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Possessive constructions in Tongugbe, an Ewe dialect

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1. Nar Fam.flextext (Narrating the deaf play)

fémó ee enū-ó kíyíé mí kpó fié`
 Famor ee thing-ART.DEF this PRO.1PL see now
 Famor what we just saw

1

ewò yé gblò enū yíé tútútú kpó lé nònòmetátá kíyíé vá yì
 PRO.2SG FOC tell thing this exactly PRO.2SG.see at image this VENT go
dzí nú

upper.section DAT-PRO.1SG
 tell me exactly what you saw in the film

2

3

lè nònòmetátá kíyíé-ó vá yì mè-é
 be.at image this-PL VENT go interior.section-FOC
 in the film that was just shown

4

mè kpó bé ñùtsù álé tsó agblè-mè vá
 PRO.1SG see QUOT man ART.INDF from farm-interior.section come
 I saw that a certain man came back from farm

5

6

váyì wò dō dēdē té ñú wò vá vá nò
 ALTR do work fatigue press-PRO.3SG skin PRO.3SG come VENT be.at:PST
anyī
 ground

he went to work he was tired he came to sit down

7

8

9

wò dókóé-é vēvēvē
 do REFL-ART.DEF little.by.little
 stretched himself a little

10

kò edò há nó wù tá
 then hunger also COP -PRO.3SG kill-PROG so
 and since he was hungry as well

11

kò wò yó srò-ó bé né vá dō kplǎ
 then PRO.3SG call-HAB spouse-ART.DEF QUOT PRO.3SG.IMP VENT put table
 he call his wife so she sets the dinning table

12

wò vá dō kplǎ né wò tsó asī hé kló
 PRO.3SG VENT put table DAT.PRO.3SG PRO.3SG take hand IT wash
 she came to set the dinning table before him he washed his hands

13

14

wò nù tsì-é vī alē
 PRO.3SG drink water-ART.DEF small ART.INDF
 he drank a little water

15

kò wò dzè nū-ó qù~qǔ dzí
 then PRO.3SG be.in.contact.with thing-ART.DEF RED~eat upper.section
 and he started eating

16

kò wò lé qǔ wò lé qǔ
 then PRO.3SG COP-PRO.3SG eat-PROG PRO.3SG COP-PRO.3SG eat-PROG
 nyúíé fányì
 well fine
 he ate and ate really well

17

mè kpó bé é vè lé né vɛvɛvɛ
 PRO.1SG see QUOT PRO.3SG throat hold-PROG DAT.PRO.3SG little.by.little
 I saw that he almost got choked

18

kò wò tró
 then PRO.3SG turn
 then after that he

19

tsó tsi-é qè kó kpàlà é dzí-í
 take water-ART.DEF some take rinse PRO.3SG upper.surface-FOC
 he used water to calm it

20

kò wò qù-í nyúíé fányì enū-ó há víví né
 then PRO.3SG eat-PRO.3SG well fine thing-ART.DEF also sweet DAT.PRO.3SG
 so he ate really well, enjoyed his meal

21

wò qó fò kò
 PRO.3SG full stomach then
 he was satisfied; then

22

mè kpó bé vī alē vī alē tsí wó
 PRO.1SG see QUOT small ART.INDF small ART.INDF stay PRO.3PL
 I saw that he had leftovers between

23

áqúté-mè wò qé fast
 tooth-inside PRO.3SG remove-PRO.3SG fast
 his teeth; he quickly took it off

24

kò ké-ò qé vò-á yékò
 then as-PRO.3SG remove-PRO.3SG finish-TOP and.then
 and taking it off

25

wò kpó bé fífíé yè qó fò yékò wò yó
 PRO.3SG see QUOT now PRO.LOG full stomach and.then PRO.3SG call
 when he realized that he was okay, he called his

26

srò-ó bé né vá fò nū-ó kó yì
 spouse-ART.DEF QUOT 3SG.IMP come pick thing-ART.DEF take go
 wife to come and clear the table

27

wò vá fò-é kó yì esrò-ó vā bíé
 PRO.3SG come pick-PRO.3SG take go spouse-ART.DEF VENT ask-PRO.3SG
 bé oo

QUOT oh
 she cleared it all; the wife asked him that

28

29

é dū nū-ó qó fò nyúíé haa
 PRO.3SG eat thing-ART.DEF full stomach well PART
 was he satified?

