

The Romblomanon Grammar Essentials Sketch

Rence S. Law
Summer Institute of Linguistics

This paper presented in partial fulfillment of the requirement of attending
the Translation Orientation Workshop
February, 1997

Contents

1.	Give charts of following:	1
1.1	Personal Pronouns	1
1.2	Deictic Pronouns	1
1.2.1	Demonstrative Pronouns	1
1.2.2	Personal Demonstrative	2
1.2.3	Locative Pronouns	2
1.3	Case-markers	3
1.3.1	Personal Markers	3
1.3.2	Impersonal Markers	3
1.4	Tense-aspect affixes with Focus affixes	3
1.4.1	Location Focus	5
1.4.2	Non-nuclear Location Focus (Benefactive)	6
1.4.3	Non-Nuclear Theme Focus (Instrument)	7
2.	Verbs:	8
2.1	Completed action: Perfective	8
2.2	Incomplete action: Progressive	8
2.3	Proposed action: Imperfective	8
2.4	Imperative action	9
2.4.1	Positive Imperative	9
2.4.2	Negative Imperative	12
2.4.3	First Person Imperative	13
2.5	Recently completed action	14
2.6	Immediate future action	15
2.7	Customary action	15
2.8	Continuative action	15
2.9	Repetitive action	16
2.9.1	By -in-	16
2.9.2	By duplication	16
2.10	Reciprocal action	16
2.11	Distributive action	17
2.12	Optative action	17
2.13	Causative action	17
3.	Noun Phrases	18
3.1	Possessive	18
3.1.1	Possessive Pronoun	18
3.1.2	Possessor is a Proper Name	18
3.1.3	Possessor is a Noun	18
3.2	Demonstrative	18
3.2.1	Ini 'this'	18
3.2.2	Ina' 'that'	19
3.2.3	Adto 'that yonder'	19
3.3	Quantifiers	19
3.3.1	Numeral	19
3.3.2	Quantifier	19
3.4	Descriptive	19
3.5	Appositive	19
3.6	Order of Modifiers	20
3.6.1	Acceptable Orders	20
3.6.2	Only before the head noun	20
3.6.3	Only after the head noun	20
3.6.4	Pre-verbal possessive pronoun must be in the first place	20
3.6.5	Post-verbal possessive pronoun not in first place	21

4. Nonverbal Clause Types	21
4.1 Description	21
4.1.1 Description	21
4.1.2 Negation	21
4.2 Classification	21
4.2.1 Classification	21
4.2.2 Negation	21
4.3 Identification	22
4.3.1 Identification	22
4.3.2 Negation	22
4.4 Quantification	22
4.4.1 Quantification	22
4.4.2 Negation	22
4.5 Time	23
4.5.1 Time	23
4.5.2 Negation	23
4.6 Location	23
4.6.1 Location	23
4.6.2 Negation	23
4.7 Existence	23
4.7.1 Existence	24
4.7.2 Negation: Non-Existence	24
4.8 Possession	24
4.8.1 Possession	24
4.8.2 Negation: Non-Possession	25
5. Verbal Predications	26
5.1 Manner	26
5.1.1 Adverbial	26
5.1.2 Ability (managed to have... , was able to ...)	26
5.1.3 Permission	26
5.1.4 Unintentional action	26
5.2 Time	27
5.3 Location	27
5.4 Benefactive	27
5.5 Instrumental	28
5.6 Causal	28
5.6.1 Non-focus	28
5.6.2 Focused	28
5.7 Referential	28
5.7.1 Non-focus	28
5.7.2 Focused	29
5.8 Measurement	29
6. Questions	29
6.1 Yes-No Question	29
6.2 Identity	30
6.2.1 Sin'o 'who': (from si+uno)	30
6.2.2 Ano 'what'	30
6.3 Possession	30
6.3.1 With a noun head	31
6.3.2 With an verbal clause	31
6.3.3 With Pära	31
6.4 Place	31
6.5 Time	31
6.5.1 San'o or Sa'uno 'when'	31
6.5.2 Kasan'o or Ka'uno 'when'	32

6.6	Means	32
6.7	Manner	32
6.8	Cause and Purpose	32
6.9	Extent	33
6.10	State	33
6.11	Amount	33
6.12	Quality	34
6.12.1	‘Ano’ with linker ‘nga’	34
6.12.2	‘Ano’ with topic marker	34
6.12.3	‘Ma’uno’ with topic marker ‘ang’	34
6.13	Alternatives	35
6.13.1	Di’in	35
6.13.2	Sin-o	35
7.	Joining Concepts	35
7.1	Conjunction	35
7.2	Disjunction / Alteration	35
7.3	Contrast	35
7.4	Temporal Relations	36
7.4.1	Sequence	36
7.4.2	Simultaneous	37
7.4.3	Co-occurrence	37
7.4.4	Beginning-postpan	37
7.4.5	Prespan-end	37
7.5	Reason	37
7.6	Result	38
7.7	Purpose	38
7.8	Grounds-conclusion	38
7.9	Condition-Consequence or Consequence-Condition	38
7.9.1	Contrafactual	38
7.10	Concession-Contraexpectation	38
7.10.1	Hypothetical	Error! Bookmark not defined.
7.10.2	Contrafactual	39
7.11	Comparison of Equality	39
7.12	Comparison of Inequality	39
7.12.1	Comparison between two items	39
7.12.2	Comparison of more than two items	39
7.13	Verbal Simile	39
7.14	Verbal Comparison	40
8.	Quotation	40
9.	Indirect Quotation	40
10.	Embedded Clause	40
11.	Relative Clauses	41
11.1	With linker ‘nga’	41
11.1.1	Basic Relative Clause	42
11.1.2	Existential Relative Clause	44
11.2	With relative pronouns	46
12.	Nominalization	47
12.1	Nominalized Verb	47
12.1.1	Nominalized Verb as an AGT	47
12.1.2	Nominalized Verb as an Theme	48
12.1.3	Nominalized Verb as an Location	48
12.2	Nominalized verb with ‘may’	48
12.2.1	Existence: Nominalized without nominal marker	48
12.2.2	Nominalized with nominal marker	49
13.	Cleft Sentences	49

13.1	Transitive Clause	49
13.2	Intransitive Clause	50
13.3	Demoted ABS-NP can be clefted	50
13.4	Location is promoted as direct object and then clefted	51
13.5	Recipient is promoted as direct object and then clefted	51
13.6	Beneficiary/ Source is promoted as direct object and then clefted	51
13.7	Cleft construction with linker nga	52

Acknowledgment

First and foremost I am thankful to, my Head of Linguistics Department of Summer Institute of Linguistics, Philippines Inc., Dr. Rudy Balaan for his comments on an earlier version of this grammar essentials sketch.

In writing this paper I owe special thanks to my coworker and fellow linguist Miss Phyllis Rappa for constructive comments on drafts of this paper.

My greatest debt however is to the Romblomanon people who over the past three years have patiently taught me about their language and culture. I particularly wish to thank Mrs. Emilia Tabardilla, Mrs. Diding Mastro and Mrs. Lola Solidum for supplying data for this paper. I am indebted to Mrs. Senia Oñas for checking the data of this paper.

Finally I give special thanks to my wife Pauline for her unceasing support to my work in the field.

List of Abbreviations

1SG	First person singular	INTRAN	Intransitive
1PL	First person plural	LK	Linker
2SG	Second person singular	LOC	Locative
2PL	Second person plural	NAGT	Non-nuclear Agent
3SG	Third person singular	NLOC	Non-nuclear Locative
3PL	Third person plural	NM	Nominal Marker
ABS	Absolutive	NP	Noun phrase
ACT	Active	NTH	Non-nuclear Theme
ADJ	Adjective Affix	OBL	Oblique
AGT	Agent	PASS	Passive
AM	Adjective Marker	PAT	Patient
BEN	Benefactive	PFT	Perfective
CONT	Continuative	PR	Present / Progressive
CUST	Customary	Q	Quantifier
DEM	Demonstrative	RECEN	Recently Complete
DIR	Direction	RECIP	Recipient
ERG	Ergative	RP	Relative Pronoun
EXCL	Exclusive	S	Subject
GEN	Genitive	SOU	Source
IMM	Immediate Future	SUPER	Superlative
IMPFT	Imperfective	TH	Theme
IMPER	Imperative	TL	Timeless Aspect
INCL	Inclusive	TRAN	Transitive
INF	Infinitive	UNINT	Unintentional
INS	Instrument		

GRAMMAR ESSENTIALS SKETCH

1. Give charts of following:

1.1 Personal Pronouns

	Topic/Antipassive	Pre-verbal Non-topic	Post-verbal Non-topic
I	<i>ako</i>	<i>äkon</i>	<i>näkon / ko / ta</i> *
You (sg)	<i>ikaw / ka</i>	<i>imo</i>	<i>nimo / mo</i>
You (pl)	<i>kamo</i>	<i>indo</i>	<i>nindo</i>
We (exclusive)	<i>kami</i>	<i>ämon</i>	<i>nämon</i>
We (inclusive)	<i>kita / ta</i>	<i>äton</i>	<i>näton / ta</i> **
He / She / It	<i>siya / sya</i>	<i>iya</i>	<i>niya</i>
They	<i>sinda</i>	<i>inda</i>	<i>ninda</i>

1. *Nagpanaw ako sa baybay.*
'I walked to the beach.'

2. *Gingbutang ko ang libro sa lamisa.* or *Akon gingbutang ang libro sa lamisa*
'I put the book on the table.'

When we use the pronouns as a possessive pronoun, the pre-verbal precedes the head noun it modified; but the post-verbal follows the head noun.

3. *Mabahoy ang iya bayay.* or *Mabahoy ang bayay niya.*
'His house is big.'

* Immediately preceding the personal topic pronoun *ikaw* or *kamu*, the post-head pronoun *ta* has the meaning 'I'.

4. *Taw'an ta ikaw ning tinäpay.*
'I will give you some bread.'

5. *Indi' ta kamo pag'abrihan.*
'I will not open the door for you (pl.).'

** Otherwise the meaning is 'we' (inclusive), this is probably a derivation from a dual pronoun.

6. *Taw'an ta sinda ning kwarta.*
'We will give them some money.'

1.2 Deictic Pronouns

1.2.1 Demonstrative Pronouns

If the demonstrative pronouns are used without the personal pronouns together, they denote non-animate things; otherwise, they denote animate (cf.: 1.2.2).

This (near the speaker)
ini

That (near the listener)
ina'

That (yonder)
adto

For plural form of demonstrative pronouns, we put the plural marker *mga* before the pronoun

These (near the speaker)
mga ini

Those (near the listener)
mga ina'

Those (yonder)
mga adto

1.2.2 Personal Demonstrative

Only the third person personal pronouns *siya* and *sinda* occur in these personal demonstratives. The first and second person cannot be described as demonstrative pronouns.

This person (near the speaker)
ini siya
ini sinda

That person (near the listener)
ina' siya
ina' sinda

That person (yonder)
adto siya
adto sinda

1.2.3 Locative Pronouns

There are three groups of locative pronouns. The first group of locative pronouns is more emphasized on the location or the place where the topic is located and the second group is existential locative pronouns. The third group is the combination of the first and second groups. It means more specifically the exact location. See the examples below.

Here (near the speaker)
Group 1 *diri*
Group 2 *yäri*
Group 3 *yäri diri*

There (near the listener)
dira'
yära'
yära' dira'

There (yonder)
didto
yadto
yadto didto

Q: Yäri ba si YanYan?

A: Yäri si YanYan.

'Is Yan Yan here?'

'Here is Yan Yan.'

not *diri*

Q: Di'in si YanYan?

A: Yäri sa kwarto.

'Where is Yan Yan?'

'Here inside the room.'

or *yäri diri* but not *diri*

Q: Diri ba naga'istar si Rogero?

A: Hü'o, diri si Rogero naga'istar.

'Is the place where Mr. Rogero lives here?'

'Yes, here is the place where Rogero lives. or *yäri diri*

Q: Di'in ka naga'istar?

A: Dira' ako naga'istar.

'Where do you live?'

'There is the place where I live. or *yära' dira'* not *yära'*

Q: Di'in ang bayad mo sa sapätos?

A: Yäri ang bayad ko.

'Where is your payment for the shoes?'

'Here is my payment.'

Q: Di'in ang akon sapätos?

A: Yäri ang akon sapätos sa bag.

Yära' ang akon sapätos sa bag.

Yadto ang akon sapätos sa bag.

'Where is my shoes?'

'My shoes are inside the bag (here). or *yäri diri* but not *diri*

'My shoes are inside the bag there. or *yära' dira'* but not *dira'*

'My shoes are inside the bag there. or *yadto didto* but not *didto*

Q: Di'in mo ibutang ang sapätos?

A: Diri ko ibutang ang akon sapätos sa bag.

Dira' ko ibutang ang akon sapätos sa bag.

Didto ko ibutang ang akon sapätos sa bag.

'Where will you put the shoes?'

'I will put the shoes here inside the bag.'

'I will put the shoes there inside the bag.'

'I will put the shoes there inside the bag.'

1.3 Case-markers

1.3.1 Personal Markers

These markers are used to mark names of people.

	Singular	Plural
Topic	<i>si</i>	<i>sina</i>
Non-topic	<i>ni</i>	<i>nina</i>
Non-topic Location or Possession	<i>kay</i>	<i>kana</i>

Si Pedro hay tatay ni Juan.
 ‘Pedro is the father of Juan.’

1.3.2 Impersonal Markers

These markers are used to mark names of thing.

Topic	<i>ang</i>
Non-topic Indefinite	<i>ning</i>
Non-topic Definite	<i>nang</i>
Non-topic Location or Performer	<i>sa</i>

These markers are used to mark all nouns except names of people.

‘*ang*’ is used when referring to the topic of a clause

‘*ning*’ and ‘*nang*’ are used when referring to non-topic, however there are differences

ning is referring to indefinite non-topic noun

nang is referring definite non-topic noun or possessor

‘*sa*’ is used when referring to non-topic location or actual performer in causative construction

1. *Makadto ang akon manghod sa baybay.*
 ‘My younger brother will go to the beach.’
2. *Nagaluto si Laura nang pansit.*
 ‘Laura is cooking the noodles.’
3. *Nagpadaya si Jose sa iya unga ning sulat para kay anti Diding.*
 ‘Jose caused his child to bring a letter to aunt Diding.’

