Lou Grammar Essentials

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(This is an incomplete draft of the Lou Grammar Essentials provided
for SIL-PNG.)

Table of Contents

Abbreviations

    The Lou examples are presented in orthographic transcription using bold type. In the interlinear examples, lower case type is used for glosses which represent English dictionary entries. Upper case type is used for glosses which represent grammatical classes. Following is the key to the abbreviations used in the interlinear examples and in all labeling.

1d	First person dual	
1d.in	First person dual inclusive	
1p	First person plural	
1p.in	First person plural inclusive	
1pc	First person paucal	
1pc.in	First person paucal inclusive	
1s	First person singular	
2d	Second person dual	
2p	Second person plural	
2pc	Second person paucal	
2s	Second person singular	
3d	Third person dual	
3p	Third person plural	
3pc	Third person paucal	
3s	Third person singular	
ADV	Adverb	
ALT	Alternative	**të**
COMP	Completive	**pë**
CONT	Continuative	**tö**
DES	Desiderative	**pa**
DIM	Diminuative	**ën**
DV	Directional Verb	
GOAL	Transitiviser	**-k**
IND OBJ	Indirect Object	
INTS	Intensifier	**ti**
IRR	Irrealis	**ka,ki**
MV	Main Verb	
DEF.CONT	Definite Continuative	**tu**
NEG	Negative	**a,sa**
NOM	Nominalizer	**-ian,** **-an,-nan**
OBJ	Object	
OBL	Oblique	**ë**
PERF	Perfect	**ë**
POSS	Possessive	
PROG	Progressive	**ën**
QUES	Question	**e**
RCP	Recipient	

REL	Relative Clause	**ta**
SIM	Simultaneous	**lë**
SM	Subject Marker	
SUBJ	Subject	
SVC	Serial Verb Construction	

1. INTRODUCTION

The Lou language is spoken on Lou Island in Manus Province in Papua New Guinea. Lou is an SVO Austronesian language classified as part of the South-East Islands Sub-family of the Manus family, which is part of the South-East Admiralty cluster (Healey 1976). The Admiralties cluster is a first-order Oceanic sub-group (Ross 1988:320). The other languages in the family are Nauna, Penchal, Lenkau, and Pam-Baluan.

Ross (1988:316-317) proposes the following classification:

Figure 1. Linguistic Classification

```
                        (Proto Oceanic)
                              |
                       Proto Admiralty
              ┌───────────────┴───────────────┐
   Proto Western Admiralty        Proto Eastern Admiralty
                              ┌────────────────┴────────┐
                        Proto Manus            Proto South-East
                              |                    Admiralty
                        Manus Network         ┌───────────┴────┐
                                                              Lou
```
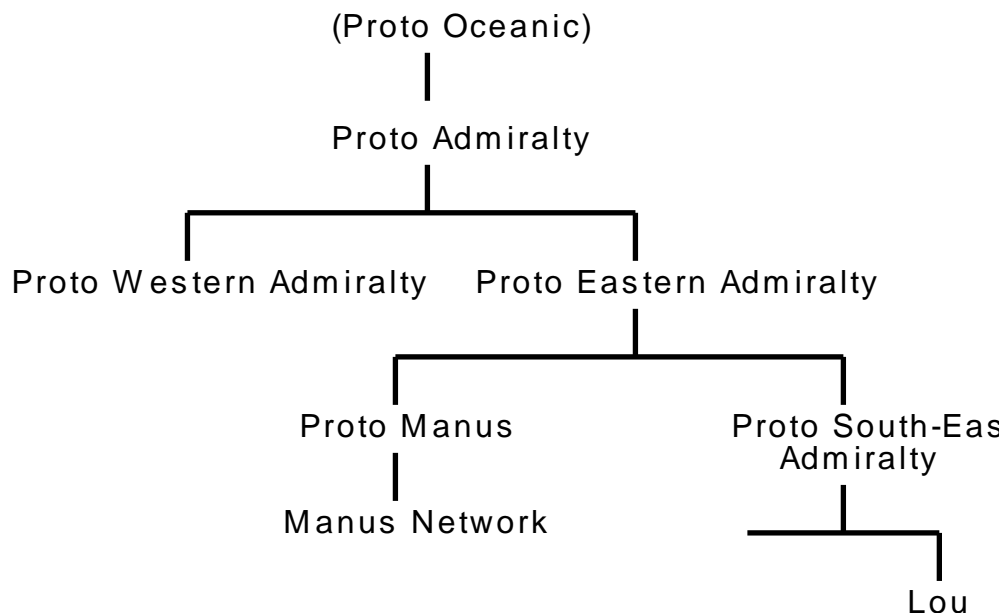
There are four villages on Lou Island; Rei, Solang, Baon, and Lako. These villages represent three different dialects; Rei, Baon, and Lako. This analysis is based on the Baon dialect as spoken in the village of Solang.

The number of Lou speakers is around 1000, with about half being resident on Lou Island at any given time. The rest of the Lou speakers are scattered throughout the towns of Papua New Guinea in school or in jobs and only come home to Lou Island for yearly vacations.

2. PHONOLOGY

2.1. Lou Phonemes

The Lou language has twelve consonants and seven vowels as shown in the accompanying chart[1].

Consonants	Bilabial	Alveolar	Velar
Plosive	p	t	k
Labialized Stop	pW (pw)		kW (kw)
Nasal	m	n	N (ng)
Labialized Nasal	mW (mw)		
Trill		r	
Fricative		s	
Lateral		l	
Approximant	w		

Vowels	Front	Central	Back
High	i		u
Mid Close	I (ë)		U (ö)
Mid Open			o
Low	☜ (e)	a	

2.2. Allophonic Variations

/p/ is pronounced as a voiced bilabial fricative [ß] between vowels, as a voiced bilabial stop [b] following a consonant, and as a voiceless bilabial stop elsewhere. /t/ is pronounced as a voiced alveolar flap [ɾ] between vowels, as a voiced alveolar stop [d] following a consonant, and as a voiceless alveolar stop elsewhere. /k/ is pronounced as a voiced velar fricative [ɣ] between vowels, as a voiced velar stop [g] following a consonant, and as a voiceless velar stop elsewhere. /r/ is pronounced as an alveolar trill, in contrast to the alveolar flap [ɾ] mentioned earlier.

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[1] The orthographic symbols which differ from the phonemic symbols are shown in brackets.

3. MORPHOLOGY

3.1. Reduplication

Historically, reduplication has been a very productive process in Lou. Nouns, verbs, and adjectives have been reduplicated fully or partially. Often the thread of meaning between forms and their reduplicated forms is not readily apparent. Consider the following forms and their glosses.

1.	**nu**	'bathe'
2.	**nunu**	'bath'
3.	**nun**	'tree'
4.	**nunun**	'colour'
5.	**nunuou**	'garden flower'
6.	**nunur**	'peel'
7.	**nunurek**	'long dress'
8.	**nunut**	'plane'

It is fairly obvious that **nunu** 'bath' was derived from **nu** 'bathe'. However, the question remains whether any of the forms numbered four through eight were reduplicated from either number one or number three. The lexicon abounds with these kinds of examples. This suggests that reduplication as an active process died out a long time ago, fossilizing the forms while allowing the meaning to change over time. Keeping the above in mind, it is not clear whether a morpheme may exhibit both full and partial reduplication.

It also may not always be possible to distinguish reduplication from repetition. In Mangap-Mbula, Bugenhagen (unpublished manuscript) suggests that "full reduplication is to be distinguished from mere repetition by the fact that fully reduplicated forms have only one primary stress." According to this criteria the form, **pëngin pëngin** 'all the time' is repetition rather than reduplication because the first and third syllable of the phrase both have primary stress.

MORPHOLOGY

3.1.1. Nouns

köp	'ridge cap'	**köpköp**	'crown'
lö	'strainer'	**lölö**	'cane basket'
mwak	'swell'	**mwakmwak**	'swell'

3.1.2. Verbs

kun	'carry'	**kunkun**	'carry'
luk	'weed'	**lukluk**	'weed'
mat	'die'	**mamat**	'many die'
ik	'look for'	**ikik**	'look for'
pit	'squeeze out'	**pitpit**	'cough'

3.1.3. Adjectives

lok	'unfit'	**loklok**	'unfit'
më	'brown'	**mëmë**	'brown'
pëk	'overripe'	**pëkpëk**	'overripe'

3.2. Contractions

There are many contractions in Lou. A subject pronoun and verb may contract to form one phonological form. An irrealis marker and directional verb may contract to form one phonological word.

nga '1s'	ka 'IRR'	ngka '1s:IRR'
ki '3s:IRR'	wot 'go'	kiot 'will go'

3.3. Nouns

Nouns are the names of living things, places, objects, and abstract ideas. They function as the head of noun phrases. Nouns are divided into two main categories; proper nouns and common nouns.

3.3.1. Proper Nouns

Proper nouns are the names of people and places. They do not occur with any affixation. Village names of people may be identical to a common noun. For example, **Kenian** is a man's name, but it is also a common inalienably possessed noun meaning 'its taste'.

3.3.2. Common Nouns

Common nouns include all nouns that are not proper nouns. Lou nouns may be marked for possession, number, class, and case; however only inalienable possession is marked by affixation. Number, class and case are marked by free forms. In this section I will discuss noun classes,

derived nouns, inalienably and alienably possessed nouns, time words, and compound nouns.

3.3.2.1. Noun Classes

The Lou nominal system consists of ten semantic categories of nouns. The feature that identifies the noun classes is the numeral system, which is discussed in Section 3.5.1. Numerals. The ten classes are based on the semantic notions of long, pieces, animate, abstract, halves, sections, bundles, branches, bunches, and general.

3.3.2.2. Derived Nouns

Nouns may be derived from verbs through the process of reduplication, both full reduplication and partial reduplication.

Verb		Noun	
löt	'fall'	**lötlöt**	'the fall'
nu	'bathe'	**nunu**	'bath'
apön	'help'	**apapön**	'help'

(1)   **ta   uru tö   toltolul kölö -n   katam ë   <u>ning-ning</u>**
      REL 3d IMP stand   mouth-3s:POSS door OBL see -see

   '*that they-two were standing at the door's entrance with watching*'

Nouns may also be derived from verbs by adding the suffix **-ian**, which includes **-n**, the affix for third person singular inalienable possession. Variations of **-ian** are -**an,** -**nan**, and -**wan**. It is not clear at this time whether the motivation for these variations is morphophonemic or semantic.

Verb		Noun	
pap	'buy'	**papian**	'buying'
pat	'plant'	**patian**	'planting'
mat	'die'	**matian**	'dying'
apön	'help'	**apönian**	'helping'

(2)   **peti   ta <u>ning-ian</u> patan pian**
      belong.to REL see -NOM really good

   '*Because her her looks were really good.*'

   The same verb may be derived into nouns usings both processes, as is evidenced by the nouns, **apön** 'help' and **ning** 'see'. Please refer to Section 9. Unresolved Issues for more discussion.

   Nouns may also be derived from nouns by reduplication.

      pat   'bed'   **patpat**   'table'

3.3.2.3. Inalienable Possessed Nouns

   Names of body parts (3), abstract terms such as certain kinship terms (4) and titles (6), certain spatial terms (7), and the names of the part in a part-whole relationship (5) require indication of a possessor and feature possessive suffixing. The singular form indicates possession only by suffixing a possessive marker to the noun stem.

