CHAPTER: 5

SYNTAX

5

SYNTAX

The chapter describes the major features of Uchai syntax and broadly discusses Uchai word order and sentence constituents. It also deals with the types of sentences found in Uchai. Uchai Word Order is discussed in Section 5.1. Section 5.2 deals with the Constituents – Noun Phrase and Verb phrase in Uchai. While different types of Uchai Clauses are dealt under the Section 5.3, Section 5.4 discusses the types of Sentences found in Uchai. In Section 5.5 and 5.6, Negation and Interrogation in Uchai has been discussed thoroughly. Section 5.7 and 5.8 examines Imperative and Hortative sentences in Uchai. In Section 5.9 and 5.10 Uchai Optative and Exclamatory sentences are dealt with respectively. Moreover, the concluding Section 5.11 throws light on Passivization in Uchai.

5.1   WORD ORDER

The sequential arrangement of words in larger linguistic units may be termed as word order. Thus, word order refers to the linear sequence in which words occur in a sentence. The normal word order of Uchai is SOV. In other words, the normal order of words in an unmarked sentence in Uchai is S (Subject), O (Object) and V (Verb). Thus, it can be said that in Uchai, Subject

(S) occurs in the sentence initial position while Object (O) follows the subject and precedes the verb, and Verb (V) occurs in the sentence final position. It needs to be mentioned that Uchai has a very rigid word order and no other order is allowed in normal circumstances. The following sentences show the order of words in Uchai:

1]   /aŋ mai ča-woi/

      1SG rice eat-PRES

      S O V

      I eat rice.

2]   /bi-ni   šoi toŋ-oi/

      3SG-GEN dog EXIS-PRES

      S   O V

      S/He has a dog.

3]   /aŋ məša nuʔ-mi/

      1SG tiger see-NF

      S O V

      I saw a tiger.

4]   /braŋ iskul-wo thaŋ-mi/

      3PL school-LOC go-NF

      S O   V

      They went to school.

5]   /bo   boi   pore-ye-toŋ-mi/

2SG   book   read-INC-PROG-NF

S   O   V

S/He was reading a book.

However, sentences with intransitive verb do not have any object; hence the word order in such sentences is SV. The object (O) is absent in case of sentences with intransitive verbs. Here are a few intransitive sentences in Uchai with SV word order:

6]   /a-moŋ   phai-toŋ-oi/

PRO PRE-mother   come-PROG-PRES

          S   V

My mother is coming.

7]   /bo   nənoi-hã/

3SG   laugh-PST

S   V

S/He laughed.

8]   /braŋ   khaʔ-toŋ-oi/

3PL   run-PROG-PRES

S   V

They are running.

9]   /aŋ   hiŋ-toŋ-oi/

1SG   walk-PROG-PRES

S   V

I am walking.

10]   /bo   thoi-hã/

2SG   die-PST

S   V

He died.

There are also sentences in Uchai which can occur without the subject (S). The subject is usually optional in case of imperative sentences. The following sentences may be considered:

11]   /mai   ča-di/

Rice   eat-IMP

 O   V

(You) eat rice.

12]   /boi   pore-di/

Book   read-IMP

 O   V

(You) read the book.

13]   /toi   nuŋ-di/

Water   drink-IMP

  O   V

(You) drink water.

14]   /iskul-wo   thaŋ-di/

School-LOC go-IMP

  O   V

(You) go to school.

15]   /kolom   lã-di/

Pen   take-IMP

  O   V

(You) take the pen.

In Uchai, even a verb can make an imperative sentence where the use of subject (S) and object (O) is optional. Here are a few sentences:

16]   /ča-di/

Eat-IMP

V

Eat.

17]   /thaŋ-di/

Go-IMP

V

Go.

18]   /baʔča-di/

                Stand-IMP

                V

                Stand.

19]   /ačəuʔ-di/

                Sit-IMP

                V

                Sit.

20]   /khaʔ-di/

                Run-IMP

                V

                Run.

In case of interrogative sentences in Uchai, the subject (S) and the object (O), if present, usually precedes the interrogative pronoun (INT PRO) followed by the verb (V). The word order for interrogative sentences in Uchai is as follows:

Subject (S) + Object (O) + Interrogative Pronoun (INT PRO) + Verb (V)

Here are a few interrogative sentences in Uchai:

21]   /nuŋ   təma   naŋ-mi/

           2SG   what   want-NF

           S   INT PRO   V

           What do you want?

22]   /nuŋ   batoiwo   toŋ-nai/

           2SG   where   live-FUT

           S   INT PRO   V

           Where will you live?

23]   /čuŋ   baiphuʔwo   ča-na/

           1PL   when   eat-FUT

           S   INT PRO   V

           When shall we eat?

24]   /nuŋ   šono   naŋ-mi/

           2SG   whom   want-NF

           S   INT PRO   V

           Whom do you want?

25]   /nuŋ   bə-no   təmauʔmi   hiŋ-mi/

           2SG   3SG-ACC   why   scold-NF

           S   O   INT PRO   V

           Why did you scold him?

However, in case of interrogative sentences with equative verb (EQU), the subject (S) is followed by the object (O), if present, while the interrogative pronoun (INT PRO) appears at the end of the sentence. The word order for interrogative sentences with equative verb may be represented as follows:

Subject + Object + Equative Verb + Interrogative Pronoun

or,   S + O +   EQU   +   INT PRO

Here are a few sentences:

26]   /nə-ni   muŋ   le   təma/

2SG-GEN   name   EQU   what

S   O   EQU   INT PRO

What is your name?

27]   /nə-ni   mə-pha   le   šo/

2SG-GEN   PRO PRE-father   EQU   who

S   O   EQU   INT PRO

Who is your father?

28]   /nə-ni   nouʔ   le   batoima/

2SG-GEN   house   EQU   which

S   O   EQU   INT PRO

Which is your house?

29]   /nə-ni   dormi   le   təma/

2SG-GEN   religion   EQU   what

S   O   EQU   INT PRO

What is your religion?

30]   /aro-wo   le   šo/

there-LOC   EQU   who

S   EQU   INT PRO

Who is there?

As mentioned earlier, Uchai has a very rigid word order and no other word order except SOV is allowed in normal circumstances. However, Uchai may allow OVS word order depending upon a particular situation or context. For instance,

31]   /mai   ča-woi   aŋ/

Rice   eat-PRES   1SG

O   V   S

I eat rice.

5.2   CONSTITUENTS

A constituent is a word or a group of words that functions as a single unit within a hierarchical structure. The constituents of a simple sentence in Uchai are noun phrase and verb phrase. They are as follows:

32]   /məšu   šã   ča-woi/

cow   grass   eat-PRES

NP   VP

The cow eats grass.

The different kinds of constituents found in Uchai are discussed below in detail.

