Aspects of Farefari Compouding: The Syntactic Constructure of Farefari Personal Compound Names

Barnabas A-ingkonge[a]*, Cecilia Anapoka Alebillah[b]

[a]Gambaga College of education ,North –East Region, Ghana-West Africa

[b]Gbewaa college of education, Pusga, Upper-East Region, Ghana, West Africa

[a]Email: ainkongebarnabas@yahoo.com/baingkonge@gacoe.edu.gh

[b]Email: alibillac@gmail.com

Abstract

Compounding has received linguistic attention in Farefare language. The authors in [2, 6, 7, 8, 11, 18, 26, 30, 31] . However, the phenomenon was not studied extensively, especially the syntactic constructure of Farefari personal compound names. This paper discusses the syntactic relations that occur in some personal compound names in Farefari, The study analyzes and presents data using the Basic Linguistic Theory (BLT). This helped the researcher to find out whether the Farefari personal compound names are lexical words, phrases, or even sentences. The data also enabled the researcher to do a typological study of the Farefari compounds in order to ascertain the syntactic constructure of the Farefari personal compound names. The results of study revealed that most of the Farefari personal compound names are sentences made up of a subject-verb- object (CVC, CV etc). The findings therefore established that most of the Farefari compound personal names are not lexical words but phrases, sentences and therefore syntactic. This finding is very important not only to Farefari Language alone but to Mabia languages as well since they share the same linguistic characteristics. Based on the findings, The researcher recommends that future researchers investigating on farefari compound word may focus on verb-verb and adverb – adverb compounds.

Keywords: Compound; constructure; syntactic; personal name; linguistic structures; Farefari.

1. Introduction

Linguistic structures are described in terms of the semantic functions of their various elements and it is the syntactic forms and relationships that express those. The term 'constructure' refers to the relationships that exist between the small units that make up a larger unit. Farefari is a Mabia language, of Niger-Congo languages family spoken in the Upper East Region of Ghana. A number of studies have been done in some sections of compounding in Farefari in the following authors [8, 11, 18, 26, 30, 31].

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* Corresponding author.

However, some sections are not covered and needed attention. The examination of this study indicated that the constructure of Farefari personal compound names are sentences. Some typological features of the Farefari language includes the vowels, vowel harmony, consonants but the language does operate consonant clusters, noun class, concord systems and tone in the following authors in [6, 8,13, 18] nine vowels of the language have been grouped into two sets using the feature known as Advance Tongue Root (ATR); [+ATR] vowels /i, e, u, o/ and [-ATR] vowels / ɪ, ɛ, ʊ, ɔ/. These vowels are part in the cross-height vowel harmony meaning whereby roots and associate suffixes only contain vowels of the same set of [ATR]. The vowel in any word apart from compounds would usually come from the same ATR set. The following are the consonant phonemes of the Farefari language; b, d, f, g (ɣ), h, k (ʧ), l, m, n, ŋ, p, r, s, t, v, w, y, z (ʤ), kp, gb, ŋm (ŋw), ɲ (ny), ?/. The class system is a genetic and typological feature for the Niger-Congo family languages in author [17].

 The language has a SV(O) structure together with its variant forms illustrated in a simple sentence and also operate in two- tones system; high(╱) tone and low (╲) tone in the following[6, 8, 10, 31]. This paper discusses the syntactic relations that occur in some personal compound names of Farefari. Farefari word structure is mostly an open monosyllabic CV and disyllabic CVCV. However, there are few words where a closed monosyllabic of a type CVC occurs. Consonant that occur in the closure are always the nasal consonants as [m] [n] [ŋ] and the glottal stop [?] e.g *kom* 'hunger', *zom* 'climb', *kaŋ* won't', *pa?* 'clap', *kɔ?* 'break'. There are also some few instances in which the word structure could be made up of the vowel; that is the nucleus of the syllable 'V 'as in the third person pronoun 'a 'she/he. Some word structure also consists of syllabic nasal and has the structure 'C' e.g. Bia → *m+bia (mbia)*=C+CVV, my children →*ŋ+kɔma (nkɔma)* = C +CVCV [9,10] The language is documented. The language has an orthography, a dictionary (Gurenɛ dictionary and English – Gurenɛ glossary). The language is being studied or taught in the Colleges of education and in the Universities of Ghana but has just been absorbed fully to be studied from the basic school to the University level. The research took place in Bolgatanga municipality and its environs. The proximity of the researcher was also a contributing factor since he equally resides in these communities.

2. Purpose of the Study

The aim of this study is to examine Syntactic structures of Farefari personal compound names and identify their functions in the names. In other ways, the study tries to determine the syntax of Farefari personal compound names according to their structure and function

3. Research Questions
3.1. what syntactic structures can be identified with Farefari personal compound names ?
3.2. What are the syntactic functions of the Farefari personal compound names?

