

NAIROBI EVANGELICAL GRADUATE  
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

TENSE, ASPECT AND MOOD IN LUNYOLE  
GRAMMAR AND NARRATIVE DISCOURSE

BY

ENOCH WANDERA NAMULEMU

*A Linguistic Project Submitted to the Graduate School in Partial  
Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Arts  
in Translation Studies*

JUNE 2004

THE  
PL  
8075  
.L8N36  
2004



LIBRARY  
NAIROBI EVANGELICAL GRADUATE  
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY  
P. O. Box 24686, NAIROBI

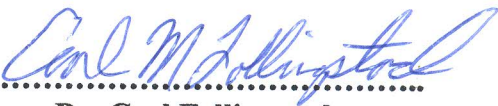
**NAIROBI EVANGELICAL GRADUATE  
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY**

**TENSE, ASPECT AND MOOD IN LUNYOLE GRAMMAR  
AND NARRATIVE DISCOURSE**

**BY  
ENOCH WANDERA NAMULEMU**

**A Linguistics Project submitted to the Graduate School in  
partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree  
of Master of Arts in Translation Studies**

Approved:

Supervisor.....  
Dr. Carl Follingstad

Second Reader.....  
Mrs. Mary Hatter

External Reader.....  
Dr. Kithaka wa Mberia

June, 2004



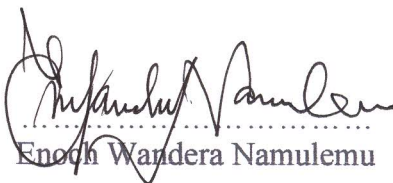
Student's Declaration

TENSE, ASPECT AND MOOD IN LUNYOLE GRAMMAR  
AND NARRATIVE DISCOURSE

I declare that the work presented herein is my original work and  
has not been submitted to any other College or University  
for academic credit

The views presented herein are not necessarily those of  
Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology  
or the Examiners

(Signed)



Enoch Wandera Namulemu

June 2004



## **ABSTRACT**

Tense, aspect and mood play a crucial role in grammar and discourse of a language. This study focuses on the distribution of tense and aspect in Lunyole grammar and narrative discourse. Lunyole is one of those languages that highly grammaticalize the parameter of time. The language has a three tense system subdivided into eight distinct tenses and six aspectual categories. In this work, I give a detailed discussion of these tenses and aspect categories and how they function in the grammar and discourse of Lunyole.

Since this work is the first detailed study of this subject, I hope it will provide a foundation for those who will do further linguistic study of the Lunyole language in future. I also hope it will go a long way in helping the Lunyole Bible Translation and Literacy team understand the nuances of the tense/aspect system as it affects translation and literacy work.



TO

Florence my dear wife and all our children: Joel, Ebenezer, Sadayo, Benayo, Yonasani, Yosamu, Grace, Bob and Con; and all the Banyole people who have a passion for the development of their language.



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

My deepest thanks and praise go God through Christ our Lord and Savior who called me to the Ministry of Bible Translation and even gave me the opportunity to study at NEGST so that I could be well equipped for His work.

My thanks go to SIL International for giving me the scholarship that enabled me to study at NEGST. I especially thank Doug Wicks our Translation Project Advisor and friend who introduced me to the world of Linguistics when I was working with him as Language Assistant and for encouraging me to apply to NEGST.

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to Dr. George Huttar Head of Department Translation studies and all members of the Faculty for their willingness to help us as a class in our academics in all courses that have contributed to the work in this Project.

My deepest gratitude goes to Dr. Carl Follingstad, my supervisor. It has been a great privilege and joy to work under his guidance. His comments, suggestions and advice went a long way in making this Project what it is today. On the same note my thanks go to Mrs. Mary Huttar my second reader for her constructive advice and suggestions.

My gratitude also goes to The Ven. Canon Zebulon Munghesi former chairman Lunyole Bible Translation and Literacy Project for encouraging me to join the ministry of Bible Translation and the Lunyole Bible Translation Project for seconding me to SIL.

Finally, my sincerest gratitude goes to Florence my dear wife, the only Lunyole speaker I had near me to consult, for her suggestions and encouragement when the going

became tough; and to our children for their bearing with a father who always was not in position to give them the attention they needed when I was busy working on this project.

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT .....	iv
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT .....	vi
LIST OF TABLES .....	xiv
LIST OF FIGURES.....	xv
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS .....	xvi
CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION .....	1
1.1 Name of language and its speakers .....	1
1.2 Geography.....	2
1.3 Demography .....	2
1.4 Language family .....	2
1.5 Socio-linguistic situation .....	4
1.6 Previous Linguistic Research.....	5
1.7 The purpose of this study .....	5
1.8 Methodology .....	6
CHAPTER TWO A BRIEF PHONOLOGY STATEMENT .....	8
2.1 Inventory of phonemes .....	8
2.2 Orthography .....	9
2.3 Tone .....	10
2.4 Allophonic rules .....	11



2.5 Word patterns .....	12
2.6 Morphophonemics .....	12
2.6.1 Across word boundaries with words .....	13
2.6.2 Across morpheme boundaries .....	13
2.6.3 Coalescence .....	14
2.7 Summary .....	14
CHAPTER THREE TENSE .....	15
3.1 Definition .....	15
3.2 Absolute tense .....	17
3.2.1 Present tense .....	17
3.2.1.1 The historical present .....	18
3.2.2 The past tenses.....	18
3.2.2.1 The immediate past tense .....	19
3.2.2.2 The hodiernal past tense .....	19
3.2.2.3 The recent past tense .....	20
3.2.2.4 The distant past tense .....	22
3.2.3 The future tenses .....	23
3.2.3.1 The morphological futures .....	23
3.2.3.1.1 The immediate future tense .....	23
3.2.3.1.2 The near future tense .....	24
3.2.3.1.3 The distant future tense .....	25
3.2.3.2 The periphrastic future tenses .....	26
3.2.3.2.1 The immediate future tense .....	27

3.2.3.2.2 The near future tense .....	27
3.2.3.2.3 The distant future tense .....	28
3.3 Relative tense .....	28
3.4 Summary .....	30
CHAPTER FOUR ASPECT .....	32
4.1 Definition .....	32
4.2 Perfective aspect .....	33
4.2.1 Anterior aspect .....	34
4.3 Imperfective aspect .....	35
4.3.1 Progressive aspect .....	36
4.3.1.1 Present progressive aspect .....	36
4.3.1.2 Past progressive aspect .....	37
4.3.1.3 Future progressive aspect .....	37
4.3.2 Persistent aspect .....	37
4.3.2.1 Present persistent .....	38
4.3.2.2 Past persistent .....	38
4.3.2.3 Future persistent .....	39
4.3.3 Habitual aspect .....	39
4.3.3.1 Present habitual aspect .....	40
4.3.3.2 Past habitual .....	41
4.3.3.3 Immediate past habitual .....	41
4.3.3.4 Recent past habitual .....	42
4.3.3.5 Future habitual .....	43

4.3.4	Completive aspect .....	43
4.3.5	Iterative aspect .....	44
4.3.6	Aspect and tense .....	45
CHAPTER FIVE TENSE /ASPECT AND LUNYOLE VERBAL EXTENSIONS		47
5.1	The morphological structure of the Lunyole Verb .....	47
5.1.1	The Infinitive .....	48
5.1.2	Verbal extensions .....	49
5.1.2.1	The causative .....	49
5.1.2.2	The passive .....	50
5.1.2.3	The applicative .....	51
5.1.2.4	The reciprocal .....	51
5.1.2.5	The stative .....	52
5.1.2.6	Reduplication .....	52
5.2	The Verb ‘to be’ .....	53
5.2.1	The <i>li</i> form .....	53
5.2.2	The <i>ohuba</i> form .....	54
5.2.3	‘To have’ .....	54
5.3	Negation .....	55
5.3.1	The negative particle <i>Si</i> .....	55
5.3.2	The negative particle <i>Nasi</i> .....	56
5.3.3	The negative particle <i>Ndi</i> .....	56
5.3.4	The negative morpheme <i>Ta-</i> .....	57
5.3.5	The negative morpheme <i>Hi-</i> .....	57



CHAPTER SIX MOOD .....	59
6.1 Definition .....	59
6.2 Indicative Mood .....	60
6.3 Imperative Mood .....	60
6.3.1 Commands .....	60
6.3.2 Prohibition .....	61
6.4 Potential Mood .....	62
6.5 Optative Mood .....	62
6.6 Conditional Mood .....	63
6.7 The subjunctive mood .....	64
6.7.1 Purpose or Intention .....	64
6.7.2 Double commands .....	64
6.7.3 Obligations .....	65
6.7.4 Indirect commands .....	65
6.7.5 Requests .....	66
6.8 Summary .....	66
CHAPTER SEVEN TENSE AND ASPECT IN NARRATIVE DISCOURSE ...	67
7.1 Discourse structure in Lunyole folk narrative.....	67
7.2 The Data used .....	68
7.3 Distribution of tense and aspect in narrative discourse.....	69
7.3.1 The introduction .....	70
7.3.2 Nucleus/Body.....	72
7.3.3 Conclusion.....	79

7.4 Summary of the distribution of tense/aspect in Lunyole narrative

discourse.....	80
CHAPTER EIGHT CONCLUSION .....	81
REFERENCE LIST .....	83
APPENDIX .....	85
Folktale 1 (Nakoma) .....	83
Folktale 2 (The pretty girl) .....	92
LUNYOLE NOUN CLASS CONCORD .....	99

## TABLES

Table		Page
1	Phonetic consonants in Lunyole .....	8
2	Phonetic vowels in Lunyole .....	9
3	Lunyole phonemes and their equivalent orthographic symbols .....	10
4	Lunyole tenses and their corresponding time frames .....	16
5	Past tense marking on Lunyole verb .....	23
6	Future tense marking on Lunyole verb .....	26
7	Morphemes that mark tense in Lunyole .....	31
8	Verb forms for tense and aspect marking in Lunyole.....	46
9	Summary of auxiliary form of the verb ‘to be’ .....	55
10	Summary of the Lunyole Negative .....	58
11	Marking of mood in Lunyole .....	66
12	Summary of distribution of tense/aspect in Lunyole discourse.....	80
13	Lunyole noun class concord .....	99



## FIGURES

Figure		Page
1	The Niger-Congo language family tree showing Lunyole.....	4
2	Lunyole time diagram.....	17
3	Longacre's parameters for classifying text types.....	67

## ABBREVIATIONS

ADV	Adverb
APP	Applicative
ASP	Aspect
ASS	Associative Marker
AUX	Auxiliary Verb
BEN	Benefactive
C	Noun Class
CAUS	Causative
COND	Condition
COP	Copula
CONJ	Conjunction
DEM	Demonstrative
DET	Determiner
DIM	Diminutive
EVID	Evidentiality Marker
FUT	Future
Fv	Final Vowel
HAB	Habitual Aspect
IDN	Idiophone
IMM	Immediate

IMM	Immediate
INF	Infinitive
INT	Intensifier
IRR	Irrealis
LOC	Locative
M	Mood
NEG	Negative Marker
OC	Object Concord
OPT	Optative Mood
PART	Partitive
PAST	Past tense
PROG	Progressive Aspect
POSS	Possessive
REC	Reciprocal
REL	Relativizer
S	Singular
SC	Subject Concord
Tm	Tense Marker
V	Vowel
Vst	Verb Stem



## **CHAPTER ONE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

Chapter one is a general orientation to the Lunyole language and Banyole people. It gives a brief overview of the origin of the people and their language (1.1), where they live (1.2), their population (1.3), the language family they belong to (1.4), the socio-linguistic situation (1.5), work previously done on the language (1.6), the purpose of the study (1.7) and the method used to conduct the study (1.8).

#### **1.1 Name of the Language and its speakers**

Lunyole is a Bantu language spoken by people called Banyole. These people who are predominantly farmers, also like to call themselves *Abalya lwoba* “mushroom eaters” and their language Lunyole or Olunyole. A Lunyole myth says that Munyole and Nanyole his wife, together with his brother Nanyumba, who are the ancestors of the speakers of this language migrated from Bunyifa in Kenya. While Munyole settled in the present day Bunyole and became the great grandfather of the Banyole, his brother Nanyumba moved on and settled in Busoga.

## **1.2 Geography**

The Banyole live in a small strip of land in the eastern district of Tororo in Uganda. Their neighbors are: the Bagwere (a Bantu group) in the north, the Jopadhola, (a Luo group) in the south, the Bamasaba (a Bantu group) in the east and the Basoga (another Bantu group) in the west. The Banyole were forced to fight a bitter war with the Jopadhola when the latter were coming in to settle in their present homeland but have enjoyed good relationship with the three other neighbors as evidenced, for example, by intermarriage between them. This has influenced the dialect issue of Lunyole very much.

## **1.3 Demography**

According to the 2002 population and housing census of Uganda, the population of people resident in Bunyole was 161,178 people. (Figure obtained from the records at Busolwe Sub county offices). However it is estimated that about 200,000 people within and outside the language area speak Lunyole. Many Banyole have migrated to other parts of Uganda where they have maintained their identity. Besides, some Banyole remained in towns where they work during the time of the mentioned census of 2002. Such factors suggest a higher estimate of people who speak Lunyole, i.e. 200,000. The Ethnologue suggests the same figure.

## **1.4 Language family**

Lunyole belongs to the Bantu J language group of the Niger-Congo language family. In Uganda, the language is related to other so-called eastern Bantu languages

such as Luganda, the largest Bantu language group, Lusamya, Lugwe, Lugwere and Lusoga. It shares a lexical similarity of approximately 80% with Lusamya, 82% with Lugwe, and 66% with Luganda (Ladefoged, Glich and Crifer 1971, 71). Lunyole is also related to the Luhya family of languages in Kenya and has a lexical similarity of 61% with Lunyore, one of the Luhya languages of Kenya. As a mother tongue speaker of Lunyole, who has interacted with some Banyore and investigated the issue of lexical similarity between the two languages, my assessment is that the percentage in lexical similarity in the two languages could be much less than what Ladefoged put it.

Most speakers of Lunyole enjoy limited bilingualism with Luganda, a major Bantu language group in Uganda. For decades since colonial days, Luganda has been the language of wider communication used both in schools and in the church. The Luganda Bible is currently being used in churches and other Luganda literature in schools especially in “mother tongue” literacy. Hence Luganda has had a lot of influence on Lunyole. Such influence and the intermarriage with other language groups have caused Lunyole to have many loan words from her Bantu neighbors. The following family tree is a modification of one in Hinnebusch, Nurse and Mould (1981, 213) showing the place of Lunyole among the Niger-Congo language family:

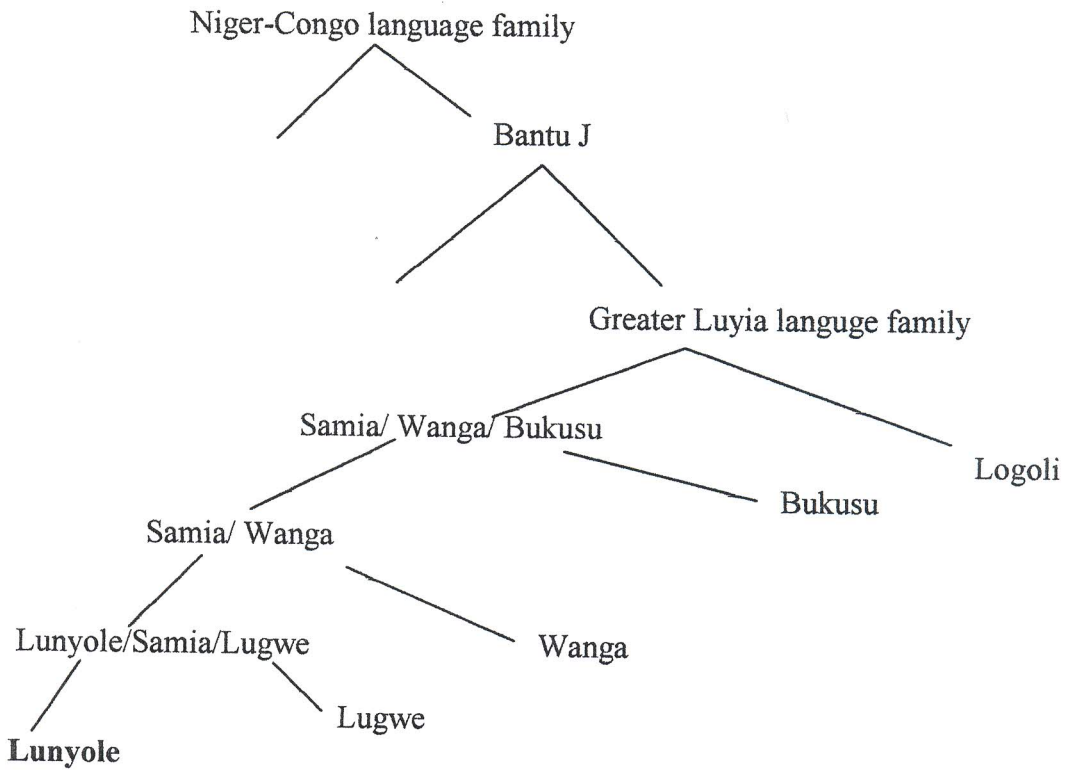


Figure 1. The Niger-Congo language family tree showing the Banyole.

### 1.5 Socio-linguistic situation

The major dialects of Lunyole are Lumenya that is widely spoken, Luhadyo, Lusabi, and Luwesa. However there is another dialect of Lunyole in the east at the border with the Bamasaba and Bagwere. This dialect of Lunyole has some influence of Lumasaba and Lugwere. There are both phonological and lexical differences in the dialects mentioned above. For example, where Lumenya and other dialects have [k], Luwesa has [g] e.g. *ohugega* 'to carry' is *ohukeka* in Luwesa, a difference in voicing. Similarly where Lumenya and others have [h], with the exception of the [h] sound in the infinitive of the verb *ohu-*, Luwesa has [s] e.g. *ehibange* "traditional cooking pot for cooking millet bread" is *esibange* in Luwesa, a difference in point of articulation.



There are also some lexical differences. For example *ohwagaana* "to meet" in Lumenya is *ohusaanya* in Luhadyo. Likewise *amahohooli* "sisal" in Lumenya and other dialects is *amahumbeeri* in Luwesa. However, in this lexical variation none of the words in one dialect mean something else in the other dialects. In any case, Banyole have agreed to use Lumenya dialect, which is widely spoken, to write the language.

