

Table of Contents

Chapter One: Introduction	1
1.1. The setting	1
1.2. Overview of typological characteristics	4
1.2.1. Word order	4
1.2.2. Medial verbs	5
1.2.3. Switch reference	6
1.2.4. Ergativity	6
1.2.5. Topic marking	7
1.3. Linguistic relationships	7
1.3.1. Introduction	7
1.3.2. Tauya as a member of the Trans-New Guinea Phylum	8
1.3.3. Relationships below the phylum level	15
1.3.3.1. The Brahman family	16
1.3.3.2. The Madang-Adelbert Range subphylum	16
Chapter Two: Phonology	21
2.1. The phoneme inventory	21
2.1.1. Borrowed phonemes /b/ and /g/	21
2.1.2. The status of /ʔ/	23
2.1.3. The status of /kʷ/ and /ʔʷ/	24
2.1.4. The status of /r/	27
2.1.5. Summary of the phoneme inventory	28
2.2. The phonetic inventory	31
2.3. Syllable structure	31
2.4. Phonological rules	32
2.4.1. Introduction	32
2.4.2. Rules affecting vowels	32
2.4.2.1. Coalescence rules	32
2.4.2.2. Additional rules affecting desinences	41

2.4.2.3. Summary of vowel coalescence rules	43
2.4.2.4. Sample paradigms	44
2.4.2.5. Coalescence rules in other environments	46
2.4.2.6. Other rules affecting vowels	50
2.4.2.6.1. Assimilation rules	50
2.4.2.6.2. Reduction/deletion rules	52
2.4.2.6.3. Rounding rules	56
2.4.2.6.4. Raising rules	58
2.4.3. Rules affecting consonants	61
2.4.3.1. Neutralization rules	62
2.4.3.2. Other rules involving consonants	65
2.4.4. Rules affecting the personal pronouns	67
2.4.4.1. Consonant cluster simplification	69
2.4.4.2. Distinguishing 3sg. and 3pl. pronominal forms	73
2.4.4.3. Vowel coalescence rules affecting the personal pronouns	74
2.4.4.4. /e/-assimilation, raising and rounding	77
2.5. Suprasegmentals	80
2.5.1. Boundaries	80
2.5.2. Stress	84
Chapter Three: Morphology	85
3.1. Introduction	85
3.2. The noun phrase	85
3.2.1. Introduction	85
3.2.2. The noun stem	86
3.2.2.1. Derivational classes	86
3.2.2.2. Semantic classes	91
3.2.3. Qualifiers	105
3.2.3.1. Post-nominal qualifiers	105
3.2.3.2. Pre-nominal qualifiers	108
3.2.4. Quantifiers	116
3.2.5. Case suffixes	119
3.2.5.1. Absolutive	119
3.2.5.2. Ergative	120
3.2.5.3. Benefactive	121

3.2.5.4. Locative	123
3.2.5.5. Vocative	128
3.2.6. Possessive constructions - the genitive case	129
3.2.6.1. Inalienable	129
3.2.6.2. Alienable	131
3.2.6.3. Genitive of location	134
3.2.7. NP conjunction and the comitative case	134
3.2.7.1. Nouns in apposition	135
3.2.7.2. The comitative case	136
3.2.7.3. Inclusive disjunction	139
3.2.8. Other suffixes on NP	142
3.2.8.1. Collective	142
3.2.8.2. Restrictive/emphatic	148
3.2.8.3. /-ʔunama/	149
3.2.8.4. /-saʔatu/	150
3.2.8.5. Dubitative	150
3.2.8.6. Topic	152
3.2.8.6.1. Introduction	152
3.2.8.6.2. Distribution	153
3.2.8.6.3. The interaction of topic and case	156
3.2.9. Mood in the noun phrase	162
3.2.9.1. Indicative	162
3.2.9.2. Interrogative	163
3.2.9.3. Exclamatory /-e/	164
3.2.10. Interrogative pronouns	165
3.2.10.1. Human /we/	165
3.2.10.2. Non-human /wame/	166
3.2.10.3. Temporal /asa/	167
3.2.10.4. Locative	168
3.2.10.5. Deictic	168
3.2.11. Negation of NPs	169
3.3 The verb phrase	170
3.3.1. Introduction	170
3.3.2. Final verbs	173
3.3.2.1. Introduction	173
3.3.2.2. The verb stem	175
3.3.2.2.1. Derivational classes	175

