

CHAPTER 4

DATA ANALYSIS

4.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the complete analysis made by the investigator applying the structural linguistic and sociolinguistic methodologies to the processed data. The data have been classified into list of pronouns found in the Malaysian Spoken Tamil (MST) followed by the various occurrences of pronouns in the morphological constructions. The processed data also includes noun phrases, verb phrases and different types of sentences in which pronouns occur. The pronoun representations are found to occur in the verbal forms like finite verb forms, imperative forms, in adjective forms of different types. All these occurrences were also concerned for the analysis. Data needed for identifying subject predicate agreement of pronouns in sentences, were also taken into account. All these variants found for the pronouns were listed along with the occurrences in phrases and sentences. The occurrence of pronoun forms in different socio cultural contexts were also listed to identify the conditioning factors in order to identify the differences found in the structure and use of pronouns in the Malaysian written vs. spoken varieties of Tamil as a contrastive statement of pronouns.

All these data formed the core of the processed data for analysis using the two methodologies referred above especially the morphological principles and phrase structure rules where applied to find out and describe the structure of pronouns in Malaysian Spoken Tamil and their use in day-to-day communication. So the analysis made applying these two methods has been presented in two sections.

1) Description of the structure of pronouns in Malaysian Spoken Tamil and ii) Use of pronouns in different linguistic and socio cultural contexts and comparison of pronouns in Malaysian written Tamil and spoken varieties. A brief note on the distinctive features found in the structure and use of pronouns in the Malaysian Spoken Tamil is also given.

4.2 List of Pronouns in the Malaysian Spoken Tamil (MST)

There are three pronouns forms (with alternants) for first person singular and plural.

1 st Person	Singular	Plural	
I	/ na:n/ [na: }	Inclusive	
	[e:]	/nampa/ [namba]	
	[en]	[nambal]	‘we’(incl.)
		[na:mba]	
		Exclusive	
		/na:nka/ [na:nga]	‘we’ (excl)
		[na:ngal]	
		[enga(l)]	

Person	Singular		Plural	
II	/ni:/	[ni:] (You (sg).)	/ni:nka/	[ni:nga] ‘you’(pl.)
		[o:]		[ni:nga] ‘you’ (pl)
		[on]		[onga(l)]
	Distant Demonstrative		Proximate Demonstrative	
III	1.Masculine singular			
	/aven/	[avɛ] ‘he’	/iven/	[ivɛ]
		[avan]	[ivan] ‘he’	
	2.Feminine singular			
	/ava/	[ava] ‘she’	/iva/	[iva]
		[ava l]	[iva l]	‘she’

3. Masculine Honorific Singular	
/avaru/ [avart] / [avar]	/ivaru/ [ivart] / [ivar] ‘he (hon.)
4. Human Plural	
/avañke/ [avañgɛ]	/ivañke/ [ivañgɛ]
/avañka/ [avañga(l)]	[ivañga(l)] ‘they’(human)
5. Non Human Singular	
/atu/ [ad̥]	/itu/ [i t]
	/itu/ [id̥] ‘it’

<p>6. Non Human Plural</p> <p>/atu/ [a t] /atu ella:m/ [adella:]</p>	<p>/itu ella:m/ [idella:] ‘they’ (non human)</p>
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There are two plurals in I person - **inclusive** plural and **exclusive** plural. The frequency of occurrence of na:mpa / nampa [with variants na:mpa | ~ nampa |] is high when compared to na:ńka (l)/ eńka(l). Second person plural forms ni:ńka(l)/ ońka(l) are used to denote honorific singular also. In the third person pronouns both gender and number are differentiated as masculine singular, feminine singular, masculine honorific singular, human (epicene) plural, non-human singular and plural.

i) Third person human plural form is used to denote human honorific singular as well (irrespective of gender)

ii) No specific plural form is found to denote the non-human plural. The form /ella:m/ ‘all’ is added to /atu/ or /itu/ to mark plural optionally as given below.

eg: /atu ella:m/ [adella:] ‘all these’ (dist.)

/itu ella:m/ [idella:] ‘all these’ (prox.)

Morphological Structure of Pronouns

First Person

1. Singular *

{na:n}

1. ∞ na:n, 2. ∞ e:n-, 3. ∞ en-

∞ e:n - occurs as a possessive case form(when unmarked)

e:n vi:tu ‘my house’

e:n maken ‘my son’

∞ en - occurs as case base (before case suffixes only other than the possessive)

en – a:le > enna:le ‘by me’

en – akku > ennaku ‘to me’

∞ na:n occurs elsewhere

na:n [na:] ‘ I ’

na:n – um > na:num ‘ me too’

na:n – ta:n > na:nta:n ‘me only’

na:n – e > na:ne : ‘I’ (emph.)