### **1.6 Previous Linguistic Research**

To the best of my knowledge, no previous academic study on this particular topic has been done in Lunyole. However an article on morphology and phonology of Lunyole by Henry F. Morris was published in the *Uganda Journal* in 1963. Another article "*Lunyole of the Bamenya*" written by C.M. Eastman was published in the *Journal of African Languages* in 1972.

Michael A. White with the Lunyole Language Association has published the *Lunyole – English and English – Lunyole word lists* showing the inflected stem of the verbs therein with their perfective aspect marker.

### **1.7 The purpose of this study**

Lunyole is at present an unwritten language, which is undergoing development under the auspices of SIL International. The ultimate goal of the development of the language is translation of the Bible and literacy work, especially mother tongue instruction in primary schools, so that Banyole children can also benefit from the

current government policy on education. This policy encourages mother tongue instruction during the first four years of primary education.

As stated above nothing has been published on tense, aspect and mood in the grammar and discourse of the language. This work, therefore, seeks to give a detailed discussion of how tense, aspect and mood function in the grammar and discourse of Lunyole so that the Lunyole Bible Translation and Literacy team will understand the nuances of the tense/aspect system as it affects translation and literacy work.

This study is also aimed at providing a foundation for those who will do further linguistic study of the language in future.

## 1.8 Methodology

As a mother tongue speaker of Lunyole, the author is the major source of data for this paper. I have also used a number of recorded and transcribed texts of narrative, hortatory and procedural texts. These texts, which include *Olugano lw'omwana oyubalanga baati Nakoma* 'the story of a child called Nakoma', and *Olugano lw'omuhaana omujooono* 'The story of a pretty girl', were collected from various dialect areas of Lunyole and were told by people of different age groups. Others are from the author himself. These include the following: *Olugano lwa Wanakamuna ni Namunyu* 'The story of clever Hare and Hyena'; *Olugano lwa Wanakamuna* 'The story of Hare'; *Ehini hy'enjobe hirya owehalire* 'Patience pays' an experiential narrative concerning two friends; *Ohwangalayo ehisinga obuhulu* 'Choosing right priorities' a sermon once preached by the author, which was recorded and transcribed; and



*Ohulabbira omwana* 'How to advise a child'. Some people wrote out some of the texts themselves. These however, were edited for orthographic consistency.

Information has also been gathered through interviews with other speakers of the language from different dialect areas and from different age brackets. For analysis of tense and aspect in Lunyole narrative discourse I have concentrated on two oral narrative texts – 'The story of a child called Nakoma' which was told by Beatrice Namugwere, a woman of 90 – 95 years of age; and 'The story of a pretty girl' told by Mary Bbutu, a woman of about 50 –55 years of age.

## CHAPTER TWO

### A BRIEF PHONOLOGY STATEMENT

Chapter 2 is a brief overview of the phonology of the Lunyole language. In it we shall look at the inventory of phonemes in Lunyole (2.1), orthographic status of the language (2.2), tone issues (2.3), word patterns (2.4), and morphophonemics (2.5).

#### 2.1 Inventory of phonemes

Lunyole has 55 phonetic consonants and 5 phonetic vowels each of which can be either short or long. These long vowels are interpreted as V, rather than VV. Tables 1 and 2 show the phonetic consonants and vowels respectively.

	Labial	Lab. Dent	Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glo-tal
Plos vls Vd. Pre-nas.	p p <sup>w</sup> p <sup>j</sup> b b <sup>w</sup> b <sup>j</sup> m <sub>b</sub> m <sub>b</sub> <sup>w</sup> m <sub>b</sub> <sup>j</sup>		t t <sup>w</sup> t <sup>j</sup> d d <sup>w</sup> d <sup>j</sup> n <sub>d</sub> n <sub>d</sub> <sup>w</sup> n <sub>d</sub> <sup>j</sup>		k k <sup>w</sup> g g <sup>w</sup> ŋ <sub>g</sub> ŋ <sub>g</sub> <sup>w</sup>	
Affr vls Vd.				tʃ tʃ <sup>w</sup> dʒ dʒ <sup>w</sup> n <sub>d</sub> ʒ		
Fric. vls Vd.	β β <sup>j</sup>	f v	s s <sup>w</sup> s <sup>j</sup> z			h h <sup>w</sup> h <sup>j</sup>
Nasal	m m <sup>w</sup> m <sup>j</sup>		n n <sup>w</sup> n <sup>j</sup>	ɲ ɲ <sup>w</sup>	ŋ ŋ <sup>w</sup> ŋ <sup>j</sup>	
Appr lat Cent.	w		l l <sup>w</sup> l <sup>j</sup>	j	.	

*Table 1. Phonetic consonants in Lunyole.*

		Front Unrounded	Central	Back Rounded
Close	short	i		u
	Long	i:		u:
Mid	short	e		o
	Long	e:		o:
Open	short		ɑ	
	long		ɑ:	

*Table 2. Phonetic vowels in Lunyole*

## 2.2 Orthography

The orthography of Lunyole is still in the process of development. The Lunyole Language Association has recently published a tentative orthography statement with the approval of an SIL International linguistics consultant. The orthography is based on the Lumenya dialect. It has been decided that Lunyole phonemes will be orthographically represented by the corresponding graphemes as presented in Table 3.

Phoneme	Grapheme	Phoneme	Grapheme	Phoneme	Grapheme	Phoneme	Grapheme
/ɑ/	α	/f/	f	/l <sup>j</sup> /	ly	/t/	t
/ɑ:/	αα	/g/	g	/m/	m	/t <sup>w</sup> /	tw
/b/	bb	/g <sup>w</sup> /	gw	/m <sup>w</sup> /	mw	/t <sup>j</sup> /	ty
/ <sup>m</sup> b/	mb	/ <sup>n</sup> g/	ng	/m <sup>j</sup> /	my	/u/	u
/ <sup>m</sup> b <sup>w</sup> /	mbw	/ <sup>n</sup> g <sup>w</sup> /	ngw	/n/	n	/u:/	uu
/ <sup>m</sup> b <sup>j</sup> /	mby	/h/	h	/n <sup>w</sup> /	nw	/v/	v
/β/	b	/h <sup>w</sup> /	hw	/n <sup>i</sup> /	ni	/w/	w
/t <sup>h</sup> /	c	/h <sup>j</sup> /	hy	/n/	ny	/z/	z
/t <sup>h</sup> <sup>w</sup> /	cw	/i/	i	/n <sup>w</sup> /	nyw		
/d/	d	/i:/	ii	/o/	o		
/d <sup>w</sup> /	dw	/d <sup>h</sup> z/	j	/o:/	oo		
/d <sup>j</sup> /	dy	/ <sup>n</sup> d <sup>h</sup> z/	nj	/p/	p		
/ <sup>n</sup> d/	nd	/d <sup>h</sup> <sup>w</sup> z/	jw	/p <sup>w</sup> /	pw		
/ <sup>n</sup> d <sup>w</sup> /	ndw	/k/	k	/p <sup>j</sup> /	py		
/ <sup>n</sup> d <sup>j</sup> /	ndy	/k <sup>w</sup> /	kw	/s/	s		
/e/	e	/l/	l	/s <sup>w</sup> /	sw		
/e:/	ee	/l <sup>w</sup> /	lw	/s <sup>j</sup> /	sy		

Table 3. Lunyole Phonemes and their equivalent orthographic symbols.

### 2.3 Tone

Lunyole is a tone language. The language bears:

(i) Lexical tone (that contrasts meaning of words) as in:

/òhúsíngá/ ‘to mortgage’ – low high high high tone

/óhùsìngá/ ‘to defeat’ – high low low high tone

(ii) And grammatical tone (that contrasts words in grammatical meaning) as in:

/gàlímíré/ ‘he dug’ (yesterday) – low high high high tone.

/gálímíré/ ‘he dug’ (the day before yesterday) – high low low high tone.

The above examples show how grammatical tone can play an important role in differentiating tense and aspect in the main verb of a Lunyole sentence. In the verb *yembire* the high tone on the last syllable of (1) marks the hodiernal past tense. In (2), the high tone on the last two syllables contrasts with (1) and marks the recent past tense.

(1) E kwaya yefe **yembiré** bulaji.

*Our choir sang well* (some time today) – hodiernal past tense.

(2) E kwaya yefe **yembíré** bulaji.

*Our choir sang well* (yesterday) – recent past tense.

Even without marking of tone, the Lunyole reader is able to understand the correct tense and hence the meaning through the context in the discourse. Hence tone is not marked in the Lunyole orthography.

## 2.4 Allophonic rules

The following typical allophonic process occurs in Lunyole:

The phonetically similar segments [l] and [r] are allophones of a single phoneme. [l] occurs word initially and after non-front vowels, [r] only comes after front vowels [i] and [e].

Hence: /l/ → [r] / i, e... *ohulira* ‘cry’

[l] elsewhere. *Lera* ‘carry on lap’

The palatalized /l/ [lʲ] and /r/ [rʲ] behave in a similar manner.

Hence: /lʲ/ → [rʲ] / i, e... *erya* ‘marriage’



[l] elsewhere *amalya* ‘marriages’

## 2.5 Word patterns

Lunyole has a V and CV syllable patterns. The following are the most common word patterns:

Monosyllabic words:

V            /é/ ‘at’        /hú/ ‘on’

Disyllabic words:

V.CV        /èsé/ ‘me’

CV.CV       /hùlá/ ‘grow’

Trisyllabic words:

V.CV.CV        /étèbé/ ‘chair’

CV.CV.CV        /wàwàlú/ ‘crested crane’

Quadrasyllabic words:

V.CV.CV.CV        /ógùhàsì/ ‘a fat woman’

## 2.6 Morphophonemics

“When the sounds of morphemes vary as a result of being adjoined to other morphemes, the pattern is referred to as MORPHOPHONEMICS” (Burquest 1993, 81). Meanwhile, Crystal defines ‘morphophonemics’ as the phonological or grammatical factors that affect the appearance of phonemes in certain environments



(Crystal 1980, 250). In Lunyole these occur both across word boundaries (2.6.1) and across morpheme boundaries (2.6.2).

### 2.6.1 Across word boundaries with words

In Lunyole like in many of the African languages, when two vowels come together, one of the vowels is deleted – a process called vowel elision. In the orthography when this occurs the elided vowel is replaced by an apostrophe.

Hence  $V \rightarrow \emptyset / \_ V$

/si/ + /ɑlomɑ/ is pronounced /s'ɑlomɑ/

'not' 'he speaks' 'he does not speak'

In natural speech of Lunyole words tend to run into one another causing vowel elision. The final vowel of the preceding word is deleted.

/ndʒɑ/ + /odʒe/ + /amɑ:dʒi/

'come' 'go get' 'water' is pronounced as /ndʒodʒamɑ:dʒi/

### 2.6.2 Across morpheme boundaries

Morphophonemic changes occur in some sounds when a nasal prefix is attached to the root of the word.

/l/ → /d/ /n---

[òhúlómá] 'to speak' [ndómá] 'I speak'

[j] → [dʒ]/n

[òhújáβá] 'to dig up' [ndʒáβá]

In some cases the phoneme [n] is lost.

[h] → [k]/n---

[ohuhola] 'to do'                      [kola] 'I do'

[ŋ] → [p]/n---

[ohuŋa] 'to give'                      [pa] 'I give'

### 2.6.3 Coalescence

Coalescence is the merging of segments to become another distinct segment. (Burquest 2001, 178) In Lunyole when two different vowels in two different linguistic units come together they coalesce.

/ia/ → /a/,                      /ie/ → /e/,                      /io/ → /o/,                      /iu/ → /u/

The coalescence may result in either vowel deletion or vowel lengthening.

## 2.7 Summary

Lunyole is a tone language and still in the process of developing her orthography. However, it has been decided that tone will not be marked in the orthography because even without marking tone the reader can make out the correct meaning of words from the context. Phonological processes such as vowel elision are common at word boundary level affecting the final form of the affected word. Morphophonemic changes also occur in some sounds when a nasal prefix is attached to the root of the word.

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **TENSE**

This chapter defines tense and discusses its distribution in Lunyole. In it we define tense (3.1), absolute tense (3.2), explain how the Banyole divide the timeline into a time frame of eight different tenses – the present tense (3.2.1), four distinctive past tenses (3.2.2), three distinctive future tenses (3.2.3) and a relative tense (3.3).

#### **3.1 Definition**

There are several definitions of tense depending on the theoretical point of view of the linguist. Comrie defines tense as a “grammaticalized” location in time, usually relative to the time of reference (1985, 9). Payne defines tense as “the grammatical expression of the relation of the time of an event to some reference point in time; usually the moment the clause is uttered” (1997, 236). According to Saeed, tense allows a speaker to locate a situation relative to some point in time, most likely the time of speaking (1997, 114). The reference point in time can be time of performing the speech act (the ‘now’ of the speech act), referred to as absolute tense, or some other point in time, which is referred to as relative tense (Givon 1984, 273). Hence, because a speaker relates references to space and time to the ‘here and now’ in the course of making an utterance; tense is said to be deictic.

Tense reflects the human categorization of the world and different languages divide the time line differently, which results in many different tenses. Some languages have two tenses – past and non-past or future and non-future. Others have three – present, past and future.

Lunyole has a tense system of three basic tenses – past, present and future. However, Lunyole further divides its time line, according to its understanding of the time frame. This results in five more tenses. The past is further sub divided into four distinct past tenses: immediate, hodiernal, recent and distant past; and the future tense is sub divided into three distinct future tenses: immediate, near and distant future tenses making a total of eight distinct tenses. Table 4 shows the time frame in relation to these tenses. These tenses can also be shown on a time diagram as in figure 2.

<b>Tense</b>	<b>Time frame</b>
Distant past	from the end of the day before yesterday to eternity past.
Recent past	from the day before yesterday to today's sunrise.
Hodiernal past	from today's sunrise to a few moments ago
Immediate past	a few moments ago
Present	Now
Immediate future	from now to sunset of today
Near future	tomorrow
Distant future	from sunset of the day after tomorrow to eternity future.

*Table 4. Lunyole Tenses and their corresponding time frames.*

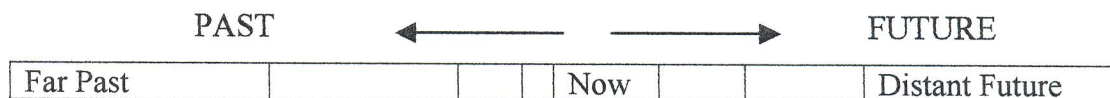


Figure 2. Lunyole time diagram.

### 3.2 Absolute Tense

This is a term that is used to refer to tenses that take the present moment “now” as their deictic center. However, according to Comrie absolute time reference is impossible because “the only way of locating a situation in time is relative to some other already established time point and the present moment is just one of an infinite number of such time points that could be chosen as reference point” (Comrie 1985, 36)

#### 3.2.1 Present Tense

The present is the moment of time between past and future. Comrie calls it “a coincidence of the time of the situation and the present moment” (Comrie 1985, 36). In many discourse situations that moment passes very swiftly. For that matter, though Lunyole seems to have four different present tenses only one can be referred to as actual present and the rest can be treated as aspects. Present tense may imply a habitual or repetitive action. The tense is unmarked in Lunyole.

(3) Hadali asoma ehitabo

Hadali      a-      som    -a      ehi-    tabo

Hadali      3S      read   Fv      C7      book

*‘Hadali reads a book.’*

(Hadali can and does read a book, even though he may not be reading it now.)



The present tense is also used with three aspects: progressive (continuous), persistive and habitual. The most common use is with the progressive (continuous) aspect, which uses the auxiliary verb *li* 'to be'. (See 4.3.1.1 and 4.3.1.2)

### 3.2.1.1 *The historical present*

The historical present tense expresses an action in a way that would appear as if it were going on at the time of writing or speaking. The speaker's intention is to present the action to the hearer in a vivid manner. This tense is common in Lunyole story telling. It is a common feature in the mainline of the story. More on the historical present tense will be discussed in chapter 7.

### 3.2.2 The Past Tenses

Past tense means the "location of the situation prior to the present moment" (Comrie 1985, 36). There are four past tenses in Lunyole: immediate past, hodiernal past, recent past, and distant past. With the exception of the immediate past, the boundaries of these tenses are flexible depending on the aspect placed on the verb. The prefix *ha-* is used to mark immediate past, and it must be accompanied with the suffix *-nga*. The past tense where exact time is not very important is marked by prefix *a-*. This is the general past tense. It is used to note that the event took place but the time frame is not important. It is used with the recent past and distant past. The perfective suffixes *-ire*, *-aye*, *-eye*, *-iye*, *-oye*, *-uye*, *-ise*, *-isye* and *-e*, depending on the verb root, verb extensions and morphophonemics, without the *a-* prefix on the verb stem



marks a hodiernal event (see examples). The hodiernal is not marked as past tense, even though the event has been completed.

### 3.2.2.1 *The immediate past tense*

In Lunyole the immediate past tense describes an event that has just happened, that is to say, a short while ago. The time frame of this tense can be within approximately an hour of the speech act depending on the context. For example, if one may be speaking about someone having left for a place, the use of this tense will give the implication that he has not gone very far or has not reached his or her destination.

The immediate past tense is marked by prefix *ha-* on the verb stem and must be accompanied with the *-nga* suffix.

(4) Omuhaana gahasagulanga mu nyumba.

omuhaana	ga- <b>ha-</b>	sagul	-a	<b>-nga</b>	mu	nyumba
girl	3S IMM PAST	sweep	Fv	ASP	LOC	house

*'The girl has just been sweeping the house'.*

### 3.2.2.2 *The hodiernal past tense*

The hodiernal past tense in Lunyole marks events that happened during the time between the beginning of today to a few moments ago. As stated above this form of past tense is not marked but the verb is marked with an aspectual perfective suffix since the action is viewed as completed as in (5). In some verbs in Lunyole, the difference between hodiernal and recent past tense is marked by tone only as in

example (6) which is in hodiernal and (7) in recent past, or by past time adverbials *ejo* ‘yesterday’ or *ejuusi* ‘the day before yesterday’.

(5) Omuhaana asaguye mu nyumba.

omuhaana a- Ø sagul -uye mu nyumba.  
girl 3S- PAST sweep PERF LOC house.

