EKEGUSII VERBAL EXTENSIONS: A MINIMALIST APPROACH

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NOVEMBER, 2021.
DECLARATION

I confirm that this project is my original work and has not been presented for a degree in any other university.

Signature________________________________Date______________________________

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Supervisor

This project has been submitted with my approval as the official University Supervisor.

Signature________________________________Date______________________________

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DEDICATION

To my lovely triumvirate (Sifu, Maya and Zuri) you are amazing daughters with a wonderful mind and an incredible future lying before you.
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Lord almighty, thank you for thy grace has been sufficient. At some point, I felt like giving up but you are greater than any mountain that I see or cannot see.

Dr. Gerry Ayieko, my teacher, mentor and supervisor you made syntax so simple thus inspiring me to do this research. Your encouragement, supply of reading materials, your effort and devotion in making sense and freeing from error my early written versions, surely, I attest that you made this research see its completion. Thank you for nurturing my academic growth. God bless you and long life.

My MA lecturers, in you I found academic parents. You guided, encouraged and supported me. A big thank you I owe you. God bless you. The entire Literature, Linguistics and Foreign languages Department support staff I feel greatly indebted for your unconditional support. My course mates more specifically my academic twin Alice Gesare God bless you for your support.

My family, Mary Bochere (mom) and Moses Luka (dad) your faith in me is my treasure. You have been my greatest source of strength and inspiration long live to enjoy the fruits of your labour. My siblings, more specifically my late brother Francis Manono, God bless you for your immeasurable support. Fr. Wachira, thank you for your prayers and encouragement I owe you a lot. Uncle Jeff Miruka, thank you for the life skill lessons, you are my strongest pillar. My daughters Sifu (my love), Maya (my little star) and Zuri (my angel) you have always kept mama hopeful. Thank you for your patience and understanding my endless late nights writing. My achievements are also yours. Finally, to all that I have not mentioned God bless you.
The study uses the Minimalist approach to analyse different types of Ekegusii verbal extensions. Three objectives guided the study viz: to explain the Ekegusii verbal extension markers with the Minimalist Program, to describe the individual occurrence of Ekegusii verbal extensions, to account for the individual co-occurrences of Ekegusii verbal extensions within the Minimalist Program. Although, there are many types of verbal extensions, this study set to investigate three types of Ekegusii verbal extensions namely: applicative which is an argument increasing affix, reversive which is a neutral affix and passive considered as an argument decreasing affix. The incentive for this study is derived from the supposition that the Minimalist Program can account for all world languages syntactic operations thus also referred to as a universal theory. Content analysis research design was used. Ekegusii already existing written sources supplemented by introspection were the main sources of the data used in the study. Purposive sampling was used while choosing four Ekegusii competent speakers believed to be reliable to verify the data. Purposive sampling was also used when selecting the Ekegusii written sources. The data obtained was analysed using the Minimalist Program. The findings showed that Ekegusii has a number of verbal extensions though the study could not exhaustively deal with all. The Ekegusii verbal extensions were accounted for in the Minimalist Program. As a source of reference it is anticipated that this study will be resourceful for scholars interested in Bantu linguistics.
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OPERATIONAL DEFINITION OF TERMS

**Applicative Construction:** Also known as the benefactive or dative indicates that the state of action being described is for the benefice of somebody else.

**Causative Construction:** A construction in which one entity has the meaning 'to cause or make someone to do something'.

**Passive Construction:** A construction in which the active sentence subject is ellipted as an oblique by noun phrase.

**Reversive Construction:** A construction that expresses a meaning 'whereby the verb action is undone'.

**Verbal Extension:** A suffix inserted between the root and the final vowel and modifies the meaning of the basic verb.
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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Overview

This chapter presents: the background to the study, the statement of the problem, the research questions, the research objectives, the research assumptions, rationale for the study, scope and limitations of the study.

1.1 Background to the Study

Ekegusii, is an Eastern Bantu language that belongs to the Niger-Congo phylum. Maho (2008) classifies Ekegusii as JE42 while Elwell (2008) using Guthrie’s classification labels the language E10. It is spoken in South Western Kenya, the present day Kisii and Nyamira counties. Ekegusii is natively spoken by about 2,703,235 speakers, as indicated by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2019). Kikuyu E50, Kuria E43, Suba E40 and Kikamba E51 Guthrie (1948) which are also classified by Maho (2009) as Gikuyu JE51, Kuria JE43, Suba E404 and Kikamba JE55 are examples of Bantu languages in Kenya that belong to the same phylum.

There are two dialects in Ekegusii the Rogoro (Northern) and Maate (Southern) according to Bosire (1993). The Rogoro dialect is the standard form used in many Ekegusii spoken discourse and written material. It is the one that is taught in the early years of learning in the primary school, commonly known as ‘Kikwetu’. The Southern dialect known as ‘Maate’, is the non-standard form and it is mainly spoken by a majority of Ekegusii speakers in the southern part of Kisii County specifically Gucha South sub-county which neighbours Homabay and Migori counties; Luo speaking
people regions while the Northern dialect is spoken in Marani, Kisii Central, Nyamira, Nyamache, Borabu, Masaba North, Masaba South, Kenyenya and Manga sub-counties.

The majority of Ekegusii speakers speak the Northern dialect which is the focus of the present study. Despite the fact that researchers like Baker (1985), Mieche (1988), Hedlinger (1990) and Schadeberg (2003) have studied the Bantu verbal morphology extensively there is a gap that needs to be filled. This study focuses on Ekegusii verbal extensions. Lodhi (2002) defines verbal extensions following Miehe’s (1989: 23) approach that these are “all the post-radical or pre-final elements of a verbal stem.”

Bantu languages are rich in morphology which includes both inflectional as well as derivational morphology. Most researchers, Lodhi (2002), Nurse and Philipson, (2003) and Cocchi (2009) have observed that verbal extensions are formed via a morphological process. Verbal extensions are derivational affixes that make derivational morphology complex through concatenation. Relationships such as in causatives and applicative are marked by derivational suffixes which have an effect on the meaning of verbs both morphologically and syntactically. The variation that exists in number, types and forms of verbal extensions among languages justifies the need to study verbal extensions across all languages to establish their scope (Cocchi, 2009). The presence of verbal extensions in a language is one of the determiners considered to classify a language in the Bantu family (Schadeberg, 2003).

Within the South African context Matsinhe (1994) gives a coherent and cogent analysis of Tsonga verbal affixes which relate to the predicate argument structure of the verbs that they are attached viz: the applicative, causative, neutro-static, passive and reflexive.
East African Bantu languages Lodhi (2002) carried out a comparative study of the major verbal extensions in Swahili and Nyamwezi based on Ashton (1944) and Jonsson (1949). He concluded that most of the verbal extension forms found in Bantu are encountered in both Swahili and Nyamwezi, though not always to a similar extent in equivalent forms. Swahili and Nyamwezi extensions are more similar than different.

Finally Kenya, Mose (2012) describes Bantu languages as ‘agglutinative’. Ekegusii is an example of an agglutinating language, agglutinating meaning ‘glued together’. Morphemes occur as words in isolation in isolating languages; for instance, English is an isolating language. The sentence, *he will come home* has four morphemes occurring separately. In Ekegusii, the same sentence occurs as two words. The first word combines several morphemes: number, subject marker, tense and root verb, these are respectively, *na-che-a-che inka*. From the Ekegusii structures, we see several morphemes glued together thus making the language rich morphologically.

