



Comparing English and Mo/Deg Nominal Group Qualifiers

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Received: 02-11-2013

Accepted: 13-12-2013

Published: 01-03-2014

doi:10.7575/aiac.ijalel.v.3n.2p.161

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.7575/aiac.ijalel.v.3n.2p.161>

Abstract

The task of this study is primarily to investigate the differences between English and Mo/Deg nominal group (NG) qualifiers to identify any similarities within the NG qualification structures of these languages. In otherwise, the study finds answers to the questions: “What are the qualifying elements within the Mo/Deg and English NGs?” and “What are the differences and similarities between the Mo/Deg NG qualification and that of English?” Using homogeneous sampling, the study purposefully sampled thirty (30) educated Mos/Dega (speakers of the Mo/Deg language). Short simple English sentences containing NG qualifiers designed by the researcher were given to them to translate into Mo/Deg. This was to see how the qualifiers are used in the language. Also, some of these sentences were given to some members of the staff of the Mo/Deg project of GILLBT to translate into Mo/Deg for further correct use of the qualifiers in the Mo/Deg language. The translated versions were then collected as data and analysed based on the Systemic Grammar principles of the NG structure. The results showed that the adjectival groups (AdjG), the clause, the numerals, and the determiners (pre-central, central, and post-central) occur at the qualifier position in Mo/Deg, whereas in English, it is the prepositional groups (PG), the adjectival groups (AdjG) (under some conditions), and the clause, which occupy the qualifier slot. However, it was also found out that the common linguistic units which occur in both languages as qualifiers are the adjectival groups and the clause.

Keywords: qualifiers, Mo/Deg language, nominal, group, determiners, GILLBT, syntax, Longoro, Sisaala

1. Introduction

Language identifies one as a member of a particular society or group. In fact, it is the only means by which humans conduct their activities. It is therefore, in the light of the importance of language that Syal and Jindal (2007:6) says, ‘It is as important as the air we breathe and it is the most valuable possession of man. In the scheme of things, all humans are blessed with language...’ It is therefore worth learning as many languages as possible if one wants to appreciate the world. However, learning a second language formally goes with a number of challenges, especially, if the underlying principles of the grammar or syntax of that second or target language are not similar to those of one’s first language. Perhaps it is to make things easier for one to learn another language that prompts Bresnan (2001:3) to suggest to linguists to design a universal grammar of all human languages that “underlines their superficial variations in modes of expression.”

Mo/Deg, one of the lesser known languages in Ghana, belongs to the Gur language family whose members according to Atta-Akosah (2004) and Naden (1988) include: Sisaala, Vagla, Nafaanra, Kasem, Chakali, Tampilma, Kusaal, Gurusi, and Gurune, The people are called Dega which means “multiplying”. However, one person is called Deg. The language has two major dialects, namely, Mangom (which is spoken among the Mo/Dega in the Northern Region of Ghana) and Longoro (which is spoken among the Mo/Deg in the Brong-Ahafo Region). The Mo/Deg language borrows words from Sisaala, Gonja, Vagla, Gurusi and Akan. The Longoro dialect in particular borrows words extensively from Akan than its Mangom counterpart. As a result, it has an unusually complex structure which is sometimes not different from that of Akan, Sisaala, Gonja, or Vagla.

The Mo/Deg language is less known in terms of academic research, especially in syntax, relative to the languages from which it borrows most of its words. Although, the Ghana Institute of Linguistics, Literacy and Bible Translation (GILLBT) has made tremendous effort by conducting some research into the phonology and orthography of the language, and has been trying over the years to have a formal grammar, this effort is still not enough.

Being studied formally in community adult classes and in some basic schools in the Mo/Deg communities, the language has neither formal grammar nor syntax to facilitate its learning. Therefore, the study seeks to present a comparative study of the syntactic structure of English and Mo/Deg nominal group qualification. It does this by investigating the differences and similarities that exist within the NG qualification structure of English and Mo/Deg. The study therefore answers specific questions like:

(a) what are the qualifying elements with the NG structure of both languages?

(b) what are the differences between English and Mo/Deg qualifying elements? And,

(c) what are the similarities between English and Mo/Deg qualifying elements?

The findings of this study could be important to the GILLBT as they may provide some useful information for them to make some headway in their quest to write the grammar of the language, and also to linguists who are interested in the Mo/Deg language.

2. Methodology

2.1 Research Design

The study uses the ethnographic research design. This is because it allows the researcher to select certain aspects of language to study. Creswell (2008) states that the ethnographic design allows the researcher to describe, analyse, and interpret 'a culture-sharing group's shared patterns of behavior ... and language'. But of the several types of ethnographic designs, the researcher used the micro-ethnographic design because it allows one to focus 'on a specific aspect of a cultural group...' say language and allows for the selection of a specific aspect of the language to study, thus, in this case the NG qualification.