30

wò bé oo yè qó fò
 PRO.3SG QUOT oh PRO.LOG full stomach
 he answered that yes he was satisfied

31

é ká lé dzí ha wò bé oo yè ká
 PRO.3SG swear at.PRO.3SG upper.section PART PRO.3SG QUOT oh PRO.LOG swear
 lé dzí páá
 at.PRO.3SG upper.section very.much
 was he sure? he said he was very sure

32

kò wò fò nū-ó kó yì
 then PRO.3SG pick thing-ART.DEF take go
 so she cleared the table

33

yé-ò bé né-ò yì vò-á né wò à-vá
 and-PRO.3SG QUOT when-PRO.3SG go finish-TOP then PRO.3SG SUBJ-come
 he asked that she came back after she deposited the things

34

Ké-ò vá yé-ò bíé bé yè ví
 when-PRO.3SG come and-PRO.3SG ask.PRO.3SG QUOT PRO.LOG child
 nyànùví-é lé haa

girl-ART.DEF Q PART

when she came back he asked if his daughter was around

35

36

wò bé lé wò bé né yó-é né
 PRO.3SG QUOT-PRO.3SG be.at.PRO.3SG PRO.3SG QUOT 3SG.IMP call-PRO.3SG DAT
 yè

PRO.LOG

she answered that she was around and he asked for her to be called

37

dèví-é vá wò tsó gbè hē dó né
 child-ART.DEF come PRO.3SG take voice IT put.on DAT.PRO.3SG
 when the child came, she greeted him

38

wò bíé bé fí haa wò bé
 PRO.3SG ask-PRO.3SG QUOT-PRO.3SG wake.up PART PRO.3SG QUOT
yè fí
 PRO.LOG wake.up

he asked how she was doing, and she said she was doing fine

39

é dū nū haa wò bé yè dū-í é dḡ
 PRO.3SG eat thing PART PRO.3SG QUOT PRO.LOG eat-PRO.3SG PRO.3SG full
fò haa

stomach PART

has she eaten yet? she answered yes. Was she satisfied?

40

41

wó bé ooo yè tàté yè-ó làmè sé
 PRO.3PL QUOT oh PRO.LOG father PRO.LOG-POSS body.inside strong
nyúíé

well

she said father, i am feeling good

42

43

yé-ò gblò-é né bé yè flè aló yè tsó
 and-PRO.3SG tell-PRO.3SG DAT.PRO.3SG QUOT PRO.LOG buy or PRO.LOG take
 he then told her that he had bought or he had brought

44

45

agbalē alē-ó vé né
 book ART.INDF-PL come-PRO.3SG DAT.PRO.3SG
 some books for her

46

wò bé né yè haa? tàtē-á bé oo yé yó
 PRO.3SG QUOT DAT PRO.LOG PART father-ART.DEF QUOT oh PRO.3SG FOC
 she asked if it was really all meant for her the father said yes, all for her

47

48

wò tsó-é né
 PRO.3SG take-PRO.3SG DAT.PRO.3SG

he gave it to her

49

wò bé é lè nū srí yé haa
 PRO.3SG QUOT PRO.3SG COP thing learn-PROG FOC PART
 he asked her if she was studying hard

50

wò bé yè lé srí. é lè amè
 PRO.3SG QUOT PRO.LOG COP-PRO.3SG learn-PROG PRO.3SG COP person
bú haa

respect-PROG PART

she said yes she was studying hard. Was she being polite?