The theoretical framework the present study adopted is Chomsky (1995) the Minimalist Program. Generative Grammar is a blanket term for the Chomskyan theories that has been a dominant theory of syntax (Carnie, 2002). Far from the other Generative Grammar theories the Minimalist Program differs by integrating morphology and syntax. The morphological weakness or richness determines the structure-building process of a language. Therefore, morphology plays the central role (Chomsky, 1993). The Minimalist Program is built around English and other isolating languages. Within the Minimalist Program, little has been done more especially in Ekegusii. The studies that have been done are not on derivational morphology. For example, Mose (2012) looks at the structure of Ekegusii determiner phrase within the Minimalist Program.
The research findings conducted on verbal extensions need to be evaluated using Ekegusii verbal extensions have been investigated in depth to test their descriptive adequacy. This study focuses on Ekegusii derivational morphology within the Minimalist Program.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Morphology has two main branches: inflectional and derivational. Within Chomsky’s (1995; 1999) minimalist framework verbs are assumed to be inflected for features in the lexicon and are inserted into derivations already inflected rather than in their bare form. Chomsky stresses that the verb features are checked against their corresponding features encoded in the inflectional categories. The functional categories such as, Subject Agreement bar (Agrs), Tense phrase (T), and Object Agreement bar (Agro) have their own features to which the features encoded in the verb in the lexicon must correspond to; the function of these V-features is to license the morphological properties of the verb taken from the lexicon. Chomsky argues that the morphological elements Agr and T have two functions: (a) to check features of the verb that move to them, and (b) to check properties of the DP that raise to their Spec.

There is need of the descriptively adequate grammar of Ekegusii verbal extensions. Currently, there are descriptions that deal with different aspects of Ekegusii grammar such as: Mose (2012), Bosire (1994), Komenda (2011) and Onserio (2009). The lack of a descriptively adequate grammar of Ekegusii means that there in an incomplete description of the grammar of the language. To fill the gap of the need for a model of grammar that accounts for verbal extensions using the functional categories such as, Subject Agreement bar (Agrs), Tense phrase (T), and Object Agreement bar (Agro)
have their own features to which the features encoded in the verb in the lexicon must correspond to; the function of these V-features is to license the morphological properties of the verb taken from the lexicon.

1.3 Research Objectives

This study was guided by the following objectives:

i. To explain the Ekegusii verbal extension markers with the Minimalist Program.
ii. To describe the individual occurrence of Ekegusii verbal extensions.
iii. To account for the individual co-occurrences of Ekegusii verbal extensions within the Minimalist Program.

1.4 Research Questions

This study was guided by the following questions:

i. How does the Minimalist Program account for the different types of Ekegusii verbal extensions?
ii. What is the order of occurrence of Ekegusii verbal extension markers?
iii. How are the individual co-occurrences of Ekegusii verbal extensions accounted for within the Minimalist Program?

1.5 Research Assumption

The study was based on the following assumptions:

i. That the various assumptions of the Minimalist Program of verbal extension are the assumption of the different types of Ekegusii verbal extension.
ii. That there are different markers in Ekegusii verbal extensions.
iii. That there are individual co-occurrences of Ekegusii verbal extensions.
1.6 Rationale for the Study

Ekegusii has several aspects that have been studied. For example, Komenda (2011) studies phonology, Onserio (2009) looks at translation, Mecha (2004) studies phonology and morphology of Ekegusii reduplication, Bosire (1994) looks at Ekegusii dialects. The studies are not based on Ekegusii verbal extensions within the MP. Therefore, this study is important because little has been done on verbal extensions in Ekegusii. Largely, it can contribute to the existing verb morphology on Ekegusii. In addition, the data and the findings obtained from this study can be resourceful to linguists who may wish to develop a theory to account for the verbal extensions in African indigenous languages as a whole.

The study adds insights to the Minimalist Program in search of explanatory adequacy. The study also contributes to the development of the theory and highlights any weakness in the analysis of Ekegusii verbal extensions. Therefore, the data that is generated and drawn from this research, that is, the verbal extensions could be used in comparative studies with those of other languages and generalizations made.

Studies in African languages act as vehicles for maintaining and preserving indigenous languages. This study aims at preserving the African culture and the native knowledge which is being threatened by the scantiness of African languages research and the death of the knowledge custodians.

Finally, the research provides relevant information to teachers who teach Ekegusii bearing in mind that the first language should be taught in early years of education which is Pre-Primary one and two, Grade one, two and three as stipulated in the Kenya education language policy. To the curriculum and material developers, this study may
be a useful resource in enriching the already existing curriculum materials or the development of new ones.

1.7 Scope and Limitations

The study focuses on Northern dialect of the Ekegusii a Bantu language spoken in South Western Kenya. Three Ekegusii verbal extensions were morph-syntactically analysed in the present study. In addition, the morphology of Ekegusii has two major sub-divisions: derivational and inflectional morphology. The study is limited to derivational morphology which is more common than inflectional morphology which deals with grammatical aspects such as tense, aspect and subject agreement (Payne, 1997). The verbal extensions were chosen given that the list is not exhaustive, valence was considered. Therefore, the study settled on the applicative which is valence increasing, the reversive which is neutral and the passive which is valence decreasing.

In the analysis of the Ekegusii verbal extensions, written data was used. The written data was obtained from written sources in Ekegusii.

Lastly, content analysis and introspection are the methods of collecting data the study was limited to. These two methods provided adequate data for the research.

1.8 Chapter Summary

This chapter has introduced the background of the study of this work. Also it has stated the problem, research objectives, research questions, research assumptions, rationale for the study and the scope and limitation of the study. Chapter two is the next chapter, the chapter reviews related literature and the theoretical framework.
CHAPTER TWO

LITERATURE REVIEW AND THE THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

2.0 Introduction

This chapter reviews literature related to this study and the theoretical framework that guided the research is presented.

2.1 Literature Review

In this section, the following literature has been reviewed: cross-linguistic studies on verbal extensions and related studies on Bantu verbal affixes.

2.1.1 Studies on Verbal Extensions

Katamba (1993) observes that, the language model had phonology, syntax and semantic components which excluded the morphological component. Evidently, morphology was neglected because it was assumed that word formation could be well taken care of when portioned in phonology and syntax during early years of Generative Grammar.

Chomsky (1970) drew a dichotomy between lexicalist and transformationalist approaches, which gave prominence to morphology. More studies on morphology and syntax followed. Marantz (1984) argues that morphemes directly influence the structure of a sentence semantic-logic. He further argues that morphology should be considered a sub theory of Government and Binding in his monograph. Also he observes that the lexicon has roots and affixes, information about the argument structure, transitivity and semantic roles. The morpho-syntactic process is taken care of by the merger principle. The affixes such as the causative, applicative among others merge with the root of the
main verb and build a new verb stem which creates syntactic and logic-semantic relations.

In Bantu scholarship, verbal derivatives were traditionally called verbal extensions which appeared to be a well-described feature of Bantu grammatical systems (Schadeberg, 2003). Verbal extensions have been defined differently by different scholars. Mieche (1988) observes that verbal extensions include all post-radical or pre-final elements of a verbal stem. Hedlinger (1990) defines verbal extensions as affixes attached to a verb which substantially changes the meaning and valence of the verb. He also describes verbal extensions as verbal suffixes added to the root resulting in a new stem and is a common feature in African languages.

