

PPCS (Penn Parsed Corpus of Sumerian): A Brief Introduction to the Syntactic Annotation System of the PPCS

1. Introduction

The PPCS parsing scheme uses a limited tree representation in the form of labeled parentheses. All open parentheses have an associated label, a phrase label (NP, MODP, etc), a word label (N, V, etc.), or an affix label (ERG, CN, etc.), representing nodes in a tree. All examples in this manual are taken from the Ur III royal inscriptions and economical documents and the Old Babylonian literary texts. Full lists of all the labels used are given at the end.

2. General Parsing Principles

(1) PPCS structure is very flat. Most nodes are multiply branching. A typical PPCS parse in tree form looks like this:

(Steve's tree of Gudea 3)

a. S(entence) immediately dominates the V(erb)C(omplex) and sentence level constituents. There is no V(erb)P(hrase).

b. In addition to the VCs, a small number of other word-level constituents are immediately dominated by S. These are sentential conjunctions (CONJ), single-word interjections (INTJ).

c. Within phrasal constituents, the phrasal node immediately dominates the head.

```
(NP-DAT (N cec)(POS ani)(PL ene)
        (DAT ra))
```

```
(NP-COM (NC (N ce)(N dub))(POS ju)
        (COM da))
```

d. Pre-head modifiers.

```
(NP-ERG (MODP (V kug))
        (DN inanna)
        (ERG e))
```

e. Post-head modifiers

(NP-DAT (N dingir)
 (MODP (VR gal.gal))
 (PL ene)
 (DAT ra))

(NP-ABS (N lu)
 (MODP (N igi)
 (V gal)))

(NP-ABS (N e)
 (MODP (N ki)
 (V aj)
 (NOM a))
 (POS ani))

(2) In general, the basic label and additional labels (separated by a hyphen) indicate the form (NP-ERG= ergative NP, NP-DAT = dative NP, VC-F = verb complex-finite, etc.). In most cases there is at most one additional label, but there may be more (NP-LOC-TMP = temporal meaning of locative NP, NP-TER-MAN = manner meaning of terminative NP, etc.).

(NP-TER-MAN (N zid)
 (TER ece))

(NP-LOC-TMP (N ud)(POS bi)
 (LOC a))

a. All clauses are labeled by type. Matrix clauses are labeled S; they may be further characterized as direct speech (S-SPE), etc. Other S clauses have their own labels, such as S-IMP (imperative), S-QUE (Wh-question), S-NOM (nominalized clause), etc.

(3) In cases where the attachment level of constituents is ambiguous or difficult to determine, the default is always to attach high, rather than to embed.

3. Internal Syntax of Phrases

4. Sentence Constituents

4.1 Word-level Constituents

4.1.1 Sentential Conjunctions (CONJ)

Sentential conjunctions are immediately dominated by S. For other types of conjunction, see section Conjunction.

u3 a-ne ib-gub
 u ene i.b.gub

and he CN.P1.stand

"And he stood" (TCS 1, 203:4)

```
(S (CONJ u)
  (NP-ABS (PRO ene))
  (VC-F (CN i)
    (P1 b)
    (V gub)))
```

4.1.2 Single-word Interjections (INTJ)

Single word interjections are immediately dominated by S. For interjection phrases (INTJP), see section INTJP.

```
ga-na      gi4-ma-ni-ib
gana       gi.mu.a.ni.b
come on    answer.CN.1SgDAT.LOC.P1
```

"Come on, answer me!" (EdB 17)

```
(S-IMP (INTJ gana)
  (VC-I (V gi)
    (CN mu)
    (DAT a)
    (LOC ni)
    (P1 b)))
```

4.1.3 Sentential Copula

Sentential copulas are immediately dominated by S. For other type of copula, see Emphatic Copula.

```
a2 kalag-ga    me3-a      zi-cag4-gal2 {d}inanna-me-en
a  kalag.a     me.ak      zi.cag.gal   {d}inanna.ak.men
arm strong.NOM battle.GEN creature      Inanna.GEN.1SgCOP
```

"I am the strong arm in the battle, the creature of Inanna" (Angim 166)

```
(S (NP-ERG *)
  (NP-ABS (N a)
    (MODP (V kalag)
      (NOM a))
    (NP-GEN (N me)
      (GEN ak)))
  (NP-PRN (NC (N zi)
    (N cag))
```

```

                (V gal))
        (NP-GEN (DN inanna)
              (GEN ak)))
(COP men))

```

4.2 Phrasal Constituents

All other constituents of the S are always treated as phrasal.

4.2.1 Noun Phrase (NP)

4.2.1.1 Noun Phrases with Ergative Postposition (NP-ERG)

(1) The subjects of the transitives are labeled NP-ERG.

```

ezen      gal-gal-ba      uj3-e      nam-he2-a
ezen      gal.gal.bi.a   uj.e       namhe.a
festival  big.big.its.LOC  people.ERG abundance.LOC

```

```

ud-bi     mu-un-di-I-ib-zal-e
ud.bi     mu.n.da.I.b.zal.e
day.its   CN.P2.ABL.LT.P1.pass.E

```

"At its great festivals, the people pass their time in abundance"
(EnA 73)

```

(S (NP-LOC (N ezen)
          (MODP (VR gal.gal))(POS bi)
          (LOC a))
  (NP-ERG (N uj)
          (ERG e))
  (NP-LOC (N namhe)
          (LOC a))
  (NP-ABS (N ud)(POS bi))
  (VC-F (CN mu)
        (P2 n)
        (ABL da)
        (LT I)
        (P1 b)
        (V zal)
        (E e)))

```

(2) When the ergative marking is not overtly expressed, (ERG *) is supplied.

```

me-bi    me abzu          lu2        igi nu-bar-re-de3
me.bi    me abzu.ak.(e)  lu.(e)     igi nu.(i).bar.e.de