5.2.1 Noun Phrase

The noun phrase (NP) in Uchai consists of obligatorily a noun, which is also known as the head noun. The noun in the noun phrase may be followed or preceded by one or more modifiers. The modifiers, which are basically optional elements, may be the demonstrative, the gender marker, the plural marker, the classifier, the numeral, the genitive, the case marker, the post position, the free adjective, etc. These optional elements modify the head noun in Uchai. Thus the noun phrase (NP) in Uchai may be anyone of the following:

(i)   The simple noun:

33]   /ta   ka-hã/

            Moon   rise-PST

              NP

            The moon has risen.

34]   /soi   suŋ-ye-toŋ-mi/

Dog   bark-INC-PROG-NF

NP

The dog was barking.

35]   /khraŋsiŋ khuŋraŋ-toŋ-oi/

Lion   roar-PROG-PRES

NP

The lion is roaring.

36]   /sita   rəčaʔ-nai/

NAME sing-FUT

NP

Sita will sing.

37]   /taupiʔ bi-toŋ-oi/

Bird   fly-PROG-PRES

NP

The bird is flying.

(ii)   *The noun preceded by the demonstrative:*

38]   /abo   člaməsa   klai-ye-thaŋ-mi/

DEM boy   fall-INC-go-NF

NP

That boy fell down.

39]   /bo   broiməsa   rčaʔ-mai-woi/

DEM   girl   sing-MOD ABL-PRES

         NP

This girl can sing.

40]   /abo   člaməsa   khaʔ-ye-toŋ-mi/

DEM   boy   run-INC-PROG-NF

         NP

That boy was running.

41]   /bo   daktar   phai-nai/

DEM   doctor   come-FUT

         NP

This doctor will come.

42]   /bo   ha   le   kətiŋ/

DEM   earth   EQU   round

         NP

This earth is round.

(iii)   ***The noun preceded by the genitive:***

43]   /bə-ni   mə-ma   le   boičuʔ/

3SG-GEN PRO PRE-mother EQU old

         NP

His/Her mother is old.

44]   /nə-ni   mə-pha   le   gənaŋ/

             2SG-GEN   PRO PRE-father   EQU   rich

                            NP

Your father is rich.

45]   /braŋ-ni   məma   məpha   agortola-wo

             3PL-GEN   PRO PRE-mother   PRO PRE-father   P NAME-LOC

                                   NP

toŋ-oi/

EXIS-PRES

Their parents live in Agartala.

(iv)   *The noun followed by the gender marker:*

46]   /maiyuŋ-čla   phai-toŋ-oi/

             Elephant-GER   come-PROG-PRES

                     NP

The male elephant is coming.

47]   /pharu-broi   bi-ye-thaŋ-mi/

             Pigeon-GER   fly-INC-go-NF

                   NP

The female pigeon flew away.

48]   /blai-ma   khaʔ-ye-thaŋ-mi/

          Cat-GER   run-INC-go-NF
          ‿‿‿‿‿
              NP

          The female cat ran away.

49]   /šoi-ma   šuŋ-toŋ-oi/

          Dog-GER   bark-PROG-PRES
          ‿‿‿‿‿
              NP

          The bitch is barking.

   (v)   *The noun followed by the plural marker:*

50]   /člaməsa-rau   thuŋ-ye-toŋ-mi/

          Boy-PL   play-INC-PROG-NF
          ‿‿‿‿‿
              NP

          The boys were playing.

51]   /bo   thaiču-rau   le   kəmo/

          DEM   mango-PL   EQU   ripe
          ‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
                NP

          These mangoes are ripe.

52]   /məšoi-rau   doʔ   khaʔ-oi/

          Deer-PL   fast   run-PRES
          ‿‿‿‿‿
              NP

The deer run fast.

53]   /tau-rau   bi-toŋ-oi/

Bird-PL   fly-PROG-PRES
‿‿‿‿‿
    NP

Birds are flyig.

(vi)   *The noun followed by the classifier and the numeral:*

54]   /člamǝsa-kai-thã   bol-thai-ha   bai   thuŋ-toŋ-oi/

Boy-CLF-three   ball-CLF-one   with   play-PROG-PRES
‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
        NP

Three boys are playing with a ball.

55]   /broimǝsa-khrouʔ-ha   rǝčaʔ-ye-toŋ-mi/

Girl-CLF-one   sing-INC-PROG-NF
‿‿‿‿‿
        NP

One girl was singing.

56]   /šoi-ma-noi   puŋ-ye-toŋ-mi/

Dog-CLF-two   bark-INC-PROG-NF
‿‿‿‿‿
        NP

Two dogs were barking.

57]   /katuŋ kai-ha   phai-nai/

Letter CLF-one   come-FUT

NP

A letter will come.

58]   /boi   čoŋ-ha   le   toŋ-oi/

Book   CLF-one   EQU   EXIS-PRES

NP

There is a book.

(vii)   ***The noun followed by the case marker:***

59]   /tau-rau   noʔkha-wo   bi-toŋ-oi/

Bird-PL   sky-LOC   fly-PROG-PRES

NP

Birds are flying in the sky.

60]   /čuŋ   kuwa-ni   toi   khau-woi/

1PL   well-ABL   water   lift-PRES

NP

We fetch water from well.

61]   /bo   ophis-wo   thaŋ-mi/

3SG   office-LOC   go-NF

NP

S/He went to the office.

62]   /bo   kušumu-no tõ-hã/

        2SG   flute-ACC   keep-PST
              ‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
                NP

S/He kept the flute.

63]   /čuŋ   kuwa-ni   toi   nuŋ-oi/

        1PL   well-GEN   water   drink-PRES
            ‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
              NP

We drink the water of well.

(viii)   *The noun followed by the post position:*

64]   /abo   lama   hathai-rau doi   se   lai-woi/

        DEM   road   hill-PL   through EQU   pass-PRES
                  ‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
                    NP

That road passes through the hills.

65]   /bo   šoi   benč   tola-wo   thu-ye-toŋ-mi/

        DEM   dog   bench under-LOC   sleep-INC-PROG-NF
                ‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
                NP

This dog was sleeping under the bench.

66]   /bo   hathai   ĵora   thaŋ-mi/

        3SG   hill   upto   go-NF
           ‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
            NP

S/He went upto the hill.

67]   /či-ni   nouʔ uklau-wo   məphaŋ phaŋ-ha toŋ-oi/

1PL-GEN house behind-LOC tree   CLF-one EXIS-PRES

                       NP

There is a tree behind our house.

68]   /ĵon   bai   phai-di/

NAME with   come-IMP

          NP

Come with John.

(ix)   *The noun followed by the free adjective:*

69]   /aŋ   broi kahã   nuʔ-mi/

1SG girl beautiful see-NF

            NP

I saw a beautiful girl.

70]   /abo   soi kəšõ   thu-ye-toŋ-mi/

DEM dog black   sleep-INC-PROG-NF

           NP

That black dog was sleeping.