Baker (1985) defines verbal extension as a suffix put in between the verb base and the final vowel which changes the meaning of the root verb. He also observes that, in Bantu languages verbal affixes are very fundamental parts of the verb morphology. He identifies common extensions such as applicative, causative, passive, reversive and stative. He states that four extension combinations are common. This study settles for Baker’s definition.

All grammars of Bantu individual languages virtually, dedicate one or several sections to a variety of productive extensions found in the language in question. Some extensions are valence increasing marker: causative and applicative, others are valence decreasing markers for instance, passive and reciprocal and others are re-(orient) action such as reversive. Cross-linguistically and in individual languages extensions whose functions are typologically very common i.e. the passive, applicative and reciprocal
have been thoroughly studied. (Schadeberg, 2003). Examples of verbal extensions are discussed below:

2. 1.2.1 Applicative

According to Carochi (1983) the term applicative, was initially coined by the missionary grammars of Uto-Aztecan languages during the 17th century as ‘verbos aplicativos’ which refers to a verbal form, indicating that the verb or the action denoted is intended towards another person. In the studies that followed, the term was applicative was also referred to as applied when studying Bantu languages to refer to an affix that adds an extra object to an argument construction of a verb (Marantz, 1993).

An applied object is also called new object and a participator that is peripheral; however, the applied object is made prominent by marking it as a direct object (Payne, 1997). Other scholars have simply defined applicatives as verbal affixes that are argument increasing (Shibatani, 1996).

Jeong (2006) further adds that the applied affix is realized as a verb structure that bears a specified morpheme that allows a non-core argument that cannot be considered as the argument structure of a verb. It is a productive process that is heavily used in everyday language and it adds another participant to a verb’s event or action. The two most common uses applied to most verbs in Ekegusii are locational and benefactive.

Pylkkanen (2002) identifies two types of applicative heads namely: high applicatives which denote a relation between an individual and an event and low applicatives which indicate a relation between two individuals. This study focuses on the Ekegusii applicative.
2.1.2.2 Passive

Passive constructions are characterised morpho-syntactically and in terms or their discourse functions (Comrie, 1989). According to Payne (1997) morpho-syntactically, in meaning passives are transitive and have two arguments or participants who hold the following properties: first, the agent or most agents like participant is either demoted to oblique case or omitted entirely. Second, the other core participant has all the subject features applicable to all the languages entirely. Third, the verb owns specifically all the official elements of intransitive verbs of a language.

Keenan (1985) sees the formation of a passive as a fore-grounding process. The active sentence’s object is raised to the position of subject, as the subject gets demoted to an oblique position. According to Marten and Kula (2007) changing an argument and encoding agency are the two major functions of the passive. There are two major classifications of passive constructions, namely: personal and impersonal passives.

In personal passives constructions, a specific agent is implied, either it is not expressed or it is expressed in an oblique role. Additionally, personal passives can be morphological, periphrastic or lexical. Lexical passives are not common since they are verbs that are inherently passive. A lexical passive is a verb that obligatorily expresses a scene that includes the presence of a causing agent, but the patient is the grammatical subject. Morphological passives are the most common. They involve the attaching of a passive affix to a transitive verb root as is evident in many Bantu languages. Periphrastic passives require an auxiliary verb as is the case with passives in the English language.
Impersonal passives, unlike personal ones are formed from intransitive and transitive verbs. Impersonal passives downplay the importance of an agent. Comrie (1977) notes that there is no rising of the object as the agent/subject get relegated. Payne (1997) observes that no language employs specific morphology just for impersonal passives and one for personal passives. This study analyses the Ekegusii passive, focusing on the personal passives specifically.

2.1.2.3 Reversive

Research shows that there are very few studies on the reversive as compared to the other affixes. A reversive verb denotes an entire reversal of an action or activity (Lodhi, 2002). At times it is also referred to as the converse or reversative. Quirk et al. (1985) refers to it as the privative. However, for consistency it will be referred to as the reversive in this study.

The affix is restrictive in that it licenses some verbs but not others. The reversive does not affect the valence of the verb for it neither increases nor decreases the arguments, therefore, it is a neutral affix. The verbs that host the reversive designate events and this is a shared property in which an agent causes something to enter a constricted and potentially reversible spatial configuration (Kemmerer & Wright, 2002).

According to Kemmerer and Wright (2002), in their English analysis they show that verbs that host the reversive share the designate events property where an agent or doer causes something to enter a constricted potentially spatial configuration. For instance, the semantic constraints of the English verb ‘cross’ are revealed; one can cross his /her arms and then uncross; however, if one crosses a street and then decides to walk back,
it cannot be said that one has uncrossed the street. This is because there is no constricted spatial configuration involved.

2.1.3 Related Studies on Bantu Verbal Extensions

Bantu languages have been given a lot of research attention by many linguistic scholars. Verbal extensions have given a rich area of study. This part focuses on the literature of Bantu verb morphology.

Firstly, Mchombo (1993) focuses on the reflexive and the reciprocal in Chichewa. He observes that the asymmetrical distributional behaviour of the reflexive and the reciprocal needs to be explained within an adequate theory that will not treat them as bound anaphora. The study informed the present study on the types of verbal extensions.

Secondly, Kioko (1994) describes and analyses verbal extensions in Kikamba among other issues of Kikamba syntax. Kioko (1995) notes that Lexical Functional Grammar is not adequate to handle the Kikamba multiple applicative, she also looks at the reciprocal and reflexive affixes syntactic status. The study informed the current study on the nature and characteristics of the verbal extensions.

Thirdly, another study on Kikamba is Wambua (2001). She focuses on the valence of the Kikamba verb. The study uses the applicative, the causative, the stative and the passive to show that the valence of the basic verb can be reduced or increased. The study observes that the applicative affix is the most productive of all the four affixes. The study uses Chomsky’s sub-categorization frames, which are a feature of the Extended Standard Theory. The study informs the proposed study on the description of passive and applicative affixes.
Fourthly, the valence changing process indicated by Oroko verbal morphology is explored by Friesen (2002). Oroko is an agglutinative Bantu language of Cameroon. The study identifies causative and applicative as the derivational suffixes that increase valence and reversive as neutral which means, it does not affect the valence. In the study, she identifies the complex combinations of Oroko verb suffixes. The reflexive morpheme in Oroko is marked both by a prefix and a suffix but the prefix and suffix are not used simultaneously. Her study informs ours on the data presentation and description of the verbal extensions.

Another study closely related to ours is Waweru (2011). He looks at the verbal extensions in Gikuyu language. He discusses five types of affixes namely; causative, reciprocal, reversive, applicative and passive. His study informed ours on the minimalist analysis of verbal extension which is the theoretical framework to our study.

Also, Stegen (2002) has written on derivational processes in Rangi, a Bantu language of Northern Central Tanzania. He describes the extensions occurring in Rangi as nominal and verbal. In his study he makes observations that verb formation in Rangi is bound to the extension slot in the verb structure. Further, in his work he finds out that there are still descriptive gaps in Bantu morphology despite many linguistic works. The study informed ours on the realization of verbal affix markers.

In addition, Lodhi (2002) describes Swahili and Nyamwezi Bantu languages verbal affixes. Lodhi identifies sixteen verbal extensions in Bantu languages among them being the causative, applicative, passive, reciprocal and reversative. He observes that a verbal affix is a complex phenomenon. His study informed ours in identifying and describing the types of verbal extensions.
Mwangi (2001) studies the verb morphology in Gikuyu by looking at four derivational affixes: the applicative, causative, passive and stative. She uses the Marantz’s Merger theory and Baker’s Incorporation theory. The two theories were found to be lacking in explanatory adequacy. The current study is a step in this direction though it uses the Minimalist Program to analyse the Ekegusii morphological extensions.