* The phonetic representations are:

/na:n / [na:] # ‘I’

/e :n vi:tu / [e: vi:d̥t̥] ‘my house’

/e:n maken/ [e: mahɛ] ‘my son’

2. Plural

1. Exclusive Plural

{ na:ńka(l) }

∞ na:ńka , ∞ na:ńkał , ∞ eńka(l)

1. ∞ eńka(l) occurs only before case suffixes

eńka vi:tu 'our house'

eńkał –ukku 'to us'

>eńkałukku

2. ∞ na:ńka occurs as subject/ nominative case base

na:ńka po:rom 'we (excl.) are going'

3. ∞ na:ńkał occurs before suffixes other than the case suffixes

na:ńkał – um

> na:ńkałum 'we (excl.) also'

nańkał - e:

> na:ńkałe: 'we (excl.) only'

2.2 Inclusive Plural

{nampa(l)}

1. ∞ nampa 2. ∞nampaḷ 3. na:mpa

∞ nampa occurs as a subject form and it is in free variation with na:mpa

nampa camaippom ‘we (incl) will cook’

na:mpa po:vom ‘we(incl) will go’

na:mpa po:vom ‘we (incl) will go’

∞ nampaḷ occurs before case suffixes only

nampaḷ –o:ṭe

> nampaḷo:ṭe ‘our ’ (incl)

nampaḷ –a:le

> nampaḷa:le ‘by us’(incl)

nampaḷ – ukku

> nampaḷukku ‘ to us’ (incl)

∞ o:n occurs as a possessive case form (when unmarked)

o:n ka:cu [o: ka:st] ‘your (sg) money’

o:n vi:tu [o: vi:vt] ‘your (sg.)house’

Second Person

1. Singular

{ni:}

∞ ni: , ∞ o:n - , ∞ on

∞ on occurs only before case suffixes

on - a:le > onna:le 'by you' (sg)

on - akku > onakku 'to you' (sg)

∞ ni: occurs elsewhere

ni: # 'you' (sg)

ni : po 'you (sg) go'

ni: - um > ni:yum 'you (sg) also'

ni:-tan [ni : a:] 'you (sg) only / you (sg)' [emph.]

2. Plural

{ni:ńka(l)}

∞ ni:ńka , ∞ ni:ńkał - ∞ ońka (l)

∞ ońka (l) occurs only before case suffixes

ońka ka:ti 'your (pl) car'

ońka vi:tu 'your (pl) house'

ońkał - ukku 'your (pl) house'

> ońkaļukku ‘ to you’ (pl)

∞ ni:ńka occurs as a free form (subject form)before #

ni:ńka va:ńka ‘you (pl.) come’

ni:ńka ya:ru ‘who are you’ (pl)

∞ ni:ńkaļ occurs elsewhere

ni:ńkaļ –um

> ni:ńkaļum ‘ you(pl.) also’

ni:ńkaļ-e:

> ni:ńkaļe : ‘you (pl.)(emph.)

This form also denotes honorific singular in second person

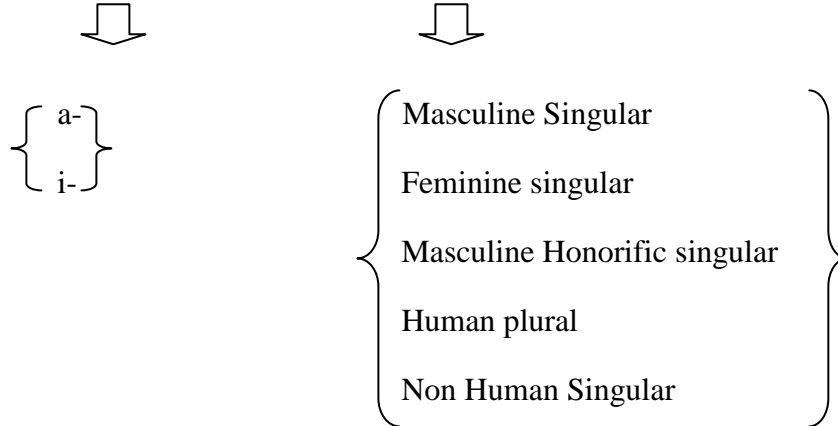
eg : ni:ńka ińke va:ńka ‘you (hon.sg.) come here’

ni:ńka ya:ru ? ‘who are you (hon.sg)?’

Third Person

Third person pronouns are formed as follows:

Demonstrative Base form + Gender Noun suffixes



So there are two groups of pronouns vi2, distant demonstrative pronouns and proximate demonstrative pronouns.

