

0.4 Phonology of Nend

The sound system of Nend is composed of 24 consonant and six vowel phonemes. These phonemes in their orthographic representations are: *mb, nd, ŋg, ŋgw, p, t, k, kw, ŋk, v, z, nz, j, nj, h, s, c, m, n, ŋ, l, w, y, i, e, i, a, u, and o.*

0.5 Morphophonemics

In this paper, examples will mainly be written phonemically. In order to avoid confusion among similar morphemes, vowel harmony is not written.

Morphophonemics in Nend are limited to only a few processes. These include vowel elision, epenthesis, vowel harmony, reduplication, and one consonantal process involving the consonant *v*.

0.5.1 Vowel Elision

When two vowels are brought together in adjacent words or morphemes, the first vowel elides and only the second vowel remains. For example, *na* 'eat' plus *-in* '1s' goes to *nin* 'I ate.' This process is not limited to affixation. It also occurs at higher levels.

0.5.2 Epenthesis

In some situations it is impossible to apply the above rule without losing some component of meaning that is carried by the vowel that would be deleted. In these cases the consonant *h* is inserted between the two vowels.

/akw=o-e/ --> *[akw=oh-e]*
up=go-SS

Likewise, whenever two consonants are brought together, resulting in an unacceptable consonant cluster, the vowel *i* is inserted between the consonants.

/na-mg-m-a-l/ is pronounced *[na-mgi-m-a-l]*
eat-p-IDEF-HP-3

0.5.3 Vowel Harmony

When the vowel in the accented syllable is [+high], the front and back [-high] vowels become [+high]. Note, for example, the phonological processes that occur when the third person singular suffix *-i* is placed on the verb *e'ka* 'slice'.

- Vowel Elision /e'ka-i/ --> e'ki
- Vowel Harmony e'ki --> [i'ki]

0.5.4 The Consonant *v* Following Nasals

The consonant *v* is realized as *mb* when suffixed to a word which has a nasal in the last syllable. If the word ends in a nasal, that nasal elides and is replaced by *mb*. If there is a vowel separating the final nasal from the *-v*, there is no consonant elision but the *-v* is still realized as *mb*.

0.5.5 Reduplication Process

Reduplication in Nend affects only verbs. Reduplication is according to the following formula.

$$C_1V_1C_2V_2C_3V_3 > C_1V_1C_2V_2C_3(V_3) - V_1C_2V_2C_3$$

The V_3 is reduplicated only in the reduplication of one and two syllable verb roots beginning with a consonant. The following illustrates the mechanics of reduplication with a number of simple verb roots.

VERB ROOT		REDUPLICATED VERB ROOT									
		C ₁	V ₁	C ₂	V ₂	C ₃	V ₃	V ₁	C ₂	V ₂	C ₃
talk	<i>ka</i>					<i>k</i>	<i>a</i>				<i>h</i>
eat	<i>na</i>					<i>n</i>	<i>a</i>				<i>n</i>
cover	<i>asi</i>				<i>a</i>	<i>s</i>				<i>a</i>	<i>z</i>
hit	<i>viha</i>			<i>v</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>h</i>	<i>a</i>			<i>i</i>	<i>h</i>
weave	<i>ampiha</i>		<i>a</i>	<i>mp</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>h</i>		<i>a</i>	<i>mb</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>h</i>
hide	<i>kwevili</i>	<i>kw</i>	<i>e</i>	<i>v</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>l</i>		<i>e</i>	<i>v</i>	<i>i</i>	<i>l</i>

In compound verb stems only the final root is reduplicated. This is illustrated below.

COMPOUND VERB STEM	REDUPLICATED VERB STEM	
<i>η=inci</i>	<i>η=inc=inj</i>	get=pull
<i>ηga=ñi</i>	<i>ηga=ñi=ñ</i>	descend=stay
<i>avi=zi=ηga</i>	<i>avi=zi=ηga=ηg</i>	throw-3.DS=descend

The following consonantal alterations also occur in reduplication.

Kyle Harris

IN REDUPLICATED PORTION

/p, k/ -->
/mp, nt, ŋk, ŋkw/ -->
/s, c/ -->

/v, h/
/mb, nd, ŋg, ŋgw/
/z, j/

Data Papers on Papua New Guinea Languages
Volume 37

Two Grammatical Studies

Edited by John R. Roberts

Summer Institute of Linguistics
Ukarumpa via Lae
Papua New Guinea

Papers in the series **Data Papers on Papua New Guinea Languages** (formerly **Workpapers in Papua New Guinea Languages**) express the author's knowledge at the time of writing. They do not necessarily provide a complete treatment of their topic. However, it is felt that these papers should be made available at this time.

John M. Clifton, Series Editor

Copyright © 1990 by the
Summer Institute of Linguistics
Ukarumpa via Lae
Papua New Guinea

Published 1990

Printed by the SIL Printing Department
Ukarumpa via Lae
Papua New Guinea

ISBN 9980 0 0542 4