51

wò bé yè éé

PRO.3SG QUOT PRO.LOG yes

she yes yes

52

**nàñě-á lé bíé bé nyá sě
haa**

PART

the mother asked her if she was paying attention

53

wò bé yè lé sě

PRO.3SG QUOT PRO. LOG COP-PRO.3SG hear-PROG

she replied she was

54

kò wó tsó-é né kò é vīvī né

then PRO.3PL take-PRO.3SG DAT.PRO.3SG then PRO.3SG sweet-PROG DAT.PRO.3SG

so they gave them to her and she was happy about it

55

kò wò wò atú né nàñě-á wò váyì dzò kplá né

then PRO.3SG do hug DAT mother-ART.DEF PRO.3SG ALTR jump touch DAT

then she hugged her mother and jumped into the arms

56

57

wó tàtè há

POSS father also

of her father as well

58

yé kò wó qè asī lé nū bé á-tá yì

so then PRO.3PL remove hand at.PRO.3SG skin QUOT PRO.3SG.POT-can go

they then allowed her to go back

59

kò ké-ò yì vò-á yé kò nyànù-ó bíé esrò-ó

then as-PRO.3SG go finish-TOP and then woman-ART.DEF ask spouse-ART.DEF

when she had left, the woman asked her husband

60

61

62

bé alò mé lè é tsó m-ó ha

QUOT sleep NEG COP PRO.3SG take PROG-NEG Q

if he was not feeling sleepy

63

wò bé lè yè tsó tá ké

PRO.3SG QUOT-PRO.3SG COP PRO.LOG take-PROG so then

he said he was, so

64

yè-ó à-yì xò-mè né wó á-váyì mló anyī

PRO.LOG-PL SUBJ-go room-inside so PRO.3PL POT-ALTR lie ground

they should go into the room and sleep

65

- wó váyì mló anyĩ-é vò fifié ɲù vá kè**
 PRO.3PL ALTR lie ground-ART.DEF finish now day VENT open
 after they had slept the next day
 66 67
qèví-é vá yì sùkú
 child-ART.DEF VENT go school
 the child went to school
 68
kò enū-ó kiyié wó tsó né-á é lè
 then thing-ART.DEF this PRO.3PL take DAT-PRO.3SG-TOP PRO.3SG COP
vìvĩ né
 sweet-PROG DAT.PRO.3SG
 and what was given her was exciting her
 69
wó tó-ó há wó mé tsó qèké vá yí
 PRO.3PL PRO.PR-PL also PRO.3PL NEG take none VENT go
 her colleagues however did not bring any
 70
Sùkú-ó mè-ò
 school-ART.DEF interior.section-NEG
 to school
 71
ké-ò vá yì-á oo é vá` dókóé-é
 as-PRO.3SG VENT go-TOP oh PRO.3SG VENT-COP-PRO.3SG REFL-ART.DEF
tsí lé sùkú xòmè
 grow-PROG at school room-inside
 so when she went, she started bragging in the classroom
 72 73
é-kiyié mé lè miè sí-ò é lè yè
 PRO.3SG-this NEG be.at PRO.2PL hand-NEG PRO.3SG be.at PRO.LOG
qèkǎ yè sí
 one PRO.LOG hand
 what you do not have, she is the only one who has it
 74
kò ké-ò nò é-kámá-ò fíó wǒ é nò
 then as-PRO.3SG COP:PST PRO.3SG-that-PL all do-PROG PRO.3SG COP:PST
dò-mè vǔ né-ó tó-ó
 stomach-interior.section pain-PROG DAT-PRO.3PL PRO.PR-PL
 as she did all that, her colleagues were not happy about it
 75
kò qèkǎ qèkò wò tsó kò zò tè ko tó wó mègbé kò
 then one just PRO.3SG get.up then walk straight then pass POSS back then
 one of then just got up, walked straight to her and went behind her
 76 77
vá dà dzò wó ágbálé-á qèkǎ
 come throw fire POSS book-ART.DEF one
 and snatched one of her books

78

káká wò bé yè à-tró álié hé
 just.before PRO.3SG QUOT PRO.LOG SUBJ-turn this.way TOP
 before she could turn this way

79

amè búbù há gá fò é-ké wó tsó ké
 person another also REP pick PRO.3SG-this PRO.3PL take this
 some other person took this, picked that

80

wó afòkpà yéyé yié né-ó flè né há
 POSS footwear new this that-PRO.3PL buy DAT.PRO.3SG also
má lé lá sī-à
 2SG.NEG-SUBJ hold-PRO.3SG at hand-Q
 instead of holding her new shoes in hand

81

wó gá tsó-é bé yè à-dà
 PRO.3SG REP take-PRO.3SG QUOT PRO.LOG POT-throw
 she tried throwing it

82

hátí-é nyànùvì há vá tsó dèkà
 colleague-ART.DEF girl also VENT take one
 a colleague girl came to pick one of the pair

83

kò wó há vá lè é flū
 then PRO.3PL also VENT COP PRO.3SG mock-PROG
 there they also started teasing her

84

kò mé dìdì fú háfí wó núfíálá vá gé lé
 then NEG take.long too.much before PRO.3PL teacher VENT drop at
 not long after, their teacher came in

85

wó dzí lé sukú-xó-me-ò
 PRO.3PL upper.section at school-house-interior.section-NEG
 on them in the classroom

86

yé-ò bíé-ó bé wò vá bíé nyànùvì-é bé
 and-PRO.3SG ask-PRO.3PL QUOT PRO.3SG VENT ask girl-ART.DEF QUOT
 she asked them,she asked the girl about

87

88

nūká-é lè dzòdzò lé-ó dzí haa
 what-FOC COP RED~happen-PROG at-PRO.3PL upper.section Q
 what was happening with them

89

yé-ò fíé asī amé kíyíé vá dà dzò agbālè-á
and-PRO.3SG show hand person this VENT throw fire book-ART.DEF
gbā-tó-é

first-PRO.PR-FOC

the girl pointed at the person who first snatched the book

90

wò fíé asī-í né bé é vá dà dzò
PRO.3SG show hand-FOC DAT.PRO.3SG QUOT PRO.3SG VENT throw fire
yé-ò agbálé

PRO.LOG-POSS book

she pointed at him, that he had snatched her book

91

92

nūfíélá bíé wò bé kpáo mé lè é
teacher ask-PRO.3SG PRO.3SG QUOT never 3SG.NEG be.at PRO.3SG

mè-ò

interior.section-NEG

the teacher asked but he denied

93

wò bé ká lé dzí ha. wò bé
PRO.3SG QUOT-PRO.3SG swear be.at.PRO.3SG upper.section Q PRO.3SG QUOT

she asked if he was sure he said

94

95

éé yè ká lé dzí bé mé lè
yes PRO.LOG swear at.PRO.3SG upper.section QUOT 3SG.NEG be.at