-ng	1s:POSS
-m	2s:POSS
-n	3s:POSS

(3)   **mata-ng**   **mata-m**   **mata-n**
      eye -1s:POSS   eye -2s:POSS   eye -3s:POSS

      'my eye'   *'your eye'*   *'his eye'*

(4)   **tama -ng**   **tama -m**   **tama -n**
      father-1s:POSS   father-2s:POSS   father-3s:POSS

      'my father'   *'your father'*   *'his father'*

(5)   **rëi -n   ke**   **ra -n   ke**
      leaf-3s:POSS tree   branch-3s:POSS tree

      'leaf'   *'branch'*

(6)   **ngara-ng**   **ngara-m**   **ngara-n**
      name -1s:POSS   name -2s:POSS   name -3s:POSS

      'my name'   *'your name'*   *'his name'*

(7)   **kamwöu-n   ponat**
      dispute-3s:POSS ground

      'land dispute''

Dual, trial, and plural forms of inalienable possessed nouns occur with a free form subject pronoun in addition to third person possessive suffixation.

tama-n eru	'our-2 father'
tama-n ëtë	'our-3 father'
tama-n ëp	'our-pl father'
tama-n toru	'our-2-in father'
tama-n tatë	'our-3-in father'
tama-n tarap	'our-pl-in father'
tama-n aru	'your-2 father'
tama-n atë	'your-3 father'
tama-n ap	'your-pl father'
tama-n uru	'their-2 father'
tama-n itë	'their-3 father'
tama-n ip	'their-pl father'

Some of these inalienable nouns can occur without the possessive suffix. When it does the final vowel is dropped as well. For example, the word **not** 'child' drops the final **u** when the possessive suffixed is dropped from **notu-ng** 'my child'.

(8)   **i sun not suë ë riap**
      3s cover child little OBL cloth

   'She covered the baby with the blanket'

When talking about the singular, 'my child' **notu-ng** is inalienably possessed, but when talking about the plural, 'my children' **ip not tang** is alienably possessed.

3.3.2.4. Alienable Possessed Nouns

Alienable nouns may or may not be possessed. Possession is manifested with a free form possessive pronoun followed the possessed noun (9). Possession can be expressed using the preposition **peti** 'belong' as in (11).

(9)   **um tëp**   (10) **um të Solok**
      house 1p:POSS   house 3s:POSS Solok

   'our house''   *'Solok's house'*

(11) <u>**ra   -n   ke**</u> **peti   wat**
         branch-3s:POSS tree belong top

    'the top branch of the tree' or lit. 'the tree branch of the
    top'

3.3.2.5. Time Words

    Time words usually fill the peripheral slots at the beginning and ending of the clause or sentence. Often a discourse will be introduced with a time word giving the temporal setting of the story first. Frequently a discourse is closed with a time word as well. The days of the week and the names of the months have been borrowed from English. Other common time words are as follows:

këlëpëng	'evening'
krismas	'year'
minö	'yesterday'
palaleansin	'noon'
patipëng	'morning'
pëng	'time/day'
pul	'month'
pulen	'dawn'
pweep	'afternoon'
Sapat	'Sabbath'
taem	'today'
tipëng	'tomorrow
tipoop	'long ago'
paloar	'day'
rupëng	'day after tommorow'
wik	'week'

(12) **uru pë la   tar   ponu   <u>këlëpëng</u>**
         3d CERT go.to arrive home.place evening

    'They two certainly arrived at the village in the evening.'

(13) <u>**pëng sip**</u> **a   ip Akalë pë   la   pe   tin   ësia**
         time one and 3p Akalë CERT go.to make fight mainland.people

    'One time the Akalë (men) certainly went to fight the mainland
    people.'

3.3.2.6. Compound Nouns

    A few compound nouns have been identified to date.

notu	'child'	**lapan**	'chief'	**notulapan**	'prince'
pëin	'female'	**lapan**	'chief'	**pëilapan**	'princess'

3.4. Personal Pronouns

Lou pronouns distinguish first, second, and third persons; singular, dual, paucal, and plural numbers; and in first person non-singular forms, inclusive and exclusive. There are three sets of pronouns: subject/object pronouns, possessive/recipient/benefactive pronouns, and recipient/benefactive pronouns for consumables.

3.4.1. Subject/Object Pronouns

Pronouns used in both the subject and object case co-occur with the semantic roles of agent, experiencer, and patient. Subject/Object pronouns are also used in nouns phrases as modifiers. This will be discussed in Section 3.5.2. Demonstratives

SUB[AGT]	**OBJ[PAT]**

(14) <u>uru</u>   **mwi pë okto <u>i</u>.**
        3d   dog REM grab 3s

'The two dogs grabbed it.'

The subject/object pronouns are as follows:

	1 inclusive	1 exclusive	2	3
Singular		**nga/ngka/ngë wong/ong**	**ö/wë/wa/wö**	**i**
Dual	**toru**	**ëru**	**aru**	**uru**
Paucal	**tatë**	**ëtë**	**atë**	**itë**
Plural	**tarap**	**ëp**	**ap**	**ip**

There are irregularities in first and second person singular forms. **wë** 'you' is used for second person singular in immediate past tense. **wa** 'you' is used in past and present tense for a negative clause. **wö** 'you' is used in the irealis mood and **ö** 'you' is used in the irrealis mood for a negative clause.

The first person form **ngka** 'I', a contraction of **nga-ka** '1s-IRR', is used for the first person irrealis mood, and **ngë** 'I', a contraction of **nga-ë** '1s-NON-REM' is used for immediate past tense. The only irregularity for the object case is first person singular, which uses **ong** 'me'. The pronoun **wong** occurs only in the subject slot, but it cannot replace the **nga** series; it can only be used in addition and

preceding it. This appears to be a remnant from an earlier time when subject agreement was marked in the verb phrase. Diachronically the set of subject pronouns were dropped (except for **wong**) and the subject person agreement markers in the verb phrase became the new subject pronouns.

(15)   <u>**wong**</u> <u>**nga**</u> **pa ngka   la   nu**
           I   1s   say 1s:IRR go.to bathe

   ' *I want to go wash myself.*'

    As can be seen in the list above the prefix **t-** regularly encodes inclusiveness. The suffix **-p** encodes plurality. The suffix **-ru** encodes duality, which is based on the number two. See Section 3.5.1. Numerals The suffix **-të** encodes paucality. Most of the variations for both numbers three and four begin with **t-**.

3.4.2. Poss & Rec/Benefactive Pronouns

    Lou has a set of pronouns which encode alienable possession (19) and the semantic roles of recipient/benefactive for non-consumables (18) and (17). The prefix **t-** identifies this meaning and is a reflex of "the POC preposition *__ta-__ locative, possessive (which) is frequently reflected with pronominal possessive suffixes". (Ross 1988:104)

	1 inclusive	1 exclusive	2	3
Singular		tang/tetang	to/tato	tei/të
Dual	totoru	tëru	taru	talaru
Paucal	tatatë	tëtë	tatë	talarë
Plural	tatap	tëp	tap	talap

When the pronoun encodes the semantic case of recipient and benefactive, it precedes the head noun in the noun phrase in (16). Since the food is not overtly stated in (16), the non-consumable pronoun is used to express benefactive. The verbal particle la **'go to' expresses the semantic case of benefactive. This will be discussed more thoroughly in Section 3.8. Prepositions**

(16)   i pe   kur la   <u>talap</u> pusök
         3s make cook go.to 3p:POSS visitor

   ' *She cooked for the visitors.*'

(17)   i pap radio la   <u>të</u>   notu -n   pëin som
         3s buy radio go.to 3s:POSS child-3s:POSS female one

   ' *He bought the radio for the girl.*'

The verbal particle **me** 'come' expresses the semantic case of recipient.

(18)   tapö ö tö nënë me   <u>tang</u>
          this 2s IMP talk come 1s:POSS

    ' *Now you are talking to me.'*

When the pronoun encodes possession, it follows the head noun in the noun phrase as in (19).

(19)   wik molok Komiti ki   pe   sip um   <u>tëp</u>
          week later Komiti 3s:IRR make one house 1p:POSS

    ' *Next week Komiti will make our one house'*

(20)   um   të   Jon
          house 3s:POSS John

    'John's house'

3.4.3. Rec/Ben Pronouns for Consumables

Lou has a set of pronouns used to encode the semantic roles of recipient or benefactive of a consumable item. The prefix **k-** encodes the meaning of food.

	1 inclusive	1 exclusive	2	3
Singular		**kong**	**kom**	**kan**
Dual	**kotoru**	**këru**	**karu**	**kalaru**
Trial	**katatë**	**këtë**	**katë**	**kalarë**
Plural	**katap**	**këp**	**kap**	**kalap**

(21)   aman itë ka pë lëp kouka   me   <u>kong</u>
          maybe 3t IRR CERT take sweet.potato come 1s:REC

    ' *They might bring me sweet potatoes.'*

(22)   i tö lëp pateri-n   nik la   <u>kalap</u> mwi
          3s IMP take bone -3:POSS fish go.to 3p:REC dog

    ' *He is taking a fishbone for the dogs.'*

3.5. Nominal Modifiers

Nouns may be modified by qualifiers, quantifiers, and demonstatives. The main function of modifiers is to modify the head noun in a noun phrase. Modifiers have a secondary function as pro-noun, standing in the place of a noun. Some nominal modifiers also may function as a predicate in place of a verb. Modifiers may occur before the head noun or following the head noun depending on the particular function of usage.

3.5.1. Numerals

Numerals are divided into two sections; cardinal numbers and ordinal numbers. Another function of numerals is deictic, which is discussed in section 3.5.2. Demonstratives.

3.5.1.1. Cardinal numbers

Ten noun classes have been identified to date. Nine of the noun classes have a semantic basis as shown in column one of the following chart. The final class is the general class. All nouns that don't fit into one of the semantically based noun classes are grouped into the general class. All classes except the animate classes only distinguish the first three numerals. From 'four' onward they use numerals of the general class. The animate class distinguishes the first four numerals, then uses the numerals of the general class. The numerals for 'one', especially **sip** and **som**, are used as the indefinite article.

The numerals for 'one' may modify the head noun in a noun phrase or they may function as a pronoun taking the place of a noun. In the following example, **sut** 'one' modifies **rongkei** 'letter' in its first occurrence. In the second occurrence it is an anaphoric reference to the previously mentioned **rongkei** 'letter'.

(23) **tarë rongkei <u>sut</u> la   ë   nenewaë pwaën   ta ki   aa**
      write letter one go.to OBL word   strength REL 3s:IRR move

      molokin <u>sut</u> palsi la   -k
      behind one before go.to-DETRAN

   'Write one letter with strong words that will follow the one before..'

	1	2	3	4
'bunch'	**sët**			
'abstract'	**sara**	**rula**	**tuluta**	**talot**
'animate	**som**	**rumo**	**tulumo**	**amo/amwo**
'branches'	**sakal/sakam**	**rukal**	**tulukal**	**talot**
'bundles'	**sör**	**ruör**	**tuluör**	**talot**
'halves'	**sopol**	**rupol**	**lulupol**	**talot**
'long'	**se**	**rue**	**tulue**	**talot**
'pieces'	**sut**	**rut**	**tuluut**	**talot**
'sections'	**sëk**	**turëk**	**tulutët**	**talot**
General	**sip**	**ruëp**	**tëlëp**	**talot**

Numbers seven, eight, and nine are based on a system involving subtraction from something. At present it is unclear what **ngane-** means. At first glance it seems to be related to **sangaul** 'ten', however the same formula is used to encode two digit numbers as well, i.e. seventy, eighty, and ninety. **ngane-** also combines with **som** 'one' and **rumo** 'two' of the animate clase to derive **nganesom** 'nine' and **nganerumo** 'eight' in the animate noun class.

muran/mutan		'five'
nginiop		'six'
nganeselip	something minus three	'seven'
nganeruep	something minus two	'eight'
nganesip	something minus one	'nine'
sangaul		'ten'

Numbers above ten are based on a decimal system.

(24)   ponu   rean songot a   rungoul a   nganesëlëp
    village flat 100   and 20   and seven

   'one hundred twenty seven villages'

rungoul		'twenty'
tulungoul		'thirty'
ouwë		'fourty'
topol		'fifty'
onongoul		'sixty'
nganesulungoul	'something minus thirty'	'seventy'
nganerungoul	'something minus twenty'	'eighty'
nganesangaul	'something minus ten'	'ninety'
songot		'hundred'
rungot		'two hundred'
tulungot		'three hundred'
angot		'four hundred'
minsin		'five hundred'

'long' Trees

'pieces' Place of sitting, letter

'animate' Humans, animals, birds, and fish are in the animate class.

'abstract' Village, words, story

'halves' Side of village, outside

'sections'

'branches' Limbs, such as arms, legs, and wings are in this class as
are tree branches.

General Feast, ledgend, time, thing, corner of building, clan, moon,
thought, work, idea, game, custom.