```

ME.its ME abzu.GEN.(LT) man.(ERG) eye NEG.(CN).V.E.DE

"No one should look at its *ME*, the *ME* of the *abzu*" (EnA 43)

```
(S (NP-LT (N me)(POS bi)
      (NP-PRN (N me)
              (NP-GEN (N abzu)(GEN ak)))
      (LT *))
  (NP-ERG (N lu)(ERG *))
  (NP-ABS (N igi))
  (VC-F (NEG nu)
        (CN *)
        (V bar)
        (E e)
        (DE de)))
```

(3) The subjects of the intransitives which are postpositioned by -e are labeled NP-ERG.

```
lugal-bi sipa      {d}na-ra-am-sin-e bara2 ku3 a-ga-de3{ki}-ka
lugal.bi sipa      {d}naramsin.e      bara ku agade{ki}.ak.a
king.its shepherd naramsin.ERG dais holy agade.GEN.LOC
```

```
ud-de-ec im-mi-in-e3
ud.ece imma.I.n.e
day.TER CN.LT.Pl.went out
```

"Its king, the shepherd Naramsin, rose like the sun on the holy throne of Agade" (Ag 40 f.)

```
(S (NP-ERG (N lugal)(POS bi)
      (NP-PRN (N sipa))
      (NP-PRN (RN naramsin))
      (ERG e))
  (NP-LOC (N bara)
          (MODP (V ku))
          (NP-GEN (GN agade)
                  (GEN ak))
          (LOC a))
  (NP-TER (N ud)
          (TER ece))
  (VC-F (CN imma)
        (LT I)
        (Pl n)
        (V e)))
```

(4) Empty subject

Most clause types are required to have a subject, except for imperatives. If the overt subject is missing, an empty subject is supplied for transitives (NP-ERG *) and intransitives (NP-ABS *).

```
a2-aj2-ja2      zid-de3-ec    im-ma-sug2-ge-ec
a.aj.a.a        zid.ece       imma.sug.ec
instruction.LOC  faithful.TER  CN.stand.PSF
```

"They faithfully stand by the instructions" (EnA 9)

```
(S (NP-ABS *)
  (NP-LOC (N-C (N a)
              (V aj)
              (NOM a))
          (LOC a))
  (NP-TER-MAN (N zid)
              (TER ece))
  (VC-F (CN imma)
        (VS sug)
        (PSF ec)))
```

Some of the constructions where the agent is not overtly expressed correspond to the English impersonal passive. It is very hard to know whether the agent is unspecified or eliminated. The PPCS makes no annotational difference between impersonal passive constructions and other constructions with an unvert subject.

```
bad3{ki} ki-be2      ba-ab-gi4
bad3{ki} ki.bi.e     ba.b.gi
Der      ground.its.LT CN.Pl.return
"Der was restored" (Der returned to its place)
```

```
(S (NP-ABS (GN der)
  (NP-LT (N ki)(POS bi)
         (LT e))
  (VC-F (CN ba)
        (P1 b)
        (V gi)))
```

```
ki      bi2-in-gul-la-gin7
ki      ba.I.n.gul.a.gin
place  CN.LT.Pl.destroy.NOM.EQ
```

```
ki      nam-ga-bi2-ib-gul-en
ki      na.inga.ba.I.b.gul.en
place  MD.CONJ.CN.LT.Pl.destroy.PSF
```

"Like the place that had been destroyed, you destroyed the place."
(ELA 192)

```
(S (NP-EQ (S-NOM (NP-ERG *)
                 (NP-ABS (N ki))
                 (VC-F (CN ba)
                       (LT I)
                       (V gul)))
      (NOM a)))
  (EQ gin))
(NP-ERG *)
(NP-ABS (N ki))
(VC-F (MD na)
      (CONJ inga)
      (CN ba)
      (LT I)
      (P1 b)
      (V gul)
      (PSF en)))
```

4.2.1.2 Noun Phrases with Absolutive postposition (NP-ABS)

(1) Subjects of the intransitives are labeled NP-ABS.

```
jissu-bi      kur-kur-ra      ca-mu-un-la2
jissu.bi      kur.kur.a      ca.mu.n.la
shadow.its    land.land.LOC   MD.CN.P1.stretch
```

"Its shadow stretches over all the lands" (EnA 79)

```
(S (NP-ABS (N jissu)(POS bi))
  (NP-LOC (NR kur.kur)
          (LOC a))
  (VC-F (MD ca)
        (CN mu)
        (P1 n)
        (V la)))
```

(2) The objects of the transitives are labeled NP-ABS.

```
dumu engar-ra-ra      nig2 na-mu-ra-ra-an
dumu engar.ak.ra      nig  na.mu.ra.ra.en
son  farmer.GEN.DAT  thing MD.CN.hit.hit.PSF
```

"Do not beat the son of farmer" (CIn 158)

```
(S (NP-ERG *)
  (NP-DAT (N dumu)
    (NP-GEN (N engar)(GEN ak))
    (DAT ra))
  (NP-ABS (N nig2))
  (VC-F (MD na)
    (CN mu)
    (VR ra.ra)
    (PSF en)))
```

```
nig2-erim2-e ki la-ba-ra-aj2-ja2-am3
nig.erim.e ki nu.ba.ta.aj.am
wickedness.LT ground NEG.CN.ABL.measure.COP
```

"I do not like wickedness" (CA 24)

```
(S (NP-ERG *)
  (NP-LT (N-C (N nig)
    (N erim))
    (LT e))
  (NP-ABS (N ki))
  (VC-F (NEG nu)
    (CN ba)
    (ABL ta)
    (V aj)
    (COP am)))
```

(3) NPs in specificational copular sentences are labeled NP-ABS.

```
dingir-ra-ni {d}cul-utul-am6
dingir.ani {d}culutul.am
god.his Culutul.3SgCOP
```

