Apart from the special cases just considered, the normal treatment of all locatives is purely descriptive in Zulu (as in No. 2 of the previous section). The following may be noticed:

**Sihlala [eGoli], [endlini enkulu]**—We are staying in Johannesburg in a big house.
- **Subj.** *(thina)*.
- **Pred.** *sihlala*.
- **Ext. of P.** (i) *eGoli* (loc.).
  (ii) *endlini enkulu* (extended loc.).

**Inkosi yethu yabuyela [kwaZulu]**—Our chief has returned to Zululand.
- **Uvelaphi?**—Where do you come from?
  - **Subj.** *(wena)*.
  - **Pred.** *uvela*.
  - **Ext. of P.** *phi?* (interrog. enclitic; locative).

**Sivelana [ekhaya]**—We have come from home.
- **Bacasha [esihlaheni] [kulelozwe]**—They hid in a thicket in that country.

Certain temporal adverbs are derived from nouns by means of locative formation; any such nouns are, in themselves, indicative of time, e.g.

**Sizohamba [ekuseni]**—We shall travel in the morning.
**Ngifuna ukukubona [emini]**—I want to see you at midday.
**Zidla [ebusuku]**—They eat at night.
**Wayekhonza [esikhathini sikaShaka]**—He lived in the time of Shaka. This is an example of a descriptive phrase, being an extended locative.

**DESCRIPTIVE PHRASES**

These may be divided into four sections for consideration:

(i) **Descriptive phrases of place and time consisting of locatives followed by possessive or conjunctive formation**: These formations were discussed in the previous section, under "Syntax of the Locative." It remains to consider examples in sentences.

**Bemba [phakathi kwendla]**—They are standing in the middle of the hut.
**Impi yashisa imizi [enhla nezwe]**—The army burnt villages up-country.
- **Subj.** *impi*.
- **Pred.** *yashisa*.
- **Obj.** *imizi*.
- **Ext. of P.** *enhla nezwe* (descr. phrase of place).

**[Emuva kwalokho] sadla**—After that we ate.

(ii) **Extended adverbs**: Most types of adverbs are susceptible of extension as for instance:

**endlini >endlini yethu enkulu** (in our big house)
**emzini >emzini wenkosi yethu** (in our chief’s village)
**kusasa >kusasa kakulu** (very early in the morning), or
**kusasa namhlanje** (early this morning)
**kahle >kahle impela** (very carefully)
**ngamandla >ngamandla akhe onke** (with all his strength)
**nenja >nenja yabo emnyama** (with their black dog)
**kunomuntu >kunomuntu lowo onesihlangu senkosi** (rather than that person with the chief’s shield)
**ngumuntu >ngumuntu lowo ophethe isihlangu somufo** (by that person who is carrying the fellow’s shield)

In the last two examples the phrases are complex, each including a relative clause, *onesihlangu senkosi* and *ophethe isihlangu somufo* respectively. Analysis follows the usual method:

**UMagema ugwazweni [ngumuntu lowo ophethe umkhonto oshukhali]**—Magema was stabbed by that person who was carrying a sharp spear.
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Subj. UMagema.
Pred. uqazwe.
Ext. of P. ngumuntu lowo [ophethe umkhonto o'ubhali] (desc. complex phrase of agent; within this phrase is a relative clause, marked in brackets, which qualifies umuntu, from which ngumuntu is derived).

Sub-analysis:
Subj. (yena).
Pred. opethe.
Obj. umkhonto.
Enl. of O. o'ubhali.

Savuka sonke [kusasa kakhu]-We all rose very early in the morning.
Subj. sonke.
Pred. savuka.
Ext. of P. kusasa kakhu (desc. phrase of time).

Abangane beethu bahamba [nezingola za'bo zonke]-Our friends trekked with all their wagons.
Subj. abangane.
Enl. of S. beethu.
Pred. bahamba.
Ext. of P. nezingola za'bo zonke (desc. phrase of conjunction).

(iii) Substantival phrases used “adverbially”, principally with temporal significance:¹

Wahlala khonq [amasonto amathathu]-He remained there three weeks.
Subj. (yena).
Pred. wahlala.
Ext. of P. (i) khona (place).
(ii) amasonto amathathu (temporal phrase).

Bakhulumé esiBayeni [isikhathi eside]-They talked in the cattle-krall for a long time.
Ngthamba [indowo yonke]-I go everywhere.

(iv) Descriptive phrases of reference:
Substantives are sometimes used in Zulu in a parenthetical manner, generally introducing a remark, or in reference to some topic. As they neither subject nor object of the predicate, and are not in apposition to any other substantive, their function has sometimes been described by the phrase “absolute use of substantives.” ² Treating their function syntactically, the best description of them is as “descriptives of reference”; and as they are found idiomatically to be used almost always in association with a succeeding possessive, they usually appear as descriptive phrases of reference. Note the following:

Yathi impi [ukuphendula kwayo], Yebo Nkosi!—Said the army, in its reply, Yea, O King!
Subj. impi.
Pred. yathi.
Obj. Yebo Nkosi (interjective clause).
Ext. of P. ukuphendula kwayo (descr. phrase of reference).
unjani wona [isiqa sawo] na?—What is it, as to its substance?
Subj. wona.
Pred. unjani.
Ext. of P. (i) isiqa sawo (descr. phrase of reference).
(ii) na (interrogative).

Kodwa [ukufa kwabantu], bafa ngendaba yokwesaba amanzi—
But, as to the death of the people, they died through fear of the water.
Con. kodwa.
Subj. bafa.
Pred. bafa.
Ext. of P. (i) ukufa kwabantu (descr. phrase of reference).
(ii) ngendaba yokwesaba amanzi (descr. phrase of instrument).

DESCRIPTIVE CLAUSES

These may be divided into two main types, those which employ the subjunctive mood and those which employ the participial sub-mood (and sometimes the indicative in place of this). They do not fully correspond in significance to the various types of adverbs, though clauses of place, time and comparison are found: there are no clauses of manner, instrument, conjunction, agent or state.

(i) Descriptive Clauses, Subjunctives:

Subjunctive clauses may be divided into: (a) plain subjunctives; (b) subjunctives after deficient verbs; and (c) subjunctives introduced by conjunctives.

(a) Plain Subjunctive Clauses: Consecutive Clauses

It was noticed, when dealing with the “Syntax of the Subjunctive Mood”¹¹ that consecutive verb construction is expressed in Zulu by using the subjunctive mood in all verbs following the first. The subject was discussed at some length there, and we may be content now with a few additional examples.

Kulesi-sikole achantwa bayafunda, [babale], [babale], [bable futhi]—In this school the children read and write and count and also play.

Siyokumbona, [simchachisele indaba yonke]—We shall see him and explain the whole matter to him.

¹Cf. Z.G. § 741.
²Cf. Chapter II, p. 45; and also Z.G. § 742.
ZULU SYNTAX AND IDiom

Bayibulala inkomo, [bayihlinza], [badla inyama yonke]—They killed the ox, skinned it and ate all the meat.

Woza lapha, [sikutozhe]:—Come here and let us tell you.

Impartatives and present and future tenses are succeeded by verbs in the present subjunctive; past tenses by verbs in the past subjunctive. Specimen analysis:

Inkosi iyokuvabiza amadoda, [iwayhumele emsebenzini wasemgwaqweni]—The chief will call the men, and send them to the road work. Complex sentence.

Subj. inkosi.
Pred. iyokuvabiza.
Obj. amadoda.
Ext. of P. iwayhumele emsebenzini wasemgwaqweni (descriptive clause of consecutive or subsequent action).

Sub-analysis of clause:
Subj. (yona).
Pred. iwayhumele.
Ext. of P. emsebenzini wasemgwaqweni (descriptive phrase, locative).

Somewhat similar is the subjunctive construction with numerals,\(^1\) also to be considered consecutive:

Nginike oshelela [bababahlamu]—Give me five shillings.
Wanginika oshelela [bababahlamu (or bababahlamu)]—He gave me only five shillings.

Note also the construction with ideophones following a derivative or cognate verb in future or past time:

Itende labakuza [lahli baku-baku]—The tent blew about violently.
Uzoyintwengula ingubo ayithi twi—a—She will rip the cloth badly.

(b) Subjunctive Clauses after Deficient Verbs

These were discussed under the "Syntax of the Subjunctive" in Chapter IV,\(^2\) where it was noticed that an alternative treatment to that as a multi verbal predicate, is to consider the complementary verb after the deficient verb as constituting a descriptive clause. The analysis of such clauses is now given:

1. Wahlalake khona [waze wafa uDingane]—He stayed there until Dingane died. Complex sentence.

Subj. (yena).
Pred. wahlala(ke).
Ext. of P. (i) khona (place).
(ii) waze wafa uDingane (descr. clause of consecutive action).

1 Cf. Chapter IV, section (f) on p. 106.
2 See p. 104.
(c) Subjunctive Clauses after Conjonctives

These may be divided into clauses of purpose and clauses of time.

(1) Subjunctive Clauses of Purpose: Final Clauses:

In Zulu they may be divided into (i) those introduced by the conjunctives ukuba, ukuthi and ukuse; (ii) those introduced by nce; and (iii) those indicating negative purpose and introduced by funa and hleze.

(i) The conjunctives ukuthi and ukuba have wide use with both indicative and subjunctive moods following them. In indicating purpose they are associated with ukuse and the present subjunctive, in this significance ukuthi being rather less used than the other two.  

Senza lokho [ukuba basiphe imali]—We did that in order that they might give us money.

Bangena esiqayeni [ukuse basizenge izinkomazi]—They entered the cattle-kraal in order to milk the cows.

Ngifuna lezi-zincwadi [ukuba ngifunde isiZulu]—I want these books in order to study Zulu. Complex sentence.

Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngifunde.
Obj. lezi-zincwadi (appositional).
Ext. of P. ukuba ngifunde isiZulu (descr. clause of purpose).

Sub-analysis of clause:
Con. ukuba.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngifunde.
Obj. isiZulu.

Bayagijima [ukuse bangabantwa]—They are running lest they be caught. (Here with negative subjunctive.)

(ii) The conjunctive nce (in order that) is used in much the same way as ukuba and ukuse above:

1. Hlala lapha [nce ngibone ukuthi uzhohlalaphi yena]—Stay here so that I may see where he is going to sit. Complex interrogative sentence.

Subj. (no subject).
Pred. hlala (imperative).
Ext. of P. (i) lapha (place).

(i) nce . . . yena (descr. clause of purpose).

1a. nce ngibone ukuthi uzhohlalaphi yena:

Con. nce.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngibone.
Obj. ukuthi . . . yena (substantival clause).

31 Cf. Chapter II, p. 33; and Chapter IV, p. 103.

(2) Subjunctive Clauses of Time: Temporal Clauses:

There are two sets of these: (i) those commencing with any of a series of conjunctives, anduba, andubani, andukuba, anduma, or kaduba, kadukuba, contracted from kade ukuba, all signifying “before”, “and then afterwards”, indicating prior action on the part of the main predicate; and (ii) those commencing with the conjunctive qede signifying “as soon as”. In each of these cases it is the present subjunctive that is used.

(i) Examples with anduba, kaduba, etc.

Mshaye [anduba akambe]—Hit him before he goes.

Ake niye kwaNgoza, [andubani nibuyele lapha]—Just go to Ngoza’s, and afterwards come back here. Complex sentence.

Con. ake.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. niye.
Ext. of P. (i) kwaNgoza (loc.).

(ii) andubani . . . lapha (descr. clause of time).

Sub-analysis of clause:
Con. andubani.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. nibuyele.
Ext. of P. lapha.

Bahlala [kaduba badle]—They sat down before they ate (or and then they ate).
(ii) The word *qede* has very free usage in Zulu:
It may be used as a conjunctive followed by a predicate in
the subjunctive mood, e.g.

[Bazothi *qede bafike*] *sihlale*—As soon as they arrive, we shall
sit down; note that *sihlale* is also subjunctive.