2.2 Theoretical Framework.

The Minimalist Program (MP) was used in this study. Chomsky (1993 and 1995) outlined the MP as a theory of grammar. The study adopted the Minimalist Program because of the assumption, that minimal apparatus are utilized by grammars in a simple and elegant manner, the principle tenet to describe and adequately characterize a linguistic phenomenon (Chomsky, 1995). The Minimalist Program radically took off from much complex syntax work. Syntax postulated structures and principles that were more complex, during this time.

Morphology is integrated by the Minimalist Program into syntax. The richness or weakness of a language’s morphology determines the movement in the structure building process. Therefore, morphological necessity drives operations in the computational systems which make morphology play a major role in the Minimalist Program (Chomsky, 1993). Ekegusii has a rich morphology (Osinde, 1988).

The uses of language have been studied from varied points of view. Language is taken by the Minimalist Program to be part of the natural world. In 1950s Minimalist Program and its fore gangers shared the assumption that there is a component of the human brain dedicated to language, the language faculty – interacting with other systems.
Components of the language faculty, generative procedures, generate Structural Description (SD) which refers to the expressions of the language (Chomsky, 1993).

Individuals are endowed with a lexicon which is likened to mental dictionary, with all the native speaker’s entries of lexical items (Chomsky, 1993: 3). Each lexical entry consists of the following feature sets: semantic, phonological and syntactic. The sets enable the Minimalist Program to merge morphology and syntax following the claim that nouns and verbs get their inflection and derivation properties in the lexicon (Abraham et al, 1996).

In the Minimalist Program, the lack of the deep and the surface structures is rationalized by the lexicon existence. Minimalist Program upholds that the verb phrase contains all the information of the sentence. The MP explores and determines the movement of the principles of Economy and Derivation and the Full Interpretation principle. Also, the MP simply explains the focus which is integrated into a feature checking process and utilizes structure building moves.

The feature checking need necessitates the movement which the principle of Economy, Minimal Link Condition and Procrastinate principles and Greed principles control. The Minimal Link condition relates to the Shortest Move Principle which orders that a constituent moves possibly the shortest distance. The Procrastinate Principle commands that a derivation holds off movement until after spell out, in order for the outcome of such movement to maintain the phonological form. A morphological need of a constituent is satisfied and allowed by Greed.
Once the elements are licensed, the Last Resort Condition ensures that they are unmovable. The following are the stages of derivation: numeration, lexical items are chosen; computational, lexical items are integrated into projections and phrase structure trees; feature checking, the lexical items move and land in suitable areas; spell out, separation of semantic and phonological information which is separately processed (Chomsky, 1995).

The MP is appropriate to our study because it is not a rigid framework. Secondly, the MP explains the relationship between morphology thus integrating morphology into syntax; whereby syntax relies heavily on morphology. Morphology is essential within the MP because an operation in the computational systems is driven by morphological necessity (Chomsky, 1993). Lastly, Ekegusii has a very rich morphology thus the theory was appropriate to the study.
Below is the basic structure of the Minimalist Program:

(Chomsky, 1993:7)

Figure 2.2: The Basic Structure of the MP (Chomsky, 1993)

Movement is always leftwards since it is aimed towards head and specifier positions. Only the words with lexical content such as nouns and verbs are moved in order to have their features checked. This part of the theory is relevant in the analysis of Ekegusii Verbal extensions.

2.3 Chapter Summary

This chapter has reviewed literature on the place of morphology in linguistics, various verbal extensions and has shed light on various studies on verbal morphology related to the current study. The theoretical framework that guided the study has also been discussed. The research methodology is presented in the next chapter.
CHAPTER THREE

METHODOLOGY

3.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the research methodology used in the study. It includes the research design, study area, target population, sample size and sampling procedures, research instruments, data collection procedures, data presentation and analysis, data management and ethical issues and the chapter summary.

3.1 Research Design

This study adopts content analysis research design where the researcher can quantify and analyse the presence, meanings and relationships of such certain words, themes, or concept. The steps in content analysis are:

i) Decide the level of analysis: word, word sense, phrase, sentence, themes

ii) Decide how many concepts to code for

iii) Decide whether to code for existence or frequency of a concept.

iv) Decide whether to code for existence or frequency of a concept.

v) Develop rules for coding your texts.

vi) Decide what to do with irrelevant information:

vii) Code the text
3.2 Study Site
The study was limited to Kenyenya sub-county in Kisii County. This was adequately considered to be the area of study because it focused on the Northern dialect which is the standard dialect of Ekegusii.

3.3 Target Population
It is impossible to evaluate the whole population thus a sample has to be selected (Gray, 2009). The researcher identified one book from the Ekegusii Bible in the Old Testament; specifically the book of Genesis (Omochakano) was used to identify constructions with verbal extensions. English- Ekegusii dictionary was also used to provide the root verbs. Also four native speakers who helped in the verification of Ekegusii constructions with verbal extensions were also selected.

3.4 Sample Size and Sampling Procedures
The study used purposive sampling. Based on the objectives of the research and the features of the population a non-probability sample was obtained. This method was considered appropriate because it enabled the researcher, to obtain data elicited from the targeted sources.

In this study, one book from Ekegusii Bible, Genesis (Omochakano) was purposively sampled with the aim of evaluating it to establish the constructions with verbal extensions moreover it was impractical to use the whole Bible. English-Ekegusii dictionary was also selected from the many written Ekegusii sources because it was considered the most appropriate for identifying verb roots that can host the Ekegusii affixes. The verbs were sampled considering their transitivity; transitive and intransitive verb.
Four people, aged between 30 and 60 years, two male and two female for the purpose of gender equality were purposively sampled. The main role of the speakers was to evaluate already sampled Ekegusii sentences and verify their validity; therefore, sampling a large number was not necessary.

Five structures were identified from the book of Genesis in the Ekegusii Bible, 38 verb roots were selected from the Ekegusii dictionary and 23 structures from introspection with the aid of the selected native speakers who confirmed that the selected sentences were accurate and were indeed constructions with verbal extensions. The constructions were analysed and presented using tree diagrams.

**3.5 Data Collection Procedures**

The study used the constructions selected from the book of Genesis in the Old Testament. Also the English-Ekegusii dictionary was the source of bare verbs and then the researcher added the extensions systematically and deliberately in order to form sentences.

Introspection was used to supplement the written source. The researcher, an Ekegusii native speaker, used her intuitive knowledge of a language to generate more data. Therefore, the researcher was justified to derive her own constructions.

Finally the researcher contacted the four corroborators, the purpose of the research and the discussion process was explained to each one of them. During the meeting the corroborators verified the selected sentences as authentic constructions in Ekegusii.
3.6 Data Presentation and Analysis

In the analysis of data on Ekegusii verbal extensions the study made use of the qualitative approaches. Open coding was used through the identification of the basic constructions. The structures were coded as APP (applicative), REV (reversive) and PAS (passive). The verb roots sampled from the dictionary were coded as T (transitive) and IT (intransitive). The information was arranged into transitive and intransitive verbs and various types of verbal extensions.

The verb roots were categorized depending on their transitivity and how they hosted the affixes coding them as ‘I’ for intransitive and ‘T’ for transitive. The structures with verbal affixes were explained and presented in form of tree diagrams which presented the morphosyntactic alterations triggered by each extension and analysed using the Minimalist Program.

