

Basketo Text

This corpus is transcribed from a recorded conversation between four schoolboys in Balt'a village in February of 2014, which is located about 30 minutes by car from the town of Basketo. The informants of this corpus are from 8 to 10 years old. Each sentence is added the number and the alphabetic characters (A-D) for four boys' identification. (e.g. 1-A) Children in the village use Basketo in everyday conversation, but since the lingua franca is Amharic, they also use Amharic to communicate with other communities, especially at school. They know one or two neighbouring languages (Melo, Gofa etc.) imperfectly, too. Therefore, they use some borrowed words without Basketo inflexions. The boys jokingly tell several fibs and enjoy their conversation. For example, C doesn't know his grade, and no-one's exercise books have been stolen, though they might have been hidden as a joke.

‘School’

- 1-A: tá timirtáál lúkk-í-jéj-íne.
 1SG.NOM school go-CNV.SS-come-PF
 ‘I’ve been to school.’
- 2-B: táání lúkk-ákkaje.
 1SG.NOM go-PF.NEG
 ‘I haven’t.’
- 3-A: táání lúkk-á, daradž-í sísk-í-jéj-íne.
 1SG.NOM go-CNV.SS grade-ACC hear-CNV.SS-come-PF
 ‘I went and got my grade.’
- 4-B: tá giáb sísk-ánda. lúkk-ára,
 1SG.NOM tomorrow hear-INT go-CNV.SS
 ‘I’ll go and get mine tomorrow.’
- 5-A: tá sísk-íne. bákk’a, táání hamús
 1SG.NOM hear-PF enough 1SG.NOM Thursday
 lúkk-anda.
 go-INT
 ‘I’ve got mine. That’s enough. I’ll go on Thursday.’
- 6-B: né ánt lúkk-íra?
 2SG.NOM when go-IMPF.INTRO
 (to C) ‘When are you going?’
- 7-C: fiát tá lúkk-ánda.
 now 1SG.NOM go-INT
 ‘I’ll go now.’

- 8-B: né daradž-í sínt kék-ína?
 2SG.POSS grade-NOM how much go up-PF.INTRO
 ‘How much has your grade improved?’
- 9-C: daradž-í ánd kék-íne.
 grade-NOM one go up-PF
 ‘My grade has improved by one.’
- 10-B: wúú, né á erár-dor-a?
 Oh 2SG.NOM why know.IMPF-EXCL-INTRO
 ‘Oh, how do you know (your grade)?’
- 11-C: wú’á, né lúkk-í-bekk’-ábasa? timirtáál-i.
 what 2SG.NOM go-CNV.SS-see-IMPF.NEG.INTRO school-LOC
 ‘What! You’re going to school to see (your grade), aren’t you?’
- 12-B: k’ám k’ám ats’anna?-ára?
 night night study-IMPF.INTRO
 ‘Are you studying every night?’
- 13-C: áá, ats’anna?-áre.
 yes study-IMPF
 ‘Yes, I am.’
- 14-B: wozár géj-íra? tsúúfa-di,
 how say-IMPF.INTRO text-NOM.DEF
 ‘Do you understand the text? (lit. What does the text say?)’
- 15-C: tsúúfa-di amarinjá inglizinjá barí-fo.
 text-NOM.DEF Amharic English together-ASS
 ‘The text is in Amharic and English.’
- 16-B: táánáná aradda?is-ábe. tamar-íno-da,
 1SG.ACC explain-IMPER learn-REL.PF-ACC.DEF
 ‘Tell me what you’ve learnt.’
- 17-C: jédǎ-abe. tá-bar lúkk-ánd-iko,
 walk-IMPER 1SG-INSTR go-INF-IMPF.COND
 ‘Let’s walk if you go (to school) with me.’
- 18-B: fiáádi né tamar-ár. ekkí-niko,
 this.ACC 2SG.NOM learn-IMPF.INTRO take-PF.COND
 ‘Will you be able to explain this once you’ve mastered it?’
- 19-C: wón ats’anna?-íza fiáá-da timirtáál
 before study-REL.IMPF this-NOM school(-LOC)

gid-ákka?

be sufficient-PF.NEG.INTRO

‘Isn’t what you’ve already been studying at school enough?’

20-B: né ína-ppo k’ám k’ám ats’anna?-ár
2SG.NOM it-ABL night night study-CNV.SS

ekk-ákka?

take-PF.NEG.INTRO

‘Have you been studying from the text every night and mastering it?’

21-C: ats’anna?-áre. ína-ppo,
study-IMPF it-ABL

‘I am studying from it.’

22-B: jebet sirá oots-ár-ka?
homework(-ACC) do-IMPF-CONF

‘You are doing homework, aren’t you?’

23-C: jebet sirá ekk-í, tá oots-áre.
homework(-ACC) take-CNV.SS 1SG.NOM do-IMPF

‘I take homework and do it.’

(Break)

24-A: táání táá-ko sísk-í-jéj-íne.
1SG.NOM 1SG-DIR hear-CONV.SS-come-PF

‘I got my grade.’

25-D: né néé-ko ááfin kess-ína?
2SG.NOM 2SG-DIR how much raise-PF.INTRO

‘How much did you improve it?’

26-A: táání hulét kess-íne.
1SG.NOM two raise-PF

‘I improved by two.’

27-D: hulét kess-ína?
two raise-PF.INTRO

‘Did you improve by two?’

28-A: áá.
yes
‘Yes.’

29-D: ats'anna?-ára?

study-IMPF.INTRO

'Are you studying?'

30-A: ats'anna?-áre. maata k'am k'am,

study-IMPF night night night

'I am studying every night.'

31-B: né baabá-b né aajá-b

2SG.POSS father-DAT 2SG.POSS mother-DAT

oots-ára?

work-IMPF.INTRO

'Are you working for your mother and father?'

