

Exercise for reading interlinear morphological glosses. Language: Teop

A. Read the first ten sentences of the story. Compare the glossing line with the free English translation. The meanings of the abbreviations are listed at the end of this document.

You can listen to these sentences here: <http://languagesindanger.eu/map-html/en/ex-australia-teop.php> (Exercise 3, part A). Note: the written text has been edited and there are some small differences between the spoken and the written form.

Taguone – Clay lump (told by Ruth Iarabee)

1. *Te-o peho vuri ei nabunuu roho na tei-tei roho*
PREP-ART one time DEM in.former.times before TAM RED-stay before
a peha bua tom tana.
ART one two REC couple

'Once upon a time, a long time ago, there was a couple.'

2. *Eori he a bua hiki beiko roho.*
3PL CONJ ART two not.have child before.

'They did not have children.'

3. *Te-a vaan to tei-tei ori me toro paku*
PREP-ART village REL RED-stay 3PL and must do
tamuana rori bona maa paku a-maa be-beera
always IMPF ART PL feast ART-PL RED-big

'In the village where they lived, they always had to do big feasts.'

4. *me-ori kou toro matatopo tamuana rori bona maa uhu one*
and-3PL EMPH must prepare always IMPF ART PL dye clay
te-ori mene uhu vunuu ri-ori te-a maa vuri be-o piuvu
PREP-3PL for dye hair POSS-3PL PREP-ART PL time when-ART piuvu.dance
ge a-maa taatate tavusu
or ART-PL tradition come.out

'and they had to always prepare their dye made of clay to dye their hair in the times when piuvu dances or (other) traditional activities came up.'

5. *te-o peho vuri me-a si moon vai paa*
PREP-ART one time and-ART DIM woman DEM TAM
ma-matatopo bana bona maa uhu te-ve
RED-prepare again ART PL dye PREP-3SG

'One day the woman prepared her dyes again'

6. *me paa siki kahi bono peho hum tagu one*
and TAM crush from ART one piece lump clay

'and cracked a piece of clay'

7. *me-paa vaakopo taono bona bona nahu kepaa*
and-TAM cover put.over 4SG ART pot clay.pot
te-o poa va-vaa-tei nahu te-ve
PREP-ART shelf RED-CAUS-stay pot PREP-3SG

'and covered it up with a clay pot on the bench where she stored her pots.'

8. *Ei inu te-a moon vai na tei-tei me
 DEM house PREP-ART woman DEM TAM RED-stay with
 bona maa meha nahu to nahu-nahu ni-e
 ART PL other pot REL RED-cook APP-3SG*

'In her house the woman had other pots that she used for cooking.'

9. *Ei kou me sa paa nahu-nahu haa ni bona vuaba vai
 DEM PART also NEG TAM RED-cook NEG APP ART one DEM
 to kokopo taono e bono si tagu one vai ei.
 REL cover put.over 3SG ART DIM lump clay DEM DEM*

'This also meant that she did not cook with this one that she used to cover up this lump of clay.'

10. *Merau me-a si moon vai bo muta-na-e
 then and-ART DIM woman DEM and spouse-POSS-3SG
 paa tei me-ori tei me-ori paa tei vanun
 TAM stay and-3PL stay and-3PL TAM stay forget
 bono tagu one vai to vaa-tei roho a si moon vai
 ART lump clay DEM REL CAUS-stay before ART DIM woman DEM*

'And this woman and her husband lived on and lived on, forgetting this lump of clay that this woman had stored.'

B. Using the morpheme-by-morpheme glosses, translate the rest of the fragment.

11. *Te-o peho bon a moon he tea gono
 PREP-ART one day ART woman CONJ COMPL get
 bana bata ta nahu kepaa mene nahu-nahu
 again SIMUL ART pot clay.pot for RED-cook*

12. *me-paa baitono bona si karasi koma-n-a
 and-TAM hear ART DIM scratch inside-POSS-ART
 nahu kepaa vai me-paa hivi bene muta-na-e,
 pot clay.pot DEM and-TAM ask ART spouse-POSS-3SG*

13. *"Eh, a tabae to karasi nana-i koma-n-a nahu?
 eh ART what REL scratch IMPF-DEM inside-POSS-ART pot*

14. *Me muta-na-e paa sue, "Kapa roho !"
 and spouse-POSS-3SG TAM say open first*

15. *Me-ori paa kapa vasisio bata koa bari*
and-3PL TAM open carefully SIMUL just 4SG/PL
me-ori paa tara voen
and-3PL TAM see like.that

16. *o tagu one to vaa-tei roho a moon,*
ART lump clay REL CAUS-stay before ART woman

17. *paa pote-u bono rupi toa to vahuusu vaabooboha nana.*
TAM be.like-IM ART egg chicken REL be.close hatch IMPF

18. *Eori he tara voen me-ori paa kona koa*
3PL CONJ see like.that and-3PL TAM know just
ta peha taba ta beera kahi tavusu nana
ART one thing ART big TAM come.out IMPF

19. *me-ori paa vaakopo vaha bona nahu*
and-3PL TAM cover again ART pot

20. *Me-ori paa tei me-ori tei bana bona si*
and-3PL TAM stay and-3PL stay again ART DIM
tei me-a moon paa sue ki bene muta-na-e,
stay and-ART woman TAM say to ART spouse-POSS-3SG