71]   /aŋ   məsa kəto nuʔ-mi/

1SG   tiger   big   see-NF

NP

I saw a big tiger.

All these manifestations of the noun phrase in Uchai can be represented by the following formula:

NP⟶   ±DEM ±GEN +N ±GER ±PL ±ADJ ±CLF ±NUM ±POST ±CM

5.2.2   Verb Phrase

The verb phrase (VP) in Uchai consists of obligatorily a verb along with the tense or the aspect marker. The verb in the verb phrase may either be a lexical verb or a copulative verb. Apart from the obligatory verb in the verb phrase, some other optional constituents like noun phrase comprising of indirect or/and direct object may be found in the verb phrase. Moreover, adverb phrases, consisiting of either bound or free adverbs, may also be found within the verb phrase, which may either follow or precede the main verb accordingly. Thus the verb phrase (VP) in Uchai may be anyone of the following:

(i)   *The simple verb:*

72]   /aŋ   ča-woi/

           1SG   eat-PRES

                   VP

           I eat.

73]   /bo   kai-yauʔ-mi/

           3SG   marry-PTCL-NF
                    ‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
                         VP

           S/He married.

74]   /čuŋ   rəčaʔ-nai/

           1PL   sing-FUT
                    ‿‿‿‿‿
                      VP

           We will sing.

(ii)   *The verb followed by another simple verb:*

75]   /nuŋ   phai-ye   ačouʔ-di/

           2SG   come-INC   sit-IMP
                    ‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
                         VP

           You come and sit.

76]   /bo   thaŋ-ye   taŋ-hã/

           3SG   go-INC   work-PST
                    ‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
                         VP

           S/He went and worked.

77]   /nuŋ   thaŋ-ye   rəčaʔ-di/

           2SG   go-INC   sing-IMP
                    ‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
                         VP

You go and sing.

(iii)   The verb followed by the bound adverb:

78]   /bo   ča-thau-hã̃/

3SG   eat-happily-PST

VP

S/He ate happily.

79]   /bo   phai-phlai-woi/

3SG   come-regularly-PRES

VP

S/He comes regularly.

80]   /bo   ča-čõ-hã̃/

3SG   eat-secretively-PST

VP

S/He ate secretively.

(iv)   The verb preceded by the free adverb:

The free adverbs in Uchai are usually (a) manner words, (b) temporal words, and (c) locative words. Here are a few examples of each type:

(a) Free adverbs denoting manner words:

81]　　　　　/bo　　dauphroi　taŋ-oi/

　　　　　　3SG　quickly　　work-PRES

　　　　　　　　　　‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
　　　　　　　　　　　　　　VP

S/He works quickly.

82]　　　　　/bo　　are　　　　　　kaʔ-oi/

　　　　　　3SG　unnecessarily　weep-PRES

　　　　　　　　　‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
　　　　　　　　　　　　　VP

S/He weeps unnecessarily.

83]　　　　　/bo　　sauʔsuŋ　phai-hã/

　　　　　　3SG　alone　　　come-PST

　　　　　　　　　‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
　　　　　　　　　　　　VP

S/He came alone.

(b) Free adverbs denoting temporal words:

84]　　　　　/bo　　məĵa　　phai-mi/

　　　　　　3SG　yesterday　come-NF

　　　　　　　　　‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿‿
　　　　　　　　　　　VP

S/He came yesterday.

85]　　　　　/bi-ni　　　slaisəkaŋ　phai-di/

3SG-GEN   before   come-IMP

VP

Come before him/her.

86]   /kheto-wo   tauʔ   thaŋ-di/

Field-LOC   now   go-IMP

VP

Go to the field now.

(c) Free adverbs denoting locative words:

87]   /boi   rowo   toŋ-oi/

Book   here   EXIS-PRES

VP

The book is here.

88]   /bo   arowo   samuŋ   taŋ-oi/

3SG   there   work   do-PRES

VP

S/He works there.

89]   /bo   arowo   toŋ-oi/

3SG   there   stay-PRES

VP

S/He stays there.

(v) **The verb preceded by the direct object:**

90] /bo   thaiču   ča-woi/

3SG   mango   eat-PRES

VP

S/He eats mango.

91] /a-moŋ   nouʔ   siʔkhlai-woi/

PRO PRE-mother   house   clean-PRES

VP

My mother cleans the house.

92] /bo   wauʔ   buthaʔ-mi/

3SG   hog   kill-NF

VP

S/He killed a hog.

(vi) **The verb preceded by the indirect and direct object:**

93] /daktar   bə-no   məthi   ri-hã/

Doctor   3SG-to   medicine   give-PST

IO   DO   V

VP

The doctor gave him/her medicine.

94]   /bə-no   muŋhasuʔ   sa-di/

           3SG-to   something   tell-IMP

           IO   DO   V

                    VP

Tell him/her something.

95]   /aŋ   nə-no   boi   ri-nai/

           1SG   2SG-to   book   give-FUT

               IO   DO   V

                  VP

I will give you a book.

These manifestations of the verb phrase in Uchai can be represented by the following formula:

$$\text{VP} \longrightarrow \quad \pm \text{IO} \pm \text{DO} \pm \text{FR ADV} + \text{V} \pm \text{BN ADV} + \text{T/ASP/MOD}$$

5.3   CLAUSES

In Uchai, chiefly three types of clauses can be identified; they are principal or main clause, subordinate clause and coordinate clause. The different types and sub-types of clauses in Uchai are discussed below in detail.

5.3.1 Principal Clause

The main or principal clause is independent and can make complete sense itself. In fact, it can occur on its own in a sentence and does not have to depend upon any other clause. In Uchai, the main or principal or independent clause is always identical with a simple sentence. The following are the examples of principal clause in Uchai, which are basically simple sentences:

96]   /a-moŋ   mai   šoŋ-oi/

           PRO PRE-mother   rice   cook-PRES

           My mother cooks rice.

97]   /bo   kautuŋ   soi-hã/

           3SG   letter   write-PST

           S/He wrote a letter.

98]   /aŋ   thaŋ-nai/

           1SG   go-FUT

           I will go.

5.3.2 Subordinate Clause

In contrast to the main or principal clause, the subordinate clause in Uchai can never occur on its own and is always dependent on the principal clause for its meaning. The subordinate clause in Uchai either precedes or

follows the main clause. Here are a few sentences showing the subordinate clauses in Uchai:

99]   /kəčaŋ-moni khaiye   aŋ   ri   kətuŋ thu-woi/

Cold-NMLZ   as   1SG cloth warm wear-PRES
‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾
          SUB CL

I wear warm cloth because it is cold.

100]   /bura   oŋ-moni   khaiye   bo   gəbe/

Old   happen-NMLZ   as   3SG   weak
‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾
          SUB CL

S/He is weak as he is old.

101]   /aŋ   si-woi   ĵepho   bo   soi   buthaʔ-mi/

1SG   know-PRES   that   3SG   dog   kill-NF
                  ‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾
                           SUB CL

I know that he killed the dog.