1.4 Tense-aspect affixes with Focus affixes

For the tense-aspect, I have adopted a restricted version of localist case grammar developed by DeLancey (1984, 1985, 1991) based on earlier models proposed by Anderson (1971), Diehl (1975), Gruber (1976), and Jackendoff (1983, 1990). In this model, all verbs can be described in terms of the three cognitive state and event schemas shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Cognitive State and Event Schemas

Theme AT Location
 Theme GOTO Location
 Agent CAUSE Theme GOTO Location

These schemas give three universal semantic roles: Agent, Theme, and Location. The roles are defined by their functions in the state and event schemas: an Agent is a primary cause; a Theme is an element that changes Location or state; a Location is a physical site or a state. Every verb is lexically specified for a Theme and a Location; some verbs, such as the causative verbs ‘cut’, ‘crush’, and ‘kill’ are also lexically specified for an Agent. Each NP usually has only one semantic role; however, a NP can have two semantic roles if one is an Agent. Within this model, all other roles, such as Beneficiary and Instrument, are semantic roles of non-nuclear clauses that have been integrated into the clause. Specifically, an Instrument and an Associative are Non-nuclear Themes, a Beneficiary is a Non-nuclear Location, and a Source can be either a Non-nuclear Location or a Non-nuclear Agent.

Focus Verb Class	REALIS		IRREALIS
	Past	Progressive	Future
Affirmative			
AGT (Intran.) = Activity	<i>nag-</i>	<i>naga- or ga-</i>	<i>ma-</i>
TH (Tran.) ¹	<i>ging- or -in-</i>	<i>gina-</i>	<i>-on or i-</i>
TH = Stative and Emotion	<i>na-</i>	---	<i>ma-</i>
TH (Intran.) = Bodily process	<i>nag-</i>	---	<i>maga-</i>
TH (Intran.) ²	<i>nag-</i>	<i>naga-</i>	<i>ma-</i>
NTH (INST)	<i>ging- or -in-</i>	<i>gina-</i>	<i>i-</i>
LOC	<i>ging-=-an</i>	<i>gina-=-an</i>	<i>-an</i>
NLOC (BEN)	<i>ging-=-an</i>	<i>gina-=-an</i>	<i>-an</i>
LOC (Intran.) = Stative	<i>na-=-an</i>	---	<i>ma-=-an</i>
Negative			
AGT or TH Negative	<i>nag-</i>	<i>naga-</i>	<i>maga-</i>
TH Negative	<i>ging-=-a</i>	<i>gina-=-a</i>	<i>-on</i>
NTH (INS) Negative	<i>ging-=-an</i>	<i>gina-=-an</i>	<i>i-</i>
LOC Negative	<i>ging-=-i</i>	<i>gina-=-I</i>	<i>-an</i>
NLOC (BEN) Negative	<i>ging-=-i</i>	<i>gina-=-I</i>	<i>-an</i>
Causative Construction			
AGT or TH	<i>nagpa-</i>	<i>nagapa-</i>	<i>mapa-</i>
TH	<i>gingpa-</i>	<i>ginapa-</i>	<i>pa-=-on or ipa-</i>
NTH	<i>gingpa-</i>	<i>ginapa-</i>	<i>ipa-</i>
LOC or NLOC	<i>gingpa-=-an</i>	<i>ginapa-=-an</i>	<i>pa-=-an</i>
Imperative			
AGT or TH	---	---	<i>-um-</i> with AGT
	---	---	<i>-0</i> without AGT
TH	---	---	<i>-on</i> with AGT
	---	---	<i>-a</i> without AGT
LOC / NLOC	---	---	<i>-an</i> with AGT
			<i>-i</i> without AGT

¹ This group of Transitive Verb Class includes Semantically Transitive Motion Verbs, Causative verbs, Activity Transitive Verbs, Ditransitive Verbs

² This group of Intransitive Verb Class includes Non-bodily Process verbs, Semantically Intransitive Motion verbs, and Meteorological verbs.

Focus Verb Class	REALIS		IRREALIS
	Past	Progressive	Future
Aptitive			
AGT or TH	<i>naka-</i>	---	<i>maka-</i>
TH	<i>na-</i>	---	<i>ma-</i>
LOC	<i>na--an</i>	---	<i>ma--an</i>

1.4.1 Location Focus

1.4.1.1 Declarative

When the location is in focus, the affixes *ging--an*, *gina--an*, *-an* are attached to the verbs and the location phrase is marked by the *ang* particle.

Gingbutangan mo ning libro ang butangan.
butang=ging--an mo ning libro ang butangan
 put=LOC/PFT 2SG/ERG ERG book ABS place-to-put-thing
 ‘You put books into the bookshelf.’

The Conjugation for Location Focus:

Root	Completed	Incomplete	Proposed
	<i>ging-an</i> or <i>-in--an</i>	<i>gina--an</i>	<i>-an</i>
<i>butang</i>	<i>gingbutangan</i> or <i>Binutangan</i> **	<i>ginabutangan</i>	<i>Butangan</i>

Gingbutangan ko ning asükar ang kapi. ‘I put sugar in the coffee.’
Ginabutangan ko ning asükar ang kapi. ‘I am putting sugar in the coffee.’
Butangan ko ning asükar ang kapi. ‘I will put sugar in the coffee.’

** Note: A variant form for completed *-in--an*. The meaning is the same. The two forms are interchangeable.

Binutangan ko ning asükar ang kapi.
butang=-in--an ko ning asükar ang kapi
 put=LOC/PFT 1SG/ERG ERG sugar ABS coffee
 ‘I put sugar in the coffee.’

1.4.1.2 Negative

When negative is used, the conjugation for completed and incomplete of location focus will change. The affixes will be *ging--i*, *gina--i*, but the proposed will remain unchanged, *-an* is used.

The Conjugation for negative Location Focus:

Root	Completed	Incomplete	Proposed
	<i>ging--i</i>	<i>gina--i</i>	<i>-an</i>
<i>butang</i>	<i>gingbutangi</i>	<i>ginabutangi</i>	<i>Butangan</i>

Wayá ko gingbutangi ning asükar ang kapi. ‘I did not put sugar in the coffee.’
Wayá ko ginabutangi ning asükar ang kapi. ‘I am not putting sugar in the coffee.’
Indi ko butangan ning asükar ang kapi. ‘I will not put sugar in the coffee.’

1.4.1.3 Imperative

There are two ways to indicate an imperative with LOC focused: we use **-an**, with the AGT and use **-i** without the AGT.

1.4.1.3.1 With AGT

When **-an** is used, the AGT role ‘*mo*’ will be present and the LOC role is the topic.

Butangan mo ning kan'on ang pinggan.
butang=-an mo ning kan'on ang pinggan
 put =LOC 2SG/ERG ERG rice ABS plate
 ‘Put the rice on the plate.’

1.4.1.3.2 Without AGT

When **-i** is used, also the AGT role ‘*mo*’ will be omitted and the LOC role is the topic.

Butangi ning tubi ang baso.
butang=-i ning tubi ang baso
 put =LOC ERG water ABS glass
 ‘Put water into the glass.’

1.4.2 Non-nuclear Location Focus (Benefactive)

1.4.2.1 Declarative

Under the cognitive state and event schemas, the BEN is a Non-nuclear Location. When NLOC (BEN) is focused, the verb is marked as same as the affixes of LOC focus. The affixes used are **ging=-an**, **gina=-an**, and **-an**.

Root	Completed	Incomplete	Proposed
<i>bakay</i>	ging=-an or -in=-an <i>gingbakyan</i> or <i>binakyan</i> **	gina=-an <i>ginabakyan</i>	-an <i>bakyan</i>

Gingbakyan ko ning tinapay si Pauline. ‘I bought bread for Pauline.’
Ginabakyan ko ning tinapay si Pauline. ‘I am buying bread for Pauline.’
Bakyan ko ning tinapay si Pauline. ‘I will buy bread for Pauline.’

** However, there is an alternative form, **-in=-an**, for completed aspect. The meaning is the same. The two forms are interchangeable.

Binakyan ko ning tinapay si Pauline.
bakay=-in--an ko ning tinabay si Pauline
 buy =NLOC 1SG/ERG ERG bread ABS Pauline
 ‘I bought bread for Pauline.’

1.4.2.2 Imperative

There are two ways to indicate the imperative mood i.e. a request or a command, one is with the AGT (addressee) and another is without the AGT (addressee).

1.4.2.2.1 Without AGT

When **-i** is used, the AGT role ‘*mo*’ will be omitted and the NLOC role is the topic.

Bakyi ako ning tinapay.
bakay=-i ako ning tinapay
 buy =NLOC ABS ERG bread
 ‘Buy for me bread.’

Taw'i lang ako ning singkwinta p̄isos.
ta'o=-i lang ako ning singkwinta p̄isos.
 give=NLOC just 1SG/ABS ERG fifty peso
 ‘Just give me fifty pesos.’

1.4.2.2.2 With AGT

When **-an** is used, the AGT role ‘*mo*’ will be present and the NLOC role is the topic.

Bakyan mo ako ning tinapay.
bakay=-an mo ako ning tinapay
 buy =NLOC 2SG/ERG 1SG/ABS ERG bread
 ‘Buy for me bread.’

1.4.2.3 Negative

When negative is used, the conjugation for completed and incomplete aspect of location focus will change. The affixes will be **ging-=-i**, **gina-=-i**, but the proposed aspect will remain unchanged, i.e. **-an**.

The Conjugation for negative Location Focus:

Root	Completed	Incomplete	Proposed
	ging-=-i	gina-=-i	-an
<i>Butang</i>	gingbakyi	ginabakyi	Bakyan

*Wayá' ko **gingbakyi** ning tinapay si Pauline.* ‘I did not buy bread for Pauline.’
*Wayá' ko **ginabakyi** ning tinapay si Pauline.* ‘I am not buying bread for Pauline.’
*Indi ko **bakyan** ning tinapay si Pauline.* ‘I will not buy bread for Pauline.’

1.4.3 Non-Nuclear Theme Focus (Instrument)

Under the cognitive state and event schemas, the INS is a Non-nuclear Theme (NTH). Therefore, we used the same affixes as TH focus. The affixes used are **ging-**, or **in-** for complete aspect; **gina-** for incomplete and **i-** for proposed.

Completed	Incomplete	Proposed
ging- ** or -in-	gina-	i-
gingbakay or binakay	ginabakay	ibakay

1. **Gingbakay ko ning tinäpay ang kwarta nga subra.**
ging-=bakay ko ning tinäpay ang kwarta nga subra
 buy=NTH 1SG/ERG ERG bread ABS money LK extra
 I used the extra money to buy bread.
2. **Binakay ko ning tinäpay ang kwarta nga subra.**
bakay=-in- ko ning tinäpay ang kwarta nga subra
 buy=NTH 1SG/ERG ERG bread ABS money LK extra
 ‘I used the extra money to buy bread.’

3. *Ginabuno' ko ang sipoy sa bäboy.*
buno'=gina- ko ang sipoy sa bäboy
 stab=NTH 1SG/ERG ABS knife OBL pig
 'I am using the knife to stab the pig.'
4. *Ibakay ko ning tinäpay ang äkon kwarta.*
i-=bakay ko ning tinäpay ang äkon kwarta
 NTH=buy 1SG/ERG ERG bread ABS 1SG/GEN money
 'I will buy bread with my money.'

** More common to use *ging-* than *-in-* to indicate the NTH (Instrument).

2. Verbs:

2.1 Completed action: Perfective

In verb formation, the affixation includes the tense and focus simultaneously. For example, if *nag-* prefix is used, it means usually perfective action with AGT focus. When *ging-* or *gin-* prefix is used, it usually means completed action with TH focus. See the examples below.

1. *Nagtu'on ako pagburda.*
nag- =tuon ako pag-=burda
 AGT/PFT=learn 1SG/ABS INF =embroider
 'I learned how to embroider.' (AGT Focus)
2. *Gingbakay ko ang tinäpay nga manämit.*
ging- =bakay ko ang tinäpay nga ma- =namit
 TH/PFT=buy 1SG/ERG ABS bread LK AM=taste
 'I bought the bread that is delicious.' (TH Focus)

2.2 Incomplete action: Progressive

For the incomplete action, similarly the affixation comes with the focus and the incomplete action. Also, the incomplete action may either be present or progressive action; and it is determined by the context.

1. *Nagatu'on ako pagluto.*
naga- =tuon ako pag-=luto
 AGT/PR=learn 1SG/ABS NM-=cook
 'I am learning how to cook.' (AGT Focus)
2. *Ang äkon nanay nagaluto' sa ämon ning pagkä'on adlaw'adlaw.*
ang akon nanay naga- =luto sa ämon ning pag-=kaon adlaw-D
 ABS 1SG/GEN mother AGT/PR=cook OBL 2PL/INCL ERG NM-=food day-to-day
 'My mother cooks food for us everyday.' (AGT Focus)
3. *Ginakä'on ni Dorothy ang iya kik.*
gina- =kaon ni Dorothy ang iya kik
 TH/PR=eat ERG Dorothy ABS 3SG/GEN cake
 'Dorothy is eating her cake.' (TH Focus)

2.3 Proposed action: Imperfective

For the proposed action, the affixation indicates the focus and the imperfective aspect.

1. *Matu'on ako pagsulat.*
ma- =tuon ako pag-=sulat
 AGT/IMPFT=learn 1SG/ABS NM-=write
 'I will learn how to write.' (AGT Focus)

2. *Bakyon ko ang päyong kung igwa ako ning kwarta.*
bakay=-on ko ang payong kung igwa ako ning kwarta
 buy =IMPFT/TH 1SG/ERG ABS umbrella if have 1SG/ABS ERG money
 'I will buy the umbrella if I have money.' (TH Focus)

2.4 Imperative action

Imperatives are constructions in which one argument of a single clause is co-referential with the addressee; thus argument can be said to control co-reference. The argument may be present in the surface structure, usually as a second person pronoun, or it can be absent, depending on the language.

Rombloanon has three imperative constructions: a positive imperative, a negative imperative, and a first-person imperative. Each imperative construction has a unique structure.

2.4.1 Positive Imperative

2.4.1.1 With Second Person Pronoun

If the sentence is imperative with semantically intransitive verb, a second person pronoun is used.

2.4.1.1.1 Imperative with intransitive verb

Imperative action is signaled by the infix **-um-** in intransitive verb.

1. *Pumirma ka lang diri sa risibo.*
pirma=-um- ka lang diri sa risibo
 sign =IMPER/ACT 2SG/ABS just here OBL receipt
 'You just sign here on the receipt!'

2. *Sumaot ka.*
saot=-um- ka
 dance=IMPER/TH 2SG/ABS
 'You dance!'

3. *Diri ho, sumakay ka sa traysikol.*
diri ho, sakay=-um- ka sa traysikol
 here oh ride =IMPER/TH 2SG/ABS OBL tricycle
 'Here sir, take a ride on the tricycle.'

