
Table of Contents

Dedication	v
Table of Contents	vii
List of Abbreviations and Symbols	xii
Foreword	xiv
Preface	xvii
Acknowledgements	xix
Introduction	1
0.1 Aims and objectives	1
0.2 Linguistic situation of Cameroon.....	1
0.3 Nweh: Geographical location	2
0.4 Nweh: The people	2
0.5 Nweh: Language location and classification.....	3
0.6 Nweh: Linguistic works	4
0.7 Nweh: Phonology.....	5
0.7.1 Orthographic note.....	7
0.7.2 Basic facts about the Nweh language structure	7
0.8 Method.....	8
0.8.1 Texts Used in the Analyses.....	9
0.8.2 Segmentation of texts	10
0.8.3 Sample text: Ntuŋa ləkpá ɲkuɔ ɲkpɛ “ <i>The Origin of Death</i> ”	10
0.8.4 Composition of discourse charts	11
0.8.5 Sample Discourse Chart	11
CHAPTER ONE	
Discourse Analysis and the Narrative Genre	14
1.0 Introduction.....	14
1.1 Defining elements of Discourse Analysis	14
1.1.1 Current trends in Discourse Analysis.....	15
1.1.2 Foci of Discourse Analysis	16
1.2 Overview of narrative studies	16
1.2.1 Early works on structuralist narratology	17
1.2.2 Narrative studies and Discourse Analysis	18
1.2.3 Current state of the field of discourse studies and narratives	19
1.3 Way forward	21
CHAPTER TWO	
Form and Dramatic Intensity of Nweh Narratives	24
2.0 Introduction.....	24
2.1 The form of Nweh folklores and reports	25
2.1.1 The introduction.....	25

2.1.2 The body (development).....	26
2.1.3 Conclusion	27
2.1.4 Presentation of surface structure	28
2.2 Dramatic intensity or semantic tension	35
2.2.1 Presentation of the deep structure	36
2.2.2 Illustration of the deep structure	39

CHAPTER THREE

Linguistic Markers of Surface and Deep Structures of Nweh Narratives	46
3.0 Introduction.....	46
3.1 Linguistic markers of the surface structure	46
3.1.1 Markers of introduction.....	46
3.1.2 Markers of episodes.....	49
3.1.3 Markers of the Conclusion.....	50
3.2 Linguistic Markers of the Deep Structure	51
3.2.1 The Preparation	51
3.2.2 Linguistic markers of the climax	69
3.3 Markers of the speaker / audience relationship	79
3.3.1 Speaker / audience relationship in the introduction	79
3.3.2 Speaker / Audience Relationship in the Development.....	80
3.3.3 Speaker-audience relationship in the conclusion.....	85

CHAPTER FOUR

Orientation and Types of Information in Nweh Narratives	87
4.0 Introduction.....	87
4.1 Orientation of information.....	87
4.1.1 Information orientation towards time.....	87
4.1.2 Information orientation towards place.....	92
4.1.3 Information orientation towards participants.....	94
4.2 Types of information	100
4.2.1 Backbone information	100
4.2.2 Background information.....	101

CHAPTER FIVE

Prominence in Nweh Narratives	110
5.0 Introduction.....	110
5.1 Topicalisation.....	112
5.1.1 Inherent topicalization	112
5.1.2 Marked topicalization	112
5.2 Focalization.....	114
5.2.1 Non focalization.....	114
5.2.2 Inherent focalization.....	115
5.2.3 Marked focalization.....	117
5.2.4 Defocalization	119
5.3 Reaction	122
5.3.1 Reaction: confirmation or doubt	122
5.3.2 Reaction: rejection.....	123
5.3.3 Reaction: rectification	123