102]   /aŋ   si-woi   ĵepho   bo   le   brouʔ   kahã/

1SG   know-PRES   that   3SG   EQU   man   good
                  ‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾‾
                           SUB CL

I know that he is a good man.

103]   /nuŋ phai-khe   aŋ   thaŋ-nai/

2SG   come-MOD CON   1SG   go-FUT

SUB CL

If you come, I will go.

104]   /aŋ   khai-mai-khe   nuŋ   pho   ma-nai/

1SG   do-MOD ABL-MOD CON   2SG   also   MOD CER-FUT

SUB CL

If I can do it, you can also do.

105]   /aŋ   phai   baiphuʔwo   bo   bə-ni   room-wo-kroi/

1SG   come   when   3SG   3SG-GEN   room-LOC-NEG

SUB CL

When I came, he was not in the room.

106]   /a-pa   phai-ya   khosniŋ   aŋ   thaŋ-nai/

PRO PRE-father   come-NEG   before   1SG   go-FUT

SUB CL

Before my father comes, I will leave.

107]   /aŋ   sa   yaha   nuŋ   ta-thaŋ-di/

1SG   say   until   2SG   NEG-go-IMP

SUB CL

Until I say, you must not go.

5.3.3 Coordinate Clause

The coordinate clause in Uchai is a series of syntactically independent two or more principal clause joined by means of conjunctive particle /akhe/ 'and' or disjunctive particles /areyakhe/ 'or' and /arepho/ 'but'. Here are a few examples of coordinate clauses in Uchai:

108]   /aŋ   nouʔ   thaŋ-nai akhe   bo   samuŋ taŋ-nai/

          1SG   home   go-FUT   and   3SG   work   do-FUT

          I will go home and he will work.

109]   /bo   tauʔ   phai-na   toŋ-oi   areyakhe

          3SG   now   come-MOD PRO   EXIS-PRES   or

          aŋ   thaŋ-nai/

          1SG   go-FUT

          S/He may come now or I will go.

110]   /aŋ   bə-no   nuŋ-mi   arepho   bo   phai-ya/

          1SG   3SG-ACC   call-NF   but   3SG   come-NEG

          I called him/her but s/he did not come.

5.4   SENTENCES

The Uchai sentences can be classified into three kinds, viz., (i) simple, (ii) coumpound and (iii) complex sentences. These three types of classification

are made at the surface level structure of the sentences. Uchai sentences and their types are discussed in detail below:

5.4.1 Simple Sentences

A simple sentence (S) in Uchai consists of one subject (SBJ) and one predicate (P) at the surface phrase structure. In other words, a simple sentence in Uchai has only one clause, i.e., the principal or main clause. However, the predicate may take objects, direct or indirect. If both direct and indirect objects are present in the Uchai predicate, it is usually the indirect object which precedes the direct object. However, the subject may be absent in the imperative sentences. The word order in a simple Uchai sentence is usually of the following types:

(i)   S   =   SBJ   +   P

111]   /aŋ   ča-woi/

              1SG   eat-PRES

              I eat.

112]   /bo   rəčaʔ-toŋ-oi/

              3SG   sing-PROG-PRES

              S/He is singing.

113]   /tau-rau   bi-woi/

Bird-PL   fly-PRES

Birds fly.

(ii)   S   =   SBJ +   P

		DO	**V**

114]   /čuŋ   mai   ča-woi/

                        1PL   rice   eat-PRES

                        We eat rice.

115]   /bo   ri   su-toŋ-oi/

                        3SG   clothes   wash-PROG-PRES

                        S/He is washing clothes.

116]   /bo   doga   phiau-hã/

                        3SG   door   open-PST

                        S/He opened the door.

(iii)   S   =   SBJ +   P

		IO	**DO**	**V**

117]   /aŋ   nə-no   boi   ri-nai/

                        1SG   2SG-GEN   book   give-FUT

                        I will give you a book.

118]   /aŋ   šoi-no   bahã   ča-ri-nai/

              1SG   dog-GEN   meat   eat-give-hã

              I fed the dog with meat.

119]   /nuŋ   aŋ-no   kolom   ri-di/

              2SG   1SG-GEN   pen   give-IMP

              You give me the pen.

In Uchai, the predicate in a simple sentence can also be a nominal. In such a case, there is a copula relating the subject and the predicate. Uchai uses the equative copula /le/ and /se/ as discussed earlier (4.2.2.4.1). The function of the nominal predicate is to identify or describe the subject. Here are a few simple sentences in Uchai where the predicate is nominal:

              S   =   Subject   +   Nominal Predicate

120]   /bo   le   blai   sei/

              DEM   EQU   cat   PTCL

              This is a cat.

121]   /abo   se   a-ni   nouʔ/

              DEM   EQU   1SG-GEN   house

              That is my house.

122]   /aŋ   le   daktar   sei/

| | 1SG | EQU | doctor | PTCL |

I am a doctor.

However, the equative copula or the concord particles /le/ and /se/ are dropped in the existential sentences; rather Uchai makes use of the existential copula /toŋ-/ as conferred earlier (4.2.2.4.2). Here are a few simple sentences in Uchai where the existential copula /toŋ-/ is used in the nominal predicate:

S = Subject + Nominal Predicate

123] /a-ni gari toŋ-oi/

1SG-GEN car EXIS-PRES

I have a car.

124] /aŋ agortola-wo toŋ-mi/

1SG P NAME-LOC EXIS-NF

I lived in Agartala.

125] /braŋ-ni nouʔ toŋ-oi/

3PL-GEN house EXIS-PRES

They have a house.

5.4.2 Complex Sentences

A complex sentence in Uchai consists of one principal or main clause and one or more subordinate or dependent clauses(s). The subordinate clause in

Uchai is introduced either by a subordinator. The subordinators in the complex sentence may either precede or follow the predicate of the dependent or subordinate clause. The following sentences may be considered where the subordinators are marked in bold:

126]   /braŋ phai **yaha**   aŋ   naisiŋ-nai/

          3PL   go   **until**   1SG   wait-FUT

          ‹————— SUB CL —————› ‹———— M CL ————›

          I will wait until they go.

127]   /aŋ   si-woi   bo   **baiphuʔwo** phai-nai/

          1SG   know-PRES   3SG   **when**   come-FUT

          ‹———— M CL ————› ‹————— SUB CL —————›

          I know when s/he will come.

128]   /nuŋ   si-ya   bo   **batoiwo**   toŋ-oi/

          2SG   know-NEG   3SG   **where**   stay-PRES

          ‹———— M CL ————› ‹————— SUB CL —————›

          You do not know where he lives.

129]   /khaʔ-ye-toŋ-oi   **phuʔwo**   broima kaʔ-mi/

          Run-INC-PROG-PRES   **while**   girl   weep-NF

          ‹————— SUB CL —————› ‹———— M CL ————›

          While running, she wept.

