



The Narrative Past Inflection in Sesotho Child and Child-Directed Speech

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This study investigates a low-frequency verbal inflection called the “narrative past” in child and child-directed speech in the Bantu language Sesotho. Since the function of the Sesotho narrative past is not well-described, this study aimed to illuminate both function and acquisition trends in the Demuth Sesotho Corpus (Demuth, 1992). The narrative past form has been assumed to be under-specified for tense, comparable in function to the better-known Swahili *-ka-* inflection. The Swahili form, in turn, has been said to function in “clause chains” that are functionally and structurally similar to such chains in Papuan and other languages. We expected that, if the Sesotho narrative past is indeed functionally similar to Swahili *-ka-*, its distribution in child-directed speech and acquisition by children may pattern similarly to tense-less verb forms in non-Bantu clause chaining languages such as the Papuan language Nguno, where such verb forms can comprise over 20% of all verb tokens in child-directed and child speech at age 3;3. This study thus examined the conversational interactions of four children acquiring Sesotho in a village setting, aged 2;1–4;7. All 492 tokens of the narrative past form were coded for syntactic and discourse categories. Results show that the Sesotho narrative past generally occurs in much “looser” discourse chains than the clause chains of languages like Nguno; for Sesotho, other turns or elements can intervene between narrative past-framed mentions of previously-introduced topics. Further, the Sesotho narrative past has very low frequency in both child and child-directed speech, representing <3% of all verb tokens for both registers. There is possible evidence that one of the target children uses the Sesotho narrative past in increasing proportions as his linguistic sophistication increases, but there is no significant corresponding proportional increase in child-directed speech. Thus, in function and distribution, in both child-directed and child speech, the Sesotho narrative past form differs greatly from tense-less forms in more canonical clause chaining languages.

Keywords: clause chaining, acquisition, narrative tenses, Sesotho, Bantu

INTRODUCTION

Bantu languages are famous for their many verbal inflections. In particular, many Bantu languages boast multiple nuanced distinctions within the past and future tenses (Nurse, 2003, 2008; Botne and Kerkhove, 2008; Nurse and Devos, 2019), with, in some cases, a “Near Future,” “Middle Future,” and “Remote Future” tense with (presumed) application to different sections of a timeline. But the actual functions of these different tenses are often under-described, in both pedagogical

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Prepared Speech In Sesotho

DP Hallahan



Prepared Speech In Sesotho:

Aspects of Sesotho Language Acquisition Katherine Demuth, 1983 **Afrikaans +: Everything you need to obtain top marks** Marieta Nel, 2019-02-01 Afrikaans is a learner friendly guidebook which caters for additional language learners who want to achieve better marks in Afrikaans This practical guide contains explanations in English and is filled to the brim with examples It explains tests and exams used for both the DBE and IEB and was written by a panel of educational experts who understand the needs of additional language learners This book is completely up to date The Afrikaanse Woordelys en Spelre is AWS has just been re issued blindsiding many a teacher with the changes in Afrikaans grammar rules While the AWS is seen as the touchstone for Afrikaans language practitioners it could be a daunting book to use in the classroom Afrikaans was written with the most recent changes to the AWS in mind and presents these grammar rules in a clear practical manner Every chapter in the book also offers free online support exercises answers and examples which will be kept up to date by the panel The book contains six sections 1 Comprehension Begrip This explains how you should approach a comprehension test how to look for the answers and provides tips on how to understand the questions It also explains how to make summaries Visual texts such as cartoons graphs and maps are also explained 2 Grammar Taal This is a step by step guide to understanding the how and the why of Afrikaans grammar You will be guided with English explanations and Afrikaans examples on things like word order tenses adjectives adverbs time numbers plural and diminutive forms the negative active and passive voice pronouns participles and abbreviations There are sections offering basic knowledge to help the struggling learner through the exam But there are also more advanced sections for the learner who wants to get an A and for the teacher who wants to become familiar with all the changes in the AWS 3 Literature Literatuur Everything you need to know about prose drama short stories and poetry What is the difference between a metaphor and a simile Who is the protagonist and who the antagonist We use simple explanations and good examples of all these and other literature terms 4 Oral Mondeling The book contains practical pointers on how to prepare for different kinds of oral such as interviews prepared speeches introducing and thanking a speaker roleplay how to make a vlog and how to discuss the booklist you have to read for grade 12 Examples of all these are given and more are provided online 5 Vocabulary Woordeskat You will always need vocabulary for essays and orals With the most recent vocabulary on food technology life after school sport and lots more you will be well prepared 6 Written work Skryfwerk This section starts with a step by step approach to writing how to choose a topic how to do your planning what not to use in an essay and how to end your story The examples of all the different types of written work essays long and short transactional writing and tips on each will help you to master each one Online you will be able to read through more examples **Sesotho Language** David Ambrose, 2006 **Patrick Duncan** C. J. Driver, 2000 With a Foreword by Anthony Sampson Born son of a Governor General of South Africa Patrick Duncan rejected the attitudes of his privileged background to follow the Gandhian way of passive resistance even to jail This biography traces the life and