é mè-ò

PRO.3SG interior.section-NEG

yes, he was sure it was false

96

ké né wò ɲǎ è kpó like né è kpó alé nū-ó
then if PRO.3SG INT PRO.2SG see like if PRO.2SG see manner thing-ART.DEF

vá yì dé alé è bù bé é là kó wù nu
VENT go Q how PRO.2SG think QUOT PRO.3SG POT take kill mouth

if you observe the actions critically, how do you think it will all end?

lè é nuwuwú-é

be.at PRO.3SG end-FOC

at the end

99

lé wò súsú mè alé è là kpó bé é
at PRO.3SG brain interior.section how PRO.2SG POT see QUOT PRO.3SG

là vá wu nu-ó

POT VENT kill mouth-Q

according to you, how will it all end up?

le nyè súsú mè-é mè kpó bé

be.at PRO.1SG brain interior.section-FOC PRO.1SG see QUOT

according to my thinking I forsee that

101

102

nũfiélá là gá yì dzí á-bíé bé nè ká lé
 teacher POT REP go upper.section SUBJ-ask QUOT FOC swear at-PRO.3SG
dzí bé mé yè-í tsó-é-ò ha
 upper.section QUOT NEG PRO.LOG-FOC take-PRO.3SG-NEG Q
 the teacher will go on to ask if he was sure he was sure he was not the one who
 took it

103

mè kpó bé dèví-é à-dó ñú bé éhoo
 PRO.1SG see QUOT child-ART.DEF POT-answer PRO.3SG-skin QUOT no
 i think the child will respond no

104

vò amé yié wó nú yó-é
 finish person this POSS thing FOC-FOC
 but the person to whom the thing belongs

105

yé há à-gblò-é bé yé-é tsó-é
 PRO.3SG also POT-tell-PRO.3SG QUOT PRO.3SG-FOC take-PRO.3SG
 she will also insist that he took it

106

é fié bé wó à-vá á-bíé
 PRO.3SG show QUOT PRO.3PL POT-come SUBJ-ask
 so they will ask then

107

né dāsé álé lè-ó sí-á wó á-dó
 if witness ART.INDF be.at-PRO.3PL hand-TOP PRO.3PL POT-response
ñú
 PRO.3SG-skin

if they have witnesses they will answer

108

109

ná mé kéké vá dzè àgò-é wá hè tò
 if person any VENT be.in.contact.with fault-FOC PRO.3PL-POT pull ear
 and the person who is found culpable will be punished

110

né lé akpā má mè
 DAT.PRO.3SG at side that interior.section
 in that regard

111

ké dèví-é kiyié wó nú nyó wó xò lé sí
 then child-ART.DEF this POSS thing be PRO.3PL receive at.PRO.3SG hand
fié né-ò yì afè-mè dé nūká là dzò-ó
 now when-PRO.3SG go house-interior.section FOC what POT happen-Q
 what will happen to child from whom the items were taken when she goes back
 home?

112

né yì afè-mè-é
 if-PRO.3SG go house-interior.section-FOC
 when she goes home

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113

wó tàtè má tsó-é á-ké-ò
 POSS father NEG-POT take-PRO.3SG SUBJ-forgive-NEG
 her father will not pardon her

114

é là bé mé lí-é be né nū-ò
 PRO.3SG POT QUOT 3SG.NEG hold-HAB care DAT thing-NEG
 he will say that she is careless

115

lé nūká tá yó
 at what head FOC
 why?

tá yé há là hè tò né nyúíé fányì
 so PRO.3SG also POT pull ear DAT.PRO.3SG well fine
 so he will punish her very well

116

le álé wò váyì wò dò vá flè nū má né kplí gà
 at how PRO.3SG ALTR do work VENT buy thing that DAT.PRO.3SG and money
 due to the fact that he toiled to buy her the items

119

wò à-váyì tsó-é dà lé wó tó-ó
 PRO.3SG POT-ALTR take-PRO.3SG throw at-PRO.3SG PRO.3PL PRO.PR-PL
á-vá tsó lé gbó
 SUBJ-VENT take at.PRO.3SG vicinity

and she left it for her colleagues to take away from her

120

á-gblò bé tá mé lè yè nù bù m-ó
 3SG.POT-say QUOT that 3SG.NEG COP PRO.LOG skin think PROG.NEG
 he will say that she does not appreciate his efforts

121

tá á-hè tò né nyúíé fányì lé gò má mè
 so 3SG.POT-pull ear DAT.PRO.3SG well fine at side that interior.section
 so he will punish her in that regard

122

akpe
 thanks

2. Sto/Viv.flextext (A spontaneously invented folktale)

mí dzè' gòmè
 PRO.1PL be.in.contact.with-PRO.3SG below.section

let us start.

1

mè bé má tó gli ná`
 PRO.1SG QUOT PRO.1SG-SUBJ pound folktale DAT-PRO.2SG

I want to tell you a story.

2

Egli-é né vá né mí-á sè
 folktale-ART.DEF IMP come so PRO.1PL-SUBJ hear

we are ready to hear the story.