*‘The girl swept the house (earlier on today).’*

6) Ekwaya yefe yembiré

e- kwaya y- efe y- emb -ire  
C9 choir C9 POSS C9- sing -PERF (hodiernal)

*‘Our choir sang (earlier today).’*

(7) Ekwaya yefe yembíré.

e- kwaya y- efe y- emb -ire  
C9 choir C9 POSS C9- sing -PERF (recent past)

*‘Our choir sang (yesterday).’*

### 3.2.2.3 The recent past tense

In Lunyole this tense marks events that happened anytime between yesterday and the end of the day before yesterday. It is marked by the general past tense marker *a-* prefix as in sentence (8). The exact time of the occurrence of the event is not important but past tense adverbials *ejo* ‘yesterday’ as in (9) and *ejuusi* ‘the day before yesterday’ as in (10) may be used to indicate the exact day the event took place. This ‘recent past’ can also be expressed in terms of last month or the month before last month or even last year and the year before last year depending on the time unit in

focus as in (11). In this case the referential demonstratives *ogwo* ‘that’ and *gula* ‘that one yonder’ are used to indicate the month or the year the event took place.

(8) Maama ganyiyire amabbooni.

maama g a- nyiy -ire amabbooni

Mother 3S PAST cook PERF potatoes

*‘Mother cooked potatoes.’*

In (8) above, the cooking is perceived by the Lunyole speaker to have taken place either yesterday or the day before yesterday, a recent past event. If the speaker wants to be specific about the time he will use the following sentence or one may mark tone on the verb to distinguish the tense in focus.

(9) Maama ganyiyire amabbooni olw’ejo

maama ga- a- nyiy -ire amabbooni olwa ejo.

Mother 3S PAST cook PERF potatoes CONJ yesterday

*‘Mother cooked potatoes yesterday.’*

(10) Bbaaba gaagobooye ejuusi.

bbaabba ga- a- gobol -oye ejuusi

father 3S PAST return PERF the day before yesterday

*‘Father returned the day before yesterday.’*

(11) Bob gatandihire ohusoma omwaha ogwo

Bob ga- tandih -ire ohu- som -a omwaha ogwo

Bob 3S begin PERF INF read Fv year DEM

*‘Bob began schooling last year (lit. that year).’*

### 3.2.2.4 The distant past tense

In Lunyole the distant past tense describes an event in the past, which may or may not be relevant to the situation at the time of speaking. It is marked by the general past tense morpheme *a-* that is prefixed on the main verb, as in (12) below.

(12) Omuhasi ganyiiya emere

omuhasi ga- a- nyiiya emere  
 woman 3S PAST cook food

*'The woman cooked food.'*

The sentence (13) can have within in it the implication of last growing season as the time referred to. In this case the event is relevant to the prevailing situation.

(13) Nalima maido aye si gaamire

n- a- lim -a maido aye si ga- a- m -ire  
 1S PAST dig Fv groundnuts CONJ NEG C6 PAST do well PERF

*'I cultivated groundnuts but it did not do well.'*

To summarize, tense marking for these four past tenses in Lunyole, is shown in Table 5 using the verb *ohugula* 'to buy' with first person plural.

Tense Marking on verb	Verb form in 1 <sup>st</sup> person plural
Distant Past (P <sub>4</sub> ) a- ...-a	Hw-a-gul-a <i>we bought</i>
Recent Past (P <sub>3</sub> ) a- ...-ire	Hw-a-gul-ire <i>we bought</i>
Hodiernal Past (P <sub>2</sub> ) Ø ...-ire	Hu-gul-ire <i>we bought</i>
Immediate Past (P <sub>1</sub> ) ha- ...-nga	Hwa-ha-gula-nga <i>we have just bought</i>

Table 5. Past tense marking on Lunyole verb



### 3.2.3 The Future Tenses

Future tense is the “location of the situation after the present moment” (Comrie 1985, 36). There are three future tenses in Lunyole: immediate future, near future, and distant future. They are each morphologically marked with a different morpheme on the verb.

The immediate future is marked with the prefix *na-*. The near future is marked with the prefix *naha-* and the distant future is marked with the prefix *li-*. The future may also be stated periphrastically using auxiliary verbs such as *ohutiina* ‘to go’ and *ohwenda* ‘to want’. In these cases, there is no future morpheme placed on the verb, but often other words implying future such as *ejo* ‘tomorrow’, *ejuusi* ‘the day after tomorrow’ and *esabbiti eyiija* ‘next week’ added to the sentence. However in Lunyole, the time adverbials *ejo* and *ejuusi* can mean both ‘yesterday’ and ‘the day before yesterday’ respectively or ‘tomorrow’ and ‘the day after tomorrow’ respectively. The context will always determine which tense the adverbial is expressing.

#### 3.2.3.1 *The morphological futures*

What I am referring to here, as “morphological futures”, are those future tenses that have distinct morphemes to mark them in the morphology of the Lunyole verb.

##### 3.2.3.1.1 The immediate future tense

The immediate future tense in Lunyole marks an event that will take place some time after now but within the same day of speaking. It is marked by prefix *na-* on the main verb stem.

(14) Hunatiine e Busolwe hwagula sukaali.

Hu- **na-** tiin -e e Busolwe hwa- gul -a sukaali.

1P- FUT1 go -Fv C23 Busolwe 1P buy -Fv sugar

*We will go (within today) to Busolwe and buy sugar.*

### 3.2.3.1.2 The near future tense

The near future in Lunyole marks an event that will take place any time between tomorrow at sunrise and the end of the day after tomorrow. This tense is marked by the prefix *naha-*

(15) Abaana banahatandihe ohusoma olwabbalaza

Abaana ba- **naha-** tandih -e ohu- som a olwabbalaza  
children 3P- FUT2 begin Fv INF read Fv Monday

*The children will begin school on Monday.*

(15) above will only be grammatically correct if the time of speaking is the Saturday before the Monday on which school will open. If one was speaking on the Sunday before the Monday on which school will open, the time adverbial *ejo* ‘tomorrow’ would be more natural.

This kind of future is sometimes not used in the literal sense of it, that is, to indicate an event that will take place any time between tomorrow and the end of the day after tomorrow. It may be used to indicate that the action may or may not take place dependent on other factors such as in loose talk. Sentence (16), which is an extract from the story of a child called Nakoma, is a good example of such a use.



(16) Nga aba-saaye ba-mu-loma ba-ati, Nakoma leha hu-**naha**-hugul-ir -e  
 CONJ C2 parents 3P 1S tell 3P DEM Nakoma stop 1P FUT buy BEN Fv  
 aha-biindi ahandi oba hu-**naha**-hu- bumb -ir -e aha-ndi.  
 C12 pot another or 1P FUT INF make BEN Fv C12 another

*And her parents said to her, "Stop (crying) we will buy for you another small pot or we will make another for you."*

That Nakoma's parents used the immediate future tense does not mean at all that they were literally going to buy for her another small pot in the near future. It was just a way of consoling her.

At times the near future tense is used to focus on the day an event will take place in the future especially in making an inquiry about the same. For example, in

(17) the implication is the day the addressee will go to Nairobi, not the time.

(17) Onahatiine ŋaali e Nairobi?  
 O- **naha**- tiin -e ŋaali e Nairobi  
 1S FUT2 go Fv when C23 Nairobi

*'When are you going to Nairobi?'*

### 3.2.3.1.3 The distant future tense

The distant future tense marks an event that will take place any time from the end of the day after tomorrow to eternity future. This tense is marked by the prefix *li-* as in (18). As already stated, the specific time can be roughly indicated by time adverbials implying future, which are syntactically added, e.g. *esabbiti eyiija* 'next week' and *omwaha oguuja* 'next year' as in (19).

(18) N’otegoboleho balihubbinga mu somero.

Ni o-ta- egobol -e -ho ba-li- hu-bbing-a mu somero  
 CONJ 2S NEG reform Fv LOC 3P FUT3 2S expel Fv LOC school

*If you do not reform you will be expelled from school.*

(19) Namwano alitiina e Nairobi omwaha oguja.

Namwano a- li- tiin -a e Nairobi omwaha oguja.

Namwano 3S FUT3 go Fv C23 Nairobi year next.

*Namwano will go to Nairobi next year.*

Tense marking for these three morphological future tenses in Lunyole, can be summarized in the Table 6 using the verb *ohugula* ‘to buy’ with first person plural.

Tense Marking on verb	Verb form in 1 <sup>st</sup> person plural
Immediate Future (F <sub>1</sub> ) <b>na-</b>	Hu- <b>na</b> -gule <i>We shall buy</i>
Near Future (F <sub>2</sub> ) <b>naha-</b>	Hu- <b>naha</b> -gule <i>we shall buy</i>
Distant Future (F <sub>3</sub> ) <b>li-</b>	Hu- <b>li</b> -gula <i>We shall buy</i>

*Table 6. Future tense marking on Lunyole verb*

### 3.2.3.2 The Periphrastic future tenses

In Lunyole the periphrastic future tense is not marked in the verb but only in adjuncts, specifically adverbials. It expresses an intention. In the construction of a sentence with periphrastic future it may appear that the speaker is in the process of doing the action. In this type of construction an auxiliary verb is used without morphological tense markers. However, the time frame is made certain by the time adverbials like *ejo* ‘tomorrow’, *omwaha oguja* ‘next year’ etc.

## 3.2.3.2.1 The immediate future tense:

This future tense periphrastically uses auxiliary verbs such as *ohutiina* ‘to go’, and *ohwenda* ‘to want’. There is no future morpheme placed on the verb.

(20) Ndi **hutiina** ohugula amagi.

n- li hutiina ohu- gul -a amagi.

1S- be AUX:go INF buy Fv eggs.

*‘I am going to buy eggs (sometime today).’*

At times, depending on the context, the above sentence may also indicate that I am on my way now just as I speak. The context in this case will make the distinction.

(21) **Nenda** hutiina mu hibuga.

n- enda hu- tiina mu hibuga.

1S- AUX:want INF go LOC town.

*‘I want to go (am going) to town.’*

(22) Embusi **yenda** hufa.

Embusi yi- enda hu- fa.

goat C5 AUX:want INF die.

*‘The goat is going to (will) die.’*

(This timeframe is open-ended due to the uncertainty of when death will come.)

## 3.2.3.2.2 The near future tense

The near future also periphrastically uses auxiliary verbs such as *ohutiina* ‘to go’ and *ohwenda* ‘to want’, again, without the future morpheme placed on the verb. But often other words implying future such as *ejo* ‘tomorrow’, *ejuusi* ‘the day after tomorrow’ or *esabbiti eyiija* ‘next week’ are added as in (23).

(23) Ndi **hutiina** hugula amagi olwejo.

n- li **hutiina** ohu- gul -a amagi **olw'ejo**

1S- be AUX:go INF- buy Fv eggs (day) of tomorrow

*'I am going to buy eggs tomorrow'. (I intend to go and buy eggs tomorrow)*

### 3.2.3.2.3 The distant future tense

This future also periphrastically uses the auxiliary verbs such as *ohutiina* 'to go' and *ohwenda* 'to want' without the future morpheme on the main verb, but often a time adverbial implying a time in the distant future such *omwaha oguuja*, 'next year' *ebiseera ebyomumoni* 'future times' are added as in (24).

(24) Ese n'omuhasi wange hutiina huguluha hutiine mu Amereka omwaha oguuja.

Ese ni omuhasi wange **hutiina** hu- guluh -a hu- tiine mu

I CONJ wife POSS AUX:go INF fly- Fv 1P- go LOC

Amereka **omwaha oguuja**.

America year next.

*'My wife and I are going to fly to go to America next year.'*

## 3.3 Relative Tense

Relative tense is where the reference point for location of a given situation is "some point in time given by the context". (Comrie 1985: 56). The reference point in this case may not necessarily be the present moment. It is a tense that is interpreted relative to a reference point provided in the context. So, for relative tenses, one is required to identify the reference point compatible with the context. Relative tense,



like the absolute tense, uses time adverbials to locate the situation relative to the point of reference.

Apart from time adverbials, Lunyole also uses relative pronoun *anya* 'at/by the time' to express relativity in time, and the verb *ohuba/ li* 'to be' to relate it with the main event. In this case *li* is used for past and *ohuba* for non-past time reference. At times the particle *ni* 'when' is used. The weakness with the relative tense in Lunyole is that it does not locate the exact point in time when an event must have taken place as seen from the following examples. In (25) the exact day or time is not mentioned - a planting season is usually a month long.

(25) *Hadali bamusaaye ni bamwa obule.*

Hadali	ba-	mu-	sal	- aye	ni	ba-	mwa	obule
Hadali	3S	3S	give birth	PERF	when	3S	sow	millet

*'Hadali was born during the time of sowing millet.'*

In (26) the exact time the father of the speaker came back is not specified. Nyole families do not have a specific time for supper. Suppertime extends from around 8 p.m. to around 10 p.m. depending on how quick the process of preparation of the supper goes. So the time reference in this case is relative to whatever time it was when they were having supper.

(26) *Aṅa bbaabba gagoboleeye hwali hulya ehy'egulo*

Aṅa	bbaabba	ga-	gobola	-eye	hu-	a-	li	hu-	lya	ehy'egulo
at time	father	3S	come back	PERF	3P	PAST	be	3P	eat	supper

*'By the time father came back we were eating supper.'*



In (27) the day, month, year or exact time in the future when the referent will get married is not stated but it is relative to the time the speaker will have become an old man.

(27) Aja olireetera omuhasi ndiba sahalunjire.

Aja o- li- leet -er -a omu- hasi n- li- ba sahalunj-ire.

When 3S FUT bring APP Fv C1 woman 1S FUT be old PERF

*'By the time you get married I will be old.'*

In (28) the time adverbial *ni wahyeye* literally 'when the day broke', meaning 'the following day' marks the exact time of the action of her 'coming back'. The reference point for this time adverbial is 'two nights'.

(28) Gajenyuhireyo ebiri ni wahyeye ng'agobola

g- a- nyuh -ire -yo ebiri ni wa- hyeye nga a- gobola

3S PAST sleep PERF LOC two CONJ C14 day break CONJ 3S return

*'She slept there two nights the following day she came back.'*

### 3.4 Summary

As we have seen in the discussion above, Lunyole has a tense system of three major tenses: past, present and future. These tenses are further divided according to understanding of time by the Banyole to make eight distinctive tenses. Table 7 shows these tenses, the time frames they represent and how they are marked on the verb.

<b>TENSE</b>	<b>TIME FRAME</b>	<b>PREFIX</b>
Present tense	Now	∅
Immediate past	A few moments ago to approximately one hour ago	ha-
Hodiernal past	From today's sunrise to between a few moments ago to approximately an hour ago.	∅
Recent past	From the day before yesterday sunrise to today's	a-
Distant past	From the end of the day before yesterday to eternity past	a-
Immediate future	From now to the end of today	na-
Near future	Tomorrow to the end of the day after tomorrow	naha-
Distant future	From the end of the day after tomorrow to eternity future.	li-

*Table 7. Morphemes that mark various tenses in Lunyole.*

## **CHAPTER FOUR**

### **ASPECT**

Chapter four discusses another verbal category – aspect. Lunyole has six main aspectual categories – perfective, anterior, imperfective, habitual, progressive, and persistive. We begin with the definition of aspect (4.1), and then we discuss perfective aspect (4.2) and anterior aspect (4.2.1). With imperfective aspect (4.3), we discuss progressive aspect (4.3.1), present progressive (4.3.1.1), progressive continuous (4.3.1.2), progressive past continuous (4.3.1.3) and progressive future continuous (4.3.1.4). Persistive aspect (4.3.2) includes present persistive (4.3.2.1), past persistive (4.3.2.2), and future peristive (4.3.2.3). Habitual aspect (4.3.3) along with present habitual (4.3.3.1), past habitual (4.3.3.2), immediate past perfective habitual (4.3.3.3), recent past perfective habitual (4.3.3.4) and future habitual (4.3.3.5). This is followed by completive aspect (4.3.4), and iterative aspect (4.3.5) to complete the survey. The chapter is summed up by contrasting aspect and tense (4.3.6).

#### **4.1 Definition**

Comrie says, “Aspects are different ways of viewing the internal temporal constituency of a situation.” (1976:3) In other words, aspect shows the way in which the internal constituency of the event is viewed, for example, whether it is seen as a whole and completed from the outside or from within and incomplete. According to

Payne, "Aspect describes the internal temporal shape of events or states." (Payne 1997, 238). In this view aspect is a grammatical category that refers primarily to the way grammar marks the duration or a type of temporal activity denoted in a verb.

Since aspect relates the time of an event to some other time, in the hypothesis of relevance, it is more relevant to the verb than tense. (Hopper and Traugott 1993,43). In Lunyole verb morphology, the aspect is marked as a suffix on the verb root for the perfective and habitual aspects, and a prefix on the verb root for the persistive aspect.

In Lunyole aspectual categories are complexes of tense and aspect. There are at least six main aspectual categories: perfective, anterior, imperfective, habitual, progressive, and persistive. Others are the completive and iterative aspects.

#### 4.2 Perfective Aspect

"In perfective aspect the situation is viewed in its entirety, independent of tense" (Payne 1997, 239). "Perfectivity indicates the view of a situation as a single whole, without distinction of the various separate phases that make up that situation" (Comrie 1976, 16). In other words, it presents an event as an undifferentiated and time bound whole without regard to the internal constituency of the event. It takes an exterior view of the event as a whole. "The perfective is also defined in terms of being resultative, that is to say, indicating the successful completion of a situation" (Comrie 1976, 20).

In Lunyole the perfective aspect marks a completed action and works together with the hodiernal and recent past tenses. It is marked by the suffix *-ire*, which

changes to *-aye, -eye, -iye, -oye, -uye, -ise, -isye* and *-e* according to the derivational process on the verb root.

In (29) and (30) the “dancing” is viewed as a completed action.

(29) Hwahinire owiire wosi wosi.

hu- a- hin -ire owiire wosi wosi.

1P PAST dance PERF night all all

*We danced all night.*

(30) Hwahiniriye owiire.

hu- a- hin -ir -iye owiire.

1P- PAST dance APP PERF night.

*We danced non-stop last night.*

#### 4.2.1 Anterior Aspect

Anterior aspect, which is also called “perfect” or “retrospective”, refers to an action that took place earlier on and produced a state which either lives on or whose consequence or relevance still lives on. In other words the situation occurs before the reference time but is relevant to the situation at the reference time. This reference time is not the moment the speaking. (Bybee, Perkins and Pagliuca 1994,316ff).

In Lunyole, this aspect describes a sequence of actions that took place in the past, the second action coming after completion of the first one. It is marked by the auxiliary verb *li* or *ohuba* ‘to be’.



In (31), the rains came after the action of digging had been completed, a state of affairs that may carry some relevance for both the speaker and hearer, for example, having the garden ready for planting when the rains came.