times of Duncan and the changes and struggles in late twentieth century South Africa Drama in Sesotho David Ambrose,2006 **Sesotho Myth** Peter D. Quella,1999 Debates of the Legislature of the Free State Province (Hansard) Free State (South Africa). Legislature,1998-04 *African Drama and Performance* John Conteh-Morgan,Tejumola Olaniyan,2004-10 This title explores the diversity of the performing arts in Africa and the diaspora from studies of major dramatic authors and formal literary dramas to improvisational theatre and popular video films *Coherence and Grounding in Discourse* Russell S. Tomlin,1987-01-01 This volume seeks to expand our understanding of the relation holding between discourse relations cognitive units and linguistic coding The twenty contributions in this collection explore one or more of the following themes How point of view or the salience of information in discourse affects the organizational coherence of text and discourse the concept of cognitive and linguistic event and how events are reflected in text and discourse organization the nature of linguistic coding of events and other kinds of significant information and the cognitive bases or cognitive correlates of the linguistic organization of discourse **Bantu** Clement M. Doke,2017-09-20 Originally published in 1945 this volume represented the first to classify Bantu languages This volume does not record all the dialects but makes reference to those in which some grammatical study has been done and classifies them according to mainly geographical zones Owing to tribal migrations individual members of a particular zone may be living among members of a different zone as has been the case with the Ngoni South Eastern Zone who are found among the Eastern Bantu but the zone label is taken from the habitat of the majority **The Mountain School** Greg Alder,2013 The Kingdom of Lesotho is a mountainous enclave in southern Africa and like mountain zones throughout the world it is isolated steeped in tradition and home to few outsiders The people known as Basotho are respected in the area as the only tribe never to be defeated by European colonizers Greg Alder arrives in Tsoeneng in 2003 as the village s first foreign resident since 1966 Back then the Canadian priest who had been living there was robbed and murdered in his quarters Set up as a Peace Corps teacher at the village s secondary school Alder finds himself incompetent in so many unexpected ways How do you keep warm in this place where it snows but there is no electricity How do you feed yourself where there are no grocery stores let alone restaurants Tsoeneng is a world apart from his home in America but Alder persists in adapting He learns to grow food he learns to speak the strange local language and he makes enough friends such that he is eventually invited to participate in initiation rites Yet even as he seems accepted into the Tsoeneng fold he sees how much of an outsider he will always remain and perhaps want to remain The Mountain School is insightful and candid at times accepting and at times rebellious It is the ultimate tale of the transplant *Sesotho sa Leboa - Seisimane pukuntšu ya sekolo* ,2007 Designed to enable learners to write and speak effectively and competently in their additional language this up to date and easy to use dictionary focuses on overcoming learners most common difficulties The dictionary offers support in four key areas as shown below Plus 56 pages of useful extras a mini grammar activities with answers model letters illustrations SMS language and more The Crosslinguistic