3.5.1.2. Ordinal numbers

Lou has a form that expresses the first cardinal number, **titasip**
'first'. But ordinal numbers higher than one are expressed
syntactically, using the ordinal number form in the construction. In
(26) a relative clause encodes the concept of second. In the next
example, a noun phrase expresses the concept of twenty-third.

(25)   pul sip titasip ta ngara-n   Nisan
         moon one first   REL name -3s:POSS Nisan

   '*the first month whose name is Nisan*'

(26)   ë   pëng sip ta i la   ruëp
         OBL time one REL 3s go.to two

   '*on the second day*' or lit. '*on the day that goes to two*'

(27)   lalön pëng rungoul a   tëlëp peti   pul Sipan.
         inside time 20   and three belong.to moon Sivan

   '*on the twenty-third day of the month of Sivan*'

3.5.2. Demonstratives

Lou demonstratives may function both as demonstrative pronouns and demonstrative adjectives. Lou has a two term system. Proximal is located at the speaker and distal at the hearer. The forms on rows one, two and three may refer to time, now and then; to space, here and there; and to anaphoric and cataphoric reference, this and that. Forms suffixed with **-ng** occur after the verb, usually in the object of the verb and in the object of a preposition. The forms is the following chart are all definite.

(28)   **pëin   som mwamwarö talö i pëin   të sie?**
        female one young   that 3s female ALT who

    'That young woman is whose woman?'

(29)   **i pë lëp   tina -n topong**
        3s REM take mother-3s the

    'He took his mother.'

(30)   **ip pë si   aa   ë   tapong**
        3p REM descend move OBL here

    'They went down to here.'

(31)   **tapö nga pa   nga-ka   nesek ta...**
        this 1s want 1s -IRR tell REL

    'Now I want to tell that...'

When an object is fronted, the subject form of the demonstrative is used.

(32)   **Törë-n   para-n   ta i tö pwentele   töpö i**
        blood-3s:POSS head-3s:POSS REL 3s stay clam.shell this 3s

    pë tö teptingan seniek.
        REM IMP check   continuous

    'Her blood from her head that was in this clam shell she checked continuously.'

		Proximal	Distal	
SUBJECT:	1	**apö**	**alö**	**alöa**
	2	**tapö**	**talö**	**talöa**
	3	**töpö**		**töpöa**
	4	**to**		
OBJECT:	1	**apong**	**along**	
	2	**tapong**	**talong**	
	3	**topong**		
	4	**tong**		

(33) a   um   apö i um   të   misin
      and house this 3s house 3s:POSS mission

　 'and this house is the house of the mission'

The following demonstratives are indefinite.

tapwetem	
tak/totak	
talëta	
apörön	'less'
lawën	'too many'
muna	'all'
mwantun	'many'
mwasön	'many'
samanön	'how many'
sangap	'some'
sapa	'some'
sö	'some'
suë	'some'
eri	'it'

   The particle **eri** 'it' is a generic anaphoric proword. It refers back to the topic; the thing that is being discussed. It can refer to a place, an object, an event, or an abstract idea. In example 34, **eri** 'it' refers to a room. In example 35, **eri** 'it' refers to the knowledge 'that a person of my village from the mainland whose name is Philip, he had built this one house'. In example 36, **eri** 'it' refers to a branch in a tree.

(34) a   ëtë tö metir rum sip ta ëtë tö   eri
      and 1t IMP sleep room one REL 1t stay it

　 'And we were sleeping in one room that we stayed in.'

(35)   nga tö pasek <u>eri</u>
   1s IMP know it

   'I know this.'

(36)   I pë la   pe um   la   <u>eri</u>
   3s REM go.to do house go.to it

   'He had gone and made a house on it.'

3.5.3. Qualifiers

   Many modifiers that qualify attributes of the head noun like size, shape, quality, and color co-occur with the third person inalienable possessive suffix **-n**. The rationale for this is that the object is seen as possessing these qualities. For example in the phrase **mwëia-n** nenewa 'excellent word', the possessor 'word' possesses the quality of excellence. The order of this noun phrase is the same as of a normal possessive phrase; possessed-possessor. Refer to section 9. Unresolved Issues.

ëlëwën	'long'
kalmotu	'right'
kapë	'bitter'
kapwëtë	'tiny'
kitkitin	'very tiny'
kökön	'big'
kosur	'left'
lënglëng	'full'
menengan	'big'
muluan	'weak'
muna	'all'
mwamwanget	'lazy'
mwamwarö	'young'
mwanën	'straight'
mwëian	'excellent'

3.5.4. Colours

   Many colour words in Lou co-occur with the third person singular possessive marker as was observed for other nominal modifiers.

angoan	'yellow'
arawën	'blue'
karan	'black'
karoun	'white'
liök	'green'
më	'brown'
mëmë	'brown'
möntë	'yellow'
pwëpwë	'brown'
ramraman	'red'

3.6. Verbs

Verbs encode actions, processes, and states of being. Verbs function as the head of verb phrases. Lou verbs may be marked for aspect, mode, and valency. Case agreement is not marked. Lou verbs are distinguished for their lack of inflection; only one suffix, -k, a valency lowering marker occurs on only three special verbs (verbs encoding motion and state). Aspect and mode are marked with free forms and I will deal with them in other sections.

3.6.1. Inflected Verbs

Only three verbs have been identified that can be inflected by affixation, in this case, suffixation. The suffix **-k** signals a reduction of valence. Valency is a term referring to the number of nominal arguments a verb may take in a clause. When **-k** is suffixed to **la** 'go to', no goal is needed to complete the clause. Without -k, a goal is needed to complete the clause.

(37)   i la   Lorengau
        3s go.to Lorengau

    'He went to Lorengau'

(38)   i la   -k
        3s go.to-DETRANS

    'He went.'

tö	**tök**	'stay'
la	**lak**	'go'
sa	**sak**	'ascend'

3.6.2. Compound Verbs

There are many compound verbs in Lou, made by combining two verbs together. These verbs at one time were serial verbs, but have been crystallized into one unit.

lëp	'take'	**mat**	die	**lëpmat**	'kill'
tëk	'cut'	**mut**	'cut'	**tëkmut**	'cut'
tök	'stay'	**riöt**	'break'	**tökriöt**	'break by sitting'

3.6.3. Derived Verbs

The only derived verbs that have been identified in Lou are verbs formed by the processes of reduplication and compounding (discussed in the previous section).

kun	'carry'	**kunkun**	'carry'
luk	'weed'	**lukluk**	'weed'
mat	'die'	**mamat**	'many die'
pit	'squeeze out'	**pitpit**	'cough'

3.6.4. Speech Verbs

The following speech verbs may all be used as a quote formula. The form pa 'say' also functions as a desciderative in the verb phrase. This will be discussed in section 4.2. Verb Phrase.

pa	'say,want'
nesek	'tell'
awek	'tell'
ruët	'ask'

3.7. Verbal Modifiers

Verbal modifiers include particles, auxillary verbs, and adverbs.

3.7.1. Directionals

Verbs of motion called directionals occur preceeding the main verb in the verb phrase and function as auxillary verbs. These verbs may also function as the main verb. The following list of motion verbs have several special functions within the verb phrase. These functions will be dealt with in section 4.2. Verb Phrase.

aa	'move'
la	'go to'
me	'come'
sa	'ascend'
si	'descend'
sot	'go first'
suot	'go down'
wot	'go'

3.7.2. Particles

There are seven orders of particles in the verb phrase that occur before the main verb. These will be discussed in section 4.2. Verb Phrase. There are two negative particles: **a** used in realis clauses and **sa** used in irrealis clauses. There are two irrealis particles: **ki** used with third person singular subjects and **ka** used with all other subjects. There are two imperfective particles: **tö** and **tu**. The environment of each has not yet been determined. There are two particles that are glossed as remote: **ë** 'NON.REM' and **pë** 'REM'.

Particles	Gloss
a	NEG
ë	NON.REM
ën	LIM
ka/ki	IRR
lë	just
pa	'want,say'
pe	'do,make'
pë	REM
sa	IRR:NEG
tö/tu	IMP

3.7.3. Adverbs

For the purpose of this paper I have divided the Lou adverbs into three groups; those that modify the whole clause and occur clause initially; those that modify the whole clause and occur clause finally; and those that modify the verb and occur in the verb phrase. The adverbs are listed below.

aman	'maybe'	Possibility
anek	'away'	
apörön	'less'	
ën suë	'little'	
ili	'again'	
konan	'never mind'	
lili	'again'	
malë	'hurry'	
molok	'after'	
molokin	'later'	
muna	'every'	
munek	'too'	
mwantön	'more	
nek	'certain'	
patan	'really'	
poloek	'around'	
pun	'very'	Intensifier
pwën	'not'	Negative
seniek	'regularly'	Habitual
sopwi	'finish'	
sungek	'together'	
tep	'reach,until'	
tini	'away from'	

3.7.3.1. Verbal Adverbs

   Verbal adverbs occur immediately following the main verb in the
verb phrase and modify the verb.

(39)   on   tö   rekmat <u>seniek</u>   ong
      John IMP hit   continuous 1s:OBJ

   ' John hits me regularly.'

(40)   peti   ta our a   kum i teng <u>pun</u> la   të   totoan
      belong.to REL wind and wave 3s cry very go.to 3s:POSS large

   '...because the wind and the wave became very large.'

(41)   uru pe <u>sopwi</u> kamwö a   uru pë la   ponu
      3d make finish anger and 3d REM go.to home.place

   *'They two finished the quarrel and they two certainly went
      home.'*

(42)   **Ip pa <u>konan</u>   a   tatap   ka paa   la   lëut**
      3p say never.mind and 1p.in:POSS IRR paddle go.to shore

    'They said never mind and we will paddle to shore.'

    Certain adverbs may function as either a main verb or as an adverb. In example 43, **lili** 'again' is functioning as an adverb modifying the verb **lak** 'go.to-DETRAN'. In example 44, **lili** 'return' is functioning as the main verb.

(43)   **Som i la -k   <u>lili</u> a i lë   pa pwën tei**
      ne 3s go.to-DETRAN again and 3s like want not 3s:POSS

    'one went again and she did not like him.'

(44)   **a   ip ramat pë <u>lili</u> la   ip ponu   talap**
      and 3p person REM return go.to 3p village 3p:POSS

    '...and the people returned to their villages'

3.7.3.2. Clause Initial

    Only one modal has been identified that occurs clause initially; **aman** 'maybe' expresses the notion of potential.

(45)   **<u>Aman</u> i ki   pë röng tatap   a   tatap   ka sa**
      maybe 3s 3s:IRR REM listen 1p.in:POSS and 1p.in:POSS IRR IRR:NEG

    mat pwën.
    die not

    'Maybe he will listen to us and we will not die.'

3.7.3.3. Clause Final

    The same adverbs that occur in the adverb slot in the verb phrase may occur in the clause final adverb slot. However, when the adverb occurs clause finally it modifies the entire clause.

(46)   **ip rikmwang lëp pokat mwansëlën kanën   <u>munek</u>**
      3p jump   take gun   take.with arrow.bullet too

    'They jumped (out of the boats) taking their guns and bullets too.'

(47)   nga pë pilai kat   la   <u>mwantön</u> a   nga lëp moni apörön
     1s REM play cards go.to more   and 1s   take money less

    'I played cards more, and I took less money.'

The negative adverb **pwën** 'not' may only occur clause finally.

(48)   i -a   rangrang ë ta ngka   la   ë   REDUP-tarë Pisik <u>pwën</u>
    3s-NEG like   OBL REL 1s:IRR go.to OBL REDUP-write Pisik not

    'He did not like that I wanted to go for writing at Pisik.'