It is most commonly found followed by the conjunctive *ukuba*,
e.g. *qede ukuba bafike* (as soon as they arrived).

It may further be used as a deficient verb followed by sub-
junctive, participial or infinitive, e.g.

*Bafike bafike balale*—As soon as they arrive they go to bed;

(bafike and balale are two complements to the common
deficient verb).

It may also be used as an adverb with similar significance,
e.g.

*Bafike qede baphumula*—As soon as they arrived, they rested.

Note however that in Zulu *Bafike qede* is the main clause,
*baphumula* being past subjunctive in consecutive construc-
tion. The literal translation is “They arrived immediately
(and) rested.”

All this but emphasises the flexibility of Zulu syntax.

(iii) The subjunctive mood may be used after the deficient
verb -*thi* used conjunctively, when descriptive clauses of time are
formed. The fact, however, that the “main” verb following such
a clause is always subjunctive, and that, on occasion, the “clause”
may be used alone as a main statement, makes it possible to treat,
as an alternative analysis, the succeeding subjunctive as subordi-
inate in consecutive construction. For examples see Chapter
VI (vi) c. Note the following alternatives:

*Bathi bafike emzini baphumula*—When they reach the kraal,
they rest. (Complex sentence.)

(a) Treating *baphumula* as main predicate, *bathi bafike emzini* is
a descriptive clause of time.

(b) Treating *bafike* as the main predicate, the analysis is as
follows:

Con. *bathi*.

Subj. (*bona*).

Pred. *bafike*.

Ext. of P. (i) *emzini* (locative).

(ii) *baphumula* (descr. clause of consecutive action).

In this case, the translation would be, literally, “Then they reach
the kraal and rest.” It seems that the treatment under (a) is
nearer to the Zulu idiom.

(ii) Descriptive Clauses, Participial:
These participial clauses may be divided into: (a) plain par-
ticipals; (b) participals after deficient verbs; and (c) participials
introduced by conjunctives.

(a) Plain Participial Clauses: Clauses of Situation

It has already been observed\(^1\) that plain participial clauses
may be treated as enlargements of subject or object and therefore
as qualitative clauses. Many of them, however, are more easily
handled as descriptive clauses of situation. Note for instance the
following:

(1) With subjectival reference:

*Bakhuluwa naye [bepehethe imikhonto yaabo]*—They conversed
with him while carrying their spears. Complex sentence.

Subj. (*bona*).

Pred. *bakhuluwa*.

Ext. of P. (i) *naye* (conj.).

(ii) *bepehethe imikhonto yaabo* (descr. clause of sub-
jectival situation).

Sub-analysis of clause:

Subj. (*bona*).

Pred. *bepehethe*.

Obj. *imikhonto*.

Enl. of O. *yaabo*.

*Izinkomo zabaleka [zibodla ngamandla]*—The cattle ran off
bellowing mightily.

*Abantuwa bepephuma esikoleni [behelekana bonke]*—The
children were coming out of school all laughing at one
another.

(2) With objectival reference:

*Izinduna zamshaya [ekhala ngamandla]*—The captains struck
him while he yelled vociferously.

Subj. *izinduna*.

Pred. *zamshaya*.

Obj. (*yena*).

Ext. of P. *ekhala ngamandla* (descr. clause of objectival situ-
ation).

Sub-analysis of clause:

Subj. (*yena*).

Pred. *ekhala*.

Ext. of P. *ngamandla*.

*Wazi situza uizando [zidla etshakeni]*—He killed the buffaloes
eating on the plain.

*Basibona [silele ethunzini]*—They saw us sleeping in the shade.

\(^1\) Cf. Chapter IV, under “Syntax of the Participial Sub-mood,” p. 108.
(3) With other reference:

_Bengigijima kakhulu, [bengilandela ehlathini bonke]—I was running hard, all of them following me in the forest._

Subj. _(mina)._
Pred. bengigijima.
Ext. of P. (i) kakhulu (manner).
(ii) bengilandela ehlathini bonke (descr. clause of situation).

Sub-analysis of clause:
Subj. bonke.
Pred. bengilandela.
Obj. _(mina)._
Ext. of P. ehlathini.

_ Bamshaya, [inkosi lbusa-nje]—They hit him while the chief just looked on._

_Sasifunda esikoleni, [izinyoni zihlabelela emithini ngaphandle]—We were learning in school while the birds sang in the trees outside._

_Umlilo wala ukubaswa, [izinkuni zimanzi]—The fire refused to be kindled, the firewood being wet._

(b) Participial Clauses after Deficient Verbs

These were discussed in the consideration of the multiverbal predicates. It may prove advisable, and it is certainly possible in many cases, to treat as a single predicate the deficient verb and its subordinate complement; nevertheless that subordinate complement when participal does constitute a clause, and its consideration in that aspect must not be overlooked. Deficient verbs followed by the participial sub-mood were also noted when dealing with the syntax of the participial. Here it is only necessary to consider the analysis treatment and reference terminology required. Each type of deficient verb will entail a special reference in describing the clause. Take for examples:

1. _Badamene [bebalekela emahlathini akude]—They always run away into the distant forests._ Complex sentence.

Subj. _(bona)._
Pred. badamene.
Ext. of P. bebalekela . . . akude (descr. clause of habitual action).

1a. _bebalekela emahlathini akude:_
Subj. _(bona)._
Pred. bebalekela.
Ext. of P. emahlathini akude (descr. phrase, locative).

2. _Izitha zazilokhu [zihlasela amabutho akithi]—The enemy kept on attacking our soldiers._ Complex sentence.

Subj. izitha.
Pred. zazilokhu.
Ext. of P. zihlasela . . . akithi (descr. clause of persistent action).

2a. _zihlasela amabutho akithi:_
Subj. (zona).
Pred. zihlasela.
Obj. amabutho.
Enl. of O. akithi.

3. _Zonke izikhathi uma ngona, ngisuke [ningazi ukuthi ngiyona]—Whenever I do wrong, it is because I don't know that I am doing wrong._ Complex sentence.

Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngisuke.
Ext. of P. (i) zonke izikhathi uma ngona (complex phrase of time).
(ii) ningazi . . . ngiyona (descr. clause of consequence).

3a. _uma ngona (descr. clause of time, describing the descriptive phrase zonke izikhathi):_
Con. uma.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngona.

3b. _ningazi ukuthi ngiyona (descr. clause of consequence, complement to pred. ngisuke):_
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ningazi.
Obj. ukuthi ngiyona (subst. clause).

3b1. _ukuthi ngiyona:_
Con. ukuthi.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngiyona.

From an examination, as above, deficient verbs which take participial complements may be classified as follows:

(1) of habitual action: -damene, -dane, -dé, -zingé.
(2) of continual action: -hambe, -hleze, -libele.
(3) of persistent action: -ló, -lokhu.
(4) of consequential action: -sale, -suke.
(5) of immediate action: -géde.
(6) of incipient action: -thi.
(7) of strong past negative action: -bange, -bonange, -bonaze, -vange, -zange.
Participial Clauses after Conjunctives

According to the significance of the conjunctive used, these descriptive clauses may be classified under the following headings:

1. Temporal clauses (of time).
2. Locative clauses (of place).
3. Causal clauses (of reason).
5. Comparative clauses (of comparison).

(1) Participial Clauses of Time: Temporal Clauses:

There are several introducing conjunctives with participial clauses of time, principally the following:

(a) lapha, lapho, la (when).
(b) uma, ma (when, if).
(c) inxá, nxá (when, if).
(d) selokhu, seló (ever since).
(e) mhlá, mdlé, mdlana; msuku, msukwana; mzuku, mzu-
   kwana (on the day when).

(f) -thi (when, when it happens that).

From the above list it is evident that there is not always a clear distinction in Zulu between the idea of time and that of condition: uma ngifika may be rendered in English either as "when I arrive" or "if I arrive." This lack of clarity of distinction is noticed in the cases of (b) and (c) above. In the case of (d) selokhu is closely linked with lokhu, a conjunctive of reason, and in this there is apparent a certain amount of overlapping of significance.

The following examples of these clauses may now be noticed:

(a) [Lapho eseqedile] makabuye—When he has finished, let him come back.
   [Lapho sisaqika-nje] wagoduka—Just as we came, he went home.
   Wafa [la sisambahla]—He died while we were still on the way.

(b) Mistele [uma efika]—Tell him, when he arrives.
   [Uma esalele] kwafika isela—While he was sleeping a thief arrived.
   [Ma simbona] sizokubaleka—When we see him we shall run away.

(c) [Inxá usiqedile umsebenzi] uyoqumuka—When you have finished the work, you will be set free.
   Musipume [ixa kungena umusi]—Let us go out when the smoke comes in.

(d) [Selokhu afika] ubegula—Ever since he arrived, he has been ailing.

(2) Participial Clauses of Place: Locative Clauses:

These are regularly introduced by one of the conjunctives lapho, lapho or la and closed off by the adverb khona.

Yibeke incwadi [lapho ibikhona]—Put the book where it used to be.

Sizongena [lapho ehlala khona]—We shall go in where he lives.

These locative clauses may also be used: (i) as qualifying clauses when following some noun indicating place; or (ii) as substantival clauses, object of a predicate.

(i) Qualitative use:

Ikamelo alikhatheleli amazwe ashisayo, [lapho ezinye iziwane
   ezithwalayo zingeye khona]—The camel takes no concern
   about hot countries, where other beasts of burden cannot go.
   Subj. ikameloe.
   Pred. alikhatheleli.
   Obj. amazwe.
   Enl. of O. (i) ashisayo (relative).
   (ii) lapho ... khona (qual. clause of place).

Sub-analysis of (i) ashisayo:

Subj. (wona).
Pred. ashisayo (rel.).

Sub-analysis of (ii) lapho ezinye iziwane ezithwalayo zingeye
   khona:
   Con. lapho.
   Subj. ezinye.
   Enl. of S. (i) iziwane (appositional).
   (ii) ezithwalayo (relative).
   Pred. zingeye.
   Ext. of P. khona.

Further sub-analysis of ezithwalayo:

Subj. (zona).
Pred. ezithwalayo.

The relative suffix -yo is quite commonly found with clauses employing the conjunctives under (e).
(ii) Substantival use:
Locative clauses used substantively are open to several treatments, and it will be well to set out the different forms in
which they might appear. Take the following:
Angazi [lapho ehlala khona];
Angikwazi [lapho ehlala khona];
Angimazi [lapho ehlala khona].
These are all possible ways of expressing “I do not know where
he stays.” In the first case the clause is object of angazi; in the
second it is also object, made definite by the inclusion of an
objectival concord ku- referring to the whole clause; in the third
the main object of the predicate is yena (understood) represented
by the objectival concord m-, while the clause may be treated as
parenthetical to yena (understood). This would then be, once
again, a descriptive clause, closely akin in function to the
“descriptive phrases of reference,” already treated.¹ Compare
the two following analyses:
1. Angikwazi lapho ehlala khona:
   Subj. (mina).
   Pred. angikwazi.
   Obj. lapho ehlala khona (substantival clause).
2. Angimazi lapho ehlala khona:
   Subj. (mina).
   Pred. angimazi.
   Obj. yena.
   Ext. of P. lapho ehlala khona (descr. clause of reference).
In either case the subordinate clause would be analysed as
follows:
Con. lapho.
Subj. (yena).
Pred. ehlala.
Ext. of P. khona.
(3) Participial Clauses of Reason: Causal Clauses:
Of these, the most obvious are those introduced by ngokuqwa
or ngoqwa:
Wakwenza [ngokuqwa enesihawu]—He did it because he had
pity.
Ulele [ngoqwa egula]—He is lying down because he is is sick.
When, however, emphasis is required on the predicate of the
casual clause, the indicative mood may be used instead of the
participial, e.g.
Ulele [ngoqwa uyagula]—He is lying down, because he is sick.
¹See p. 124.