Significance of the study

It expected that the finding of study would add up to literature on syntactic analysis in Farefari compound words

4. **Literature Review**

Compounding has received linguistic attention in Farefare language.in authors [2, 4] State that one interesting aspect of Gurenɛ compounding which appear to be different from other languages are ; some names of diseases, animals etc can be formed through the combination of many roots. Also, such names mostly refers to speakers' desire to describe new items in the language e. g.

a. A + dɔgɛ + makɛ → Adɔgemakɛ

3SG   give birth   measure   family planning

She/he measures/limits her/his birth

Childbirth was a prestige in some time past and the one who had many children was highly respected. Those days, parents took little responsibility of their children. With modern education, the demand for the parental responsibility to their children is very high and pressure on economic facilities is high. There is therefore the need to cut down population growth. The recent development to educate the public to control their family system by reducing their birth rate is important. So the name '*Adɔgemakɛ*'means to measure/ to limit the number of children one gives birth to, so that she/he can take proper care of them.

b. N + daa + san + baŋɛ + ni → Ndaasanbaŋeni

1SG   PST   COND   PST   PRT   AIDS

If I had known

c. A + ŋmaɛ + dɔɔ + gu' + ɔɔrɔ → Aŋmaadɔɔgu'ɔɔrɔ

3SGcut   wood   protect   cold →   NHIS

She/e cut wood to protect cold.

d. A + nyɛ'ɛri + dee + tiira   →   Anyɛ'ɛrideetiira

  3SG   easing   CONJ   vomiting   →   cholera

    She/he is easing and vomiting.

Authors [2, 4] explains that Personal name + personal name compound in Gurenɛ is a right headed compound and therefore endocentric because the right constituent of the compound is the semantic head of the compound and the left constituent of the compound is the modifying noun. In this *N-N* compounding, the head noun on the right drops its personal name prefix *[A- or N-]* before combining to the modifying noun to form a compound e.g

I.   *Atia + Azɛyiŋa   Atia-zɛyiŋa* 'personal name'

   ii.   *Abaa +Adigenyɔkɛ*   *Abaa- digenyɔkɛ* ' personal name'

   iii.   *Akolego +Atadita*   *Akolego- Tadita* 'personal name'

   iv.   *Aguuŋa +ALagun-ɛɛra*   *Aguuŋa- Lagun-ɛɛra* 'personal name'

   v.   *Azika +Abaŋeba'asɛ*   *Azika-Baŋeba'asɛ* ' personal name'

He added that, in Personal name+ personal name compounding process, it is rather the second noun that drops its personal name prefix *[a-]* before combining with the first noun. The prefix of the first name is now the personal name prefix for the compound. This is a kinship relation reflecting a linage and possessor-possessed relationship between the two nouns.

According the author [10, 26]; Gurenɛ expresses the relationship between the time of the event and the reference time. Thus past, present and future tenses in Gurenɛ are not expressed by the verb form but temporal adverbials and modifiers. For example; temporal adverbials like *zaam* "yesterday", *zina* "today" and *beere* "tomorrow" are used to mark time. However the post- modifier */ni/* and the pre-modifiers *wan/ na* are used for past and future respectively in author [26 pp. 138-141] .e.g.

   i.   Ba   zaam   bobe   Bongo   naba   la

   3SG   yesterday   install PERF   Bongo   chief   DEF

   They install the Bongo chief yesterday.

   ii.   Kaareba la   daa   diti   dia

   Farmers   DEF   PST   eat IMPERF   food   DEF

   The farmers were eating the food

   iii. A   beere   wan   kule.

   3SG   tomorrow   FUT   go home

   She/he will go home tomorrow.

   iv. Ba   na   dita   ta'ama   la

   3PL   HAB   eat   shea fruits   DEF

   They always eat sea the nuts fruits

According to the author in [27] verbs semantically express events, actions, processes and states. In terms of

argument structure, there are transitive, intransitive and ditransitive verbs in Gurenɛ as illustrated here.

Kiibega	*la*	*nyu*	*ko'om*	*la*	*ba'asɛ*	*gee*	*nyaa….*
Orphan	DEF	drink	water	DEF	finish	and	now…

"The orphan drank all the water and now…"

Ti	*ba*	*selese*	*wuu*	*ba*	*ka*	*nyɛ*	*ko'om*
And	3PL	wait	all	3PL	NEG	see	water

"And they waited for long and did not get the water".

Ba	*bo*	*e*	*a*	*tampɔɔ*	*ti*	*a*	*kiŋɛ*
3PL	give	OBJ	3SG POSS	bag	COMP	3SG	go

"They should give him his bag so that he will go".

Author [3 pp 13] discusses aspects of the compound word based on syllables. She stated that a second word structure is imbedded into the theme. The embedded word often consists only of a theme, but it may also have a sequence of its own. A compound word therefore includes two primary syllables.