"His god is Culutul"

```
(S (NP-ERG (N dingir)(POS ani)
  (ERG *))
  (NP-ABS (DN culutul))
  (COP am))
```

4.2.1.3 Vocative Noun Phrases (NP-VOC)

Vocatives are labeled NP-VOC.

```
gilgamec en-ce3 i3-na2-de3-en
gilgamec en.ece i.na.de.en
```

Gilgamec how long.TER CN.sleep.DE.PSF

"Gilgamesh! how long will you sleep?" (GH 81)

```
(S-QUE-SPE (NP-VOC (RN Gilgamec))
  (NP-ABS *)
  (WADVP (WPRO en)
    (TER ece))
  (VC-F (CN i)
    (V na)
    (DE de)
    (PSF en)))
```

4.2.1.4 Noun Phrases with Genitive Postposition (NP-GEN)

(1) The genitive is overtly expressed.

```
en aratta{ki}-ke4 kin-gi4-a-ar gu3 mu-un-na-de2-e
en aratta{ki}.ak.e kin.gi.a.ra gu CN.na.de.e
lord Aratta.GEN.ERG messenger.DAT voice CN.3SgDAT.pour.E
```

"The lord of Aratta says to the messenger" (ELA 556)

```
(S (NP-ERG (N en)
  (NP-GEN (GN aratta)(GEN ak))
  (ERG e))
  (NP-DAT (N-C (N kin)
    (V gi)
    (NOM a))
    (DAT ra))
  (NP-ABS (N gu))
  (VC-F (CN mu)
    (DAT na)
    (V de)
    (E e)))
```

(2) If the genitive is not overtly expressed but assumed, (GEN *) is used.

```
dinjir ki ni2-ba mu-na-gur2-e-ec
dinjir ki.(ak) ni.bi.a mu.na.gur.e.ec
god earth.(GEN) self.their.LOC CN.3SgDAT.bow down.E.PSF
```

"The gods of the earth bow down by themselves to him" (EnA 7)

```
(S (NP-ABS (N dijir)
  (NP-GEN (N ki)(GEN *)))
```

```
(NP-LOC (N ni)(POS bi)
        (LOC a))
(VC-F (CN mu)
      (DAT na)
      (V gur)
      (E e)
      (PSF ec))
```

(3) If the genitive is missing but expected, an empty genitive is supplied.

```
LetB 1.26 ...cag4 {d}cul-gi lugal-ju10...
      cag {d}culgi lugal.ju
      heart Culgi king.my
```

"The heart of Culgi, my king"

```
(NP (N cag)
    (NP-GEN (RN culgi)
            (NP-PRN (N lugal)(POS ju))
            (GEN *)))
```

(4) Double Genitive

```
ig e2 lugal-ka-ta
ig e lugal.ak.ak.ta
door house king.GEN.GEN.ABL
```

"From the door of the king's house"

```
(NP-ABL (NP (N ig)
            (NP-GEN (NP (N e)
                       (NP-GEN (N lugal)
                                (GEN ak))))
            (GEN ak)))
      (ABL ta))
```

(5) Anticipatory Genitive

Anticipatory genitives are attached the additional label Left-Dislocated (NP-GEN-LFD) and co-indexed with the resumptive possessive pronouns.

```
za3-mi2 mu-ru-bi-im
za.mi.ak muru.bi.am
hymn.GEN middle.its.COP
```

"(It) is the middle of the hymn" (Gudea CylA 30:16)

```
(S (NP-GEN-LFD-1 (N zami)
                 (GEN ak))
```

(NP-ERG *)
 (NP-ABS (N muru)
 (NP-POS-RSP=1 (POS bi)))
 (COP am))

e2-a jic-hur-bi im-ja2-ja2
 e.a jic.hur.bi i.m.ja.ja
 house.GEN plan.its CN.P1.place.place

“He placed the plan of the house” (Gudea CylA 5:4)

(S (NP-GEN-LFD-1 (N e)(GEN ak))
 (NP-ERG *)
 (NP-ABS (N-C (N jic)
 (V hur))
 (NP-POS-RSP=1 (POS bi)))
 (VC-F (CN i)
 (P1 m)
 (VR ja.ja)))

e2-a {d}en-ki-ke4 jic-hur-be2 si mu-na-sa2
 e.a {d}enkik.e jic.hur.bi.e si mu.na.sa
 house.GEN enkik.ERG plan.its.LT N CN.3SgDAT.V

“Enki prepared the plan of the house for him” (Gudea CylA 17:17)

(S (NP-GEN-LFD-1 (N e)
 (GEN ak))
 (NP-ERG (DN enkik)
 (ERG e))
 (NP-LT (N-C (N jic)
 (V hur))
 (NP-POS-RSP=1 (POS bi))
 (LT e))
 (NP-ABS (N si))
 (VC-F (CN mu)
 (DAT na)
 (V sa)))

(6) Genitive Construction without a Head Noun

dur-an-ki-ka dur2 ba-an-jar jectug2 dajal-la-ke4
 durankik.a dur ba.n.jar jectug dajal.ak.e
 durankik.LOC buttocks CN.n.place ear wide.GEN.ERG

"(The one) of wide ear sat in the Duranki" (EnA 11)

```
(S (NP-LOC (GN durankik)
          (LOC a))
   (NP-ABS (N dur))
   (VC-F (CN ba)
         (Pl n)
         (V jar))
   (NP-ERG (N *)
          (NP-GEN (N jectug)
                  (MODP (V dajal))
                  (GEN ak))
          (ERG e)))
```

4.2.1.5 Noun Phrases with Dative Postposition (NP-DAT)

```
u8 {d}ezina2-ra mu-na-ni-ib-gi4-gi4
u {d}ezina.ra mu.na.ni.b.gi.gi
ewe grain.DAT CN.3SgDAT.LOC.Pl.return.rturn
```