1. Masculine singular

1. /aven/ [avɛ] ‘ that –he’

2. /iven/ [ivɛ] ‘this –he’

{aven}

∞ aven , avan-

∞ aven -occurs as a subject base and possessive form.

aven vi:tu ‘his house’

[av po:ra:] 'he goes'

∞ avan – occurs elsewhere.

avan –o:ʃe

> avano:ʃe 'his'

avan – ukku

> avanukku 'to him'

avan – a:le

> avana:le 'by him'

2. Feminine Singular

1. ava / ava| –

2. iva / iva|–

{ava|}

∞ ava , ∞ ava|

∞ ava occurs as a subject form and possessive case base (when unmarked).

ava po:ra: 'she goes'

ava ya:ru 'who is she?'

ava pe:ru 'her name'

∞ avaḷ occurs elsewhere

avaḷ – ukku > avaḷukku 'to her'

avaḷ – a:le > avala:le 'by her'

avaḷ – ukka:ka

> avaḷukka:ka 'for her sake'

3. Masculine Honorific Singular

1. avar/ avaru

2. ivar / ivaru

{avaru}

1.∞ avaru 2.∞ avar

1. ∞ avaru occurs as a subject form.

avaru ya:ru 'who is he (hon.)?'

avaru varuva:ru 'he (hon.) will come'

2.[∞] avar occurs elsewhere

avar – a : > avara: ? ‘is (it) he’

avar – a:le

> avara:le ‘by him’

avar – um > avarum ‘he (hon.) also

4. Human Plural

1. avańka / avańka(!)-

2. ivańka / ivańka(!)-

{avańke}

1.[∞] avańke , 2.[∞] avańka(!)

1. ∞ avańke occurs as i) Subject form

ii) Possessive case form

avańke po:va:ńke ‘they (hum)will go’.

avańke ka:ʈi [avańgɛ ka:ʈi] ‘their car’

2. ∞ avańka(!) occurs elsewhere

avañkal – o:ṭe

> avañkaḷo:ṭe ‘their’

avañkaḷ – ukku

> avañkaḷukku ‘to them’

avañkaḷ – um

> avañkaḷum ‘they (hum) also’

This form denotes both masculine and feminine honorific singular.

5. Non- Human Singular

1. atu ‘that-it/ that’

2 .itu ‘this – it/ this’

{atu}

~ atu occurs everywhere.

atu enna ‘what is it?’

atu oru marom [a ṭ oru maro] ‘it is a tree’

[na: a e kuḍuttɛ] ‘I gave it’

atu – kku > atukku

‘ to that’

This form is used to denote non –human plural also. The collective pronoun/ ella:m /all’ is added after the demonstrative pronoun form used as non- human plural.

eg : atu ella:m ve:ṇum ‘ (I) want all those (things)’

[adɪ ella: ve:ṇɪ]

Reflexive Pronoun

There are two reflexive (self) pronouns in the Malaysian Spoken Tamil. They are:

i) ta:n [ta:] ‘ oneself ’

ii) ta:ńkaɭ [ta:ńga(ɭ) ‘ themselves’ (with a variant tańkaɭ-)

Singular

{ ta:n }

1. ∞ tan- , 2. ∞ ta:n [ta:]

∞ tan – occurs only before case suffixes.

tan – a:le > tanna:le ‘ by oneself’

tan - akku > tanakku ‘ to oneself’

tan- e > tanne [patti] ‘oneself’(obj.) as in about oneself)

tan – o:ṭe > tannoṭe vi:ṭu ‘one’s (one self’s, house)

[tanno:ḍɛ vi:ḍi]

∞ ta:n occurs elsewhere.

/ta:n/ [ta:] ‘oneself’

/ta:ne:/ ‘oneself’ (emph.)

2. Plural

{ta:ńka}

1. ∞ ta:ńka , 2. ∞ ta:ńkaḷ

∞ tańkaḷ occurs only before case suffixes.

tańkaḷ – ukku > tańkaḷukku ‘to/for themselves’

tańkaḷ – a:le > tańkaḷa:le ‘by themselves’

tańkaḷ – o:ṭe > tańkaḷo:ṭe ‘theirs’

The plural reflexive pronouns are used as honorific singular also.

2. ∞ ta:ńka(!) occurs elsewhere.

ta:ńka(l) varańum

‘ you (with more respect/honor) are requested to come/ welcome’

ta:ńka – ta:n > ta:ńkata:n ‘ themselves’(emph.)

Illustrations

i) ta:ne: pańicca:n ‘ he himself studied (something)’

ii) tańkańlukutta:n ella:m teriyuńkra eńńom ‘ they think that they only know everything.....’

iii) tanne paatiye: pe:cra:n ‘ he talks about himself only’

[tannepattiye: pe:sra]

Interrogative Pronouns

The following are the interrogative pronouns in the Malaysian Spoken Tamil

i) even [evE] # ‘ who – he ‘

ii) eva(l) [eva] # ‘ who –she’

iii) evańka(l) [evańga] # ‘ who – they ‘(hum.)

iv) ya:ru [ya:rŕ] ‘who’

v) etu [ed ŕ] ‘ which’ (PN)

Illustrations

even	conna:n	‘ who(mas.) said (it)?’
eva	ke:ṭṭa:	‘ who (fem.) asked?’
evańka	conna:ńka	‘ who (pl.) said it?’
ya:ru	vanta:ńka	‘ who came?’
etu	nallatu	‘ which is the good one?’
etu	ve:ṇum	‘ which one (you) want?’

Collective Pronouns in the Malaysian Spoken Tamil

The following are the collective pronoun forms in the Malaysian Spoken Tamil

i) ella:m [ella:} ‘all’

ii) ella:rum [ella:rt] ‘all’

Description (with conditionings)

ella:rum can occur with human nouns only. However, ella:m can occur with both human and non-human nouns.