3.8. Prepositions

The following prepositions have been identified in Lou. Although most of these prepositions encode specific spatial orientation, the prepositon **ë** is generically locative and also encodes the notion of instrument. It reflects the POC *(q)i preposition. (Ross 1988:104). For examples of how these relators are used in a phrase refer to the section on Relators on page 54.

ame	'inside'
asan	'up.there'
asuan	'down.there'
asuot	'down.below'
ë	OBL
kasön	'near'
kётёrin	'edge.of'
kulun	'through'
lalön	'inside'
masarën	'outside'
molokin	'behind'
mösöng	'between'
mwelin	'under'
mwerën	'between'
olungan	'with'
paansan	'beside'
pattan	'on.top'
peti	'belong.to'
tamën	'similar'
toun	

3.9. Question Words

Lou has three types of questions: alternative questions, polar questions, and content questions. Use of questions words in clauses and sentences is illustrated in section 5.2.3.3. Interrogative Clause. The question words are as follows:

ape	where-stative
e	Yes/No question marker
ëtepe	where-active
kepi	when
sa	what
samanön	how many/much
sap	which
sappe	what
sië	who
tamantape	why/how
të	ALT (or)
të sië/tei sië	whose

3.10. Connectives

Connectives are used to join words, phrases, and clauses together. Some connectives are coordinating, i.e. the elements being joined have equality with each other, such as **a** 'and'. Other connectives are subordinating, i.e. one of the elements depends on the other, such as **peti ta** 'because'. In this section I list the connectives in Lou and give a few examples. A more comprehensive discussion on coordination and subordination at the sentence level occurs in section and section . Refer to section and section for examples of coordinate and alternate noun phrases.

a	'and'
kapa	'if'
kiot	'if'
ma	'but'
molok ta	'before'
molokin ta	'after/before'
onan ta	'suppose'
palsi	'before'
peti ta	'because'
ta	'that'
të	'or'
tei	'only'
tingan	'since'
tonga	'and then'

In example (49) two uses of **a** 'and' are demonstrated. The first occurrence joins two noun phrases together and the second occurrence joins two clauses together.

(49)   Jo a̱ Jon uru këm puö a̱ molok Jon pë pwo i
Joe and John 3d catch pig and later John CERT tie 3s

' *Joe and John caught the pig and then John tied it.*'

3.11. Interjections

Interjections that express affimation consist of the back vowels with high intonation. The higher vowels with the highest tone is reserved for affimation that must carry a great distance. The lower vowels with low tone is used when the speaker and hearer are in close proximity.

u	'yes'
ao	'yes'
o	'yes'
ö	'oh'

(50) <u>ao</u> asoa -ng   i totak
     yes husband-1s:POSS 3s that

    'Yes, that one is my husband.'

(51) ö kolponu i sap   ong
     oh snake   3s trick 1s:OBJ

    '"Oh, the snake deceived me."'

3.12. Borrowed Words

Lou has borrowed many words from Pidgin and English. Some words like **kau** 'cow', from English, and **kiap** 'patrol officer, from Pidgin, have been borrowed without any changes to the phonology of the word. Other words, like **pinap** 'pineapple' have distinct phonological changes occurring in the borrowing process. Most borrowed words are nouns, but we have come across the verb **gat** 'have' borrowed from Pidgin, which has assimilated into Lou syntax and is used daily much to the chagrin of older Lou speakers.

(52) i <u>gat</u> pwën.
     3s have not

    '*He has none.'*

More exposure to the language will undoubtedly help us to identify words that have been borrowed from neighbouring vernacular languages.

4. PHRASE LEVEL

Lou distinguishes four types of phrases: noun, verb, adjective, and prepositional phrases.

4.1. Noun Phrase

Noun phrases occupy all core arguments in the clause. Noun phrases consist of a head noun plus optional modifiers, such as pronouns, demonstratives, quantifiers, qualifiers, adverbs, and possessives. The basic order of the constituents of the noun phrase is:

pronoun | noun | quantifier | qualifier | demonstrative

A variety of orders are allowed in the noun phrase, however, each order differs from another in pragmatic function. Other orders are as follows:

quantifier | noun | qualifier

qualifier | noun | quantifier

noun | quantifier | adverb | qualifier

pronoun | noun | noun | demonstrative | quantifier

noun | quantifier | noun

possessed noun | possessor

noun | noun

Proper noun | noun

pronoun

4.1.1. Pronoun Phrase

In its simplest form a noun phrase consists of a single pronoun. In example (53), the pronoun, **ëru** 'we two' refers to humans and therefore is not obligatorily specified with a noun. Cross reference example (54); the pronoun, **uru** 'they two' refers to dogs and **mwi** 'dog' must follow to specify that **uru** refers to dogs.

(53) <u>**ëru**</u> **tö aa lëp mwi rumo**
     1d IMP move take dog two

    'We two were taking two dogs.'

(54) <u>**uru mwi**</u> **pë pwetek puö som**
     3d dog PAST/FUT meet   pig one

    'The two dogs found one pig.'

4.1.2. Modified Noun Phrase

The numeral one functions as an indefinite article, introducing new information into the discourse. The noun phrase order of example 55 is the normal unmarked order. The order of example 56 is the marked order. It's pragmatic function is to emphasize the size of the fish. The order of example 57 is also an unusual order. The order of example 58 is marked as well. At the present level of analysis, it is not clear what is marked.

(55) **nik som pwakpwak**   **noun|quant|qual**
     fish one large

   '*a large fish*'

(56) **pwakpwak nik som töpö tong**   **qual|noun|quant**
     large   fish one DEM DEM

   '*this one large fish*'

(57) **notu som mwaen**   **noun|quant|noun**
     child one male

   '*a male child*'

(58)   som pëin tii   **quant|noun|qual**
         one woman different

     'a different woman'

An adverb may modify an adjective in the noun phrase. **som** 'one' for the animate class may occur with an inanimate noun when it is functioning as an indefinite article rather than as a quantifier.

(59)   riap   som patan pian
         clothes one really good

     'some really good clothes'

Proper nouns may modify a common noun.

(60)   Sande patipëng
         Sunday morning

     'Sunday morning'

Lou nouns do not occur with any affixation marking number. A noun is marked as plural either with modification by a quantifier or by being preceded with a non-singular personal pronoun.

(61)   mwi rumo
         dog two

     'two dogs'

(62)   ip ramat tamuna
         3p person every

     'all the people'

A noun phrase is definite when the noun is modified by a demonstrative.

(63)   itë ramat maar   töpö
         3t person knowledgeable DEM

     'these three knowledgeable men'

(64)   **pu som to**
       pig one DEM

   '*that one pig*'

4.1.3. Possessive Noun Phrase

   Lou has several ways to encode possession; inalienable suffixation, possessive pronouns, and possessive preposition. In all three structures the order of the possessive phrase is:

   Possessed | Possessive Marker | Possessor

   The possessive marker may be either a possessive pronoun, inalienable possessive suffix, or a possessive preposition. Example (68) is an example of the possessive preposition.

(65)   **um   <u>to</u>**
       house 2s:POSS

   '*your house*'

(66)   **petia<u>-n</u>   ip titsa**
       wife -3s:POSS 3p teacher

   '*the teachers' wives*'

(67)   **um   <u>tei</u>   misin**
       house 3s:POSS mission

   '*the house of the mission*'

(68)   **a   Popot Rakole pë tuk pëlö <u>peti</u>   laen.**
       and Popot Rakole REM beat bell belong.to line

   '*...and Popot beat the bell for assembly.*'

   A possessive noun phrase is often used in place of a modified noun phrase, as in the following example. In English we might use the phrase 'the head workman', a modified noun phrase in which one noun is modifed by another noun. A possessed noun is often modified by a demonstrative or quantifier.

(69)   **para-n**   **mangat**
head-3s:POSS work

'head of the work'

(70)   **kötia -n**   **kon**   **sip töpö**
net.bag-3s:POSS plant.food one DEM

'this garden bag'

(71)   **Ip ramta-n**   **kël** **töpö som**
3p owner-3s:POSS boat DEM   one

'The owners' this one boat'

(72)   **asoo   -m**   **tong**
husband-2s:POSS DEM

'your husband'

4.1.4. Appositional Noun Phrase

   Appositional noun phrases occur in the subject slot frequently.
They consist of a noun or Proper noun with a pronoun copy following
the head. None have been discovered in other core arguments to date.

(73)   **wong a   Sane ëru**
I   and Sane 1d

'I and Sane, we two EXC'

4.1.5. Coordinate Noun Phrase

   Coordinate noun phrases are joined with **a** 'and'. In the following
examples the coordinate noun phrase is bracketed. In the first example
ip 'they' modifies the full coordinate phrase, marking the nouns for
plural.

(74)   **ip [mwaen a   pëin]**
3p male and female

'the men and women'

(75) **[kolponu <u>a</u>   notu -n   pëin   töpö]**
     snake   and child.3:POSS female this

    'the snake and this young woman'

4.1.6. Alternative Noun Phrase

    Alternative noun phrases are joined with the form **të** 'or'. This same form is used as a third person singular pronoun to encode possession and recipient. Refer to examples (17) and (20).

(76) **tupu   -m   <u>të</u> tama -m   tö aa   eri tipoop**
     grandfather-2s:POSS or father-2s:POSS IMP move it long.ago

    'Did your grandfather or father continually use it in the past?'

(77) **ki   pë la   ta Jon <u>të</u> Jo <u>të</u> Frank ki   pë me**
     3s:IRR REM go.to REL John or Joe or Frank 3s:IRR REM come

    'It will be that John or Joe or Frank will come.'

4.1.7. Reciprocal Noun Phrase

    Reciprocity is expressed with **la të som** repeated twice, which literally means 'go to one, go to one'.

(78) **a   peti   ton -an luli pian <u>la   të   som la</u>**
     and belong.to give-NOM thing good go.to 3s:POSS one go.to

    <u>të   som</u>.
    3s:POSS one

    '... and for giving good things to each other.'

4.1.7.1. Reflexive Noun Phrase

    Lou does not have a set of reflexive pronouns or even a special reflexive marker. Instead it uses the possessive and recipient/benefactive pronouns as outlined in section 3.4.2. Poss & Rec/Benefactive Pronouns.

(79) **i la   ë   lëp –ian   ip mwaen a   pëin   <u>tei</u>**
          3s go.to OBL take-always 3p male   and female <u>3s</u>:POSS

   'He came for taking all men and women to himself.'

   For some verbs the concept of 'self' is understood to be part of the verb unless stated otherwise. For example, **nu** 'bathe' implies that a person will wash himself rather than someone else.

(80)   **wong nga pa nga-ka la   <u>nu</u>**
           1s   1s   say 1s:IRR go.to <u>bathe</u>

   'I want to go bathe./I want to go wash myself.'

4.2. Verb Phrase

   There are two types of verb phrases in Lou: general verb phrases and serial verb phrases. The general verb phrase consists of pre-verb particles, a main verb, and an optional adverb. There are two types of serial verb phrases. One consists of a directional verb and an optional adverb. The other serial verb phrase consists of the desirative, **pa** 'want' and optional pre-verb particles.

4.2.1. Coordinate Verb Phrases

   Coordinate verb phrases are obtained by joining two verb phrases with the generic conjunction **a** 'and'.

(81)   **ip mwaen a   pëin   <u>ki   monmonum a   teak</u> mangata**
           3s male   and female <u>3s:IRR wait   and   stop</u> work

   'the men and women will wait and stop work...'

4.2.2. Adpositional Verb Phrases

   Verb phrases can also be juxtaposed one beside the other.

(82)   **Modekai <u>pë   la   toktoar</u> la   pun   kkëtup të**
           Mordecai <u>REM go.to sit</u>   go.to completely gate   3s:POSS

   lapana Seksis
   chief Xerxes

   'Mordecai had gone and sat completely at the gate of King Xerxes.'

4.2.3. General Verb Phrase Structure

The general verb phrase in Lou consists of a variety of pre-verb particles which mark aspect, relative tense, and mode, followed by directional verb, an optional auxillary verb, a main verb, and finally an optional adverb.

Irrealis	Negative	Aspect1	Dir Verb	Aspect2	Aux Verb	Main Verb	Adverb
ka	a	ë		ën	pe		
ki	sa	lë		tö	tep		
		pë		tu			

(83) **Sasgas   ki   pë   la   tö tep toan   ip**
      Shaashgaz 3s:IRR REM   go.to IMP able look.after 3p

   ‘*Shaashgaz would go look after them.*’

4.2.3.1. Irrealis

Lou marks irrealis with the particles **ki** and **ka**. **ki** co-occurs with the third person singular subject, and **ka** co-occurs with all other persons and number. Realis is unmarked. The irrealis marker occurs in the first slot of the general verb phrase. Irrealis is associated with future events, both probable and improbable. It is associated dubitativity, conditionals, and contrafactuals. Thus in English it could be translated with ‘will, might’, should, or could’. It may also be associated with negation.