"Ewe answered Grain" (LA 92)

```
(S (NP-ABS (N u))
   (NP-DAT (DN ezina)
          (DAT ra))
   (VC-F (CN mu)
         (DAT na)
         (LOC ni)
         (Pl b)
         (VR gi.gi)))
```

If the dative post-position is not overtly expressed but assumed, (DAT *) is supplied.

```
{d}DN      PN-e    e2-a-ni    mu-na-du3
{d}DN.(ra) RN.e    e.ani     mu.na.du
DN.(DAT)   RN.ERG house.his CN.3SgDAT.build
```

"For DN, PN has built his house"

```
(S (NP-DAT (DN DN)
          (DAT *))
   (NP-ERG (RN RN)
          (ERG e))
   (NP-ABS (N e)(POS ani)))
```

(VC-F (CN mu)
 (DAT na)
 (V du))

4.2.1.6 Noun Phrases with Comitative Postposition (NP-COM)

ce-dub-ju10 ur-{d}cul-pa-e3-da in-da-gal2
 ce.dub.ju urculpae.da i.n.da.gal
 barley.tablet.my Urculpae.COM CN.P2.COM.is(somewhere)

"My barley tablet is with PN" (TCS 1,60:3)

(S (NP-ABS (N-C (N ce)
 (N dub))
 (POS ju))
 (NP-COM (PN Urculpae)
 (COM da))
 (VC-F (CN i)
 (P2 n)
 (COM da)
 (V gal)))

4.2.1.7 Noun Phrases with Terminative Postposition (NP-TER)

iri-ce3 ja2-e ga-jen
 iri.ece jae ga.(i).jen
 city.TER I COH.(CN).go

"I will go to the city" (L2 272)

(S (NP-TER (N iri)
 (TER ece))
 (NP-ABS (PRO jae))
 (VC-F (MD ga)
 (CN *)
 (V jen)))

4.2.1.8 Noun Phrases with Ablative Postposition (NP-ABL)

en-bi gi6-par4-ta ba-da-an-kar
 en.bi jipar.ta ba.ta.n.kar
 En priest.its Gipar.ABL CN.ABL.P1.flee

"Its En-priest fled from the Gipar" (LSU 192)

```
(S (NP-ABS (N en)(POS bi))
  (NP-ABL (TN gipar)
    (ABL ta))
  (VC-F (CN ba)
    (ABL ta)
    (Pl n)
    (V kar)))
```

4.2.1.9 Noun Phrases with Locative Postposition (NP-LOC)

```
cag4-ba          hu-ri2-in{mucen}-e dug3 mu-un-bad-ba9-re7
cag.bi.a        hurin{mucen}.e   dug  mu.n.bad.bar.e
center.its.LOC hurin bird.ERG    talon CN.Pl.open.open.E
```

"In its center the hurin-bird spreads (its) talons" (EnA 27)

```
(S (NP-LOC (NP (N cag)(POS bi))
  (LOC a))
  (NP-ERG (N hurin)
    (ERG e))
  (NP-ABS (N dug))
  (VC-F (CN mu)
    (Pl n)
    (VR bad.bar)
    (E e)))
```

4.2.1.10 Noun Phrases with Locative-Terminative Postposition (NP-LT)

```
iri-ni  nina{ki}-ce3
iri.ani  nina{ki}.ece
citi.her Nina.TER
```

```
kar  sirara{ki}-na-ke4 ma2  bi2-us2
kar  siraran{ki}.ak.e  ma  ba.I.us
quay Siraran.GEK.LT  boat CN.I.moor
```

"Into her city Nina he moored the boat at the quay of Siraran"
(Gudea CylA 4:4)

```
(S (NP-ERG *)
  (NP-TER (N iri)(POS ni)
    (NP-PRN (GN nina))
    (TER ece))
  (NP-LT (N kar)
    (NP-GEN (GN siraran)
      (GEN ak)))
```

(LT e))
 (NP-ABS (N ma))
 (VC-F (CN ba)
 (LT I)
 (V us)))

When the locative-terminative marking is not overtly expressed but assumed, (LT *) is supplied.

za-e-men inim-ju10 an-ki-a
 zae.men inim.ju.(e) an.ki.a
 you.COP word.my.(LT) heaven.earth.LOC

gaba-ri la-ba-e-ni-tuku
 gaba.ri nu.ba.e.ni.tuku
 rival NEG.CN.P2.LOC.have

"You (made) my word have no rival" (IEb 67)

(S (NP-ERG (PRO zae)
 (COP men))
 (NP-LT (N inim)(POS ju)
 (LT *))
 (NP-LOC (N-C (N an)
 (N ki))
 (LOC a))
 (NP-ABS (N-C (N gaba)
 (V ri)))
 (VC-F (NEG nu)
 (CN ba)
 (P2 e)
 (LOC ni)
 (V tuku)))

4.2.1.11 Noun Phrases with Equative Postposition (NP-EQ)

hur-saj il2-la-gin7 ki sikil-la bi2-in-mu2
 hursaj il.a.gin ki sikil.a ba.I.n.mu
 mountain rise.NOM.EQ land pure.LOC CN.LT.Pl.grow

"Like a rising mountain it grows in the pure land" (EnA 38)

(S (NP-ABS *)
 (NP-EQ (N hursaj)
 (MODP (V il)

```

                (NOM a))
            (EQ gin))
(NP-LOC (N ki)
        (MODP (V sikil))
        (LOC a))
(VC-F (CN ba)
      (LT I)
      (Pl n)
      (V mu)))

```

4.2. Measure Noun Phrases (NP-MSR)

4.2.2 Interjection Phrases (INTJP)

4.2.3 Quotation Phrases (QTP)

5. Conjunction

5.1 Word-level Conjunction

5.1.1 Post-positioned Conjunction

(1) -bi-da (lit. “with its...”)

```

{id2}idigna {id2}buranun-bi-da      gud gal-gin7
{id2}idigna {id2}burnun.bi.da.(e)   gud gal.gin
Tigris      Euphrates.and.(ERG)    bull big.EQ