Illustrations

1. e:n ku:ʃta:ʃińka ella:m vantirunta:ńka ‘ all my friends had come’

e:n ku:ʃta:ʃińka ella:rum vantirunta:ńka

2. avańke ella:m / ella:rum po:na:ńke ‘ they (hum) all went (there)’

3. ella:rum/ ella;m ińke va:ńke ‘ all of (you) please come here’

Representation of Pronouns in the Verb forms

1. In Finite Verb Forms

Structure: Verb Base + Tense Suffix + Pronoun Termination

List of Pronominal Terminations

No	Pronoun	Term. Suffix	Conditioning : occurrences
1	I Person Singular	-en [-ɛ]	connen [sonnɛ] ‘said - I’ paʃiccen [paʃiccɛ] ‘read – I’

			o:ɬuven [o:ɬuvɛ] ‘will run – I’
2	I Person Plural	-om [-o]	po:nom [po:no] ‘went- we’ po:vom ‘po:vo] ‘will go-we’ ceyrom [seyro] ‘doing –we’ eɬuppom [eɬuppo] ‘will take we’
3	II Person Singular	-e [-ɛ] -i	-[ɛ] occurs before # po:ve [po:vɛ] ‘will go-you(sg.) naɬaɬte [navaɬdɛ] ‘walked –you’(sg.) [-i-] occurs before a suffix varuvi:ya: [varuviya:] ‘will you (sg.) come?’

4	Person Plural Honorific Singular	- i:ńkał [i:ńga(l)] -ińke	o:ɕuvi:ńke [o:ɕuvi:ńgɛ] 'will-run'-you (pl) varuvi:ńkaɭa:? [varuvi:ńgaɭa:] 'will you come?'
5	III Person i) Masculine Singular	-a:n [-a:]	vaɳta:n [vaɳda:] 'come -he' colra:na: [solra:na:] ' is he telling?'
	ii) Feminine Singular	[-a:] [a:] #	occurs before # . occurs elsewhere varuva: [varuva:] 'will come-she' po:va:ɭa: [po:va:ɭa:] 'will she-go?'
	iii) Masculine Honorific Singular	-[a:rɪ]	ceyva:ru [seyva:rɪ] # 'will do-he'(hon.) -[a:r] eɕutta:ra: [eɕutta:ra:] 'did he(hon.) take?'

			<p>paṭicca.re: [paṭicca.re:]</p> <p>‘he read’(emph.)</p>
	iv) Human Plural	<p>-a:ńke/ a:ńkaḷ</p>	<p>-a:ńke [-a:ńgɛ] occurs before #</p> <p>occurs elsewhere</p> <p>o:ṭra;ńge [o:dra:ńgɛ] ‘they are running’</p> <p>-a:ńkaḷ occurs elsewhere</p> <p>o:ṭuna:ńkaḷa [o:duna:ńgaḷa:]</p> <p>‘did they run?’</p>
	v) Non Human Singular	-icci	<p>occurs after the past tense suffix.</p> <p>vanticci [vandicci] ‘came-it’</p> <p>pa:tticci [pa:tticci] ‘saw- it’</p>
		-(u) tu	occurs after the present tense suffix.

			o:ʃutu [pa:kkudʃ] 'looks it' varutu [varudʃ] 'comes-it'
	Non – Human Singular Plural	-um	occurs elsewhere. pa:tum [pa:ɗt] 'it will sing' naʃakkum [naɗakkt] 'it will come'

2.In Imperative Finite Verb Forms

1	Imperative Singular	i) -Ø ii) -e	-e occurs after the negative suffix /-a:t/ po:ka:te [po:ha:d] 'don't go-you'(sg.) naʃakka:te [nadakka: ɛ] 'don't walk- you'(sg.)
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			<p>occurs after the verb base.</p> <p>o:tu - > o:tu</p> <p>[o:t] ‘run – you’(sg.)</p> <p>paṭi - > paṭi [paṭi]</p> <p>‘read – you’(sg.)</p>
2	Imperative Plural	i) -i:ńke	<p>occurs after the negative suffix -a:t-.</p> <p>colla:ti:ńke [solla:dingɛ]</p> <p>‘don’t tell –you’(pl.)</p>
		ii) -uńke	<p>occurs after the verb base.</p> <p>po:ńke [po:ńg]</p> <p>‘go-you’(pl)</p> <p>ke:ɭuńke [ke:ɭuńgɛ]</p> <p>‘listen / hear-you’(pl.)</p>

			<p>This form is used to denote imperative honorific singular as well</p>
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Use of Pronouns: Structural Functional-contextual significance

Occurrence of Pronouns as Subject

- | | |
|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| i) atu periya marom | ‘ it is a big tree’ |
| ii) avaru rumba nallavaru | ‘ he (hon.) is a very good person’ |
| iii) avańka nallavańka | ‘ they (hum.) are good people’ |
| iv) na:n ańke po:ven | ‘ I will go there’ |
| v) ni:ńke ińke va:ńka | ‘ you (hon. sg.) ‘Please come here’ |