But in addition to such clauses there are those introduced by
other conjunctives of reason, principally (i) ukuba, (ii) lokhu, etc.
(i) ukuba: It is noteworthy how wide a significance this
conjunctive has, indicating: (a) that (followed by the indicative);
(b) in order that (followed by the subjunctive); (c) if (in condi-
tional construction = uma), in addition to (d) this use equivalent
to that of ngokuqwa followed by the participial sub-mood:
Basho [ukuba bebona izinkomo zethu]—They say so, because
they see our cattle.
(ii) lokhu, lo, lokhu-phela, lokhu-nakhu, etc.:
[Lokhu sengimtshelile] ngisayokuthini?—Since I have already
told him, what shall I now say more?
Uyokuqhubeka, [lokhu-phela ehlanakiphile]—He will progress
since for sure he is clever.
These conjunctives may alternatively take the indicative
mood.¹
(4) Participial Clauses of Concession: Concessive Clauses:
These are introduced by one or other of several conjunctives
commencing in na-, e.g. noma (na- + uma), nanxa or nonxa (na-
+ nxa), nakuba or nokuba (na- + ukuba), each signifying “although,
even if.”
[Noma bebahle], abahlakaniphile—Even if they are pretty,
they are not wise.
[Nakuba efundile], akamedluli ubaba—Although he is edu-
cated, he does not surpass my father.
[Nokuba kunjalo], angithandi ukuya khona—Although it is so,
I do not care to go there.
Con. nokuba.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. angithandi.
Obj. ukuya khona.
Ext. of P. nokuba kunjalo (descr. clause of concession).
Sub-analysis of clause:
Con. nokuba.
Subj. (khona).
Pred. kunjalo.
Alternatively, the indicative mood is often used in concessive
clauses.
(5) Participial Clauses of Comparison: Comparative Clauses:
These are introduced by one of the three conjunctives,
kunokuqa (rather than),⁴ njengokuqa (just as) and ngangokuqa (as
big as).
⁴As p. 141.
⁵Kunokuqa may also be found followed by the subjunctive mood, e.g. Angayishanela yena ithaba yonke
[kunokuqa ayibube iyewelile tshili]—He can sweep it himself every day rather than see it full of dirt.
the indicative is sometimes used. Note that the protasis may be placed either before or after the apodosis. In the examples given the protasis is placed within brackets.

[Uma ngifika] bazokuhamba—If I come, they will go.
[Uma belokhu bentsha] uzofa—If they keep on hitting him, he will die.

Bayokufa [uma bedla lokho]—They will die, if they eat that.
Complex sentence.
Subj. (bona).
Pred. bayokufa.
Ext. of P. uma bedla lokho (descr. clause of condition).

Sub-analysis of clause:
Con. uma.
Subj. (bona).
Pred. bedla.
Obj. lokho.

Examples with subjunctive and imperative apodosis:

[Uma efika], mabamtshele ukuthi ngiyafuna—If he comes, let them tell him that I want him.

Yithenge [uma unemali]—Buy it if you have the money.

At times it is not possible to distinguish simple condition from time significance; this is especially the case when the present tense is used in the apodosis, e.g.

[Uma ngifika] bayahamba—When (or whenever) I come, they go.

Ngiyagula [uma ngidla lokho]—I get sick when (whenever, or if) I eat that.

It is possible to use the indicative mood in the protasis; this seems to convey emphasis:

Bazokumusa esibedlela [uma uyagula]—They will take him to hospital if he is really ill. (Or even better: uma ngabe uyagula.)

Obs.: Instead of uma, or its contracted form ma, the conjunctive nxa (or inxal) may be used with the same significance, e.g. Manihile [nxa bekuluma]—Sit down when (or if) they speak.

(b) Condition Involving Doubt

In conditional construction involving a doubt or inexpectancy of fulfilment in present or future time, two main types of construction are used:

(1) Apodosis introduced by the optative conjunctive nga (or ngabe, ngaye, ngakube, kungaba as alternatives) followed by the indicative (rarely the participial mood); with the protasis in the

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(6) Participial Clauses of Condition: Conditional Clauses:

Though these descriptive clauses, in the main, employ the participial sub-mood, both the indicative and the potential are also used. It is preferable, therefore, to treat the whole subject of Conditional Construction, in all its aspects, together, and not merely the participial clauses of condition. This we do immediately.

(iii) Conditional Construction:

In this section it will be advisable to go somewhat beyond the examination merely of the subordinate clauses, and to classify also the type of construction found in the main statement of conditional construction. In conditional propositions there are always two clauses, the main statement, called the apodosis, and the conditional descriptive clause, called the protasis.

In Zulu three types of condition may be conveyed: (a) simple condition; (b) condition involving doubt; and (c) unfulfilled past condition.

(a) Simple Condition

These are straightforward sentences expressing present or future condition. The apodosis is generally in the indicative, though subjunctive and imperative predicates may occur; the protasis (i.e. the conditional clause) is introduced by the conjunctive uma followed normally by the participial mood, though

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1This section is a development of Z.G. §§ 853-858.
participial or the indicative mood introduced by the conjunctive uma or ukuba.

(protasis participial)
Nga ngiyahala [uma enginika imali]—I would stay if he gave me money.
Nga siyamthuka [uкуba esenzela lokho]—We would revile him if he were to do that to us.

(protasis indicative)
Nga angihali [uкуba awunginiki imali]—I would not stay if you did not give me money. Complex sentence.

Con. nga.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. angihali.
Ext. of P, uкуba awunginiki imali (descr. clause of condition).
Sub-analysis of clause:
Con. uкуba.
Subj. (wena).
Pred. awunginiki.
Obj. (i) (mina) (principal).
(ii) imali (subsidiary).

(2) Apodosis potential; with the protasis potential or participial potential introduced by uma or ukuba.
Ngingehale [uma engeninike imali]—I would not stay if he did not give me money, or I cannot stay if he will not give me money.

Singamthuka [uкуba angasenzela lokho]—We would revile him if he were to do that to us.

Obs.: In Zulu there are no such differences as that between “could” and “would” in English; the potential does not indicate whether the possibility is that of capability or desirability.

(c) Unfulfilled Past Condition

There are several constructions possible to indicate this, but their variance mainly concerns the apodosis, which may be introduced by the optative conjunctive nga or its variants, or may be in the potential mood, or may be in the contingent mood. The protasis, however, is always introduced by uma or ukuba, generally followed by the participial.

(1) Apodosis optative:
[Uma ebezikile], ngakube ngihambile—If he had come, I would have gone.
[Uma bekuyimina], ngakube ngimshayile—If it had been I, I would have struck him.
Nga ngahlala [uma wanginika imali]—I would have stayed, if you had given me money.

(2) Apodosis potential:
Sangekhale [uma wawungasini imali]—We would not have stayed, if you had not given us money.

Alternatively a potential may also be used in the protasis, e.g.
Sangeghala [uma wawungasini imali]—We would have stayed, if you had given us money.

Obs.: An emphatic form is achieved by using the negative potential of the deficient verb -ke (of occasional action) in the apodosis:
Besingeke shinebe [uma ubhukona]—We would never have gone, had you been there.

(3) Apodosis contingent:
Bengohlala [uma ubunginiké imali]—I would have stayed if you had given me money.
[Uma ngangifikile] wayeyohamba—If I had come he would have gone.

(iv) Descriptive Clauses, Indicative:

It is by no means the function of the indicative mood to form descriptive clauses, but it was noticed, from time to time, in the foregoing sections of this chapter, that, after certain conjunctives, the indicative may take the place of regular construction with the participial. When the indicative is so used, the force of the predicate is decidedly emphasised. Instances have been recorded in the case of descriptive clauses of time, condition, reason and concession. Note the following conjunctives used with the indicative:

uma (if, when):
uma uyafuna (if he does want)
uma bayafika (when they actually arrive).

ukuba (if):
ukuba awunginiki imali (if you were not to give me money).

noma (whether; although):
Ngishele noma uthelile noma awuthelanga—Tell me whether you have paid tax or not.

Ngiyokufika noma liyaduma—Tell me I shall come even if it actually thunders.

ngokuba (because):
ngokuba uyagula (because he is sick).

lokho (since, because):
Singehambe lokho siyaqhuba—We cannot travel, since we are limping.
The use of the indicative is especially noticeable with the emphatic compound conjunctives built up on *lokhu*¹ e.g.

*lokhu-kodwa uuyazibika* (since, however, he explains himself)
*lokhu-nakhu akakho* (since, you see, he is not here)
*lokhu-phela yena uthi akathandi* (since, for sure, he says he is not agreeable).

These seem to give corroborative evidence that the use of the indicative in descriptive clauses is emphatic.

(v) **Descriptive Clauses, Potential:**

The potential mood may be used after the deficient verb *-thi* used conjunctively; and, taking one syntactical view, it may be considered to form a descriptive clause; as, however, the succeeding "main" verb is always subjunctive, an alternative view is to regard the potential clause as the main predicate, and relegate the succeeding subjunctive to subordinate consecutive position. For examples see Chapter VI (vi) b. Note the following alternatives:

 Utíi *angaqeda abaleke*—As soon as she finishes she runs off.

(a) Treating *abaleke* as main predicate, *uthi angaqeda* is a descriptive clause of time.

(b) Treating *angaqeda* as main predicate, the analysis is as follows:

Con. *uthi*.
Subj. *(yena)*.
Pred. *angaqeda*.
Ext. of P. *abaleke* (descr. clause of consecutive action).

In this case, the translation would be, literally, "Then she can finish and run off". The treatment under (a) accords better with the "feel" of the Zulu.

**THE SYNTAX OF THE IDEOPHONE**

(i) **Introductory:**

In Zulu the most usual syntactical function of the ideophone is as a descriptive complement to a special idiomatic use of the verb *-thi*. In this idiomatic use, *ukuthi* seems to mean "to express," "to act," "to demonstrate" or "to manifest". It is noticeable that the ideophone cannot be of itself either transitive or intransitive; in other words, *-thi ibhili* may bear the force of either *ibhili*ka (slide off) or *ibhili*za (scrape off). With the latter significance it may be used with an object which, if definite, will be represented by an objectival concord with the verb *-thi* e.g. *ukuluthi ibhili udaka* (to scrape off the plaster).

This construction of ideophones may be used following an ordinary tense of an ideophonic derivative verb, in which case it acts as an intensifier of the action, e.g. *Waluwbhiza udaka waluthi ibhili* (He actually scraped off the plaster). Further, in order to convey a repetition or continuation of the action, state, etc. conveyed by the ideophone, the latter may be repeated, e.g. *Waluthi ibhili ibhili udaka* (He scraped and scraped off the plaster). Some ideophones are confined to this reduplicated use, in which case they are hyphenated together, e.g. *Iqoma liti bhé-béke* (The basket is weakly sagging).

When ideophones are used to describe relatives or enumeratives, they commonly follow those parts of speech without any assistance from the verb *-thi*, e.g. *ingubo emhlphelo qwa* (a snow-white dress).

Examples and the analysis of ideophones used in these various ways will now be considered.

(ii) **The ideophone with *-thi*:**

Note that only short forms of this verb are possible, e.g. *ngithi, ngimuthi* (not *ngiyathi* or *ngiyamuthi*), *ngithé, ngibathi* (not *ngithile* or *ngibathile*). This is due to the descriptive action of the ideophone, which is closely knit to the verb *-thi*.

*Wamuthi tánkla isisu ngonyawo*—He kicked him in the stomach. Simple sentence.

Subj. *(yena)*.
Pred. *wamuthi tánkla*.
Obj. (i) *(yena)* (principal).
         (ii) *isisu* (subsidary).
Ext. of P. *ngonyawo*.

An alternative treatment would be:

Subj. *(yena)*.
Pred. *wamuthi*.
Obj. (i) *(yena)* (principal).
         (ii) *isisu* (subsidary).
Ext. of P. (i) *tánkla* (ideo.).
         (ii) *ngonyawo* (instr.).