(43) Syllables in a compound word　　　　　　　**Gloss**

　　a.　*A* + *ba* + *gam* + *bii* + *re*　a name

　　b.　*A* + *kin* + *ki* + *ri* + *ko*　a name

　　c.　*bu* + *da* + *nya* + *'aŋa*

Author [17 pp 94-95] captioned "A Grammar of Gurenɛ" discusses issues of phonology, morphology and syntax. She discusses nominal and gender, morphophonemics and compounding. In compounding she discusses the compound head, compound phrase etc. she posits that adjectives and others classes of post head modifier are usually compounded with the noun. The noun loses its number suffix and combines with the adjective to form a single compound word. If there are two adjectives following the noun, the first adjective is compounded with the noun with its final vowel usually elided but the second adjective stands as an independent word. E.g.

budaa	+	suŋa	+	sabelega	+	girega	= buda-sun-sabele-girega
man		handsome		bilack		short	a short black handsome man

Also, when two nouns are compounded in the same way as a noun plus adjective, the second noun is the head of

the construction and the first noun qualifies the second noun, as in a possessive construction. e.g

Saa + *pibere* →sa-pibere

Rain + covering hat

She further explained that, the first noun becomes short indicating that neither the singular nor the plural class suffix (cl 2 and 11 respectively) is present.

Author in [11 pp 28] said that, apart from the first which is "yi-daana", all the other ordinals compounds are formed by placing the suffix *[-daana]* after the cardinal number. The cardinals 2nd to 9th and their compounds (even the first), 11-19, 21-29, 31-39 etc take the prefix [*bu-*] as well e.g.

Gloss	**prefix**		**number**		**suffix**
Second	*bu*	+	*yi*	+	*daana*
3th	*bu*	+	*ta*	+	*daana*
4th	*bu*	+	*naasi*	+	*daana etc…*
5th	*bu*	+	*nuu*	+	*daana*

Gloss	**Ten**		**prefix**		**number**		**suffix**
11th	pia	+	bu	+	yila	+	*daana*
12th	*Pia*	+	*bu*	+	*yi*	+	*daana*

The author in [8] morphophonemic processes often occur between nominal /verbal/ adjectival stems and their suffixes in compound formation.

These processes usually take place between the final consonant of the stem and the initial consonant of the suffix. There are many of morphophonemic processes that take place during the compound formation of Farefari. Some of these processes include vowel harmony, homorganic nasal assimilation, loss of final vowel or final syllable, insertion of a vowel or a nasal consonant e.g.

1. *Fu-o* "dress" + *suŋɔ* "beautiful" → *fusuŋɔ* "beautiful dress"
2. *Ku'u-ŋɔ* "guinea fowl" + *gele* "egg" → *ku'ugele* "guinea fowl egg"
3. *Yɔ-ɔ* "grave" + *kãtɛ* "big" →*yɔkãtɛ* " big grave "
4. *Bi-a* "child" + *mɔgerega* "feeding" → *bimɔgerega* "feeding child"

However the phenomenon was not studied extensively, especially the constructure of Farefari personal name

compound word. Personal name compounds for example *Abɔlega+Apɔka =Abɔlepɔka, Atia+Ataŋa +Azuurɛ =Atia-taŋa-zuurɛ,* have some syntactic relations that occur in these personal compound names in Farefari with an intriguing linguistic trait that has been the topic of any thorough examination. The focus on this study is to analyse Farefari personal compound names using the basic linguistic theory

5. Methodology

The study was done in five districts in the upper- East Region of Ghana. The include Bolga municipal, Bolga – east district, Bongo district and the two Kasena –Nankani districts. This was because personal names that begin with the prefixes (A- and N-) are used in those districts.This study is qualitative study, which involves syntactic analysis of Farefari personal compound names. The data was sourced from both primary and secondary sources. The secondary source include names collected from some cultural books of the Language; '*yu'ura sika sɔ'a*' source of names in Farefari in author [5] Personal name + personal name compound in Gurenɛ in author [4] and personal names among Farefari speakers of Northern Ghana in author [14 pp 77-85]. The varied sources of the primary data include; songs, natives' daily conversation and electronic media an Also, the researcher relied on his own native intuition as a native. The data sources can be grouped under interactive events.

The data were analysed and presented using the basic linguistic theory (BLT). This helped the researcher to find out whether the Farefari compound personal names are lexical words, phrases, or even sentences. The data also enabled the researcher to do a typological study of the Farefari compound in order to ascertain the syntactic constructure of the Farefari Personal Compound.

6. Data Collection Proceedure

The major procedure of the data gathered in this study was done through participant observation. The researcher visited festivals grounds and naming ceremonies to collect names.

The researcher purposefully chose three appellation singers in each district because they sing using names but for the purposes of this study, the researcher has provided an English glossary to each sentence to ensure credibility and adherence to ethical standards. Additionally, the researcher obtained participants' consent before recording any of the proceedings and anonymity and confidentiality was assured.