4. *Pumabilin ka.*
pabilin =-um- ka
 IMPER/TH=stay 2SG/ABS
 'You stay behind!'

2.4.1.1.2 Imperative with transitive verb (AGT focus)

When the second pronoun *ka* or *ikaw* is mentioned, we will use **-um-** to indicate the imperative mood.

Bumakay ka ning asin.
bakay=-um- ka ning asin.
 Buy =IMPER/AGT 2SG/ABS ERG salt
 ‘Buy some salt.’

2.4.1.1.3 Imperative with transitive verb (TH focus)

When the second pronoun *mo* or *nindo* is mentioned, we must use *-on* to indicate the imperative mood. The Theme is in focus.

1. *Kiluhon mo ang isda’.*
Kilo =-on mo ang isda’
 weight=IMPER/TH 2SG/ERG ABS fish
 ‘Weigh the fish.’
2. *Kaun ’on nindo ang tinapay.*
kaon=-on nindo ang tinapay
 eat =IMPER/TH 2PL/ERG ABS bread
 ‘You (pl.) eat the bread.’

2.4.1.1.4 Imperative with transitive verb (NLOC focus)

When the second pronoun *mo* or *nindo* is mentioned, we must use *-an* for imperative mood. The Non-clear Location will be in focus.

1. *Bakyan mo ako ning dulsi.*
bakay=-an mo ako ning dulsi
 weight=IMPER/NLOC 2SG/ERG 1SG/ABS ERG candy
 ‘Buy me some candy.’
2. *Kantahan nindo ako ning kaayo nga kanta.*
kanta=-an nindo ako ning ka- =ayo nga kanta
 sing=IMPER/NLOC 2PL/ERG 1SG/ABS ERG AM=good LK candy
 ‘You (pl.) sing for me a nice song.’

2.4.1.2 Without Second Person Pronouns

If the sentence is imperative with semantically transitive verb, a second person pronoun is absent, there are three types of constructions.

- a) with AGT as focus, then use the zero affix
- b) with TH as focus, then use the affix *-a*
- c) with NLOC (BENEFICIARY) as focus i.e. first person, then use the affix *-i*

2.4.1.2.1 Imperative with transitive verb (AGT focus)

With AGT as focus, then we use the zero affix. The AGT as a second person pronoun is absent.

Bakay ning tinapay.
bakay ning tinapay
 buy=IMPER/AGT OBL bread
 ‘Buy some bread.’

2.4.1.2.2 Imperative with transitive verb (TH focus)

With TH as focus, the suffix -a is used to signal a request. It adds to the tenseless root and usually with *äbi* (please) to form a polite request. The second person pronoun is not mentioned.

1. *Kilüha ang isda'.*
kilo =-a ang isda'
 weight=IMPER/TH ABS fish
 'Weigh the fish.'
2. *Kilüha äbi ang isda'.*
kilo=-a äbi ang isda'
 weight=IMPER/TH please ABS fish
 'Weigh the fish please.'

Note that there are phonological changes:-

- a) -a to -ha if the final syllable of the root stem is an opened vowel e.g. *kilo-a* becomes *kilüha*.
- b) the penultimate length remains in same position after adding the suffix e.g. *kilo-a* becomes *kilüha*.

3. *Utora ang pisi.*
utod=-a ang pisi
 cut =IMPER/TH ABS rope
 'Cut the rope!'
4. *Isipa ang sabat.*
isip=-a ang sabat
 think=IMPER/TH ABS answer
 'Think of the answer!'

2.4.1.2.3 Imperatives with transitive verb (NLOC focus)

With NLOC (BENEFICIARY) as focus, the affix -i is used. The second person pronoun is not mentioned.

1. *Utori ako ning pisi.*
utod=-i ako ning pisi
 cut=IMPER/NLOC 1SG/ABS OBL rope
 'Cut the rope for me!'
2. *Isipi ako ning sabat*
isip =-i ako ning sabat
 thinK=IMPER/NLOC 1SG/ABS OBL answer
 'Think of the answer for me!'
3. *Taw'i ako ning pangbakay.*
ta'o=-i ako ning pang=-bakay
 give=IMPER/NLOC 1SG/ABS OBL NM =buy
 'Give me the money for buying.'
4. *Bakyi änay ako ning dulsi.*
baky=-i änay ako ning dulsi
 buy =IMPER/NLOC please 1SG/ABS OBL candy
 'Please buy me some candy.'

Note: The word '*änay*' can be used to address a polite manner.

2. *Ayaw pagisipa ang sabat.*
ayaw pag--a =isip ang sabat
 don't IMPER/TH=think ABS answer
 'Don't think of the answer!'

2.4.2.2.3 Negative Imperative with LOC or NLOC focus

With the first person pronoun as LOC or NLOC, we use verb affix *pag--i* to denote the negative imperative.

1. *Ayaw na ako pagkawati ning manok.*
ayaw na ako pag--i =kawat ning manok
 don't again 1SG/ABS IMPER/LOC=steal OBL chicken
 'Don't steal the chicken from me anymore!'
2. *Ayaw na ako pagisipi ning sabat.*
ayaw na ako pag--i =isip ning sabat
 don't again 1SG/ABS IMPER/NLOC=think OBL answer
 'Don't think of the answer for me anymore!'

2.4.3 First Person Imperative

2.4.3.1 Intransitive

First-person imperative with the intransitive verb, the first person plural inclusive pronoun *kita* is used to indicate an imperative. The first person plural exclusive pronoun *kami* to indicate non-imperative.

1. *Mapanaw na kita!*
ma- =panaw na kita
 IMPFT/ACT/TH=walk now 2PL/INCL/ABS
 'Let's walk now!' (Lit: We will walk now.)
2. *Mahoyat kita sa inda!*
ma- =hoyat kita sa inda
 IMPFT/ACT/TH=wait 2PL/INCL/ABS OBL 3PL
 'Let's wait for them!' (Lit: We will wait for them.)
3. *Mapabilin kita!*
ma-pa- =bilin kita
 IMPFT/ACT/TH-CAU=stay 2PL/INCL/ABS
 'Let's stay behind!' (Lit: We will stay behind.)

2.4.3.2 Transitive

First-person imperative with the **transitive** verb, the first person plural inclusive pronoun *kita* is used to indicate an imperative. In some transitive verbs, there are two constructions for first-person imperative

- a) either AGT focus
- b) or TH focus

2.4.3.2.1 First-person imperative with transitive verb (AGT focus)

- Maisip kita nang sabat!*
ma- =isip kita nang sabat
 IMPFT/AGT=think 1PL/INCL/ABS ERG answer
 'Let's think of the answer!' (Lit: We will think of the answer.)

2.4.3.2.2 First-person imperative with transitive verb (TH focus)

Isipon naton ang sabat!

isip =-on *naton* *ang* *sabat*
 think=TH/IMPFT 1PL/INCL/ERG ABS answer

‘Let’s think of the answer!’ (Lit: We will think of the answer.)

SUMMARY

An imperative mood indicates a command or a request. This imperative action can be in AGT focus predication or in NLOC focus or in TH focus. With ‘*ānag*’ or ‘*ābi*’ it means a more polite request.

In the positive imperative, only in semantically transitive verb, the ERG-NP is absent, the ABS-NP of intransitive verb is obligatorily present as a second person pronoun. Therefore, no pattern of syntactic control is identified.

In the negative imperative, the ABS-NP of intransitive, and the ERG-NP of transitive can be absent. It follows the NOM/ACC pattern.

In the first-person imperative, the ABS-NP of intransitive and the ERG-NP of transitive must be present as a first person plural inclusive pronoun. It follows the NOM/ACC pattern.

2.5 Recently completed action

Most Romblomanon verbs may be used with a *ka-* affix which indicates recent action.

There are two major features of this construction:

a) Verb formation.

The prefix *ka-* is attached to the verb stem, and the first syllable of the root verb is reduplicated, so the affix is actually *ka-C₁-V₁* where C₁ is the first consonant of the stem and V₁ is the first vowel of the stem.

b) The use of *lang*.

When this form is used, the particle ‘*lang*’ must also occur.

1. ***Katitimpla ko lang ina’ nang kapi.***
 ka-CV- =timpla ko lang ina’ nang kapi
 RECEN=prepare 1SG/ERG just DEM ABS coffee
 ‘I just prepared the coffee.’
2. ***Katatapos ko lang ning paligos.***
 ka-CV- =tapos ko lang ning pa- =ligos
 RECEN=finish 1SG/ERG just ERG NM=bathe
 ‘I just finished taking a bath.’
3. ***Katatrabäho ko lang.***
 ka-CV- =trabaho ko lang
 RECEN=job 1SG/ERG just
 ‘I just found a job.’
4. ***Kakakä’on ko lang.***
 ka-CV- =kaon ko lang
 RECEN=eat 1SG/ERG just
 ‘I just ate.’

2.6 Immediate future action

We use the proposed aspect affix *ma-* and the particle ‘*na*’ to indicate the immediate future action. Without *na* the sense of the immediate future is absent.

1. *Makä'on na ako.*
ma- =käon na ako
 IMM=eat about 1SG/ABS
 ‘I am about to eat.’
2. *Malarga na siya.*
ma- =larga na siya
 IMM=leave about 3SG/ABS
 ‘He is about to leave.’

2.7 Customary action

The *-in-* infix is used to indicate that the event is taking place in a customary action. Note that the customary action and continuative action are indicated by the same form *-in-*, the meaning is determined by the context and the “time phase” e.g. *kada gab'i*. See the following examples.

1. *Nagabinüyaw ka büsa' gäni pirmi ka na'a'adläwan.*
naga--in-=büyaw ka büsa gäni pirmi ka na-V--an=adläw
 CUST- =wake 2PL/ABS 0 therefore always 2SG/ABS late
 ‘Because you always wake up late, therefore you are always late.’
2. *Nagatinängis si Chingching käda gab'i.*
naga--in-=tängas si Chingching käda gab'i
 CUST- =cry ABS Chingching every night
 ‘Chingching cries customarily every night.’
3. *Kung magkinä'on ka ning matam'is, magatambok ka.*
kung mag--in-=käon ka ning ma-=tam'is maga-=tambok ka
 if CUST- =eat 2SG/ABS ERG AM=sweet IMPFT/become=fat 2SG/ABS
 ‘If you always eat sweet, you will become fat.’

2.8 Continuative action

The *-in-* infix is also used to indicate that the event is taking place in a continuative action. The continuative action can happen in present or in the past. If *nag--in-* is used, the action is completed but in continuative aspect. If *naga--in-* is used, the action is progressive and in continuative aspect.

1. *Naglinängoy ako halin sa Bonbon pakadto sa Ipil kahapon.*
nag--in-=längoy ako halin sa Bonbon pa-=kadto sa Ipil kahapon
 swin=CONT/PFT 1SG/ABS from OBL Bonbon DIR=go OBL Ipil yesterday
 ‘I kept on swimming from Bonbon up to Ipil yesterday.’
2. *Nagatinängis ang unga kay masakit ang iya tiyan.*
naga--in-=tängas ang unga kay masakit ang iya tiyan
 CONT/PR=cry ABS child because AM=pain ABS 3SG/GEN abdomen
 ‘The child keeps on crying because his stomach is painful.’

3. *Magapinasühoy ako kay Pauline sa paglaba.*
maga--in--sühoy ako kay Pauline sa pag-=laba
 CONT/IMPFT=pay 1SG/ABS because Pauline OBL NM-=wash
 ‘Pauline will keep on paying me for washing.’

2.9 Repetitive action

There are at least two ways to show a repetitive action:

2.9.1 By -in-

The infix *-in-* indicates that the event is taking place in repetitive manners. *Nag--in-*, *naga--in-* for incomplete and *ma--in-* for proposed. This can also apply to TH focus with *ging--in-* for completed, *gina--in-* for incomplete and *-in--on* for proposed.

1. *Nagabinalikkälik siya.*
naga- -in- =balik siya
 PR/ACT/TH-REP=return 3SG/ABS
 ‘He is coming back and forth.’
2. *Ginabinügoy niya ang äyam.*
gina--in- =bugoy niya ang äyam
 PR/TH-REP=hit 3SG/ERG ABS dog
 ‘He hit and hit the dog.’

2.9.2 By duplication

Another way to show repetitive action is by duplication of the verb with the ‘linker’ *nga* in between.

Gingbüguy nga gingbüguy niya ang äyam.
ging-=büguy nga ging-=büguy niya ang äyam
 PFT/TH=hit LK PFT/TH=hit 3SG/ERG ABS dog
 ‘He hit and hit the dog.’

2.10 Reciprocal action

The affix *-in--an* or *-in* is used to denote reciprocal action. Note that the AGT must be plural. For certain verbs like *away* ‘fight’, the affix *-in-* is used for reciprocal action.

1. *Nagakinita’an kami nga duha kädä adlaw.*
naga--in--an=kita’ kami nga duha kädä adlaw
 PR/RECIP=see 2PL/EXCL LK two every day
 ‘We two see **each other** everyday.’ (Lit: We, two of us, will see each other everyday.)
2. *Maga’inisturyähan kita nga duha.*
maga--in--an=istorya kita nga duha
 IMPFT/RECIP=converse 2PL/INCL LK two
 ‘We will converse with **each other**.’ (Lit: We, two of us, will talk with each other.)
3. *Naginaway kami nga duha.*
nag--in =away kami nga duha
 PFT/RECIP=see 2PL/EXCL LK two
 ‘We fought with **each other**.’ (Lit: We, two of us, fought with each other.)

2.11 Distributive action

The prefix *sig-* indicates many agents doing the same event simultaneously.

Masigdaya sinda ning bäyon.
ma-sig-=daya sinda ning bäyon
 IMPFT/DIS=bring 3PL OBL food
 ‘Everyone of them will bring their food.’

2.12 Optative action

In Rombloanon, the optative action is signaled by the particle *kunta* with the timeless affix *mag-*.

1. *Magayo ka kunta nga daan.*
mag-=ayo ka kunta nga daan
 TL-=good 2SG/ABS OPT LK now
 ‘May you get well soon.’
2. *Maghambay kunta si Rence ning maayo nga Rombloanon.*
mag-=hambay kunta si Rence ning ma-=ayo nga Rombloanon
 TL-=speak OPT ABS Rence ERG AM-=good LK Rombloanon
 ‘May Rence speak good Rombloanon.’

2.13 Causative action

Almost any kind of verb may be made into a “causative” verb with the meaning that a Causer causes, requests, or at least allows the agent i.e. Causee to do the action. The affix *pa-* is used in a causative construction. The Causee is always in OBL if it is not in focus.