It is preferable however to treat as an extended predicate *wamuthi tánkla* as one.

*Hlalani lapha nitíi dingilizi*—Sit in a circle here; lit. Sit here and make a circle. Complex interjectional sentence.

Subj. (no subject).
Pred. *hlalani* (imperative).
Ext. of P. (i) *lapha* (place).
         (ii) *nitíi dingilizi* (descr. clause of consecutive action, subjunctive).

Sub-analysis of clause:

Subj. *(nina)*.
Pred. *nitíi dingilizi*.

¹ Cf. Chapter VI, p. 154.
NGiyithé hlúthuluzi ngetshe—I killed it by means of a stone.
Simple sentence.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngiyithé hlúthuluzi.
Obj. (yona).
Ext. of P. ngetshe.

(iii) The ideophone repeated:
The analysis of such ideophones is identical with the above, e.g.
Wamuthi bóklo bóklo—he repeatedly hit him “biff” in the ribs. Simple sentence.
Subj. (yena).
Pred. wamuthi bóklo bóklo.
Obj. (yena).
or
Subj. (yena).
Pred. wamuthi.
Obj. (yena).
Ext. of P. bókho bókho (ideo.).
Izilwanyazanyana ezincane zazithi námbu-námbu—the small insects were moving hesitantly along. Simple sentence.
Subj. izilwanyazanyana.
Enl. of S. ezincane.
Pred. zazithi námbu-námbu.

(iv) The ideophone with derivative verb:
(a) With present time, the indicative is used with -thi forming a compound sentence:
Leli-tende liyabakuza lithi báku-báku—This tent is being blown about; lit. This tent is blowing about; it is doing báku-báku.
Lomuntu uhlakaza uthango, uluthi hláka-hláka—This person is breaking down the fence, and making it fall to pieces.
Compound sentence.
(1) Lomuntu uhlakaza uthango.
(2) Uluthi hláka-hláka.
(b) With past time and future time, a consecutive construction is used with -thi in the subjunctive:
Lomuntu uzohlakaza uthango, athisi hláka-hláka—This person will break down the fence and make it fall to pieces.
Walimokloza ithambo, waltithi móklo—he broke the bone.
Bamchifiza noma esefile, bamuthi chifi—they bashed him about the head although he was already dead.
Subj. (bona).

(c) The ideophonic section may be in participial subordination when it clarifies and defines the action:
Wambokloza izimbambo emuthi bóklo—he struck him in the ribs giving him a resounding blow.
Subj. (yena).
Pred. wambokloza.
Obj. (i) (yena) (principal).
(ii) izimbambo (secondary).
Ext. of P. emuthi bóklo (descr. clause of subjectival situation).
Sub-analysis of clause:
Subj. (yena).
Pred. emuthi bóklo.

Intengu ibabalala emanzini ithi bábalala—the drongo bird falls flat into the water, dropping flat and helpless.

(v) The ideophone with cognate verb:
Similar to the previous use of the ideophone with derivative verb, is that with cognate verbs, verbs bearing an associated meaning but entirely separate in origin.
Izimvu zaphuma zathi bádu-bádu—the sheep all poured out.
Sekuvuthwe sekuthi bóto-bóto—it is now cooked and soft.
Umililo wawutha wathi bee—the fire blazed. Complex sentence.
Subj. umililo.
Pred. wawutha.
Ext. of P. wathi bee (descr. clause of intensive action).
Sub-analysis of clause:
Subj. (wona).
Pred. wathi bee.

Bekuthulé uma ndo kuthé zwi—the noise was overpowering.
Ngimshaye wala la wathi ja—he hit him and he lay out flat.
Thula uthi du—Keep quite quiet.
(vi) The ideophone as an intensifier with relative and enumerative stems:
(a) Intensifiers with colour terms; the perfect stem of -thi is used as these are statives:
Kumhlapho kuthé qwa—It is snow white.
Ngifuna ingubo emnyama ethé kháce—I want pitch black cloth.
Kubonvu kuthé klébu—It is bright red.
(b) Intensifiers with the enumerative stem -nye; there are at least six\(^1\) so used, e.g.
Bazoletha umuthi munye ghwába—They will bring only one tree—a single tree.

(vii) Employment of ideophones without -thi:
This is commonly done in the case of accompaniment as intensifiers to relatives and enumeratives. Less often is it done in association with derivative or cognate verbs:
(a) With relatives and enumeratives:
Kumhlapho qwa—It is snow white.
Subj. (khona).
Pred. kumhlapho.
Ext. of P. qwa (ideo.).
Saòbóna umuthi munye zwi—We saw only one tree.
(b) With derivative and cognate verbs:
Indlu igcwéle swi abantu—The house is chock full of people.
Subj. indlu.
Pred. igcwéle.
Ext. of P. (i) abantu (adv. use, of reference).
(ii) swi (ideo.).
Wayish韦ba shwi—He threw it underhand well.

(viii) The ideophone with derivative forms of -thi\(^3\)

Ideophones may be used with the following derivatives of -thi, the passive, the neuter, the applied, the reciprocal and the causative.\(^5\)

(a) Passive (thiwa):
Induku yathíwa phóqo—The stick was broken to pieces.
Inja thiívé kle enye ngamazínyo—The dog had a gash torn in him by the other dog’s teeth.

(b) Neuter (theka):
Umkhonto wathéka bùxe—The spear went deep into the flesh.

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\(^{1}\) See Chapter III under “Syntax of the Enumerative” (ii), p. 65.
\(^{2}\) Examples in this section are from information supplied in 1937 by my late colleague, Dr. B. W. Vilakazi.
\(^{3}\) There is no intensive form of -thi; for the diminutive, see (f) below.
CHAPTER VI
THE SYNTAX OF THE CONJUNCTIVE

Introductory:

The syntactical function of the conjunctive in the Zulu sentence is twofold; it may have an introducing function or it may have a connecting function. In connection with the latter function, Zulu conjunctives are divided into two types: coordinating conjunctives which form compound sentences; and subordinating conjunctives which form complex sentences. Examples of all these kinds of conjunctives have already been given in the previous chapters, when dealing with the various moods of the verb and types of subordinate clause formation. Here they will be classified and briefly summarised.

(i) Conjunctives of Introducing Function:

In rare instances these may be non-influencing, but generally they command a subjunctive or a participial mood of the verb following them.

(a) Non-influencing:

kanti (after all, then):

Kanti usumdala kango?—Are you so old then? (Simple sentence.)

Con. kanti.
Subj. (wena).
Pred. usumdala.
Ext. of P. (i) kango (degree).
(ii) (na?) (interrog.).

konje (so then):

Konje wathi unlungu?—What did the white man say then?
Konje uqinile?—So then, you’ve come?

pho (well then):

Pho usuthini manje?—Well then, what have you to say to it now? (Simple sentence.)

(b) Governing a dependent predicate:

(1) Subjunctive:

ahle, ngahle, ngase (maybe):

Ahle aye ngomuso—Maybe he will go tomorrow.
Ahle ngikushaye khona-manje—Mind I don’t hit you right now! (Simple sentence.)

Con. (ahle).
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngikushaye.
Obj. (wena).
Ext. of P. khona-manje.

Konje ngahle bawudle-nje?—Will they really eat it? (Simple sentence.)

Con. (i) konje.
(ii) ngahle.
Subj. (bona).
Pred. bawudle.
Obj. (wona).
Ext. of P. -nje (enclitic).

ake (just let):

Ake bale mane—Just let them plough now.
Ake ukuhume nafo—Just speak with them. (Simple sentence.)

Con. ake.
Subj. (wena).
Pred. ukuhume.
Ext. of P. nafo.

ke (just let!—threatening):

Ke alinge-nje!—Just let him try!
Ke uhlaileke, uzobona!—Just you stay and you will see! (Compound sentence.)

(i) Con. ke.
Subj. (wena).
Pred. uhlaile.
Ext. of P. -ke (enclitic).

(ii) Subj. (wena).
Pred. uzobona.

3 Called "non-influencing" in the grammar, i.e. having no effect upon the mood of a succeeding verb; cf. E.G. § 652.
(2) Participial:
kade (just now, a little while ago):
Kade sisebenza lapo—We have just been working there.
kade (already):
Kade behambile—They have already gone.
nga, ngaye (should, would—forming optative tenses):
Nga ehambile, kodwa uyise uyagula—He would have gone,
but his father is ill. (Compound sentence.)
   (i) Con. nga.
       Subj. (yena).
       Pred. ehambile.
   (ii) Con. kodwa.
       Subj. uyise.
       Pred. uyagula.

(3) Indicative (of rarer occurrence):
ahle-kube (maybe):
Ahle-kube ufile—He may be dead.
nga, ngabe, ngaye, ngakube, kungaba (would, would have—in
apodosis of conditional construction involving doubt):
Nga angihambanga, uma awungitselanga ukuba uaba
uyagula—I would not have gone, if you had not told me
that my father was ill.

(ii) Conjunctives of Connecting Function:
These, as noticed already, may be (a) co-ordinating, forming
compound sentences; or (b) subordinating, forming complex
sentences. In the latter case it is normal for the subordinate
clause, introduced by the conjunctive, to follow the main clause;
but this is by no means a universal rule, and the subordinate
clause (for purposes of emphasis) may precede the main clause;
this does not in any way alter the function of the conjunctive as
subordinating, e.g. Ngizofika uma ungifuna or Uma ungifuna,
ngizofika (I shall come if you want me or If you want me, I shall
come); the changed position is the same in the English equiva-
lents.

(a) Co-ordinating:
futhi (moreover):
Umhlaba nesiyama, futhi uvundile kakhulu—The soil is
black, and moreover it is very rich. (Compound sentence.)
   (i) Subj. umhlaba.
       Pred. esiyama.
   (ii) Con. futhi.
       Subj. (wona).
       Pred. uvundile.
       Ext. of P. kakhulu.

kanti (whereas):
Awukakwazi ukubala, kanti uya njalo esikoleni?—Don’t you
yet know how to write, whereas you have been going con-
tinually to school?
kepha (but):
Uwile, kepha akalimalanga—He fell, but was not hurt.
kodwa (but):
Mkhulu, kodwa akahlakaniphe—He is grown up but has no
sense. (Compound sentence.)
   (i) Subj. (yena).
       Pred. mkhulu.
   (ii) Con. kodwa.
       Subj. (yena).
       Pred. akahlakaniphe.
ngakho, ngakhoke (therefore):
Eamthumile, ngakhoke usehambile—They sent him, and so he
has gone.
nokho (nevertheless):
Ubeshilwo uyi se, nokho akwenza—His father had said so,
evertheless he didn’t do it.
noma (or else): see (iii) below.
pho (well but):
Ulele, pho ngimvuse?—He is asleep; do you mean to say I
should wake him?
   (i) Subj. (yena).
       Pred. ulele.
   (ii) Con. pho.
       Subj. (mina).
       Pred. ngimvuse (subjunctive of permissive interrogation)
       Obj. (yena).