6.1. Data Analysis

Data was analyzed from the perspective of syntactic analysis to answer the research questions. All the morphological, syntactic and morphophonemic processes that took place in the formation of each of these compound words were accounted for in the discussion. All discussions and analysis were done using the Basic Linguistic Theory (BLT) as an analytical tool. Findings from the discussions were stated and conclusion drawn. The analysis of Farefari personal names according to the data sourced has revealed that Farefari personal names are in two forms, those that begin with the prefixes {A- and N-} and those that begin different consonant either than the two. Most personal names in the language use the two prefixes: {A- and N-}. Therefore, the analysis was based on the two prefixes (A- and N-).

7. Results And Discussions

The main theoretical framework underpinning this study is the Basic Linguistic Theory (BLT) proposed by these authors [15, 16, 17]. As a theoretical concept, as indicated by the author in [36 pp. 211]. It is the descriptive tools assumed in descriptive grammars, to the extent that it is fair to say that a single descriptive theoretical framework that has emerged as the dominant theory assumed in descriptive grammars. Basic linguistic theory differs from traditional grammar most strikingly in its attempt to describe each language in its own terms, rather than trying to force the language into a model based on European languages. Conversely, the attempt to describe each language in its own terms reflects the major contribution of structuralism to basic linguistic theory.

For the author [18], 'using BLT theory will help provide an adequate description of the Anum language using suitable analysis and arguments on how the language is used, taking note of how context and situation contribute to give the particular sense that the people share'.

The theory also supports the conscious effort in explaining every grammatical point discussed using terminology and abbreviations that will not be beyond the comprehension of the linguist and the interested reader.

7.1. Morphological personal compound names

In compounding process, the second names drops its personal name prefix *[a-]* before combining with the first noun. The prefix of the first name is now the personal name prefix for the compound. This is a kinship relation reflecting a linage and possessor-possessed relationship between the two nouns.

The semantic relationship of the two nouns as well as their kinship relation is that, the compounds are kinship lineage relationship.

They may even be three or more lineage relationship nouns e.g. *Akuntiŋa- Paaya -iŋkoŋe -Tiiwinɛ*. The first noun is the father's name (possessor) of the second noun i.e. great grandfather and the second noun of the compound is the grandfather's name (possessor) of the third noun grandfather. The third noun is the father (possesor) of the fourth noun i.e. father and the fourth noun is possessed i.e. son/daughter of all the three nouns before it. Indeed, all these kins can be put in one single construction and therefore a compound (great grandfather, grandfather, father and son/daughter).

Therefore, morphophonemic process characterizing a single word is used here. The right element has to lose it prefix before compounding with the left element to be pronounced as one word e.g. *Azika + Abaŋeba'asɛ becomes Azika-baŋeba'asɛ* Therefore, these are compounds because the two names combined to form one word making it to meet the morphosyntactic criteria.

The following are some of the data of Farefari personal compound names gathered.

Personal name+ personal name	**Morphological Personal compound name**
i. *Abaa + Adigenyɔkɛ*	*Abaa-Digenyɔkɛ*
ii. *Akolego +Atadita*	*Akolego-Tadita*
iii. *Aguuŋa + Alagun-ɛɛra*	*Aguuŋa-Lagun-ɛɛra*
iv. *Azika +Abaŋeba'asɛ*	*Azika-Baŋeba'asɛ*
v. *A-iŋkoŋe + Atiwinɛ*	*A-iŋkoŋe-Tiwinɛ*
vi. *Nsɔ + lemya*	*Nsɔ- lemya*
vii. *Akuregu + baŋeya*	*Akuregu - ba-ŋeya*
viii. *Adukɔ + wa'ambo*	*Adukɔ - wa'ambo*
ix. *Atia + Aki-ŋebɛ*	*`Atia - ki-ŋebɛ*

7.2. *Prefixation of the Farefari Personal Compound Name*

This is the process of attaching a bound morpheme to the front of a stem e.g. ['A- /N-'] are prefixes in Gurenɛ, Boonɛ and Ninkarɛ dialects of Farefari. The structure of Farefari personal names that have above prefixes (A-) adds human features to the nouns they attached to and the prefix {N-} establishes the relationship between the caller and the called. The prefix {A-} in the examples above adds human features to the nouns it is prefixed to e.g. *; tia* 'tree', *taŋa* 'rock', pi'ɔ 'basket' and *bɔlega* 'town name' can be changed from common nouns to proper nouns (personal names), when the prefix *[A-]* is added to them. This phenomenon differs from other persons' names that are in other languages as a result of prefixation .The prefix *{N-}*   on the other hand is the first person pronoun 'I' and the possessive determiner "my" looking at the glossary in the section above. The prefix *(N-)* in example is a kinship term, so the use of *{N-}* prefix is to establish the relationship between the caller and the called e.g. *N-sɔ* 'my father', *N-sɔma* 'my father's mother', *N-yaama* 'my grandfather's mother' etc. These are possessive constructions i.e. possessor and the possessed. In Farefari, [A-, N-] are proper noun prefixes that can be used to create new stems or bases in author [8, 31] e.g.