3.3.2.2.2. Syntactic classes	185
3.3.2.3. The auxiliary system	192
3.3.2.3.1. Introduction	192
3.3.2.3.2. Stative /-mene-/	192
3.3.2.3.3. Perfective	195
3.3.2.3.4. Conative /-we-/	200
3.3.2.3.5. Progressive /-ʔafe-/	201
3.3.2.3.6. Habitual /-pope-/	202
3.3.2.3.7. Avolitional /-ʔate-/	202
3.3.2.3.8. Other auxiliaries	203
3.3.2.4. The personal desinences	205
3.3.2.5. Dubitative /-rafo-/	206
3.3.2.6. Mood	208
3.3.2.6.1. Introduction	208
3.3.2.6.2. Indicative/unmarked /-ʔa/	208
3.3.2.6.3. Interrogative	209
3.3.2.6.4. Imperative /-e/	212
3.3.2.6.5. Prohibitive /-ʔatene/, /-ʔatenene/	212
3.3.2.6.6. Necessitive /-ne/	213
3.3.2.6.7. Subjunctive /-no/	213
3.3.2.6.8. Exclamatory /-ʔae/	214
3.3.2.6.9. Summary of modal suffixes	214
3.3.2.6.10. The elliptical suffix	215
3.3.2.7. Negation	216
3.3.2.8. Object prefixes	216
3.3.3. Medial verbs	218
3.3.3.1. Introduction	218
3.3.3.2. Coordinate medial verbs	219
3.3.3.2.1. Introduction	219
3.3.3.2.2. Subject reference	221
3.3.3.2.3. Tense	223
3.3.3.2.4. Mood	224
3.3.3.2.5. Coordinate clause mood and the topic suffix	229
3.3.3.2.6. Negation	232
3.3.3.2.7. Auxiliaries	233
3.3.3.2.8. Coordinate medial verbs and nominal morphology	236
3.3.3.2.9. Coordinate medial clauses as nominalizations	240

3.3.3.2.10. Coordinate clauses as final clauses	243
3.3.3.2.11. Other SS coordinate medial verb constructions	244
3.3.2.12. Coordination with the durative auxiliary	251
3.3.3.3. Subordinate medial clauses	252
3.3.3.3.1. Introduction	252
3.3.3.3.2. Subject reference	255
3.3.3.3.3. Tense	256
3.3.3.3.4. Mood	257
3.3.3.3.5. Non-polar Interrogative	259
3.3.3.3.6. Negation	261
3.3.3.3.7. Auxiliaries in subordinate medial clauses	262
3.3.3.3.8. Subordinate medial clauses and nominal morphology	265
3.3.3.3.9. Subordinate medial clauses as nominalizations	272
3.3.3.3.10. Subordinate clauses as final clauses	274
3.4. Other parts of speech	279
3.4.1. Adverbial modifiers	279
3.4.1.1. Temporal relations	279
3.4.1.2. Locative relations	282
3.4.1.3. Manner adverbials	284
3.4.2. Interjections	286
3.4.3. Subordinator	286
Chapter Four: Selected Topics in Syntax	289
4.1. Introduction	289
4.2. Relative clauses	289
4.2.1. Introduction	289
4.2.2. Accessibility to relativization	290
4.2.3. Complex sentences	297
4.2.3.1. Coordinate clauses	297
4.2.3.2. Subordinate clauses	299
4.2.3.3. Nominalizations	300
4.2.3.4. Direct quotes	301
4.2.4. Tense in relative clauses	301

4.2.5. Mood in relative clauses	302
4.2.6. Negation in relative clauses	303
4.2.7. Auxiliaries in relative clauses	303
4.3. Conditional sentences	304
4.3.1. Introduction	304
4.3.2. Counter-factual conditional clauses	305
4.3.3. Hypothetical conditional clauses	306
4.3.3.1. Unmarked	306
4.3.3.2. /fanura/	307
4.3.3.3. /ʔai-a-te-ra/	314
4.3.4. Given conditional clauses	315
4.4. Ergativity	315
4.4.1. Introduction	315
4.4.2. Case marking	216
4.4.3. Nominative/accusative patterns in syntax	319
4.4.3.1. Subject agreement	319
4.4.3.2. Switch-reference	319
4.4.3.3. Sentential complements	320
4.4.4. Ergative patterns in syntax	321
4.4.5. The origin of ergative case marking	322
4.5. Left-dislocation	323
4.5.1. Introduction	323
4.5.2. Overview of left-dislocation	325
4.5.3. Restrictions on left-dislocations	326
4.5.4. Two kinds of left-dislocations	328
4.5.4.1. Transparent left-dislocations	329
4.5.4.2. Opaque left-dislocations	331
4.5.4.3. Transparent vs. opaque left-dislocations	332
4.5.5. Inconsequential clauses	333
4.5.5.1. Dislocated vs. non-dislocated complement clauses	335
4.5.5.2. Origin of inconsequential clauses	337
4.5.5.3. Functions of inconsequential clauses	339
4.5.5.3.1. vs. coordinate clauses	339
4.5.5.3.2. Other uses	340
4.5.5.4. Inconsequential clauses as final clauses	342

Chapter Five: Sample Texts	345
5.1. Introduction	345
5.2. The mango story	345
5.3. Finding a wife	365
References	377
Index	381