(84) **Salëta tatë   ka lë   tö -k   sungek,**
      if   1t:POSS IRR just stay-DETRAN get.together

      kolponua ki   pe keleek toru tem.
      snake   3s:IRR do spoil 1d.in now

   ‘*If we three just stay together, the snake will spoil us two now.*’

The irrealis marker co-occurs with **pë** ‘REM:PERF’, but never with **ë** ‘PERF’.

(85) **ëp ka pë   lëp ö la   lalön tölë**
      1p IRR REM:PERF take 2s go.to inside drum

   ‘*We will take you inside the drum.*’

ka 'IRR' and **ki** '3s:IRR' may occur with **tö** 'IMP' and **pë** 'REM:PERF'

(86)   ap <u>ka pë   tö</u> amwal tin
           2p IRR REM:PERF IMP win   fight

           'You might win the fights.'

(87)   i <u>ki   tö</u> nënë a ö <u>pë   tö</u> röng
           3s 3s:IRR IMP talk and 2s REM:PERF IMP hear

           'He should be talking and you should be listening.'

ka 'IRR' and **ki** '3s:IRR' may also occur with **lë** 'just' and **ën** 'DUR'.

(88)   pul sangaul a   ruëp to <u>ka lë ën</u> mwenmweneek ip
           moon ten   and two that IRR just DUR prepare   3p

           notu -n   -pëin to ë riapa pian a puangke somwa
           child-3s:POSS-female that OBL clothes good and food   excellent

           'Those twelve months [they] would just carefully prepare those young women with good clothes and excellent food.'

4.2.3.2. Negative

Lou marks negative clauses in the realis mode with **a** 'NEG' and negative clauses in the irrealis mode with **sa** 'NEG'. Both realis and irrealis negative clauses also end with a clause final adverb **pwën** 'not'.

(89)   Ip <u>a</u> la   olunga   -n   ip petia-n   ip <u>pwën</u>
           3p NEG go.to accompaniment-3s:POSS 3p wife -3s:POSS 3p not

           'They did not go with their wives.'

(90)   ma kapa ap ka <u>sa</u>   lëp tölë Kuam <u>pwën</u>
           but if   2p IRR IRR:NEG take drum Kuam not

           'But if you will not take the Kuam drum...'

4.2.3.3. Aspect1

There are two particles that mark perfect aspect. They are **pë** and **ë**. **ë** seems to encode situations that have just occured, while **pë**

encodes situations that are further in the past or future than the present moment. Neither of them ever occur with either of the negative particles.

(91)   **ip <u>ë</u> ën masarën**
        3p PERF lie outside

    'They have slept outside.'

(92)   **Ip <u>pë</u>   sot   aa   punan peti   Pwëk**
        3p REM:PERF go.first move valley belong.to Pwëk

    'They had first gone to the valley of Pwek.'

    Only **pë** co-occurs with the irrealis marker **ka**/**ki**.

(93)   **ëp <u>ka pë</u> lëp ö la   lalön tölë**
        1p IRR REM take 2s go.to inside drum

    'We will take you inside the drum.'

    Both of them co-occur with the imperfective marker **tö**/**tu**.

(94)   **o   tö mwang talap petia-n   ip titsa   a   ip**
        2s:IRR IMP berate 3p:POSS wife -3s:POSS 3p teacher and 3p

    notu talap <u>pë</u>   tö ananaek
    child3p:POSS REM:PERF IMP go.away

    'You are berating all the teachers' wives and their children have been going away.'

(95)   **pulen sip ta <u>ë   tö</u> pe tipoop to i -a   tö**
        custom one REL PERF IMP do long.ago that 3s-NEG IMP

    pang ip titsa   pwën
    feed 3p teacher not

    'This custom that [she] has been doing long ago, she was not feeding the teachers.'

    Perfect aspect is retrospective because it establishes a relation between a state at one time and a situation at an earlier time. Prospective aspect establishes a relation between a state and a subsequent time. English equivalents are 'to be going to, to be about

to, to be at the point of, etc'. Prospective aspect in Lou is marked with **lë** 'just'. **lë** never co-occurs with the negative particles.

(96)   **petita röng-röng pwën talap <u>lë</u> sa   tep   la   tetang**
        because hear-hear not   3p:POSS just ascend until go.to 1s:POSS

    '*...because their wickedness has just about ascended up to me.*'

    lë 'just' co-occurs with imperfective aspect **tö/tu**.

(97)   **Rut <u>lë   tö</u> pe mangat**
        Ruth just IMP do work

    '*Ruth was just doing work.*'

    lë 'just' co-occurs with durative aspect **ën**.

(98)   **ip <u>lë   ën</u> köl -köl i mata-n   poroa**
        3p just DUR wait-wait 3s eye -3s:POSS river

    '*They just waited and waited at the eye [mouth] of the river.*'

    lë 'just' co-occurs with the irrealis markers **ka/ki**.

(99)   **salëta tatë   <u>ka lë</u> tö -k   sungek   kolponua**
        if   1t:POSS IRR just stay-DETRAN get.together snake

        ki   pe keleek toru tem
        3s:IRR do spoil 1d.in now

    '*If we three will just stay together, the snake will spoil us two now.*'

4.2.3.4. Directional Verbs

   The directional verbs were listed in section 3.7.1. Directionals. All directional verbs may occur in either the directional slot or the main verb slot. The most frequently used directional verb is **la** 'go to'. Its primary sense is 'movement toward a goal which is away from the speaker'.

(100) Napetie i <u>la</u>   röng   nenewaë të   tina -n
        Napetie 3s go.to listen word   3s:POSS mother-3s:POSS

   ‘*Napetie listened to the words of his mother.*’

   The primary sense of **me** ‘come’ is ‘movement toward a goal in the direction of the speaker’.

 (101) i lë   <u>me</u>   këm ong   tak
        3s just come rape 1s:OBJ only

   ‘*He just about came raped me only.*’

   The primary sense of **si** ‘descend’ is movement away from the speaker downhill.

(102) i pë   <u>si</u>   lëp tina -n
        3s REM:PERF descend take mother-3s:POSS

   ‘*He had descended taking his mother.*’

   The primary sense of **sa** ‘ascend’ is movement away from the speaker uphill.

(103) ip pë   <u>sa</u>   to   i la   lalön
        3p REM:PERF ascend send 3s go.to inside

   ‘*They had ascended putting him inside.*’

   aa ‘move’ encodes generic movement.

 (104) ka -<u>aa</u> lëp i la   hausik peti   Lompurun
        IRR-move take 3s go.to clinic belong.to Lompurun

   ‘*Take him to the clinic at Lompurun.*’

4.2.3.5. Aspect2

   Lou has two particles that encode imperfective aspect, **tö** ‘IMP’ and **tu** ‘IMP’. **tu** ‘IMP’ seems to be used in conjunction with the irrealis markers **ka** ‘IRR’ and **ki** ‘3s:IRR’, when **tu** immediately follows the irrealis particles, although there are exceptions to this. Since there is no real tense, imperfective aspect is used to encode present tense.

(Comrie 1976:41) **tö** is the root form for the verb 'stay'. Perfective aspect is unmarked in Lou.

(105) ö tö teng ë   sa
        2s IMP cry   OBL what

    'You are crying for what?'

(106) I tö lëp sopwi katap   epi
        3s IMP take finish 1p.in:REC sago

    'He was taking our sago completely.'

(107) Tamuna ki   tu malë ë   kwarö la   të   God
        every 3s:IRR IMP hurry OBL call   go.to 3s:POSS God

    'Everyone will be hurrying to call to God.'

    Habitual aspect is expressed with a time phrase in conjuction with imperfective aspect.

(108) pëng tamuna ramat som la   tö lëp këlin
        time every person one go.to IMP take firewood

    'Every day a man was going to get firewood.'

    ën 'DUR' is a particle encoding durative aspect on the verb.

(109) ëtë ën lang -lang
        1t   DUR clean-clean

    'We cleaned and cleaned [garden].'

    ën may co-occur with **pë** 'REM:PERF', however it has not been found to co-occur with **ë** 'PERF'.

(110) i pë   ën pungto rei -n   uru la   sal
        3s REM:PERF DUR sniff smell-3s:POSS 3d go.to road

    'He had sniffed and sniffed their-two smell along the road.'

4.2.3.6. Auxilary Verbs

Some of the verbs that can fill the auxiliary verb slot of the general verb phrase are listed below. The verb in the auxiliary slot generally is a more generic verb than the verb in the main slot. For example **pe** 'do' in number 114, is more generic in meaning than **tëktëk** 'paddle'.

ik	'search'
lëp	'take'
pe	'do/make'
so	'hang'
teng	'cry'
tep	'until/reach'
ut	'dip'

(111) **o   la   ut nek   sö   we   sa   tatatë**
    2s:IRR go.to dip put.into some water ascend 1t.in:POSS

    'You go dip and bring up some water for us-three-incl.'

(112) **nga pë   teng parpar**
    1s REM:PERF cry scream

    'I had screamed.'

(113) **i të lëp panak katap   epi**
    3s IMP take steal 1p.in:REC sago

    'He was stealing our sago.'

(114) **ip pë   pe tëktëk sot**
    3p REM:PERF do paddle go.first

    'They had paddled and gone.'

All of these verbs may also fill the main verb slot. In example 115 **tep** 'reach/until' fills the auxiliary verb slot. In example 117 **tep** 'reach/until' fills the main verb slot.

(115) **Hekai ki   pë   të tep toan   ip notu -n   -pëin**
    Hegai 3s:IRR REM IMP able look.after 3p child-3s:POSS-female

    'Hegai would be looking after the young women...'

4.2.3.7. Main Verbs

Verbs, nouns, and adjectives may fill the main verb slot. In example 117 **pian** 'good', an adjective, fills the main verb slot. Example 117 contains two verb phrases in which a verb fills the main verb slot.

(116) **i -a <u>tep</u> ë ip pëin ka pë <u>röng</u> ili ip**
3s -NEG reach OBL 3p female IRR REM hear do.again 3p

    asoa -n ip pwën
husband-3s:POSS 3p not

'It should not reach to the women [and they] will listen again to their husbands.'

(117) **kapa som notu -n -pëin ta ning-ian i la <u>pian</u>**
if one child-3s:POSS-female REL see -NOM 3s become good

    pun la mata-n lapana Seksis
completely go.to eye -3s:POSS chief Xerxes

'If a young woman whose looks become completely good in the eye of (attract) King Xerxes...'

(118) **tia -n uru pë <u>palaak</u> a uru pë pe <u>kamwöu</u>**
belly-3s:POSS 3d REM bad and 3d REM do anger

'Their-two belly was bad and they-two did anger/They were angry.'

4.2.3.8. Adverbs

The general verb phrase may optionally contain an adverb as the last element. Adverbs are words that modify the main verb.

anek	'away'
ën suë	'little'
ili	'again'
lili	'again'
malë	'quickly'
molokin	'later'
muna	'every'
munek	'too'
mwantön	'more
nek	'certain'
poloek	'around'
pun	'very'
seniek	'regularly'
sopwi	'finish'
sungek	'together'
tini	'away from'

(119) i   aa   isimek   <u>sopwi</u>
      3s   move go.everywhere finish

   'It went everywhere completely.'

    A few of these adverbs may fill the main verb slot. For example, when **lili** 'again' fills the adverb slot as it does in example 43, its meaning is that the action of the main verb is repeated. However when **lili** 'return' fills the main verb slot as it does in example 44, its meaning is 'to return'.

(120) ip pëin ka   röng <u>lili</u> ip asoa   -n   ip
      3p female IRR   hear again 3p husband-3s:POSS 3p

   'The women will listen again to their husbands.'

(121) Hatak   pë   <u>lili</u>   la   um   të   Esta
      Hathach REM return go.to house 3s:POSS Esther

   'Hathach had returned to Esther's house.'