(Break)

32-B: néé-b báz wóda?

2SG-DAT thing.NOM exist.INTRO

'Do you have that?'

33-A: prográmi?

programme

'My study programme?'

34-B: áá.

yes

'Yes.'

35-A: tsaaf-int-ákkj.

write-PASS-IMPF.NEG

'It's not been written yet.'

36-B: ánt tsaaf-int-án-fen koj-ára?

when write-PASS-INF-ESS want-IMPF.INTRO

'When do you want it to be written?'

37-A: giáb tsaaf-int-ír.

tomorrow write-PASS-IMPF

'It'll be written tomorrow.'

38-B: wúú, fiát fiattáb kossh-ír, doke giáb ánta.

Oh now today need-IMPF but tomorrow why

'Oh, you need it today now, so why tomorrow?'

- 39-A: giáb sanjí tá timirtáál lúkk-íza-bo.
 next Monday 1SG.NOM school go-REL.IMPF-DAT
 ‘Because I’m going to school next Monday.’
- 40-B: timirtáál lúkk-ár-bajá?
 school go-IMPF-INTRO
 ‘Are you really going?’
- 41-A: áá.
 yes
 ‘Yes.’
- 42-B: lúkk-ár ábz wot-ára?
 go-CNV.SS what do-IMPF.INTRO
 ‘What will you do there?’
- 43-A: táá-ko takatattal-áre.
 1SG-DIR follow-IMPF
 ‘I will follow my study programme.’
- 44-B: takatattal-íno pij?
 follow-REL.PF after
 ‘And after finishing?’
- 45-A: giáb tááko ats’anna?-áre.
 next 1SG-DIR study-IMPF
 ‘I’ll study the next one.’
- 46-B: áál-i jéera?
 home-LOC return.IMPF.INTRO
 ‘Are you going home?’
- 47-A: áá.
 yes
 ‘Yes.’
- 48-B: áál-i jéer ats’nna?-ára?
 home-LOC return.CNV.SS study-IMPF.INTRO
 ‘Will you study when you get home?’
- 49-A: áá.
 yes
 ‘Yes.’
- 50-B: ats’anna?-íno-ppo fianá óós oots-ár-bája?
 study-REL.PF-ABL after work(-ACC) do-IMPF-INTRO
 ‘Will you work after studying?’

- 51-A: oots-ár.
do-IMPF
'Yes, I will.'
- 52-B: oots-ár-ij?
work-IMPF-INTRO
'And, after working?'
- 53-A: oots-ár, ína-ppo k'ám k'ám ats'anna?-ír.
work-CNV.SS it-ABL night night study-IMPF
'After working, I'll study at night.'
- 54-C: timirtáál jéj-í, kaas múttá ats'anna?-íbása?
school return-CNV.SS play only study-IMPF.NEG.INTRO
'When you come home from school, won't you just play and not study?'
- 55-A: prográm-bar kaa?-ír, oots-ír, ats'anna?-íre.
programme-INSTR play-CNV.SS work-CNV.SS study-IMPF
'I'll play, work and study by my study programme.'
- 56-B: ína-ppo.
it-from
'After that.'
- 57-A: tá tá daradzá-da hamús
1SG.NOM 1SG.POSS grade-DEF.ACC Thursday
sísk-ánda.
hear-INT
'I'll get my grade on Thursday.'
- 58-C: tá sanjí lúkkí, sísk-ánda. sanjí gúúr
1SG.NOM Monday go-CNV.SS hear-INT Monday morning
lúkk-ánda.
go-INT
'I'll go on Monday and get mine. I'll go on Monday morning.'
- 59-A: zinááb lúkk-ín, sanjí jéé-bte géj-íne.
yesterday go-CNV.DS Monday come-IMPER say-PF
'When I went (to school) yesterday, they said to come on Monday.'
- 60-B: né dabtár márk éédǎ-ís-ína?
2SG.NOM exercise book marks(-ACC) catch-CAUS-PF.INTRO
'Did you have your exercise books marked?'
- 61-A: tá éédǎ-ís-ín, astamará wut'ééta
1SG.NOM catch-CAUS-CVN.DS teacher.NOM mark(-ACC)

sóól-ábda géj-íne.

say-IMPF.NEG say-PF

‘I had my exercise books marked, but the teacher said not to tell anyone the mark.’

62-B: tá éédǎ́-ís-ákkaje. táá-ko
1SG.NOM catch-CAUS-PF.NEG 1SG-DIR

dabtár wójsó sol-í ekk-íne.

exercise book(-ACC) all thief-NOM take-PF

‘I didn’t get mine marked. A thief took all my exercise books.’

63-A: árt dabtár sol-í ekk-ín, tá
art exercise book(-ACC) thief-NOM take-CNV.DS 1SG.NOM
wong-ákkaje.
buy-PF.NEG

‘The thief took the art exercise book, but I haven’t bought (a new one) yet.’

64-B: astamar-í tamar-ántsa-ko dabtár márk éédǎ́-íne.
teacher-NOM student-PL-DIR exercise book marks(-ACC) catch-PF

‘The teacher marked the students’ exercise books.’

Abbreviation

1	first person	2	second person	ABL	ablative
ACC	accusative	ASS	assertive	CAUS	causative
CNV	converb	COND	conditional	CONF	confirmation
DAT	dative	DEF	definite	DS	different-subject
EXCL	exclamatory	IMPER	imperative	IMPF	imperfective
INF	infinitive	INSTR	instrumental	INT	intentional
INTRO	interrogative	NEG	negative	NOM	nominative
PASS	passive	PF	perfective	PL	plural
POSS	possessive	REL	relativizer	SG	singular
SS	same-subject				