2.2 Sampling and Population

The homogeneous sampling method of investigation was applied in this study because the researcher was interested in the syntactic structure of the NG qualifying elements. Therefore, the population was purposefully sampled, making sure that the people selected could demonstrate this syntactic behaviour of the NG qualifying elements through speech and written forms. Therefore, thirty (30) people who could read and write fluently in both English and Mo/Deg were selected. Of the thirty people, twenty (20) were selected from four indigenous towns namely Busuama, Longoro, Mantukwa and Manchala. Of these twenty (20), five people were selected from each town. This was to cover a large area of where indigenous Mo/Deg is spoken and also to have possibly different but acceptable presentations of the NG qualifying elements. Again, ten (10) people were selected from among the staff of Mo/Deg project of GILLBT. This was to ensure that more accurate information was obtained since they are professionals and scholars in the language. Short simple English sentences which had NG qualifying elements were given to them to translate into Mo/Deg. The English sentences and their Mo/Deg versions were then analysed syntactically using the concept of the Systemic Grammar model.

3. Abbreviations And Symbol(S) Used

For the purpose of this study the following abbreviations and symbol(s) are used.

A = adjunct

ADJ/Adj = adjective

Adv = adverb

ADVG = adverbial group

Art = article

Aux = auxiliary

Card = cardinal numeral

Cent = central determiner

CoA = colour adjective

Def = definite article

DET/ Det = determiner

DEM/Dem = demonstrative pronoun

DetG = determiner group

H = headword

Indef = indefinite article

INTER/Inter = interrogative pronoun

Lex = lexical verb

m = modifier/modification

N = noun

NG = nominal group

Nom = nominal

NUM/Num = numeral

O = object

ObjA = objective adjective

ORD/Ord ordinal numeral

P = predicate

PRED/Pred = predeterminer

PG = prepositional group

PL = plural

PREP/Prep = preposition

Poss = possessive

Postd = post-determiner

Pro = pronoun

PROG = progressive

q = qualifier/qualification

Quant/quant = quantifier

RELP = relative pronoun

S = subject

Size = size adjective

SubjA = subjective adjective

V= verb

VG = verbal group

3rd SG = third person singular

/ / = group

// // = clause

• = unaccepted construction

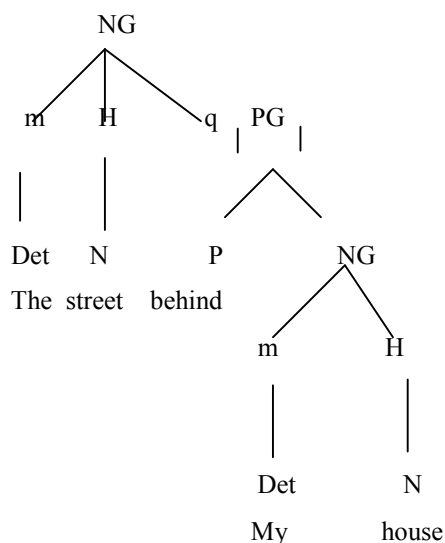
4. Qualification In English

This refers to all the grammatical elements that can be placed after the head-word in the NG structure. The qualifier position is most commonly filled by groups or clauses. This qualifying function in the Nominal Group structure in English, according to Wiredu (1999:80 - 83) and Thakur (1998:38 - 42) can be realized by any one of the following grammatical items: prepositional group, adjectival group, or the clause.

4.1 Prepositional Groups as qualifiers

The head of a nominal group may be qualified by a prepositional group, which according to Greenbaum, et al (1990:375 - 376), is by far the commonest type of qualification in English. According to Prasad (2008:105 - 107), Verma and Krishnaswamy (1989:302) and Morley (1985:9 -12) the Systemic Grammar represents the structure of the NG as m-H-q: where the "m" and the "q" indicate the possibilities of an infinite progression. Therefore, the following NG with the prepositional group will have the following structure

a. The street behind my house is narrow



It is important to state that it is possible to have a series of PG qualifiers within the same NG structure. For example:

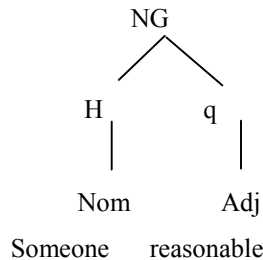
b. The story by Professor Wiredu in his book in the drawer was interesting.

4.2 Adjectival Groups as qualifiers

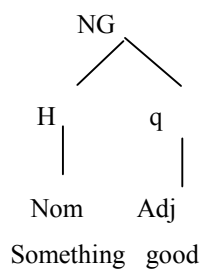
The typical position for adjectives in the NG structure is for them to be placed at the pre-head position. However some adjectives can occur in the qualifier or post-modifier position in the NG structure. Thakur (1998: 38-40) identifies the contexts in which such adjectives can occur in the qualifier position. These are:

- (i) When an indefinite pronoun such as: someone, everybody, something, somebody, etc, is the head of the NG. Indefinite pronouns cannot be pre-modified by adjectives. However they can be followed or qualified by adjectives. For instance:

- (a) I want someone reasonable to drive this car.