Prefix   stem   name

  i.   *a-*   +   *tia*   →   *A-tia*

prefix   +   tree   →   personal name

  ii.   *a-*   +   *-taŋa*   →   *A-taŋa*

prefix   +   rock   →   personal name

  iii.   *a-* +   *-pi'ɔ*   →   *A-pi'ɔ*

prefix   +   basket   →   personal name

   iv.   *a*   +   *bɔləga* → *A-bɔləga*

prefix +   bolga   →   personal name

   v.   *n*   +   *yaaba* → *N-yaaba*

prefix   +   ancestor→   personal name

   vi.   *n* + *sɔ* + *ma* → *N-sɔ-ma*

prefix +   father +   mother   →   personal name

   vii.   *n*   + *yaaba*   + *ma*   *N-yaa-ma*

prefix +   ancestor +   mother   personal name

   viii.   *n*   + *sɔ* +   *winε*   → *N-sɔ-winε*

prefix +   father +   God   personal name

8. Syntactic analysis Of Farefari personal compound names

Question.1. **What are the Constructure of Farefari personal compound names?**

The term 'constructure' refers to the relationships that exist between the small units that make up a larger unit. The findings have revealed that the constructure of Farefari personal compound names are in the form of phrases and sentences. The data sourced (the personal compound names) have phrases, clauses and sentence structures in the language and have the various word classes in them

8.1. The Phrase

A phrase is either single word or grammatically ordered group of related words that function as a unit (see Marjolijn & Kim 2000: 44). Phrases are very important in syntactic analysis because phrases function as subjects, objects and predicates in the sentence. There are many types of phrases in Gurenε but for this study, the research intends to discuss only the noun phrase and verb phrase as they are more commonly associated with compound words.

8.1.1. Noun Phrase

The simple noun is any phrase constituted by only a noun head, or a modifier with referential properties, or a noun preceded or followed by at least one modifier, or noun followed and preceded by a functional modifier by author [33 pp.192-211]. From the definition, the noun phrase is in various forms e.g (1)

    i.   Mba"my father

    ii.   Nsɔ "my father"

    iii.   A-tia-ma "personal name"

   iv. *A-taŋa* "personal name"

8.1.2. Verbal phrase

A verb phrase refers to the verb alone or the verb together with its intimate modifiers that occur in a set order but precludes objects and/or post verbal modifiers according to the author in [10 pp.98]. The verbal phrase functions as the predicate of a sentence. Examples of verbal phrases are (2)

    i.   *di* 'eat'→the head verb alone (no modifier)

    ii.   *daa*   *di*

PST   eat (head)

 "ate two days ago" (one preverbal modifier)

    iii.   *daa*   *pugum*   *di (head)*

PST   ASP   eat

"Had already eaten two days ago" (two preverbal modifiers)

    iv.   *daa*   *kule*   *mɛ*

PST *gohome*   AFF

"Two days ago gone home" (one preverbal and one post verbal modifiers).

    v.   *lui*   *ya*

fall   PERF

"had fallen down" (the head verb plus one post verbal modifier).

9. The Sentences In Farefari

The syntactic structures of Farefari sentences are treated as existing on a rank scale (hierarchy) of structural units: sentence, clause, phrase, word and a morpheme (Dakubu 1996:40). This means that the structure of the sentence in this study is treated in terms of phrases clauses, how clauses may be put together to form them. The structure of the clause in turn is discussed in terms of how phrases are joined together, and the structure of the

phrase in terms of its components words. The structure of words is of cause being their morphology by the author in [18 pp. 40-41]. This means that a sentence in Farefari must consist of at least one clause. That is why a sentence in Farefari is described as the combination of one or more clauses.

Question 2: What are the syntactic functions of the Farefari personal compound names?

Syntax is the study of how words are put together to form sentences and rules that govern the formation of sentences in a given language.

Syntactic analysis is described as phrases and sentences which are built up of a series of constituents (i.e. syntactic units) and each of these units belongs to a specific grammatical category and serves a specific grammatical function according to the author in [21]. The task of this study is to analyze the syntactic structure of Farefari personal compound names (phrases and sentences) to identify each of the constituents in a syntactic construction and what function it serves.

However, phrases have been discussed in point 8 above. We would go straight to discuss the various types of sentences of the language that can be found in the structure of the personal compound names of Farefari. Farefari can occur both as transitive and transitive. But we focus on the types of sentences.

9.1. Simple Sentences {SV, SVO, SVOO etc }

Most of Farefari personal compound names are mostly simple { *SV, SVO, SVOO* } sentences portraying one of the personal name as the subject of the sentence and the other name(s) as the predicate of the sentence. Here are some examples of   simple (SV) structured sentences of the following personal compound names e.g.