Study of Language Acquisition Dan Isaac Slobin, 2022-03-01 Extending the tradition of this series which has become a standard reference work in language acquisition this volume contains chapters on seven more languages including a section on ergative languages Languages in this volume include Georgian Greenlandic Kiche Mayan Warlpiri Mandarin Scandinavian and Sesotho Interactions Between Linguistics and Mathematical Education, 1975 *Dictionaries & Phrase Books* David Ambrose, 2006 The New English-Sesotho Dictionary T. J. Kriel, 1960 *Resources in Education*, 1971-07 *Research in Education*, 1971 **The Acquisition of Complex Morphology** William Forshaw, 2021-10-15 Many theories of language acquisition struggle to account for the morphological complexity and diversity of the world's languages This book examines the acquisition of complex morphology of Murrinhpatha a polysynthetic language of Northern Australia It considers semi naturalistic data from five children 1961 collected over a two year period Analysis of the Murrinhpatha data is focused on the acquisition of polysynthetic verb constructions large irregular inflectional paradigms and bipartite stem verbs which all pose interesting challenges to the learner as well as to theories of language acquisition The book argues that morphological complexity which broadly includes factors such as transparency predictability regularity richness type token frequency and productivity must become central to our understanding of morphological acquisition It seeks to understand how acquisition is impacted by differences in morphological systems and by the ways in which children and their interlocutors use these systems Parliamentary Debates of the National Assembly (Hansard). Lesotho. Parliament. National Assembly (1966), 1969

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Table of Contents Preapered Speech In Sesotho

1. Understanding the eBook Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - The Rise of Digital Reading Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - Advantages of eBooks Over Traditional Books
2. Identifying Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - Exploring Different Genres
 - Considering Fiction vs. Non-Fiction
 - Determining Your Reading Goals
3. Choosing the Right eBook Platform
 - Popular eBook Platforms
 - Features to Look for in an Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - User-Friendly Interface
4. Exploring eBook Recommendations from Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - Personalized Recommendations
 - Preapered Speech In Sesotho User Reviews and Ratings
 - Preapered Speech In Sesotho and Bestseller Lists
5. Accessing Preapered Speech In Sesotho Free and Paid eBooks
 - Preapered Speech In Sesotho Public Domain eBooks

- Preapered Speech In Sesotho eBook Subscription Services
- Preapered Speech In Sesotho Budget-Friendly Options
- 6. Navigating Preapered Speech In Sesotho eBook Formats
 - ePub, PDF, MOBI, and More
 - Preapered Speech In Sesotho Compatibility with Devices
 - Preapered Speech In Sesotho Enhanced eBook Features
- 7. Enhancing Your Reading Experience
 - Adjustable Fonts and Text Sizes of Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - Highlighting and Note-Taking Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - Interactive Elements Preapered Speech In Sesotho
- 8. Staying Engaged with Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - Joining Online Reading Communities
 - Participating in Virtual Book Clubs
 - Following Authors and Publishers Preapered Speech In Sesotho
- 9. Balancing eBooks and Physical Books Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - Benefits of a Digital Library
 - Creating a Diverse Reading Collection Preapered Speech In Sesotho
- 10. Overcoming Reading Challenges
 - Dealing with Digital Eye Strain
 - Minimizing Distractions
 - Managing Screen Time
- 11. Cultivating a Reading Routine Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - Setting Reading Goals Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - Carving Out Dedicated Reading Time
- 12. Sourcing Reliable Information of Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - Fact-Checking eBook Content of Preapered Speech In Sesotho
 - Distinguishing Credible Sources
- 13. Promoting Lifelong Learning
 - Utilizing eBooks for Skill Development
 - Exploring Educational eBooks

14. Embracing eBook Trends

- Integration of Multimedia Elements
- Interactive and Gamified eBooks

Preapered Speech In Sesotho Introduction

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