Subject Phrase = Noun Phrase > pronoun > [any person –gender –number]

Subject Phrase (noun phrase) has concord agreement relationship with the following predicate phrase (noun phrase or verb phrase)

eg : avaru romba nallavaru 'he is a very good person'

na:n ańke po:ven 'I will go there'

ni:ńka ińke va:ńka 'you(pl./hon sg.) come here'

Occurrence of Pronouns in Predicate: Noun Predicate (noun phrase in the predicate slot)

eg: atu vi:ţu 'one house/ It is a house'

NP + NP → PN + N

atu oru vi:ţu 'It is a house'

atu periya vi:ţu 'It is a big house'

atu oru periya vi:ţu 'It is a very big house'

atu rumba periya vi:ţu 'It is a very big house'

atu oru rumba periya vi:ţu 'It is a very big house'

Expanded Sentence: NP → Num Adj. + Inten. + Adj. + N

Noun Predicate (NP)

	vi:tu	
oru	vi:tu	
periya	vi:tu	
oru periya	vi:tu	
rompa periya	vi:tu	
oru rompa periya	vi:tu	
atu perusu		
atu rompa perusu		
atu nallatu		‘ it is a good one’
avaru nallavaru		‘ he (hon.) is a good person’
aven e:n maken [avɛ e: mahɛ]		‘ he is my son’
itu avaro:te		‘ it is his ‘(hon.)
(avarote vi:tu		‘ his house’).

Predicate NP:

i) Adj + G.N. suffix > (-tu) (nallatu) (good)

ii) Adj.+ - varu (nallavaru) 'good person'

iii) Possessive case form + Noun

(e:n maken) 'my son'

iv) Possessive Noun Form

(avaro:ṭe) 'his (one)'

Occurrence of Pronouns (with case forms) in NP and VP

1) With case forms in NP

avaru / nampa a:ḷu 'he (hon.) is our person'

(Possessive case form + Noun)

atu / nampaḷo:ṭe (possessive noun) 'it is ours'

2.4 With case forms in Verb Phrase

na:n / avane pa:tten (Acc.case) 'I saw him'

tampi / ata:le arutta:n	(Inst. case)	‘ younger brother cut with it’
appa : / enakku ka:cu kuṭutta:ru	(Dat.case)	‘ father gave money to me’
akka: / atuleruntu eṭutta:ńke	(Abl.case)	‘ elder sister took(something) from it’
ka:cu eńkiṭṭe irukku	(Loc.case)	‘ I have money with me’
na:mpa / avarkieruntu va:ńkunom	(Abl.case)	‘we got it from him’
avaru / eńkaḷukka:ka kuṭutta:ru	(Purp.case)	‘ he (hon.) gave it for us for our sake’
ni: / atule po:ṭu	(Loc.case)	‘ you (sg.) put (something) in it’

VP > case form + FV (all case forms other than the possessive case)

Occurrence of Pronouns in Adjectives Phrases

Adj + Noun > Adj Noun (**adjectival noun** replaces **Adjective + Noun form**)

i) periya marom > perucu	‘ big one’
ii) cinna are > cinnatu/ cirucu	‘small one’
iii)nalla a:ḷu > nallavaru	‘ good person’
iv) oyarama:na kaṭṭaṭom > oyaraman:natu	‘ tall one’
v) nalla poṅṅu > nallava	‘good woman’

In the above constructions:

-cu, -tu, -varu, -va, -vañka replace nouns marom ‘tree’, are ‘room’, a:lu ‘person’, ponnu ‘girl’ and kaṭṭaṭom ‘building’ and help to form adjectival nouns.

In these constructions, the adjectival noun forms denote the respective nouns. The pronouns are marked by the gender-number suffixes as mentioned above.

Occurrence of Pronouns in Possessive Noun Phrases

enno:ṭe vi:ṭu > enno:ṭe (atu enno:ṭe) ‘it is mine’

In the Malaysian Spoken Tamil possessive nouns with it is unmarked. That is, no gender – number suffix is added after the possessive case form.

Written Tamil: ennuṭaiya vi:tu > enno:ṭetu ‘my house’

Malaysian Spoken Tamil: enno:ṭe ‘(it)is mine’

(enno:ṭe- tu > enno:ṭe by deleting –tu the non-human singular marker)

enno:ṭe > possessive case form for ‘my’. But, enno:ṭe is a possessive noun in sentences like atu enno:ṭe ‘it is mine’

itu tambiyo:ṭe ‘it is younger brother’s’

Occurrence of Pronouns in Imperative Constructions

Imperative is a simple grammatical (morphological and syntactic) formation in Tamil.