3.7 Data Management and Ethical Issues

The researcher got approval for the topic from Graduate School, Kenyatta University and sought a research permit from NACOSTI. Approval of the local administration of the community from which the data was collected was also sought.

Also, the corroborators’ consent was sought so that participation was voluntary. The respondents were assured that the information they gave was only to be used for the purpose of this research only.

3.8 Chapter Summary

This chapter has highlighted the research design, study site, target population, sample size and sampling procedures, data collection procedures, data analysis and
presentation, data management and ethical considerations. The next chapter focuses on data presentation, analysis and discussion.
CHAPTER FOUR

DATA PRESENTATION, ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

4.0 Introduction

This chapter analyses and discusses and describes the affix realization of Ekegusii applicative, reversive and passive extensions. In Ekegusii the applicative is an argument increasing affix, the reversive is neutral while the passive is argument decreasing. The description focuses on the transitive and intransitive verb constructions with the 3 affixes and then a minimalist analysis follows.

4.1 Ekegusii Verbal Affix Realization

The first objective sought to explain and describe the Ekegusii applicative, reversive and passive realization. Below is the table which summarises the selected 3 Ekegusii verbal extensions, their realization and morphological construction illustrated by examples of transitive and intransitive verbs.

Table 4.1: Ekegusii Affix Realization

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Type of Affix</th>
<th>Affix Realization</th>
<th>Morphological Construction</th>
<th>Root Verb (Underived)</th>
<th>Derived Construction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Applicative</td>
<td>-er-</td>
<td>Root-er-FV</td>
<td>Som-a (T) (read)</td>
<td>Som-er-a (read for/at)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Sek-a (IN) (laugh)</td>
<td>Sek-er-a (laugh for/at)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Reversive</td>
<td>-or-</td>
<td>Root-or-Fv</td>
<td>Git-a (T) (fence)</td>
<td>Git-or-a (unfence)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rog-a (T) (bewitch)</td>
<td>Rog-or-a (unbewitch)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Passive</td>
<td>-w/-gw-</td>
<td>Root-gw-FV Root -w-FV</td>
<td>Roosi-a (T) (fix)</td>
<td>Roosi-gw-a (be fixed)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Rem-a (T) (dig)</td>
<td>Rem-w-a (be dug)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In Table 4.1 the Ekegusii applicative is realized as –er-, reversive as –or- and passive as -w/-gw-. The final vowel within the verb root determines the distribution of affixes. The 3 Ekegusii affixes above are preceded by a vowel hence, the morphological construction; root (verb) -affix -final vowel (fv).

Also, it was noted that, Ekegusii passive is realized as -w- when the base of the verb ends with a consonant and -gw- in verbs that end with a vowel as illustrated in the table. Another observation made is that the passive affix is mostly hosted by the transitive verbs.

The Ekegusii reversive is marked by -or- which is hosted by dynamic transitive verbs.

Finally, from the table the Ekegusii applicative is hosted by transitive and intransitive verbs. Ekegusii reversive and passives are mostly hosted by transitive verbs.

4.2 Ekegusii Individual Occurrence of Verbal Extensions

This section covers objective two and three; describing and explaining individual occurrence of Ekegusii verbal extension and the minimalist analysis follows. Like many Bantu languages, Ekegusii can enrich the meaning of the verbs in the language by adding a morpheme which functions in a specific manner. Ekegusii has many different verbal extensions which serve different functions. The verbal extensions were chosen given that the list is not exhaustive valence was considered. The applicative is valence increasing. The reversion is neutral while the passive is argument decreasing (Shibatani, 1996).
4.2.1 Applicative

The applicative is a grammatical element that increases valence as stated before. Agent/actor, patient, theme, experience, benefactive/beneficiary, goal, source, Location/locative, instrument and motive are the applicative roles (Carnie, 2002).

The benefactive or beneficiary is an entity that benefits from the action expressed by the predicate, maleficiary is the opposite of beneficiary meaning the entity that does not benefit from an action. The goal is an entity to which an action is performed, location or locative place of the action stated, instrument object which the action is performed and motive is the reason for the action taking place.

Chomsky (1881) states that the principles and the parameters theorizing hold that argument NPs must be licenced. Ekegusii licences the applicative hence full projection:

\[
\text{APPp} \quad \text{SPEC} \quad \text{APP'} \quad \text{APP}
\]

Figure 4.2 a: The Applicative Projection

The applicative affix in Ekegusii is realized as -er- within the verb base. The Ekegusii applicative is very productive since it can be hosted by transitive and intransitive verbs.

It is worth noting that, in the analysis the Ekegusii tense feature is realized as ‘a’, it is swallowed by the subject marker. The tense marker is treated as null. For example,

1a. *Omonene akabekera Kaini* (Omochakano 4:15)

*Omonene aka-bek-er-a Kaini*
Omonene sm-put-app-fv Kaini

(God served for Kaini)

1b. Omonene akabeka Kaini (underived)

Omonene aka-bek-a Kaini

God sm-put- fv Kaini

(God put Kaini)

2a. Nuhu akaagachera Omonene egesasimero (Omachakano 8:20)

Nuhu aka-agach-er-a Omonene egesasimero

Nuhu sm-built-app-fv alter for God

(Noah built an altar for God)

2b. Nuhu akaagacha egesasimero kia Omonene (underived)

Nuhu aka-agach-a egesasimero kia Omonene

Noah sm-built-fv altar for God

(Noah built an alter for God)

3 a. Bitengo nakura (underived)

Bitengo na-kur-a

Bitengo sm-scream-fv

(Bitengo has screamed)
3 b. *Bitengo nakurera omoibi* (derived)

*Bitengo na-kur-er-a omoibi*

Bitengo sm-scream-app-fv the thief

(Bitengo has screamed at the thief)

Ekegusii applicative is very productive; in example 1 above the applicative is hosted by a monotransitive verb construction. Example 2 shows that the applicative can be hosted by a ditransitive verb structure. In example 3a, the underived structure has an intransitive verb *kura* (scream) which is derived to *kurera* in 3b, when the applicative affix is introduced. An object *omoibi* (thief) is introduced which is the goal in this case.

Next we look at intransitive and transitive verb constructions that host the applicative affix and the theoretical analysis of the applicative affix.

### 4.2.1.1 Intransitive Verbs

The goal, locative and motive arguments are introduced when the applicative affix is introduced to the base verb. The intransitive verb *kura* (scream) as used in example 3a above is used for illustration as shown below:

3a. *Bitengo nakura* (underived)

*Bitengo na-kur-a*

Bitengo sm-scream-fv

(Bitengo has screamed)

3b. *Bitengo nakurera omoibi*
Bitengo na-kur-er-a omoibi

Bitengo sm-scream-app-fv thief

(Bitengo has screamed at the thief)

3c. Bitengo nakurera isiko

Bitengo na-kur-er-a isiko

Bitengo sm-scream-app-fv outside

(Bitengo has screamed at the thief outside)

3d. Bitengo nakurera omoibi isiko

Bitengo na-kur-er-a omoibi isiko

Bitengo sm-scream-app-fv outside.

(Bitengo has screamed at the thief outside)

3e. Bitengo nakurera omoibi isiko okoiba

Bitengo na-kur-er-a omoibi isiko okoiba

Bitengo sm-scream-app-fv thief outside stealing

(Bitengo screamed at a thief stealing outside)

The goal omoibi (thief) has been introduced in example 3b. Omoibi is the goal because it is the object of Bitengo’s action of screaming. Isiko (outside), the locative argument is also introduced in example 3c. In example 3d the goal and locative arguments are
introduced. Following is the underived and derived Ekegusii intransitive verb structure projection.