 Nsɔ- leme -ya, and Akuregu –baŋe -ya,

compound name		Sentence		
Nsɔ-lemeya	→	*Nsɔ*	*lem*	*ya*
		SUBJ	V.	PERF
		"She/he has come back".		
Akuregu -Baŋeya	→	*Akuregu*	*baŋe*	*ya*
		SUBJ	V	PERF
		"Akuregu has known."		

In the two sentences above, the verb combines with completive ya to form   *leme ya* 'has returned' in [*Alemeya]* and *baŋɛ ya* 'has known' in [*Abaŋɛya*] before the compounding to
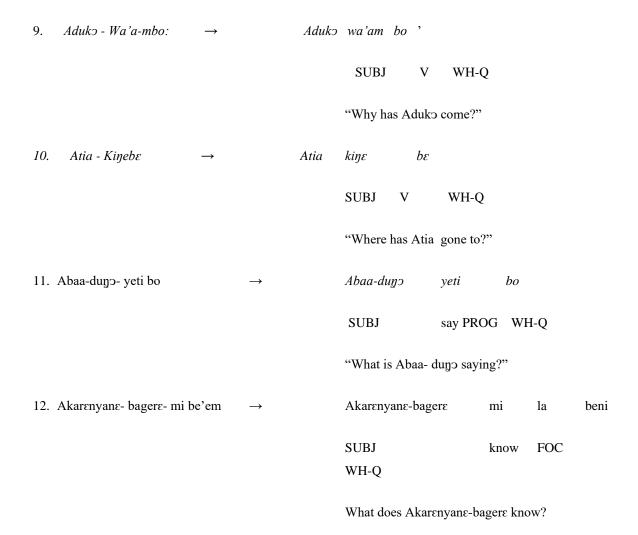
[Nsɔ-, Akuregu-] to nominalize the structure to form *Nsɔ- leme ya* 'she/he has returned' and *Akuregu- baŋɛ ya* 'Akuregu has known'. In the sentence the prefix [Nsɔ- or Akuregu] is functioning as the syntactic subject of the sentence and the verb phrase {lebe + ya} or {baŋɛ ya} become the predicate of the sentence but in the compound it functions as a nominalizer

9.2. Interrogative Sentence Structure

Farefari personal compound names has the structure of questions and therefore interrogative sentences .e.g.

Adukɔ-wa'am-bo and Atia-kiŋe-

Compound Name

9.   *Adukɔ - Wa'a-mbo:*   →   *Adukɔ   wa'am   bo* '

                                                  SUBJ   V   WH-Q

                                                  "Why has Adukɔ come?"

10.   *Atia - Kiŋebɛ*   →   *Atia   kiŋɛ   bɛ*

                                                  SUBJ   V   WH-Q

                                                  "Where has Atia gone to?"

11.   Abaa-duŋɔ- yeti bo   →   *Abaa-duŋɔ   yeti   bo*

                                                   SUBJ   say PROG   WH-Q

                                                  "What is Abaa- duŋɔ saying?"

12.   Akarɛnyanɛ- bagerɛ- mi be'em   →   Akarɛnyanɛ-bagerɛ   mi   la   beni

                                                  SUBJ   know   FOC
                                                  WH-Q

                                                  What does Akarɛnyanɛ-bagerɛ know?

The interrogative sentences are statements that express questions. It is one of the ways speakers use to collect information to address their problems or issues. In Gurenɛ 'WH' question structure, the questioning verb immediately precedes the 'WH' form which may be at the end of the sentence. In the interrogative sentences above, the 'verb +WH' could be seen as (9) *wa'am + bo? (10) kiŋɛ bɛ? (11) yeti bo? (12) mi la beni?* The three types of questions *; bo?'*why', *bɛ?* 'where' and *beni* 'what' are all identified to be following the main verb in

the sentence e.g *wa'am* 'come', *kiŋɛ* 'go', *yeti'*, 'saying and mi *'know'*.

'come- why' and (b) *kiŋɛ* + *bɛ?* 'go- where' before the names *[Adukɔ-, Atia- Abaa-Duŋɔ and Akarɛnyanɛ-Dagerɛ]* being their parents names is added to nominalize the structure in the names *"-wa'am-bo?", "-kiŋe-bɛ?", yeti bo?"and " mi la beni?"*. The names are sentences in their underlying structure as discussed above.

9.3. Simple SVO Sentences

Some compounds (personal names) in Gurenɛ are structurally SVO where the subject is the name *[Azuurɛ-]* and the predicate is the verb phrase and an object. In other words, the predicate comprises the verb phrase and a noun phrase (object).

Compound name

11. *Azuurɛ-Pa'asenii* → *Azuurɛ pa'ase nii*

                                    S   V   O

                                    " Azuurɛ adds cows"

13. *N-yaaba - Delewinɛ* → Nyaaba deli winɛ.