1. Morphological Formation

Structure i) Verb Base + Imperative Suffix

ii) Verb Base + Negative Suffix + Imperative Suffix

Imperative: Affirmative

1. Singular > Verb Base + unmarked (Ø)

eg: po: -Ø > po: 'you' (sg.) go'

naṭa - Ø > naṭa 'you (sg.) walk'

o:tu -Ø > o:tu 'you' (sg.) run'

Illustrations - Sentences

ni: po: 'you (sg.) go !'

ni :naṭa 'you (sg.) walk'

ni: o:tu 'you (sg.) run'

Imperative Plural

Verb Base + ṅka(ḷ)

eg : va: - ṅka(ḷ) > va:ṅke > paṭiṅka 'you (pl.) read'

a:tu -ńka(l) > a:tuńke > a:tuńka ‘ you’ (pl.) dance’

This form also denotes honorific singular or respect politeness in second person.

eg: ni:ńka va:ńke ‘ you (hon sg) come’/ you (hon sg.) please come’

ni:ńka po:ńke ‘you(pl.) go’ (polite)

Imperative: Negative

i) Negative Singular

ii) Negative Plural

Negative is marked by the suffix -a:t. Imperative is marked by two suffixes

-e / -i:ńka(l)

[ɛ] [i:ńga!]

Imperative: Negative Singular

eg : col – a:t-e . colla:te [solla:dɛ] ‘ you (sg.) don’t tell’

o:tu –a:t-e

> o:ta:te [o:ða:de] ‘ you (sg.) don’t run ‘

Illustrations:

ni: colla:te [ni:solla:dɛ] ‘ you (sg.) don’t tell’

ni: o:ʃa:te [ni: o:ʃa:dɛ] ‘ you (sg.) don’t run’

Imperative: Negative Plural

eg : col – a:t – in:ńka(l) > colla:ti:ńka ‘ you (pl.)don’t tell

o:ʃu – a:t – i:ńka(l) > o:ʃa:ti:ńka ‘ you (pl.) don’t run’

Illustrations:

ni:ńka colla:ti:ńka [ni:ngɛ solla:di:ńgɛ] ‘ you (pl.) don’t tell’

This denotes (hon.sg.) also. Imperative constructions occur only with second person subjects: ni: and ni:ńke.

The verb form in the Imperative has the terminations

-e, -i:ńka(l) and unmarked (Ø) (imperative)

i)- Ø and –e occur in singular

ii) –ńka(l) and –i:ńka(l) occur in plural. These are virtually pronoun terminations as found

in finite verb forms with tense markers:

eg : o:tu – kir – a:n (in written Tamil)

(o:ʃu-r-a:n > o:ʃira:n [o:ʃra:] ‘runs- he’

naʃa – nt – om > naʃantom [naʃand] ‘ we walked’

Occurrence of Pronouns as subject of the Permissive Verb forms

Permissive verb form > VB + {ala:m}

{kkala:m}

eg : o:tu – ala:m > o:ṭala:m

‘(one) may/can run’

naṭa –kkala:m

> (one) may/can walk’

Permissive Verb Forms can have any subject irrespective of person-gender- number.

eg: ni: o:ṭala:m

‘ you (sg) can run’

na:mpa sa:ppuṭala:m

‘ we may/can eat’

avañka naṭakkala:m

‘ they(hum.) may/can walk

avaru eludala:ma?

‘can he (hon.) write?’

atu o:ṭala:m

‘ it can / may run’

Occurrences of Pronouns as Subject in Hortative Verb Constructions

Hortative Verb form = VB $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} +aṭṭum \\ kkaṭṭum \end{array} \right\}$

eg: elutu - aṭṭum

> eludaṭṭum [eludaṭṭt] ‘let (one) write’

eṭu - kkaṭṭum

> eḍukkaṭṭum > eḍukkaṭṭum ‘let (one) take’

Hortative verb forms can have third person subjects. However, it is possible to have first person subject also. But the occurrences of second person pronouns as subject are not possible.

Illustrations:

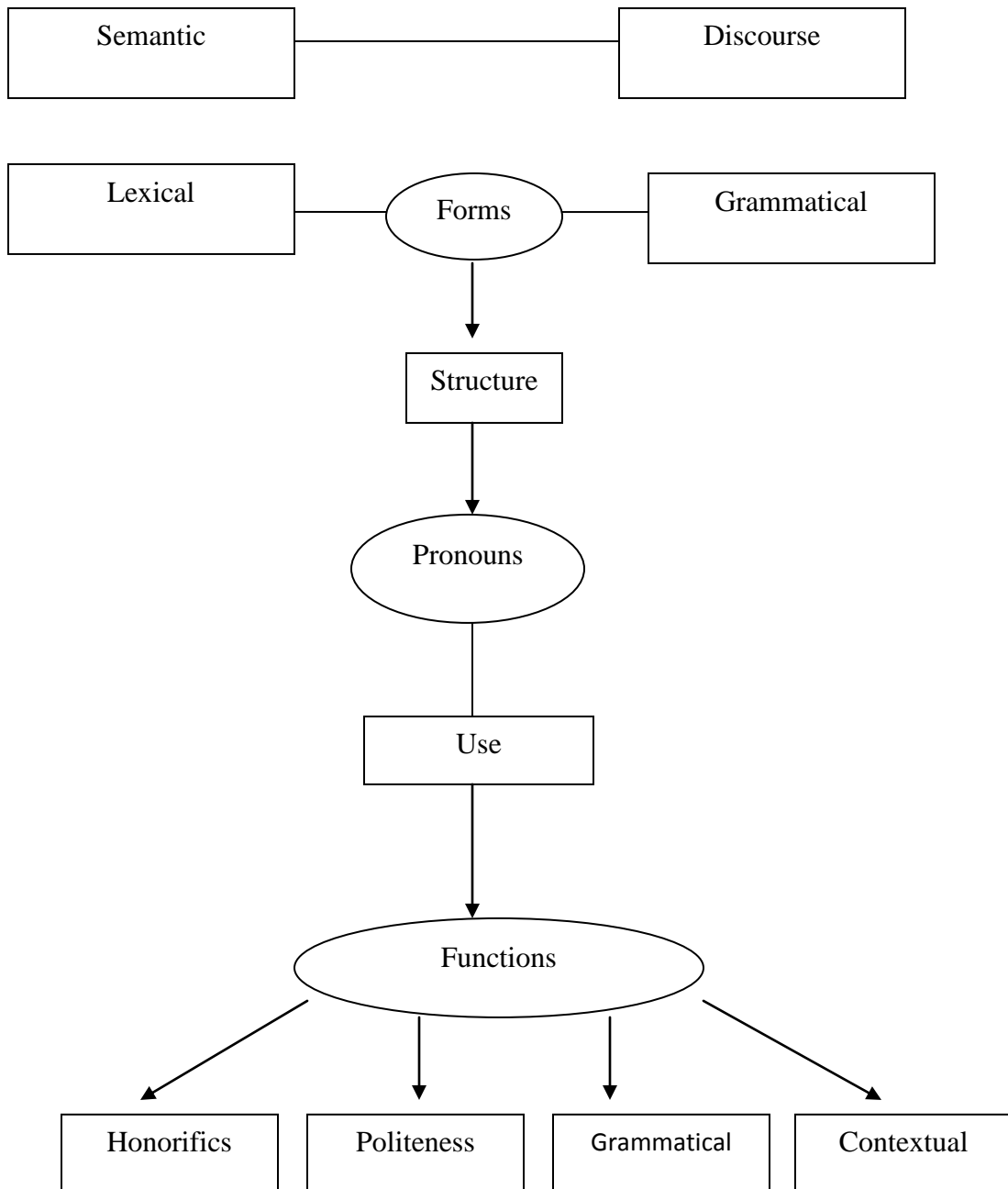
avar ellutaṭṭum [avart̄ eludaṭṭit̄] ‘let him write it’

na:n modalle pa:kkaṭṭum ‘let me see first’

avańka varaṭṭum ‘let them come’

Sometimes when we quote others statements we tend to use ni: pokaṭṭumnu ‘avańka conna:ńka’

Table: Pronouns and the Functions



Use of Pronouns terminations in Future Negative Forms

Structure: MV Inf. + ma:tt + P.G.N Suffixes

In Malaysian Spoken Tamil future negative is expressed by adding - ma:tt as a suffix after the infinitive form of the main verb. In such a formation, the occurrence of pronoun terminations (PTS) is a must.

eg: paṭikka - ma:tt - en

> paṭikkama:ttēn 'won't read – I'

colla - ma:tt - a:ru

> collama:ttaru 'won't tell – he' (hon.)

[sullama:ttaru]

naṭakka - ma:tt - e

> naṭakkama:ttē 'won't walk – you' (sg.)

[naṭakkama:ttē]

ke:kka - ma:tṭ - a:ńka

> ke:kkama:tṭa:ńka

[ke:kkama:tṭa:ńga] ‘won’t ask/ hear – they’ (hum.)

Occurrence of Pronouns in Dative Case Form in Impersonal Verb Sentences

Impersonal Verb Forms:

<u>Structure:</u>	<u>Affirmative vs. Negative</u>	
1) ve:ɲum	‘want’	ve:ɲa:m ‘don’t want’
2) po:tum	‘(is) enough’	po:ta:tu ‘(is) not enough’
3) teriyum	‘know’	teriya:tu ‘don’t know’
4) piɲikkum	‘like’	piɲikka:tu ‘don’t like’
5) muɲiyum	‘can’	muɲiya:tu ‘cannot’
6) puriyum	‘can understand’	puriya:tu ‘cannot understand’

All these forms are finite forms by themselves. There is no pronominal termination added to the affirmatives or negative verb forms. In sentence formation, all these verb forms are used, and when they occur in the predicate, the subject of the sentence is always a dative case form (pronoun or other nouns)

Impersonal Verb Sentences

- | | | |
|----|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) | enakku ve:ṇum | ‘I want’ |
| | enakku palom ve:ṇum | ‘I want a fruit’ |
| 2) | avaṅkaḷukku teriyum | ‘They (hum.) know’ |
| | avaṅkaḷukku tamil teriyum | ‘They (hum.) know Tamil’ |

However, when forms muṭiyum and muṭiya:tu are used in sentences, the subject is either in the dative case form or instrumental case form.