130]   /bo   thaŋ-**khe**   aŋ   pho   thaŋ-nai/

           3SG   go-**if**   1SG   also   go-FUT

                 SUB CL   M CL

If he goes, I will also go.

It is also to be noted that a complex sentence in Uchai may be introduced without any subordinator; for instance,

131]   /aŋ   khathoi-woi   bo   šiyau-mai-woi/

           1SG   believe-PRES   3SG   swim-MOD ABL-PRES

           I believe (that) s/he can swim.

5.4.3   Compound Sentences

A compound sentence in Uchai consists of two or more main clauses or simple sentences which are conjoined co-ordinately either by the conjunctive particle /akhe/ 'and', or by the disjunctive coordinator /areyakhe/ 'or', or by the contra-propositional conjunction /arepho/ 'but' or by a coordinating conjunction like /aboni/ 'so'. Here are a few sentences showing the compound sentences in Uchai:

132]   /a-ni   kolom   toŋ-oi   akhe   nə-ni   boi

           1SG-GEN   pen   EXIS-PRES   and   2SG-GEN   book

           toŋ-oi/

           EXIS-PRES

I have a pen and you have a book.

133]   /bo   ma-ča-woi   areyakhe   bo   thoi-nai/

            3SG   MOD CER-eat-PRES   or   3SG   die-FUT

            S/he must eat or s/he will die.

134]   /bo   kroi   arepho   kəpeiŋ   sei/

            3SG   rich   but   honest   PTCL

            S/He is poor but honest.

135]   /bo   phai-ya   aboni   aŋ   thaŋ-mi/

            3SG   come-NEG   so   1SG   go-NF

            S/He did not come, so I went.

A compound sentence in Uchai can also be formed by using the incompletive suffix /-ye/ to the verbal root. Here are a few compound sentences in Uchai where more than one main clause or simple sentence is conjoined co-ordinately using the incompletive suffix /-ye/:

136]   /bo   mai   ča-ye   iskul-wo   thaŋ-mi/

            3SG   rice   eat-INC   school-LOC   go-NF

            S/He ate rice and went to school.

137]   /thaiču   pai-ye   aŋ   ča-hã/

            Mango   buy-INC   1SG   eat-PST

I bought a mango and ate it.

138]   /ča-ye   thaŋ-di/

Eat-INC   go-IMP

Eat and go.

5.5   NEGATION

The different ways of negation in Uchai are discussed below in detail:

5.5.1   Negative Markers

Uchai uses different negative markers for the purpose of negation. The negative markers used in Uchai are of the following types:

(i)   /-ya/

The negative marker /-ya/ is employed in all the finite constructions other than the imperative and hortative sentences. In case of stative verbs, the negative marker /-ya/ follows the predicative adjective and the tense marker, if present, while the negative in the active verb is formed by placing the negative marker /-ya/ after the verb-base in all the tenses. Here are a few sentences:

139]   /bo   apel   le   kəčauʔ-ya/

DEM ADJ   apple   EQU   red-NEG

This apple is not red.

140]   /bo   thaiču   hã-nai-ya/

DEM ADJ   mango   good-FUT-NEG

This mango will not be good.

141]   /bo   le   mai   ča-ya/

3SG   EQU   rice   eat-NEG

S/He does not eat rice.

Moreover, in Uchai, antonyms are formed by suffixation of the negative morpheme /-ya/. Some words are given below to illustrate how Uchai produces opposite words:

/kəča/ 'qualify'   /kəčaya/ 'disqualify'

/boi/ 'agree'   /boiya/ 'disagree'

/kruŋ/ 'connect'   /kruŋya/ 'disconnect'

/məkhanaŋ/ 'sensitive'   /məkhanaŋya/ 'insensitive'

/čarimai/ 'competent'   /čarimaiya/ 'incompetent'

/sraŋ/ 'active'   /sraŋya/ 'inactive'

/tãʔ/ 'cut'   /tãʔya/ 'uncut'

/si/ 'aware'   /siya/ 'unaware'

/kri/ 'afraid'   /kriya/ 'unafraid'

/kəphuʔ/ 'white'   /kəphuʔya/ 'not white'

/kədo/ 'fast'   /kədoya/ 'not fast'

/bakhã/ 'proud'   /bakhãya/ 'not proud'

(ii)   /ta-/

The negative marker /ta-/ is used in imperative and hortative forms by placing it before the verb-base as in the sentences given below:

142]   /mai   ta-ča-di/

Rice   NEG-eat-IMP

Do not eat rice.

143]   /sa   mai   ta-ča-di/

Please   rice   NEG-eat-IMP

Please do not eat rice.

144]   /bo   mai   ta-ča-thoi/

3SG   rice   NEG-eat-HOR

Let him/her not eat rice.

(iii)   /-kroi/

The existential verb /-toŋ/ 'have, stay, remain' is replaced by the suppletive form /kroi/ 'not' in the negative constructions. Here are a few sentences for consideration:

145]   /a-moŋ   le   nouʔ-wo-kroi/

PRO PRE-mother   EQU   house-LOC-NEG

Mother is not at home.

146]   /a-ni   le   kolom-kroi/

1SG-GEN   EQU   pen-NEG

I did not have a pen.

147]   /boi   se   kroi   tabil   sauʔga-wo/

Book   EQU   NEG   table   above-LOC

There is no book on the table.

(iv)   */ẽheʔ/*

In Uchai, /ẽheʔ/ 'no' is used as a lexical negator. It is a free negative marker and chiefly used in informal conversation. Here are a few examples:

148]   /ẽheʔ   tini   watoi   wa-ya/

No   today   rain   rain-NEG

No, it will not rain today.

149]   /ẽheʔ   aŋ   khnaʔ   thaŋ-ya/

No   1SG   tomorrow   go-NEG

No, I will not go tomorrow.

150]   /ẽheʔ   abo   le   hã-ya/

No,   DEM   EQU   good-NEG

No, it is not good.

5.5.2   Negative Strengthening and Negative Polarity Item

Jespersen (1917) considers that negative sentences are strengthened through some additional words. Likewise, negation in Uchai is strengthened by the addition of words like /ĵephuʔpho/ 'never' and /ĵuʔha/ 'always' to the main verb. However, the negative strengthener /ĵephuʔpho/ 'never' occurs only in the negative environment; hence it is a Negative Polarity Item (NPI) in Uchai. On the other hand, /ĵuʔha/ 'always' can occur even in positive environment. Here are a few sentences to show how negation is strengthened in Uchai:

151]   /aŋ   ĵephuʔpho   nuŋ-ya/

1SG   never   drink-NEG

I will never drink.

152]   /bo   ĵephuʔpho   thaŋ-ya/

3SG   never   go-NEG

S/He will never go.

153]   /bo   ĵephuʔpho   rčaʔ-ya/

3SG   never   sing-NEG

S/He will never sing.