(31) Efula aña yagwiriye, gaali alimire.

Efula aña ya- gw -ir -iye ga- a- li a- lim -ire

Rain by time C5- fall APP PERF 3S- PAST be 3S- dig -PERF

*By the time it rained, he had dug.*

### 4.3 Imperfective Aspect

“In imperfective aspect the situation is viewed from ‘inside’ as an ongoing process” (Payne 1997, 239). It has to do with the internal constituency of events and usually represents backgrounded events in a discourse for events foregrounded by the use of the perfective aspect. According to Comrie, imperfective aspect contrasts with perfective aspect and calls the imperfective a cover term for habitual, progressive, and continuous (Comrie 1976, 66). Other scholars e.g. Bybee, while endorsing the basic imperfective – perfective contrast, they see the imperfective, habitual, continuous, generic, and other similar categories as rather being co-ordinate (Bybee, Perkins and Pagliuca 1994,316ff).

Lunyole fits with Comrie’s view, which suggests a co-existence of the imperfective, continuous, progressive, and habitual forms. In Lunyole the present tense is essentially imperfective. The imperfective in Lunyole includes the habitual, progressive and persistive aspects. It is marked by the two forms of the verb ‘to be’

*ohuba* and *li*, the prefix *hi-* for the persistive aspect and suffix *-nga* for the habitual aspect on the main verb.

#### 4.3.1 Progressive Aspect

The progressive aspect describes an action as an on-going and continuing event (Saeed 1997, 117). The action occurs simultaneously with time of reference. It is used in dynamic situations rather than states. Hence, in past and future the progressive aspect is used to give a background onto which another event occurs. In Lunyole the progressive aspect is marked in three separate ways depending on tense - continuous, past continuous and future continuous.

##### 4.3.1.1 *The present progressive aspect*

The present progressive aspect expresses an action in progress at the time of speaking. It may make a statement or ask a question with a central thought on the action rather than on time.

Lunyole marks the present progressive aspect is with the verb 'to be' *li*.

(32) Bbobbu ali hufuga egaali.

Bbobbu        a- li    hufuga        e-    gaali

Bob            3S be ride        C9 bicycle

*Bob is riding a bicycle (now).*

#### 4.3.1.2 Past progressive aspect.

The past progressive aspect refers to those events that were, are, or will be ongoing at the time of reference. It is marked in Lunyole by the auxiliary verb *ohuballi* ‘to be’

(33) Aṅa basaaliye gaali ahola mu hyoma hyengoye.

Aṅa ba- saal -iye ga- a- li a- hola mu hyoma hyengoye.

When 3P give birth PERF 3S- PAST be 3S work LOC industry clothing.

*‘When I was born he was working in the textile industry (distant past).’*

#### 4.3.1.3 Future progressive aspect

The future progressive refers to an event that will be taking place in the future at the time of reference. It is marked by the time adverbial *aṅa* ‘at the time’ and *ohuba* another form of the verb ‘to be’

(35) Aṅa hunolere banabe baṅenyuha

Aṅa hu- na- ol -ere ba- na- be ba- ṅenyuh -a

ADV 1P FUT1 arrive PERF 3P FUT1 be 3P sleep Fv

*‘By the time we arrive they will be sleeping.’*

#### 4.3.2 Persistent Aspect

The persistent aspect marks an event that started in the past and is ongoing at the locus of orientation (point of reference); the locus of orientation must be either explicit or implicit. In Lunyole the persistent aspect is marked by prefix *hi-* on the main verb stem.

#### 4.3.2.1 *The present persistive*

The present persistive describes an action that started in the past and is ongoing at the time of speaking. The point of orientation for the action must be either explicit or implicit. In Lunyole the present persistive is marked by *hi-*, which is prefixed on the verb stem.

(36) Bbaabba ni Maama bahirima

bbaabaa	ni	Maama	ba-	hi-	lim	-a
father	CONJ	mother	3P	PERS	dig	Fv

*'My father and mother are still digging.'*

#### 4.3.2.2 *Past persistive*

The past persistive aspect describes an event that was going on in the past when an intervening event happened.

(37) Semwana gafa n'ahisoma.

Semwana	ga-	a-	fa	ni	a-	hi-	soma
His father	3S	PAST	die	CONJ	3S	PERS	read

*His father died while he was still in school.*

(38) Abaye ahisoma ehitabo ng'ehide hihubba.

a-	ba	-iye	a-	hi-	som	-a	ehitabo	nga	ehide	hi-hubba.
3S	be	PERF	3S	PERS	read	Fv	book	CONJ	bell	C7-beat.

*He was still reading the book when the bell rang.*

### 4.3.2.3 Future persistent

The future persistent aspect in Lunyole marks an event that is expected to be ongoing in future when another intervening event takes place as in (39). It also marks an event that is yet to happen but is expected to happen. In this case the persistent morpheme *hi-* is used with *li*, which is one of the forms of the verb ‘to be’ as in (40).

The *hi-* morpheme also functions as a form of negative (see 5.3.4)

(39) Hulinuumula ni bahyaga obule

hu-	li-	juumul	-a	ni	ba-	hi-	aga	obule
1P	FUT3	rest	Fv	CONJ	3S	PERS	weed	millet

*We will get our holidays when they are still weeding millet. (When we get our holidays it will still be time of weeding millet)*

(40) Ahiri husaguula mu nyumba.

a-	hi-	ri	hu-	saguul	-a	mu	nyumba
3S	PERS	be	INF	sweep	Fv	LOC	house

*She has yet (is still) to sweep the house.*

### 4.3.3 Habitual Aspect

Habitual aspect expresses an event that happens at regular intervals from time to time though it may not necessarily be taking place now. In some languages habituality is essentially the same as iterativity, i.e. the repetition of a situation, the successive occurrence of several instances of the given situation (Comrie 1976, 23). In short, the habitual aspect is used to describe an event, which occurs usually, habitually, normally, or always. If limited in time reference, the habitual is mostly used in past or



timeless situations for pragmatic reasons and it can semantically merge with other imperfective forms.

In Lunyole, the habitual aspect is used to express events that happened habitually in the past and those anticipated taking place habitually in future. However in the immediate and hodiernal past, or the immediate future, the habitual aspect morpheme refers to an event that either happens simultaneously with another event, in a somewhat regular manner, or it is continual over a short period of time. This is due to the fact that ‘habitual’ actions cannot be established in a short time. The habitual aspect is marked by the suffix *-nga* on the main verb.

#### 4.3.3.1 Present habitual

The present habitual aspect describes an action that occurs habitually but may not necessarily be taking place at the present moment. It also describes an event that is repetitive at regular intervals as in (41) and (42).

In Lunyole the present habitual aspect also expresses an event that is taking place now and may even extend into the future. This is common with the imperative mood and it is marked on the main verb with suffix *-nga*.

(41) Muha Wandera alimanga aŋo.

Muha Wandera	a-	lim	-a	<b>-nga</b>	aŋo
wife Wandera	3S	dig	Fv	HAB	DEM

*Wandera's wife always digs there.*

(42) Mulimengaŋo.

Mu- lim -e -nga aŋo.  
2P dig Mood HAB DEM

*You(pl) be digging there'.*

#### 4.3.3.2 Past habitual aspect

In Lunyole the past habitual aspect denotes an event, which at regular intervals has been repeatedly taking place in the past and has the potentiality of happening again in the future even if it is not taking place now.

(43) Alimangaŋo.

a- lim -a -nga aŋo  
3S dig FV HAB LOC

*He has been digging there.*

#### 4.3.3.3 Immediate past habitual

In Lunyole, the immediate past habitual denotes an event that until a few moments ago had been taking place. Apart from the habitual marker *-nga* suffix, it is also marked by either the auxiliary verb *ohuŋwa* 'to come from, to be from' as in (44) or the immediate past tense marker *ha-* prefix on the main verb as in (45).

(44) Maama aŋwa hulimanga aŋo.

Maama aŋwa hu- lim -a -nga aŋo.  
Mother3S come from INF dig Fv HAB LOC

*My mother has just been digging there.*

(45) Bbaabba gahatinanga mu maduuka

Bbaabba      ga-      ha-      tina      -nga      mu      ma duuka  
 father            3S      PAST go      HAB LOC C6 shop

*My father has just left to go to the shops*

(45) above denotes two actions – leaving a location and the movement to go to another location. In this case, one of the actions is still going on even up to the time of speaking. It is implied within the aspect marker *-nga* that the father is still on his way. What is important here is that the act of ‘leaving’ has been completed.

#### 4.3.3.4 Recent past habitual

In Lunyole, the recent past habitual marks a completed action that otherwise had continued over sometime in the recent past.

(46) Omuhasi wuwe galimirenga aṅo.

Omu- hasi    wu-we            ga-      a-      lim      -ire    -nga    aṅo  
 C1    wife    C1 Poss        3S      PAST-dig      PERF HAB LOC

*His wife has been digging there*

The above sentence may mean the event took place either yesterday or the day before yesterday. The difference is determined either by tone, if the sentence is in isolation, or context.

(47) Omusaaja abayenga alima aṅo.

Omu- saaja    a-      ba      -iye    -nga    a-      lim      -a    aṅo  
 C1    man    3S      be      PERF HAB 3S      dig      Fv.LOC

*The man has been digging there. (but he is no longer digging there)*

#### 4.3.3.5 Future habitual

The Future Habitual aspect denotes an event that will regularly take place in the future as in (48) and (49).

(48) Anosenga esaani n'aduhana.

a-      na-      os      -e      -nga    esaani ni      a-    duh      -ana  
 3S      FUT1 wash    FV      HAB    plates    CONJ    3S- quarrel    REF

*He will be washing plates while grumbling.*

(49) Onahalimenga aŋo ni wukumire

o-      naha    lim    -e    -nga    aŋo    ni      wu-    ku-    m    -ire  
 2S      FUT2 dig    Fv    HAB    LOC    CONJ    1S    2S    wait    PERF

*'You will be digging there as you wait for me.'*

#### 4.3.4 Completive aspect

According to Payne, the completive aspect expresses the completion of an event. Sometimes the completive and inceptive aspects are called phasal aspects because they refer to different 'phases' of the event described in the verb. (1997, 240).

In Lunyole the completive aspect is expressed by predicating the verb *ohuhena* 'to complete' with a verbal noun. Because the event is viewed as completed, the verb *ohuhena* has to be in the past tense and therefore marked by perfective aspect marker *-ire*, as in (50).

The completive can also be marked by suffixing locative morphemes *-ho*, *-mo* and *-ŋo* on the verb *ohuhena* 'to complete' to express the idea of 'completely finished' as in (51).

(50) Abageni bahenire ohulya

Aba- geni ba- hen -ire ohulya

C2 visitor C2 complete PERF to eat

*The visitors have completed eating.*

(51) Omwana ahenirego emere

Omu- ana a- hen -ire -**ŋo** emere

C1 child 3S complete PERF LOC food

*The child has completely finished the food*

#### 4.3.5 Iterative aspect

This is an aspect that is occasionally found in verbs that involve a repeated action. In Lunyole the iterative is marked either by a verbal extension through reduplication of the verb root as in (52) or by a complete change of the root by inserting the morpheme

*-ju-*, which expresses a repeated action as in (53).

(52) *Ohutema* ‘to cut’                      *ohutematema* ‘to cut repeatedly’

Omusaja atematemire owahye

Omu- saaja a- tematem -ire owahye

C1 man 3S cut repeatedly PERF fellow

*‘The man repeatedly cut his friend.’*



(53) *Ohuḡalula* ‘to pull’                      *ohuḡalujula* ‘to pull repeatedly’

Otapalujula ese ndi mulwaye

o-     ta-     palujula             ese n- li     mulwaye

2S     NEG   pull repeatedly   me   1S be sick

*Don't pull me back and forth, I am sick.*

#### 4.3.6 Aspect and Tense

Aspect and tense systems are sometimes difficult to disentangle. This is because they both “allow speakers to relate situations to time” (Saeed 1997, 114), but they also offer different slants on time. In our discussion of tense (chapter 3) and aspect (chapter 4) we saw that while tenses are a representation of the time that contains the event, aspects are different representations of the time within the event. The two are therefore viewed as interdependent categories. In fact these two categories together with modality form a systematic whole. According to Derek Nurse, most tense and aspect encoding in Bantu languages, of which Lunyole is one, involves a combination of three main components: inflection of the verb, tone, and the use of verbs additional to (serial verbs) and preceding (auxiliary verbs) the main lexical verb (2001, 2). As we have seen, tense and aspect encoding in Lunyole involves inflection of the main lexical verb, tone and the use of an auxiliary verb. Table 8 shows different tense and aspect marking on the verb by prefixing the tense marker, suffixing the aspect marker and the use of the auxiliary verb ‘to be’. The verb *ohugula* ‘to buy’ has been used for demonstration.

Aspect →	Perfective	Perfective	Imperfective	Imperfective	Imperfective
Tense ↓	<b>Perfective</b>	<b>Anterior</b> <i>li</i> or <i>ohuba</i> 'to be' + <i>-ire</i>	<b>Habitual</b> <i>-nga</i>	<b>Progressive</b> <i>li</i> or <i>ohuba</i> 'to be'+ Inf.	<b>Persistive</b> <i>hi-</i>
Distant P <sub>4</sub> a-...a	Hw-a-gul-a <i>we bought</i>	Hwa-li hugul- <b>ire</b> <i>we had bought</i>	Hwagula-nga <i>we used to buy</i>	Hwali <b>hugula</b> <i>we were</i> <i>buying</i>	Hwali hu- <b>hi-</b> <i>gula</i> <i>we were still</i> <i>buying</i>
Recent P <sub>3</sub> a-...-ire	Hwagulire <i>we bought</i>	Hwa-li hugul- <b>ire</b> <i>we had bought</i>	Hwagulire-nga <i>we were buying</i>	Hwabaye <b>hugula</b> <i>we were</i> <i>buying</i>	Hwabaye <b>hu-<b>hi-</b>gula</b> <i>we were still</i> <i>buying</i>
Hodiernal P <sub>2</sub> Ø-...-ire	Hugulire <i>we bought</i>	Hwabaaye <b>hugul-ire</b> <i>we had bought</i>	Hugulire-nga <i>we were buying</i>	Hubaaye <b>hugula</b> <i>we were</i> <i>buying</i>	Hubaaye <b>hu-<b>hi-</b>gula</b> <i>we were still</i> <i>buying</i>
Immediate P <sub>1</sub> ha-...-nga	Hwa-ha- <b>gula-nga</b> <i>we have just</i> <i>bought</i>	Hubaye <b>hwahagulanga</b> <i>we had just</i> <i>bought</i>			
Present Ø (Unmarked)	Hugula <i>we buy</i>		Hugulanga <i>we buy</i>	Huli <b>hugula</b> <i>we are</i> <i>buying</i>	Hu- <b>hi-</b> gula <i>we are still</i> <i>buying</i>
Immediate F <sub>1</sub> na-	Hunagule <i>we shall buy</i>	Hunabe <b>hugulire</b> <i>we shall have</i> <i>bought</i>	Hunagulenga <i>we shall be</i> <i>buying</i>	Hunabe <b>hugula</b> <i>we will be</i> <i>buying</i>	Hunabe hu- <b>hi-</b> gula <i>we will still</i> <i>be buying</i>
Near F <sub>2</sub> naha-	Hunahagule <i>we shall buy</i>	Hunahabe <b>hugulire</b> <i>we shall have</i> <i>bought</i>	Hunahagulenga <i>we shall be</i> <i>buying</i>	Hu-naha- <b>be</b> <b>hugula</b> <i>we will be</i> <i>buying</i>	Hunahabe <b>hu-<b>hi-</b>gula</b> <i>we will still</i> <i>be buying</i>
Distant F <sub>3</sub> li-	Huligula <i>we shall buy</i>	Huliba hugulire <i>we shall have</i> <i>bought</i>	Huligulanga <i>we shall be</i> <i>buying</i>	Hu-li- <b>ba</b> <b>hugula</b> <i>we will be</i> <i>buying</i>	Huliba hu- <b>hi-</b> gula <i>we will still</i> <i>be buying</i>

Table 8. Verb forms for tense and aspect marking in Lunyole.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **TENSE/ASPECT AND LUNYOLE VERBAL EXTENSIONS**

This chapter gives an overview of the morphology of the Lunyole verb. As we have already seen, tense locates an event in time while aspect says nothing about when an event occurred except by implication. At clause and sentence level tense serves essentially to locate the event referred to in the sentence with reference to the time at which the utterance was made. The marking for tense, aspect and mood in Lunyole are in most cases marked on the verb by way of affixation, and at times by way of using auxiliary verbs especially the verb ‘to be’. Since we have already discussed in detail tense and aspect in the previous chapter, the discussion in this chapter will consider the morphological structure of the Lunyole verb (5.1), the infinitive (5.1.1) verbal extensions (5.1.2) and how they affect the form of the aspectual morphemes. We discuss the verbs ‘to be’ (5.2), and ‘to have’ (5.2.3), negation (5.4) and how they are affected by tense/aspect marking.

#### **5.1 The Morphological Structure of the Lunyole Verb**

The verb in Lunyole is made up of the verb stem and a number of prefixes and suffixes among them the tense, aspect and mood markers. When tense and aspect are introduced on a verb the following formula will describe the form of the verb.

SC- (NEG)-(OC)-Tm-Vst-ASP/M

The formula describes the verb form in which there has to be an obligatory subject concord (SC), an optional negative marker (neg), an optional object concord (OC) a tense marker (Tm) in the tense slot, a Verb stem and an Aspect (A) or Mood (M) marker. The tenses are marked using a distinct prefix in the tense slot (see Table 7 on page 32).

### 5.1.1 The Infinitive.

The infinitive or “non finite” as Palmer prefers to call it (Palmer 1986, 156) is a term for the form of a verb that is unmarked for person, tense, aspect, mood or concordial agreement. In other words it is the basic form of a verb.

In Lunyole the infinitive is marked by prefix *ohu-* or *hu-* on the verb root. The infinitive of a verb can appear as a dependent verb within a clause as in (54) and it is also used to express a purpose as in (55).