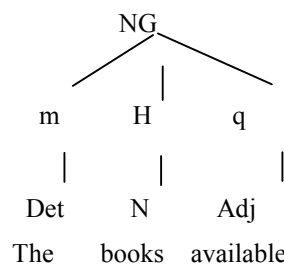


- (b) Something good is going to happen

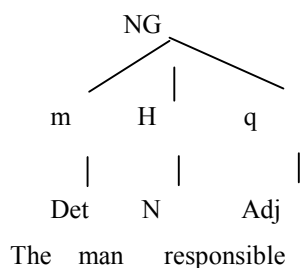


- (ii) Adjectives which seem to be readily acceptable in the qualifying position of NGs. These include those ending in -able or -ible such as available, responsible, acceptable, feable, etc. Example:

- (a) The books available are not enough

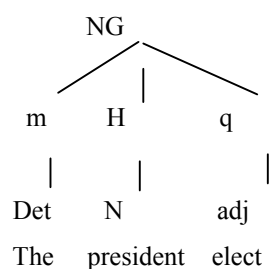


- (b) The man responsible will be arrested

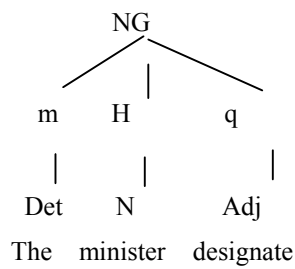


- (iii). There are some adjectives which can occur only at the qualifier position. These adjectives include: alive, awake, ill, designate, etc. For example:

- a. The president elect will visit our town today.



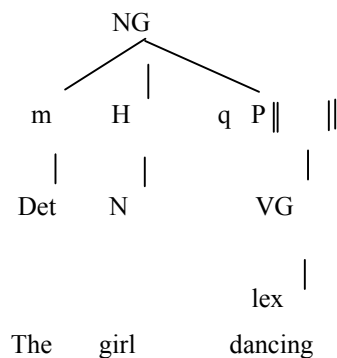
b. The minister designate is Mr. Nimo.



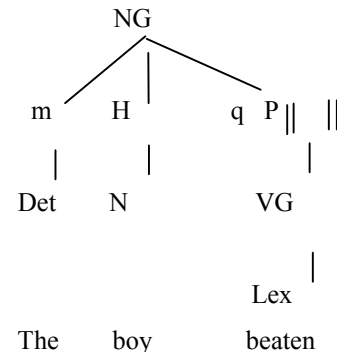
4.3 The Clause as a qualifier

One of the qualifying elements in the NG structure is the clause. The clauses: Nominal clause, Relative clause, Infinitival clause and the Participial clause can function as qualifiers in the NG structure. The participial clauses are the -ing participle clause (dancing, talking, playing, singing, etc), the -ed/en participle clause (dismissed, attacked, beaten, etc), and examples of their use are:

(a) The girl dancing is my sister



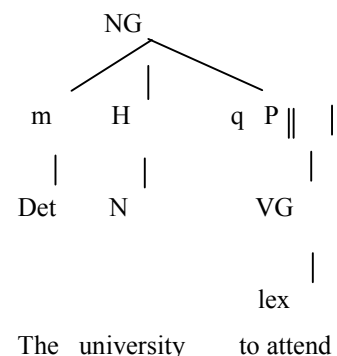
(b) The boy beaten is my brother



In the above illustrations, diagrams (a), and (b) exemplify the - ing, and the - ed / - en types of participial clause at the qualifying position within the NG.

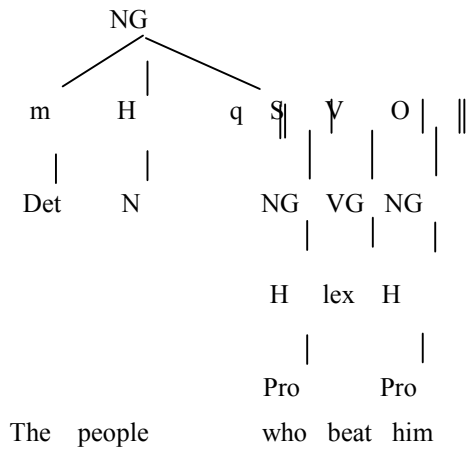
The Infinitival clauses are the to-infinitive clauses such as: to watch, to attend, to read, etc. An example of their occurrence is:

(c) The university to attend is the University of Ghana

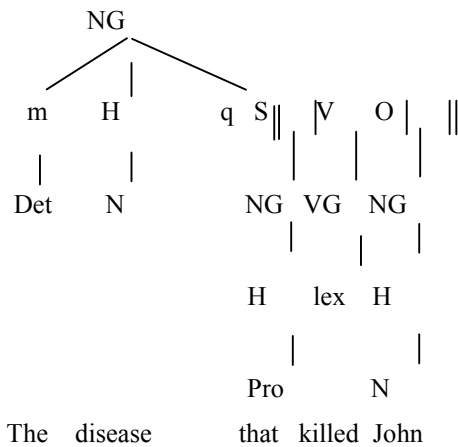


The above illustration, exemplify the infinitival clause in qualifying position within the NG. The relative clause is used in the following ways at the qualifying position

(d) The people who beat him come from my village.

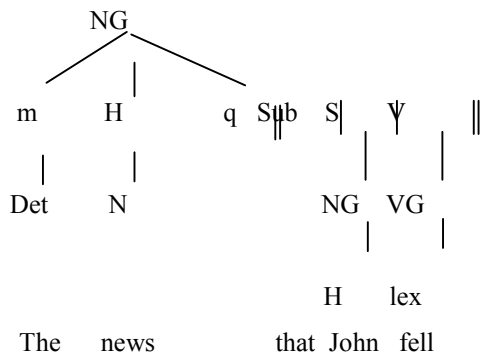


(e) The disease that killed John was T.B.