154]   /ĵuʔha   ta-thaŋ-di/

Always   NEG-go-IMP

Do not go always.

155]   /bo   ĵuʔha   rčaʔ-ya/

3SG   always   sing-NEG

S/He does not sing always.

156]   /bo   ĵuʔha   pore-ya/

3SG   always   read-NEG

S/He does not read always.

While sentences 151 to 153 show the negative polarity item /ĵephuʔpho/ 'never', sentences 154 to 156 illustrate the negative strengthener /ĵuʔha/ 'always' in Uchai.

5.5.3 Double Negative

When two forms of negation are used in a same sentence, it is known as double negative. The use of double negative may either produce an affirmative sense or intensify the negation. In Uchai, the use of double negative produces a weakened affirmative. Double negative in Uchai is preferably used in literary expression. Here are a few sentences in Uchai showing double negation:

157]   /bo   le   hã-ya   oŋ-ya/

        DEM   EQU   good-NEG   happen-NEG

        This is not bad.

158]   /aŋ   khatoŋthau-ya   oŋ-ya/

        1SG   happy-NEG   happen-NEG

        I am not unhappy.

159]   /bo   mai   ča-ya-mani   iskul   thaŋ-ya/

        3SG   meal   eat-NEG-INC   school   go-NEG

        S/He does not go to school without having meal.

160]   /bo   le   ča-ya   oŋ-ya/

        DEM   EQU   right-NEG   happen-NEG

        This is not wrong.

161]   /braŋ   boi-ya   oŋ-ya/

        3PL   agree-NEG   happen-NEG

        They did not disagree.

5.6   INTERROGATIVE

The interrogative sentences in Uchai can be classified into the four following types which are discussed in detail below:

5.6.1 Yes/No Questions

In Uchai, the Yes/No type of questions are formed by adding the interrogative marker /de/ in both affirmative as well as negative constructions. The interrogative marker /de/ occurs with all the tenses and mood. Moreover, the interrogative marker /de/ usually occurs at the end of the construction. The sentences given below illustrate the Yes/No type of interrogative constructions in Uchai:

162]   /aŋ   kahã   de/

I   good   INT

Am I good?

163]   /aŋ   kahã-ya   de/

I   good-NEG   INT

Aren't I good?

164]   /bo   gəboi   de/

DEM   true   INT

Is this true?

165]   /bo   gəboi-ya   de/

DEM   true-NEG   INT

Isn't this true?

166]   /bo   kai-ha   ukil   de/

3SG   CLF-one   lawyer INT

Was s/he a lawyer?

167]   /bo   kai-ha   ukil-ya   de/

3SG   CLF-one   lawyer-NEG INT

Wasn't s/he a lawyer?

168]   /nuŋ   daktar   de/

2SG   doctor   INT

Are you a doctor?

169]   /nuŋ   daktar-ya   de/

2SG   doctor-NEG   INT

Aren't you a doctor?

170]   /braŋ   thuŋ-ye-toŋ-mi   de/

They   play-INC-PROG-NF   INT

Were they playing?

171]   /braŋ   thuŋ-ye-toŋ-mi-ya   de/

3PL   play-INC-PROG-NF-NEG   INT

Weren't they playing?

172]   /nuŋ   khũ-ba   hã-yauʔ   de/

2SG   flower-CLF   like-PTCL   INT

Do you like flower?

173]   /nuŋ   khũ-ba   hã-yauʔ-ya   de/

2SG   flower-CLF   like-PTCL-NEG   INT

Don't you like flower?

174]   /bo   mai   ča   de/

3SG   rice   eat   INT

Does s/he eat rice?

175]   /bo   mai   ča-ya   de/

3SG   rice   eat-NEG   INT

Doesn't s/he eat rice?

176]   /bo   mai   ča-kha-mu   de/

3SG   rice   eat-PST-PTCL   INT

Did s/he eat rice?

177]   /bo   mai   ča-ya-kha-mu   de/

3SG   rice   eat-NEG-PST-PTCL   INT

Didn't s/he eat rice?

178]   /braŋ   bo   boi   pore-hã   de/

3PL   DEM   book   read-PST   INT

Have they read this book?

179]   /braŋ bo   boi   pore-ya-hã   de/

3PL   DEM   book   read-NEG-PST   INT

Haven't they read this book?

180]   /braŋ thaŋ-mi de/

3PL   go-NF   INT

Had they gone?

181]   /braŋ thaŋ-mi-ya   de/

3PL   go-NF-NEG   INT

Hadn't they gone?

182]   /nuŋ mai ča-nai   de/

2SG   rice   eat-FUT   INT

Will you eat rice?

183]   /nuŋ mai ča-ya-nai   de/

2SG   rice   eat-NEG-FUT   INT

Won't you eat rice?

184]   /braŋ thuŋ-nai   de/

3PL   play-FUT   INT

Would they play?

185]   /braŋ   thuŋ-ya-nai   de/

3PL   play-NEG-FUT   INT

Wouldn't they play?

186]   /bə-no   mai   ča-ri-nai   de/

3SG-ACC   rice   eat-IMP-FUT   INT

Should s/he be allowed to eat rice?

187]   /bə-no   mai   ča-ri-ya-nai   de/

3SG-ACC   rice   eat-IMP-NEG-FUT   INT

Shouldn't s/he be allowed to eat rice?

5.6.2 Wh-Questions

In case of constructions with wh-questions in Uchai, the wh-question is usually preceded by the subject and the object, if present, and followed by the verb; hence, the word order for wh-questions in Uchai is as follows:

Subject (S) + Object (O) + Wh-Question (Wh. Q) + Verb (V)

However, the wh-question is placed in between the subject and the object in case of wh-questions with /batoima/ 'which' and /šoni/ 'whose'. A few sentences are given below:

188]   /šo   thaŋ-toŋ-oi/

Who   go-PROG-PRES

Who is going?

189]   /nuŋ   šono   naŋ-mi/

2SG   whom   want-NF

Whom do you want?

190]   /aŋ   šono   kri-na/

1SG   whom   fear-INF

Whom shall I fear?

191]   /nuŋ   təma   sãʔ-mi/

2SG   what   want-NF

What do you want?

192]   /broima   təmauʔmi   kaʔ-ye-tong-mi/

Girl   why   cry-INC-PROG-NF

Why was the girl crying?

193]   /nə-ni   khutai təmauʔmi snuʔha   oŋ-mi/

2SG-GEN   shirt   why   dirty   happen-NF

Why was your shirt dirty?

194]   /čuŋ   baiphuʔwo   ča-nai/

1PL   when   eat-FUT

When shall we eat?

195]   /nuŋ   batoiwo   thaŋ-nai/

2SG   where   go-FUT

Where will you go?

196]   /nuŋ   batoi   putul-no   la-nai/

2SG   which   doll-ACC   want-FUT

Which doll do you want?