4.2.4. Serial Verb Phrase

    Two types of serial verb phrases have been identified so far. The first one involves the volitive **pa** 'say/want' and always occurs before the general verb phrase. The second one involves prepositional verbs and always occurs after the general verb phrase.

4.2.4.1. Volitive

The volitive form **pa** 'want' occurs in the first serial verb phrase in the clause. It encodes the meaning of 'wanting or intending to do something'. The same form also encodes the meaning 'say' and this function will be described in section 5.2.3.4. Quotation.

(122) ëtë <u>pa</u> ka me pe lotu la tei
     1t want IRR come do worship go.to 3s:POSS

    'We want to come and worship him.'

Usually the serial verb, **pa** 'want' occurs preceeding a general verb phrase that is marked for irrealis, as in the previous example. However, in example 123, **pa** 'want' precedes a general verb phrase that is unmarked for irrealis and is marked for imperfective.

(123) i <u>pa</u> la tö ik nik a i la tö ta epi.
     3s want go.to IMP look.for fish and 3s go.to IMP beat sago

    'He likes looking for fish and he is beating sago.'

In the serial verb slot, **pa** 'want' may occur by itself or with other verbal particles.

(124) tapö nga <u>pa</u> nga-ka nesek ta ëru pëin Papua pe kamwöu
     this 1s want 1s -IRR tell REL 1d female Papua do dispute

    'Now I want to tell that I and a Papuan woman had a quarrel.'

(125) ap <u>ka pa</u> ka la ë tin
     2p IRR want IRR go.to OBL fight

    'You will want to go to war."

pa 'want' may function as the main verb in a general verb phrase.

(126) ta Lapan <u>pa</u> talap
     REL lord want 3p:POSS

    '...that the Lord wanted for them'

    pa 'want' may also function as an auxilary verb preceding a main verb in a general verb phrase.

(127) nga <u>pa</u> topun aru ka ngan
        1s   say forbid 2d IRR eat

    'I forbid you to eat.'

4.2.4.2. Prepositional Verb Phrase

    A prepositional verb phrase may occur following the general verb phrase. The prepositional verb phrase consists of a directional verb and a noun phrase which is the object of the directional verb. None of the aspect and modal particles that occur in the general verb phrase occur in the prepositional verb phrase. The verbs that may occur in the prepositional verb phrase are the same ones that occur in the the directional verb slot of the general verb phrase.

la	'go to'
lak	'go to'
me	'come'
sa	'ascend'
si	'descend'
sot	'go first'
suot	'go down'
wot	'go'

(128) i pë nesek <u>wot</u> talap   ta tö pe mangata
        3s REM tell   go   3p:POSS REL IMP do work

    'He had said to them who were doing work...'

    The prepositional verb may immediately follow the general verb phrase as in example 128. If the general verb phrase takes an object, the object follows the general verb phrase and becomes the subject of the following prepositional verb. In example 129, **köpköpön pëinlapana** 'queen's roof (crown)' is the object of **to** 'send/put', but the subject of **la** 'go to'.

(129) i ki   to   köpköpön pëin -lapana <u>la</u>   para-n
        3s 3s:IRR send roof   female-chief go.to head-3s:POSS

    'She will put the queen's roof (crown) on her head.'

(130) i pë to   nenewaë <u>la</u>   të   Pokaröp Punet
        3s REM send word   go.to 3s:POSS Pokaröp Punet

    'He sent word to Pokarop at Punet.'

A clause may have only a prepositional verb phrase as shown by example 131. **la** 'go to' is the most frequently used prepositional verb.

(131) Ma ip asoa   -n   ëp <u>la</u>   kël
        but 3p husband-3s:POSS 1p go.to canoe

    'But our husbands went to the canoe..'

4.2.5. Stative Verb Phrase

Stative verb phrases consist of the particle **tö** 'IMP' in isolation or in conjunction with other particles.

(132) i tö   lalön puö topong
        3s stay inside pig this

    'It was inside this pig.'

tö may co-occur with **pë** 'REM:PERF'.

(133) ëp <u>pë tö</u>   kasön Pasta Aka
        1p REM stay near Pastor Aka

    'We had stayed near Pastor Aka.'

tö may be negated with the negative particle **a**.

(134) Sintilin i -<u>a   tö</u> mwamwanget pwën
        Sintilin 3s-NEG IMP lazy   not

    'Sintilin is not lazy.'

tö may be inflected with the de-transitiviser suffix **-k.**

(135) ëtë <u>ka pë tö -k</u>
　　　1t　IRR REM stay-DETRAN

　　'We will stay.'

When **la** 'go to' occurs preceeding **tö**, the concept of existence is expressed. The alternative form, **tu** is also found in this construction in example 137. In example 138, **la** 'go to' is inflected with the detransitiviser particle **-k**.

(136) taem tapö Sintilin <u>la tö</u> ponu tei Nihon
　　　today now Sintilin go.to stay village 3s:POSS Nihon

　　'Today Sintilin is at his village on Nihon.'

(137) i <u>la tu</u> ë pëngi nganesëlëp peti toluaë tong a
　　　3s go.to IMP OBL time seven belong.to feast that and

　　'It was on the seventh day of that feast and...'

(138) ma ip <u>la -k tö</u> ponu talap totak
　　　but 3p go.to-DETRAN stay village 3p:POSS only

　　'But they were at their village.'

4.3. Adjective Phrase

Adjectives may be modified by adverbs in an adjective phrase. In example 139, the adverb **pun** 'completely' modifies the adjective **pian** 'good'. Adjectives may also modify other adjectives in a noun phrase. In example 140, the adjective **tamuna** 'every' modifies **menegnan** 'big'.

(139) kapa som notu -n -pëin ta ning-ian i la <u>pian</u>
　　　if one child-3s:POSS-female REL see -NOM 3s become good

　　<u>pun</u> la mata-n lapana Seksis
　　　completely go.to eye -3s:POSS chief Xerxes

　　'If a young woman whose looks became very good to the eye of King Xerxes...'

(140) ip Jiu peti ip ponu <u>menengan tamuna</u>
　　　3p Jew belong.to 3p village big every

　　'The Jews of every big village...'

Adjectives may be conjoined with the conjunction a 'and' resulting in a coordinate adjective phrase.

(141) i ki   pë tö pang ip ë   puangke <u>pian a   somwa</u>
        3s 3s:IRR REM IMP feed 3p OBL food   good and excellent

    'He will be feeding them with good and excellent food.'

4.4. Prepositional Phrase

The structure of the prepositional phrase consists of a preposition followed by a noun phrase. Most of the prepositions relate the noun phrase to the action or to another noun phrase in specific spatial terms as seen in the following section.

4.4.1. Location

Lou has a generic relator, **ë** 'OBL' that is used in constructions which encode generic locative, goal, source, instrument, and purpose.

(142) o   pa tö <u>ë   tapong</u>
        2s:IRR say IMP OBL this

    'You stayed here'

(143) itë la   tö <u>ë   konum</u>
        3t go.to IMP OBL garden

    'They are at the garden.'

(144) Lapampapi ta i lapan töpö i lë   tö toktoar <u>ë   rë</u>
        Lapampapi REL 3s chief this 3s like IMP sit   OBL stone

    'Lapampapi, who was this chief, was sitting on the stone.'

Lou has a large class of prepositions which encode a specific spatial orientation toward its' object.

(145) uru pe kamwö   <u>lalön ke</u>
        3d make be.angry inside tree

    'They had this quarrel in the bush.'

(146) Kumuli i pusök sip ta i tö <u>kasön Lo</u>
Kumuli 3s island one REL 3s IMP near island.name

'Kumuli is one island near to Lou.'

(147) i la   aa   <u>kulun   katam</u>
3s go.to move through door

'He went through the door.'

(148) ramat la   tö <u>molokin um</u>
person go.to IMP behind house

'The man is behind the house.'

(149) ramat la   tö <u>mwelin um</u>
person go.to IMP under house

'The man is under the house.'

(150) ramat la   tö <u>mwerën um   ruëp</u>
person go.to IMP between house two

'The man is between the houses.'

(151) ramat la   tö <u>paansan um</u>
person go.to IMP beside house

'The man is beside the house.'

(152) itë la   tö <u>pattan um</u>
3t go.to IMP on.top house

'They are on the roof.'

(153) stor ta i tö <u>këtërin sal</u> i të   Jon
store REL 3s IMP edge.of road 3s 3s:POSS John

'The store beside the road belongs to John.'

In most of these phrases the noun phrase is not optional, however
in example (154), **um** 'house' is understood to be the noun that is
being related and in example 155, the noun, 'drum' is omitted.

(154) ramat la   tö masarën
person go.to IMP outside

   'The man is outside (the house).'

(155) I pë   la   lalön
    3s REM:PERF go.to inside

   'He had gone inside [the drum].'

4.4.2. Goal

   In the following examples, the prepositional verb **la** 'go to' together with **ë** encodes 'movement toward' the goal, the noun phrase. The movement is movement away from the deictic center of the speaker (or subject of the clause). Movement is toward the item that is being related to the deictic center. This phrase can be represented with the following formula; **PREP.V + ë + NP[GOAL]**

(156) i to rëin ke la   ë   um
    3s put leaf tree go.to OBL house

   'She put a leaf on the roof.'

(157) wë   rangek ip la   ë   tel
    2s:IMM.PAST hang.up 3p go.to OBL vine

   'You hung them on the line.'

   When the prepositional verb **me** 'come' occurs with **ë**, then the movement is towards the deictic center of the speaker.

(158) krismas   molok ngka pë lëp tisa   amo me   ë   skul
        Christmas later 1s:IRR CERT take teacher four come OBL school

   'Next year I will have four teachers come to school.'

   The other prepositional verbs are listed in section 4.2.4.2. Prepositional Verb Phrase may be used in conjunction with **ë**. It is not clear at this time what are the pragmatic or semantic differences between prepositional verb constructions with **ë** and those without **ë**.

(159) i tong i pë   lëp ip <u>sa   ë   tapong</u>
       and 3s that 3s CERT take 3p ascend OBL this

   '*He was the one who brought them here.*'

4.4.3. Instrument

   In the following examples, **ë** is functioning as an instrument relator.

(160) wong a   Sane   ëru pë   këm puö a   pë po i <u>ë   tel</u>
        1s and brother 1d CERT catch pig and CERT tie 3s OBL rope

   '*I and Sane held the pig and tied it with rope.*'

(161) i sokmat kau ë   pokat
        3s shoot cow OBL gun

   '*He shot the cow with a gun.*'

4.4.4. Source

   Lou has several techniques to encode the notion of source. However, paired with each construction is the generic locative prepositional phrase. In example 162, a nominalized form of a verb and adverb compound **peanekan** 'do-away-NOM' encodes the idea of 'keep away from'. In example 163, the adverb **anek** 'away' encodes the idea of 'away from'.

(162) ip not   pe kökö tëru   <u>pe-anek-an</u> puö ë um   tëru
        3p child make fence 1d:POSS do-away-NOM pig OBL house 1d:POSS

   '*The children made our fence to keep pigs away from our house.*'

(163) i rupto <u>anek</u> puö ë   <u>konum</u>
        3s chase away pig OBL garden

   '*He chased the pig out of the garden.*'

   In example 164, the prepositional verb **me** 'come' follows the prepositional locative phrase. However, the object of the prepositional verb is optional. It is understood to be the deictic center of the speaker.

(164) itë aa   ë   konum me
       3t move OBL garden come

   'They came from the garden.'

   The sweet potatoes is the source of my liking something.

(165) nga tö rangrang ë   kouka
       1s IMP like   OBL sweet.potato

   'I like sweet potatoes.'

4.4.5. Purpose

   The form **ë** can also encode purpose. For other methods of encoding purpose refer to the section on Purpose on page 76.

(166) wong nga la   Moresbi ë   pap-ian kone
       I   1s go.to Moresby OBL buy-NOM rice

   'I went to Moresby for rice buying.'

4.4.6. Resemblance

   The form, **tamën** 'like' is used to express resemblance, similarity, or approximate equality. **tamën** occurs with the prepositional verb **la** 'go to'. For other methods of encoding resemblence see the section on Comparison on page 74.