1. *Puydi ba ako magpabakay sa imo ning prütas?*
puydi ba ako mag-pa-=bakay sa imo ning prütas
 can QM 1SG/ABS AGT-CAU-=buy OBL 2SG ERG fruit
 ‘Can I ask you to buy some fruit?’
2. *Puydi ko ba ipabakay sa imo ang prütas?*
puydi ko ba i-pa-=bakay sa imo ang prütas
 can 1SG/ERG QM TH-CAU-=buy OBL 2SG ABS fruit
 ‘Can I ask you to buy **the fruit**?’
3. *Puydi ko ba ikaw pabakyon ning prütas?*
puydi ko ba ikaw pa--on=bakay ning prütas
 can 1SG/ERG QM 2SG/ABS CAU-NAGT=buy ERG fruit
 ‘Can I ask **you** to buy some fruit?’

In the examples above, the root verb ‘*bakay*’ is transitive, the non-causative verb already involves an Causer ‘**I**’. When a causative affix ‘*pa-*’ is attached to the verb, one more role ‘**you**’ is added. For simplicity, this referent (Causee) will simply be labelled Non-nuclear Agent (NAGT). These derived causative forms represent actions or states which describe how an AGT causes a PER to be affected. With this derived verb, the AGT causes or requests the PER to affect the TH ‘**fruit**’.

With the NAGT is the topic a *pa-* affix is added to TH Focus verb stem.

Complete Aspect	Incomplete Aspect	Proposed Aspect
<i>gingpa- gingpabakay</i>	<i>ginapa- ginapabakay</i>	<i>pa--on pabakyon</i>
<i>Gingpabakay ta ikaw ning prütas.</i>		'I asked you to buy some fruit.'
<i>Ginapabakay ta ikaw ning prütas.</i>		'I am asking you to buy some fruit.'
<i>Pabakyon ta ikaw ning prütas.</i>		'I will ask you to buy some fruit.'

3. Noun Phrases

3.1 Possessive

3.1.1 Possessive Pronoun

There are two sets of possessive pronouns. One is placed before the nucleus which is being modified (pre-verbal pronoun) and other is placed after the nucleus noun which is being modified (post-head pronoun). The two have no difference in semantic meaning.

or

Ang äkon bayay hay ka'isot.
Ang bayay ko hay ka'isot.
 'My house is small.'

3.1.2 Possessor is a Proper Name

The personal marker '*ni*' is used to describe the possessor when it is a proper name. It occurs between the possessor and the possessed.

Ang bayay ni Huwan hay kalapit.
 'The house of John is near.'

3.1.3 Possessor is a Noun

We usually use '*nang*' to indicate the possessiveness of a noun. Note this *nang* is also used as a case marker for definite noun. When it is used as a possessive of noun, it is the same as that for the definite noun.

1. *Ang prisyo nang äkon auto hay mahay.*
 'The price **of** my car is expensive.'
2. *Ang magüyang nang äkon amiga hay namatay na.*
 'The parent **of** my friend died already.'

3.2 Demonstrative

The linker '*nga*' is used to join the demonstrative and the head noun. The same structure applies to *ini* 'this', *ina* 'that', and that *adto* 'that yonder'.

3.2.1 Ini 'this'

We use the linker '*nga*' to join the demonstrative '*ini*' and the head noun.

Ini nga täwo hay äkon bayaw.
 'This person is my brother-in-law.'

3.2.2 Ina' 'that'

Similarly, we use the linker 'nga' to join the demonstrative 'ina'' and the head noun.

Ina' nga bayay hay äkon.
'That house is mine.'

3.2.3 Adto 'that yonder'

Similarly, we use the linker 'nga' to join the demonstrative 'adto' and the head noun.

Adto nga lugar hay ka'äyo.
'That place over yonder is good.'

3.3 Quantifiers

3.3.1 Numeral

We use 'ka' to act as a number quantifier to the head noun, if it is being quantified by a numeral.

Lima ka täwo ang yära' sa ristawran.
'Five people are in the restaurant there.'

3.3.2 Quantifier

We use the quantifier *kadämo* 'many', *iba* 'some', *tanan* 'all' with the linker *nga* to modify the head noun.

1. *Kadämo' nga täwo ang nagatrabäho sa opisina.*
'Many people are working in the office.'
2. *Tanan nga unga' nga yära' sa kwarto hay taga bükid.*
'All the children in the room are from the village.'

However, a nominal marker must be used with the word 'iba' (some).

3. *Ang iba nga kwarta hay nadüya' sa äkon bulsa.*
'Some of the money was lost from my pocket.'

3.4 Descriptive

The linker 'nga' must be placed between the modifier and the head noun, and the order of modifier and the head noun is interchangeable.

1. *Ang ka'äyo nga bayay hay sa manggaränon.*
Ang bayay nga ka'äyo hay sa manggaränon.
'The nice house belongs to the rich man.'
2. *Nagabu'oy ang mga unga' ning puya nga büyak sa pläsa.*
Nagabu'oy ang mga unga' ning büyak nga puya sa pläsa.
'The children are getting red flowers in the plaza.'

3.5 Appositive

It is used to draw the attention of the hearer towards the speaker. The linker 'nga' is placed optionally between the two head nouns when they are topic but is not necessary for the non-topic head nouns.

1. *Puydi ba **amïgo nga ikaw** ang ka'ibāhan ko sa bayay?*
'Would **you, my friend**, accompany me in the house?'
2. *Kay sayud **mo amïgo** waya' ako ning ka'ibāhan.*
'As **you** know, **my friend**, I have no companion.'
3. *Ang **äkon amïgo nga si Huwan** hay duktor.*
'**My friend John** is a doctor.'
4. *Si **Marya nga iya asäwa** hay kagwäpa.*
'**Mary his wife** is beautiful.'

3.6 Order of Modifiers

There are some rules that govern the modification of a head noun. When we modify a noun, the order of modifiers is important.

3.6.1 Acceptable Orders

Many classes of modifiers can be put either before or after the head noun. The examples below are acceptable equivalents of the following translation.

"My five big red nice santal **flowers**."

*Ang äkon lima ka bilog nga **büyak** nga kabahoy nga ka'äyo nga puya nga santal.*
*Ang äkon lima ka bilog nga kabahoy nga **büyak** nga ka'äyo nga puya nga santal.*
*Ang äkon lima ka bilog nga kabahoy nga ka'äyo nga **büyak** nga puya nga santal.*
*Ang äkon lima ka bilog nga kabahoy nga ka'äyo nga puya nga **büyak** nga santal.*

3.6.2 Only before the head noun

Only possessive pronoun and quantifier are put before the nucleus and other modifiers. See the counterexamples below.

- * *Ang lima ka bilog nga kabahoy nga ka'äyo nga puya nga **büyak** nga **äkon** santal.*
- * *Ang äkon ka'äyo nga kabahoy nga puya nga **büyak** nga santal **nga lima ka bilog**.*

NB: The * denotes the sentence follows is not acceptable in Romblomanon grammar.

3.6.3 Only after the head noun

Only the name is put after the nucleus; others can be placed either before or after.

- * *Ang äkon lima ka bilog nga ka'äyo nga puya **nga santal** nga **büyak**.*

3.6.4 Pre-verbal possessive pronoun must be in the first place

It is not necessary to have the linker 'nga' after the pronoun, and this pronoun can only be placed in the first position.

*Ang äkon lima ka bilog nga kabahoy nga **büyak** nga ka'äyo nga puya nga santal.*

- * *Ang äkon ~~nga~~ lima ka bilog nga kabahoy nga **büyak** nga ka'äyo nga puya nga santal.*
- * *Ang kabahoy nga **äkon** nga ka'äyo nga lima ka bilog nga puya nga **büyak** nga santal.*

3.6.5 *Post-verbal possessive pronoun not in first place*

The post-verbal possessive pronoun cannot be placed in the first position but after the first modifier.

Ang lima ko ka bilog nga kabahoy nga büyak nga ka'äyo nga puya nga santal.

* *Ang ko lima ka bilog nga kabahoy nga büyak nga ka'äyo nga puya nga santal.*

4. Nonverbal Clause Types

In Romblomanon, we usually use the word order of a comment followed by a topic to describe a non-verbal clause.

Comment

Topic with 'ang'

But we may also reverse the word order in which case the word 'hay', marks the comment. There is no change in meaning. Comment is marked by *hay* when preceded by the Topic and marked by zero elsewhere. Topic is always marked by *ang*.

Topic with 'ang'

hay

Comment

4.1 *Description*

4.1.1 *Description*

To describes a thing or an event, we place the comment in front of the Topic.

Matä'as ang unga'.

or *Ang unga' hay matä'as.*

'The child is tall.'

4.1.2 *Negation*

To indicate negation, we place the word '*bukon*' before the comment and only the comment may be negated.

Ang unga' hay bukon matä'as.

or *Bukon matä'as ang unga'.*

'The child is not tall.'

4.2 *Classification*

4.2.1 *Classification*

Similarly, to classify a thing or a person, we place the comment in front of the Topic.

Miyugpangisda' si Karlos

or *Si Karlos hay miyugpangisda'.*

'Karlos is a fisherman.'

4.2.2 *Negation*

To indicate negation, we place the word '*bukon*' before the comment and only the comment may be negated.

Bukon miyugpangisda' si Karlos.

- or *Si Karlos hay **bukon** miyugpangisda*.
'Karlos is not a fisherman.'

4.3 Identification

4.3.1 Identification

But when we express identification, a topic marker must be added to both comment and topic. We may call this "equative clause". Since both comment and topic are marked, the first noun phrase is always the comment and the second is topic, unless the *hay* pattern is used in which case the comment is marked with *hay*.

1. *Si Misis Rosales ang nars didto.*
or *Ang nars didto hay si Misis Rosales.*
'The nurse there is Mrs. Rosales.'
2. *Si Rōsa ang äkon pinakamaläpit nga amïga.*
or *Ang äkon pinakamaläpit nga amïga hay si Rōsa.*
'My closest friend is Rosa.'

4.3.2 Negation

To indicate negation, we place the word '**bukon**' before the comment and only the comment may be negated.

1. *Ang nars didto hay **bukon** si Misis Rosales.*
Bukon *si Misis Rosales ang nars didto.*
'The nurse there is not Mrs. Rosales.'
2. *Ang äkon pinakamaläpit nga amïga hay **bukon** si Rōsa.*
Bukon *si Rōsa ang äkon pinakamaläpit nga amïga.*
'My closest friend is not Rosa.'

4.4 Quantification

4.4.1 Quantification

By using the word order of the comment followed by the topic, the quantification is illustrated.

- Ang mga pispis hay lima.*
or *Lima ang pispis.*
'The birds are five in number.'

4.4.2 Negation

To indicate negation, we place the word '**bukon**' before the comment and only the comment may be negated.

- Ang mga pispis hay **bukon** lima.*
or **Bukon** *lima ang pispis.*
'The birds are not five.'

4.5 Time

4.5.1 Time

Similarly, when we describe time as the predication, we use the word order of the comment followed by the topic. The time may be a single word or a time phrase.

1. *Ang kuronasyon nang rayna hay niyan sa gab'i.*
'The coronation of the queen is tonight.'
2. *Ang birtidi parti hay niyan sa häpon.*
'The birthday party is this afternoon.'

4.5.2 Negation

To indicate negation, we place the word '**bukon**' before the comment and only the comment may be negated.

1. *Ang kuronasyon nang rayna hay **bukon** niyan sa gab'i.*
'The coronation of the queen is not tonight.'
2. *Ang birtidi parti hay **bukon** niyan sa häpon.*
'The birthday party is not this afternoon.'

4.6 Location

4.6.1 Location

When we want to describe a location, we use the particle '*sa*' or '*kay*' which are location markers. We use '*sa*' for spatial location and use '*kay*' for human location.

1. *Ang pyista hay sa Aklan.*
or *Sa Aklan ang pyista.*
'The fiesta is in Aklan Island.'
2. *I'uli' ang botilya kay Pedro.*
'Return the bottle to Pedro.'

4.6.2 Negation

To indicate negation, we place the word '**bukon**' before the comment only the comment may be negated.

1. *Ang pyista hay **bukon** sa Aklan.*
'The fiesta is **not** in Aklan Island.'
2. *Ang tinäpay hay **bukon** sa lamisa.*
'The bread is **not** on the table.'

4.7 Existence

We use the word '*igwa*' or '*may*' to indicate existence but '*igwa*' takes an optional non-topic marker while '*may*' has no non-topic marker.

4.7.1 Existence

1. ***Igwa ning isda' sa pinggan.***
or ***Igwa isda' sa pinggan.***
'There is a fish on the plate.'
2. ***May aritos sa kahon.***
'There is a pair of earrings in the box.'
- * ***May ning aritos sa kahon.*** (Incorrect in grammar)

4.7.2 Negation: Non-Existence

In order to show non-existence, we use '**waya**' instead of the negation particle '**bukon**'.

1. ***Waya' ning isda' sa pinggan.***
or ***Waya' isda' sa pinggan.***
'There is no fish on the plate.'
2. ***Waya' ning aritos sa kahon.***
or ***Waya' aritos sa kahon.***
'There are no earrings in the box.'

4.8 Possession

4.8.1 Possession

There are several ways to describe the possession clause.

4.8.1.1 Use '*igwa*' or '*may*'

We use the topic nominals with the existential particles '*igwa*' and '*may*' to describe possession. But the possessor must be a topic nominal.

1. ***Igwa ning tindahan si Diding.***
or ***May tindahan si Diding.***
'Diding has a store.'
2. ***Igwa siya ning unom nga baboy.***
or ***May unom siya nga baboy.***
'He has six pigs.'

4.8.1.2 With Non-topic nominal

Moreover, we may use non-topic nominals but without the word '*igwa*' or '*may*' to describe possession. The non-topic marker *sa* and *kay* are necessary to indicate the possessor.

1. ***Ang payong hay kay Pauline.***
or ***Kay Pauline ang payong.***
'The umbrella is Pauline's.'
2. ***Sa äkon bayaw ang payong.***
or ***Ang payong hay sa äkon bayaw.***
'The umbrella is my brother-in-law's.'

4.8.1.3 *With possessive pronouns*

The ‘sa’ is optional for possessive pronouns.

1. *Ang payong hay äkon.*
or *Äkon ang payong.*
‘The umbrella is mine.’
2. *Ang päyong hay sa äkon.*
or *Sa äkon ang päyong.*
‘The umbrella is mine.’

