

Keriyo Seléng Torch

Dubí lif de da Rang du nem da Okwa afong Da Sutóm Da Kirít Da Kyopalating te se kyonakísh pa Da Sushidzhi. Wa Ching beláng do moso da Felór loung Da Roundzhop Da Got.

Wa beláng da Ching pot wa Kedzh da Felím afong da ROUNG gurósh da Okwa pong da Lente kyonakísh. Da Aguroní mek wa Felím kyogurósh-tang pong da Roum da Pounyo da Fyeda. Wa Kinda pot wa Ching beláng ong kulósh da Felím. Da Kinda mo ot te punyo nagut-tang da Ching beláng minta te go pa wameni Chirí. Da Kinda mo ot gash wa Buxu da Nish loung Kyogáf. Tetú se du shud kelóu pOUNG da Nek, mash da Felím na tachan tetú. Da Nek do du bulóut, deng da Kyosiring do roumboumba. Da Ching beláng se gaf minta Reng go afong da Kyosiring pong wa do kuk da Chirí gurósh belák.

Da Aguroní se gash mo do gaf. Te do moso Pokwa tash. Se reng, tetú do nonda, deng da Ching beláng me se buxu-sari. Da Kyosiring se roumboumba pong siring da Chirí gurósh. Pong Ash bi Pokwa beláng loung da Ash belák da Felór.

Da beláng da Ching se buxu-sari pa Reng loung sutori da Felór. Posh Da Aguroní dzhop mo te Ching beláng ge gif Felór, deng da Kouldzhopang dubí loung Shalong loung Da Sushidzhi...

Reference:

Typology:

Note that Seléng capitalizes the first word of a sentence, as well as all nouns in a sentence, and the articles that append proper nouns.

The acute indicates non-standard stress.

Pronouns:

Seléng has a complex pronoun inventory:

		singular	paucal	plural	collective
1	exc	mi	mitú	mirang/mimeni	koulmi
	inc		domitú	domí	
2		do*	dotú	dorang/domeni	kouldo
3		te	tetú	terang/temeni	koul

*note: the second person pronoun onsets are in free variation between $t \sim d \sim d\hat{z} \sim j$, that is, *To*, *Do*, *Dzho*, and *Yo*; and this applies ofc to the other pronouns which are transparently compound, thus the first person inclusive plural can be *tomí*, *domí*, *dzhomí*, or *yomí*; depending on the speaker and the context.

Prepositions:

afo/afa: *before/after*

xe/de: *here/there*

pa: *for, towards, into, to*

fong~afong: *from/out-of, away from*

lounɡ/nalounɡ: *with/without*

ong~pong: *in, at, on, with regards to, about*

Conjunctions:

mo: *and*

mash: *but*

deng: *then, thus, in that case*

o: *or*

pa: *for/because*

tash: *only, just*

posh: *if, whether*

minta: *while, during*

Auxiliary Verbs:

Auxiliaries precede their head nouns; Seléng has no grammatical tense, instead using temporal periphrasis and a system of aspect marking auxiliaries; the serial chaining of content verbs functions similarly, with modifying secondary verbs preceding their head verbs.

na: negation

do: perfective

se: continuous/progressive

ge: passive
dubí: gnomic
me: subjunctive/irrealis

Articles:

Seléng's indefinite article, *wa*, also is used in compounding with a meaning analogous to english "some-", ie:

wa + rang > wang "someone"
wa + ting > wating "something"
wa + -meni > wameni "some amount; many"

The proper names of individuals are given the definite article;

Da Mako
Da Kulóuk
Da Nayomi

The definite article, *da*, has further expanded use cases, namely indicating agreement between elements in a noun phrase, for example:

Da gurósh da belák da Chiri

"The big black tree(s)"

Da may in general be used to mark genitive relationships;

Buk roxo "red book(s)"
roxo da Buk "red book(s)"
wa roxo da Buk "a red book(s)"
da roxo da Buk "the red book(s)"

Da roxo da Buk te Da Mako da "The red books are Mako's"

Or to link a noun to a noun or phrase describing it;

afo et da Rang

"The person/people who ate before"

Du gep shou da Dzhong

"The man who gives speeches"

Demonstratives:

Ting

thing

Ting xe

this thing

Ting de

that thing

De Ting de

yon thing/that (far) thing

Derivation:

Seléng has several highly productive derivational affixes, such as:

The suffix *-ish* forms adjectives from nouns and verbs.

The suffix *-(r)ang* forms agentive nouns from verbs and adjectives

The suffix *-ting* forms nouns from verbs and adjectives

The augmentative *kyo-* such as in *kyonakísh* **AUG-pure-ADJ** meaning “sacred”

Syntax:

Seléng has a very strict SVO word order and is zero copula (excluding locative copula *bi*);

Te roxo

3 red

“It (is) red”

Te bi xe

3 LOC here

"It is here"

Due to the potential length of noun phrases, the subject is often separated from the predicate by a pronoun restating the subject personage, for example:

Da gurósh da roxo da Kirít te tu sheburóung

"The big red stones, they (are) very popular"

DEF big DEF red DEF stone 3 intensifier popular

Dictionary:

aguroní *agricultural worker*

ash *bottom, base, underside, root, butt*

belák *black*

beláng *white*

bulóut *blood*

buxu *to cry*

ching *bird*

chirí *tree*

du *forms verbs from nouns*

dzhop *to die*

felím *fire*

felór *flower*

fyeda *party, festival*

gash *to follow, to imitate*

gaf *to shout, to call out, to cry out*

got *deity, god, spirit*

gurósh *big, large, tall, wide*

gut *good, well, correct*

kedzh *cage, sieve, basket*

kelóu *claw, horn*

kinda *child, kid, young person*

kirít *stone, rock, mineral*

kuk *cook, heat, burn*

kulósh *close to, near to, next to, nearby*

lif *life; to live*

lente *land (place, area, larger region)*

mek *make*

moso *to see, to look at, to find*

naki *pure, clean*
nek *neck, throat*
nem *name; to call*
nish *sound, noise*
nonda *to drink*
okwa *liquid water*
palating *platform, shelf*
pokwa *remains*
pot *to set down, to place upon, to lay on*
pounyo *friend*
punyo *to strike, to punch, to hit*
roum *potable liquid, drink*
roumboumba *rumble, murmur, grumble, hum*
roung *to run; a flow of liquid, materials, or things*
reng *rain; to spray/release liquid*
sari *sorry*
shalong *calm, peace, serenity, focus*
siring *ceiling, roof, top of*
shud *teeth*
Sushidzhi *given name*
sutóm *steam, mist, fog*
sutori *story, tale; lie, fiction*
tachan *to touch*
tang *intensifier*