(b) Subordinating:
(1) Subjunctive:
ande, andubha, andukwaba, andubani, anduma, andukuthi, andukuze
(before, and then afterwards):
Mshaye andubha ahambe—Hit him before he goes. (Complex
interjective sentence.)
   Subj. (no subject).
   Pred. mshaye (imperative).
   Obj. (yena).
   Ext. of P. andubha ahambe (descr. clause of time),
Analysis of clause:
   Con. andubha.
   Subj. (yena).
   Pred. ahambe.
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Hlabela ande sijabule—Sing and then we’ll be happy.
The basis of all the above conjunctives is ande, with which have
been associated ukuba and uma. There are other forms associated
with person and concord reference employing the verb -thi, e.g.
ande uthi (2nd pers. sg.) > anduthi, ande athi (cl. 1 sg.) > andathi.
Wagqoka andathi uliSwazi—He dressed up and thereupon
looked like a Swazi.

funa, hlëxe (lest):  
Bambopho funa ege—They tied him up lest he should escape.
káde (and then, and next):  
Yidiani káde nihambe—Eat and then go.
nce (in order that):  
Sondela nce sizwe kahle—Come near that we may hear
properly.
géde, geduba, gedubane (as soon as, immediately):  
Kwathi, géde bafike, sababona—As soon as they arrived, we
saw them.
Ukhulekile geduba angene—He paid his respects and imme-
diately entered. (Complex sentence.)
  Subj. (yena).
  Pred. ukhulekile.
  Ext. of P. geduba angene (descr. clause of time).
Sub-analysis of clause:
  Con. geduba.
  Subj. (yena).
  Pred. angene.

ukuba, ukuthi, ukuze (in order that): The first two may be used
in forming substantival clauses of purpose; all three are used
in forming descriptive clauses of purpose.
Ngithanda ukuthi uhlaye lapha—I would like you to stay here.
(Complex sentence.)
  Subj. (mina).
  Pred. ngithanda.
  Obj. ukuthi uhlaye lapha (subj. clause of purpose).
Analysis of clause:
  Con. ukuthi.
  Subj. (yena).
  Pred. uhlaye.
  Ext. of P. lapha.

Uhlabé inkomo ukuze badle—He slaughtered a beast that
they might eat.
  Subj. (yena).
  Pred. uhlabé.
  Obj. inkomo.
  Ext. of P. ukuze badle (descr. clause of purpose).

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Analysis of clause:
  Con. ukuze.
  Subj. (yena).
  Pred. badle.

Sizosebenza ukuba singalambi—We shall work lest we starve
(lit. that we starve not).

(2) Participial:
lapha, lapho, la (when):
  Lapho efika, mtshlele konke—When he arrives, tell him all.
  (Complex interjective sentence.)
  Subj. (no subject).
  Pred. mtshlele (imperative).
  Obj. (i) (yena) (principal).
  (ii) konke (subsidiary).
  Ext. of P. lapho efika (descr. clause of time).
Sub-analysis of clause:
  Con. lapho.
  Subj. (yena).
  Pred. efika.

When the subordinate clause is closed by the locative adverb
khona, these conjunctives signify “where,” e.g.
Yibeke lapho behlezi khona—Put it where they are sitting.
lokhu, etc. (since, because); this is also commonly used with the
indicative (see (3) below):
Uzofika lokhu efuna ukusibona—He will come since he wants
to see us.
mhla, mhlá, mdliana, msuku, msukwana, mzu, mzikwana, mzo,
mzolvana, mhlanza, mzlaza (on the day when):
  Mhlá eza kithi, uzhouba okuhle—On the day when he comes
to our place, he will see something nice.
ngokuba, ngoba (because):
  Angimthandi ngoba ethukuthela kabi—I do not like him
  because he gets terribly angry.
noma, nonxá, nanxá, nokuba, nakuba, noba (even if, although):
  Ngizohamba nomu ethukuthela—I shall go even if he is angry.
nxa, inxá, uma, ma (if, when):
  Nxa befika, uze ubanike lokhu—When they come, give them
this.
Uma ethanda, angakwenza—If he likes he can do it. (Complex
sentence.)
  Subj. (yena).
  Pred. angakwenza.
  Obj. (khona).
  Ext. of P. uma ethanda (descr. clause of time or condition).
Sub-analysis of clause:
Con. uma.
Subj. (yena).
Pred. ethanda.

selokhu, selo (since, ever since):
Selokhu safika, besigula—Ever since we arrived, we have been ill.

(3) Indicative:

Subordinating conjunctives governing the indicative mood are relatively rare; apart from ukuthi and ukuba, their use seems primarily to bring emphasis upon the verbal action. The following may be noted:

(a) Forming descriptive clauses:
lokhu (since, because)—forming many compound conjunctives, e.g. lokhu-cishe, lokhu-manje, lokhu-kodwa, lokhu-phela, etc.:
Singehambeko lokhu siyaqhiqa—We cannot travel as we are limping.

lokhu-phela engavumi-nje, ngiyokumenza njani?—Since for sure he is just unwilling, how shall I manage him?

ngokuba, ngoba (because):
noma (i) whether; (ii) although.
ukuba (if).
una, ma (if, when).

For examples of the above, see Chapter V, p. 141.

(b) Forming substantival clauses:
The conjunctives ukuthi and ukuba are used governing the indicative mood when forming substantival clauses indicating fact or occurrence after verbs of saying, knowing, telling, etc. in the main clause, e.g.

Nibona [ukuthi uqula kakhulu]—You see that he is very sick.
The clause here is object of nibona.

Kuqinisele [ukuthi inkosi ifile]—It is true that the chief is dead.
The clause here is subject of kuqinisele.

(iii) Conjunctives Joining Substantives and Adverbs:

In Zulu nom a and its associates, noku laba, nonxá, etc. are the only conjunctives which may be used in this way; though it is clear that the substantive or the adverb succeeding nom a was originally inflected to become a copulative, and is so used in the best Zulu construction to-day.

THE SYNTAX OF THE CONJUNCTIVE

Letha ihhashi, nom a imbongolo, or better, Letha ihhashi, nom a yimbongolo—Bring either a horse or a donkey (lit. Bring a horse or else it is a donkey). This would form a compound sentence analysed as follows:

(i) Interjective sentence:
Subj. (no subject).
Pred. letha.
Obj. ihhashi.

(ii) Predicative sentence (co-ordinate):
Con. nom a.
Subj. (yona).
Pred. yimbongolo.

If the first rendering is analysed ihhashi nom a imbongolo will be a compound object after letha.

Ezozifika nom a namuhlha, nom a ngomuso—They will arrive either to-day or to-morrow; with an alternative copulative rendering: Ezozifika nom a yimuhlha, nom a yingomuso (lit. They will arrive, either it is to-day, or it is to-morrow).

In this latter case there are three co-ordinate clauses forming the compound sentence.

(iv) Conjunctives and Deficient Verbs:

It was noticed when dealing with the deficient verbs that, in the main, there are two sets, those followed by a complement in the subjunctive mood and those followed by a complement in the participial mood. Much the same division is general with the subordinating conjunctives, revealing a close parallel in syntactical use between the conjunctives and the deficient verbs. There is, however, an even closer link, one of fundamental common origin. Certain deficient verbs are capable of use, when shorn of subjunctival concords, as conjunctives governing precisely similar subordinate predicates; similarly, certain conjunctives are found to assume subjunctival concords and function as deficient verbs.

Note the following, which it is hardly expected to be an exhaustive list:

(a) Deficient Verbs serving as Conjunctives

cishe (act almost, do nearly):

Ngcishe ngawa—I nearly fell. As a conjunctive cishe means "almost", and is followed by the subjunctive mood as above, e.g. Cishe ngawa (I almost fell).

nce (do presently, afterwards):

1 Cf. Chapter V, pp. 141-142.
3 Cf. Chapter V, p. 127.
4 Cf. Chapter II, p. 12.
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Uzoncé aye laphayd—He will go yonder presently. Conjunctive use:¹ Nce wenze lokhu! (Do this afterwards).

-phinde (do again, repeat):
  Uphinde aye khona lapho—He goes over there again. Conjunctive use: Phinde umbone! (You won’t see him again!)

-loku, -lo (keep on doing):
  Ngalilokhu ngisebenza—I kept on working. As a conjunctive the form is copulative,³ i.e. yilokhu or yiló, e.g. Yiló bethengisa izinkomo (They keep on selling cattle).

(a) Conjunctives serving as Deficient Verbs

Andukuuba (and its variants)³ may be used with varying subjectival concords, functioning as a deficient verb, giving such forms as Nandukuuba (2nd pers. pl.), wandukuuba, bandukuuba, etc., e.g.

Maziboshelwe kuqala, zandukuuba ziyokudla—Let them be inspanned first before they eat (ziyokudla is subjunctive, a contraction from ziyeko udla).

Nga (and its variants),⁴ expressing incumbency, may be used as a deficient verb with past subjunctive concords, followed by the present potential mood, expressing “would that”; e.g.

Wanga ungaphumelela!—Would that you may succeed!
Wanga angasinda!—Oh that he might escape!
Sanga singahlokoma!—Would that we might sing with joy!

It is noticeable that these usages closely resemble the conjunctive use of -thi discussed in (vi) below. For purposes of analysis it would seem easiest to treat them still as conjunctives even when used with subjectival concords, e.g.

Sanga singahlokoma! (Simple sentence.)
  Con. sanga.
  Subj. (thina).
  Pred. singahlokoma.

Maziboshelwe kuqala, zandukuuba ziyokudla. (Complex sentence.)
  Subj. (zona).
  Pred. maziboshelwe.
  Ext. of P. (i) kuqala (time).
  (ii) zandukuuba ziyokudla (descr. clause of time).

Sub-analysis of clause:
  Con. zandukuuba.
  Subj. (zona).
  Pred. ziyokudla.

(b) Suffixal inflection is found with certain conjunctives:

(1) Many may assume the enclitic -ke (so, then), e.g. nga-khoke (therefore), kodwake (but then), nokhoke (however), futhike (and further), kantike (after all), etc.

(2) Various desinences are found with the basic ukuiba, e.g. ukuibani, ukuše, ukubeni; ngokuiba > ngukubani, ngukubeni; andukuiba > andukubani, with variant andukuma becoming andukumani. The desinences here appearing are -e and -ni, neither of which affects the significance of the conjunctive in any way.

The desinences used with conditional nga, viz. -ye and -be, forming ngaye and ngabe, are of verbal origin, derived from -ya and -ba respectively.

(v) Inflection of Conjunctives:

(a) Prefixal inflection of conjunctives is mainly confined to those of noun form (cl. 8), i.e. ukuthi and ukuba; for instance:

(1) with conjunctive na-
  ukuthi . . . nokuthi (that . . . and that)
  ukuba . . . nokuba (so that . . . and so that)
  ngokuuba . . . nangokuuba (because . . . and because).

Angiyifumi ngoba imbi, nangoba ibiza imali eningi—I do not want it, because it is bad, and because it is expensive.

Obs. The conjunctives noma, nakuba, nanxá are of earlier formation by inflexion with na-

(2) with adverbial formatives nga-, njega-, nanga- and kun-, forming:

ngokuiba (because); njengokuiba (just as, inasmuch as);
ngangokuiba (since, inasmuch as); kunokuiba, kunokuthi
(rather than). Contracted forms are ngoba, njengoba,
ngangoba and kunoba.

Ucupha kahula ngisefe kunokuiba ephemethe umgoga—He traps more easily with a stone trap than by using a noose trap.

(3) forming copulatives:
  ngokuiba > yingokuiba (it is because).

Copulatives from other conjunctives are so in form only; they retain normal conjunctive function.
  lo, lokhu > yiló, yilokhu (since, because):

Yilokhu ehambile siyasebenza—Since he went away we are working. (Here yilokhu, though copulative in form, functions as a conjunctive; the main clause is siyasebenza).

lapho > yilapho (in order that):
  yilapho ezikwenza (so that he may do it).
That used with mhlâ, malâ, msuku, etc., viz. -ana, forming mhlana, malana, msukwana, etc., is but the diminutive suffix to the original noun, e.g. umuhla, umsku (day).

(vi) The Conjunctive Use of -thi:

This highly idiomatic defective verb functions: (a) as an ordinary verb signifying "to say" or "to mean"; (b) as the normal verb associated with ideophones, when it may assume objectival concords; (c) as a deficient verb, indicating "time", and thus used conjunctively; and (d) as a conjunctive when in the infinitive form, i.e. ukuthi. In this section we shall deal with what is referred to under (c).

We have already noticed the close parallel between the deficient verbs and the conjunctives in Zulu, and though, in its form and conjugation, -thi is definitely a deficient verb, its idiomatic function is as definitely conjunctive in the examples which we shall study; it is much more straightforward, therefore, to treat it as a conjunctive for purposes of analysis.