4.8.2 *Negation: Non-Possession*

4.8.2.1 *Use negative ‘waya’*

We use the topic nominals and the negative existential particle ‘waya’ to show non-possession. Also the non-topic marker *ning* is optional.

1. *Waya’ ning tindähan si Diding.*
or *Waya’ tindähan si Didign.*
‘Diding has no store.’
2. *Waya’ siya ning unom nga bäboy kundi’ lima lang.*
‘He does not have six pigs but five only.’

4.8.2.2 *Use ‘bukon’ with Non-topic nominal*

Moreover, we may use non-topic nominals with the particle *bukon* instead of using the word ‘waya’ to describe possession. The non-topic markers ‘sa’ and ‘kay’ are necessary to mark the possessor.

1. *Bukon kay Pauline ang päyong.*
or *Ang päyong bukon kay Pauline.*
‘The umbrella is not Pauline’s.’
2. *Bukon sa amigo ko ang päyong.*
or *Ang päyong bukon hay sa amigo ko.*
‘The umbrella is not my friend’s.’

4.8.2.3 *Use ‘bukon’ possessive pronouns*

Again, the non-topic marker ‘sa’ is optional.

1. *Ang payong hay bukon äkon.*
or *Bukon äkon ang payong.*
‘The umbrella is not mine.’
2. *Ang payong hay bukon sa äkon.*
or *Bukon sa äkon ang payong.*
‘The umbrella is not mine.’

5. Verbal Predications

5.1 Manner

5.1.1 Adverbial

We use an adverb to indicate the manner by which an action is executed.

5.1.1.1 With ‘ning’

An adverb to show the manner is indicated by an adverbial marker ‘**ning**’ accompanied by an adjective and it must be placed after the verb. Also with *ning*, the adverb is post head.

1. *Nagpänaw **ning** malüya ang mga täwo kay nag’uyan kahäpon.*
‘The people walked slowly because it rained yesterday.’
2. *Mapänaw ako **ning** malüya .*
‘I will walk slowly.’

5.1.1.2 Without ‘ning’

If the adverb is positioned before the verb, then the ‘**ning**’ is not necessary. Also without *ning*, the adverb is post head.

1. ***Malüya** kung nagapänaw ang magüyang.*
‘Whenever the old man walks, he walks slowly.’
2. ***Malüya** pumänaw ang mga täwo kay nag’uyan kahäpon.*
‘The people walked slowly because it rained yesterday.’

5.1.2 Ability (managed to have... , was able to ...)

The abilitative modality is shown by the use *ma-* and *maka-*. However, *maka-* is used to indicate focus on AGT or TH and “*ma-*” on everything else.

1. *Madali’ na ako **maka**’intindi ning Rumblomanon.*
‘I **will be able to** understand Rombloanon soon.’
2. ***Nakakatüyog** kami ning ma’äyo kagab’i.*
‘We **managed to have** a good sleep last night.’
3. ***Nakalüto**’ ako ning kanämit nga pagkä’on.*
‘I **was able to** cook delicious food.’

5.1.3 Permission

The same way is used to express permission.

*Kung täpos na ako ning panghügas **makapahüway** na ba ako?*
‘If I have finished washing dishes, **may** I rest?’

5.1.4 Unintentional action

To indicate action which is done unintentionally or by mistake, the affixes *makaka-* and *na-* are used. However there is no such unintentional action in incomplete aspect.

5.1.4.1 Action done accidentally / unintentionally.

Natimakan ko ang siki' ni Juan.

'I stepped on John's foot **accidentally**.'

5.1.4.2 Spontaneous Action.

1. *Nabakay ko ang tinapay pag ägi ko sa panadiryä.*
'I **happened to** buy the bread when I passed by the bakery.'
2. *Nabakay ko ang sapätos ning baräto.*
'I bought a pairs of cheap shoes.' (**unplanned**)

5.1.4.3 Action done by mistake.

1. *Napilak niya ang gatas.*
'He threw away the milk **by mistake**.'
2. *Nabakay ko ang pinya nga sira'.*
'I bought a rotten pineapple **by mistake**.'

5.1.4.4 Action without the intervention of an AGT

Nasiinog ang bayay.

'The house burned down.'

5.1.4.5 Action of Possibility

Makakatu'on ako ning hambay nga Romblon sa suyod ng lima ka tuig.

'I will be able to learn Romblon dialect within five year.'

5.2 Time

The time an action occurs is indicated by a time phrase.

1. *Naglarga siya nang Sabado pa-Manila'.*
'He left **last Saturday** for Manila.'
2. *Nag'abut siya ka'ina sa Romblon.*
'He arrived **earlier** in Romblon.'

5.3 Location

To indicate a non-focus location, a location marker 'sa' before the locative noun phrase is used.

1. *Ging'ihaw ko ang bäboy sa matansähan.*
'I butchered the pig **in the slaughter house**.'
2. *Si Dorothy hay nagakänam sa suyod nang bayay.*
'Dorothy is playing **inside the house**.'

5.4 Benefactive

One of the nominals in a Romblomanon clause may have the role of Beneficiary (BEN). The BEN is normally an animate referent for whose benefit the action is performed. However, when a referent is not at focus, the BEN is not obligatory.

To indicate a non-focus benefactive, a Preposition Phrase (consisting of *pära* + oblique case) is used.

1. *Matahi' ako ning bäro' pära kay Pauline.*
'I will sew a dress for Pauline.'
2. *Naglütö' siya ning adöbo pära sa mga bisita.*
'He cooked *adobo* for the visitors.'

5.5 Instrumental

Like all the other roles, we may express the instrument role as non-focused or focused. The role of INS in a Rombloanon verbal clause is generally the means by which an activity is accomplished. When the instrument noun phrase is not focused, *nang* or *ning* may be used. However, when *nang* is used, it denotes a certain kind of definiteness e.g. certain kind of knife.

1. *Gingbuno' ko ang bäboy nang sipoy.*
'I stabbed the pig **with a (certain kind of) knife.**'
2. *Gingbuno' ko ang bäboy ning sipoy.*
'I stabbed the pig **with a knife.**'

5.6 Causal

5.6.1 Non-focus

When a causal is not in focus, the conjunction '*dähil sa*' is used.

1. *Nagbuyag sinda dähil sa kaburatso nang iya asäwa.*
'They separated **because of** the drunkenness of his husband.'
2. *Ang unga' hay namatay dähil sa dayarya.*
'The child died **because of** diarrhea.'

5.6.2 Focused

When the cause is in focus, both the comment and topic are marked by the topic marker *ang*.

1. *Ang tipdas ang nakabuta sa unga'.*
'Measles is **the cause of** the blindness of the child.'
2. *Ang dayarya ang nakamatay sa unga'.*
'Diarrhea is **the cause of** the death of the child.'

5.7 Referential

5.7.1 Non-focus

When a referential is not topic, the word '*tungod*' is used to mark it.

1. *Naga'isturya kami tungod kay Pablo.*
'We are talking **about** Paul.'
2. *Ang magüyang nag'isturya sa ämon tungod sa aswang.*
'The old man told us story **about** the witch.'

5.7.2 Focused

When the referential is in focus, both the comment and topic are marked by the topic marker and the reference must be in the comment position.

1. *Ang gina 'isturya nāmon hay si Pablo.*
'Paul is the one whom we are talking about.'
2. *Ang tungod sa aswang ang ging 'isturya nang magüyang sa ämon.*
'What the old man told us was about witch.'

5.8 Measurement

We indicate measurement by the non-topic marker '*ning*'. Usually it is not in topic.

1. *Upat ka pulgäda ang ging-uturon ko sa pisi.* (The topic form is seldom used)
'I cut a rope by four inches.'

When *-on* is used and the degree of affected by the action is total.

2. *Utüd-uturon ko ang kähoy ning tig üpat ka pulgäda.*
'I will cut the lumber into four inch sections.'
3. *Utüd-uturon ko ang mga kähoy ning tig üpat ka pulgäda.*
'I will cut each lumber into four inch sections.'

When *-an* is used and the TH is focused, it is partially affected by the action.

4. *Utüran ko ang pisi' ning upat ka pulgäda.*
'I will shorten the rope by four inches.'
5. *Utüran ko ang mga pisi' ning tig upat ka pulgäda.*
'I will shorten each rope by four inches.'

6. Questions

6.1 Yes-No Question

When asking yes-no type questions, the question word '*ba*' is used. We place the *ba* after all other particles but before the pronoun (except one-syllable pronouns) and the head noun. The summary of the order of the particles reference to '*ba*' is as follows:

ka / mo < na / pa < lang / da < ba < ikaw / niya / pronoun < noun phrase

N.B. The symbols "<" means preceding and "/" means exclusive of each other. That means *ka* or *mo* precedes *na* or *pa*, which precedes *lang* or *da*, which precedes *ba*, which precedes *ikaw* which exclusive to *niya* and other pronouns, and which precedes other noun phrases.

1. *Makä'on ka pa lang ba?*
'Will you still eat?'
(in which *ka* precedes *pa*, which precedes *lang*, which precedes *ba*)

2. *Makä'on na ba ikaw?*
'Will you eat now?'
(in which *na* precedes *ba*, which precedes *ikaw*)
3. *Babäyi ba ang iya unga'?*
'Is her child a girl?'
(in which *ba* precedes *ang iya unga'*)

6.2 Identity

When we ask a question to identify someone, it must be in topic. Therefore we can only use an equative clause pattern to indicate a question.

6.2.1 *Sin'o* 'who': (from *si+uno*)

To ask a question to identify a person, we combine the topic marker for proper name *si* and the basic question word *uno* 'happen'.

1. *Sin'o ang imo ämo?*
'Who is your boss?'

Sin'ong is the combined form of *sin'o* and *ang*. **

2. *Sin'ong ämo nimo?*
'Who is your boss?'
3. *Sin'ong masügat adto nang mga daläga pakari?*
'Who will fetch those young women here?'

(** Note: This kind of assimilation by subtraction of vowel also happens with other words.)

6.2.2 *Ano* 'what'

We can use the *hay* pattern to indicate a question of identification.

1. *Ano ang ma'äyo ko nga buhäton?*
or *Ang ma'äyo ko nga buhäton hay ano?*
'What is good for me to do?'
2. *Ano baya inang nagalutawlütaw sa dägat?*
or *Inang nagalutawlütaw sa dägat hay ano baya?*
'What, I wonder, is that (far) floating in the ocean?'
3. *Ano pa ang ginakahadluk mo?*
or *Ang ginakahadluk mo hay ano pa?*
'What else are you afraid of?'

6.3 Possession

By using an interrogative pronoun and the equative clause pattern, the possession is indicated. However, there are two words of interrogative pronouns *kanin'o* or *kay sin'o* to ask a question indicating possession. See the following examples. (Note: *kanin'o* is from *kaN-+si-+uno*)

6.3.1 With a noun head

When *kanin'o* or *kay sin'o* is followed by a noun phrase, it indicates a question of possession of 'Whose'.

- or *Kanin'o baya ini?*
Kay sin'o baya ini?
 'Whose, I wonder, is this?'

6.3.2 With an verbal clause

When *kanin'o* or *kay sin'o* is followed by a verbal clause, it indicates a question of possession of 'From Whom' or 'To whom' the action is done.

1. *Kay sin'o mo gingbakay ang isda?*
 or *Kanin'o mo gingbakay ang isda?*
 'From whom did you buy the fish?'
2. *Kay sin'o mo gingbaligya' ang isda?*
 or *Kanin'o mo gingbligya' ang isda?*
 'To whom did you buy the fish?'

6.3.3 With Pära

When *kanin'o* or *kay sin'o* is preceded by *pära*, it indicates a question of possession of 'For Whom' the action is done.

- or *Pära kanin'o ang sapätos nga gingbakay mo?*
Pära kay sin'o ang sapätos nga gingbakay mo?
 'For whom is the pair of shoes that you bought?'

6.4 Place

The oblique 'sa' in the question word indicating location is optional, therefore we may ask for the location of a place by using '*di'in*' or '*sa di'in*' to mean 'where'.

- or *Di'in ang imo bayay?*
Sa di'in ang imo bayay?
 'Where is your house?'

6.5 Time

There are two different temporal interrogative pronouns. One asks about an event that has happened and the other asks about an event that has not yet happened.

6.5.1 San'o or Sa'uno 'when'

If we ask the time of an event that is not yet happened, we use *san'o* or *sa'uno* and followed by verb in the proposed aspect.

1. *San'o ko baya matäpos ang äkon hugasan?*
 'I wonder, **when will** I finish washing my things (utensils)?'
2. *Sa'uno ka makadto sa Hongkong?*
When will you go to Hongkong?

6.5.2 *Kasan'o* or *Ka'uno* 'when'

If we ask the time of an event that has already happened, we use *kasan'o* or *ka'uno* and followed by verb in the completed aspect.

1. ***Kasan'o*** *ka lang püyung ko diri?*
'When did you, I said, (arrive) here?'
2. ***Ka'uno*** *ka nagkadto sa imo nanay?*
'When did you go to your mother?'

6.6 Means

Since means is to describe how a TH in which an action is performed, the TH is always in focus. The pronoun *pa'uno* and *pa'uno kung* are used to ask the means by which something is done. If it is a transitive clause and the TH is ABS-NP, we use *pa'uno*. However if it is a semantically intransitive motion clause (e.g. *larga* 'leave', *kadto* 'go', *kari* 'come' & etc), and TH is ABS-NP, we use *pa'uno kung* to question the means in which something is done.

1. ***Pa'uno*** *niya ging-utud ang kahoy?*
pa'uno niya ging- =utod ang kahoy
QM 3SG/ERG PFT/TH=cut ABS wood
'How did he cut the wood?' (Asking about the means)
2. ***Pa'uno kung*** *siya nagkari?*
pa'uno kung siya nag- =kari
QM QM 3SG/ABS PFT/TH=come
'How did she come?' (Asking about the means)

6.7 Manner

Since manner is to describe how an AGT performs an action, the AGT is always in focus. If it is an intransitive clause and the AGT is ABS-NP, we use the pronoun '*pa'uno kung*' to ask the manner in which something is done. Moreover if it is a transitive clause and it is an antipassive pattern in which the AGT is ABS-NP, we still use the pronoun '*pa'uno kung*' to question the manner in which something is done.

1. ***Pa'uno kung*** *siya nagasulat?* (intransitive)
pa'uno kung siya nag- =sulat
QM QM 3SG/ABS PFT/TH=write
'How does she write?' (manner)
2. ***Pa'uno kung*** *siya nag-utod ning kahoy?* (transitive: antipassive)
pa'uno kung siya nag- =utod ning kahoy
QM QM 3SG/ABS PFT/TH=write ERG wood
'How did he cut the wood?' (manner)

6.8 Cause and Purpose

The interrogative pronoun *bäsi'* is used for asking the cause and purpose of events.