                                    S   V   O

                                    "N-yaaba relies on God"

12. *A lali - tia* → *A lali tia"*

`   3SG   lean-PROG   tree

                                  She/he/it leans against a tree

The verbs in the above structures are *pa'asɛ* 'add', *deli* 'relying' and *lali* 'leaning' and the objects are *nii* 'cows' *tia* 'tree' and *Winɛ* 'God'. The names {*Azuurɛ-, Nyaaba*} and the prefix {a-} syntactically functions as the subject of the respective structures above. The basic function of the name [*Azuurɛ-, N-yaaba*] and the prefix [a-] are also to nomalize the construction. So the verb *pa'asɛ* + the object *nii* 'cows' prefixed with {*Azuurɛ-*} to produce *apa'asenii.*

9.4. Simple Negative Sentence

The author in [26 pp. 121- 125] says even though there are time modifiers in Gurenɛ e.g *zaam* 'yesterday', *daarɛ* 'the day before yesterday', *dayita* 'three days today, *dɛa* 'last year', *dɛtaarɛ* 'two years ago', *dɛyita* 'three years ago', *beere* 'tomorrow', *daasam* 'tomorrow next' *dayitasam* 'threedays time' etc, there are preverbial

modifiers in Gurenɛ that function mainly to mark future time e.g. *ka* 'has not', *kan* 'will not', *wan* 'will' and *da* 'should not'. There are compounds (personal names) with the described structure e.g. *Anaafɔ-da-kabela, Anaba-kan-nyaŋɛ, Abua-kan-tee, Amoa-kan-zi'ire, Aduŋɔ-Kan-sakɛ Aluke-ka-fabeli, Asore-ka-baŋɛ* and *Adua-diŋemina*.

These are names whose verbs are negated syntactically by the future negative marker *kan* 'will not', *da* 'should not', and *ka* 'don't' and are all preverbal modifiers.

Compound Name

14. *Anaafɔ-dakabela:* → *Anaafɔ -da   kabela*

 SUBJ   NEG   hurry

"Anaafɔ should not be in hurry."

15. *Anaba - Kannyaŋɛ:* → *Anaba kan   nyaŋɛ*

 SUBJ   NEG   do

"Anaba will not be able to do it."

16. *Abua- Kantee* → *Abua   kan   tee*

 SUBJ   NEG.FUT change

"Abua will not change"

17. *Amoah - kanzi'ire* → *Amoah kan   zi'ire*

 SUBJ   NEG.FUT sit/ stay

"Amoah will not sit down"

18. *Aduŋɔ - kansakɛ* → *Aduŋɔ   kan   sakɛ*

 SUBJ   NEG.FUT   agree

"Aduŋɔ will not agree

19. *Aluke- ka fabeli* → *Aluke ka fabeli*

 SUBJ   NEG worry

"Aluke is not worrying."

20.	*Asore - kabaŋɛ*	→	*Asore*	*ka*	*baŋɛ*
			SUBJ	NEG	know

"Asore does not know".

Negation modifiers express denial of occurrence of an event either in the past or in future.

The preverbal particle *kan* **'**will not' expresses negation in Farefari as in the examples above.

The compounding process in the personal name (s) construction, the verb plus its modifier are compounded e.g. *da +kabela, kan +nyaŋɛ, kan+ tee, kan+ zi'ire, kan+ sakɛ,* ka + fabeli, ka +baŋɛ, diŋɛ+mina, become verb phrases of their various sentences . The prefix [A-] is then added to nominalize the construction such as {*Anaafɔ-da-kabela, Anaba-kan-nyaŋɛ, Abua-kan-tee, Amoa-kan-zi'ire, Aduŋɔ-Kan-sakɛ Aluke-ka-fabeli, Asore-ka-baŋɛ* and *Adua-diŋemina*}. These names {*Anaafɔ-, Anaba-, Abua-, Amoa-, Aduŋɔ- Aluke-, Asore-* and *Adua*} are respectively the subjects of the sentences.

9.5. Serial Verb Construction sentences

Gurenɛ is a serial verb construction (SVC) language according to the author in [23]. SVC languages have sequence of verbs which reflect one event within one clause. Author [1 pp. 6] states that for one reason or another, verbs have to be obligatorily adjacent in these types of constructions. So Gurenɛ displays some properties of serial verb constructions in some sentence construction.

The author in [23] found that the negative marker can precede any of the verbs and does not affect the preceding verb or verbs in SVCs and the author in [12] asserts that Farefari could have up to eleven multiple serial verbs (the highest) in a contiguous construction.The following are personal compound names that have serial verbs sentence structure; e.g

Abaa-Digenyɔkɛ, *Asakeya-Pandoe*, *Azika-Dikebɔba and Anaba-Paɛzi'ire,*

 compound name

25.	*Abaa- digenyɔkɛ*	→	*Abaa*	*dige*	*nyɔkɛ*
			SUBJ	chase. PFV	catch

"Abaa chased and caught her/him"

26.	*Asakeya -pandoe*	→	*Asakeya*	*pan*	*doe*

		SUBJ	swim. PFV	come out of water

"Asakey has swum across"

29. *Azika -Dikebɔba*	→	*Azika*	*dike*	*bɔ*	*ba*
		SUBJ	take	give	3PL OBJ

"Azika takes it and gives it to them"

30. *Anaba- Paɛzi'ire*	→	*Anaba*	*paɛ*	*zi'ire*
		SUBJ	come.PFV	sit

"Anaba has arrived and sat down".

