

Questionnaire for connectives

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Language: Akan

Contexts

A. Conjunctive contexts

A1. No contrast

- 1) *Context (stative)*: Susie works as a doctor in a hospital. In her spare time, she gives classes at the local college.

Target sentences: Susie is a doctor and she is a teacher.

Susie yɛ dɔkɔta ɛna (ɔ-sane yɛ) ɔkyerɛkyerɛni
Susie is doctor **CONN** 3sg-ADD is teacher

Susie is a doctor; she is a teacher. (check of whether juxtaposition is possible)

Susie yɛ dɔkɔta ɔ-sane yɛ ɔkyerɛkyerɛni
Susie is doctor 3sg-ADD is teacher

- 2) *Context (eventive)*: Paul needs to do some ironing, but he finds it boring, so he turns on the TV to watch his favourite program while he irons.

Target sentences: Paul is watching TV and he is ironing his shirts.

Paul re-hwɛ TV ɛna ɔ-re-to n'ataadeɛ
Paul ipfv-watch TV **CONN** 3sg-ipfv-iron poss.clothes

Paul is watching TV; he is ironing his shirts. (juxtaposition)

Paul re-hwɛ TV ɔ-sane re-to n'ataadeɛ
Paul ipfv-watch TV 3sg-ADD ipfv-iron poss.clothes

A2. Contrast

- 3) *Context (stative)*: You live in a place where doctors are wealthy. Susie works as a doctor. She mainly treats patients who cannot pay for their treatment, so Susie earns much less money than other doctors do. You tell your friend about Susie:

Target sentence: Susie is a doctor but she is poor.

Susie ye dɔkɔta	nanso a-hia	no
Susie is doctor	CONN pfv-poor	s/he

Comment: “hia” can also mean “need”, also:

E-hia me = “it matters to me”

- 4) *Context (episodic)*: Jen bought a big ice cream cone. Instead of eating it herself though, she gave it to a sad-looking stranger who was sitting by himself on a bench.

Target sentence: Jen bought ice cream but she bought it for a stranger.

Jen tɔ-ɔ ice cream	nanso ɔ-tɔ-maa	obi	a	o-n-nim	no
Jen buy-pst ice cream	but 3sg-buy-”for”	someone	rel.marker	3sg-neg-know	them

A3. Contrast - negated conjunct

- 5) *Context*: Paul told his grandmother that he works in a hospital and now his grandma tells everyone that Paul is a doctor. But this is not true, Paul actually works at the reception!

Target sentence: Paul is not a doctor but he is a receptionist.

Paul ɛn-yɛ	dɔkɔta	(na) emom	ɔ-yɛ	receptionist
P	neg-be	doctor	CONN	3sg.be receptionist

- 6) *Context:* Jen was planning to buy herself some ice cream after work, but the store was all out of ice cream! So Jen decided to buy some chocolate instead.

Target sentence: Jen didn't buy ice cream but she bought chocolate.

Jen a-n-to ice cream **naemom** ɔ-tɔ-ɔ chocolate
 Jen pfv-neg-buy ice cream **CONN** 3sg-buy-pst chocolate

B. Disjunctive contexts

B1. With speaker knowledge about which clause is true

- 7) *Context:* On a multiple choice maths test, it asks “5x5” and lists two options (A) 24 and (B) 25. The teacher says to the student:

Target sentence: (Either) the answer to the question is A or the answer to the question is B.

ansa no ε-yε A **anaa** ansa no ε-yε B?
 answer det asp-be A **CONN** answer det asp-be B

Comment: Can be a statement or a question depending on intonation (tone?), (*anaa*) *ansa no ε-yε A* - question: “Is the answer A?”

- 8) *Context:* You and your friend are playing a game guessing the jobs of Paul and John. She can't think of the answer, and she asks you for a hint. You know that Paul is a doctor, and that John used to be a doctor but is not anymore. So you say:

Target sentence: (Either) Paul is a doctor or John is a doctor.

(Either) sε Paul ε-yε dɔkɔta **anaa sε** John ε-yε dɔkɔta
 Either **CONN** Paul asp-be doctor **CONN** John asp-be doctor

- “Either” can be used in Akan as well
- Same construction would work in the previous example

B2. Without speaker knowledge about which clause is true

B2-1. Within a statement

B2-1.1 exclusive/unspecified

- 9) *Context:* You have lost your phone. You remember it at your work office desk before cycling home.

Target sentence: I left my phone at work or I dropped it on my way home.

Me-gya-a me phone no wɔ adwuma mu ...
1sg-leave-pst my phone det locative work in

anaa sɛ me gya-a ɛmerɛ a me-re-kɔ (e)fiɛ no
CONN I leave-pst at.the.time rel 1sg-ipfv-go house det
“... I left it at the time I went home.”

- 10) *Context:* Your friend asks you what John's job is. As far as you know, John might be a doctor. You're not sure, though. It's also possible that he's a writer.

Target sentence: John is a doctor or he is a writer.