The Nominal clause is exemplified in the following example:
An example of the appositive use is:

(f) The news that John fell is true.



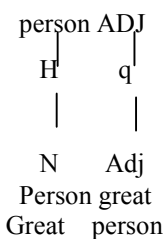
5. QUALIFICATION IN MO/DEG

The syntax of the Mo/Deg language allows for some grammatical items to be placed after the noun head within the NG structure. These are the adjectival groups, the clause, the numerals, and the determiners.

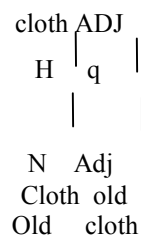
5.1 Adjectival Groups as qualifiers in Mo / Deg

Mo/Deg adjectives are by no small means the most frequently qualifying items in the NG structure. Syntactically, they do not modify nouns in Mo/Deg. Examples of their occurrence in a qualifying position are:

i. Nen jen

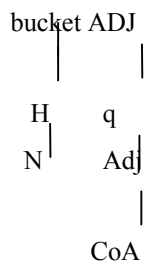


ii. Yal bene



All adjectives in Mo/Deg such as adjectives of colour and size, example: jen (big), lataree (short), jega (small), onswem (red), sul-min (yellow), papolwee (green), etc, the objective adjectives, example: worbe (hot), sone (cold), luṅre (deep), etc, and the subjective adjectives, which include: wer (beautiful), gboloṅṅ (ugly), etc, can only occur at the qualifier position within the NG. Example:

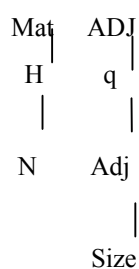
iii. Bograpa poṅ.



Bucket white

White bucket

iv. Kalan pag.

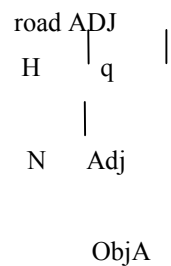


Kalan pag

Mat wide

Wide mat

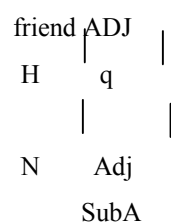
v. ṅwene foolo.



Road narrow

Narrow road

vi. Dam deege.



Dam deege

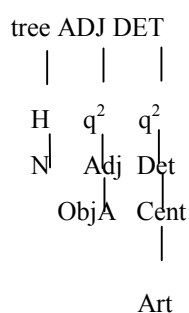
Friend good

Good friend

From the above, we notice that examples (iii) and (iv) illustrate adjectives of colour and size which are ‘poṅ’ and ‘pag’ at the qualifying positions with the nouns: ‘bograpa’ and ‘kalan’ respectively while (v) and (vi) exemplify objective and subjective adjectives which are ‘foolo’ and ‘deege’ respectively at the qualifying positions with the respective nouns ‘ṅwene’ and ‘dam’.

In a sequence involving other qualifiers, the adjectives are placed closest to the NG head. Example:

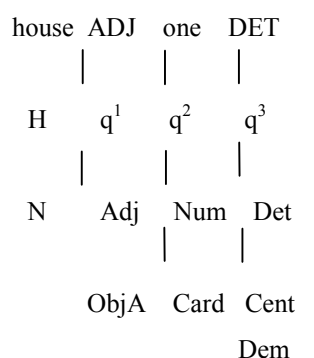
vii. Da jaṅ la.



Tree tall the

The tall tree

viii. Dem jen beṅkpoṅ no.



House big one this

This one big house

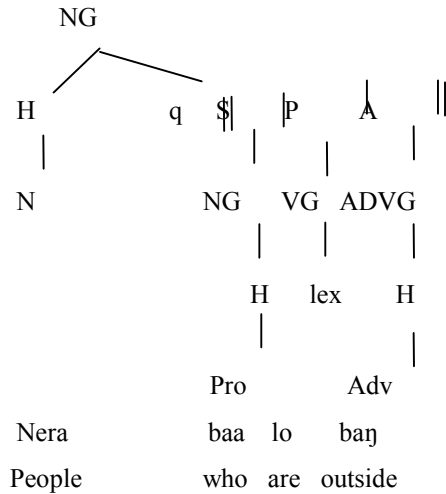
In example (vii) jaṅ is an adjective and it is placed immediately after the head, ‘da’ before the article, ‘la’. In (viii) jen is an adjective and it occurs right after the head, ‘dem’ before the other qualifiers.