In the first place -thi may be used in various tenses, e.g. (present) kuthi, uthi, bathi, ngthi, etc. (imm. past) kuthé, uthé, bathé, ngthé, etc. (rem. past) kwathi, wathi, bathi, ngathi, etc. (future) kuqothi, uyothi, bayothi, etc. (past contin.) bekuthi, kwakuthi, ayethi, etc. (in multivalve forms) kuye kuthi, baquye bathi, etc.

These tenses may have varying complements, which vary the significance of the preceding conjunctive (or deficient verb).

(a) With participial complement: The general significance seems to be "when it happens that"; and it is noteworthy that the verb in the succeeding clause, the main verb, is always subjunctive; e.g.

Uthi ehamba, abone inyoka—When he happens to be walking, he sees a snake.

Bathé behlabelela, bakhala—When they were in the act of singing, they cried.

1 Cf. "Reported Speech," Chapter II, p. 36.
3 Cf. also the deficient verb -thi signifying "to set apart," a synonym of -lebe, e.g. Ngithi angiwe (I nearly fell). It is further used: (a) followed by an indicative, and indicating incipient action, e.g. Izindo yabe iyathile inyambela, yokathohe (When the man started to walk, he got tired); Ulembale lwakhe bayathile, layawela lwakhe abantu (When the sea began to flood, it destroyed people); in which cases it is used in a subordinate clause. (b) Followed by the past subjunctive, and indicating "despite all," e.g. Wawaphane, wahleke (You have tried your best but failed); Kwathathile, ngakhalo inyamazane (Despite all, I killed a buck); here the clause is not subordinate.

4 See (ii) (i) above, p. 152.

5 Cf. Section (iv), p. 155, above; see also Z.G. § 680.

6 To a great extent, I am indebted to my late colleague Dr. B. W. Vilakazi for the examples in this section; from notes he made for me in 1937.

Inja yathi ixosha inyamazane, yalimala—As the dog was chasing the buck, it got hurt. (Complex sentence.)

Subj. (yona).
Pred. yalimala.
Ext. of P. inja . . . inyamazane (descr. clause of time).

Sub-analysis of inja yathi ixosha inyamazane:
Con. yathi.
Subj. inja.
Pred. ixosha.
Obj. inyamazane.

Umsana wathi ebaleka, wawa phansi—When the boy happened to be running, he fell down.
Utshwala bathi bubila, bachitheka bonke—When the beer was in process of boiling, all got spilt.

Ngithi ngisho njalo, ngibe ngineqiniso—When I speak thus, I speak the truth.

Kwathi behleli, kwavela umsindo—Whilst they were sitting down, there was a noise.

Kuthé kusahlwa, ngqolonye usuku, kwavela ibušesí—When it was just becoming dark on another day, a lion appeared.

Ngithi ngisathí ngisahlala, bangibiza—As soon as I was making to sit down, they called me. (Complex sentence.)

Subj. (bona).
Pred. bangibiza.
Obj. (mina).
Ext. of P. ngithi ngisathí ngisahlala (descr. clause of time).

Sub-analysis of clause:
Con. ngithi.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngisathí ngisahlala (multivalve).

An alternative treatment is to break up the multivalve predicate, as follows:

Con. ngithi.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngisathí.
Ext. of P. ngisahlala (descr. clause of incipient action, participial).

1 Referring to kwathi, the remote past form, indefinite. Vilakazi pointed out that its use is peculiarly Zulu in the narration of fables. When a man starts narrating a fable, he says Kwathi; this is equivalent to the English phrase "Once upon a time," and implies "At a certain time it happened that." It is further used: (a) followed by an indicative, and indicating incipient action, e.g. Kwathi abantu behleli, kwaqhamu kusahlala (Once upon a time, while men were resting, there appeared a monster. "Any statement or narration started with kwathi already subjects itself to such remoteness of time and place, that there is no necessity for the listener to believe that the thing narrated ever took place. It admits of at once of doubt, and places the narrator of such events on the level of a fiction teller, or even a liar; for sometimes one will notice that, such an event among children, when one of them begins a story and says Kwathi, the children will at once say "Hluwani, Somangase! (if it is a boy), Nomangase (if it is a girl), or they will say Hubu hubu kahlebenje, both statements meaning that the other children do not believe the story to be true." Sometimes this kwathi gives way to kwestukela, sometimes both are used together, Kwathi kwestukela . . . . (Once upon a time it started . . .). When fables are narrated round the fireside.
Further sub-analysis:
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngisahlala.

Kuzothi kuhlwa, bahlasa—They will attack at dusk (lit. When it will happen to be dusk, they attack).

(b) With potential complement: The significance here is that of “if,” “as soon as,” “when able to.” It is noteworthy that the potential complement is always in the present tense, and again, as in (a) above, the main verb in the succeeding clause is always subjunctive (present or past).

Uthi angageda, abaleke—As soon as she finishes, she runs off.

Uthi ungafa umkhomo, untante phezu kwamanzi, uboshelwe emkhunjini—As soon as the whale dies, it floats on the water and is secured to the ship.

Zathi zingadutshulwa, zahlakazeka nendle yonke—As soon as the shot was fired, they were scattered all over the veld.

Kuzothiwa kungaphela ukudla, bahambique—As soon as the food gets finished, they will go. (Note use of passive of -thi here.) This is a complex sentence:
Subj. (bona).
Pred. bahambe.
Ext. of P. kuzothiwa kungaphela ukudla (descr. clause of time).

Sub-analysis of clause:
Con. kuzothiwa.
Subj. ukudla.
Pred. kungaphela.

(c) With subjunctive complement: The significance here seems to be purely of time, “when”; both present subjunctive and past subjunctive occur in the complementary verb, the latter after a past form of -thi. It is further noticeable that the -thi may be dependent clause forming, or be part of a main statement; in the former case the main verb is noticeably in the subjunctive. Examples:

Bathi bafike emzini baphumule—When they reach the kraal, they rest. Notice a fuller form with gede: Bathi gede bafike, or bathi gede ukuba bafike (as soon as they arrive).

Lathi igwaba ya latalela, lakukhumala—And the crow listened, and drew himself up.

**Kwathi inja yangena endlini**—And then the dog went into the house. Simple sentence:
Con. kwathi.
Subj. inja.
Pred. yangena.
Ext. of P. endlini.

Special significance is conveyed when the contingent mood of -thi is used, the idea being of mere action or of intention:

**Bengzothi ngisuke ngihambe**—I would simply go away (Complex sentence).

**Bengzothi ngisuke**—I meant to go away (Simple sentence).

**Wayeyothi abonwe**—He would be seen anyhow (Simple sentence).

**Kuye kuthi basebenze**—It happens sometimes that they work.

**Kwakuthi kusetshenzwe**—Work happened on occasion to be done.

**Kuye kuthi ngikhumbule ekhaya, ngikhale**—When I remember home I cry (Complex sentence):
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngikhale.
Ext. of P. kuye kuthi ngikhumbule ekhaya (descr. clause of time).

Sub-analysis of clause:
Con. kuye kuthi.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngikhumbule.
Ext. of P. ekhaya.

But, if -thi is followed by uma or nxa, the clause becomes participial, and the conjunctive (form with -thi) is promoted to the main statement:

**Kuye kuthi nxa ngikhumbule ekhaya ngikhale**—When I remember home, I cry (Complex sentence):
Con. kuye kuthi.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngikhale.
Ext. of P. nxa ngikhumbule ekhaya (descr. clause of time or condition).

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1The fact that -thi may be used, as here, to introduce a main statement suggests that, throughout sections (b) and (c), as is done in section (d) 2 below, the subjunctive might alternatively be treated as a subordinate consecutive clause. In this way, Lathi igwaba ya latalela, lakukhumala would be analysed as follows:

Con. lathi.
Subj. igwaba.
Pred. latalela.
Ext. of P. lakukhumala (descr. clause of consecutive action).

Sub-analysis of clause:
Subj. (lona).
Pred. lakukhumala.

Such treatment is not possible with Section (a), as the participial is never used in a main statement. Cf. also Chapter V, pp. 130 and 142.
(d) With infinitive complement: In this case the verbal function of -thi is more emphasised, the infinitive acts as object to it, and it cannot be treated in analysis as a conjunctive. Note the following:

(1) In the main statement:
   *Sithé ukuhlala phansi*—We just sat down a while (Simple sentence):
     *Subj. (thina).
     Pred. sithé.
     Obj. ukuhlala phansi (subst. phrase).
   *Wathi ukuthi qáphu-qáphu*—He picked up his points a little in speaking.
   *Bazothi ukukléla*—They will line up for a short time.
   *Umfana wathi ukubuka*—The boy merely looked.
   *Ubhuso bakhe buthi ukuqhamuka*—Her face just appears.

(2) In the main clause, followed by a subjunctive (consecutive):
   *Wathi ukudla walala*—When he had finished eating he slept (Complex sentence):
     *Subj. (yena).
     Pred. wathi.
     Obj. ukudla.
     Ext. of P. walala (descr. clause of consecutive action).
   Sub-analysis of clause:
     Subj. (yena).
     Pred. walala.
   *Uzothi ukuqhušeke abuye*—When he has gone a little way, he will return.
   *Ngitthi ukuleka, bese ngithula*¹—When I finish laughing a little I keep silent.
   *Bengizothi ukusuka ngihambe*—I would simply go away.
   *Wayeyothi ukubonwa anyamalale*—He would simply disappear when discovered.

¹ Here is a different type of consecutive construction with bese and the participle.

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CHAPTER VII

THE SYNTAX OF THE INTERJECTIVE

Introductory:

The interjective is an emotional word, often ejaculatory, which conveys a complete concept without the implication of any subject. From the grammatical aspect there are three main types of interjectives, primitive interjectives (which may be called interjections), vocative forms of substantives, and imperative forms of verbs. Primitive interjectives have no grammatical or concordial bearing on any sentence with which they may be used; the other types, however, owing to their substantival or verbal basis may be associated with qualifying or dependent words.

Since the interjective constitutes a complete concept it may be considered to form a sentence,¹ but it is markedly differentiated from the predicative sentence in that it has no subject either indicated by concord or expressed substantival or even implied; while the predicative sentence invariably has at least the implication of a subject.²

In the case of primitive interjectives, the emotional aspect is more important than with the other cases, and this is reflected in the tones used; completely altered concepts may be achieved by an alteration of this emotional tone. For instance the normal tones for the interjections of negation and assent are: *hhayi* , no! and *yebo* , yes! respectively; but note the significance with changes of tone; *hhayi* —Are you sure? and *yebo* —Is it so? These significances emphasise that these words constitute interjective sentences. Notice also the added significance of a raising of the tone, e.g. *qha* , no! and *qha* —No, I can’t listen to you!

¹ Cf. Chapter I, p. 4.
² Cf. Chapter IV, Introductory, p. 83.
INTERJECTIVE SENTENCES

(i) Isolated interjectives may constitute simple interjective sentences, e.g.

Chal!—No!
Hhawu!—Oh my! or Don’t!
Hambani!—Go along!

It is unnecessary to analyse these sentences; but in the case of imperatives, if there is any implication of an object, analysis should be undertaken, e.g.

Zishaye!—Hit them! Simple interjective sentence:
Subj. (no subject).
Pred. zishaye (imperative).
Obj. (zona).

(ii) When two interjectives succeed one another, compound interjective sentences are the result, e.g.

Maye! madoda!—Alas, oh men!
Madoda! hlomani!—Men, arm!
Jojo! ngitoshele konke—Jojo, tell me everything.

(a) Jojo, interjective sentence.
(b) ngitoshele konke, interjective sentence:
Subj. (no subject).
Pred. ngitoshele.
Obj. (i) (mina) (principal).
(ii) konke (subsidiary).

In each of these cases are two interjective sentences co-ordinated.

(iii) When an interjective sentence is followed by a co-ordinated predicative sentence, the result is a compound interjective-predicative sentence, e.g.