(167) i nomnom la   tamën puö
       3s eat   go.to like pig

   'He eats like a pig.'

(168) lapana Seksis pë   pe la   tamën ta Memukan nesek
       chief Xerxes REM do go.to like REL Memucan tell

   'King Xerxes had done like what Memucan said.'

4.4.7. Accompaniment

Accompaniment with people is encoded with the inalienably possessed noun, **olungan** 'accompaniment-3s:POSS' occurring with a possessor noun phrase.

(169) **aru ta rumo olunga -n ip not ka pë la**
    2d REL two accompaniment-3s:POSS 3p child IRR CERT go.to

    ë konum
    OBL garden

    'You two with your children should go to the garden.'

(170) **Modekai tö olunga -n ip Juda**
    Mordecai stay accompaniment-3s:POSS 3p Judah

    'Mordecai stayed with the Jews.'

olungan 'accompaniment-3s:POSS' may also be used when things accompany a person. The possessor noun may be omitted.

(171) **i ki pë lëp olunga -n la um**
    3s 3s:IRR REM take accompaniment-3s:POSS go.to house

    të lapana
    3s:POSS chief

    'She will take [things] with her to the King's house.'

5. CLAUSE LEVEL

5.1. Clause Arguments

Lou has four types of clause arguments: Core which consists of subject and object; Peripheral which consists of indirect object and oblique; and a combination of indirect object with oblique.

5.1.1. Features of Arguments

Core arguments, subject and object are unmarked on the verb and not marked by adpositions. They are marked exclusively by word order, the subject occurring before the verb and the object occurring following the verb. Peripheral arguments except for time are generally marked with prepositions. Recipient and benefactive arguments are neither core or peripheral arguments, but somewhere in between the two. In this paper they are referred to as indirect objects. They are marked by possessive pronouns. Indirect objects and some peripheral arguments are objects of prepositional verbs rather than the verb nucleus.

5.1.2. Order of Arguments

The normal order of constituents in a declarative indicative clause is SVO. The V slot may be filled with a single verb or any of the verb phrases discussed in Section 4.2. Verb Phrase. Both of the core arguments, the subject and the object are optional in certain types of clauses. The periphery is divided into indirect object and oblique arguments. The indirect object consists of Recipient, Goal, and Benefactive arguments. Oblique arguments are: Time, Locative, Goal, Possessive, Purpose, Instrument, Commitative, Accompaniment, and Similarity. Time arguments typically occur first in the clause, before the subject, although they may occur last in the clause as well. Manner arguments typically occur last in the clause or following the verb phrase.

Theme	<----------Core--------->				<-----------Periphery----------->		
Adv	**Subject**	**V**	**Object**	**P V**	**Indirect O**	**Oblique**	**Outer**
Time Modal	Agent Experiencer Theme		Locative Patient Recipient		Benefactive Goal Recipient	Accompany Goal Instrument Locative Possessive Purpose Similarity Source Theme	Time Modal

5.1.3. Ellipses of Arguments

Core arguments may be omitted. In example 172, the object, 'it' is omitted, but may be implied from context.

(172)   ip ka okto ki   tö   talap
     3p IRR hold 3s:IRR stay 3p:POSS

   'They will hold [it];[it] will stay for them./They will hold it for them.'

5.2. Clause Types

There are two basic clause types that combine to form sentences, independent clauses and dependent clause.

5.2.1. Independent Clause

Independent clauses may stand alone as a sentence. There are two types; stative and active clauses.

5.2.1.1. Stative Clause

There are two types of stative clauses in Lou. Existential and Locational clauses may contain verbs and verbal particles. Descriptive and Equative clauses may not contain any verb or verbal particle, except the negative particle.

5.2.1.1.1. Existential

Existential clauses are built around the stative verb **tö** 'stay'.

Topic[NP]		Stative Verb

(173) mwëian   notu -n   pëin som tö -k   palsi
very.good child-3s:POSS female one stay-DETRANS long.ago

'Long ago there was a beautiful young woman.'

5.2.1.1.2. Locational

Locational clauses in Lou consist of a topic noun phrase, a copula, and a locational noun phrase. The copula **la tö** is composed of the prepositional verb **la** 'go to' and the root form of the verb stay **tö** 'stay', which also functions as the imperfective marker.

Topic[NP]		Copula		Location[NP]

(174) itë la   tö Lorengau
3t go.to IMP Lorengau

'They are at Lorengau.'

5.2.1.1.3. Equative

Equative clauses in Lou consist of a topic subject noun phrase juxtaposed with a comment noun phrase. The referent of the topic noun phrase is identical to the referent of the comment noun phrase. A possessive noun phrase may fill either of the noun phrase slots.

Topic[NP]		Comment[NP]

(175) puö som to   i mwaen
pig one that 3s male

'That one pig is a male.'

(176) a asoo-ng   i totak
ah husband-1s:POSS 3s that

'Ah, my husband is that.'

A negative equative clause occurs when the referent of the topic noun phrase is not identical to the comment noun phrase. Both the negative particle, **a** and the negative adverb, **pwën** are used to express a negative equative clause.

| | **Topic[NP]** | | **NEG** | | **Comment[NP]** | | **NEG** |

(177) i   a   um   to   pwën
     3s NEG house 2s:POSS not

    'It is not your house.'

(178) i   a   ramat   pwën
     3s NEG person not

    'He is not human.'

(179) uru ramat   rumo som kë -n   pwën i mata-n
     3d person two   one foot-3s:POSS not   3s eye -3s:POSS

     a   som mata-n   pwën kë -n   pian
     and one eye -3s:POSS not   foot-3s:POSS good

    'There were two men, one lame with eyes, and one blind with good feet.'

5.2.1.1.4. Descriptive

Descriptive clauses in Lou consist of a topic subject noun phrase juxtaposed with a comment adjective phrase.

| | **Topic[NP]** | | **Comment[AdjP]** |

(180) we   i ngarap
     water 3s warm

    'The water is warm.'

(181) stor i patan menengan
     store 3s really big

    'The store is very big.'

5.2.1.2. Active Clause

5.2.1.2.1. Intransitive

Intransitive clause contain only one core argument, the subject.

SUB

(182) i   pe   mangat
      3s ke work

    'He worked.'

5.2.1.2.2. Transitive

   Transitive clauses consist of the two core arguments; subject and object.

SUB   OBJ

(183) i   këm not -un   pëin   som
      3s rape child-3s:POSS female one

    ' He raped the girl.'

5.2.1.2.3. Ditransitive

   Ditransitive clauses contain both core arguments, the subject and the object. However, they also contain an indirect object.

SUB   OBJ   IO

(184) ëru pë   satek ke   se tei
      1d REM:PERF attach tree one 3s:POSS

5.2.2. Dependent Clause

5.2.2.1. Relative Clause

   Subjects, objects, indirect objects, obliques, and adverbials may be relativized with the relative pronoun **ta** 'REL'. The subject **som** 'one' is relativized.

(185) ma <u>som</u> <u>ta i mwang la   monua to</u> pëin   sala to   i
      but one REL 3s appear go.to eagle that female old that 3s

     pë atë   ngar-an   la Napetie
     REM speak.name name-3s:POSS go.to Napetie

    'But one who appeared as that eagle, that old woman called her name Napetie.'

The object këtin is relativized.

(186) nga pë pe sopwi <u>këtin</u> <u>ta nginiöp to   lalön REDUP-tarë</u>
       1s   REM do finish year REL six   that inside REDUP-write

   'I had finished the year that was the sixth of schooling.'

The indirect object **talap** '3p:POSS' is relativized.

 (187) uru pë öp la   <u>talap</u>   <u>ta peti   Romput</u>
       3d   REM fly go.to 3p:POSS REL belong.to Romput

   'They two had flown to them who belong to Romput.'

The oblique noun, **patpat** 'table' is relativized.

(188) i pë la   pe um   la   ë   pattan <u>patpat</u> <u>ta i tö</u>
        3s REM go.to do house go.to OBL on.top table REL 3s IMP

   <u>**ran   supwak topong**</u>
   branch tree   this

   He had gone and made a house on top of the platform that was in this tree branch.'

5.2.2.2. Adverbial Clause

(189) ip pë pa   pian ë   <u>ta ngka   la   Kambubu</u>
        3p REM want good OBL REL 1s:IRR go.to Kambubu

   'They had wanted much for that I would go to Kambubu.'

(190) ë   <u>ta REDUP-tarë tang   ip pepwën</u> nga pë la   ramat som
        OBL REL REDUP-write 1s:POSS 3p complete 1s REM go.to person one

   peti   REDUP-tarë ili   <u>ta nga la   elelek ip notu</u>
   belong.to REDUP-write do.again REL 1s go.to teach 3p child

   'In that my schooling was complete, I had become a person of schooling again that I went to teach the children.'

5.2.2.3. Complement Clause

Complement clauses are clauses which function as an argument of another clause called the main clause.

5.2.2.4. Cognition/Perception

In the first three examples the complement clause is introduced with **ta** 'that'. The connective **ta** is also used in relative clause construction. In example (194), the subject of the complement clause is elided. In example (194), the complement clause is the object of the verb **pangar** 'think', while in example (195), the complement clause is the object of the preposition **ë**. Example (196) does not have the connective **ta**; the complement clause is juxtaposed to the main clause similar to direct quotation.

(191) nga tö pasek <u>ta i ki   pë   me</u>
      1s IMP know REL 3s 3s:IRR CERT come

    ' I know that he is coming.'

(192) nga lë   pangar <u>ta o   pe   keleek</u>
      1s like think REL 2s:IRR make spoil

    ' I thought that you were wrong.'

(193) i nesek <u>ta i pa i ning i Lorengau</u>
      3s tell REL 3s say 3s see 3s Lorengau

    ' He said that he saw her in Lorengau.'

(194) ëru tö rangrang <u>ta pa ka la   Ukarumpa</u>
      1d IMP like   REL say IRR go.to Ukarumpa

    ' We like that (we) want to go to Ukarumpa soon.'

(195) i rangrang <u>ë ta i ki   pë pe   kökö tëru</u>
      3s like   OBL REL 3s 3s:IRR CERT make fence 1d:POSS

    ' He likes that he will build our fence.'

(196) Jo i elelek <u>Robert ë   penan kël</u>
      Joe 3s teach Robert OBL make canoe

    ' Joe taught Robert how to make a canoe.'

5.2.2.5. Nominalized Clause

5.2.3. Clause Modifications

5.2.3.1. Negation

   Negation in Lou consists of inserting the negative particle **a** or **sa** within the verb phrase preceeding the head verb and adding the negative adverb **pwën** 'not' to the clause-final adverb slot. **sa** is used when the verb is in the irrealis mode, and **a** in the non-irrealis mode.

(197)   a   nga pa ëtë ka <u>sa</u>   aa   <u>pwën</u>
          and 1s say 1t   IRR IRR:NEG move not

     '*And I said, "We will not move".'*

(198)   a   pul tëlëp to   uru <u>a</u>   tö pang ip titsa   <u>pwën</u>
          and moon three that 3d NEG IMP feed 3p teacher not

     '*And those three months they-two were not hosting the teachers.'*

5.2.3.2. Imperative Clause

   Imperative clause may or may not contain the subject 'you'.

(199)   o   pë   kökö tëru
          2s:IRR CERT fence 1d:POSS

     '*Build our fence!'*

(200)   pap kone ë   stor
          buy rice OBL store

     '*Buy the rice at the store.'*

5.2.3.2.1. Prohibition

   Lou has a special word **topun** 'forbid' that expresses prohibition. It precedes the verb expressing the action that is forbidden.

(201) **i ngompa, "notu topun ki mimi la um"**
　　　　3s said 　　child forbid 3s:IRR urinate go.to house

　　　'She said, "Forbid children to urinate in the house".'

5.2.3.3. Interrogative Clause

　　There are three types of interrogative clauses in Lou: alternative, polar, and content questions.

5.2.3.3.1. Alternative Questions

　　Alternative questions are expressed by conjoining two or more alternatives with të 'or'. There is no overt question marker, but rising intonation signals to the hearer that a response is expected.