(54) Gahenire ohwambala ng’aniina egaali ohutiina mu husaba

g-	a-	hen	-ire	<b>ohu-</b>	ambala	nga	a-	niina	e-	gaali
3S	PAST	finish	PERF	INF	put on	CONJ	3S	climb	C9	bicycle
<b>ohu-</b>	tiina	mu	<b>hu-</b>	saba						
INF	go	LOC	INF	pray						

*Having put on his clothes, he got on the bicycle to go to pray*



(55) Hwenda hutiina mu dwaliro ohubona omulwaye

Hu- enda **hu-** tiina mu dwaliro **ohu-** bona omu-lwaye  
 2P want INF go LOC hospital INF see C1 sick

*'We want to go to the hospital to see the sick person.'*

### 5.1.2 Verbal Extensions

In simple terms a verbal extension is a process of adding a grammatical morpheme to the root of a verb to include among others, an agent that causes an action (causative), to mark an action done for, on behalf of, or with reference to someone or something (applicative), to express an action done one to another (reciprocal), or to change the verb to a passive.

#### 5.1.2.1 *The causative.*

When an agent causes an action to occur this is indicated by a causative extension on the verb. In Lunyole the causative suffix can take the forms *-isa*, *-esa*, *-mya*, *-sya* as in the examples below:

<i>ohulya</i> 'to eat'	- <i>ohuliisa</i> 'to cause to eat'
<i>ohumera</i> 'to germinate'	- <i>ohumesa</i> 'to cause to germinate'
<i>ohwoma</i> 'to dry'	- <i>ohwomya</i> 'to cause to dry'
<i>ohulira</i> 'to cry'	- <i>ohulisya</i> 'to cause to cry'



The perfective aspect marker on such verbs will be in the form of *-ise*, as in (56) or *-isye* as in (57) instead of the usual *-ire*. This is more of a morphophonemic issue than grammatical issue.

(56) Efula emesiise enyaasi mu maido.

e-	fula	e-	mesa	-ise	enyaasi mu	maido
C9	rain	C9	cause to germinate	PERF	grass	LOC groundnuts

*'Rain has caused grass to germinate in the groundnuts (garden).'*

(57) Omumwi gwomisye ehyalo

omu-	mwi	gu-	omya	-isye	ehyalo
C3	sunshine	C3	cause to dry	PERF	earth

*'Sunshine has caused the earth to dry.'*

### 5.1.2.2 *The passive*

Lunyole has two mechanisms of passivisation. A frequent mechanism is that of using a 3<sup>rd</sup> person plural form *ba-* e.g. *ohujeha* 'to laugh' becomes *bamujeha* 'he is laughed at' (lit. 'they laugh at him'). However, for some verbs the passive form is sometimes marked by the morpheme *-iw* before the final vowel e.g. *ohwiba* 'to steal'

becomes *ohwibiwa* 'to be stolen'. In such verbs, the perfective aspect marker will maintain the *-w-* and will have the form *-irwe* instead of the *-ire* as (58).

(58) Ebbesa jibiwirwe

e-	bbesa	ji-	biw	-irwe
C10	money	C10	steal	PERF

*'The money has been stolen.'*

### 5.1.2.3 The applicative

The applicative marks an action done for, on behalf of, or with reference to someone or something. Lunyole marks the applicative with morpheme *-er*, e.g. *ohuhola* ‘to work’ becomes *ohuholera* ‘to work for someone’; or *-ir* e.g. *ohulima* ‘to dig’ becomes *ohulimira* ‘to dig for someone’. The applicative can also be used when a motion is directed towards a person or prescribed purpose, e.g. *ohuuja* ‘to come’ becomes *ohujirira* ‘to come for a specific purpose’ as in (59). The perfective aspect of a verb in the applicative form will have the form of suffix *-iye* instead of the *-ire*.

(59) Nijiriye huwona niiwe

N	-ij	-ir	-iye	hu-	wona	niiwe
1S	come	APP	PERF	INF	see	you

*‘I came purposely to see you.’*

### 5.1.2.4 The reciprocal

The reciprocal expresses an action done one to another. Reciprocity in Lunyole is expressed with the morpheme *-an*, which occurs after the verb root. For example *ohubona* ‘to see’ becomes *ohubonana* ‘to see one another.’ The perfective aspect of a verb in its reciprocal form will only be marked by suffix *-e* on the verb stem instead of the *-ire* as in (60).

(60) Ni hwaganene hugwijene mu bifuba.

Ni	hu-	agan	-en	-e	hu-	gwij	-en	-e	mu,	bifuba
when	2P	meet	REC	PERF	2P	embrace	REC	PERF	in	chest

*‘When we met we embraced one another.’*

### 5.1.2.5 *The stative*

Stative verbs are those verbs that are used to describe states. In Lunyole these are verbs such as *ohwihala* ‘to sit’, *ohumanya* ‘to know’, and *ohwemeerera* ‘to stand’. “These verbs allow the speaker to view a situation as a steady state with no internal phases or change” (Saaed 1997, 109). In Lunyole, these verbs are usually marked by the perfective aspect and in some constructions by habitual, persistent, but not by progressive aspect that has a connotation of dynamism. They take the perfective suffix *-aye*, *-eye* and *-ire* as in (61).

(61) Daaga amanyire Olunyole.

Daaga a-        many -ire     Olunyole

Doug 3S        know PERF Lunyole

*‘Doug knows Lunyole.’*

### 5.1.2.6 *Reduplication*

Reduplication occurs when the verb root or the verb stem is repeated in a verb, for example, *ohugenda* ‘to walk’ becomes *ohugendagenda* ‘to walk quickly.’ It is sometimes done to express that the action happened repeatedly, to express prolongation of the action, diminution of force or diffusion. It also expresses emphasis. Whatever the purpose of the reduplication, the tense marker is always prefixed on the stem and the aspect marker is suffixed on the stem as in (62).

(62) Gagendagendire ni geyuna hu somero

G- a- gendagend -ire ni g- eyun -a hu somero  
 3S PAST walk quickly PERF when 3S hurry Fv to school

*He hurriedly walked to school (yesterday).*

## 5.2 The verb ‘to be’

Lunyole has two forms of the verb ‘to be’: *ohuba* and *li*.

### 5.2.1 The *li* form

This form of the verb ‘to be’ appears in recent and far past, and present tense with the progressive aspect where it functions as an auxiliary verb as in (63). It may be marked only with subject agreement and past tense prefixes. This form of the verb ‘to be’ is used story telling as in the introductory/opening sentence in (64).

(63) Wandera ali hufuga egaali

Wandera a- li hu- fuga e- gaali  
 Wandera 3S be INF ride C9 bicycle

*‘Wandera is riding a bicycle.’*

(64) Ŋaaliŋo omuhaana omuŋoono ŋawaawe

Ŋa- a- li -ŋo omu- haana omu- ŋoono ŋa- wa -we  
 C16 PAST be LOC C1 girl C1 beautiful C16 ASS POSS

*‘There was (once) a beautiful girl in their home.’*

5.2.2 The *ohuba* form

This verb appears in the historical present tense, all future tenses, and hodiernal past constructions only. It also functions as an auxiliary and can be marked for both tense and aspect. The perfective aspect in *ohuba* is of the form *-aye* instead of *-ire* as in (65).

(65) Hubaaye huliiye ehy'egulo

Hu-	ba	-aye	hu-	lya	-iye	ehya-	e-	gulo
1P	be	PERF	1P	eat	PERF	ASS	C5	evening

*We had eaten the evening meal (supper).*

## 5.2.3 'To have'

Lunyole expresses the verb 'to have' with the verb 'to be' followed by preposition *ni* 'with'. It expresses something the subject possesses. This may be either physical as in (66) or emotional as in (67).

(66) Wandera ali n'embusi ehumi

Wandera	a-	li	ni	e-	mbusi	ehumi
wandera	3S	be	with	C10	goat	ten

*Wandera has ten goats.*

(67) Latawo ali n'obusungu olw'ohuba oluyeeoyo

Lata	-wo	a-	li	ni	obusungu	olw'ohuba	o-	lw	-uye	-yo
father	POSS	3S	be	with	anger	because	2S	delay	PERF	LOC

*Your father is angry because you delayed to come back.*



Table 9 is a summary of the auxiliary forms of the verb ‘to be’ used in tense and aspect. The forms used with *ni* express the idea ‘to have’ or ‘to be with’.

Tense	Form in Lunyole with 3 <sup>rd</sup> person singular	English gloss
Distant Past	gaali	he was/had...
Recent Past	gabaye	he was/had...
Hodiernal Past	abaye	he was/had...
Present	ali	he is...
Immediate Future	anabe	he will be...
Near Future	anahabe	he will be...
Distant Future	aliba	he will be...

Table 9. Summary of auxiliary forms of the verb ‘to be.’

### 5.3 Negation

“Negation is a process or construction in grammatical and semantic analysis, which typically expresses the contradiction of some or all of a sentence’s meaning.” (Crystal 1997, 257). In Lunyole negation is expressed by negative particles *si*, *nasi*, *ndi*; and verbal morphemes *ta-* and *hi-*. Lunyole also expresses negation in form of lexical negation using particular verbs. For example, *ohuhaya* ‘to lack’ is a lexical negative of *ohufuna* ‘to get’. For the purpose of this project, we are only discussing negation expressed by the negative particles *si*, *nasi*, *ndi*, and the negative verbal morphemes *ta-* and *hi-*.

#### 5.3.1 The negative particle *si*

*Si* is a general negative particle that functions at clausal level in negating all actions. It is used with all tenses.

(68) Omusomesa wefe si gajire lw'ejo.

Omu-somesa wa- efe si ga- a- j -ire lwa ejo

C1 teacher ASS POSS NEG 3S PAST come PERF yesterday

'Our teacher did not come yesterday.'

### 5.3.2 The negative particle *nasi*

*Nasi* is an emphatic verbal negative that also functions at clausal level in negating all actions. In most cases *nasi* is used in counter-negation of what has been re-affirmed by a speaker. At times it is used in combination with another negative particle *kadi* 'not at all' as in (67). However, the use of *nasi* is limited to hodiernal past tense only.

(69) Nasi mbaho ni naye kadi.

Nasi m- ø ba -ho ni naye kadi

no 1S PAST be PART CONJ him not at all

'I wasn't with him at all.'

### 5.3.3 The negative particle *ndi*

*Ndi* is another limited verbal negation. It is used interchangeably with *si* depending on the speaker's preference. However, like *nasi*, its function is limited to negation in the hordiernal past tense only.

(70) Omuhasi wuwe nd'agobola eyi ajiiye

Omu- hasi wuwe **ndi** a- ∅ gobola eyi a- ja - iye

C1 woman POSS NEG 3S PAST return REL 3S go PERF

*'His wife did not come back from where she went' (some time today).*

#### 5.3.4 The negative morpheme *ta-*

*Ta-* is a verbal morpheme that is used to express negative imperatives as in (71) and in the indicative as in (72) and subjunctive moods only. Its use is limited to the present tense.

(71) Otalima

o- **ta-** lim -a

2S NEG dig Fv

*Do not dig*

(72) Batalima

ba- **ta-** lim -a

3P NEG dig Fv

*(As of now) they have not dug.*

The above example may mean they have not dug (today) or it may indicate a general situation as things stand.

#### 5.3.5 The negative morpheme *hi-*

*Hi-* is a negation that is formed with the auxiliary verb *li* 'to be' to get the form *hiiri* 'not yet'. It is used to communicate an event that has not yet happened but has the potentiality of happening.

(73) Omuhaana ahiiri husagula mu nyumba

Omu- haana a- hi- ri hu- sagula mu nyumba

C1 girl 3S yet be INF sweep LOC house

*The girl has not yet swept the house*

The negative in Lunyole tense and aspect can be summarized in the Table 10 below:

Negative Particle/morpheme	Tense/ Aspect/ Mood
<i>Si</i>	General negative particle used with all tenses and aspects
<i>Nasi</i>	Emphatic negative particle limited to hordiernal tense only.
<i>Ndi</i>	Negative particle limited to hordiernal tense only.
<i>Ta-</i>	Negative morpheme limited to present tense used in imperatives, indicative and subjunctive mood only
<i>Hi-</i>	Used with the auxiliary verb <i>li</i> to form the negative 'yet'

*Table 10. Summary of the Lunyole Negative.*

## **CHAPTER SIX**

### **MOOD**

Mood, modality and mode are terms used to designate a wide variety of linguistic functions (Bybee, Perkins and Pagliuca 1994, 316ff 1994, 165) and are used interchangeably. Some linguists however make a distinction among them. This chapter is an overview of mood in Lunyole and how it is marked on the verb to indicate the speaker's attitude. There are at least five moods in Lunyole: indicative mood (6.2), imperative mood (6.3), potential mood (6.4), conditional mood (6.5) and subjunctive mood (6.6). There may be others but for the purpose of this paper these are the ones to be examined.

#### **6.1 Definition**

Mood refers to the way the speaker presents the truth of the proposition, that is, whether as probable, possible or certain. (Bybee 1985, 28). It expresses a speaker's attitude or point of view on the situation, which also includes his belief in reality. It sometimes describes the speaker's estimation of the relevance of the situation to him/herself (Payne 1997, 244). According to Crystal, mood refers to a set of syntactic and semantic contrasts signaled by alternative paradigms of the verb such as indicative, subjunctive and imperative (1980, 247).



## 6.2 Indicative Mood

The indicative mood is used to make statements. Most of the example sentences given in this paper are in the indicative mood. Typically the indicative is unmarked. Most verbs in this mood will take the final vowel *-a*. However, this does not necessarily mean that it marks mood.

## 6.3 Imperative Mood

The imperative mood is used to give commands, which are directed, to second person singular or plural to order them take action immediately. In Lunyole it can also be used to express a prohibition. In this mood, the absence of a subject concord especially if the command is directed to first person singular, and a tense/aspect marker characterize the verb. Prohibitions on the other hand can be directed directly to the second person singular or plural and also indirectly to the third person singular or plural though this combines with the subjunctive and may carry the meaning ‘let ...not...’.

### 6.3.1 Command

(74), which is taken from the story of *omuhaana omuyooono* ‘pretty girl’, the parents of the pretty girl command her to go with the unrepresentable suitor because she had made a foolish vow.

(74) Tiina hutiina ni wamwo olw'ohuba womwene niuwe owerayiriye.

**tiina** hu- tiina ni wamwo olwa ohu- ba niuwe  
 go INF go CONJ husband for INF be you  
 o- we- rayir -iye  
 2S REF pledge PERF

*'Go with your husband, because you made the pledge.'*

### 6.3.2 Prohibition

A prohibition is an order or command to restrain or to stop. It can be directed directly to the second person singular or plural and also indirectly to the third person singular as in (75) or third person plural. Lunyole can also use the verb *ohuleha* 'to give up' as in (76), which has been taken from the story of *Nakoma*.

(75) Atehala arjo!

a- ta- ehal -a arjo  
 3S NEG sit Fv there

*'He shouldn't sit there!'*

(76) Ng'abasaaye bamuloma baati Nakoma leha huja huhugulira ahabindi ahandi.

Nga aba- saaye ba- mu- loma baati Nakoma leha hu- ja  
 CONJ C2 parent 3S 2S say DEM Nakoma give up 1P go  
 hu- hu- gul -ir -a ahabiindi ahandi.  
 1P 2S buy BEN Fv small pot another

*'And the parents said to her, "Nakoma stop crying we will buy for you another small pot."*

### 6.4 Potential Mood

The potential mood expresses ability to, or a probability. There is no commitment on the part of the speaker. Lunyole uses the verb *ohuŋanga* ‘to be able’ to express the potentiality of an event to happen. This verb may be marked for either tense or aspect as in (77), or it may not be marked as in (78).

(77) Efula eŋangire ohutonya olwa leero

e-	fula	e- ŋang	-ire	ohu- tonya	olwa	leero
C9	rain	C9 be able	PERF	INF fall	of	today

*‘It might rain today.’*

(78) Panga ohubitaho ewuwo.

n-	ŋanga	ohu- bita	-ho	e	wuwo.
1S-	be able	INF- pass by	PART	C23	POSS

*‘I may come by your home.’*

### 6.5 Optative Mood.

The optative mood expresses a wish. Lunyole marks a wish with the verb *ohuba* ‘to be’ and a conditional morpheme *ha-* in the apodosis as in (79). It can also be expressed by use of the particle *kadi* with a negative particle *si* as in (80). The wish here is in form of a speculative question.

(79) Oba hupweraŋo hyahanjedire

o- ba	hu- n- ŋw	-er -a	-ŋo	hya- ha-	n- yed	-ire
2S be	INF 1S go away	BEN Fv	LOC	C12 COND 1S help	PERF	

*‘I wish you could go away it would be of help to me.’*

(80) Kadi efula yiba hugwa si nahahomire ebijanjaalo byange?

**kadi** efula yi- ba hu- gwa si na- **ha-** hom -ire ebijanjaalo bi- ange

OPT rain C9 be INF fall NEG 1S COND plant PERF beans C8 POSS

*'I wish it could rain I would plant my beans.'* (Lit. I wish it could rain wouldn't I have planted my beans?)

### 6.6 Conditional Mood

Conditional mood refers to clauses or sentences whose semantic role is an expression of a condition. There are two types of conditionals – 'real conditions' and 'unreal conditions.' In Lunyole, real conditions are marked by particle *singa* 'if' in the protasis (realis) as in (81) and in unreal conditions a combination of the particle *hani* and *ni* which marks the conditional construction and morpheme *ha-*, which is an irrealis mode, as in (82).

(81) Singa efula egwa hunaa je hwahoma duuma

**Singa** e- fula e- gwa hu- na- je hwa- homa duuma

if C9 rain C9 fall 1P FUT go 1P plant maize

*If it rains, we will go and plant maize.*

(82) Oba ni wasoma hani wahafunire omulimo.

O- ba ni w- a- soma **hani** wa- ha- fun -ire omu- limo.

2S be COND 2S PAST-read COND 2S IRR get PERF C3 work

*If you had gone to school you would have a job.*

## 6.7 The subjunctive mood

The subjunctive mood is used to express purpose or intention. It is also used in double commands, expressing an obligation, giving indirect commands, and making requests, suggestions and deliberations. Replacing the final vowel *-a* with *-e* marks verbs in the subjunctive mood.

### 6.7.1 Purpose or intention

In a Lunyole sentence, if one of the clauses in the sentence expresses a purpose, reason or intention behind the action in the main clause, the purpose clause is usually in the subjunctive mood as in (83).

(83) Hwenda hutiina mu maduuka hugule sukaali

Hu-	enda	hu-	tiina	mu	ma-	duuka	hu-	gul	-e	sukaali
1P	want	INF	go	LOC	C5	shop	1P	buy	SBJV	sugar

*'We want to go to the shops and (for the purpose of) buy sugar.'*

### 6.7.2 Double commands.

In double commands the first command always comes as an imperative but the second comes in the subjunctive mood as in (84), which has been taken from the Nakoma story line (18). This phenomena is not restricted to motion verbs but applies to all verbs.