5.2 The Clause

The clause in Mo/Deg is by far the commonest qualifying element in the NG structure. It usually follows the NG head with either the relative pronoun, ‘waa’ (whose antecedent noun is usually a singular human or non-human noun), ‘baa’ (whose antecedent noun is usually a plural human noun only), or ‘aa’ (whose antecedent noun is a plural non-human noun only). For example:

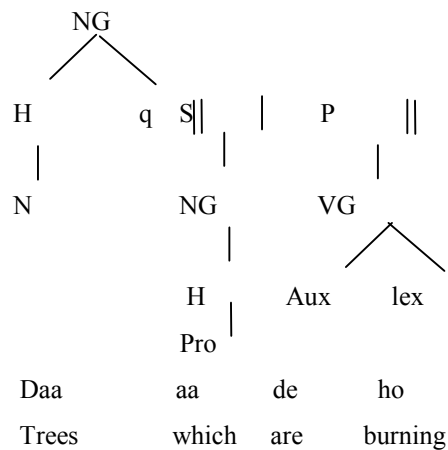
a. Nera baa lo baj.

people RELP are outside



b. Daa aa de hc.

tree-PL RELP PROG burn

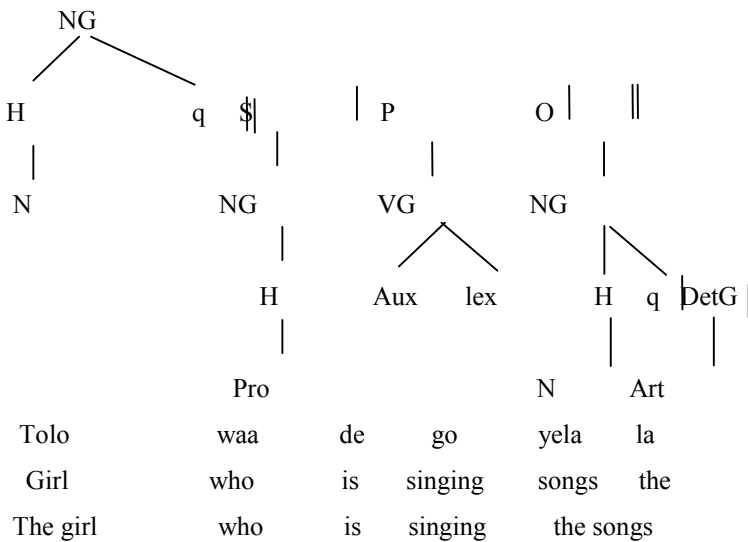


In the above examples, 'baa lo baj' and 'aa de ho' are clauses in (a) and (b) respectively and they follow the respective nouns, 'njra' and 'daa'.

There is only one type of clause in the Mo/Deg language, that is, the relative, and it is illustrated in the following examples:

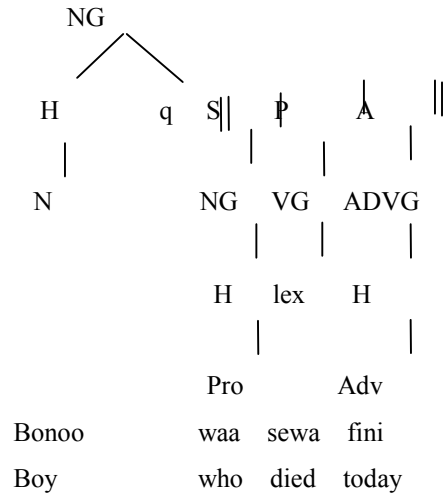
a. Tolo waa de go yela la

girl RELP PROG sing songs DET



b. Bonoo waa sewa fini.

Boy RELP die-PAST today.



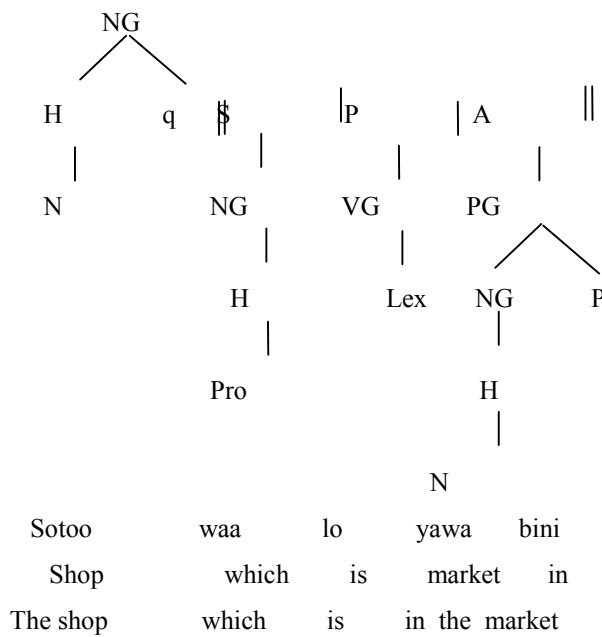
In diagrams (a) and (b) above, the finite clauses are: ‘waa de go yela la’ and ‘waa sewa fini’.