Figure 4.2 b: Underived Ekegusii Intransitive Verb Structure

In Figure 4.2b Bitengo is the subject and the only argument that the verb has. The subject (Bitengo) moves to [SPEC of AGRsP] to check the subject features. The verb (nakura) rises from its place to [TNS] to check for tense features then to [AGRs] for subject agreement feature checking. When the applied affix is introduced some changes are noted as illustrated below:
Figure 4.2 c: Ekegusii Intransitive Verb Structure with the Applicative
In Figure 4.2c we observe that, when the applicative is affixed some changes take place. The goal (omoibi) and the locative (isiko) arguments are introduced by the applied affix. The subject (Bitengo) and the verb (nakurera) are the ones that move.

The subject (Bitengo) rises to [SPEC of AGRs] to check for subject agreement features. The verb (nakurera) rises to [LOC] for locative agreement feature checking, [APP] to check for applicative features then to [TNS] to check for tense features, [AGRs] for subject agreement feature checking. Despite, the introduction of many applied arguments, Ekegusii has only one applicative affix which leads to the APPp and is realized covertly.

### 4.2.1.2 Transitive Verbs

**a) Monotransitive Verbs**

Beneficiary, locative, motive arguments are introduced just like in intransitive verbs. The transitive verb soma (read) is used to illustrate as shown below:

4a. *Getate nasoma omogano* (underived)

*Getate na-som-a omogano*

Getate sm-read-fv a story

(Getate has read a story)

4b. *Getate nasomera Bitengo omogano*

*Getate na-som-er-a Bitengo omogano*

Getate sm-read-app-fv Bitengo a story

(Getate has read for Bitengo a story)
4c. Getate nasomera omogano getii

Getate na-som-er-a omogano getii

Getate sm-read-app-fv a story at the field

(Getate has read the story at the field)

4d. Getate nasomera Bitengo omogano getii

Getate na-som-er-a Bitengo omogano getii

Getate sm-read-app-a Bitengo a story at the field

(Getate has read a story for Bitengo at the field)

The verb (soma) in example 4a sub-categorises for two arguments Getate and omogano (story). The applied affix in example 4b introduces the beneficiary argument (Bitengo) and egetii (field) the locative argument in example 4c. In example 4d the arguments can occur together with a fixed order.
Figure 4.2 d: Underived Ekegusii Monotransitive Structure

Figure 4.2d illustrates the basic structure of Ekegusii monotransitive construction. The object, *omogano* (story) and the subject, *Getate* are the two arguments that the verb has. The NP (omogano) moves from its place to [SPEC of AGRoP] for accusative feature checking. *Nasoma* (read), the verb moves to [AGRo] for object agreement feature checking, [TNS] for tense features [AGRs] for subject agreement feature checking.

The subject, *Getate* rises from [SPEC of VP] to [SPEC of AGRsP] for subject feature checking. The following changes are observed when the applicative is added.
Figure 4.2e: Ekegusii Monotransitive Verb Structure with the
Figure 4.2e: Ekegusii Monotransitive Verb Structure with the
In Figure 4.2e *Nasomera*, the verb sub-categorises the noun phrase *omogano*. The benefactive role is assigned to first argument making it part of the verb matrix. The NP *omogano*, the verb complement moves to [SPEC of AGRoP] for object feature checking. The noun phrase, *Bitengo* assumes the core thematic role of benefactive. *Bitengo* moves to [BENP] to check for benefactive features. *Nasomera*, the verb rises to [LOC] for locative feature checking, then to [AGRO] to check for object agreement features.

The verb also moves to [BEN] for benefactive feature checking, then to [TNS] for tense features and then to [AGRs] to check for subject agreement features.

The applicative introduces the locative and benefactive arguments. The locative is plugged in directly. The verb picks up the applicative affix at the lowest applicative phrase which is realized as the locative.
b) **Ditransitive Verbs.**

Three arguments can be sub-categorized by a ditransitive verb. When an applicative affix is added to a verb root, the derived verb can take up to three arguments. The verb *iba* (steal) is used for illustration.

5a. *Moikeira naiba ritoke ria Mongina* (underived)

*Moikeira na-ib-a ritoke ria Mongina*

Moikeira sm-steal-fv-from Mongina

(Moikeira has stolen a banana from Mongina)

5b. *Moikeira naibera Moraa ritoke ria Mongina.*

*Moikeira na-ib-er-a Moraa ritoke ria Mongina*

Moikeira sm-steal-app-fv Mongina banana for Moraa

(Moikeira has stolen a banana from Mongina for Moraa)

5c. *Moikeira naibera Moraa ritoke ria Mongina korwa mogondo*

*Moikeira na-ib-er-a Moraa ritoke ria Mongina korwa mogondo*

Moikeira sm-steal-app-fv Mongina a banana for Moraa from the shamba

(Moikeira has stolen a banana from Mongina for Moraa from the shamba)
Figure 4.2 f: Underived Ekegusii Ditransitive Structure
Figure 4.2f the NP *(ritoke)* moves from its position to [SPEC of AGRoP] for object feature checking. The object *(Mongina)* rises from [V’] to [MALP] to check for object features. The subject *(Mokeira)* moves from its place [VP] to [AGRsP] to check for subject features.

The verb *(naiba)* rises to [AGRo] and to [MAL] to check for object agreement features, then to [TNS] to check for tense features and then to [AGRs] to check for subject agreement features. The maleficiary and beneficiary are mutually exclusive in Ekegusii ditransitive structures.

Some changes take place when the applicative is attached as shown in figure 4.2g.
Figure 4.2 g: Ekegusii Ditransitive Structure with Applicative
42

Figure 4.2g the NP (*ritoke*) moves to [SPEC] for object feature checking. The object (*Mongina*) moves to [MAL] to mark for object features. The object Moraa, the object moves to [BENP] to check for object features. The locative (*mogondo*) is plugged in directly. The subject (Mokeira) moves to [AGRsP] to check for subject features.

The verb (*naibera*) rises from its VP position to [LOC] for locative agreement features, then to [AGRo], [MAL], and [BEN] to check for object agreement features. The verb picks up the applicative affix which is overtly realised. It then moves to [TNS] to check for tense features, then [AGRs] for subject agreement feature checking.

To sum up, it has been observed that Ekegusii applicative is highly productive. Both intransitive and transitive verbs host the applicative. Two to three applied arguments are introduced by a single affix. The applicative is projected as a full projection by the Minimalist Program. The benefactive argument is base generated while the other arguments are plugged in directly. The theory accounts for the Ekegusii applicatives.

### 4.2.2 Reversive

The Ekegusii reversive construction is marked by -or- affix. The reversive affix is highly restrictive. It is hosted by a few dynamic monotransitive verbs. The reversive affix is neutral; it does not increase or decrease the argument structure of the stem it is attached to. Some of these monotransitive verbs in Ekegusii include: *banga-bangora* (unarrange), *tuba-tubora* (uncover), *tindeka-tindekora* (unburied), *siba-sibora* (untie).