(202) **i mat <u>të</u> i pian**
　　　　3s die or 3s good

　　　'Is he dead or alive?'

(203) **ö pë wawa sal <u>të</u> ö pë aa ë kël**
　　　　2s CERT walk road or 2s CERT move OBL canoe

　　　' Are you going to Tapini on foot or by plane.?'

5.2.3.3.2. Polar Questions

　　Polar questions (yes/no) consist of a declarative clause, followed by the question word **e**. The question word is accompanied with rising intonation signalling that a response is expected by the speaker. An affimative answer consists of **uu** with very high tone. A negative answer to a question is **pwën** 'no' or shaking the head from side to side.

(204) **mwi tö ki pë kökök la menengan <u>e</u>**
　　　　dog IMP 3s:IRR CERT bark go.to big 　　QUES

　　　' Can your dog bark very loud?'

(205) **moni tö to <u>e</u>**
　　　　money IMP put QUES

　　　' Do you have money?'

5.2.3.3.3. Content Questions

Content questions are manifested by a content question word to indicate the item or aspect being questioned. The question word occurs in the same clause position as the element it is replacing. Thus **ape** 'where-stative' in (208) and **ëtepe** 'where-active' in (209) are in the normal locative position; **sië** 'who' is in the subject position (206); and **sa** 'what' occurs in the object slot in (212).

(206) <u>sië</u> ki   pë   pe   kökö tatap
      who 3s:IRR CERT make fence 1p.in:POSS

     ' *Who will make our fence?*'

(207) <u>tam -an   tape</u> a   ip ramat pë   pe   kamwö
      origin-3s:POSS where and 3p person CERT make be.angry

     ' *Why are the people angry?*'

(208) titia   papëun i <u>ape</u>
      teacher new   3s where

     ' *Where is the new teacher?*'

(209) o   pa ka la <u>ëtepe</u>
      2s:IRR say IRR go.to where

     ' *Where are you going?*'

(210) ip pe kökö la   tam -an   <u>tape</u>
      3p make fence go.to origin-3s:POSS where

     ' *How did they make the fence?*'

(211) o   to leta la <u>të   sië</u> la -k
      2s:IRR put letter go.to 3s:POSS who go.to-DETRAN

     '*To whom did you send a letter?*'

(212) o   to <u>sa</u> pe la   tei
      2s:IRR put what make go.to 3s:POSS

     '*What did you give him?*'

(213) <u>**kepi**</u> **o   pë   la   Lorengau**
         when 2s:IRR CERT go.to Lorengau

     'When did you go to Lorengau?'

(214) **um   <u>tei</u>   sië i la   mon**
         house 3s:POSS who 3s go.to fire

     'Whose house is burning?'

(215) <u>**sa   -p**</u> **ramat lëp panak moni**
         what-*** person take steal money

     'Which man stole the money?'

(216) **kone <u>samanön</u> la   tö stor**
         rice how.many go.to IMP store

     'How much rice is in the store?'

5.2.3.3.4. Rhetorical Question

5.2.3.4. Quotation

   There are two types of quotation in Lou: direct quotation and indirect quotation. Both types use various speech and cognition verbs, such as, **pa** 'say', **söksök** 'discuss', **pangar** 'think', **mwang** 'berate', etc. There is no special quote formula that differentiates the two types of quotation. The obvious way of distinguishing between the two types of quotation is the pronoun reference that is used in the quotation. In direct quotation the pronoun in the main clause and the quotation clause generally reference the same person if first person is used in the main clause, and reference a different person if second or third person is used in the main clause. As can be seen from the following chart, there are four situations where it is unclear whether a quotation clause is direct or indirect.

Main clause	Quote clause	Referent in Direct Quote	Referent in Indirect Quote
1 person	1 person	same	same
1 person	2 person	diff	diff
1 perso	3 person	diff	diff
2 person	1 person	same	diff
2 person	2 person	diff	same
2 person	3 person	diff	diff
3 person	1 person	same	diff
3 person	2 person	diff	diff
3 person	3 person	diff	same

5.2.3.4.1. Direct Quotation

(217) Silen pa "a   ponat to   pwën ponat tetang"
    ilen say NEG earth 2s:POSS not   earth 1s:POSS

   'Silen said, "The ground is not yours, the ground is mine.'

(218) uru pë   pe   söksök "toru ka la   alalum suë   ë tolua"
    3d CERT make discuss 1d.in IRR go.to watch little OBL feast

   'They two certainly said to each other, "We two should go to watch the feast for a little while."

(219) i pangar "nga   ning i palsi"
    3s think   1s   see 3s before

   ' He thought, 'I've seen her before'.'

5.2.3.4.2. Indirect Quotation

   In the first four examples the indirect quotation is juxtaposed to the main clause without a connective. In example (220), the thief is referenced with third person pronouns in both the main clause and the indirect quote. This is the clue that the quotation is an indirect quote rather than a direct quote, since in a direct quote the thief would have referred to himself with a first person pronoun. In example (221), the man refers to both himself and his wife with a third person affixation (**petia-n** 'his wife'; **kan** 'him') instead of a second person affixation (**petio-ng** 'my wife'; **kong** 'me').

(220) ramat panak i pa i a   lëp panak puangke pwën
    person steal 3s say 3s NEG take steal food   not

   'The thief said he did not steal the food.'

(221) ramat som to   i pa <u>petia-n   ki   to puangke la kan</u>
       person one that 3s say wife -3s:POSS 3s:IRR put food   go 3s:REC

   '*That man said his wife should give him food.*'

(222) nga pa <u>pwën ë   ta o   la   Moresbi</u>
       1s say not OBL REL 2s:IRR go.to Moresby

   '*I said, no that you go to Moresby.*'

(223) tisa   i mwang <u>talap   not ë   ta ip a lëp këlin   me</u>
       teacher 3s berate 3p:POSS child OBL REL 3p NEG take firewood come

       <u>**pwën**</u>
       not

   '*The teachers rebuked the children that they did not bring firewood.*'

(224) i nesek <u>ta i pa i ning i Lorengau</u>
       3s tell REL 3s say 3s see 3s Lorengau

   '*He said that he saw her in Lorengau.*'

(225) Ip sapa pa a   ramat suë   pweriöun töpöa
       3p some say and person little dissabled this

   '*Some of them said that little disabled person.*'

6. SENTENCE LEVEL

6.1. Coordination

Coordination of all types in Lou may use the connective **a** 'and' to join two clauses to form a sentence.

6.1.1. Temporal Simultaneity

Two clauses that occur simultaneously are joined together with **a** 'and'.

(226) nga pa tö wawa <u>a</u> nga tuek ong
         1s say IMP walk and 1s bump 1s:OBJ

   ' *While I walked, I stumbled.*'

6.1.2. Temporal Sequence

Two clauses which occur in temporal sequence can be joined with the connective **a** 'and'.

(227) i to we la tei <u>a</u> i pë im
         3s put water go.to 3s:POSS and 3s CERT drink

   ' *He gave her some tea and she drank it.*'

6.1.3. Non-temporal Coupling

Clauses that express non-temporal coupling may also be joined together with the connective **a** 'and'.

(228) i tourön a i menengan
         3s short and 3s big

   'He's short and he's big.'

6.1.4. Comparison

6.1.4.1. Active

(229)   Jon i rangrang ë   Solang la   menengan molok a Lorengau
      John 3s like   OBL Solang go.to big   later and Lorengau

   ' Joe likes Solang more than he likes Lorengau.'

(230)   Jon i a tö rangrang ë   Solang pwën a   molok a Lorengau
      John 3s NEG IMP like   OBL Solang not and later and Lorengau

   ' John likes Lorengau less than he likes Moresby.'

(231) i nomnom la   tamën   puö
      3s eat   go.to similar pig

   ' He eats like a pig.'

(232) i pe   pölpölöt la   ka lë pa som monmon
      3s make song   go.to IRR just say one bird

   ' He sings like a bird.'

6.1.4.2. Non-Active

(233) Jo i menengan a   molok a   Jo
      Jon 3s big   and later and Joe

   ' John is bigger than Joe.'

(234)   Jon i matak molok a   Jo
      John 3s older later and Joe

   ' John is older than Joe.'

(235) lumun   par -an   ka lë pa lumun   som monmon
      his.hair head-3s:POSS IRR just say his.hair one bird

   ' His hair is like a bird's feathers.'

6.1.5. Contrastive

6.1.5.1. Active

Often ideas that would be expressed in English with the contrastive 'but', are expressed in Lou with <u>a</u> 'and' as in example (236). True contrast is expressed with **ma** 'but' in both active and nonactive sentences.

(236) **uru tö aa   la   Rei a   ramat som pë   lëp -mat uru sal**

      3d IMP move go.to Rei and person one CERT take-die 3d road

      <u>a</u>   **uru a   la   mwang pwën**
      and 3d NEG go.to appear not

' *They were going to Rei, and someone killed them on the road and so*
   they never arrived.'

(237) **pe   pelit tei   <u>ma</u> i a   mat pwën**
      make poison 3s:POSS but 3s NEG die not

   ' *(Someone) made his poison, but he didn't die.'*

(238) **nga lë   pangar ta o   pe   keleek <u>ma</u> wa pe   pwën**
      1s just think REL 2s:IRR make spoil but 2s make not

   ' *I thought that you were wrong, but you weren't.'*

6.1.5.2. Non-Active

Two non-active clauses that express contrast may be juxtaposed to each other without any connective.

(239) **i a   kar -an   pwën i karo -an**
      3s NEG black-3s:POSS not   3s white-3s:POSS

   ' *It's not black; it's white.'*

(240) **a   ngataan a   roroun pwën <u>ma</u> i lë   ngarap**
      NEG hot   and cold   not but 3s just warm

   ' *It's neither hot nor cold; but it's just warm.*

(241) i mweniam   ma moni tei   pwën
          3s white.person but money 3s:POSS not

    ' He's a European, but he's not rich.'

6.1.6. Alternative

   The third person singular possessive **të** 'or' is used as the alternative.

(242) i ki   rekmat puö të   pwën
          3s 3s:IRR hit   pig 3s:POSS not

    ' Either he killed the pig or he didn't.'

(243) ki   pë   la   ta Jon ki   me të Jo ki   me
          3s:IRR CERT go.to REL John 3s:IRR come or Joe 3s:IRR come

    ' Either John will come or Joe will come .'

6.2. Subordination

6.2.1. Reason/Result

6.2.2. Purpose

6.2.3. Conditional

6.2.3.1. Hypothetical

6.2.3.2. Contrafactual

7. DISCOURSE LEVEL

7.1. Aperature Devices

7.2. Background Information

7.3. Event Line

7.4. Participant Reference

7.5. Cohesive Devices

7.6. Closure Devices

8. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

8.1. Abstractions

8.2. Ellipsis

8.3. Idioms

8.4. Personification

8.5. Figures of Speech

(244)   **som kë -n   pwën**
one foot-3s:POSS not

'one lame man'

(245)   **som mata-n   pwën**
one eye -3s:POSS not

'one blind man'

(246)   **katë -n   notun   pëin töpö i pë   ëtët**
liver-3:POSS child.3:POSS female this 3s REM:PERF scrape

'This young woman was afraid ...'

8.6. Simile

8.7. Synecdoche

8.8. Euphemism

9. Unresolved Issues

9.1. Nominal Modifiers

In the section on qualifiers, I mentioned that many nominal modifiers co-occur with the third person inalienable possessive marker. I need to determine why some noun modifiers occur without possessive affixation. I need to determine if such modifiers have a different function that parallels the different structure.

9.2. Derived Nouns

In the section on derived nouns, I presented two methods of deriving nouns from verbs; reduplication and affixing **-ian**. Both processes can occur at the same time on the verb **ning** 'see'. This results in **ningningian** **'looks'**, in addition to **ningian** 'looks' and **ningning** 'looking'. I do not understand the semantic differences that these processes exhibit.

(247) ning-ning-ian Esta to i patan pian a i patan somwa
        see -see -NOM Esther that 3s really good and 3s really excellent

   'The looks of Esther were really great and really excellent.'

10. APPENDIX

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