```

```

giri3-bi    nam-mi-in-gub
giri.bi     na.imma.I.n.gub
foot.their MD.CN.LT.Pl.stand

```

“The Tigris and the Euphrates stood like great bulls” (EE 28)

```

(S (NP-ERG (GN idigna)(GN buranun)(CONJ bi.da)
    (ERG *))
  (NP-EQ (N gud)
        (MODP (V gal))
        (EQ gin))
  (NP-ABS (N giri)(POS bi))
  (VC-F (MD na)
        (CN imma)
        (LT I)
        (Pl n)
        (V gub)))

```

(2) -bi without the comitative -da.

an {d}en-lil2 {d}en-ki {d}nin-mah-be2
 an {d}enlil {d}enki {d}ninmah.bi.e
 An Enlil Enki Ninmah.and.ERG

nam-bi ha-ba-tar-re-ec
 nam.bi ha.ba.tar.ec
 N.its MD.CN.cut.PSF

"An, Enlil, Enki, and Ninmah decided its fate" (LSU 55)

(S (NP-ERG (DN an)(DN enlil)(DN enki)(DN Ninmah)(CONJ bi)
 (ERG e))
 (NP-ABS (N nam)(POS bi))
 (VC-F (MD ha)
 (CN ba)
 (V tar)
 (PSF ec)))

5.1.2 Conjunction u3 (N u3 N)

(NP (NS cats) (CONJ and) (NS dogs))

If the conjunction is missing, an empty conjunction (CONJ *) is supplied. The position of (CONJ *) is between the two nouns (NP u3 NP).

ni2 me-lem4-bi an-ne2 im-us2
 ni me.lem.bi an.e i.m.us
 fearsomeness radiance.its heaven.LT CN.m.reach
 (anticipatory genitive?)

"Its fearsomeness and radiance reach up to heaven" (EnA 78)

(S (NP-ABS (N ni)(CONJ *) (N melem)
 (POS bi))
 (NP-LT (N an)
 (LOC e))
 (VC-F (CN i)
 (P1 m)
 (V us)))

5.2 Phrasal Conjunction

(NP (NP (D the) (N cat))
 (CONJP (CONJ and)


```

                (ERG e))
        (CONJP (CONJ u3)
              (NP-ERG (PN PN3)
                    (ERG e)))
(NP-ABS *)
(VC-F (CN i)
      (P1 n)
      (V ba)
      (PSF ene)))

(S (CONJ u)
  (NP-TMP (N egir))
  (NP-ERG *)
  (NP-ABS (N abba)(POS anene))
  (VC-F (CN i)
        (V ba)
        (PSF ene)))

```

6. Empty Categories

The following empty categories are used in the PPCS.

(NP-ERG *), (NP-ABS *), (CONJ *), (ERG *), (DAT *), (LT *), (COM *), (ABL *), (LOC *), (TER *), (GEN *), (CN *)

7. Syntax of the Matrix Clauses

7.1 A matrix clause is labeled S and includes one matrix verb.

7.2 Wh-questions (S-QUE)

(1) aba “who?”

```

a-ba-a  igi im-mi-in-du8-a
aba.e   igi imma.I.n.du.am
who.ERG eye CN.LT.P1.V.COP

```

“Who has ever seen (it)?” (Ag 95)

```

(S-QUE (WNP-ERG (WPRO aba)
             (ERG e))
      (NP-LT *)
      (NP-ABS (N igi))
      (VC-F (CN imma)
            (LT I)
            (P1 n)
            (V du)
            (COP am)))

```

(2) ana “what?”

dumu-ju10 a-na bi2-in-ak
 dumu.ju.(e) ana ba.I.n.ak
 daughter.my.(ERG) what CN.LT.Pl.do

“What did my daughter do?” (ID 218)

(S-QUE (NP-ERG (N dumu)(POS ju)
 (ERG *))
 (WNP-ABS (WPRO ana))
 (VC-F (CN ba)
 (LT I)
 (Pl n)
 (V ak)))

(3) anac, anam “why?”

iri-ta a2-aj2-ja2 a-na-ac mu-e-de6
 iri.ta a.ag.a ana.ece mu.e.de
 city.ABL message why CN.Pl.bring

“Why have you brought the message from the city?” (L2 355)

(S-QUE (NP-ERG *)
 (NP-ABL (N iri)
 (ABL ta))
 (NP-ABS (N-C (N a)
 (V aj)
 (NOM a)))
 (WADV (WPRO ana)(TER ece))
 (VC-F (CN mu)
 (Pl e)
 (V de)))

(4) mece “where?”

nam-kalag-ga-zu me-ce3 ba-an-jen
 nam.kalag.a.zu me.ce ba.n.jen
 strength.your where.TER CN.Pl.go

“Where has your strength gone?” (Ninurta & Turtle 53)

(S-QUE (NP-ABS (N-C (N nam)
 (MODP (V kalag)

(NOM a))
 (POS zu))
 (WADV (WPRO me)(TER ece))
 (VC-F (CN ba)
 (P1 n)
 (V jen)))

(5) anaginam “how?”

a-na-gin7-am za-e ja2-da mu-da-ab-sa2-e
 ana.gin.am zae ja.da mu.da.b.sa.e
 what.EQ.COP you me.COM CN.COM.P1.compare.E

“How can you be compared to me?” (D1 75)

(S-QUE (WADV (WPRO ana)(EQ gin)(COP am))
 (NP-ABS (PRO zae))
 (NP-COM (PRO ja)
 (COM da))
 (VC-F (CN mu)
 (COM da)
 (P1 b)
 (V sa)
 (E e)))

7.3 Imperatives (S-IMP)

Imperative clauses are labeled S-IMP.