3

Egli-á nyé bé
 folktale-ART.DEF be QUOT

this is the story:

4

kèsé bōsò wó nyé xlò ké gbè dèkǎ-é kèsé vá gblò né
 monkey whale PRO.3PL be friend then day one-FOC monkey VENT tell DAT
 monkey; whale; they are friends. Then one day, the monkey came to tell

5 6 7 8 9

bōsò lè tò tó bé né vá kpó yè gbó lá
 whale be.at river edge QUOT 3SG.IMP come see PRO.LOG vicinity PART
 Tthe whale by the riverside that he should visit him.

10

11

fífíé alé bōsò á-wò káfí á-yì kèsé gbó-é
 now how whale SUBJ-do before SUBJ-go monkey vicinity-FOC
 now the means by which the whale will go to the money

12

é vá sésē né kèsé vē
 PRO.3SG VENT-COP strong-PROG DAT monkey little
 became a difficulty for the monkey.

13

yé kèsé gblò né bōsò bé né tró yì ñkèkè tó gbé
 then monkey tell DAT whale QUOT 3SG.IMP turn go daytime third day
 then the monkey told the whale that he should return on the third day

14

15

16

né yè là vá alé wò là wò á-vá yè gbó
 so PRO.LOG POT VENT how PRO.3SG POT do SUBJ-come PRO.LOG vicinity
 he will come, the means by which he will come to his end

17

18

yè le fié gbé ké eñù kè tútútú kò-à yékò
 PRO.LOG COP-PRO.3SG show PROSP then day open exactly then-TOP and.then
 he will teach him. Then exactly the day after, then

19

20

21

kèsé wáyì tsó agblè-nū kó yì tsò tó-ó nu
 monkey ALTR take farm-thing take IT cut river-ART.DEF mouth
 the monkey took a hoe and went to the bank of the river

22 23
wò nò edò kũ ví ví ví
 PRO.3SG COP:PST hole dig-PROG little little little
 and started digging little by little.

24
né kù dò-ó' vɛ̀ kò tsì-é hã vá
 if-PRO.3SG drive hole-ART.DEF a.little then water-ART.DEF too come
 whenever he dug a little, there was a little water in it.

25
me né kù dò-ó' vɛ̀ kò
 PRO.3SG-interior.section if-PRO.3SG drive hole-ART.DEF little then
tsìé xá
 water-ART.DEF gather
wò le dò má kù' ví ví ví etsì-é le
 PRO.3SG COP hole that dig-PROG little little little water-ART.DEF COP
mè vá vù kékéké kó vá kèsé wá
 PRO.3SG-interior.section come-PROG until until take come monkey POSS
tī-é gòmè
 stick-ART.DEF below.section
 he dug little by little, and with the water filling the holes, he managed to
 get the river extended to under the tree

26
yékò enù-ó gá kè , nyé ɲkèkè tó gbè kò wò
 then daylight-ART.DEF REP open be daytime third day then PRO.3SG
 then, the next day, three days later,

27
váyí gblò-é né bōsò bè fifíé á-tá vá yè gbó
 ALTR tell-PRO.3SG DAT whale QUOT now SUBJ-can come PRO.LOG vicinity
 he went to tell the whale that he can now come to his place.

28
kò bōsò-ó zò etsì-é dzí vū kò vá kèsé
 then whale-ART.DEF walk water-ART.DEF upper.section until then come monkey
 then the whale swam to the monkey's.

29
gbó ké bōsò và kèsé gbó-é
 vicinity when whale come monkey vicinity-FOC
 when the whale came to the monkey,

30
wó kó akòdí álé kó dà lé atī álé
 PRO.3PL take banana ART.INDF take throw at stick ART.INDF
dzí
 upper.section
 a banana was placed on a certain tree.

31

kè kèsé nyá vè vli vē yékò yé vù dù váí tsó
when monkey MOD play play little then PRO.3SG run race ALTR take
after playing for a while, the monkey went for

32

kòdji-é lè dūqū yé bōsò biè bé oo
banana-ART.DEF COP eat~eat-PROG and whale ask-PRO.3SG QUOT oh
the banana and started eating. Then the whale asked him: oo

33

nòví-nyè mà tsó nū-ó dèké nú mà
sibling-PRO.1SG 2SG-POT take thing-ART.DEF none DAT PRO.1SG-Q
my brother, will you not give me some of the food?

34

yé-ó bé yè-ó yè-ó dé yè-ó núqú
and-PRO.3SG QUOT PRO.LOG-PL PRO.LOG-PL hometown PRO.LOG-PL food
η-kíyé
be-this

he replied that, for them, this is their only meal

35

lè wó há wó dé'
be.at PRO.3PL also PRO.3PL hometown-FOC
as for them,

36

dè-ó nò tsàtsā lé tò-mè
FOC-PRO.3PL COP:PST roam-roam-PROG at river-interior.section
they roam in water.

37

yé tá ke-ó lè gíyíé'
PRO.3SG so as-PRO.3SG be.at here-FOC
so then, even as he was there

38

nànéké mé lè tò-mè yè là kó né
nothing NEG be.at river-interior.section PRO.LOG POT take DAT.PRO.3SG
there was nothing in the river he could give him.