The contexts in which the clause can function as a qualifier in the NG structure are as follows:

i. When the NP head is followed by a prepositional group. PGs in Mo/Deg are usually expressed as clauses within the NG at the qualifier position. Example:

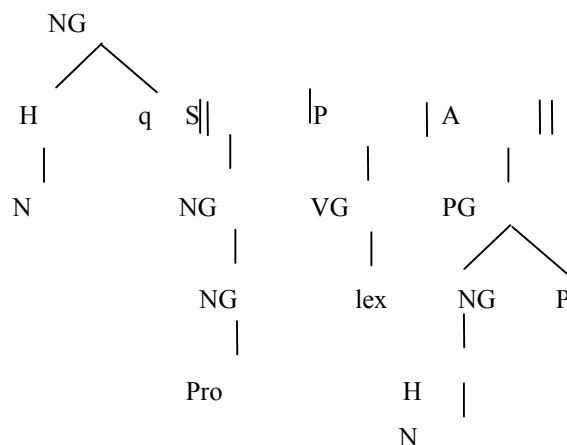
a. Sotoo waa lo yawa bini

Shop RELP is market PREP



b. Ton waa dawwe kara ta

book RELP PAST lie chair PREP

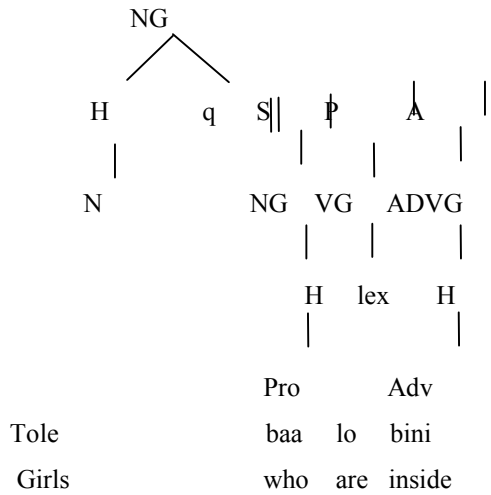


Ton waa dawe kara ta
 Book which lay chair on
 The book which lay on the chair

ii. When the NG headword is followed by an adverb. In Mo/Deg ADVGs are normally expressed as clauses at the qualifier position of the NG. Example:

a. Tole baa lo bini

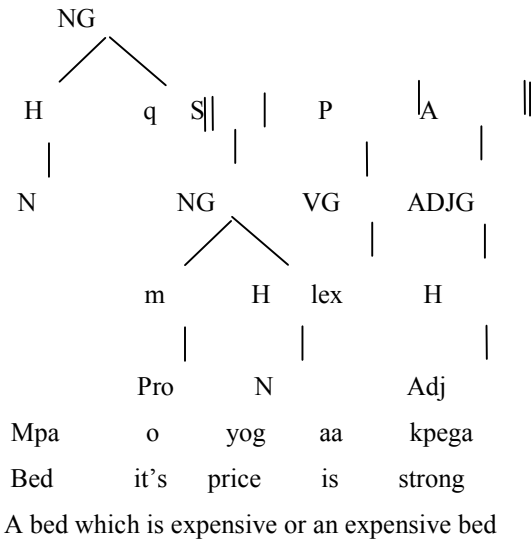
girl-PL RELP are ADV



iii. When the NG head has an adjective which can only be expressed as a clause. Some subjective adjectives such as: expensive, dear, difficult, etc, and adjectives of colour like pink, blue, etc, in Mo/Deg can only be expressed as clauses at the qualifier position of the NG. Example

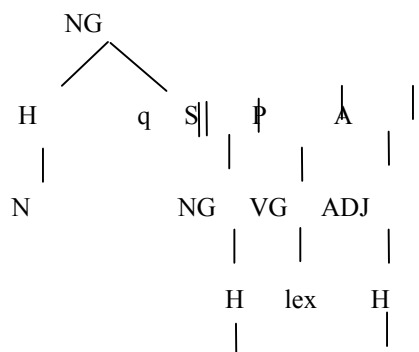
a. Mpa o yog aa kpega

bed 3rd SG POSS price is ADJ



b. Log waa e onkol

bowl RELP is ADJ



	Pro		Adj
Log	waa	e	onkol
Bowl	which	is	blue

In diagram (a) above, ‘o yoga kpega’ is a subjective adjective which means ‘expensive’ and in (b) ‘waa e onkol’ is an adjective of colour which means ‘blue’.

5.3 Numerals as Qualifiers in Mo/Deg

In addition to occurring as headwords, numerals in Mo/Deg can also occupy the qualifier position within the NG structure. Example:

<p>i. Nen benkpɔŋ person NUM H q N Num Person one One person</p>	<p>ii. Booh neete goat NUM H q N Num goat second second goat</p>
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There are two types of numerals in Mo/Deg namely, the cardinal numerals and the ordinal numerals. The cardinal numerals are numbers such as ane (two), anuane (seven), anuanaare (nine), etc. The ordinals include: logle (first), neete (second) munkaa (last), toorote (third), etc. Members of either type can occupy the qualifier position in the NG structure as in the following:

<p>(a) Kalaŋre anue mat-PL five H q N Num Card Mats five Five mats</p>	<p>(b) Bonoo logle boy ORD H q N Num Ord Boy second second boy</p>
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In examples (a) and (b), we notice that ‘anue’ is a cardinal and ‘logle’ is ordinal respectively and they both occupy the qualifying position.

In a sequence involving other qualifiers, the numerals will normally occur after adjectives, if there are any, but before the central determiners. Examples:

<p>(c) Da jen nuete Tree ADJ fifth H q¹ q² N Adj Num Ord Tree big fifth The fifth big tree</p>	<p>(d) Deene deega atoro la house-PL ADJ three DET H q¹ q² q³ N Adj Num Det Card Cent houses good three the The three good houses</p>
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In example (c) above, ‘anue’, which is an ordinal comes after the adjective, ‘jen’ while in (d), ‘atoro’ is a cardinal which comes after the adjective, ‘deega’ but before the central determiner, ‘la’.