nij2-zu2-gub-ju10 cum2-ma-ab
 nij.zu.gub.ju cum.mu.a.b
 food.my give.CN.1SgDAT.P1

“Give me my lunch!” (EdA 20)

(S-IMP (NP-ABS (N-C (N nij)
 (N zu)
 (V gub))
 (POS ju))
 (VC-I (V cum)
 (CN mu)
 (DAT a)
 (P1 b)))

7.4 Direct Speech (-SPE)

me-na-am3 jic-nu2 gi-rin ba-ni-nu2-de3-en
 men.am jic.nu girin.(ak.a) ba.ni.nu.de.en
 when.COP bed flower.(GEN.LOC) CN.LOC.lie down.DE.PSF

bi2-in-dug4
 ba.I.n.dug
 CN.LT.P1.say

"When shall I lie down on a flower-bed? she said" (GE 39)

(S (S-QUE-SPE (NP-ABS *)
 (WADV (WPRO men)(COP am))
 (NP-LOC (NP (N-C (N jic)
 (V nu))
 (NP-GEN (N girin)(GEN *)))
 (LOC *)))
 (VC-F (CN ba)
 (LOC ni)
 (V nu)
 (DE de)
 (PSF en)))
 (NP-ABS *)
 (VC-F (CN ba)
 (LT I)
 (V dug)))

Note the following example where the direct speech is in between the subject and the verb of the main clause.

lu2 iri-ce3 ja2-e ga-jen nu-mu-un-na-ab-be2
 lu iri.ece jae ga.(i).jen nu.mu.na.b.e
 man city.TER I COH.(CN).go NEG.CN.DAT.P1.say

"No one said: 'I will go to the city'" (L2 272)

(S (NP-ABS (N lu))
 (S-SPE (NP-TER (N iri)
 (TER ece))
 (NP-ABS (PRO jae))
 (VC-F (COH ga)
 (CN *)
 (V jen)))
 (VSF (NEG nu)
 (CN mu)
 (DAT na)
 (P1 b)
 (VS e)))

7.5 Appositives and Parentheticals (-PRN)

barag nam-he2 e2-kur e2 za-gin3
 barag namhe.ak ekur e za.gin.(ak)
 dais abundance.GEN Ekur house lapislazuli.(GEN)

sahar-ta ca-ba-ra-an-il2
 sahar.ta ca.ba.ta.n.il
 soil.ABL MD.CN.ABL.Pl.rise

"The dais of abundance, the Ekur, the lapislazuli temple rises from the soil" (EnA 37)

(S (NP-ABS (N barag)
 (NP-GEN (N namhe)(GEN ak))
 (NP-PRN (TN ekur))
 (NP-PRN (N e)
 (NP-GEN (N zagin)(GEN *))))
 (NP-ABL (N sahar)
 (ABL ta))
 (VC-F (MD ca)
 (CN ba)
 (ABL ta)
 (Pl n)
 (V il)))

en {d}gilgamec-e kur lu2-til3-la-ce3
 en {d}gilgamec.e kur lu.til.a.ak.ece
 lord Gilgamesh.ERG mountain man.live.NOM.GEN.TER

jectug2-ga-ni na-an-gub
 jectug.ani na.(i).n.gub
 ear.his MD.(CN*).Pl.stand

"The lord Gilgamesh to the Living One's Mountain did turn his mind"
 (GH A 2)

(S (NP-ERG (N en)
 (NP-PRN (RN gilgamec))
 (ERG e))
 (NP-TER (N kur)
 (NP-GEN (N lu)
 (MODP (V til3)
 (NOM a))
 (GEN ak)))

```

      (TER ece))
(NP-ABS (N jectug)(POS ani))
(VC-F (MD na)
      (CN *)
      (P1 n)
      (V gub)))

```

8. The Syntax of the Nominalized Clauses

Subordinate clauses which are post-positioned by the nominalizer (whether overt or not) are labeled S-NOM.

8.1 In the PPCS, no Wh-Movement is assumed in Sumerian relative clause constructions.

```

game2      lu2-{d}dumu-zi-ke4 in-tuku-a
game       Ludumuzik.e      i.n.tuku.a
slave girl PN.ERG          CN.P1.have.NOM

```

```

ec2-kiri3-ce3 na-ba-du3
ec.kiri.ece   na.ba.du
rope.nose.TER MD.CN detain

```

"He must not hold the slave girl whom Ludumuzik married (bound) to the nose-rope" (TCS1 158:3-6)

```

(S (NP-ERG *)
  (NP-ABS (S-NOM (N game)
                (NP-ERG (PN ludumuzik)
                        (ERG e))
                (VC-F (CN i)
                      (P1 n)
                      (V tuku))
                (NOM a)))
  (NP-TER (N-C (N ec)
              (N kiri))
          (TER ece))
  (VC-F (MD na)
        (CN ba)
        (V du)))

```

```

lugal-ban3-da lu2      numun-e ki      aj2-am3
lugalbanda   lu.(e)   numun.e ki      aj.a.(e).am
RN           man.(ERG) seed.LT ground measure.NOM.(ERG).COP

```

```

cu   nu-um-ma-gid2-de3

```

cu nu.imma.gid.e
hand NEG.CN.strech.E

"Lugalbanda, the man who loves the seed, will not accept (it)"
(Lugalbanda 2:148)

(S (NP-ERG (RN lugalbanda)
 (NP-PRN (S-NOM (NP-ERG (N lu)(ERG *))
 (NP-LT (N numun)(LT e))
 (NP-ABS (N ki)
 (VC-N (V aj)
 (NOM a))
 (ERG *)
 (COP am))
 (NP-LT *)
 (NP-ABS (N cu))
 (VC-F (NEG nu)
 (CN imma)
 (V gid)
 (E e)))

arad lu2-u3 u2 il2-i-de3 jen-a
arad lu.e u il.e.de jen.a.(e)
slave man.ERG firewood carry.e.de went.NOM.(ERG)

uc2-am3 i3-nag-nag
uc.am i.nag.nag
blood.COP CN.drink.drink

"The slave, the man who went to carry firewood, drank blood" (Ick
133)