39

Hàlèké-ò yékò bōsò dó dzikū enū yíé wò à-kpó kò-à
yet-NEG then whale put.on anger thing this PRO.3SG POT-see then-TOP
the whale then got angry before he could say utter a word,

40

kèsé klé kòdji-é hé dū fíóó
monkey peel banana-ART.DEF IT eat all
the monkey peeled and ate all the banana.

42

yékò bōsò dó dzikū kò dzó. ké bōsò dzó-é
then whale put.on anger then leave then whale leave-FOC
the whale got angry and left. when the whale left,

43

44

bōsò wó súsú váyì gblò né yé bé eyè yè xló
 whale POSS brain ALT tell DAT PRO.3SG QUOT PRO. LOG PRO.LOG friend
má nyé kèsé-é

that be monkey-FOC

the whale conceived of the idea that, that friend of his, the monkey,

45

46

yè là blé á-kó vá yè gbó
 PRO.LOG POT deceive-PRO.3SG SUBJ-take come PRO.LOG vicinity
 he was going to deceive him to his place.

47

né yè blé vá yè gbó kò-à yè
 when PRO.LOG deceive-PRO.3SG come PRO.LOG vicinity then-TOP PRO.LOG
gbó wù gbé
 come PRO.3SG.kill PROSP

If he managed to lure him to his place, he will then kill him.

48

ké kèsé yé mé nyá nànéké ò
 then monkey PRO.3SG NEG know nothing NEG
 the monkey had no idea.

49

enū yíé vá dzò nyé bé bōsò tró kèsé váyì tsì nù
 thing this VENT happen be QUOT whale turn monkey ALT water drink
fé le tó nū
 place at river mouth

what happened later was that, the whale returned (hesitation) the monkey went to drink water by the river bank,

50

ké kèsé vá yì tsì nù fé le tó-nu kò-à
 then monkey VENT go water drink place at river-mouth then-TOP
 when the monkey went to drink water by the bank,

51

yékò bōsò hò lá yékò
 then whale come.up PART then
 then the whale popped up in the distance, and then

52

wò kpó kèsé yékò` vù dù vá tò-ó-nū
 PRO.3SG see monkey then-PRO.3SG run race VENT river-ART.DEF-mouth
 it saw the monkey and quickly came to the bank.

53

yékò` bé ò yé há né vá srá yè kpó
 then-PRO.3SG QUOT oh PRO.3SG also 3SG.IMP come visit PRO.LOG see
 Then he said oo he should also come and visit him .

54

55

yé kèsé gblò né bé
 and monkey tell DAT-PRO.3SG QUOT
 Then the monkey told him that

56

ò má vá srá wò kpó hā nòví-nyè
oh PRO.1SG-SUBJ come visit PRO.3SG see Q sibling-PRO.1SG

wò bé éé
PRO.3SG QUOT yes

You really want me to come and visit you my brother? he said yes.

57

yò enyè kòqí mè qù-ó ló. wò bé ǒ tò-tó ɲ-kíé
ok PRO.1SG banana PRO.1SG eat-HAB PART PRO.3SG QUOT oh river-edge be-this
qé

FOC

I eat bananas, he responded ooo this is a river bank,

58 59 60

kòqí-tí sɔŋ lé yè là vá sé kòqí né
banana-tree lot be.at.PRO.3SG PRO.LOG POT VENT cut banana DAT-PRO.3SG
there are a lot of banana trees; so he will havest bananas for him

61

wà kó á-yì tò-ó-mè lé yè gbó
PRO.3SG-POT take SUBJ-go river-ART.DEF-interior.section at PRO.LOG vicinity
so he takes into the river with him.

62 63

yékò kèsé bé yò
then monkey QUOT ok

Then the monkey said okay.

64

ké nū yíé vá dzò gbè dèkǎ nyé bé
then thing this VENT happen day one be QUOT

What happened one day was that,

kèsé váyì kplò é hátí-ó bé né-ó vá
monkey ALTR accompany PRO.3SG colleague-PL QUOT that-PRO.3PL come
yè gbó

PRO.LOG vicinity

the monkey called his friends and invited them to his place.

66 67

wó nò dzòdzò lá tī-é dzí nò
PRO.3PL COP:PST RED~jump-PROG at tree-ART.DEF upper.section COP:PST

dzò~dzò lá tī-é dzí vū
RED~jump-PROG at tree-ART.DEF upper.section until

They jumped up and down the tress until

68

wá kpó lá kò yékò
PRO.3PL-POT see PART then then

when they realized,

69

kèsé nòví alé váyì tsó kóqí alé wá
 monkey sibling ART.INDEF ALTR take banana ART.INDEF PRO.3PL

mè vè kō
 person two take
 a sibling of the monkey brought two bananas,
 70

vé yē' wò vá tsó-é né nòví-é qèkǎ
 come-PRO.3SG and PRO.3SG VENT take-PRO.3SG DAT sibling-ART.DEF one
 and he gave it to another sibling of his.