In the theoretical analysis of the reversive, it is proposed that the reversive should be analysed as a lexical extension so that it is incorporated into the verb while still in the lexicon. The reversive is always next to the verb stem and it is not a syntactic extension as it does not affect the argument structure of a verb (Cocchi, 2008).
4.2.2.1 Transitive Verbs

a) Monotransitive Verbs

6a. *Nyambane nasereta enyomba* (underived)

*Nyambane na-seret-a enyomba*

Nyambane sm-thatch-fv house

(Nyambane has thatched the house)

6b. *Nyambane naseretora enyomba*

*Nyambane na-seret-or-a enyomba*

Nyambane sm-thatched-rev-fv house

(Nyambane has unthached the house)

7a. *Omorogi naroga omwana* (underived)

*Omorogi na-rog-a omwana*

The witch sm-bewitch-fv a baby

(The witch has bewitched the baby)

7b. *Omorogi narogora omwana*

*Omorogi na-rog-or-a omwana*

The witch sm-bewitch-rev-fv the baby
(The witch has unbewitched the baby)

8a. *Omogaka nagita orobago* (underived)

*Omogaka na-git-a orobago*

The man sm-fence-fv fence

(The man has fenced the fence)

8b. *Omogaka nagitora orobago*

*Omogaka na-git-or-a orobago*

The man sm-fence-rev-fv the fence

(The man has unfenced the fence)

9a. *Monyenye nanyuoma Magoma*

*Monyenye na-nyuom-a Magoma*

Monyenye sm-marry-fv Magoma

(Monyenye has married Magoma)

9b. *Monyenye nanyuomora Magoma*

*Monyenye na-nyuom-or-a Magoma*

Monyenye sm-married-rev-fv Magoma

(Monyenye has unmarried Magoma)

In examples 6b, 7b, 8b & 9b the effect of the reversive affix is limited to the verb only. The arguments are not in any way affected. The reversive cannot be considered productive
because the cases are rare. It is also worth noting that some transitive verbs in Ekegusii i.e. *simora* (uproot), *tandora* (tear), *sabora* (peel), *sansora* (unwrap), *tagora* (demolish) are used as verb bases although they deceptively resemble reversive verbs.

**Figure 4.2 i: Underived Ekegusii Monotransitive Verb Structure**

In Figure 4.2i the NP (*enyomba*) moves to [SPEC of AGRoP] for object feature checking. *Nyambane*, the subject moves from [SPEC of VP] to [SPEC of AGRsP] for subject features. The verb (nasereta) rises from its position to [AGRo] for object agreement feature checking, then to [TNS] for tense features, then to [AGRs] for subject agreement feature checking.
Figure 4.2j: Ekegusii Monotransitive Structure with the Reversive

Figure 4.2j shows that there is no argument that is introduced by the reversive, therefore, only the reversive affix which is the head is projected. The NP (*enyomba*) moves to [SPEC of AGRoP] to check for object features. The subject (Nyambane) moves from [SPEC of VP] to [SPEC of AGRsP] to check for subject features.

The verb (*naseretora*) moves to [AGRo] to check for object agreement features of *enyomba* (house). The verb picks up the reversive affix at [REV] to check for reversive features, then to [TNS] to check for tense features, then to [AGRs] to check for subject agreement features.
In conclusion, the Ekegusii reversive is a neutral affix and commonly occurs with monotransitive verbs. The morphological structure of the word and meaning is extended by the reversive affix which does not affect the argument structure.

4.2.3 Passive

The Ekegusii passive construction is realized by the addition of -w- or -gw- to a verb base. If the root verb ends in a vowel -gw- is added before the final vowel and if the base verb ends in -w- is added before the final vowel, for example, *tem-a* (try) - *tem-w-a* (be tried) and *sibi-a* (wash) - *sibi-gw-a* (be washed).

The next section shows how the Ekegusii passive is hosted by verbs specifically transitive verbs focusing on the personal passives which are very common in Ekegusii and the theoretical analysis follows.

4.2.3.1 Transitive Verbs

a) Monotransitive Verbs

A subject and an object are the two monotransitive arguments. The object gets foregrounded and the subject gets to an oblique position or is omitted when the passive affix is introduced. Consider the examples below:

10. *Yusufu okoongwa na abamwabo* (*Omochakano* 37:36)

*Yusufu oko-oni-gw-a* (*na abamwabo*)

Joseph sm-sold**pass**-fv (by his siblings)

(Joseph was sold (by his siblings)

11. *Yusufu aga-tirimbokigwa gochia Misiri na Potifari* (*Omochakano* 39:1)

*Yusufu aga-tirimboki-gw-a gochia Misiri* (*na Potifari*)
Joseph sm-take-pass-fv to Egypt (by Potiphar)

(Joseph was taken to Egypt (by Potiphar)

12a. *Omongina naigora etirisa* (underived)

*Omongina na-igor-a etirisa*

The woman sm-open-fv window

The woman has opened the window

12b. *Etirisa yaigorwa (na omongina)*

*Etirisa ya-igor-w-a (na omongina)*

The window sm-open-pass-fv (by the woman)

The window has been opened (by the woman)

In example (12a) the underived active structure has the subject (*omongina*) and the object (*etirisa*) arguments. The object, *etirisa* is promoted to the subject, as the subject, *omongina* is demoted to an oblique which is optional.
Following is the analysis of the underived and the derived structure:

Figure 4.2 k: Underived Ekegusii Monotransitive Structure

In Figure 4.2k the NP (*etirisa*) rises to [SPEC of AGRoP] to pick up the object features. The verb (*naigora*) rises to [AGRO] to check the object for object agreement features then to [TNS] to check for tense features then to [AGRs] to check for subject agreement features. *Omongina* (NP) moves to [SPEC of AGRsP] to check for subject features.

In Figure 4.2j below changes are noted when the passive affix is introduced.
Figure 4.21: Ekegusii Monotransitive Structure with the Passive

Figure 4.21 shows that the NP (etirisa) rises from its position to [SPEC of AGRsP] to pick up the subject features. The verb (yaigorwa) rises to [PAS] to pick up the passive affix and the passive features then to [TNS] to check for tense features then to [AGRs] to check for subject agreement features.

b) Ditransitive Verbs

Ditransitive verbs have three arguments; a subject and two objects. For example,

13a. *Magoma natebia Gesare esiri* (underived)

*Magoma na-tebi-fv Gesare esiri*

Magoma sm-tell-fv Gesare a secret

(Magoma has told Gesare a secret)
13b. Gesare natebigwa esiri na Magoma

*Gesare na-tebi-gw-a esiri (na Magoma)*

Gesare sm-tell-*pas*-a secret (by Magoma)

(Gesare has been told a secret (by Magoma)

In example 13a is a basic active structure, when the passive affix is introduced in example 13b the first object after the verb (Gesare) is fore-grounded as the subject (Magoma) is demoted to form a personal passive.
Figure 4.2 m: Underived Ekegusii Ditransitive Structure
Figure 4.2m shows the NP (esiri) rises to [SPEC of AGRoP] to check for object features. The object (Gesare) moves from [SPEC of VP] to [BENP] to check for object features. The subject (Magoma) moves from [SPEC of VP] to [SPEC of AGRsP] to check for subject features. The verb (natebia) moves from its place to [AGRO] to [BEN] to check for object agreement features, then to [TNS] to check for tense features then to [AGRs] to check for subject agreement features.
Figure 4.2n shows that the secondary object (esiri) becomes the only object of the verb. The NP (esiri) moves to [SPEC of AGRoP] to check for object features. The verb (natebigwa) moves from its place to [AGRO] to check for accusative agreement features, then the verb moves to [PAS] to pick up the passive affix and check for passive features, then to [TNS] to check for tense features then to [AGRs] to check for subject agreement features.