5.4 Prominence in the internal structure of Nweh narratives	124
5.4.1 Theme	125
5.4.2 Climax	126
CHAPTER SIX	
Nweh Narrative Cohesive Devices	129
6.0 Introduction.....	129
6.1 Cohesion in the semantic structure	130
6.1.1 Relational structure	130
6.1.2 Spans.....	131
6.1.3 Semantic domain.....	134
6.2 Surface structure cohesive devices	134
6.2.1 Concord system.....	135
6.2.2 Verb morphology	136
6.2.3 Affixes and particles.....	139
6.2.4 Participant anaphora.....	144
6.2.5 Lexical ties and paraphrase.....	144
6.2.6 Summary and previews	146
6.2.7 Conjunctions	147
CHAPTER SEVEN	
Nweh Narratives and Translation	153
7.0 Introduction.....	153
7.1 Translation pedagogy and discourse studies	153
7.1.1 Recent views on translation pedagogy	155
7.1.2 Translation and Discourse Analysis.....	157
7.2 Word, sentence, and discourse level characteristics of Nweh narratives	159
7.2.1 Word-level meaning components	159
7.2.2 Sentence level meaning components.....	163
7.2.3 Discourse level meaning components	165
Conclusion	176
APPENDICES	178
Selected Texts Used in the Analyses	178
Text 1 Ɔ̀tùŋa l̀̀kpă Ƌkuo Ƌkpă “ <i>The Origin of Death</i> ”	178
Text 2 Ɔ̀kòŋ bo Èbe “ <i>Love and Hatred</i> ”	180
Text 3 Mbeì Ngwì bo Mbeì Àbiɛp “ <i>Mr Leopard and Mr He-Goat</i> ”	183
Text 4 L̀̀kièt Atùtù “ <i>The story of the Headed Man</i> ”	184
Text 5 Ɔ̀wa B̀̀tsět mb̀̀ŋ “ <i>The rain water child</i> ”	189
Text 6 Ɔ̀wa s̀̀ŋ l̀̀tɔ̀ŋ “ <i>A Little bird of a feather</i> ”	194
Text 7 B̀̀lēm Ekìbì “ <i>The plum Gods</i> ”	199
Text 8 Èsuđ Ƌwa “ <i>A child's friend</i> ”	203
Text 9 L̀̀kièt Toŋ Nju’ or Mb̀̀ei Taŋkəŋ Nj̀̀’ “ <i>The story of the Yam Digger</i> ” Story digger yam or Mr Taŋkəŋ Njoh.....	205
Text 10 Mb̀̀ei L̀̀vən bo Mb̀̀ei Tsđ’ “ <i>Mr Tortoise and Mr Ostrich</i> ”	215
Text 11 L̀̀kiət Atsàp bo Ngēp “ <i>The story of the Fox and the Fowl</i> ”	218
Text 12 Azia “ <i>A war portion</i> ”	221

Text 13	Nwa Ondî gè “My grandmother’s child”	224
Text 14	Ɖgɔŋ Fuantem Asonanyi “The life of the Fon of Fontem Asonganyi”	224
Text 15	Njo Manjìkpala “The war of Manjìkpala”	228
Nweh – English Lexicon		232
References		242
Index		247

List of Tables

Table 0.1: Origin of the Nweh people.....	2
Table 0.2: Nweh consonant graphemes	5
Table 0.3: Nweh vowel graphemes.....	5
Table 0.4: Nweh phonemes, allophones, and graphemes	5
Table 0.5: Discourse chart: “The Origin of Death”	11
Table 1.1: Longacre’s discourse genre classification	19
Table 1.2: Hypothetical frame of Nweh narratives.....	23
Table 2.1: Introduction format of Nweh narratives	25
Table 2.2: Development format of Nweh narratives	27
Table 2.3: Conclusion Format of Nweh Narratives	28
Table 2.4: Deep structure of Nweh folklore and intrigued reports.....	35
Table 2.5: Deep structure of Nweh non-intrigued narratives.....	36
Table 2.6: Surface and deep structures of selected texts.....	43
Table 2.7: Semantic plot structure of selected texts	44
Table 2.8: Conformity to surface and deep structure formats (a) Surface structure.....	45
Table 2.8: (b) Deep structure.....	45
Table 3.1: Linguistic markers of the surface structure.....	47
Table 3.2: Linguistic markers of the deep structure	52
Table 3.3: Conclusive statements	77
Table 4.1: Covert expression of time in aperture	88
Table 4.2: Time frame of a report (Azia).....	90
Table 4.3: Time frame of “The Origin of Death”	91
Table 4.4: Location frame of Nwa Bətset mbeɲ.....	93
Table 4.5: Participant frame of Mbei Ngwi bo Mbei Abiep	95
Table 4.6: Participant frame of Nwa Ondî gè	96
Table 4.7: Participant frame of Njò Manjìkpala.....	97
Table 4.8: Orientation of information	99
Table 4.9: Normal/Degrading usages.....	103
Table 4.10: Backbone and background information.....	108
Table 4.11: Distribution of backbone and background information.....	109
Table 5.1: Domains of extension of prominence.....	111
Table 5.2: Prominence-particle typology	111
Table 6.1: Semantic structure cohesive devices	130
Table 6.2: Cohesive features of the semantic structure of Love and Hatred.....	132
Table 6.3: Surface structure cohesive devices.....	135
Table 6.4: Linguistic functions and cognitive roles of conjunctions.....	148
Table 7.1: Lexical function of Nweh tones	164
Table 7.2: Nweh negation and tense systems.....	165
Table 7.3: Participant reference of Nwa ondî gè	167

Table 7.4 (a) Personal pronouns	168
Table 7.4 (b) Possessive pronouns: noun classes	168
Table 7.4 (c) Demonstrative pronouns: noun classes and distance of item	169
Table 7.5 Summary of the concord system of Nweh noun classes	171
Table 7.6: New information rate.....	175

List of Maps

Map 1: Cameroon (Administrative Regions)	1
Map 2 and 3: South-West Region Lebialem Division	3
Map 3: Location of Ngwe in Cameroon	4