71
 yékò kèsé mé qù kòqí-é ò
 then monkey NEG eat banana-ART.DEF NEG
 Then the monkey did not eat the banana.

72
 ké nū vá dzò nyé bé amé má há gá kpló
 then thing VENT happen be QUOT person that also REP accompany
 é xló
 PRO.3SG friend

búbú yiké nyé lǎ yié-ó yó bé tòdzó lé ntí
 another that be animal this-PRO.3SG call-HAB QUOT cat at skin
 What happened was that, that person also brought another friend, the cat, along.
 73

tòdzó yié mé nò akòqí-é qù m-ó yé tòdzó há bé
 cat this NEG COP:PST banana-ART.DEF eat PROG-NEG and cat also QUOT
 The cat did not eat banana. Then the cat also said that

74 75
 enū yié dzò nyé bé qè dzè bé wá tsó nūqúqú
 thing this happen be QUOT FOC worthy QUOT PRO.3PL-POT take food
 búbú kó kpé lé enū-ó nū né yè há yè-à kpò
 another take add at thing-ART.DEF skin DAT PRO.LOG also PRO.LOG-POT see
 qè á-qù
 ART.INDEF SUBJ-eat

They should have added some other food on, so that he could also get something to eat;

76
 yékò wó tètè wó vá qù akòqí-é kò eyè há
 then PRO.3PL alone PRO.3PL VENT eat banana-ART.DEF then PRO.LOG also
 yè vá tsí ànyì
 PRO.LOG VENT stay ground

and they have ate the bananas while he stayed without eating;

77
 yétá yē' yè mā gá dó hà kplí
 so PRO.LOG PRO.LOG NEG-POT REP put.on crowd and-PRO.3SG
 hú-ò

again-NEG
 because of that, he was no more going to be a friend of his

78

má **gá nyé yè-ó** **hádóhá** **hú-ò**
 3SG.NEG-POT REP be PRO.LOG-POSS play.mate again-NEG
 he will not be his mate anymore.

79

yé kèsé gblò bé ò alé wó kátá wó vá yè
 and monkey tell QUOT oh how PRO.3PL all PRO.3PL come PRO.LOG
gbó-é yè là wò dọdọ lé-ó nù
 vicinity-FOC PRO.LOG POT do plan at-PRO.3PL skin
 Then the monkey said that, as they all have come to visit him, he will make
 adequate plans for all.

80

kéné tòdzó dzó-é
 when cat leave-FOC
 When the cat left,

81

yékò tòdzó váyì nò egbè gòmè tefě álé
 then cat ALTR be.at:PST grass below.section place ART.INDF
 the cat sat under grass somewhere

82

wò nò afi dí né wà lé
 PRO.3SG COP:PST mouse look.for-PROG so PRO.3SG-POT catch
 he was looking for a mouse to catch.

83

afi yíé dĩ tòdzó-ó nò né wà lé vū
 mouse this look.for-PROG cat-ART.DEF COP:PST so PRO.3SG-POT catch until
 As he looked for the mouse,

84

kò-à yékò` kpó
 then-TOP then-PRO.3SG see
 he saw,

85

yé nò zò~zò vū kò` yì tò-tó kò
 PRO.3SG COP:PST RED~walk-PROG until then-PRO.3SG go river-edge then
 he walked towards the bank of the river,

86

wò kpó bōsò lá-á. ké bōsò vá` gblò né ee
 PRO.3SG see whale at-PART then whale VENT-COP tell DAT ee
 he saw the whale in the distance. The whale however had gone to tell,

87

88

89

wó-tó-ó lā há-wò bé
 POSS-PRO.PR-PL animal also-PL QUOT
 his colleague animals that

90

yè lè nā~nā gé kèsé á-vá yè gbó kò-à
 PRO.LOG COP RED-give PROSP monkey SUBJ-VENT PRO.LOG vicinity then-TOP
 he was going to lure the monkey to his place;

91

kò kèsé vá tsí yè gbó

then monkey VENT stay PRO.LOG vicinity
then the monkey was going to be stuck at his place;

92

kèsé má gá yì wó dé hú-ò yékò tòdzó se
monkey NEG-POT REP go POSS hometown again-NEG then cat hear
nyà-á

issue-ART.DEF

the monkey will not get to go back home. The monkey heard the story.

93

94

tòdzó yé nyá tsì fúfú tá-é
cat PRO.3SG know water RED~throw.limps so-PART

Because the cat could swim,

95

yékò tòdzó bé né nyé bé eyè yì yà-é gblò né
then cat QUOT if be QUOT PRO.LOG go PRO.LOG-POT-IT tell DAT
kèsé bé

monkey QUOT

The cat thought that immediately he returned, he will tell the monkey that

96

edǝ hī bōsò là tá và blé gbè dèkǎ tá-é
some-PL maybe whale POT can come deceive-PRO.3SG day one so-PART
the whale could get to deceive him one day;

97

né bōsò vá blé-è yé hǎ né dzè ayè
when whale VENT deceive-PRO.3SG PRO.3SG too IMP be.in.contact.with trickery
and that if the whale deceived him, he should also be cunning.