197]   /nuŋ   šoni   nouʔ-wo   thaŋ-nai/

2SG   whose   house-LOC   go-FUT

Whose house are you going?

198]   /nuŋ   nəkhe-khaiye   phai-hã/

2SG   how-PTCL   come-PST

How did you come?

199]   /nuŋ   məsaʔha   naŋ-mi/

2SG   how much   want-NF

How much do you want?

200]   /aro-wo   toi   məsaʔha   toŋ/

There-LOC   water   how much   EXIS

How much water is there?

201]   /nə-ni   boi   kai   məsuʔ   toŋ/

2SG-GEN book CLF how many EXIS

How many books do you have?

202]   /abo   lai-wo   thaič**u**   thai məsuʔ   toŋ/

DEM   basket-LOC mango CLF how many EXIS

How many mangoes are there in that basket?

Nevertheless, in case of interrogative sentences with equative verb, the subject (S) and the object (O), if present, is followed by the equative verb (EQU), while the wh-question (Wh-Q) appears at the end of the sentence; thus, the word order for wh-questions with equative verb may be represented as follows:

Subject (S) + Object (O) + Equative Verb (EQU) + Wh-Question (Wh-Q)

Here are a few interrogative sentences in Uchai for consideration:

203]   /nuŋ le   šo/

2SG EQU who

Who are you?

204]   /bo   le   təma/

DEM EQU what

What is this?

205]   /nə-ni   ačaima sa   le   baiphuʔwo/

           2SG-GEN   birth   day EQU   when

           When is your birthday?

206]   /bol   le   batoiwo/

           Ball EQU   where

           Where is the ball?

207]   /nə-ni   boi   le   batoima/

           2SG-GEN   book   EQU   which

           Which is your book?

208]   /bo   boi   le   šoni/

           DEM   book   EQU   whose

           Whose book is this?

209]   /mə-pha   le   nəkhe-khaiye/

           PRO PRE-father   EQU   how-PTCL

           How is your father?

5.6.3 Alternative Questions

In Uchai, alternative questions consist of two alternatives. Alternative questions with stative verbs in Uchai are formed by placing the question particle /ba/ before the first alternative and the conjunctive particle /de/ in

between the two alternatives. It needs to be mentioned here that the morpheme /de/ has multiple functions. In case of yes/no questions, the morpheme /de/ functions as an interrogative marker whereas it appears as a conjunctive particle 'or' in alternative questions. Here are a few sentences:

210]　　　/bo　　ba　　taula　　de　　tauma/

　　　　　DEM　　Q　　cock　　or　　hen

　　　　　Is this a cock or a hen?

211]　　　/abo　　ba　　gəboi　　de　　paukwa/

　　　　　DEM　　Q　　true　　or　　false

　　　　　Is that true or false?

212]　　　/bo　　khũ　　ba　　kəčauʔ　de　　kormo/

　　　　　DEM　　flower　Q　　red　　or　　yellow

　　　　　Is this flower red or yellow?

213]　　　/bo　　ba　　mastar　　de　　daktar/

　　　　　3SG　　Q　　teacher　　or　　doctor

　　　　　Is s/he a teacher or doctor?

214]　　　/čuŋ　ba　　khũbluŋ-wo　de　　haʔthi-wo/

　　　　　1PL　Q　　garden-LOC　or　　market-LOC

　　　　　Are we in the garden or a market?

However, alternative questions with active verbs in Uchai is usually formed in a different way — placing the question particle /ba/ and interrogative pronouns like, /təma/ 'what', /batoiwo/ 'where' before the active verb and the conjunctive particle /de/ in between the alternatives. Here are a few examples:

215]   /nuŋ ba təma pore-toŋ-mi   boi   de   potrika/

2SG Q   what read-PROG-NF book or   newspaper

Are you reading a book or a newspaper?

216]   /nuŋ ba təma thuŋ-oi   phutbol de kriket/

2SG Q   what play-PRES football or cricket

Do you play football or cricket?

217]   /aŋ   ba batoiwo thaŋ-nai haʔthi de skul-wo/

1SG Q   where   go-FUT   market or   school-LOC

Should I go to market or school?

5.6.4 Tag Questions

Tag questions in Uchai immediately follow a statement which serves to seek confirmation. In Uchai, a tag question where the statement has an active verb is formed by using the question particle /are/, negative marker /ya/ and interrogative marker /de/ at the end of the construction, as in the following sentences:

218]   /braŋ thaŋ-nai are   ya   de/

3PL   go-FUT   Q   NEG   INT

They are going, aren't they?

219]   /nuŋ aboʔtoi sãʔ-mi   are   ya   de/

2SG   milk   want-NF   Q   NEG   INT

You want milk, don't you?

220]   /bo   thuŋ-ya   are   ya   de/

3SG play-NEG   Q   NEG   INT

S/He doesn't play, does s/he?

In Uchai, tag question with statement bearing stative verb is formed by placing the particle of presumption /khna/ in between the question particles /are/ and /leʔ/ at the end of the construction. Here are few examples:

221]   /bo   le   ukil   sei   are   oŋ-khna   leʔ/

3SG EQU lawyer PTCL Q   happen-PTCL PTCL

S/He is a lawyer, isn't s/he?

222]   /bo   le   boi   sei   are   oŋ-khna   leʔ/

DEM EQU book PTCL Q   happen-PTCL PTCL

This is a book, isn't it?

223]   /bə-ni   soi toŋ-oi   are   oŋ-khna   leʔ/

      3SG-GEN dog EXIS-PRES Q   happen-PTCL PTCL

      S/He has a dog, hasn't s/he?

5.6.4   Questions using Rising Tone

In Uchai, questions can also be formed by using the rising tone without any interrogative marker. Here are a few sentences for consideration:

224]   /nuŋ a   de   moi-bahã   ča-nai/

            2SG fish or   animal-flesh   eat-FUT

            Will you eat fish or meat?

225]   /braŋ ča de kophi   nuŋ-mi/

            3PL tea or coffee   drink-NF

            Did they drink tea or coffee?

226]   /bo kolom de pensil naŋ-woi/

            2SG pen   or pencil want-PRES

            Does s/he want pen or pencil?

5.7   IMPERATIVE

Imperative sentences in Uchai express a command or a request. The chief features of the imperative sentences in Uchai are: underlying of the

subject, second person being the underlying subject and futurity. The different types of imperative sentences are considered below:

5.7.1 Command

In Uchai, command is formed by the suffixation of the imperative marker /di/ to the verbal root. Here are a few sentences expressing command:

227]   /tailã-no   phuŋ-di/

Window-ACC   close-IMP

Close the window.

228]   /ska-no   buthaʔdi/

Beast-ACC   kill-IMP

Kill the beast.

229]   /boi-no   tui-di/

Book-ACC   bring-IMP

Bring the book.