The NP (Gesare) starts as the primary object of the verb it rises to [SPEC of VP] to become the sentence syntactic subject. The NP now the subject moves from [SPEC of VP] to [SPEC of AGRsP] to check for nominative features.

In conclusion, the Ekegusii passive specifically personal passive is commonly hosted by transitive verbs adequately analysed within the Minimalist Program.

4.3 Chapter Summary

Following the research objectives, three Ekegusii verbal affix markers have been described and explained, the Ekegusii applicative, reversive and passive verbal extensions have been described and explained. The theory has adequately explained the derivations of Ekegusii applicative, reversive and passive. The next chapter presents the summary of findings, conclusions, recommendations and areas for further research.
CHAPTER FIVE

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, RECOMMENDATIONS

5.0 Introduction
This chapter presents a summary of findings based on the research objectives, conclusions and the recommendations.

5.1 Summary of Findings
The study had three objectives: the first objective sought to describe and explain the realization of Ekegusii verbal extension markers. The study found out that each verbal extension is realized by an affix which is realized differently to mark a specific verbal extension. The Ekegusii applicative is marked by -er-, the reversive by -or- and the passive by –w- or -gw-.

The study found out that all the affix markers come before the final vowel, following the root verb-affix-Fv morphological structure. The study also found out that the Ekegusii passive affix is marked by –w- when the verb root ends in a consonant and – gw- when a verb root ends in a consonant.

The second objective sought to describe and explain the individual occurrence of Ekegusii verbal extensions. Objective one gives the affix markers. The study describes the Ekegusii applicative as a very productive extension because it is hosted by both transitive and intransitive verbs. The applicative is an argument increasing affix with one affix that can introduce locational and benefactive arguments.

The study described the Ekegusii reversive as a neutral affix which does not increase or decrease an argument. It is hosted by a few transitive verbs. The Ekegusii passive is
an argument decreasing affix. The personal and impersonal are the two types of passives. This study focussed on the mono and ditransitive verbs.

The third and the last objective sought to account for individual occurrence of Ekegusii verbal extensions within the Minimalist Program. The study has shown that the theory adequately accounted for Ekegusii applicative, reversive and passive. The Ekegusii verbal extensions are projected as a full projection by the MP.

5.2 Conclusions

Based on the findings of this study we can conclude that there are different realizations of Ekegusii verbal extension markers. The Ekegusii verbal extensions can be analysed within the Minimalist Program. The study answered the research questions adequately, the research objectives were attained and the study was also able to validate our assumptions.

5.3 Recommendations

Having looked at the verbal extensions in Ekegusii, an indigenous African language, we recommend that similar studies be done in other African indigenous languages.

Secondly, this study is of great value to the language teachers who teach Ekegusii. The findings of this research could be helpful in enriching the syllabus. Also we recommend that our curriculum developers’ factor in the findings of this research as it will enrich Ekegusii materials.

Finally, this study is suitable to the linguists because it enlightens them on the Ekegusii verbal extensions therefore we recommend that the findings of this study could be used as a source of reference.
5.4 Suggestions for Further Research

Finally, the following has been suggested for further research:

1. The study dealt with only three Ekegusii verbal extension, it is suggested that other Ekegusii verbal extensions be studied.

2. Verbal extensions could be studied using another theory.

3. This study has dealt with the individual occurrence of three Ekegusii verbal extensions. Other Ekegusii studies could endeavour to show the co-occurrences of Ekegusii verbal extensions.

4. This study used transitive and intransitive verbs, studies that include argumentless verbs can be done.
REFERENCES


Population distribution by age, sex, and administrative units (Volume 1c). Nairobi: Government Press.


APPENDICES

APPENDIX I: EKEGUSII VERBS

21 Transitive Verbs

1. **Banga** plan
2. **Bucha** fetch
3. **Chora** draw
4. **Gita** fence
5. **Gora** buy
6. **Iba** steal
7. **Igora** open
8. **Ragera** eat
9. **Rema** dig
10. **Rika** write
11. **Roga** bewitch
12. **Rora** see/look
13. **Rosia** make
14. **Ruga** cook
15. **Saba** pray
16. **Samba** burn
17. **Sereta** thatch
18. **Soma** read
19. **Tebia** tell
20. **Tera** sing
### 17 Intransitive Verbs

1. *Boora* disappear
2. *Genda* go
3. *Gosa* go wrong
4. *Gunda* rot
5. *Koga* bark
6. *Kura* scream
7. *Kwana* talk
8. *Mesa* shine
9. *Minyoka* run
10. *Nora* get fat
11. *Rera* cry
12. *Rota* dream
13. *Seka* laugh
14. *Suka* move
15. *Tara* walk
16. *Tioka* smell
17. *Tuma* jump
APPENDIX II: EKEGUSII CONSTRUCTIONS.

5. Structures Obtained from the Bible.

1. ...*Omonene akabekera Kaini.* [Omachakano 4:15]

   God put for Cain. [Genesis 4:15]

2. *Nuhu akaagacherera Omonene egesasimero.* [Omachakano 8:20]

   Noah built an alter for God. [Genesis 8:20]

3. *Yusufu okoonigwa na abamwabo.* [Omachakano 37:36]

   Joseph was sold by his siblings. [Genesis 37:36]


   Joseph was taken to Misiri by Potiphar. [Genesis 39:1]

5. *Kaini akagechigwa...* [Omachakano 4:5]

   Cain was annoyed. [Genesis 4:5]

23 Structures obtained from Introspection

1. *Bitengo nakura.*

   Bitengo has screamed.

2. *Bitengo nakurera omoibi.*

   Bitengo has screamed at a thief.

3. *Bitengo nakurera isiko.*

   Bitengo has screamed outside.

Bitengo has screamed at a thief outside.

5. Bitengo nakurera omoibi isiko okoiba.

Bitengo has screamed at a thief outside stealing.


Getate has read the story.

7. Getate nasomera Bitengo omogano.

Getate has read for Bitengo a story.

8. Getate nasomera omogano getii.

Getate has read a story at the field.


Getate has read for Bitengo a story at the field

10. Mokeira naiba ritoke korwa o Mongina.

Mokeira has stolen a banana from Mongina.

11. Mokeira naibera Mongina ritoke ria Moraa.

Mokeira has stolen from Mongina a banana for Moraa.

12. Mokeira naibera Mongina ritoke ria Moraa korwa Mogondo.

Mokeira has stolen from Mongina a banana from the shamba.
13. *Nyambane nasereta enyomba.*

Nyambane has roofed the house.

14. *Nyambane naseretora enyomba.*

Nyambane has unroofed the house.

15. *Omorogi naroga omwana.*

The witch has bewitched the baby.

16. *Omorogi narogora omwana.*

The witch has bewitched the baby.

17. *Omobaka nagita orobago.*

The man has fenced the fence.

18. *Omobaka nagitora orobago.*

The man has unfenced the fence.


Monyenye has married Magoma.


Monyenye has unmarried Magoma.


The woman has opened the window.
23. *Etirisa yaigorwa na Omongina.*

The window has been opened by the woman.

22. *Magoma natebia Gesare esiri.*

Magoma has told Gesare a secret.

23. *Gesare natebigwa esiri na Magoma.*

Gesare has been told a secret by Magoma.
APPENDIX III: NACOSTI RESEARCH PERMIT

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