98

ké kèsé sè nyá kò é kó-é dé tá-mè
when monkey hear issue then PRO.3SG take-PRO.3SG put.on head-interior.section
When the monkey heard this, he kept it in mind.

99

enū yíé gá vá dzò nyé bé gbè dèkǎ kò
thing this REP VENT happen be QUOT day one then

What happened later was that, one day,

100

bōsò gá vá gblò né kèsé bé yè gbò-ó gbó
whale REP VENT tell DAT monkey QUOT PRO.LOG come-HAB PRO.3SG.vicinity
the whale told the monkey that he was coming to visit.

101

yékò kèsé bé ō yè là yì
then monkey QUOT oh LOG POT go

The monkey then said, he will go.

102

yékò kèsé lɔ vù kékéké wó kátá wó nò yĩ
 then monkey agree until until PRO.3PL all PRO.3PL COP:PST go-PROG
 wó nò yĩ vū
 PRO.3PL COP:PST go-PROG until

Then the monkey agreed; and they went along until

103

ké nū yíé dzò nyé bé wó váyì dọ tẹfě yiké tsi-é
 then thing this happen be QUOT PRO.3PL ALTR reach place that water-ART.DEF
 what happened was that, they got to a place where the water

104

kèkè lá yé bōsò gblò-é nḗ bé
 open PART then whale tell-FOC DAT-PRO.3SG QUOT
 was very expanded. Then the whale told him that

105

né vá nò yè yè-ó dzimè yé
 3SG.IMP VENT be.at:PST PRO.LOG PRO.LOG-POSS back and
 kèsé né vá nò yè yè-ó dzimè
 monkey 3SG.IMP VENT COP:PST PRO.LOG PRO.LOG-POSS back
 he, the monkey, should sit on his back.

106

yékò kèsé lɔ váyì lè bōsò wó dzimè
 then monkey agree ALTR be.at whale POSS back
 Then the monkey agreed and went to sit on the back of the whale.

107

vū kékéké wó váyì dọ tɔ́ wó dòmè
 until until PRO.3PL ALTR reach river POSS mid.section
 Then they got to the middle of the river.

108

ké wó dọ tɔ́-ó dòmé yé bōsò gblò né
 then PRO.3PL reach river-ART.DEF-POSS mid.section then whale tell DAT
 bé fífíé

QUOT now

When they got to the middle of the river, the whale told him that, now,

109

nūqú-ó há vò lé sí
 food-ART.DEF also finish at-PRO.3SG hand
 he had no food,

112

nūqú áléké mé gá lè yè sí yè là tsó né
 food none NEG REP be.at PRO.LOG hand PRO.LOG POT take DAT-PRO.3SG
 hú ò

again NEG

he did not have food to give him,

113

114 115

My brother, did you not know?

118

we do not move with our hearts,

120

even before i climbed unto your back.

122

123

124

His heart is what he wants

PRO.3PL-POT eat

126

ké yé tsí gámá
 then PRO.3SG stay there
 so he is left all by himself.

127

yé-ò bé ò eyè-ó kèsé-ó lá né yè-ó
 and-PRO.3SG QUOT oh PRO.LOG-PL monke-PL TOP when PRO.LOG-PL
yè-ó tsó lá dè yè-ó dī-è yè-ó dzì
 LOG-PL get.up TOP FOC PRO.LOG-PL remove-HAB PRO.LOG-POSS heart
kó dà lé dzì káfí nò yì~yī
 take throw at upper.section before COP:PST RED~go-PROG
 Then he said, for they monkeys, they always leave their hearts in the trees
 when moving out.

128

yéé bōsò là tró á-tsó kèsé vù kékéké á-vá kó dà
 so whale POT turn SUBJ-take monkey until until SUBJ-VENT take throw
lé gò
 at bank

The whale then brought the monkey back to the shoreline.

129

yé wò vá kó-é dà dè vò-è yé kèsé gblò
 then PRO.3SG VENT take-PRO.3SG throw PART finish-FOC then monkey tell
 When he had finished descending him, the monkey told

130

né bé nòví-nyè xòlò vóqí né nyó
 DAT.PRO.3SG QUOT sibling-PRO.1SG friend evil 2SG.IMP be
 him that,my brother,you are a wicked friend!

131

132

mè nyá nū wú-ò
 PRO.1SG know thing than-PRO.2SG
 I am more intelligent than you!

133

gíyíé kèsé kplí bōsò wó xló-me nú wù lá-é
 here monkey and whale PRO.3PL friend-inside mouth finish PART-FOC
ŋ-kíé
 be-this

This is how the monkey and the whale's friendship ended

134

akpē
 thank
 Thank you

135

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