(84) Nga bamuloma baati ninuha wuuje.

Nga ba- mu- lom -a ba- ati ninuha wuuje -e

and 3P 3S say Fv 3P DET climb down come SBJV

*And they said to her, "Climb down and come (to us)"*

### 6.7.3 Obligations

In simple terms an obligation is something one is bound to do. Obligations in Lunyole can be expressed in the subjunctive mood as well as in the indicative mood. Obligations in the subjunctive mood are made using the verb *ohwenda* 'to want' expressed both in positive and negative tone with the main verb in the subjunctive mood. This combination as in (85) gives the sense 'whether you like it or not'.

(85) Wenda si wenda onalime

w-enda si w-enda o- na- lim -e

2S want not 2S want 2S -FUT- dig - SBJV

*Whether you like it or not you will have to dig.*

### 6.7.4 Indirect commands

An indirect command is one given to someone through another person. Lunyole expresses the first and second verb in the subjunctive mood as in (86).

(86) J'olome maawo gaaje

Ja- o- lom -e Maawo ga- j -e

Go 2S ell SBJV your mother 3S come SBJV

'Go tell your mother to come.'

### 6.7.5 Requests

Requests in the form of 'let us...', 'let me...', 'let them...' are expressed in the subjunctive mood and are marked by the morpheme *ha-* which carries the meaning 'let' prefixed on the verb.

(87) Hahutiine engo

**Ha-** hu- tiin -e engo

Let 1P go SBJV home

*Let us go home*

### 6.8 Summary

In this chapter we briefly discussed mood in Lunyole and how it is marked on the verb. The marking of mood varies from one mood to another. While for the indicative and subjunctive, mood is marked on the main verb by suffix *-a* and *-e* respectively; it is lexically marked with others. Table 11 is a summary of how mood is marked in Lunyole.

Mood	How it is marked
Indicative	Suffix <i>-a</i>
Subjunctive	Suffix <i>-e</i>
Conditional	<i>Ohuba</i> 'to be' + <i>ni ... hani</i>
Potential	Lexically marked by the verb <i>ohuŋanga</i>
Optative	<i>Ohuba</i> 'to be' + negative <i>si</i> and particle <i>kadi</i>
Imperative	No subject concord when directed to 1 <sup>st</sup> person singular, and a lexical imperative <i>ohuleha</i> 'stop' .

Table 11. Marking of mood in Lunyole.

## CHAPTER SEVEN

### TENSE AND ASPECT IN NARRATIVE DISCOURSE

In order to explain the tense and aspect system of a language, the context in which an utterance is made is very important. In this chapter we shall look at the discourse structure in Lunyole discourse and the role tense and aspect play in various narrative discourse.

#### 7.1 Discourse structure in Lunyole folk narrative

According to Longacre there are four parameters which help us to classify texts into genre or text types: +/- CONTINGENT TEMPORAL SUCCESSION, +/-AGENT ORIENTATION, +/- PROJECTION, AND +/- TENSION.

The following table extracted from Longacre (1996, 10) shows the first three of these:

		+AGENT ORIENTATION	-AGENT ORIENTATION		
		NARRATIVE	PROCEDURAL		
+CONTINGENT SUCCESSION		Prophecy	How-to-do-it	+PROJECTION	
		Story	How-it-was-done	- PROJECTION	
		BEHAVIORAL	EXPOSITORY		
-CONTINGENT SUCCESSION		Hortatory	Budget Proposal		
		Promissory	Futuristic Essay	+PROJECTION	
		Eulogy	Scientific paper	-PROJECTION	

*Figure 3. Longacre's parameters for classifying text types*

Narrative texts are +CONTINGENT TEMPORAL SUCCESSION. They are organized around a framework of temporal succession in which most of the events are contingent on previous events (Longacre 1996, 8-9). They are also +AGENT ORIENTATION, because there is an orientation towards agents with at least a partial identity of agent reference running through the discourse (1996, 9). They are – PROJECTION, in that they do not entail ‘a situation or action which is contemplated, enjoined, or anticipated, but not realized’ (1996, 9). Narratives refer to specific experiences that occurred in the past worlds (real or imagined) and are ordinarily reported in the past tense. They contain sequential ordered events and nonsequential collateral material (description, commentary); it is the sequentially ordered events that constitute the backbone of the narrative.

In the narrative sequence, the completion of one event is implied by inception of the following event a fact that gives rise to the correlation between the perfective aspect and the past tense. The property of completion, which is inherent in the perfective aspect, explains why perfective verbs, in narratives, imply sequentiality (Aaron, 1999). This is true of Lunyole narrative discourse, as we shall see as we go on.

## 7.2 The data used

The data used in this chapter as indicated in 1.8 consists of three narrative texts. The first, ‘A child called *Nakoma*’, is an oral folktale told by a woman of about 90 – 95 years of age; and the second, *Omuhaana omuyoono* ‘The story of a pretty girl’, another oral folktale told by a woman of 50 – 55 years of age; and *Ehini hyenjobe hirya ow’ehalire* ‘Patience pays’, a third person experience story, told by the author of



this paper about the experience of two of his colleagues in a Bible translation project. Focus has however been put on the *Nakoma* story and the *pretty girl* story, which has been examined in detail. Some few examples have been picked from from the *patience pays* experience story. This is because tense and aspect function in the same way in both folktale narrative and experiential narrative.

Lunyole narrative discourse structure can be broken into three major parts. It consists of an introduction that consists of the performative and the orientation (a formulaic clause that sets the time frame of the story), a body/nucleus and a conclusion. Both the *Nakoma* story and the *Omuhaana omuyoono* story represent a typical style of folktale narrative genre in Lunyole.

### 7.3 Distribution of tense and aspect in narrative discourse

The principal tense-aspects employed in Lunyole narrative are historical present, recent past, and distant past; and perfective, habitual and progressive aspects. The sequence of events essential for the progress of the narrative (event line) is carried by sequential markers *nga* ‘and’ and *ng’ayo* ‘and then’ carried by a narrative tense (historical present).

The narrative discourse breaks into a number of paragraphs. A typical folk story will have at least four paragraphs – performative, introductory, nuclear paragraph(s) and a concluding paragraph.

As stated above (see 7.2), Lunyole narrative discourse can be broken down into three major parts – the introduction, the nucleus or body and the conclusion. The distribution of tense/aspect varies in each part as we can see below.



### 7.3.1 The Introduction

This stage covers two areas: The performative introduction and the story introduction (orientation).

The performative introduction is a short phrase in which the storyteller initiates the story. In it she directs herself to the audience and explains her plan and purpose. Lunyole generally uses the words: *Nenda hubaganiraho ahagano hange* (I want to you tell a story mine) ‘I want to tell you a story.’ The narrator sets off in the immediate future tense as she tells the audience her purpose.

The story introduction (orientation) is a short paragraph in which the storyteller introduces the main characters along with background information. The verb *ohuba/li* ‘to be’ is usually used for this purpose. The setting of the story is in the distant past tense but shifts to the historical present in which the story is told thereby making a vivid picture for the hearer so that they can become active participants in the story.

Lunyole traditionally uses at least three different folk narrative introductory phrases or “formulaic clauses”, as Longacre calls them (Longacre 1996, 36), to set the time and to describe the location of the story. (1) *Hale hale ŋaaliyo...* ‘Long long ago there was...’ as in (88) the introduction of the story of a child called Nakoma, (2) *Olwolire nga ŋabaayo...* ‘Once upon a time there was...’ as in (89) the introduction of the story of clever hare or simply (3) *Ŋaaliyo...* ‘There was...’ as in (90) the introduction to the story of a pretty girl. Experiencial narratives on their part have a number of ways of opening the discourse, setting the foundation on which to build the story. It all depends on the narrator. The narrator may either introduce the main character(s) as in *Ehini hyenje hiryā ow’ehalire* ‘patience pays’ (91) or the prelude

to the topic of experience. This opening paragraph is followed by one that sets the time of the events the narrator experienced such as *lulala* 'one day', *olunaku olwo lwali lwa...* 'the day was...' as in (92).

(88) **Hale hale ŋaaliŋo** omuhasi n'omusinde mu mago gawe...

hale hale ŋa- a- li -ŋo omu- hasi ni omu- sinde mu mago  
 long long C1 PAST be LOC C1 woman CONJ C1 man LOC home  
 ga- we  
 C6 POSS

*'A long time ago, there was a man and a woman who lived in their home'*

(89) **Olwolire nga ŋabaŋo** ahasolo ahagesigesi ni bahalanga baati Wanakamuna

Olu- ol -ire nga ŋa- ba -ŋo aha- solo aha- gesigesi  
 C11 arrive PERF CONJ C16 be LOC C12 animal C12 clever  
 ni ba- ha- langa ba- ti Wanakamuna  
 CONJ C2 C12 call C2 DET Wanakamuna

*'Once upon a time there was small and cleaver animal called Wanakamuna.'*

(90) **Ŋaaliŋo** omuhaana omuŋoono ŋawaawe.

Ŋa- a- li -ŋo omu- haana omu- ŋoono ŋawa -we  
 C16 PAST be LOC C1 girl C1 beautiful LOC POSS

*There was a beautiful girl (who lived) in their home.*

(91) **Mugoya ni Mudenya** batambi mu hibbubbu ehicusa e Bbaibbuli mu Lunyole.

Mugoya ni Mudenya ba- tamb -i mu hi- bbubbu ehi- cuusa

Mugoya CONJ Mudenya 3S work Fv LOC C7 group C7 change

e Bbaibbuli mu Lunyole

C9 Bible LOC Lunyole

*'Mugoya and Mudenya work with the organization that is translating the Bible into Lunyole.'*

(92) **Olunaku olwo lwali** lwa sabiiti koni bwahanuuha ...

Olu- naku olwo lwa- li lwa sabiiti koni bwa- ha- nuuha...

C11 day DEM C11 be C11 Sunday ADV C14 PAST dawn

*'The day was Sunday just after dawn...'*

### 7.3.2 Nucleus/Body

The body or nucleus of the narrative follows next. In this part of the narrative, participants and discourse setting are introduced and described. The narrative is made in the historical present tense (narrative tense) in the foreground (mainline), which is unmarked, and the near past tense and at times the distant past tense, which are marked by past tense morpheme *a-* prefixed on the main verb in the narrative.

In this stage in the narrative we get the pre-peak and peak episode stages. It therefore consists of several paragraphs. The episodes (paragraphs) are based on time, location or events.

In the episodes based on time, there is always an introductory time phrase or time adverbial especially *yahani* 'now' as in (93), that defines the time at which the

next event happens. The particle *ni* 'when' is also commonly used as in (94) and the most common time phrase *lwali lulala / lulala* 'One day' as in (95).

The episodes based on change of location are marked by motion verbs such as *ohugenda* 'to walk', *ohuduluma* 'to run', *ohutiina* 'to go' etc as their main verb in the first sentence of the paragraph as in example (96) taken from *Olugero lwa Wanakamuna ni Namunyu* 'the story of Hare and Hyena'. The division based on event is marked by procedural markers *nga* 'and' and *ng'ayo* 'and then' which marks a conclusion to the one paragraph and the beginning of another.

(93) **Ŋahani** ahabindi aho nga omwana oyo ahenda luhulu lwene.

Ŋahani aha- bindi aho nga omu- ana oyo aha- enda luhulu lu- ene  
 Now C12 pot DEM CONJ C1 child DEM C12 love much C11 INT.  
 'Now, that child loved that small pot very much.'

(94) **Ni** golire ewa Namunyu...

Ni g- a- ol -ire e- wa Namunyu..  
 when 3S PAST arrive PERF LOC POSS Namunyu  
 'When he arrived at Namunyu's place/home...'

(95) **Lwali lulala** nga hayiyya amagesi gaaho

lu- a- li lu- lala nga ha- yiyya ama- gesi ga- ho  
 C11 PAST be C11 one CONJ C12 create C6 wisdom C6 POSS  
 'One day he thought of an idea.'



(96) Namunyu **ng'aduluma** atiina hu mutego gugwe aje geete omwibi.

Namunyu	nga	a-	duluma	a-	tiina	hu	mutego	gu-	gwe
Hyena	CONJ	3S	run	3S	go	LOC	trap	C3	POSS
a-	je	g-	ete	omu-	ibi				
3S	go	3S	kill	C1	thief.				

*Hyena ran to his trap to go and kill the thief.*

Longacre's schema predicts that the peak will most likely be manifest in the surface structure as a "zone of turbulence in regard to the flow of the discourse in its preceding and following parts. Routine features of the storyline may be distorted or phased out at peak" (Longacre 1996, 38). In Lunyole peak is marked by at least three of the six broad categories suggested by Longacre and one not mentioned by him. These three are (i) concentration of characters, as in the *Nakoma* story, (ii) change of tense pattern and (iii) incidence of particles like in the *Omuhaana omujooono* 'Pretty girl' story. The other feature not mentioned by Longacre that indicate peak in Lunyole narrative discourse is a song sung by one or some of the characters in the story. This feature was found in both the *Nakoma* and *Omuhaana omujooono* stories.

So as stated above, within the body of the narrative, the peak is signaled by the concentration of characters on the center stage in the *Nakoma* story -line 18 to 26 and 32 to 36 (Line numbers refer to the mentioned text as it appears in its wholeness in Appendix). As the parents look for Nakoma they see her up in a tree. They plead with her to come down but she refuses. Then they go for her brothers with the hope that she will listen to them. She refuses to listen to them as well. Then they go for Nakoma's



best friend. When she recognizes the friend she comes down and goes back home with her. Nakoma who is the main character of the story, her parents, brothers and her friend are all brought in focus as they plead with her to climb down the tree. There is suspense as the parents and the brothers wait to see if Nakoma will listen to the friend and come down. The climax of the story is reached at the point when Nakoma recognizes the friend, accepts to climb down and goes home with her.

Line (17) Ni ba-mw-enduye, nga ba-mu-lengera namugulu era

When they.her.looked.for and they.her.see up there

*When they (the parents) looked for her they saw her up (in the tree).*

(97) Abaganda babe ni ba-jire boosi nga ba-mw-egayirira

Brothers hers when they.came also and they.her.plead with

nga a-gaana.

and she.refuse

*Her brothers also pleaded with her and she refused.*

(98) Kale ko ba-je b-endule meri-we oyo.

And so then they.go they.look for friend.hers that

*'And so they went and looked for that friend of hers.'*

Line (34 -35)

(99) Ng'afania ati oyo nje meri yange.

And.she.recognize she.that that(one) is friend mine

*And she recognized that friend of hers*

- (100) Ng'aninuha            pola,    pola,            meri-we            g-emba, meri-we  
 And.she.climb down slowly, slowly,            friend.hers            she.sing friend.hers  
 g-emba, ohwola            olu            g-olire            ŋaasi  
 she.sing until            when she.arrived            down

*'And she began to climb down slowly as the friend continued to sing until she finally reached down.'*

Change in tense also signals peak. In the *Omuhaana omuḡoono* 'pretty girl' story change of tense is one of the indicators that signals the peak. Lines 20 – 23 marks a critical moment in this story. The pretty girl had made a pledge that she will marry the man who will not eat *sundumunwa* fruit that was in her father's compound. All the reasonable suitors fail the test because they eat the fruit. Then there comes a small man, a leper with a septic wound on one of his legs, dressed in a sheet. He does not eat the *sundumunwa* even when the children provocatively go and eat the fruit near him. He passes the test! Her parents insist she has to respect her pledge and marry this leper who is by all standards an unrepresentable man compared to all the prospective suitors who had earlier gone to ask her hand in marriage.

In this story there are three broad categories to indicate peak. Two of them are mentioned by Longacre – change of tense that has been discussed above and the incidence of particles. The third one is a song. There is a change of tense from the narrative tense (historical present) to general past (distant past) tense. The particle *mbo* is used three times in two sentences in the peak episode and once in the pre-peak episode (line 11 in the pre-peak and line 16 –18)

(101) line 19 – 23:

- (a) Omuhaana gaweene atyo ng'aloma ati 'Nahole tye?'

Omu- haana a- a- won -e a- tyo nga a- loma  
 C1 girl 3S PAST see PERF 3S DET CONJ 3S say  
 a- ti na- hol -e tye  
 3S DET 1S do Fv how

*'When the girl saw (what was happening), she said to herself, "what can I do?"*

- (b) Cooka hu nyanga eyo gaali abula hya huhola olw'ohuba chirayiro hihye hyali ti "atalilya hu sundumunwa."

Cooka hu nyanga eyo ga-a- li a- bula hya hu- hola  
 Indeed LOC time DEM 3S PAST be 3S lack what INF do  
 Olwa ohu- ba ehi- rayiro hi- hye hi- a- li  
 for INF be C7 pledge C7 POSS C7 PAST be  
 ti a- ta- li- lya hu sundumunwa  
 DET 3S NEG FUT eat LOC sundumunwa

*'At that time she could do nothing because her pledge was that the man who would not eat sundumunwa (is the one she will marry).'*

- (c) Ehyahanda ng'ataamo olwembo

Ehi- a- handa nga a- taamo olwembo  
 C7 PAST result and 3S put song

*'As a result she began singing.'*

Even the song that the pretty girl sings – line 21 and 23 (102) is in the hodiernal past tense (it is marked  $\emptyset$  in Lunyole).

- (102) Ahagenge hageene, ahagenge hageene sundumunwa,

Abaami baliye, abaami baliye sundumnwa.

Ahagenge ha- Ø geen -e sundumunwa

leper 3S PAST refuse PERF sundumunwa

Abaami ba- Ø li -iye sundumunwa.

chiefs 3P PAST eat PERF *sundumunwa*

*'The leper has refused (to eat) sundumunwa'*

*The chiefs have eaten, sundumunwa'*

Verbs in this stage of the story are also marked with the perfective aspect, which is also characteristic of verbs in the in background. This aspect is used to express completeness of the action/events described in the story like in the first part of sentence 8 of the Nakoma story.

The habitual and progressive aspects (marked by suffix *-nga*) are used to express events that happened habitually or for continuous or repetitive action. For example line 5 of the *Nakoma* story expresses a habitual action (102) and line 24 of the *Omuhaana omuhoono* 'pretty girl' story expresses both a simultaneous and progressive action (103).