(S (NP-ERG (N arad)
 (NP-PRN (S-NOM (NP-ERG (N lu)(ERG e))
 (S-DE-PRP (NP-ABS (N u))
 (VC-N (V il)
 (E e))
 (DE de))
 (VC-N (V jen))
 (NOM a)))
 (ERG *))
 (NP-ABS (N uc)(COP am))
 (VC-F (CN i)
 (VR nag.nag)))

lu2 si-sa2 iri-ne2 ki aj2-e

lu si.sa.(e) iri.ni.e ki aj.(a).e
 man just.(ERG) city.his.LT love.(NOM).ERG

"The just man who loves his city" (Gudea St D ii 4-5)

(NP-ERG (S-NOM (NP-ERG (N lu)
 (MODP (N si)
 (V sa))
 (ERG *)))
 (NP-LT (N iri)(POS ani)
 (LT e))
 (NP-ABS (N ki))
 (VC-N (V aj))
 (NOM *)
 (ERG e)))

a-na-am3 nig2 ma-ab-be2-en-na-a
 ana.am nig mu.a.b.e.en.a.am
 what.COP thing CN.1SgDAT.P1.tell.PSF.NOM.COP

"What is the thing that you are telling me?" (D2 7)

(S-QUE (WNP-ABS (WPRO ana))
 (COP am)
 (NP-ERG (S-NOM (NP-ERG *)
 (NP-ABS (N nig))
 (VC-F (CN mu)
 (DAT a)
 (P1 b)
 (VS e)
 (PSF en))
 (NOM a))
 (ERG *)
 (COP am)))

8.2 That Clauses (S-NOM-THT)

PN₁ dam-ce3 ha-tuku bi2-in-dug4-ga PN₂ PN₃ nam-erim2-am3
 PN₁ dam.ece ha.(i).tuku ba.I.n.dug.a PN₂ PN₃ namerim.am
 PN₁ wife.TER MD.(CN).have CN.LT.say.NOM PN₂ PN₃ swear.COP

"PN₂ (and) PN₃ swore that PN₁ declared: 'I will marry (her)'" (NG 15:6-9, 16:6-11)

(S (S-NOM-THT (NP-ABS (PN PN₁)
 (S-SPE (NP-ERG *)
 (NP-ABS *)))

(NP-TER (N dam)
 (TER ece))
 (VC-F (MD he)
 (CN *)
 (V tuku))
 (VC-F (CN ba)
 (LT I)
 (Pl n)
 (V dug))
 (NOM a))
 (NP-ERG (PN PN₂)(CONJ *) (PN PN₃)(ERG *))
 (NP-ABS (N namerim))
 (VC *)
 (COP am))

ud 1-am3 ga2-la nu-dag-da mu lugal-bi i3-pad3
 ud 1.am gala nu.(i).dag.de.a mu lugal.bi.(ak) i.pad
 day 1.COP N NEG.(CN).V.DE.NOM name king.its.(GEN) CN.V

“He (the borrower) swore by the name of the king that he (the pledged) would not stop working (even) one day” (Steinkeller, Ur III p. 68)

(S (NP-ERG *)
 (S-NOM-THT (NP-ERG *)
 (NP-MSR (N ud)(NUM 1)(COP am))
 (NP-ABS (N gala))
 (VC-F (NEG nu)
 (CN *)
 (V dag)
 (DE de))
 (NOM a))
 (NP-ABS (N mu)
 (NP-GEN (N lugal)(POS bi)(GEN *)))
 (VC-F (CN i)
 (V pad)))

8.3. Adverbial Clauses (S-ADV)

(1) ud...V-a-ta “when, after...”

ud henbur2.e ki im-ma-ab-dar-ra-ta
 ud henbur.e ki imma.b.dar.a.ta
 day seedling.ERG ground CN.Pl.break.NOM.ABL

sizkur2 {d}nin-kilim-ke4 dug4-ga-ab
 sizkur {d}ninkilim.ak.e dug.a.b
 prayer Ninkilim.GEN.LT say.CN(?) .P1

"When the seedlings break open the ground, say the prayer of Ninkilim" (FI 64f.)

(S (S-ADV (N ud)
 (S-NOM (NP-ERG (N henbur)(ERG e))
 (NP-ABS (N ki))
 (VC-F (CN imma)
 (P1 b)
 (V dar))
 (NOM a))
 (ABL ta))
 (NP-LT (N sizkur)
 (NP-GEN (DN ninkilim)(GEN ak))
 (LT e))
 (VC-I (V dug)
 (CN a)
 (P1 b)))

(2) (bar)...V-a-ak-ece "because..."

me-za igi mi-ni-ib-il2-la-ke4-ec
 me.zu.a igi mu.ni.b.il.a.ak.ece
 ME.your.LOC eye CN.LOC.P1.raise.NOM.GEN.TER

"Because I looked at your ME" (LA 164)

(S (S-ADV (N *bar*)
 (NP-GEN (S-NOM (NP-ERG *)
 (NP-LOC (N me)(POS zu)
 (LOC a))
 (NP-ABS (N igi))
 (VC-F (CN mu)
 (LOC ni)
 (P1 b)
 (V il))
 (NOM a))
 (GEN ak))
 (TER ece))

(3) V-a-POS-ne (de3)

za-e {jic}bancur-ra gal2-la-zu-ne
 zae {jic}bancur.a gal.a.zu.ne
 you table.LOC be there.NOM.your.ne

"When you are on the table"(LA 160)