Saaba! angiifanele—Father, I am not worthy.
Hawu! ngathola-santwana—Hurrah, I've got a lovely thing.
Hhawu! umntanami bambulele?—Alas, have they killed my child?

Hawu! unamanga—Emphatically, you lie!
(a) hawu, interjective sentence.
(b) unamanga, predicative sentence:
Subj. (wena).
Pred. unamanga.

Minani! nakhulu ukudla kwenu—Come here, here is your food.
(a) minani, interjective sentence.
(b) nakhulu ukudla kwenu, predicative sentence:
Subj. ukudla.
Enl. of S. kwenu.
Pred. nakhulu (loc. demons. copulative).

THE SYNTAX OF THE INTERJECTIVE

Ntombindini! wala mina-nje, bazokulungisa abanye—Wise girl, you refused me, others will pay you out!
(a) ntombindini, interjective sentence.
(b) wala mina-nje, predicative sentence:
Subj. (wena).
Pred. wala.
Obj. mina-nje.
(c) bazokulungisa abanye, predicative sentence:
Subj. abanye.
Pred. bazokulungisa.
Obj. (wena).

Maye! saf a namhlanje—Alas, we are done for to-day!
Woza lapha! bayakubiza—Come here, they are calling you.
(a) woza lapha, interjective sentence:
Subj. (no subject).
Pred. woza.
Ext. of P. lapha.
(b) bayakubiza, predicative sentence:
Subj. (bona).
Pred. bayakubiza.
Obj. (wena).

Eel! mgane! izindaba ezinhle? Hail, friend! Is it good news?
(a) ee, interjective sentence.
(b) mgane, interjective sentence.
(c) izindaba ezinhle, predicative sentence.
Subj. (zona).
Pred. (y)izindaba ezinhle (extended copulative).
Ext. of P. (na?) (interrog.).

Hawu! wamude loomuthi—My! what a tall tree this is.
(a) hawu, interjective sentence.
(b) wamude loomuthi, predicative sentence.
Subj. loomuthi (appositional).
Pred. wamude (copulative; idiomatic contraction of waba-mude).

(iv) When an interjective sentence is followed by a subordinate predicative sentence, the result is a complex interjective sentence. Interjectives governing subordinate clauses are imperatives, and the most common construction is for the subordinate clause to be in the subjunctive.

(a) In this case the construction is consecutive:
Hamba, ubabone—Go and see them.
Subj. (no subject).
Pred. hamba.
Ext. of P. ubabone (descr. clause of consecutive action).
Sub-analysis of clause:
THE SYNTAX OF THE INTERJECTIVE

Hlala [kaduva udle]—Sit down before you eat.
Thulani [nce sizwe]—Be quiet so that we may hear.
Letha abantwana [noma liduma]—Bring the children, even if it is thundering.

In each of these cases complex interjective sentences result.

SEQUENCE OF COMMANDS

Command is generally expressed by means of the imperative of the verb, though a milder form is found in which the present subjunctive is used with the hortative prefix a- or ma-. When the imperative is used, the sentence is interjective, e.g. Hamba!—Go! When the subjunctive is used, the sentence is predicative, e.g. Mawuhambe—Go along.

If there is a succession of commands, and the first is in the imperative, succeeding ones will be subjunctive forming subordinate clauses, generally consecutive; e.g.

Hamba, uye emzini, ubize umfana, umlethe lapha—Go, and go to the kraal, and call a lad, and bring him here.

The formation will be the same if the first command is expressed hortatively:1

Mawuhambe, uye emzini, ubize umfana, umlethe lapha.

ANALYSIS OF IMPERATIVES

It has been argued that, since the imperative, e.g. yiza (yizani) has second person implication, wena (or nina) should be treated as the understood subject in analysis. There is however serious objection to such treatment. In the first case, were the “pronouns” expressed they would be vocative; therefore interjective themselves; and no vocative may be used as subject of a sentence. In the case of imperatives, e.g. hambani, beklaa, phuma, etc., the command is addressed to nina, wena, etc., and these 2nd personal forms are not subjects at all. There are variants to yiza (yizani) which are interesting from the point of view of analysis:

Imperative: yiza, yizani.
   zana, zanini.
   woza,2 wozani.

Subjunctive: mawuze, manize.

The analysis in the case of the subjunctives will be that of a predicative sentence, for here you have subjunctival concords and therefore a subject implied.

1 Though this is a less-used form with the 2nd person.
2 This differs in tone from woza the future indicative, which has a plural noza.
Further, the only possible real negative imperative must be expressed by musa (musani) with no subjectival implication or concord. The forms ungezi (ningezi) are fully predicative and will form predicative sentences. For example:

(a) Mus'ukuyihluphi inja—Don't tease the dog.
   Subj. (no subject).
   Pred. musa.
   Obj. ukuyihluphi inja (subjectival phrase).

(b) Ungayihluphi inja—Don't tease the dog.
   Subj. (wena).
   Pred. ungayihluphi.
   Obj. inja.

While the English translation is given as the same in each case, the syntactical significance of the Zulu is so radically and startlingly distinct. It is the difference between an interjective sentence and a predicative sentence.

INTERJECTIVE PHRASES

Interjective phrases are extended forms of interjectives generally used as introductory to a co-ordinated sentence, interjective or predicative. It is only vocative interjectives which may be used to form interjective phrases; the term "phrase" could not be applied in any way to extended imperatives.

O! maye! [nina-bazenzisi]—O alas, ye hypocrites!
[Nkosi yami], ngizé ukuɓa ngikhonze—My chief, I have come to pay my respects.
[Bantu bakithi], hlomani!—O our people, arm yourselves!
[Nkosi, wen'omnyama, wen'owakhula siliɓele, wen'ongange-Nanda] siyabonga—Chief, thou who art black, thou who hast grown while we delayed, thou who art as big as the Inanda, we give thanks! (In this is a series of appositional phrases qualifying inkosi; note also the relative clauses, omnyama, owakhula siliɓele and ongangeNanda, within the second of which is a participial descriptive clause of time. The whole constitutes a complex phrase.)

INTERJECTIVE CLAUSES

These only occur when used substantivally in reported speech, e.g.

Inkosi yasitshela yathi, [Zingeniseni izinkomo esibayeni]—The chief told us and said, "Put the cattle into the kraal."
CHAPTER VIII

SENTENCE ANALYSIS

Introductory:

In Chapters IV and VII the two types of sentence in Zulu were set out, the predicative sentence and the interjective sentence. In every predicative sentence there is implicit a subject, and in analysis that subject must be indicated by the appropriate absolute pronoun (in parentheses) if it is not already expressed substantively. Where no substantive object is actually expressed in the sentence, but where it is indicated by an objectival concord with the predicate, the corresponding absolute pronoun should be inserted as object (in parentheses). Similarly interrogative sentences may have na? (in parentheses) added to the extension of the predicate, if there is no other interrogative element (beyond tone indication) to denote the question.

In the case of interjective sentences, those of imperative type are capable of analysis, but it must be emphasised that they have no subject; when interjectives of radical and of vocative type are included, they may be indicated, if desired, in the framework as “Interj.” (i.e. interjection) and “Voc.” (i.e. vocative) respectively. The framework used has already been set out.1

The treatment of the enclitics in analysis has not hitherto been dealt with. Alternative treatments are possible. They may be included in the scheme together with the word to which each is attached. On the other hand, it is of advantage to detach and place such of them as have functional significance in their respective places, e.g. -ke (connective), -ni? (object), -phi? (Ext. of Pred. of place), -ze (Ext. of Pred. of manner), -bo (Ext. of Pred. of intensity), -nye (Ext. of Pred. of degree); but the relative enclitic -yo cannot be so detached.

It must be observed that in sub-analysis of subordinate clauses, provision must also be made for treating clauses within extended forms and phrase forms. These will be noted in due course. Here follow specimen analyses dealing with the manner

1 Specimen of treatment for (a) simple sentences; (b) compound sentences; and (c) complex sentences.

SPECIMENS OF ANALYSIS

A. SIMPLE SENTENCES

(1) Zonk’izinkomo zethu ezinhle seziphuza amanzi emfuleni laphayá.
   Subj. izinkomo.
   Enl. of S. (i) zonke (quant. pron. in appos.)
   (ii) zethu (poss.).
   (iii) ezinhle (adj.).
   Pred. seziphuza.
   Ext. amanzi.
   Obj. of P. (i) emfuleni (loc. adv.)
   (ii) laphayá (demonstr. loc. adv.).

(2) Imikhuyu ayimili kahle kulomhlabathi.
   Subj. imikhuyu.
   Pred. ayimili.
   Ext. of P. (i) kahle (manner).
   (ii) kulomhlabathi (loc.).

(3) Sengithula duke.
   Con. -ke1 (enclitic).
   Subj. (mina).
   Pred. sengithula.
   Ext. of P. du (ideo.).

(4) Wathula-njeke uyise.
   Con. -ke (enclitic).
   Subj. uyise.
   Pred. wathula.
   Ext. of P. -nje (enclitic).

(5) Ingonyama yabonwa yiziniszwa zakithi eduze nomfudlana.
   Subj. ingonyama.
   Pred. yabonwa.
   Ext. of P. (i) yiziniszwa zakithi (agentive).
   (ii) eduze nomfudlana (positional).

(6) Lezi-zindlu zinkulu kunezezhu.
   Subj. lezi-zindlu2 (appositional).
   Pred. zinkulu (cop.).
   Ext. of P. kunezezhu (comp.).

1 Enclitics may be treated in analysis as separate words; or they may alternatively be left attached to the main word (see “Introductory”).
2 Alternatively lezi could be treated as subject with izindlu, Enl. of S., in apposition.
or (ii):
Subj. (mina).
Pred. angiboni-untu
Obj. umuntu
Ext. of P. ethafeni (loc.).

The first treatment is preferable.

(11) Umshayeli nenkosi yakhe bemukile.
Either (i):
Subj. Umshayeli nenkosi yakhe (compound).
Pred. bemukile.

or (ii):
Subj. (i) umshayeli.
(ii) inkosi (+na-).
Enl. of S. (ii): yakhe (poss.).
Pred. bemukile.

(12) Sizokuba-biza umntwana nesalukazi nevila.
Either (i):
Subj. (thina).
Pred. sizokuba-biza.
Obj. umntwana nesalukazi nevila (compound).

or (ii):
Subj. (thina).
Pred. sizokuba-biza.
Obj. (i) umntwana.
(ii) isalukazi (+na-).
(iii) ivila (+na-).

(13) Ngiyibulele ingwe, isilwane esikhulu.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngiyibulele.
Obj. ingwe.
Enl. of O. isilwane esikhulu (appos.).

(14) UDingane waphuma eMbebeni, umuzi omkhulu.
Subj. uDingane.
Pred. waphuma.
Ext. of P. eMbebeni, umuzi omkhulu (loc., extended by apposition).

(15) Ukungazondani kuqafanele abangane.
Subj. ukungazondani.
Pred. kuqafanele.
Obj. abangane.
(16) Asithandi ukuwashiya amankonyane ethu odwa esibayeni imini yonke.
Subj. (thina).
Pred. asithandi.
Obj. ukuwashiya ... yonke (substantival phrase).

(17) Ukuthi bádu-bádu kwengwe kuyakhanga.
Subj. ukuthi bádu-bádu (substantival phrase).
Enl. of S. kwengwe (poss.).
Pred. kuyakhanga.

(18) Inkosi yazikhipha izinhloli amehlo.
Subj. inkosi.
Pred. yazikhipha.
Obj. (i) izinhloli (principal).
(ii) amehlo (subsidiary).

(19) Bamenza inkosi.
Subj. (bona).
Pred. bamenza.
Obj. (i) (yena, principal).
(ii) inkosi (subsidiary).

(20) Ngibonise incwadi yakho.
(Interjective sentence.)
Subj. (no subject).
Pred. ngibonise.
Obj. (i) (mina, principal).
(ii) incwadi (subsidiary).
Enl. of O. (ii): yakho (poss.).