(103) Omwana oyo bamwendanga bugali

Omu- ana oyo ba- mu- enda -nga bugali

C1 child DEM 3P 3S love HAB much

*They used to love that child very much*

(104) Cooka nalehanga ahasaaja aho ahohugulu ohugenegemule hanjira omuhaana oyo

Cooka n- a- leha -nga ahasaaja aho aha ohu- gulu

Infact 1S PAST leave PROG man DEM REL C15 leg

ohugengemule,      ha-    njira    omuhaana    oyo    omujoono ...  
 with septic wound    C12    take    girl                    DEM    pretty...

*In fact as that small man with a septic wound on the leg was taking that pretty girl I left...*

### 7.3.3 Conclusion

In Lunyole, narratives have a conclusion that has the function of wrapping up.

For example the sentence (line 38) that wrap up the *Nakoma* story:

(105) Ahagano hefe aņo paņa hageeme

Aha- gano    ha-    efe    aņo    paņa    ha- geeme

C12    story    C12    POSS    LOC    where    C12 end

*That is where our story ends.*

At times Lunyole knots up the closure and finis as in the line 30 of the *omuhaana omujoono* ‘pretty girl’ story which is usually in the form of the sentence in

(106). Even without telling her audience that the story has come to the end, this wrapping up sentence will allude to it.

(106) Nalehanga .... niija ohubaņayiraho.

N- a-    leha    -nga    ni- ja    ohu- ba- ñay    -ir    -a    -ho

1S PAST leave    PROG I come INF 3P narrate BEN Fv    PART

*I left (such and such happening) and I came to narrate (what had happened) to you.*



#### 7.4 Summary of the distribution of tense/aspect in Lunyole narrative discourse

In this chapter we have seen how tense and aspect are distributed in Lunyole narrative discourse. We have seen that not all events in a narrative have the same significance. The most significant events are those which mark the climax of the story (peak) and the events that advance the story towards the peak (event-line). In Lunyole the narrative tense (historical present) is the principal tense for the event-line. Its function is to advance the discourse. The recent past and the general (distant) past usually mark the pre-peak and the peak episode. This stage in the story is marked by the perfective aspect. There are also other tenses/aspects distributed in a narrative discourse as Table 12 shows.

<b>TENSE/ASPECT</b>	<b>USE</b>
Recent past	Aperture (story introduction) and in background information.
Historical present	Foreground (mainline). This is the basic narrative tense.
Immediate future	Performative introduction
Near future	Purpose or goal
Perfective	Backgrounding
Progressive	Dynamic situations especially in the background
Habitual	Repeated action or state

*Table 12. Summary of distribution of tense/aspect in Lunyole discourse.*

## CHAPTER EIGHT

### CONCLUSION

We have now come to the end of our discussion of Tense and Aspect in Lunyole grammar and narrative discourse. In this discussion we looked in some detail at distribution of tense and aspect in Lunyole grammar both at phrase/clause and verbal level, and in narrative discourse. I also briefly touched the subject of mood.

In chapter one, we introduced the Lunyole language the number of people who speak the language and its relationship with other languages in the same language family. I also outlined the purpose of this study and gave the method used in conducting the study.

In chapter two, we looked at the phonology of the Lunyole language. We looked at the inventory of phonemes of in the language and their corresponding graphemes. We also briefly discussed orthographic issues such as tone, word pattern, and morphophonemics.

In chapter three, we dealt with the definition of tense and examined its distribution at clause level. We saw that tense is a grammatical expression of time of an event in relation to the time of speaking. Hence, we said tense is deictic – it relates reference to space in time to the time of making the utterance which may be “now.” We also saw that Lunyole has three basic tenses – past, present and future, which is further divided into eight different tenses – far past, recent past, hodiernal past, immediate past, present tense, immediate future, near future and distant future.

In chapter four, we discussed aspect, which we defined as a grammatical category that refers primarily to the way grammar marks the duration or a type of temporal activity denoted on a verb. We saw that Lunyole has at least six aspectual categories: perfective, anterior, imperfective, habitual, progressive, and persistive.

In Chapter five, we looked at the morphology of the Lunyole verb and how tense and aspect are marked on the verb by way of affixation and also with respect to the auxiliary verb, especially the verb ‘to be’. We examined various verbal extensions and how they affected the aspectual marking on the verb.

In chapter six, we discussed mood in Lunyole. We discussed the indicative, imperative, potential, optative, conditional, and subjunctive mood and how each is marked by way of prefix, suffix, auxiliary verb or the absence of a subject on the verb.

In chapter seven, we dealt with distribution of tense and aspect in Lunyole narrative discourse using two folktales – The story of a child called *Nakoma* and *Omuhaana omuyoono* ‘A pretty girl’. We noted that the principal tense-aspects employed in Lunyole narrative are historical present, recent and distant past tenses; and perfective, habitual and progressive aspects. The sequence of events essential for the progress of the narrative (event line) is carried by sequential markers *nga* ‘and’ and *ng’ayo* ‘and then’ carried by a narrative tense (historical present). We also saw that a narrative discourse breaks into a number of episodes, at least four, in a typical folk story i.e. performative, introductory, nuclear paragraph(s) and a concluding paragraph.

## REFERENCE LIST

- Aaron, Uche. 1999. *Tense and aspect in Obolo grammar and discourse*. Dallas: SIL.
- Abangma, Samson. 1987. *Modes in Denya discourse*. Dallas: SIL
- Blakemore, D. 1992. *Understanding utterances: An introduction to pragmatics*  
Oxford: Blackwell.
- Brown, Keith and Jim Miller. 1991. *Syntax: A linguistic introduction to sentence structure*. London: Routledge.
- Burquest, A. Donarld. 2001a. *Phonological analysis: A functional approach*.  
2<sup>nd</sup> ed. Dallas: SIL.
- Bybee, Joan L. 1985. *Morphology: A study of the relationship between form and meaning*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Bybee, Joan L., Revere Perkins and William Pagliuca. 1994. *The Evolution of grammar, tense, aspect and modality in the languages of the world*. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press.
- Comrie, Bernard. 1985. *Tense*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- 1976. *Aspect*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Cruse, Alan. 2000. *Meaning in language: An introduction to semantics and pragmatics*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Crystal, D. 1980. *A Dictionary of linguistics and phonetics*. 4<sup>th</sup> ed. Oxford: Blackwell Publishers Ltd.
- Eastman, C. 1974. Lunyole of the Bamenya. *Journal of African Languages* 11. 3, 63-78.
- Givon, T. 1984. *Syntax: A functional typological introduction*. Philadelphia: John Benjamins Publishing Company.



- Grimes, Barbara F. ed. 2000. *Ethnologue vol. 1: Languages of the world, 14<sup>th</sup> ed.* Dallas: SIL.
- Grimes, Joseph E. ed. 1978. *Papers on Discourse.* Dallas: SIL.
- Hinnebusch, H. Thomas, Derek Nurse and Martin Mould. 1981. *Studies in the classification of Eastern Bantu Languages.* Hamburg: Helmut Buske Verlag.
- Hopper, Paul J. and Elizabeth C. Traugott. 1993. *Grammaticalization.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Ladefoged, Glich and Crifer. ed. 1971. *Language in Uganda.* Nairobi: Oxford University Press.
- Longacre, Robert E. 1996. *The grammar of discourse: Topics in language and linguistics.* Dallas: SIL.
- Morris, H.F. 1963. A Note on Lunyole. *Uganda Journal* 27, 1, 127-134.
- Mununkum, Divine. 2001. *Tense, aspect and modality in Lelemi narrative discourse.* M.A. Linguistic Project, Nairobi Evangelical Graduate School of Theology.
- Mutaka, Ngessino N. 2000. *An Introduction to African linguistics.* Muechen: Lincom Europa.
- Nurse, Derek. 2000. *Aspect and tense in Bantu languages.* A paper presented to Bantu Initiative Symposium: Ruiru Kenya.
- Palmer, F.R. 1986. *Mood and modality.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Payne, Thomas. 1997. *Describing morphosyntax: A guide for field linguists.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Saeed, John I. 1997. *Semantics.* Oxford: Blackwell.
- Schadeberg, T. 1989. The Velar Nasal in Nyole. *Annales Aequatoria* 10, 169-179.
- Van Valin, Robert D. Jr 2001. *An Introduction to Syntax.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Whyte, Michael A. 1994. *Lunyole – English and English – Lunyole word lists.* Kampala: Ehibbubbu hy'Olulimi Olunyole (the Lunyole Language Committee).



## APPENDIX

### Folktale Texts

1. **The story of a child called Nakoma** – told by Beatrice Namugwere a woman aged about 90 – 95 yrs.

(1) Niise Namugwere Bituresi.  
I. me Namugwere Bituresi

*I am Namugwere Bituresi.*

(2) N- enda ohu-ba-ganira- ho aha-gano hano ahe hinyole.  
I (FUT 1) want INF 3P narrate PART DIM story this ASS nyole  
*I want to narrate to you this Kinyole story.*

(3) Hale hale ŋa- a- li- ŋo omuhasi n'omusinde mu mago ga-awe  
long long(ago)LOC. PAST be LOC woman and a man in home C6 POSS  
nga ba-ba ni -abaana ba-awe.  
and 3P be with children 3P POSS

*Long ago there was a man and his wife in their home and they had children.*

(4) Ne ni ba- a- li n'abaana abo nga mu ba-amo omwana muhaana  
But when 3P PAST be with children DEM and in be in a child girl

nje nakoma waawe  
is last born of them

*And among those children there was among them a girl who was their last-born.*

(5) Omwana oyo b- a- mw- enda -nga bugali.  
Child DEM 3P PAST 3S love HAB much

*They loved that child very much*

- (6) Omwana oyo ehy- a- laga ti ba-mw- enda, ba- mu- gul- ira  
 Child DEM C7 PAST show DET 3P 3S love 3P 3S buy BEN

aha- biindi.  
 DIM pot

*What showed that they loved that child, they bought for her a small pot.*

- (7) Ŋahani aha- biindi aho nga-a- h- enda luhulu lwene.  
 Now DIM pot DEM and 3S C12 love much INT

*Now she loved that small pot very much.*

- (8) Enyanga y- a- ol -ire omwana oyo aha- biindi aho  
 Time C9 PAST arrive PERF child DEM DIM pot DEM

ha- mu- gota- ho.  
 C12 3S get lost LOC

*Time came when that small pot got lost from her.*

- (9) Aha- bindi aho ni ha- mu- gota- ho, omwana g- a- ol -ire  
 DIM pot DEM when C12 3S get lost LOC child she. PAST arrive PERF

hu hu- ta- lya, ohu- ta- nywa ohu- t- enda hu- ŋenyuha.  
 LOC INF NEG eat INF NEG drink INF NEG want INF sleep

*When that small pot got lost, the child could neither eat, drink nor sleep.*

- (10) G-enda ha- bindi ha- he.  
 3S want C12 pot C12 POSS

*She wants her small pot.*

- (11) Ng'abasaaye ba-mu-loma ba-ati Nakoma leha hu- ja hu- hu- gul -ira  
 and parents 3P 3S tell 3Pthat Nakoma leave 1P go INF 2S buy BEN

aha-biindi ahandi oba hu-ja hu- hu- bumb -ira aha- biindi ahandi.  
 DIM pot another or 1P go INF 2S mould BEN DIM pot another

*And the parents said to her, 'Nakoma don't cry we will buy for you another small pot or else we will mould another small pot for you.'*

- (12) Omwana ng' a- gaana.  
Child and.3S refuse

*The child refused.*

- (13) Hiisi hiseera, hiisi nyanga a- lir -ira aha- bindi ha- he.  
Every period, every time 3S cry BEN DEM pot C12 POSS

*All the time she was crying for her small pot.*

- (14) Ehy- a- ŋ -oye -mo ng' a- ba- gota -ho.  
C7 PAST come from PERF LOC and 3S 3P get lost LOC

*What resulted from that, she ran off and got lost from them.*

- (15) Ni g- a- ba- gota- ho ng' a- tina a- ja g- endula aha- saala.  
When 3S PAST 3P get lost LOC and.3S go 3S go 3S look for DIM tree

Ah- ene aha- leenji ng' a- niina ohwo  
C12 INT C12 tall and 3S climb DEM

*When she ran off she went and looked for a very tall a tree and climbed up on it.*

- (16) Nga b- endula omwana.  
And 3P look for child

*And they looked for the child.*

- (17) Ni b- a- mw- end -uye, nga ba-mu-lengera ŋamugulu era.  
When 3S PAST 2S look for PERF and 3P 3S see from far up there

*As they were looking for her they saw her up (in the tree).*

- (18) Nga ba- mu- loma ba- ati ninuha wuuje.  
And 3P 3S say 3P DET come down you.come

*And they said to her, "Come down and come (to us)".*

- (19) Omwana ng' a- gaana ohu- tiina eri abasaaye ba- be.  
Child and 3S refuse INF go to parents C2 POSS

*And the child refused to go to her parents.*

- (20) Nga b- ebuusa ba- ati 'hu- hole hu- tye?  
 And 3P ask self 3P DET 1P do 1P what

*And they asked, "What can we do?"*

- (21) N- dowosa hu- je hu- leete abaganda ba- be.'  
 1S think 1P go for 1P bring brother C2 POSS

*"I think let us go and bring her brothers".*

- (22) Abaganda ba-be ni ba- a- j - ire boosi nga  
 Brother C2 POSS when C2 PAST come PERF also and

ba- mw- egayirira a- ninuhe.  
 3P 2S plead with 3S climb down

*When her brothers came they also pleaded with her to climb down.*

- (23) Ng' a- gaana.  
 And 3S refuse

*And she refuses.*

- (24) Nga nindi b- ebuusa ba- ati 'Hu- hole hu- tye?  
 And again 3P ask self 3S DET 1P do 1P what

*Again they asked, "What can we do?"*

- (25) N-dowosa hw- endule meri -we  
 1S think 1P look for friend POSS

*"I think let us look for her friend."*

- (26) Nga ba- ja be- ndula meri -we eyi a- singa ohw-enda ba- mu- leeta.  
 And 3S go 3S look for friend POSS REL 3S bit INF love 3P 3S bring

*They went and looked for her best friend and brought her.*

- (27) Ne ni ba- hi- ri hu- mu- leeta, ni ba- bageraga -nga -ho ohu- emba  
 But when 3P NEG be INF 3S bring when 3P try HAB PART INF sing

ba- ti:  
 3P DET

*But before bringing her, whenever they tried to sing for her (the following song):*

- (28) “Nakoma wefe si wu- uja hu- tiine  
 Nakoma ours not 2S come 1P go
- aho aha- bindi hu- li- wumba ahandi.”  
 DEM DIM pot 1P FUT mould another
- “Our Nakoma why don’t you come and we go (home)  
 As for that small pot we shall mould another one”*

- (29) G- a- gobola -nga -mo a- ti:  
 3S PAST reply HAB LOC 3S DET

*She replied that:*

“Ni ni ni ni nio ni ni nio ni ni nio  
 ni ni ni ni nio ni ni ni nio ni ni nio.”

- (30) Ng’ajo ba- manya ba-ati a- ba- hayihi -ise.  
 And then 3P know 3P DET 3S 3P cause to fail PERF

*And they realized that they were defeated. (i.e. in persuading her to come down)*

- (31) Kale ko ba- je be- ndule meri -we oyo.  
 And so then 3P go 3P look for friend POSS DEM

*And so they went and looked for that friend of hers.*

- (32) Meri -we ni g- a- j -ire nga y- esi a- taa- mo ahe- mbo:  
 friend POSS when 3S PAST come PERF and 3S also 3S put LOC DIM song

*When her friend came, she also began singing a song:*

- (33) “Meri ow’omuhago si wu- uja hu- tiine  
 Friend ASS friendship NEG 2S come 1P go
- aho aha- bindi hu- li- bumba nahandi.”  
 DEM DIM pot 1P FUT mould another
- “Friend, friend why don’t you come and we go  
 as for that small pot we shall mould another.”*

- (34) Ng’ a- fania a- ti oyo nje meri yange.  
 And 3S recognize 3S DET DEM COP friend mine

*And she recognized that it was her friend (singing).*



(35) Ng' a- nimuha pola, pola, meri -we g- emba, meri -we g- emba,  
and 3S.climb down slowly slowly friend POSS 3S sing friend POSS 3S sing

ohw- ola olu g- a- ol -ire ŋaasi.  
INF arrive when 3S. PAST arrive PERF down

*And she began climbing down slowly as the friend continued to sing until she finally reached down.*

(36) Ni g- a- ola ŋaasi, ng' a- tiina eri meri -we oyo nje eyi  
When 3S PAST arrive down and 3S go to friend POSS DEM COP REL

g- a- tiina ni naye.  
3S PAST go with her

*When she reached down, she went to her friend and went with her.*

(37) Aye nyina ni semwana, n'abaganda ba- be mbe.  
But her mother and her father and brothers 3P POSS no

*But as for her father, mother and brothers she didn't (go with them).*

(38) Aha- gano h- efe aŋo pa- ŋa ha- ageme.  
DIM story C12 POSS LOC COP LOC C12 end

*That is where our story ends. (That is the end of the story)*

### **The Story of a child called Nakoma**

I am Beatrice Namugwere. I want to tell you this Kinyole story.

Long ago there was a man with his wife who had children. Among those children there was a girl who was their last-born. They loved that child very much. To show how much they loved her, they bought for her a small pot.

Now, that girl loved that pot very much. But time came when that small pot got lost from her. When it got lost the child could neither eat, drink nor sleep. She wants her small pot. And her parents said, "Nakoma don't cry we will buy for you another small pot or else we will mould another small pot for you." The child refused to listen to them. All the time she was crying for her small pot.

Finally, as a result, she ran a way from home and got lost from her parents. When she ran a way from their home, she went and looked for a very tall tree and climbed on it. And the parents looked for their child. As they looked for her, they saw her up in the tree and they said to her, "Climb down and come to us." But the child refused to go to her parents. Then they asked, "What can we do? I think we better bring her brothers." When her brothers came they also pleaded with her to climb down

but she refused. And again they said, "What can we do?" I think let us look for her best friend." So they went and looked for her best friend and brought her. However, before going for the friend, whenever they tried to sing the following song:

"Our Nakoma why don't you come and we go?

As for that small pot we shall mould another one."

She would reply:

"Ni ni ni ni nio ni ni nio ni ni nio

Ni ni ni ni nio ni ni nio ni ni nio"

And they realized that they could not persuade her to climb down. It is at this point that they went to look for the friend. When the friend came she also began to sing:

"Friend, friend why don't you come and we go

as for that pot we shall mould another one"

And she recognized that it was her friend (singing). And she climbed down slowly as the friend continued to sing until she finally reached down. When she reached down, she went where the friend was and went back home with her. But as for her father, mother and brothers she refused to go with them.

