

SERIAL VERB CONSTRUCTIONS IN EDE (RHADE)¹

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I/ Introduction



Figure 1: Map of Vietnam

Map is downloaded from <http://www.yourasiaholidays.co.uk/vietnam-2.htm>

II/ Basic clause constructions in Ede

+ Affirmative clauses:

- (1) a. Kâo êran.
1sg run
'I run.'
- b. Ñu êran.
3sg run
'He/she runs.'
- (2) a. Kâo mdjiê mnũ kâo.
1sg kill chicken 1sg
'I kill my chicken.'
- b. Aduôn kâo ðuh kâo.
Grandmother 1sg see 1sg
'My grandmother sees me.'

+ Negation:

- (3) Ñu amâo êran.
3sg NEG run
'He/she doesn't run.'
- (4) a. Ama kâo ðei prõng.
Father 1sg very big
'My father is very big.'
- b. Ama kâo amâo ðei prõng.
Father 1sg NEG very big
'My father isn't very big.'

+ Tense/aspect markers:

- (5) a. Kâo êran leh.
1sg run PERF
'I ran.'
- b. Drei srãng ðuh kpan
1pl FUT see long- chair
'We will see a long chair.'
- (6) Kâo khãng nao sang hrã
1sg often go house word
'I often go to school.'

III/ Verb serialization constructions in Ede

1/ Definition in the paper:

A serial verb construction (henceforth SVCs) is the constructions containing a sequence of verbs in which all verbs share the same tense, aspect, mood and modality, and act as a single predicate without overt morpheme marking coordination or subordination. In addition, in some constructions, a serial verb can grammaticalize from a "root-morpheme" with full lexical meaning to become a functional marker in this particular construction.

2/ SVCs in Ede

2.1/ Nuclear serial verb construction in Ede

- (7) Y-Kung duah ðuh H'Du.
look-for see

'Y-Kung found H'Du.'

- (8) Ñu nao yap hră
3sg go count word
'He goes to school.'

- (9) Ñu hiu duah mă bruă hlăm wăł sang
3sg go look-for do errand in garden house
'He goes to look for and do errands in the garden and house.'

- (10) Y-Kung sřăng duah ðuh H'Du.
FUT look-for see

'Y-Kung will find H'Du.'

- (11) Ñu khăng hiu duah mă bruă hlăm wăł sang
3sg often go look-for do errand in garden house
'He often goes to look for and do errands in his own garden.'

- (12) * Y-Kung sřăng duah sřăng ðuh H'Du.

- (13) * Ñu khăng hiu khăng duah mă bruă hlăm wăł sang.

- (14) * Ñu khăng hiu duah khăng mă bruă hlăm wăł sang.

2.2/ Core serial verb construction in Ede

- (15) Phung ðuôn sang ðru pô sang nao druôm kyăo hlăm kmrŕng ngă bông
3pl village house help owner house go cut tree in forest make coffin
'People in the village help the house owner to go to cut trees in a forest to make coffin.'

- (16) Phung ðuôn sang lõ nao ðru pŭ atăo kma hlăm bông
3pl village house again go help take dead-person put in coffin
'People in the village again go helping (by) taking a dead person put in the coffin.'

- (17) Phung ðuôn sang sřăng ðru pô sang nao druôm kyăo hlăm kmrŕng ngă bông.
3pl village house FUT help owner house go cut tree in forest make coffin
'People in the village will help the house owner to go to cut trees in a forest to make coffin.'

(18) Phung buôn sang amâo nao đru pũ atâo kma hlãm bông
 3pl village house NEG go help take dead-person put in coffin
 ‘People in the village don’t go helping (by) taking a dead person put in the coffin.’

(19) * Phung buôn sang **srăng** đru pô sang **srăng** nao druôm kyâo hlãm kmrông **srăng** ngă bông.

(20) * Phung buôn sang **amâo** nao đru **amâo** pũ atâo kma hlãm bông

(21) Ama kâo kğũ ưm, kuč pui leh anăn tũk êa.
 Father 1sg get-up early create fire and boil water
 ‘My father gets up early, builds fire and boils water.’

(22) Ama kâo khăng kğũ ưm, (biă dah) amâo kuč pui leh anăn tũk êa.
 Father 1sg often get-up early, (but) NEG create fire and boil water
 ‘My father often gets up early but not builds fire and boils water.’

2.3/ Modifying serial verb construction in Ede

(23) Amĩ ama mniê brei ngăn pũ kơ gặp djuê êkei
 Mother father woman give dowry gift to family man
 ‘Woman’s parents give dowry and gifts to man’s family.’

(24) Amĩ ama mniê khăng brei ngăn pũ kơ gặp djuê êkei
 Mother father woman often give dowry gift to family man
 ‘Woman’s parents often give dowry and gifts to man’s family.’

(25) Amĩ kâo mñam abăn, kpın pioh čhĩ brei kơ arăng
 Mother 1sg weave blanket, skirt for sell give to 3pl
 ‘My mother weaves blankets, skirts to sell for people.’

(26) (čô đjă ba bẻ kơ sang), aduôn đru yap brei.
 (Grandchild carry bring Ptcl to house), grandmother help count give
 ‘(Grandchild brings to house), grandmother helps to count for.’

(27) Aduôn đru yap brei kơ čô
 Grandmother help count give to grandchild
 ‘Grandmother counts word for grandchild.’

- (28) * Amĩ káo brei kó arǎng.
(29) * (cô djǎ ba bẻ kó sang), aduôn brei.
(30) * aduôn brei kó cồ.

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