21. *"Eh, eara toro kapa butara vahabana roho,*
eh 1INC must open try again first
ar-e tara vahaa te-a taba to tara roho ara."
1INC-CONJ see again PREP-ART thing REL see before 1INC

22. *Merau me-ori paa kapa va-vasisio bana bata bona nahu*
then and-3PL TAM open RED-carefully again SIMUL ART pot

23. *me-ori kapa bata rori bona nahu a moon he sue*
and-3PL open SIMUL IMPF ART pot ART woman CONJ say

24. "Eh, o tagu one vai paa aba bata koa ma-u rehe!"
eh ART lump clay DEM TAM person SIMUL just DIR-IM EMPH

25. *Me-ori paa vaakopo vahaa bari*
and-3PL TAM cover again 4SG/PL

26. *Eori he tea va-ira-ira ni bona taba vai*
3PL CONJ COMPL MULT-RED-check APP ART thing DEM
ahiki kurus be-ori sue vataaree ni bari
NEG really COMPL-3PL say show APP 4SG/PL
na va-varavihi ori
TAM RED-hide 3PL

27. *Me-ori paa tei bana me-ori tei bona si tei,*
and-3PL TAM stay again and-3PL stay ART DIM stay
me-a moon paa sue ki bene muta-na-e,
and-ART woman TAM say to ART spouse-POSS-3SG

28. "Eh! Eara toro kapa vahabana roho,
eh 1INC must open again first
ar-e tara to antee vai vo-e a taba vai?"
1INC-CONJ see REL reach now like-3SG ART thing DEM

29. *Toboha kapa bata-ri a moon he sue*
as.soon.as open SIMUL-IMPF ART woman CONJ say

30. "Eh! He, he! Otei te-naa, a si beiko koma-n-a nahu vai,
eh he he man PREP-1SG ART DIM child inside-POSS-ART pot DEM
o tagu one paa tavusu pote-u bona aba, a beiko a si moon."
ART lump clay TAM become be.like-IM ART person ART child ART DIM girl

31. *Me-ori paa kokopo vahabana bona nahu,*
and-3PL TAM cover again ART pot

32. *me-a beiko paa beera maa, me beera maa,*
and-ART child TAM big DIR and big DIR

33. *me te-o peho bon me-ori paa gono tavusu kahi bari*
and PREP-ART one day and-3PL TAM get come.out from 4SG/PL
bona nahu me-ori paa mee hovo bari koma-n-a inu
ART pot and-3PL TAM take enter 4SG/PL inside-POSS-ART house

You can find the solution (a free translation of sentences 11-33) here:

<http://languagesindanger.eu/map-html/en/ex-australia-teop.php> (Exercise 3, Part B)

Meaning of the glosses and help

1INC	first person plural inclusive ('we', 'you and me')
1SG	first person singular
3SG	third person singular
3PL	third person plural
4SG	fourth person singular (a special object pronoun)
4SG/PL	fourth person singular or plural (a special object pronoun) The fourth person pronoun can be translated as a third person pronoun ('it', 'he/she').
APP	applicative (changes the number of arguments of a verb, can be ignored for the translation here)
ART	article; <i>o, a, bona, bono, bene</i> are definite articles, but not always equivalent to English <i>the</i> ; <i>ta</i> is a non-specific article meaning 'any'; it often is not translated.
CAUS	causative (make someone or something do); CAUS-stay = 'make stay' = 'put'
COMPL	complementizer
CONJ	conjunction Complementizers and conjunctions link clauses or parts of clauses together. The conjunction <i>he</i> expresses a temporal relation ('when', 'at this time'); the combination <i>he tea</i> can be translated as 'when, while'; the conjunction <i>-e</i> in 21. can be translated as 'and'.
DEM	demonstrative; <i>vai</i> 'this'
DIM	diminutive; gives an emotional nuance, in English sometimes translated by adding <i>little</i> or <i>dear</i> , but often without a translation equivalent
DIR	directional particle; can be translated in 24. and 32. by 'become'
EMPH	emphatic particle
IM	immediateness marker (to be translated as 'now', or without translation equivalent)
IMPF	imperfect aspect marker
MULT	prefix expressing multiple action
NEG	negation
PL	plural
POSS	possessive, a bit like English <i>of</i> ; combines with other elements, for example <i>vunuu ri-ori</i> (4.) 'hair of them' = 'their hair', <i>muta-na-e</i> (10.) 'spouse of her' = 'her husband', <i>koma-n-a nahu</i> (12.) 'inside of the pot' = 'in(side) the pot'
PREP	preposition <i>te</i> may mean 'of, in, at, to, from'; it combines with an article or pronoun to one word (<i>tea, teo, teve, teori</i>): <i>te-a vaan</i> (3.) 'in the village', <i>te-o poa</i> (7.) 'on the shelf'
RED	reduplication
REC	reciprocal kinship
REL	particle introducing relative clauses and some other clauses ('that', 'which'): <i>Tea vaan to teitei ori</i> (3.) 'in the village where they lived' <i>bono tagu one vai to vaatei roho a si moon vai</i> (10.) 'that lump of clay that this woman had stored'
SIMUL	simultaneity; indicates that several persons do something at the same time
TAM	marker of one or more of the verbal categories tense, aspect, mood. <i>na</i> can mark present or past tense (in this text – past tense) <i>paa</i> marks a change of the preceding situation; in this text it most often can be translated as past tense, for example <i>paa siki</i> (6.) 'crushed, cracked' (but in 24. and 30. it is different) <i>kahi</i> marks future (absolute or relative)