However, the cardinals and the ordinals are mutually exclusive. That is, they cannot occur together at the same time within the same NG and so it is wrong to have the following:

* Bee banue logla

* Haahna batorote banumel

5.4 Determiners as Qualifiers in Mo/Deg

Determiners are by far the most frequent qualifiers in the Mo/Deg NG structure. The determiners that can function as qualifiers within the NG are: the post determiners: anuane, anuanaare, atoro, etc, some central determiners: la, bel, no, etc, and the pre-determiners: bwa, pera, etc. These are exemplified in the following examples:

i. Haahna banue

woman- PL five

| |

H q

| |

N Postd

Women five

Five women

ii. Booh la

goat DET

| |

H q

| |

N Cent

Goat the

The goat

iii. Baala bwa

man-PL all

| |

H q

| |

N Pred

Men all

All men

In the above examples, ‘banue’ in (i) is a post - determiner, ‘la’ in (ii) is a central determiner and ‘bwa’ in (iii) is a predeterminer and they all occupy qualifying positions within the NG.

5.4.1 The Post Determiners as Qualifiers in Mo/Deg

These come immediately after the NG head and they include: the cardinals, the ordinals, the quantifiers, and the interrogative, ‘bisoo’. The cardinals include: benkpon (one), ane (two), atoro(three), fi(ten), fi-de-ane (twelve), etc. The ordinal numerals include: logle (first), neete (second), naarete (fourth), fite (tenth),etc. while the quantifiers include: damanta (many), tama (few), fuuh (many), etc. Members of each type can be placed at the qualifier position within the NG structure. Example:

(a) polwiine atoro

Pot-PL three

| |

H q

| |

N Postd

|

Card

Pots three

Three pots

(b). kara logle

chair NUM

| |

H q

| |

N Postd

|

Ord

chair first

First chair

(c). boohna damanta

(d). baa bisoo

Goat-PL	QUANT	man	INTER
H	q	H	q
N	Postd	N	Postd
	Quant		Inter
Goats	many	Man	which
Many	goats	which	man

In examples (a) and (b), we have ‘atoro’ and ‘logle’ which are a cardinal and an ordinal respectively and they each occupy a qualifying position, while in examples (c) and (d), we have ‘damanta’ and ‘bisoo’ which are a quantifier and an interrogative respectively which occupy a qualifying position each.

It is important to mention that ‘bisoo’ is the only interrogative which does not occur at the modifying position within the NG structure in the Mo language.

Mo syntax does not allow a combination of the post determiners. This is to say that post determiners are not mutually inclusive.

5.4.2 The Central Determiners as Qualifiers in Mo/Deg

These determiners occupy the position between the post determiners and the pre-determiners within the Mo/Deg NG. They are the articles: ‘la’ and ‘bel, and the demonstrative: ‘no’. For example:

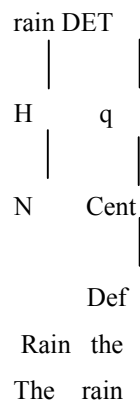
(a). Baala la.	(b). Bie no.
man-PL DET	child DEM
H	q
N	Cent
	Art
Men	Child
the	this
The	This
men	child

In examples (a) and (b) above, we have ‘la’ and ‘no’ which are an article and a demonstrative respectively occurring at a qualifying position each.

The definite article is ‘la’ and the indefinite article is ‘bel’. The definite article, ‘la’, can occur with count nouns (singular and plural) or non-count nouns as in the examples below:

(c). Nangawa la	(d). nangaware la
sandal DET	sandal-PL DET
H	q
N	Cent
	Def
Sandal	Sandals
the	the
The	The
sandal	sandals

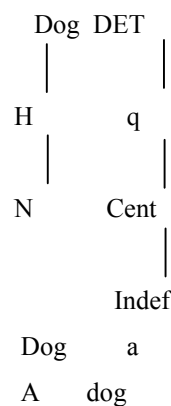
(e). Bwaala la



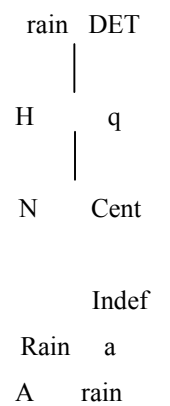
In examples (c) and (d) above, we notice that ‘la’ occurs with singular and plural count nouns respectively; while in (e) it occurs with a non-count noun.

On the other hand, the indefinite article, ‘bel’ is used with singular count nouns and non-count nouns only. Example:

(f). Nyoate bel



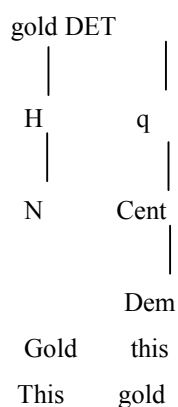
(g). Bwaala bel



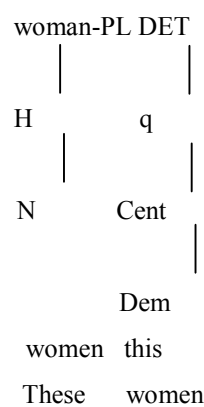
In examples (f) and (g) the indefinite article, ‘bel’, occurs with ‘nyoate’ and ‘bwaala’, a singular count noun and a non-count noun respectively.