1. **Bäsi'** *namatay ang ñmo nanay?*
bäsi' na-=matay ang ñmo nanay
 QM PFT/UNINT==die ABS 2SG/GEN mother
 'Why did your mother die?' (Asking about the cause)
2. **Bäsi'** *ka nagaliuto' ning kik?*
bäsi' naga- =liuto' ning kik
 QM PR/AGT=cook ABS cake
 'Why are you baking a cake?' (Asking about the purpose)

6.9 Extent

The word '**ma'uno**' has almost zero meaning but functions as a question word to ask for extent and quality. When it is used with *ka-* plus a root word, then the phrase becomes an interrogative pronoun for asking about the extent of something.

ma'uno + ka-=root

1. **Ma'uno kabahoy** *ang ñmo bayay?*
ma'uno ka- =bahoy ang ñmo bayay
 QM AM=big ABS 2SG/GEN house
 'How big is your house?'
2. **Ma'uno kaläpad** *ang ñmo düta'?*
ma'uno ka- =läpad ang ñmo düta
 QM AM=wide ABS 2SG/GEN lot
 'How wide is your property?'
3. **Ma'uno kahäba'** *ang pisi'?*
ma'uno ka-=häba' ang pisi'
 QM AM=long ABS rope
 'How long is the rope?'

6.10 State

The question word for asking the state of something is the same word for asking about extent, i.e. '**ma'uno**'.

Ma'uno *na ang ñmo nanay?*
ma'uno na ang ñmo nanay
 QM now ABS 2SG/GEN mother
 'How is your mother now?'

6.11 Amount

In Rombloanon, there is only one word '**pila**' uses for asking amount for both countable and uncountable object. Therefore it means both 'how many' or 'how much' in English.

1. **Pila** *ang ñmo idad?*
pila ang ñmo idad
 how-many ABS 2SG/GEN age
 'How old are you?'
 (Lit: How many is your age?)

2. *Pila ang imo isda'?*
pila ang imo isda'
 how-much ABS 2SG/GEN fish
 'How much is your fish?'

We use *pila* and a numeral marker *ka* with the quantifier, to ask for the amount of something.

3. *Pila ka bilog ang imo isda'?*
pila ka bilog ang imo isda'
 how-many Q pece ABS 2SG/GEN fish
 'How many pieces of fish do you have?'

6.12 Quality

When we ask about quality, we use different interrogative pronouns depending on what we want to ask.

6.12.1 'Ano' with linker 'nga'

We use the same question word *ano* as in identity with the linker *nga* to specify the particular quality asked about.

1. *Ano nga kläse ang isda'?*
ano nga kläse ang isda'
 QM LK class ABS fish
 'What class is the fish?'
2. *Ano nga kulor ang papil?*
ano nga kulor ang papil
 QM LK color ABS paper
 'What color is the paper?'

6.12.2 'Ano' with topic marker

An alternatives is to use the question word *ano* and the topic marker *ang* with the quality word.

1. *Ano ang klase nang isda?*
ano ang kläse nang isda'
 QM ABS class ERG fish
 'What is the class of the fish?'
2. *Ano ang kulor nang papil?*
ano ang kulor nang papil
 QM ABS color ERG paper
 'What is the color of the paper?'

6.12.3 'Ma'uno' with topic marker 'ang'

Moreover, we may use the question word *ma'uno* and the topic marker *ang* with the particular quality word to describe quality.

- or *Ma'uno ang hitsüra nang lamisa?*
Ma'unong hitsüra nang lamisa?
ma'ano ang hitsüra nang lamisa
 QM ABS appearance ERG table
 'How is the appearance of the table?'

6.13 Alternatives

6.13.1 *Di'in*

We use '*di'in*' to ask for alternatives in both non-human or human.

1. *Di'in diri ang imo panyo'?*
di'in diri ang imo panyo'
 which here ABS 2SG/GEN handkerchief
 'Which one is your handkerchief here?'
2. *Di'in ang pinakagwäpa sa tuyo nga daläga?*
di'in ang pinaka-=gwäpa sa tuyo nga daläga
 which ABS SUPER-=beautiful OBL three LK young/ladies
 'Which one is the most beautiful among the three young ladies?'

6.13.2 *Sin-o*

However, we use *sin'o* to ask for alternatives in humans only.

Sin'o ang pinakagwäpa sa tuyo nga daläga?
sin'o ang pinaka-=gwäpa sa tuyo nga daläga
 who ABS SUPER-=beautiful OBL three LK young/ladies
 'Who is the most beautiful among the three young ladies?'

7. Joining Concepts

7.1 Conjunction

The conjunction '*kag*' is used to connect two words in the same class, two phrases, two clauses and two sentences.

Siya hay katä'as kag kagwäpa.
 'She is tall **and** beautiful.'

Sa nga da'an nagduyog siya kag gingbuyong niya ang pilas nang unga niya.
 'At once, he stopped and tended to the wounds of his child.'

7.2 Disjunction / Alteration

The conjunction '*o*' is used to illustrate two words, two phrases, two clauses or two sentences which are disjuncted.

Pili-on mo, ang puti o ang puya?
 'You choose, the white one **or** the red one?'

Makä'on ka o malangoy ka?
 'Will you eat **or** swim?'

7.3 Contrast

The conjunction '*pero*' can connect two words, two phrases, two clauses and two sentences to show contrast.

Manggaränon siya pero kuripot.
‘He is rich **but** a miser.’

Siya hay bukon taga diri pero ang iya asäwa hay taga diri.
‘He is not from here **but** his wife is from here.’

7.4 Temporal Relations

7.4.1 Sequence

7.4.1.1 Before ‘bäg-o’

When the conjunction ‘*bäg-o*’ (before) is used, it marks the Event₂ sentence.

Isa ka simäna bäg-o mag’abut ang äkon sülat sa Hongkong.
‘It takes one week before my letter arrives from Hongkong.’

Nagpaligos änay siya bäg-o siya nagpamahaw.
‘He took a bath first before he ate his breakfast.’

7.4.1.2 After ‘Pagkatüpos’

This conjunction ‘*pagkatüpos*’ is used to denote a time sequence of completion of an action when it is followed by a verb root. It marks the Event₁ sentence. The Event₂ indicates the tense of the event. In English we may use a conjunction ‘after’ to represent it.

Pagkatüpos ko trabaho, nagsimba ako.
‘After finishing the work, I went to church.’

7.4.1.3 After ‘pagka-’ with root verb

The affix ‘*pagka-*’ is used to denote a time sequence of completion of an action by attaching to a verb root. It marks the Event₁ sentence. The Event₂ indicates the tense of the event. In English we may use a conjunction ‘after’ to represent it.

Pagkalaba ko, makadto ako sa mirkädo.
or *Makadto ako sa mirkädo, pagkalaba ko.*
‘**After** washing the clothes, I will go to market.’

** Note: The clause order is interchangeable, but the event₁ always goes with the affix *pagka-*.

7.4.1.4 Then ‘tapos’

The conjunction ‘*tapos*’ is used to denote a time sequence of the next action. It marks the Event₂ sentence. In English we may use a conjunction ‘then’ to represent it.

Nagkä’on änay siya ning pamähaw tapos nagtrabäho na.
‘He ate breakfast first then he worked later.’

7.4.1.5 Summary of Temporal relations on Sequence

Clause 1	Clause 2
Event ₁	<i>bäg-o</i> Event ₂
<i>Pagkatapos root</i> Event ₁	Event ₂
<i>Pagka-=root</i> Event ₁	Event ₂
Event ₁	<i>täpos</i> Event ₂

** Note: Event₁ denotes the event happens first, and Event₂ denotes the event happens afterwards.

7.4.2 Simultaneous

We use the conjunction '*mintras*' to indicate two events which are happening simultaneously.

Nagaliuto 'siya **mintras** ang iya manghud nagalaba.
'She is cooking **while** her younger sister is washing.'

7.4.3 Co-occurrence

7.4.3.1 Zero conjunction

We may use no conjunction to indicate the co-occurrence of two events.

Käda magkari si Minda ako hay nagabäsa.
'Everytime Minda comes, I am reading.'

7.4.3.2 Nang 'when in the past'

We use '*nang*' as a conjunction which means 'when in the past' to indicate the cooccurrence of two events.

Nang nagkadto ako sa Hongkong nagbakay ako ning kumpyutir.
'**When** I went to Hongkong, I bought a computer.'

7.4.4 Beginning-postpan

We use '*magtüna*' and *kung* to indicate the beginning-postpan relations.

Magtüna 'nga si Maryo hay nahüyog sa niyog, **kung** siya nagapänaw hay paki'.
'**Ever since** Mario fell down from a coconut tree, he limps **whenever** he walks.'

7.4.5 Prespan-end

We use the conjunction '*hasta*' to indicate the prespan-end relation.

Nagbäsa siya hasta siya pilawon.
'She read **until** she felt sleepy.'

7.5 Reason

We use the conjunction '*kay*' to indicate reason.

Nagmasakit siya kay gina'abüso niya ang iya läwas.
'He got sick **because** he is abusing his body.'

7.6 Result

We use the conjunction *'ngäni'* or *'gäni'* to indicate result.

Naga'uyan gäni' matinir kita sa bayay.
'It is raining **therefore** we will stay home.'

7.7 Purpose

We use the conjunction *'pära'* to indicate purpose.

Nagkari siya pära ikaw hay malipay.
'He came **so that** you will be happy.'

7.8 Grounds-conclusion

We use the conjunction *'sigurado'* to indicate the conclusion, and the ground is not marked.

Si Ester waya' nagsimba ari niyan, sigurado may sakit siya.
'Ester did not attend church today, she **is** sick **for sure**.'

7.9 Condition-Consequence or Consequence-Condition

We use the conjunction *'kung'* to indicate condition; consequence is not marked. We use timeless aspect for the condition clause and proposed aspect for the consequence clause.

1. *Kung maglarga' ang äkon amïga, siya ang madaya nang äkon sulat.*
'**If** my friend leaves, she will be the one to bring my mail.
2. *Ang äkon amïga ang madaya nang äkon sulat, kung mag'abut siya.*
My friend will be the one to bring my mail if she arrives.

7.9.1 Contrafactual

To indicate contra-factual relations, we use completed aspect for the condition clause and completed aspect for the consequence clause.

1. *Kung nag'abot siya, siya ang nagdaya nang pagka'on.*
'**If** he had come, he would have brought some food.'
2. *Kung ako nagbalik sa Hong Kong nang Julio, nagbakay ako ning regalo para sa imo.*
'**If** I had returned to Hong Kong last July, I would have brought a present for you.'

7.10 Concession-Contraexpectation

We use the conjunction *'maskin'* to indicate the concession-contraexpectation relation. We have to use the completed aspect in both the concession clause and the contraexpectation clause. *Maskin* marks the concession clause while the contraexpectation clause is unmarked.

1. *Maskin nagkari siya diri waya' ko siya ginglihoka.*
'**Even though** he came here, I did not take-notice-of him.'
(Lit: Even though he came here, I did not acknowledge him.)
2. *Maskin nagkari siya, waya' ko siya pasuyura.*
'**Even though** he came, I did not let him in.'

7.10.1 *Hypothetical*

To indicate hypothetical relations, we use the timeless aspect for the concession clause and the proposed aspect for the contra-expectation clause.

Maskin magkari siya indi' ko siya paka'ünon.
 'Even if he comes, I will not let him eat.'

7.10.2 *Contrafactual*

To indicate contrafactual relations, we use the completed aspect for the concession clause and the proposed aspect for the contraexpectation clause.

Maskin nagkari siya indi' ko siya paka'ünon.
 'Even if he would have come, I would not let him eat.'

7.11 *Comparison of Equality*

To denote a comparison of equality, the affix '*kasing-*' attached to the adjective root word or a noun word is used.

1. *Si Perla hay kasingta'as ni Nora.*
 'Perla is as tall as Nora.'
2. *Kasing'idad ko si Nita.*
 'My age is same as Nita's.'

7.12 *Comparison of Inequality*

7.12.1 *Comparison between two items*

The conjunction '*mas ... kaysa*' is used for denoting a comparison of inequality. We use *mas* to indicate that the former is of higher degree compared to the latter which is marked with *kaysa*. The items that are compared can be nouns, phrases and verbs. (Section 7.14)

1. *Mas ma'äyo magkä'on ning prütas kaysa karni.*
 'It is better to eat fruits than to eat meat.'
2. *Mas ma'isot ang iya unga' kaysa sa äkon.*
 'Her baby is smaller than my baby.'

7.12.2 *Comparison of more than two items*

When we compare more than two items, we use *pinaka* + *adjective root* to indicate superlative degree.

Pinakamayad si Pedro sa mga kaklase.
 'Pedro is the **smartest** among the classmates.'

7.13 *Verbal Simile*

It is not common to use a verbal simile. The word *daw* 'seems to be' may be used to indicate a simile. *Daw* marks the image while the topic marker only marks the topic and the point of similarity is left implicit.

Daw bäboy siya kung nagakatuyog.
 'He is like a pig when he sleeps.'

7.14 Verbal Comparison

The conjunction *'mas ... kaysa'* is used for denoting a comparison of inequality. We use *mas* to indicate that the former is of higher degree compared to the latter which is marked with *kaysa*.

1. *Mas madali magbäsa kaysa magsulat.*
'It is easier to read than to write.'
2. *Mas maäyo magalila' ning bäboy kaysa magbantay ning lapsag.*
'It is better to take care of a pig than to watch a baby.'

8. Quotation

There is no special formula or tag for quotation. However if the first or second person is mentioned in the sentence or it is an imperative or an interjection with proper name mentioned, it is most likely a direction quotation.

1. *Ang hambay niya hay, "Nagalumyum."*
'What he is saying is, "Nagalumyum."'
2. *Naghambay ang äkon nanay, "Ay taya Loyda!"*
'My mother said, "Oh, no. Loyda!"'
3. *Nagnuyab si Jose kay Pedro, "Humalin ka sa akon house!"*
'Jose scolded Pedro, "Get away from my house!"'
4. *Sumabat naman ako nga, "Ay nanay waya' pa iton sa äkon bu'ot kay bäta pa ako."*
'But I responded, "Oh, mother! I don't even have that in mind because I'm still young."'

9. Indirect Quotation

Similarly, there is no special formula or tag for indirect quotations. However, the indirect quotation seldom uses first or second person pronoun but always the third person. Sometimes a linker *nga* is used to mark indirect quotation but is optional.