John ɛ-yɛ dɔkɔta **anaa sɛ** ɔ-yɛ ɔ-twerɛtwerɛni
John asp-be doctor **CONN** 3sg-be 3sg-writer

B2-1.2 inclusive

- 11) *Context:* Your friend asks you what John's job is. You're not sure: he might be a doctor, he might be a writer, he might also be both. You say:

Target sentence: John is a doctor or he is a writer (maybe both).

John ɛ-yɛ dɔkɔta **anaa sɛ** ɔ-yɛ ɔ-twerɛtwerɛni, ebia ɔ-yɛ nemmienu
John asp-be doctor **CONN** 3sg-be 3sg-writer maybe 3sg-be the.two

B2-2. Within a question

- 12) *Context*: You come home from work and realise that you have lost your phone. You tell your friend, whom you called from your office right before you left work. Your friend asks you:

Target sentence: Did you leave your phone at work or did you leave it on the bus?

Wo gya-a wo phone no ewo adwuma mu ...
2sg leave-pst your phone det loc work in

anaa sɛ wo-gya-a no wo bus/(lɔre) no mu
CONN 2sg-leave-pst det loc bus det in

- 13) *Context*: You really want a particular brand of sauce for something you plan on cooking later, but you're not sure which supermarket would sell it. You ask your housemate:

Target sentence: Would Shop A sell this brand or would Shop B sell this brand?

Wo nim sɛ shop A tɔn (saa) brand wei bi...
2sg know comp shop A sell ? brand this some

anaa sɛ shop B tɔn saa brand wei bi
CONN shop B sell

Translated as "Do you know whether shop A sells this brand or shop B sells this brand?", shorter version:

Wo nim sɛ shop A **anaa sɛ** shop B tɔn saa brand wei bi.

C. Others

C1. Both clauses are false

- 14) *Context (stative)*: Paul works in a hospital. He is not a doctor and he is not a nurse. He works at the reception.

Target sentence: Paul is neither a doctor nor is he a nurse.

Paul	ε- n -yε	dɔkɔta	anaa sε	nurse	ni
Paul	asp- neg -be	doctor	CONN	nurse	

Paul	ε- n -yε	dɔkɔta	ɔno	nso	a	ɔ- n -yε	nurse	ni
Paul	asp- neg -be	doctor	he	ADD	rel	3sg- neg -be	nurse	

- 15) *Context (episodic):* Mike's mother told him to go to the supermarket to buy some ice cream for his sister, but Mike stole it instead and ate it himself.

Target sentence: Mike didn't buy ice cream nor did he give it to his sister.

Mike	a- n -di	ice cream	anaa sε	w(o)'	a- n -fa	a-ma	ne	nua	baa	no
Mike	pfv- neg -eat	ice cream	CONN	2sg-pfv- neg -take	pfv-give	poss	sibling	female	det	

Comment: "buy" changed to "eat" to make sense of the example sentence

C2. Free choice

- 16) *Context:* There are two sweets on the table. A cupcake and a cookie. Paul can choose either one of them but not both. You don't care which one he chooses.

Target sentence: Paul can eat a cupcake or he can eat a cookie.

Paul	be-tumi	a-di	cupcake	anaa sε	o-be-tumi	a-di	cookie
Paul	will-able	pfv-eat	cupcake	CONN	3sg-will-able	pfv-eat	cookie

C3. Disjunction under negation

– can be skipped if 14)/15) elicit explicit/separate negation (rather than a dedicated connective)

- 17) *Context:* Susie always wanted to be a doctor, and she always loved running. When she was a kid, she dreamt of a double-career as a doctor and a professional runner. Unfortunately for Susie, neither of these plans worked out. She works a job she doesn't like and she has no time for running.

Target sentence: Susie isn't a doctor or a runner.

(= It's not the case that Susie is a doctor or that Susie is a runner.)

Context	Coordinator(s) elicited
A1 Conjunctive, no contrast	<i>ɛna ... (-sane) ...</i> <i>["-sane" = additive, it is omitted in NP conjunction]</i>
A2 Conjunctive, contrast	<i>nanso</i>
A3 Conjunctive, contrast, negated conjunct	<i>(na) emom</i>
B1 Disjunctive, with speaker knowledge	<i>(either) (sɛ) anaa (sɛ)</i> <i>["either" can be used in Akan as well, not clear if "sɛ ... anaa sɛ is a grammatical variant]</i>
B2-1.1 Disjunctive w/o speaker knowledge, statement, exclusive/unspecified	<i>anaa sɛ</i>
B2-1.2 Disjunctive w/o speaker knowledge, statement, inclusive	<i>anaa sɛ</i>
B2-2 Disjunctive w/o speaker knowledge, question	<i>anaa sɛ</i>
C1 both clauses false	<i>-n- ... anaa sɛ ...</i> <i>-n- ... nso ... -n- ...</i> <i>["-n-" = negation]</i> <i>["nso" = additive]</i>
C2 free choice	<i>anaa sɛ</i>
C3 negation	<i>Not elicited</i>