The demonstrative, “no” is the only item that can qualify the NG head and it can occur with count or non-count nouns. Example:

i. sugaswem no



ii. Haahna no



In examples (i) and (ii), ‘no’ occurs with ‘sugaswem’ and ‘haahna’ which are a non-count noun and a count noun respectively.

It is unacceptable to have a combination of the central determiners, that is, they are mutually exclusive.

5.4.3 Pre-determiners as Qualifiers in Mo/Deg

These determiners occur last in the sequence of determiners qualifying the NG head. There is only one type of the pre-determiner which is the quantifiers and it includes: pera (half), bwa (all), bane / ane (some or many). The following are examples of their occurrence:

i. Nera bwa person-PL all H q N Pred People all All people	ii. Tone ane book-PL some H q N Pred Books some Some books
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As a pre-determiner, ‘pera,’ can occur with singular count nouns only and non-count nouns in the language. Example:

i. kara pera chair QUANT H q N Pred Quant Chair half Half chair	ii. Hare pera land QUANT H q N Pred Quant Land half Half land
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In the examples above, ‘pera’ occurs with ‘kara’ and ‘hare’ which are a singular count noun and a non-count noun respectively.

In the language, ‘pera’ cannot occur with a plural noun. We cannot have the following as an acceptable order:

- * Jala pera
- *Tone pera

However, as a pre-determiner in Mo, ‘bwa’ can occur with either count or non-count nouns. Example:

i. Jal bwa fowl QUANT H q N Pred Quant Fowl all All the fowl	ii. Togra bwa needle-PL QUANT H q N Pred Quant Needles all All needles
iii. Bwaala bwa rain QUANT H q N Pred Quant Rain all All the rain	

In example (i), 'bwa' occurs with 'jal', a singular noun, in (ii) it occurs with 'togre', a plural noun, and in (iii) it occurs with 'bwaala', a non-count noun.

As a pre-determiner, 'bane' occurs with human plural nouns only while 'ane' with non-human plurals only. Example:

<p>i. Betole bane</p> <p>girl-PL QUANT</p> <pre> H q N Pred Quant Girls some Some girls </pre>	<p>ii. Kondikware ane</p> <p>food-PL QUANT</p> <pre> H q N Pred Quant Foods some Some foods </pre>
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From the examples above, 'bane' occurs with 'betole', a human plural noun in (i) while 'ane' with 'kondikware', a non-human plural noun.

It is possible in the language for 'bwa' to occur next after 'bane', 'ane' or 'pera' in the same NG as in the following:

<p>i. Tone ane bwa.</p> <p>book-PL some all</p> <pre> H q¹ q² N Pred Pred Quant Quant Books some all Some of all the books </pre>	<p>ii. Njra bane bwa.</p> <p>person-PL some all</p> <pre> H q¹ q² N Pred Pred Quant Quant People some all some of all the people </pre>
<p>iii. Da pera bwa.</p> <p>tree QUANT all</p> <pre> H q1 q2 N Pred Pred Quant Quant Tree half all All half of the tree </pre>	

6. Conclusion

The study identified the following differences and similarities:

The qualifying position within the English NG can be filled by the prepositional group, the adjectival group, or the clause. In Mo/Deg, it is occupied by the adjectival, the clause; the numerals, and the determiners.

6.1 Differences

The prepositional groups in English occupy the qualifying position within the NG structure, but, in Mo/Deg, they cannot occur at the qualifying position. Rather, they are treated or seen as part of the realization of the relative clause.

Some adjectival groups in English occur at the qualifying position within the NG but within some contexts. The contexts within which adjectival groups occur at the qualifying position include:

- When an indefinite pronoun is the head of the NG, when the NG is followed by adjectives which are readily acceptable in an NG qualifying position, and
- When there are adjectives which can only occur at the qualifying position. It was also discovered that the adjectives that occur at the qualifying position within the English NG are limited.

However, in Mo/Deg, all adjectives occur at the qualifier position and there is no condition to their occurrence. That is, they do not occur at such qualifying position within any contexts as in English.

In Mo/Deg, the numerals whether as cardinals or ordinals can occur as qualifiers within the NG structure, but in English they may occur only as modifiers or NG headwords.

The majority of Mo/Deg determiners: the pre-determiners, the post-determiners and some central determiners occur at the qualifier position. However, in English, all the determiners occur at the modifying position.

6.2 Similarities

The clauses that qualify the NG in English are the nominal or the appositive clause, the relative clause, the Infinitival clause, and the Participial clause. Similarly, in the Mo/Deg language, the clause occupies the qualifying position within the NG. However, it is only the relative clause that occupies the qualifier position within the Mo/Deg NG, and it occurs within some contexts, some of which are: when the NG head is followed by a prepositional group, when the NG head is followed by an adjective which can only be expressed as a clause, etc. Also, the adjectival group occurs at the qualifying position in both English and Mo/Deg.

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