1. *Naghambay ang suldädo nga katsika' kung puydi niya mapangäyu' ang manok ning libri.*
'The Spanish soldier said that if he could request the chicken for free.'
2. *Ginghambay ni Diding kay Pauline nga may sakit ang iya unga'.*
'Diding told Pauline that her son is sick.'

10. Embedded Clause

When a clause is embedded in another clause, it is preceded by the linker *'nga'*. The embedded clause may be a dependent clause itself or just a relative clause.

1. *Nadumduman ko nga ang iya pangäyan hay si Marya.*
na-an=dumdum ko nga ang iya pangäyan hay si Mary
PFT/TH=remember 1SG/ERG LK ABS 3SG/GEN name 0 ABS Mary
'I remembered **that** her name is Mary.'

2. *Nabati'an ko nga siya hay kasayon sa Domingo.*
na-an=bati' ko nga siya hay kasay=-on sa Domingo
 PFT/TH=hear 1SG/ERG LK 3SG/ABS 0 marry=IMPFT/TH OBL Sunday
 'I heard **that** she will get married on Sunday.'

If the embedded clause is a relative clause, *nga* is used as a relative marker. However, other embedded clauses can be formed by using various relative pronouns. See more examples in section 11.

3. *Sayud ko ang täwo nga nagbu'oy nang imo pagkä'on.*
sayud ko ang täwo nga nag- =bu'oy nang imo pagkä'on
 know 1SG/ERG ABS person RP PFT/AGT=get ERG 2SG/ERG food
 'I know the person **who** got your food.'
4. *Nakita' ko ang traysikol nga gingbaligya' nang täwo.*
na-=kita' ko ang traysikol nga ging-=baligya' nang täwo
 PFT/TH=see 1SG/ERG ABS tricycle RP PFT-=sell ERG person
 'I saw the tricycle **that** the person sold.'
5. *Kiläya ko ang täwo nga gingbaligya'an ni Pidro nang traysikol.*
kiläya ko ang täwo nga ging--an=baligya' ni Pidro nang traysikol
 know 1SG/ERG ABS person RP PFT/TH-=sell ERG Pidro ERG tricycle
 'I know the person **to whom** Pidro sold the tricycle.'

11. Relative Clauses

Relativization is a process by which a subordinate clause modifies an argument in a main clause; the subordinate clause is the relative clause and the argument that it modifies is its head noun.

In Romblomanon, relative clauses are either marked by the linker '*nga*' or by a relative pronoun.

11.1 With linker '*nga*'

If the relative clause is composed of a head noun joined to a subordinate clause by the linker *nga*, the head NP is obligatorily moved to the front of the relative clause and the verb in the relative clause must agree in focus with the matrix clause.

1. *Nakita' ko ang traysikol nga gingbaligya' nang täwo.*
na-=kita' ko ang traysikol nga ging-=baligya' nang täwo
 PFT/TH=see 1SG/ERG ABS tricycle RP PFT-=sell ERG person
 'I saw the tricycle **that** the person sold.'
2. *Kiläya ko ang täwo nga ang iya traysikol hay gingbaligya' na.*
kiläya ko ang täwo nga ang iya traysikol hay ging- =baligya'
 know 1SG/ERG ABS person RP ABS 3SG/GEN tricycle 0 PFT/TH-=sell

na
 already
 'I know the person **whose** tricycle is sold already.'
3. *Sayud ko ang tindahan nga gingbaligya'an nang kotse.*
sayud ko ang tindahan nga ging--an=baligya' nang kotse
 know 1SG/ERG ABS store RP PFT/LOC=sell ERG car
 'I know the store **where** the car was sold.'

Even the linker *nga* is used in a basic relative clause and also in an existential relative clause, in which both ABS-NP and ERG-NP can be the head noun which is identified by position i.e. in front of the relative clause.

11.1.1 Basic Relative Clause

In the basic relative clause, we use the linker *nga* to serve as the relative pronoun, therefore it can mean 'which', 'who', 'whose', 'where', 'to whom', 'for whom', 'with which'. The meaning of the linker *nga* will be determined by the ABS-NP in which it links.

11.1.1.1 ABS-NP is head noun

11.1.1.1.1 Transitive Clause

1. *Nakita ko ang kanaman nga gingsira nang onga.*
na- =kita ko ang kanaman nga ging- =sira nang onga
 ACT/PFT=see 1SG/ERG ABS toy RP TH/PFT=break ERG child
 'I saw the toy which the child broke.'

Example 1, the ABS-NP in the matrix clause, which is a TH (or patient), is omitted. The linker *nga* links to *ang kanaman* 'toy', therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun 'which' in English.

2. *Nakita ko ang onga nga nagsira nang kanaman*
na- =kita ko ang onga nga nag- =sira nang kanaman
 ACT/PFT=see 1SG/ERG ABS child RP AGT/PFT=break OBL toy
 'I saw the child who broke the toy.'

Example 2, the ABS-NP in the matrix, which is a non-TH (or non-patient), is omitted. The linker *nga* links to *ang onga* 'child', therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun 'who' in English.

3. * *Nakita ko ang onga nga gingsira ang kanaman.*
na- =kita ko ang onga nga ging- =sira ang kanaman
 ACT/PFT=see 1SG/ERG ABS child RP TH/PFT=break ABS toy
 'I saw the child break the toy.'

However, an ERG-NP cannot be the head noun (it is raising) as shown in example3, which is incorrect in Romblomanon grammar.

11.1.1.1.2 Intransitive Clause

1. *Nakita ko ang onga nga nagkanam sa gunahon.*
na- =kita ko ang onga nga nag- =kanam sa gunahon
 ACT/PFT=see 1SG/ERG ABS child RP ACT/AGT/PFT=play OBL lawn
 'I saw the child who played in the lawn.'

Example 1, the ABS-NP in the matrix clause, which is an AGT, is omitted. The linker *nga* links to the *ang onga* 'child', therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun 'who' in English.

2. *Nakita ko ang sawa nga nagsuyod sa babay.*
na- =kita ko ang sawa nga nag- =sayod sa bayay
 ACT/PFT=see 1SG/ERG ABS snake RP ACT/PAT/PFT=enter OBL house
 'I saw the snake which entered the house.'

Example 2, the ABS-NP in the matrix clause, which is a non-AGT, is omitted. The linker *nga* links to the *ang sawa* 'snake', therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun 'which' in English.

11.1.1.2 Possessor of ABS-NP

11.1.1.2.1 Possessor of ABS-NP which is animate

Nakita ko ang onga nga nasira ang kanaman niya.

na- =kita ko ang onga nga na- =sira ang kanaman niya
 ACT/PFT=see 1SG/ERG ABS child RP PASS/PFT=break ABS toy 3SG/GEN
 'I saw the child whose toy has been broken.'

The above example, the linker *nga* links *ang onga* 'child' to the *ang kanaman niya* 'his toy', therefore *nga* will link the head to the possessor of ABS-NP and act as a relative pronoun 'whose' in English.

11.1.1.2.2 Possessor of ABS-NP which is inanimate

1. *Nakita ko ang bayay nga sira ang puertahan.*

na- =kita ko ang bayay nga sira =0 ang puertahan
 ACT/PFT=see 1SG/ERG ABS house RP break=ADJ ABS door
 'I saw the house whose door was broken.'

2. * *Nakita ko ang bayay nga sira ang puertahan niya.*

na- =kita ko ang bayay nga sira =0 ang puertahan niya
 ACT/PFT=see 1SG/ERG ABS house RP break=ADJ ABS window 3SG/GEN
 'I saw the house whose window was broken.'

Example 1, the linker *nga* links *ang bayay* 'house' to the *ang puertahan* 'door', therefore *nga* will link the head to the possessor of ABS-NP and act as a relative pronoun 'whose' in English. However, example 2 is incorrect in Romblomanon grammar.

11.1.1.3 Promoted as direct object

11.1.1.3.1 Location is promoted

1. *Ini ang bangko nga pongkoan nang onga.*

ini ang bangko nga pongko=-an nang onga
 this ABS chair RP sit =ACT/LOC/IMPFT ERG child
 'This is the chair where the child will sit on.'

2. * *Ini ang bangko nga mapongko ang onga.*

ini ang bangko nga ma- =pongko ang onga
 this ABS chair RP ACT/TH/IMPFT=sit ABS child
 'This is the chair where the child will sit on.'

Example 1, the linker *nga* links to *ang bangko* 'chair', therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun 'where' in English. However, example 2 is incorrect in Romblomanon grammar.

11.1.1.3.2 Recipient is promoted

1. *Ini ang onga nga taw'an nang tawo ning libro.*

ini ang onga nga ta'o=-an nang tawo ning libro
 this ABS child RP give=ACT/BEN/IMPFT ERG person OBL book
 'This is the child to whom the person will give the book.'

2. * *Ini ang onga nga ita'o nang tawo ang libro.*
ini ang onga nga i- =ta'o nang tawo ang libro
 this ABS child PR ACT/TH/IMPFT=give ERG person ABS book
 'This is the child to whom the person will give the book.'

Example 1, the linker *nga* links to *ang onga* 'child' which is the recipient of the action, therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun 'to whom' in English. However, example 2 is incorrect in Romblomanon grammar.

11.1.1.3.3 Beneficiary is promoted

1. *Ini ang onga nga bakyan nang tawo ning libro.*
ini ang onga nga bakay=-an nang tawo ning libro
 this ABS child RP buy =ACT/BEN/IMPFT ERG person OBL book
 'This is the child for whom the person will buy a book.'
2. * *Ini ang onga nga gingbakyon nang tawo ang libro.*
ini ang onga nga ging--on =bakay nang tawo ang libro
 this ABS child RP ACT/PAT/IMPFT=buy ERG person ABS book
 'This is the child for whom the person will buy a book.'

Example 1, the linker *nga* links to *ang onga* 'child' which is the beneficiary of the action, therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun 'for which' in English. However, example 2 is incorrect in Romblomanon grammar.

11.1.1.3.4 Instrument is promoted

1. *Ini ang sipoy nga ibuno nang tawo sa bahoy*
ini ang sipoy nga i- =buno nang tawo sa bahoy
 this ABS knife RP ACT/INSTR/IMPFT=stab ERG person OBL pig
 'This is the knife with which the person will use to stab the pig.'
2. * *Ini ang sipoy nga gingbuno nang tawo ang bahoy*
ini ang sipoy nga ging- =buno nang tawo ang bahoy
 this ABS knife RP ACT/TH/IMPFT=stab ERG person ABS pig
 'This is the knife with which the person will use to stab the pig.'

Example 1, the linker *nga* links to *ang sipoy* 'knife' which is the instrument of the action, therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun 'with which' in English. However, example 2 is incorrect in Romblomanon grammar.

11.1.2 Existential Relative Clause

In the existential relative clause, we use the existential word *igwa* and the linker *nga* to serve as the relative pronoun. Similar to the basic relative clauses, the relative pronoun can mean 'which', 'who', 'whose', 'where', 'to whom', 'for whom', 'with which'. The meaning of the linker *nga* will be determined by the ABS-NP in which it links.

11.1.2.1 Intransitive Clause

11.1.2.1.1 ABS-NP is head noun

1. *Ginalangkag ang onga sa ginikanan.*
gina- =langkag ang onga sa iya ginikanan
 PR =long.for ABS child OBL 3SG/GEN parents
 ‘The child is longing for the parents.’
2. *Igwa ning isa ka onga nga ginalangkag sa ginikanan.*
igwa ning isa ka onga nga gina- =langkag sa iya ginikanan
 EXT ABS one NUM child RP PR/TH =long.for OBL 3SG/GEN parents
 ‘There was a child who was longing for the parents.’

Example 1 is a basic clause, and example 2 is an existential relative clause. The ABS-NP in the matrix clause, which is a TH, is omitted. The linker *nga* links to the *ongga* ‘child’, therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun ‘who’ in English.

3. *Igwa ning isa ka onga nga nahadlok sa maduyum*
igwa ning isa ka onga nga na- =hadlok sa maduyum
 EXT ABS one NUM child RP PFT/STAT/TH=afraid OBL dark
 ‘There was a child who was afraid of the dark.’
4. *Igwa ning isa ka tawo nga nagkadto sa dagat.*
igwa ning isa ka tawo nga nag- =kadto sa dagat
 EXT ABS one NUM person RP ACT/PFT/TH=go OBL sea
 ‘There was a person who went to the sea.’

Similarly, in example 3 and 4, the ABS-NP in each of the matrix clause, which is a TH, is omitted. The linker *nga* links to the *ongga* ‘child’ in example 3 and to the *tawo* ‘people’ in example 4, therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun ‘who’ in English.

11.1.2.1.2 ERG-NP is head noun

1. *Igwa ning isa ka hari nga nalimutan ang iya pangayan.*
igwa ning isa ka hari nga na--an =limut ang iya pangayan
 EXT ABS one NUM king RP ACT/PFT/LOC=forget ABS 3SG/GEN name
 ‘There was a king who forgot his name.’
2. * *Igwa ning isa ka hari nga nalimutan niya ang iya pangayan*
igwa ning isa ka hari nga na--an =limut niya ang iya pangayan
 EXT ABS one NUM king RP ACT/PFT/LOC=forget 2SG/ERG ABS 3SG/GEN name
 ‘There was a king who forgot his name.’

Example 1, the ERG-NP in the matrix clause, which is a LOC, is omitted. The linker *nga* links to the *kari* ‘king’, therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun ‘who’ in English. If we put the ERG-NP in the matrix clause, it is incorrect in grammar.

11.1.2.2 Transitive Clause

11.1.2.2.1 ABS-NP is head noun

1. *Igwa ning isa ka sayap nga ginggamit nang tawo sa pagpangisda.*
igwa ning isa ka sayap nga ging- =gamit nang tawo sa pag =pang=isda
 EXT ABS one NUM net RP ACT/TH/PFT=use ABS person OBL NM =MULT=fish
 ‘There was a net which the person used when he went fishing.’

Example 1, the ABS-NP in the matrix clause, which is a TH, is omitted. The linker *nga* links to the *sayap* ‘net’, therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun ‘which’ in English.

2. *Igwa ning isa ka tawo nga nagutod ning kahoy sa kaguyangan.*
igwa ning isa ka tawo nga nag- =utod ning kahoy sa kaguyangan
 EXT ABS one NUM person RP AGT/PFT=cut ERG tree LOC forest
 ‘There was a person who cut a tree in the forest.’

Example 2, the ABS-NP in the matrix clause, which is an AGT, is omitted. The linker *nga* links to the *tawo* ‘person’, therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun ‘who’ in English.