- | | | |
|--------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| eg: 1) | enna:la muṭiyum | ‘I can’ |
| | enna:la o:ṭa muṭiyum | ‘I can run’ |
| 2) | avaṅkaḷa:la paṭikkamutiyum/ | ‘they can read’ |
| | avaṅkaḷukku pa:ṭa teriyum | ‘they know how to sing’ |
| 3) | avarukku enne teriya:tu | ‘he(hon.) doesn’t know me’ |

This kind of subject is referred to as ‘Dative –Subject’

avar – ukku	>	avarukku	‘to him’
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en - akku > enakku 'to me'

avañkaḷ - ukku > avañkaḷukku 'to them'

Occurrence of Dative case subject in stative verb constructions:

There are stative verbs in languages. These verbs express the state of feelings, etc such as be hungry, be painful etc. But in languages like English it is possible to have the regular subject in such sentences.

eg: I am hungry 'be hungry'

However in MST verbs like paci 'to be hungry' vali 'be painful' etc take dative subjects.

eg: enakku paccikkitu 'I am (feel) hungry'

unakku valikkita: 'is it painful to you'(sg.)

Expression of politeness and the use of Pronouns

Use of Plural Suffix: -ñka(l)

va: 'come' va:ñka 'you(pl.) come'

o:ṭu 'you run' o:ṭuñka 'you(pl.) run'

Imperative Form + e:n

Sg.

Plural/ Hon. Sg

va: - e:n

va:ńka| / e:n > va:ńka|e:n [va:ńga|e:]

‘please (requesting) come-you (pl.) hon.sg.)

po:ka:ti:ńka(l)

‘don’t go –you’ (hon.sg.)

po:ka:ti:ńka| – e:n

‘Don’t go- you’ (hon.sg.)

(with request+closeness)

Expression of Respect/ Honour

Added to nouns / pronouns / finite verbs and etc

avaru - ńke > avuńka

‘it is he (hon.)’ (with politeness)

varuva:ru - ńke > varuva:ńka

‘he(hon.) will come’

In these expressions -ńke is added after, to respect or honour the hearer (a kind of politeness expression)

Use of the pronouns namba -‘our’

This pronouns form is used to identify with others (as friends, group or social identity etc) to show closeness and solidarity among the speaker- hearer.

eg: i) ivarí namba a:|uńka

‘he(hon.) is our person sir’

ii) namba vi:tu eñke irukku(tu) 'where is your(hon.sg.) house, sir?'

(Literally it means 'where is our (incl.) house?')

Use of Reflexive Verb Form and Imperative Sentence formation

-ko: in the auxiliary verb added to the verbal participle form of the main verb(in singular) to denote reflexivity in imperative constructions.

eg: eṭuttu + ko:

> eṭuttuko: 'you (sg.) take for / by yourself'

/ni: eṭukko:/'

eṭuttu + ko:ñka

> eṭuttuko:ñka 'you(pl.hon.sg.) take for/by yourself'

eṭuttu + ko:ñka| -e:n / ni:ñke eṭukko:ñke/'

> eṭuttuko:ñka|e:n 'please take for/by yourself'(politeness + request + closeness)

-e:n → $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} + \text{politeness} \\ + \text{request} \\ + \text{closeness} \end{array} \right\}$

Use of ta:n / tan – reflexive pronoun forms (in distinct structure)

ta:n / tan are alternants denoting ‘ oneself / self’

Both these alternants are used in constructions as follows:

avaru tanakku ta:ne: pe”cikiṭṭa:ru	‘he (hon.) spoke by himself’
ta:ne: pe:cikira	‘she talks for / by herself’
aven tanakka:ka eduvum ceyva:n	‘he will do anything for his sake’
avaru tanna:la muḍiya:tunnu colra:ru	‘he(hon.) says that it is not possible for him(to do)’

Use of Pronouns as Reference terms

Malaysian Spoken Tamil shows the following types of usages with respect to reference:

- i) avaru ‘he (hon.) / ‘it is he (hon.)’
- ii) varravaru avaralla ‘ it is not he(hon.) who is coming there’
- iii) atu avare:ta:n ‘oh ! it is he(hon.) only..... ‘

Use of avańka(l)

In Malaysian Spoken Tamil avańka(l) / ivańka(l) denotes both masculine and feminine honorific singular

avańka nalla pa:ɕaki ‘she(hon.) is a good singer’

avańka ya:ru ‘who is he/she (hon.)?’

Use of atu / itu ‘it’

This kind of pronoun form is used to denote human noun also, but conditioned by kin relation, closeness, love and affection (among the participants)

eg : amma: connatu / collicci ‘ mother informed (me).....’

ańnen vanticci ‘elder brother came etc’

ańnen vanticci ‘elder brother came’

[ańneɪ vaɪdicci]

akka: ańke po: cci

[akka: ańgeɪ po:cci] ‘elder sister went there’