(S (S-ADV (S-NOM (NP-ERG *)
 (NP-ABS (PRO zae))
 (NP-LOC (N bancur)
 (LOC a))
 (VC-N (V gal))
 (NOM a))
 (POS zu)
 (NE ne))

9. Clauses with Complementizer tukumbi "if" (C tukumbi)

tukum-bi kur-ra i3-ni-in-ku4-ku4-de3
 tukumbi kur.a i.ni.n.ku.ku.de
 if mountain.LOC CN.LOC.P1.enter.enter.DE

{d}utu he2-me-da-an-zu
 {d}utu.(da) he.mu.e.da.n.zu
 Utu.(COM) MD.CN.P2.COM.P1.know

"If you (have to) enter the mountain, you should inform Utu (of it)"

(S (S-ADV (C tukumbi)
 (S-SUB (NP-ABS *)
 (NP-LOC (N kur)
 (LOC a))
 (VC-F (CN i)
 (LOC ni)
 (P1 n)
 (VR ku.ku)
 (DE de))))
 (NP-ERG *)
 (NP-COM (DN utu)(COM *))
 (NP-ABS *)
 (VC-F (MD he)
 (CN mu)
 (P2 e)
 (COM da)
 (P1 n)
 (V zu)))

10. V-(e)-de3 “in order to...” (S-DE-PRP)

e2 du3-de3
 e du.de
 house build.DE

igi-zu u3 dug3-ga nu-ci-ku4-ku4
 igi.zu u dug.a nu.(i).ci.ku.ku
 eye.your N good.NOM NEG.(CN).TER.enter.enter

“In order to build the house you did not sleep well” (Gudea CylA 6:11)

(S (S-DE-PRP (NP-ABS (N e))
 (VC-N (V du))
 (DE de))
 (NP-ERG (N igi)(POS zu)
 (ERG *))
 (NP-ABS (N u)
 (MODP (V dug)
 (NOM a)))
 (VC-F (NEG nu)
 (CN *)
 (TER ci)
 (VR ku.ku)))

11. Emphatic Copula**(1) Finite verbs with copula**

lugal-ni-ir ud-de3 mac-ji6-ka
 lugal.ani.ra ud.e mac.jik.a
 king.his.DAT day.LT dream.LOC

gu3-de2-a en {d}nin-gir2-su-ra igi mu-ni-du8-am3
 Gudea en {d}nin.gir.su.ra igi mu.ni.du.am
 Gudea lord ningirsu.DAT eye CN.LOC.V.COP

“Gudea saw his king, the lord Ningirsu, on the day in a dream”
 (Gudea CylA I:17-18)

(S (NP-DAT (NP (N lugal)(POS ani))
 (DAT ra))
 (NP-PRN-1 *ICH*)
 (NP-LT-TMP (N ud)

```

                (LT e))
(NP-LOC (N macjik)
        (LOC a))
(NP-ERG (PN gudea)(ERG *))
(NP-PRN-1 (NP-DAT (N en)
                 (NP-PRN (DN ningirsu))
                 (DAT ra)))
(NP-ABS (N igi))
(VC-F (CN mu)
      (LOC ni)
      (V du)
      (COP am)))

```

(2) Subjects with the copula

```

sipa-me          e2      mu-du3
sipa.men         e       mu.du
shepherd.1SgCOP house CN.build

```

"I, the shepherd have built the house" (Gudea CylB ii:5)

```

(S (NP-ERG (N sipa)(ERG *)
        (COM men))
  (NP-ABS (N e2))
  (VC-F (CN mu)
        (V du3)))

```

(3) Oblique phrases with the copula

```

ja2-am3 me-na-am3 cag4 {d}cul-gi lugal-ju10
me.COP  when.COP  heart Shulgi  king.my.(GEN)

```

```

ki-bi          ha-ma-gi4-gi4
ground.its.LT MD.CN.1SgDAT.return.return

```

"As for me, when will the heart of Shulgi, my king return to me?" (LetB 1.26)

```

(S-QUE (NP-DAT (PRO ja)(DAT *)
            (COP am))
      (WADV (WADV men)
            (COP am))
      (NP-ABS (N cag)
              (NP-GEN (RN culgi)
                      (NP-PRN (N lugal)(POS ju)))

```

```

                                (GEN *)))
(NP-LT (NP (N ki)(POS bi))
      (LT e))
(VC-F (MD ha)
      (CN mu)
      (DAT a)
      (VR gi.gi)))

```

(4) Wh-pronoun with the copula

```

a-ba-me-en za-e
aba.men     zae
who.2SgCOP you

```

"Who are you?" (ID 80)

```

(S-QUE (WNP-ABS (WPRO aba))
      (COP men)
      (NP-ERG (PRO zae)))

```

(5) Cardinal numbers with the copula

```

tu{mucen} min-nam     igi-ba           cembi  ba-ni-jar
tu{mucen} min.am     igi.bi.a        cembi  ba.ni.jar
pigeon     two.3SgCOP eye.their.LOC kohl  CN.LOC.put

```

"Two pigeons, on their eyes he put kohl" (Ean.1xviii:2-3)

```

(S (NP-LFD-1 (N tu)(NUM min)(COP am))
  (NP-LOC (N igi)(NP-POS-RSP=1 (POS bi))
        (LOC a))
  (NP-ABS (N cembi))
  (VC-F (CN ba)
        (LOC ni)
        (V jar)))

```

(6) Ordinal numbers with the copula

```

min-kam          ur-saj-ja2-am3 a2  mu-gur
min.ak.am        ursaj.am          a  mu.gur
two.GEN.3SgCOP  hero.3SgCOP   arm CN.bend

```

"Secondly, the hero bent (his) arm" (Gudea CylA v:2-3)

```

(S (NP-ADV (NUM min)(GEN ak)(COP am))

```

(NP-ERG (N ursaj)(ERG *)
 (COP am))
(NP-ABS (N a))
(VC-F (CN mu)
 (V gur))