5.7.2 Request

In Uchai, the use of honorific, especially for making request is quite prevalent. The use of honorific is usually employed in the formal speech. In Uchai, the prefix /sa-/ 'please' is added to the base verb to make it a polite

form. Also, the particle /ga-/ is often added to the imperative suffix /-di/ to the verbal root for honorific. Consider the following examples:

230]   /sa   ačouʔ-di   rowo/

Please   sit-IMP   here

Please sit here.

231]   /ča-no   sa   nuŋ-di/

Tea-ACC   please   drink-IMP

Please have the tea.

232]   /glas   toi   thai-ha   sa   ri-ga-di/

Glass   water   CLF-one   please   give-PTCL-IMP

Please bring me a glass of water.

5.7.3 Prohibitive

In Uchai, prohibitive is formed by adding the prohibitive prefix /ta-/ and the imperative suffix /-di/ to the verbal root, as in the following sentences:

233]   /khoraŋ-kəto-khaiye   kau   ta-sa-di/

Sound-big-PTCL   speech   PROH-speak-IMP

Don't speak loudly.

234]   /ta-črieʔ-di/

PROH-shout-IMP

Don't shout.

235]   /wal-wo   ta-soi-di/

Wall-LOC   PROH-write-IMP

Don't write on the wall.

5.7.4 Permissive

Permissive sentences in Uchai are framed using the interrogative pronouns like /təma/ 'what', /batoiwo/ 'where' and /baiphuʔwo/ 'when' along with the permissive marker /nəčuŋ/ and the imperative /-di/, as in the sentences given below:

236]   /nuŋ təma la-na   nəčuŋ   la-di/

2SG what take-MOD PRO PERM   take-IMP

(You may) take whatever you want.

237]   /nuŋ batoiwo thaŋ-na   nəčuŋ   thaŋ-di/

2SG where   go-MOD PRO PERM   go-IMP

(You may) go wherever you like.

238]   /nuŋ baiphuʔwo phai-na   nəčuŋ   phai-di/

2SG when   come-MOD PRO PERM come-IMP

(You may) come whenever you want.

5.8   HORTATIVE

The hortative sentences in Uchai indicate certain wish or suggest that an action shall take place. The subject of the hortative mood is always in the first or third person. In Uchai, the hortative form is obtained by adding suffix /-noi/, /-na/ or /-thoi/ to the verbal root. In case of first person singular and plural number, Uchai uses the hortative suffix /-noi/ and /-na/ respectively; while the suffix /-thoi/ is used in all other cases. Consider the following sentences:

239]   /aŋ   pore-ga-noi/

           1SG   read-PTCL-HOR

           Let me read.

240]   /čuŋ   rəčaʔmuŋ   taŋ-ha   rəčaʔ-ga-na/

           1PL   song   CLF-one   sing-PTCL-HOR

           Let us sing a song.

241]   /čuŋ   thuŋ-ga-na/

           1PL   play-PTCL-HOR

           Let us play.

242]   /bo   thaŋ-thoi/

           3SG   go-HOR

           Let him/her go.

243]   /braŋ taŋ-ga-thoi/

                3PL   work-PTCL-HOR

                Let them work.

5.9   OPTATIVE

Optative sentences in Uchai express an ardent wish, hope, desire, prayer, curse, etc. Here are few examples of optative sentences in Uchai:

244]   /isor nə-no   srabo ri-oŋ-thoi/

                God   2SG-ACC   bless give-happen-HOR

                May god bless you.

245]   /nə-ni   aiyu klai   oŋ-thoi/

                2SG-GEN life   long   happen-HOR

                May you live long.

246]   /nuŋ kahã oŋ-thoi/

                2SG   good   happen-HOR

                Wish you all the best.

247]   /kahã-khaiye thaŋ-di/

                Happy-PTCL go-IMP

                Wish you a happy journey.

248]   /nə-ni   sa   kahã   oŋ-thoi/

            2SG-GEN   day   good   happen-HOR

            Have a nice day.

5.10   EXCLAMATORY

Exclamatory sentences in Uchai are formed by using the wh-words like /təma/ 'what' and /nəkhe/ 'how'. However, only these two wh-words appear in Uchai to form exclamatory sentences. A few examples are illustrated below:

249]   /təma   čla   le/

            What   man   PTCL

            What a man!

250]   /təma   toŋ-thau-mo/

            What   happen-pleasure-NMLZ

            What a pleasure!

251]   /təma   driso/

            What   scene

            What a scene!

252]   /nəkhe   ye   nai-thau/

            How   PTCL   look-pleasure

How beautiful it is!

253]   /nəkhe ye   gəbaŋma watoi wa-hã/

How   PTCL plenty   rain   rain-PST

How heavily it rained!

254]   /nəkhe ye   rəčaʔmuŋ khnathau/

How   PTCL song   pleasant

How pleasant the song is!

Apart from the examples given above, Uchai also uses certain particles like, /hãhaleʔ/ — expressing extreme joy or pleasure, /paʔ/ or /paihã/ — expressing extreme sorrow, /baʔ/ — expressing wonder, /thuro/ — expressing disagreement, /alapala/ — expressing utter disgust, etc. to form exclamatory sentences (as explained in Section 4.5.3 Particles of Exclamation).

5.11   PASSIVIZATION

Passive sentences are not found in Uchai. When the active and passive versions of a sentence in English are given, there is only one response in Uchai for both the constructions. For instance,

255]   /sita   bo   boi   soi-mi/

NAME   DEM   book   write-NF

Sita wrote this book.

256]   /bo   boi   sita   soi-mi/

DEM   book   NAME   write-NF

This book was written by Sita.

In the examples given above, sentence [255] is in active voice, whereas sentence [256] is in passive. However, the only difference in the above two sentences in Uchai is in the word order — while the word order in sentence [255] is SOV, that of sentence [256] is OSV. However, Uchai has certain semi-passive or passive like sentences which are formed by adding the particle /yauʔ/ to the verbal root as given in the sentences below:

257]   /abo   šoi   ram   bai   buthaʔ-yauʔ-mi/

DEM   dog   NAME   POST   kill-PTCL-NF

That dog was killed by Ram.

258]   /mai   aŋ   bai   ča-yauʔ-mi/

Rice   1SG   POST   eat-PTCL-NF

Rice is eaten by me.

259]   /abo   kolom   lã-yauʔ-mi/

DEM   pen   take-PTCL-NF

The pen has been taken.

260]   /rəčaʔmuŋ   khã-yauʔ-nai/

Song   hear-PTCL-FUT

The song will be heard.

261]   /samuŋ   khai-yauʔ-nai/

Work   do-PTCL-FUT

The work will be done.

Thus, from the examples given above, it can be concluded that passivization is not a grammatical process in Uchai and the types of sentences found in Uchai are declarative, negative, interrogative, imperative, hortative, optative and exclamatory sentences.

✠   ✠   ✠   ✠   ✠