That is the end of our story.

(2) *Omuhana Omujooono* 'Pretty girl'

Told by Mary Bbutu an woman of about 55 years a speaker of *Luhadyo* dialect.

- (1) Niise Mary Buttu n- enda hu- ba- ganira -ho aha- gano ha- nge.  
I am Mary Buttu 1S want INF 3P narrate PART DEM story C12 POSS

*I am Mary Buttu, I want to tell you a story.*

- (2) ŋa- a- li -ŋo omuhana omujooono ŋa- wa- we.  
LOC PAST be LOC girl pretty LOC ASS POSS

*There was once a pretty girl (who lived) in their home.*

- (3) Cooka nga mu- ŋoono ehihena.  
Indeed and 3S pretty enough

*She was pretty indeed.*

- (4) ŋahani ŋa- a- li -ŋo aha- saala ŋa- ngo wa- awe aha-ba-langa  
Now LOC PAST be LOC DIM tree LOC home ASS POSS REL 3P call

ba- ati sundumunwa  
3P DET sundumunwa

*Now, there was a (fruit) tree called 'sundumunwa' in that home.*

- (5) Sundumunwa oyo nga ga- ama a- laba a- nyululuha a- ti  
Sundumunwa DEM and C6 yield 3S ripen 3S become very ripe 3S DET

wonyulu.  
IDN

*That sundumunwa tree yielded fruit which ripened to the maximum.*

- (6) Hiisi aba- aja -nga ohu- hobyā omuhana oyo, olu b- a- ola -nga  
 every C2 come HAB INF woo girl DEM when 3S PAST arrive HAB

ba- ati, g- a- ba -nga a- hi- ri n'ohu- ba- ŋa etebe, emoni  
 3P DET 3S PAST be HAB 3S NEG be and INF 3P give chair eyes

ji- ri hu sundumunwa.  
 C10 be LOC sundumunwa

*All those who came to woo that girl, even before she had given them a chair, their minds were on sundumunwa.*

- (7) Ba- noga nga ba- lya.  
 3P pick and 3P eat

*They pick and eat.*

- (8) Omuhaana oyo ng' a- hola ehi- rayiro hi- hye, a- ti "Omusere  
 girl DEM and 3S make C7 pledge C7 POSS 3S DET "boy

a- ta- li- rya hu sundumunwa oyo, nje eyi n- di- tiina ni naye."  
 3S NEG FUT eat of sundumunwa DEM COP REL 1S FUT go with him

*That girl made a pledge saying, "The boy who will not eat sundumunwa is the one I go with (marry).*

- (9) Hiisi aba- ja - nga ohu- hobyā omuhaana oyo, nga ba- lya  
 every C2 come HAB INF woo girl DEM and 3P eat

sundumunwa ba- tiina omuhaana ni a- ø ba- hay -ire.  
 sundumunwa 3P go girl when 3S PAST 3P defeat PERF

*All those who went to woo that girl ate sundumunwa and left after failing to win her.*

- (10) Abaseere aba- laŋi aba - ebbeeyi, omw- a- li abamagombolola,  
 boys C2 good C2 expensive in PAST be sub-county chiefs

n'abamasaza ba- aja ba- lya sundumunwa oyo, bi- ba- haya  
 and county chiefs 3P come 3P eat sundumunwa DEM C8 3P defeated

ba- gama.  
 3P go back

*All the nice and well to do men who went among them chiefs ate sundumunwa and went a way defeated.*



- (11) *Ŋahani ng' e- ŋwa -yo aha- saaja aha- lwaye ha ohu- gulu ni*  
 now and C23 come LOC DIM man DIM sick of. C15 leg when  
*ha- lwaye ebbwa eri ba- langa ba- ati e- gonjo ni li- tonya*  
 C12 sick wound which 3S call 3S DET C5 septic wound when C5 drips

*hu- tonya olufugi ohu- gulu ni hu- habira u- hapuha.*  
 INF drip blood C15 leg when C15 threaten INF be cut off

*Now, there came a small man with a septic wound which was dripping blood and threatening to cause the leg to be cut off.*

- (12) *Ahasaaja ha- a- j -ire ni aha- simbo ha- aho mu muhono*  
 small man 3S PAST come PERF with DIM stick C12 POSS in hand

*ha- ŋegera, ha- ŋegera, ha- ŋegera pola pola nga ha- ola.*  
 C12 limp C12 limp C12 limp slowly slowly and C12 arrive

*The small man came with a stick in his hand, limping slowly until he arrived.*

- (13) *Ha- a- li mbo ha- ola ng' omuhana a- ha- ŋa etebe.*  
 C12 PAST be EVID C12 arrive and girl 3S C12 give chair

*When he arrived the girl gave him a chair.*

- (14) *Cooka aha ohu- gulu ohu- gengemule nga h- eyihal -ira.*  
 But REL C15 leg REL deep wound and C12 sit BEN

*But the one with a septic leg sat.*

- (15) *Sundumunwa mbo a- kuhumuhe, mbo a- ha- gwe hu mutwe, mbe.*  
 Sundumunwa EVID 3S fall off, EVID 3S C12 fall on head no

*Sundumunwa shook lose and fell on his head but he refuses to eat it*

- (16) *Aha- saaja nga ha- ganira erala ohu- lya sundumunwa.*  
 C12 man and C12 refuse completely INF eat sundumunwa

*The small man refused to eat sundumunwa*

- (17) *Mbo abaana ba- noge, ba- aje ba- li -ire aŋa ha- li, mbe, ha- gaana.*  
 EVID children 3P pick 3P come 3P eat PERF where C12 be no C12 refuse

*Even when the children came and ate it near him he refused to eat it.*



(18) H- ø- eyambal -iye e- suuka ly-aho; bala ab'etaayi n' ekooti ni.  
 C12 PAST cloth in PERF C5 sheet his DEM of ties and.coat when

bi- ba- ø- hay -ire  
 C8 3P PAST defeated PERF

*He was putting on a sheet yet those who had coats and ties had been defeated.*

(19) Omuhana g- a- ween -e a- tyo ng' a- loma a-ti 'Yi-i  
 Girl 3S. PAST see PERF 3S DEM and 3S say 3S DET 'Yi-i

na- hole tye? Dala aha- saaja hano k- aha na- tiine ni naho?  
 1S FUT do how? Surely DIM man DEM COP REL 1S FUT go with him

*When the girl realized what was happening she said, "What can I do? Is this the man I will go with?"*

(20) Cooka hu nyanga eyo ga- a- li a-bula hya hu- hola olw'ohuba  
 indeed on time DEM 3S PAST be 3S without what INF do because

ehi- rayiro hi-hye hy-a- li ti "a- ta- li- rya hu sundumunwa."  
 C7 pledge C7 POSS C7 PAST be DET "3S NEG FUT eat on sundumunwa

*At that time she could do nothing because her pledge was that the man who would not eat sundumunwa (is the one she will marry).*

(21) Ehyahanda ng' a- ta- mo olw- embo:  
 in long run and 3S put LOC C11 song

*Then she began singing:*

Ahagenge ha- ø- gen -e, ahagenge ha- ø- gene sundumunwa.  
 Leper 3S PAST refuse PERF leper 3S PAST refuse sundumunwa  
 Abami ba-ø- li- iye, abami ba-ø- li- iye sundumunwa.  
 Chiefs 3P PAST eat.PERF chiefs 3P PAST eat PERF sundumunwa

*The leper has refused, the leper has refused (to eat sundumunwa)  
 Chiefs have eaten, chiefs have eaten sundumunwa*

- (22) Ng'abasaaye ba- be ba- mu-loma ba- ati efe njabula ehi  
 and.parents 3P POSS 3P 3S say 3P DET we there is nothing that  
 hu- na- hu- hol -ere tiina hu- tiina ni wamwo olw'ohuba womwene  
 1P FUT 2S do BEN go INF go with your husband because yourself  
 niiwe owe- ø- rayir -iye.  
 you.are REL PAST pledge PERF

*And her parents said, "Just go with your husband, there is nothing we can do for you made the pledge yourself."*

- (23) Wangewe ehy- a- nj -oye -mo, aha-saaja hala nga he- nyoha  
 mine C7 PAST come PERF LOC DIM man DEM and C12 get.up  
 n'esimbo ya- ho ha- tangirira omuhana a- londaho eno po g- emba:  
 with.stick C9 POSS C12 leads girl 3S follow as while 3S sing

*As a result the small man got up with his stick and led the way with the girl following him while singing:*

Ahagenge ha- ø- gen -e, hagenge ha- ø- gen -e sundumunwa.  
 leper 3S PAST refuse PERF leper 3S PAST refuse sundumunwa

Abami ba-ø- li -iye, abami ba-ø- li -iye sundumunwa.  
 Chiefs 3P PAST eat. PERF. chiefs 3P PAST.eat.PERF sundumunwa

*The leper has refused, the leper has refused (to eat sundumunwa)  
 Chiefs have eaten, chiefs have eaten sundumunwa*

24) Cooka n- a- eha -nga aha- saaja aho ah'ohugulu ohu- gengemule,  
indeed 1S PAST leave PROG DEM man DEM REL leg C15 deep wound

ha- njira omuhaana oyo omuñoono ag- a- hol -ire ehi-ayiro  
C12 take girl DEM pretty REL PAST make PERF C7 pledge

ehy'-obusiru ehy- a- mu-leet -eye ohu- fiirwa abasinde ab'-ebbeeyi  
C7 stupid C7 PAST 3S bring PERF INF loose men C2 expensive

omw- a- li abamagombolola n'abamasaza, ne ese ni- ija  
in. PAST be Sub county chiefs and county chiefs and me 1S come

ohu- ba- njayira -ho.  
INF 3P narrate PART

*Indeed as that small man was taking that pretty girl who had made a stupid pledge that had made her loose well to do men who included subcounty chiefs and county chiefs I left to come and narrate it to you.*

***Oluganao lw'omuhaana omuñoono*** 'The story of a pretty girl.'

I am Mary Butu, I want to tell you a story.

There once lived a pretty girl in their home. This girl was pretty indeed.

Now, there was a fruit tree called *sundumunwa* in their home. That *sundumunwa* fruit tree yielded fruit that ripened to the maximum. The *sundumunwa* fruit attracted all suitors who came to woo that girl and they picked and ate it.

That girl made a vow saying, "The boy who will not eat the *sundumunwa* fruit is the one I will get married to. All suitors who went for the girl ate *sundumunwa* and left after failing to win her. All nice and well to do men among them chiefs ate the *sundumunwa* and went away defeated.

Now, there came a small man who had a septic wound on one of his legs that was dripping blood and looked as if it was going to cause his leg to be cut off. The small man came with a stick in his hand limping slowly until he arrived.

When he arrived, the girl gave him a chair and the one with a septic leg sat down. *Sundumunwa* fruit shook off the tree and fell down near him some even hitting him on the head but he refused to eat any of it. The children of the home came and ate the *sundumunwa* near him in order to lure him to eat the fruit. Even so he completely refused to eat the fruit. There he was, putting on a sheet and posed to win the girl, yet those with coats and ties had been defeated.

When the girl realized what was going to happen, she said, "What can I do? Is this the man I will get married to?" However, at that point she could do nothing because her vow had been that the man who would not eat *sundumunwa* is the one she would get married to.

Then she began to sing a song:

The leper has refused; the leper has refused to eat *sundumunwa*,  
Chiefs have eaten, chief have eaten *sundumunwa*.

Then her parents said to her, "You go with your husband. There is nothing we can do about it because you made the vow yourself." What came as a result of this, the small man got up, took his stick and led the way with the pretty girl following him singing:

The leper has refused; the leper has refused to eat *sundumunwa*,  
Chiefs have eaten; chiefs have eaten *sundumunwa*.

As that small man with a septic wound on his leg was taking the pretty girl who had made a foolish vow to be his wife; a vow that had made her loose well to do suitors who included chiefs, I left and came here to narrate the story to you.



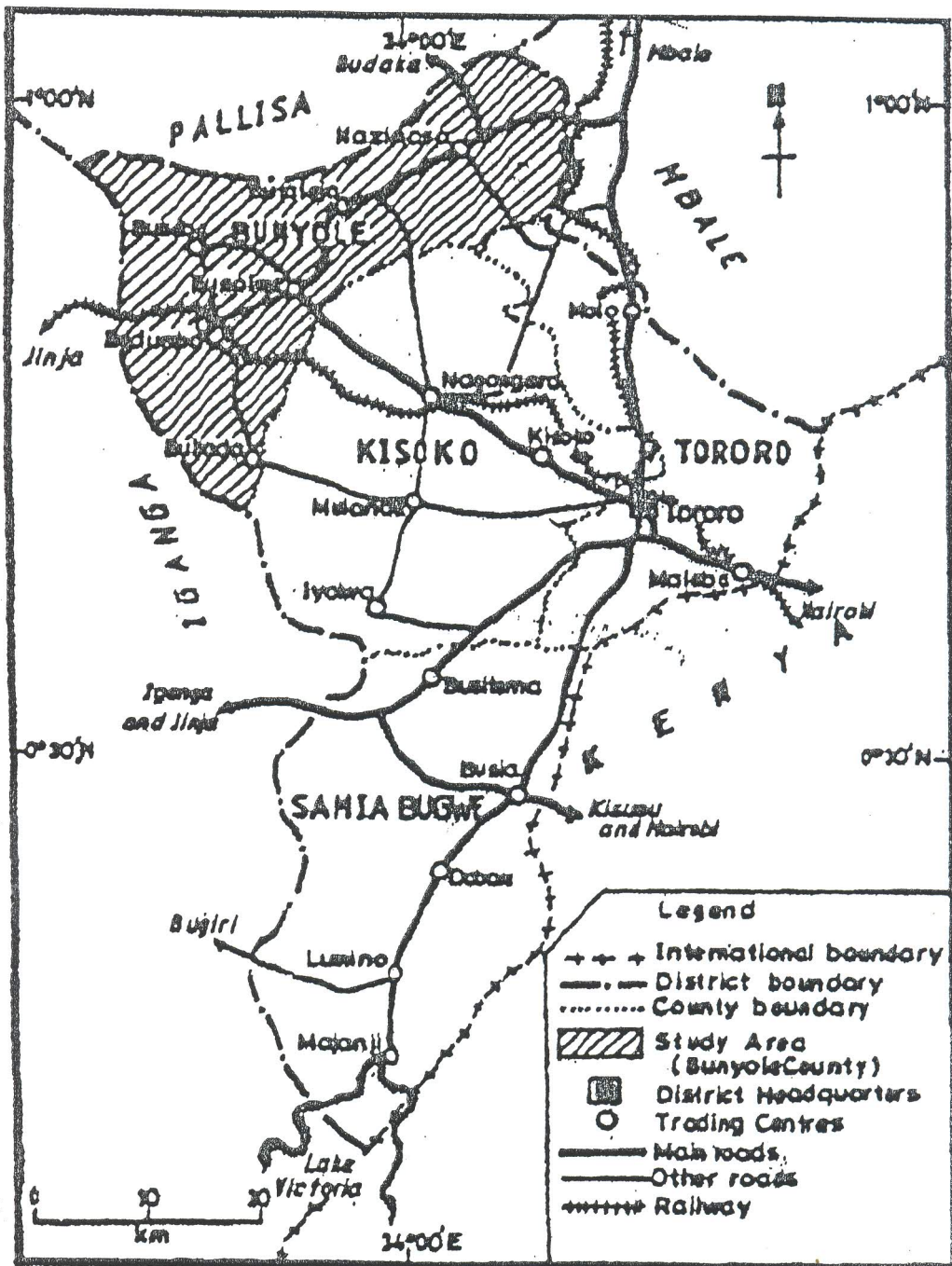
LUNYOLE NOUN CLASS CONCORD.

Noun Class	Noun Prefix	Adjective	Sub.Rel.	Enumerative	Possessive	Subject	Object
1	omu-	mu-	o-	mu-	o	a-	omu
2	aba-	ba	a-	ba-	ba-	ba-	ba-
3	omu	mu	o-	mu	gu-	gu-	gu-
4	emi-	mi-	e-	e-	ji-	ji-	ji-
5	e-	e-	e-	e-	li-	li-	li-
6	ama-	ma-	a-	a-	ga-	ga-	ga-
7	ehi-	hi-	e-	hi-	hi-	hi-	hi-
8	ebi-	bi-	e-	bi-	bi-	bi-	bi-
9	e(n)-	(n)-	e-	e(n)-	yi-	e-	yi-
10	e(n)-	(n)	e-	e-	ji-	ji-	ji-
11	olu-	lu-	o-	lu-	lu-	lu-	lu-
12	aha-	ha-	a-	ha-	ha-	ha-	ha-
13	otu-	tu-	o-	tu-	tu-	tu-	tu-
14	obu-	bu-	o-	bu-	bu-	bu-	bu-
15	ohu-	hu-	o-	hu-	hu-	hu-	hu-
16	ŋa	ŋa-	a-	ŋa	ŋa-	ŋa-	ŋa-
17	hu-	hu-	o-	hu-	hu-	hu-	hu-
18	mu-	mu-	o-	mu-	mu-	mu-	mu-
20	ogu-	gu-	o-	gu-	gu-	gu-	gu-
21	aga-	ga-	a-	ga-	ga-	ga-	ga-
23	e-	e-					

Table 13. Lunyole noun class concord.



THE STUDY AREA - The position of Bunyole among her neighbors (adapted from Whyte 1994:vi)





## Curriculum Vitae

### A. Personal Data

Name: Wandera Enoch Namulemu

Date of Birth: 31<sup>st</sup> January 1957

Married to: Florence Kanghanyi Wandera

Children: Joel, Ebenezer, Sadayo, Benayo, Yonasani, Yosamu, Grace, Bob and Con.

### B. Academic Qualification

East African Certificate of Education	1975
Provincial Certificate in Theology (Uganda Christian University)	1992
Master of Arts Translation Studies (NEGST), Nairobi Kenya	2004

### C. Work Experience

Welfare and Rehabilitation Assistant (Uganda Prisons)	1977
Part time teacher Mulanga P/S	1984
Lay Reader Church of Uganda Bukedi Diocese	1986
Priest Church of Uganda Bukedi Diocese	1994
Language Assistant SIL Bible Translation Advisor	1998
Bible Translation Project Leader	2000