the prepositional phrase *Ao amin'ny salon* is an argument of the [+ Control] predicate *m-ianatra* 'present-study'--in this case, the feature has to be present since the light verb *an(ao)* does not show up morphologically-- and where the verb in the circumstantial voice --as shown in (22)-- is appropriate in the following context: An altercation has arisen between Soa and someone else. The person uttering (22) is arbitrating and assigns the lounge to Soa so that she can go and study there, i.e. the verb describes an activity which entails duration. In other words, the grammatical subject *i Soa* is assumed to be capable of being in control of the durative event described by the verb.

Point # 3.1: Passive2 & Head-Specifier Relation.

(23)a. N-an-didy mofo t-amin' ny antsy i Jeanne.
Past-prefix-cut bread perf-with the knife art Jeanne
 'Jeanne was cutting bread with the knife.'

b. N-an-didi-an' i Jeanne mofo ny antsy. **Instrumental**
 Past-**Passive2**-cut-by art Jeanne bread the knife
 'The knife was being cut-the-bread-with by Jeanne.'

- (24)a. N-an-ome boky an'i Paoly i Jeanne. **Benefactive**
 Past-give book to art Paul art Jeanne
 'Jeanne was giving (some) books to Paul.'
- b. **No-me-n'** i Jeanne boky i Paoly. Standard Malagasy
 Past-**Passive1**-give-by art Jeannebook art Paul
 'Paul was given (some) books by Jeanne.'
- c. N-**a-me-n'** i Jeanne boky i Paoly. Colloquial Malagasy
 Past-**Passive1**-give-by art Jeanne book art Paul
 'Paul was given (some) books by Jeanne.'
- (25)a. N-andidy **t-amin'** ny mofo Rabe. **Partitive meaning**
 Past-active-cut **perf**-prep the bread Rabe
 'Rabe was cutting from the bread.'
- b. N-**an-didi-and**Rabe ny mofo.
 Past-**Passive2**-cut-byRabe the bread
Head Specifier
 '(Some of the) bread was being cut by Rabe.'

Point # 3.2: Primacy of Head- Specifier Relation.

From Keenan 1976: 259 examples (28)a. & b.

28 a. ahosotra + ko (= ahosotro) amin' ny kanakana ny
 †intermediary
 rubbed-by-me on the duck the
 menaka
 grease
 "The grease is rubbed on the duck by me"

b. anosorako
 anosorana + ko (= anosorako) ny menaka ny kanakana
 †circumstantial
 rubbed-on-by-me the grease the duck
 "The duck had grease rubbed on it by me"

- (26)a. N-anosotra (ny) menaka **t-amin'** ny kanakana aho. Durative
 Past-rub (the) oil **perf**-prep the duck I
 'I was rubbing oil on the duck.'
- b. N-anosotra menaka **o-prep** ny kanakana aho. **Loc-Obl>?DO**
 Past-rub oil **no prep** the duck I
 'I was rubbing oil the duck.'
- c. **No-sora-ko** (ny) menaka **ny kanakana**. **Punctual**
 Past**Passive1**-rub-by me (the) oil **the duck**
Head Specifier
 'The whole duck was rubbed with oil.'