(21) Ningabaqambeli amanga.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ningabaqambeli.
Obj. (i) (bona, principal).
(ii) amanga (cognate).

(22) Sabonana nomngane wami.
Either (i):
Subj. (mina) nomngane wami (compound).
Pred. sabonana.

or (ii):
Subj. (mina).
(ii) umngane (¬na¬).
Enl. of S. (ii): wami (poss.).
Pred. sabonana.

(23) AmaBunu amshaya uZulu amacala omathathu.
Subj. amaBunu.
Pred. amshaya.
Obj. uZulu.
Ext. of P. amacala omathathu (adv. use of substantive).

(24) (a) Yaquleka nokuquleka.
Subj. (yena).
Pred. yaquleka.
Ext. of P. nokuquleka (conj.).

(b) Ukwenza kwaabo kunamandla ngamandla.
Subj. ukwenza.
Enl. of S. kwabo (poss.).
Pred. kunamandla ngamandla (extended cop.).

(25) (a) Walala ubuthongo.
Either (i):
Subj. (yena).
Pred. walala ubuthongo (cognate).

or (ii):
Subj. (yena).
Pred. walala ubuthongo
Obj. ubuthongo

(b) Imbiza yayigcwele amanzi.
Subj. imbiza.
Pred. yayigcwele
Obj. amanzi

(26) Sebekhathele ukuhamba.
Subj. (bona).
Pred. sebekhathele.
Ext. of P. ukuhamba (agentive).

(27) Ngiphiwe ngumlungu lenja.
Subj. (mina).
Pred. ngiphiwe.
Obj. lenja (appositional).
Ext. of P. ngumlungu (agentive).

(28) Basho njalo ukuwabanga.
Subj. (bona).
Pred. basho.
Ext. of P. (i) njalo (manner).
(ii) ukuwabanga (reference).
(29) *Sifuna lezo ezinde. Asifuni lezi ezimfushane.*

Two simple sentences:¹

A. *Sifuna lezo ezinde.*
   Subj. *(thina).*
   Pred. *sifuna.*
   Obj. *lezo* (demonstr. pron.).
   Enl. of O. *ezinde* (adj.).

B. *Asifuni lezi ezimfushane.*
   Subj. *(thina).*
   Pred. *asifuni.*
   Obj. *lezi* (demonstr. pron.).
   Enl. of O. *ezimfushane* (adj.).

B. COMPOUND SENTENCES

I. Compounded of interjective and predicative sentences with no conjunctive between.

(1) *Woza mfana, ngikutshele konke.*
   (a) Interjective:² *Woza mfana.*
       Voc. *mfana.*
       Pred. *woza.*
   (b) Predicative: *ngikutshele konke.*
       Subj. *(mina).*
       Pred. *ngikutshele.*
       Obj. (i) *(wena, principal).*
       (ii) *konke* (subsidiary).

(2) *Madoda, manidonse kahle.*
   (a) Interjective: *Madoda.*
       Voc. *madoda.*
   (b) Predicative: *manidonse kahle.*
       Subj. *(nina).*
       Pred. *manidonse.*
       Ext. of P. *kahle* (manner).

Alternatively this sentence may be analysed in one as:
   Voc. *madoda.*
   Subj. *(nina).*
   Pred. *manidonse.*
   Ext. of P. *kahle.*

[1] Not to be treated as compound.

[2] Analysis of interjective sentences may include a vocative (voc.) a predicate in the form of an imperative, which of course has no subject but may have object or extension, or an interjection (interj.). If a vocative or an interjection stands alone, it must be treated as a complete interjective sentence.

(3) *Hhawu mfana, musa ukusho lokho, akulungile.*
   (a) Interjective: *Hhawu mfana, musa ukusho lokho.*
       Interj. *hhawu.*
       Voc. *mfana.*
       Pred. *musa.*
       Obj. *ukusho lokho.*
   [or alternatively: Pred. *musa ukusho lokho].
   (b) Predicative: *akulungile.*
       Subj. *(khona).*
       Pred. *akulungile.*

II. Compounded predicative sentences with or without a conjunctive.

(1) *Izinyamazane zabaleka, kepha azeqanga.*
   (a) *Izinyamazane zabaleka.*
       Subj. *izinyamazane.*
       Pred. *zabaleka.*
   (b) *kepha azeqanga.*
       Con. *kepha.*
       Subj. *(zona).*
       Pred. *azeqanga.*

(2) *Izimbuzi zakhe zinokufa, ngalokho ufsuna ukuzibulala zonke.*
   (a) *Izimbuzi zakhe zinokufa.*
       Subj. *izimbuzi.*
       Enl. of S. *zakhe* (poss.).
       Pred. *zinokufa.*
   (b) *ngalokho ufsuna ukuzibulala zonke.*
       Con. *ngalokho.*
       Subj. *(yena).*
       Pred. *u fsuna.*
       Obj. *ukuzibulala zonke* (subj. phrase).

(3) *Mabahlale lapha, kepha mabathi du-nje.*
   (a) *Mabahlale lapha.*
       Subj. *(bona).*
       Pred. *mabahlale.*
       Ext. of P. *lapha* (place).
   (b) *kepha mabathi du-nje.*
       Con. *kepha.*
       Subj. *(bona).*
       Pred. *mabathi.*
       Ext. of P. (i) *du* (ideo.).
       (ii) *-nje* (enclitic of degree).
(4) Ngiyangenena endlini, useyangilandela, sengiyabalekake.
   (a) Ngiyangenena endlini.
       Subj. (mina).
       Pred. ngiyangenena.
       Ext. of P. endlini (loc.).
   (b) useyangilandela.
       Subj. (yena).
       Pred. useyangilandela.
       Obj. (mina).
   (c) sengiyabalekake.
       Con. -ke (enclitic).
       Subj. (mina).
       Pred. sengiyabaleka.

C. COMPLEX SENTENCES

These will include ordinary complex sentences with subjects, objects, enlargements or extensions in the form of clauses, and in addition those with clauses within extended predicates, for instance, as well as compound complex sentences.

(1) Abanazo izinkomo zokudonsa lezi-zingqola ezinsindayo kangeka entabeni.
    Subj. (bona).
    Pred. abanazo ... entabeni (extended copulative predicate).
1a. ezinsindayo kangeka (rel. cl. qual. lezi-zingqola within the
    extended predicate).
    Subj. (zona).
    Pred. ezinsindayo (rel.).
    Ext. of P. kangeka (manner).

(2) Ukuhle wafikelela emzini kwamangalisa kakhulu.
    Subj. ukuhle wafikelela emzini (subst. cl.).
    Pred. kwamangalisa.
    Ext. of P. kakhulu.
2a. ukuhle wafikelela emzini.
    Con. ukuhle.
    Subj. (yena).
    Pred. wafikelela.
    Ext. of P. emzini (loc.).

(3) Angazi ukuhle ngingenza njani?
    Subj. (mina).
    Pred. angazi.
    Obj. ukuhle ngingenza njani? (subst. cl.).

3a. ukuhle ngingenza njani?
    Con. ukuhle.
    Subj. (mina).
    Pred. ngingenza.
    Ext. of P. njani? (manner).

(4) Kuswelekele ukuhle ngingbone umsebenzi wakho.
    Subj. ukuhle ngingbone umsebenzi wakho (subst. cl.).
    Pred. kuswelekele.
4a. ukuhle ngingbone umsebenzi wakho.
    Con. ukuhle.
    Subj. (mina).
    Pred. ngingbone.
    Obj. umsebenzi.
    Enl. of O. wakho (poss.).

(5) Kufanele bazakhe izindlu ngokushesa.¹
    Subj. (ukuha) bazakhe izindlu ngokushesa.
    Pred. kufanele.
5a. (ukuha) bazakhe izindlu ngokushesa.
    Con. (ukuha).
    Subj. (bona).
    Pred. bazakhe.
    Obj. izindlu.
    Ext. of P. ngokushesa (instr.).

(6) Abangasebenziyo abayukudla.
    Subj. abangasebenziyo (subst. rel. cl.).
    Pred. abayukudla.
6a. Abangasebenziyo.
    Subj. (bona).
    Pred. abangasebenziyo (rel.).

(7) Abangayukuthanda abayukudanakho.
    Subj. abangayukuthanda (subst. rel. cl.).
    Pred. abayukudanakho (cop.).
7a. abangayukuthanda.
    Subj. (bona).
    Pred. abangayukuthanda (rel.).

(8) Isalukazi sati bangamathe nolimi.
    Subj. isalukazi.
    Pred. sati.
    Obj. bangamathe nolimi (reported speech).

¹ Note that it is necessary to restore the lapsed conjunctive ukuhle or ukuha in such a contracted sentence.
8a. bangamathe nolimi.
   Subj. (bona).
   Pred. bangamathe nolimi (comdp. cop.).

(9) uDingane washo wathi, Kanti impi yami, Ndlela, uyonile.
   Subj. uDingane.
   Pred. washo.
   Ext. of P. wathi, Kanti impi yami, Ndlela, uyonile (descr. cl. of subordinate action).

9a. wathi, Kanti impi yami, Ndlela, uyonile.
   Subj. (yena).
   Pred. wathi.
   Obj. Kanti impi yami, Ndlela, uyonile (reported speech).

9a1. Ndlela (interjective).
   Voc. Ndlela.

9a2. Kanti impi yami uyonile (predicative).
   Con. kanti.
   Subj. (wena).
   Pred. uyonile.
   Obj. impi.
   Enl. of O. yami.

(10) Walunywa yinja yaso eyesabekayo.
   Subj. (yena).
   Pred. walunywa.
   Ext. of P. yinja yaso eyesabekayo (extended agentive).1

10a. eyesabekayo (rel. cl. qual. inja within the extension of the pred.).
   Subj. (yona).
   Pred. eyesabekayo (rel.).

(11) Ibhithi iMdlenenu iyawungena ngesango kwaNodwengu, yena abeseyongena ngentuba, elanda utshwala esigodlweni.
   Subj. yena.
   Pred. abeseyonegen.
   Ext. of P. (i) ibithi iMdlenenu iyawungena ngesango kwaNodwengu (descr. cl. of time).
   (ii) ngentuba (instr.).
   (iii) elanda utshwala esigodlweni (particip. cl. of subjectival situation).

11a. ibithi iMdlenenu iyawungena ngesango kwaNodwengu.
   Con. ibithi.
   Subj. iMdlenenu.
   Pred. iyawungena.

1It is not necessary to sub-analyse copulatives when they are used agentively.

11b. elanda utshwala esigodlweni.
   Subj. (yena).
   Pred. elanda.
   Obj. utshwala.
   Ext. of P. esigodlweni (loc.).

(12) Uduké nezwe, waya wafika kwaNgoza.
   Subj. (yena).
   Pred. uduké.
   Ext. of P. (i) nezwe (con.).
   (ii) waya. (subjunctive cls. of consecutive action).

12a. waya.
   Subj. (yena).
   Pred. waya.

12b. wafika kwaNgoza.
   Subj. (yena).
   Pred. wafika.
   Ext. of P. kwaNgoza (loc.).

(13) Izinkomo zangenena esibayeni zihlabana ngezimpondo.
   Subj. izinkomo.
   Pred. zangenena.
   Ext. of P. (i) esibayeni (loc.).
   (ii) zihlabana ngezimpondo (particip. cl. of subjectival situation).

13a. zihlabana ngezimpondo.
   Subj. (zona).
   Pred. zihlabana.
   Ext. of P. ngezimpondo (instr.).

(14) Nembala, selu lwathamba-ke ngamazipho, selukhwela nalo luya phezulu ezulwini, kude le.

Compound Complex Sentence.

14a. Con. -ke (enclitic).
   Subj. (lona).
   Pred. selu lwathamba.
   Obj. (lona).
   Ext. of P. (i) nembala (manner).
   (ii) ngamazipho (instr.).