In the above examples, the prefix {A-} in the personal compound names has qualified the noun it precedes, to make it a personal name/ proper noun e.g. {A-baa-, A-sakeya- and Azika-} and syntactically function as the subject of the respective structures while the serial verbs *dɔgɛ makɛ* 'give birth measure'; *dige nyɔkɛ* 'chase catch'; *pam doe* 'swim across'; *ŋmɛ' tɛregɛ* 'attack and stiffen' and *dikɛ bɔ* 'take and give', *paɛ zi'ire* 'came and sat down' follow the subject to make the structure [SVV]. It is the last two sentences that the serial verb, *ŋmɛ' tɛregɛ* 'attack and stiffen' and *dikɛ bɔ* 'take and give' take the object *sia* 'waist 'and *ba* 'them' respectively with them to form the structure SVVO

9.6. Compound Sentence Structure

Some compound words (personal names) in Farefari have the same structures as the compound sentence in English but written morphologically as single structure. e.g. *A-nyɛ'ɛri-dee-tiira*,

A-iŋɛ-dee-koŋe and A-*ŋmɛbe-dee-kakɛ*

Compound Sentence					**compound Name**

31. *A*	*nyɛ'ɛ-ri*	*dee*	*tii-ra*	→	*Anyɛ'ɛrideetiira* "
3SG	ease PROG	and	vomit. PROG.		

"She/he is easing and vomiting". (Cholera)

32. *A*	*iŋɛ*	*dee*	*koŋe - Tiiwinɛ*	→	*A-iŋkoŋe- Tiiwinɛ*
3SG	do	CONJ	fail	(proper name)	

"She/he tried and failed ".   **Atiwinɛ**

33. *A   ŋmɛbɛ   dee   kakɛ - Tia*   →   *Aŋmɛbedeekakɛ- Tia*

    3SG   control.PFV   CONJ   fail (proper name)

    "She/he had controlled her/himself and failed"

34. *Ataabazaŋa -tundi*   →   *Ataabazaŋa –Tum dee di*

                                            Ataabazaŋa   work   CONJ   eat

                                            "Ataabazaŋa works before he eats"

Coordinate conjunction is used in combining of two or more clauses in such a way that neither is treated as subsidiary to the other. Structurally, this means that, one clause is added to the other, not embedded in to one of its functions, so that both clauses function as principal statements in the sentence, said by the author in [18 pp 49-50]. Farefari has four major coordinators or coordinate conjunctions. They are; *la* 'and', *dee /gee* 'but', *bii* 'or' and ***ti*** 'and'. Some of them were used in the sentences above.

10. Conclusion and Recommendation

The study sought to discuss the syntactic analysis of Farefari personal compound names to find answers of these two major questions; 1. what is constructure of Farefari personal compound names ? 2. What are the syntactic functions of the Farefari personal compound names**?**

A Farefari compound names are   morphological word because; compounds undergo some morphological processes to become a compound word. All words in Farefari have the same structure; stem- affix apart from monosyllabic words. The lexical compound in Farefari is also a word because it has a stem-affix and belongs to a particular word class and therefore must have the structure of stem-suffix

 However, at the Syntactic level, Farefari personal compound names are arranged from in the ranks of phrases, clauses and sentences. is the study of how words are put together to form sentences and rules that govern the formation of sentences in a given language. Those names in the sentential level from this study revealed that, all types of sentences; simple statement sentence, interrogative sentence, serial verb constructed sentence, simple negative and compound sentence are found in Farefari personal compound names. However, the data analyzed, has proved that there was no Farefari personal compound name that has the functions of a complex sentence in the language according to our data.

Abbreviations Used

AFF   affirmative

ASP

29

COMP	complement
COND	condition
CONJ	conjunction
DEF	definite article
FOC	focus
FUT	future
HAB	habitual
NEG	negative
O	object
OBJ	object
PERF	perfective
PL	plural
PRT	particle
PST	past
PROG	progressive
S	subject
SG	singular marker
SUBJ	subject
SVO	subject, verb, object
V	verb
WH-Q	WH-question
1SG	first person singular pronoun

2SG   second person singular pronoun

3SG   third person singular pronoun

3SG OBJ   third person singular objective pronoun

3SG POSS   third person singular possessive pronoun

1PL   first person plural pronoun

2PL   second person plural pronoun

3PL   third person plural pronoun

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