11.1.2.2.2 ERG-NP is head noun

- Igwa ning isa ka tawo nga ginggamit ang sayap sa pagpangisda.*
igwa ning isa ka tawo nga ging- =gamit ang sayap sa pag =pang=isda
 EXT ABS one NUM person RP ACT/TH/PFT=use ABS net OBL NM=MULT=fish
 ‘There was a person who used the net when he went fishing.’

The above example, the ERG-NP in the matrix clause, which is an AGT, is omitted. The linker *nga* links to the *tawo* ‘person’, therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun ‘who’ in English.

11.1.2.2.3 Location is Promoted as direct object

1. *Gingtaw'an nang nanay ang onga ning piso.*
gingtaw'an =ta'o nang nanay ang onga ning piso
 LOC/PFT=give ERG mother ABS child OBL peso
 ‘The mother gave the child a peso.’
2. *Igwa ning isa ka onga nga gingtaw'an nang nanay ning piso.*
igwa ning isa ka onga nga gingtaw'an =ta'o nang nanay ning piso
 EXT ABS one NUM child RP LOC/PFT=give ERG mother OBL peso
 ‘There was a child to whom his mother gave a peso.’

Example 1 is a basic clause, and example 2 is an existential relative clause. The ABS-NP in the matrix clause, which is a LOC, is omitted. The linker *nga* links to the *onga* ‘child’, therefore *nga* will act as a relative pronoun ‘to whom’ in English.

11.2 With relative pronouns

However, there are some other relative pronouns rather than the linker *nga*. In such case, it can only be illustrated by relative pronoun.

1. *Sayud ko kung kasan'o gingbaligya' ang ayskrim.*
sayud ko kung kasan'o ging- =baligya' ang ayskrim
 know 1SG/ERG RP when PFT/LOC =sell ABS ice-cream
 'I know **when** the ice-cream was sold.'
2. *Sayud ko kung bāsi' gingbaligya' ang bayay.*
sayud ko kung bāsi' ging- =baligya' ang bayay
 know 1SG/ERG RP why PFT/LOC =sell ABS house
 'I know **why** the house was sold.'
3. *Sayud ko kung ano ang gingpatay sa ayam.*
sayud ko kung ano' ging- =patay ang ayam
 know 1SG/ERG RP with.what PFT/NTH=die ABS dog
 'I know **with what** the dog was killed.'
4. *Makīta' nāton kung ano adto ang nagalutaw nga mabilog ang kurti.*
ma-=kīta' nāton kung ano adto ang naga-=lutaw nga ma-=bilog ang kurti.
 IMP=see 2PL/INCL RP what that ABS PR/TH=float LK AM-=round ABS shape
 'Let's see **what** is that is floating that is round in shape.'
5. *Sayud ko ang tindahan kung sa di'in ginabaligya'an ning ayskrim.*
sayud ko ang tindahan kung di'in gina--an =baligya' ning ayskrim
 know 1SG/ERG ABS shop RP where PFT/LOC=sell ERG ice-cream
 'I know the shop **where** the ice-cream is being sold.'

12. Nominalization

12.1 Nominalized Verb

Like Tagalog, Romblomanon often uses a nominalized verb instead of a noun. For example the noun phrase '*ang maestro*' (teacher) is replaced by a nominalized verb *ang nagatudlo*' means 'one who is teaching'. The nominalized verb is inflected for aspect, in the same way as a verb. Because Nominalized Verbs function like nouns they are often marked for class, topic or non-topic or oblique.

12.1.1 Nominalized Verb as an AGT

Nominalized verbs function as nouns. They are used to name things, people and places. If nominalized verbs are used as agents, they are often marked with the nominal marker *ang*.

1. *Mabü'ot ang nagatudlo'.*
ma-=bü'ot ang naga-=tudlo'
 AM=kind ABS PR/AGT=teach
 'The one who is **teaching** is kind.'
2. *Ang nagadrayb hay äkon tatay.*
ang naga- =drayb hay äkon tatay
 ABS PR/AGT=drive 0 1SG/GEN father
 'The one who is **driving** is my father.'
3. *Sin'o ang nagabasa nang Bibliya sa simbahan?*
sin'o ang naga- =basa nang Bibliya sa simbahan
 who ABS PR/AGT=read ERG Bible OBL church
 'Who is **the one reading** the Bible in church?'

12.1.2 Nominalized Verb as an Theme

When the nominalized verb represents a TH of the action, TH-foc verb is used. Similarly, because the nominalized verbs function as nouns, if they are used to name things, they are often marked with the nominal marker *ang*.

1. *Bukon ako mapili' sa pagka'on gani' waya' ning prublima ang äkon ginabisita.*
bukon ako ma-=pili' sa pagka'on gani' waya' ning prublima ang äkon
 not 1SG/ABS AM=choose OBL NM-=food therefore no ERG problem ABS 1SG/ERG

gina-=bisita
 PR/TH=visit

'I am not choosy in food, therefore there will be no problem **to the one whom I am visiting.**'

2. *Gusto ko bakayon ang ginabaligya' nang babäyi.*
gusto ko bakay-=on ang gina- =baligya' nang babäyi
 like 1SG/ERG buy =IMPFT/TH ABS PR/TH=sell ERG lady
 'I like to buy **what the lady is selling.**

3. *Taw'an sa äkon ang ginabäsa mo.*
ta'o=-an sa äkon ang gina- =bäsa mo
 give=IMPFT/LOC OBL 1SG ABS PR/TH=read 2SG/ERG
 'Give me the book **which you are reading.**'

12.1.3 Nominalized Verb as an Location

A nominalized verb may be used to denote a location, in which case it is followed an oblique marker *sa*.

Uli'an ang butilya sa gingbakyan ko.
uli'=-an ang butilya sa ging-an=bakay ko
 return=IMPFT/LOC ang butilya sa PR/TH =buy 1SG/ERG
 'Return the bottle **to the place which I had bought from.**'

12.2 Nominalized verb with 'may'

'May' is used to indicate a nominalized verb. It asserts the existence or presence of something or someone. (e.g. *May klase buwas.* 'There are classes tomorrow.'). With a Topic nominal, *may* is used to indicate that the Topic referent possesses a certain kind of object. (e.g. *May kwarta ako.* 'I have some money.')

12.2.1 Existence: Nominalized without nominal marker

When a verb occurs with 'may', the verb used is a nominalized verb. This kind of construction consists of an unmarked NP directly associated with the 'may'. This NP is a nominalized verb.

1. *May nagakatuyog sa luwas.*
may naga-=katuyog sa luwas
 EXT PR/TH=sleep OBL outside
 'Someone is sleeping outside.'
2. *May nagabasa ning Bibliya sa simbahan.*
may naga- =basa ning Bibliya sa simbahan
 EXT PR/AGT=read ERG Bible OBL church
 'Someone is reading the Bible in the church.'

12.2.2 Nominalized with nominal marker

This construction may be “nominalized”, in which case, it occurs with a nominal marker (*ang, nang, sa*). When the nominal marker is *ang*, the nominalized verb with ‘*may*’ may occur as the topic of a clause. The comment may be a noun, adjective, etc., as with other clauses.

1. **May gingta’o ba si Jonabelle sa imo?**
may ging- =ta’o ba si Jonabelle sa imo
 EXT PFT/TH=give QM ABS Jonabelle OBL 2SG
 ‘Did Jonabelle give something to you?’
2. **Hü’o, may gingta’o siya sa äkon.**
hü’o may ging- =ta’o siya sa äkon
 yes EXT PFT/TH=give 3SG/ABS OBL 1SG
 ‘Yes, she gave me something.’
3. **May gingbuoy si Pedro sa äkon bag.**
may ging- =buoy si Pedro sa äkon bag
 EXT PFT/TH=take ABS Pedro OBL 1SG bag
 ‘Pedro took away something from my bag.’

13. Cleft Sentences

Cross-linguistically the structure of relative clauses and cleft constructions tend to be similar. In Romblomanon, a cleft construction is composed of a head noun joined to a subordinate clause. The head NP is obligatorily moved to the front of such a construction. The case marker *ang* of the subordinate clause is optional for many cases.

13.1 Transitive Clause

1. **Gingkagat nang sawa ang onga.**
ging- =kagat nang sawa ang onga
 ACT/PFT=bit ERG snake ABS child
 ‘The snake bit the child.’
2. **Ang onga (ang) ginkagat nang sawa.**
ang onga (ang) ging- =kagat nang sawa
 ABS child (ABS) ACT/PFT=bite ERG snake
 ‘The child is the one whom the snake bit.’ (The child was bitten by the snake.)
3. **Ang sawa ginkagat ang onga.**
ang sawa ging- =kagat ang onga
 ABS snake ACT/PFT=bite ABS child
 ‘The snake is what bit the child.’ (The snake bit the child.)

Example 1 is the basic transitive clause; example 2 shows the ABS-NP *ang onga* ‘the child’, which is a TH, is moved to the front as the head NP. Example 3 shows the ERG-NP *nang sawa* ‘the snake’, which is an AGT is also allowed to moved to the front of the cleft construction.

13.2 Intransitive Clause

1. *Mapongko ang onga sa bangko*
ma- =pongko ang onga sa bangko
 ACT/IMPFT=sit ABS child OBL chair
 ‘The chair will sit on the chair.’
2. *Ang onga ang mapongko sa bangko.*
ang onga ang ma- =pongko sa bangko
 ABS child ang ACT/IMPFT=sit OBL chair
 ‘The child will be the one to sit on the chair.’

Example 1 is the basic intransitive clause; example 2 shows the ABS-NP *ang onga* ‘the child’, which is a TH, is moved to the front as the head NP.

3. *Nagkagat ang sawa sa onga.*
nag- =kagat ang sawa sa onga
 ACT/PFT=bit ABS snake OBL child
 ‘The snake bit the child.’ (Antipassive)
4. *Ang sawa ang nagkagat sa onga.*
ang sawa ang nag- =kagat sa onga
 ABS snake ang ACT/TH/PFT=bite OBL child
 ‘The snake is what bit the child.’
5. *Ang sawa (ang) nagsuyod sa bayay.*
ang sawa (ang) nag- =suyod sa bayay
 ABS snake (ABS) ACT/TH/PFT=enter OBL house
 The snake is what entered the house.

Example 3 is the antipassive intransitive clause, example 4 and example 5 show the ABS-NP *ang sawa* ‘the snake’, which is a TH, is moved to the front as the head NP of the cleft construction. Note that the case marker *ang* of the subordinate clause is optional.

13.3 Demoted ABS-NP can be clefted

1. *Ging-utod nang onga ang pisi.*
ging- =utod nang onga ang pisi
 ACT/TH/PFT=utod ERG child ABS rope
 ‘The child cut a rope.’
2. *Sa pisi nagutod ang onga.*
sa pisi nag- =utod ang onga
 OBL rope ACT/AGT/PFT=utod ABS child
 ‘The rope is what the child cut.’

Example 1 the ABS-NP, *ang pisi* ‘the rope’, which is a TH is demoted as OBL in the antipassive construction. Then it can be fronted as the head noun of the cleft construction, which is shown in example 2.

13.4 Location is promoted as direct object and then clefted

1. *Mapongko ang onga sa bangko*
ma- =pongko ang onga sa bangko
 ACT/IMPFT=sit ABS child OBL chair
 ‘The child will sit on the chair.’
2. *Ang bangko (ang) ponkoan nang onga.*
ang bangko (ang) ponko=-an nang onga
 ABS chair (ABS) sit =ACT/LOC/IMPFT ERG child
 ‘The chair is where the child will sit on.’

Example 1 is a basic transitive clause with the Location as OBL. Location is promoted as direct object and then clefted as the head NP, as shown in example 2.

3. *Sa bangko mapongko ang onga.*
sa bangko ma- =pongko ang onga
 OBL chair ACT/TH?IMPFT=sit ABS child
 ‘On the chair is what the child will sit.’

Example 3 shows the oblique argument can be the head noun of the cleft construction.

13.5 Recipient is promoted as direct object and then clefted

1. *Ita'o nang tawo ang libro sa onga.*
i- =ta'o nang tawo ang libro sa onga
 ACT/TH/IMPFT=give ERG person ABS book OBL child
 ‘The person will give a book to the child.’
2. *Ang onga (ang) taw'an nang tawo ning libro.*
ang onga (ang) ta'o =an nang tawo ning libro
 ABS child (ABS) give=ACT/RECIP/IMPFT ERG person OBL book
 ‘The child is whom the person will give a book to.’

Example 1 is a basic bi-transitive clause with the Recipient as OBL. Recipient is promoted as direct object and then clefted as the head NP, as shown in example 2.

3. *Sa onga ita'o nang tawo ang libro*
sa onga i- =ta'o nang tawo ang libro
 OBL child ACT/TH/IMPFT=give ERG person ABS book
 ‘To the child is whom the person will give a book.’

Example 3 shows the oblique argument can be the head noun of the cleft construction.

13.6 Beneficiary/ Source is promoted as direct object and then clefted

1. *Bakyon nang tawo ang libro sa onga.*
bakay=-on nang tawo ang libro sa onga
 buy =ACT/TH/IMPFT ERG person ABS book OBL child
 ‘The person will give the book to the child.’

2. *Ang onga bakyan nang tawo ning libro.*
ang onga bakay=-an nang tawo ning libro
 ABS child buy =ACT/BEN/IMPFT ERG person OBL book
 or *ABS child buy =ACT/SOU/IMPFT ERG person OBL book*
 ‘The child is whom the person will buy the book **for**.’
 or ‘The child is whom the person will buy the book **from**.’

Example 1 is a basic bi-transitive clause with the Beneficiary/ Source as OBL. Beneficiary/ Source is promoted as direct object and then clefted as the head NP, as shown in example 2.

3. *Sa onga bakyon nang tawo ang libro*
sa onga bakay=-on nang tawo ang libro
 OBL child buy =ACT/TH/IMPFT ERG person ABS book
 ‘The child is whom the person will buy the book from.’

Example 3 shows the oblique argument can be the head noun of the cleft construction.

13.7 Cleft construction with linker nga

- 1.. *Nabalian nang siki ang onga.*
na--an =bali nang siki ang onga
 PASS/PFT/LOC=break ERG foot ABS child
 ‘The child broke his foot.’
2. *Ang onga nga nabalian ng siki.*
ang onga nga na--an =bali nang siki
 ABS child LK PASS/PFT/LOC=break ERG foot
 ‘The child who broke his foot.’

In some cases, the cleft construction can be demonstrated by the linker *nga* which is similar to fronting of the ABS-NP.

--- THE END ---