

## On the Syntax of Manner Adverbials in Igbo Language

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**Abstract:** The Igbo language belongs to the Benue Congo family, spoken predominantly in the South-east part of Nigeria. It is among the Kwa group of languages in Nigeria. Although, the Igbo language does not have clear overt morphological marker for expressing manner adverbial notions, yet the expression of manner adverbial notion is attested in the language in various ways. This paper explores the syntax of manner adverbials in the Igbo language with the aim to identify the strategies the language employs in expressing manner adverbial notions, their syntactic distributions and the degree to which they operate in the language. The paper adopts a descriptive method in the analysis of the data for the study. In addition to the researcher's native intuitions, the researcher also elicited spoken data from fluent native speakers. The data collected were analyzed and interpreted. The study discovers that Igbo language makes extensive use of lexical words, nouns, reduplication, ideophones, phrases, clauses and suffixes in expressing manner adverbial notions. The Igbo manner adverbials enjoy free distribution in their syntactic domains with the exception of *gboo* (early) and *kpam* (completely) which are restricted at the sentence-initial position. The Igbo manner adverbials cannot have scope over the Igbo general negative suffix *ghị* (not) in the syntactic structures. The Igbo manner adverbials cannot occur between the subject and the verb. The manner adverbial connectives such as *ètu/òtu* (how), *kà* (how) and *uzò* (how) are used to introduce the adverbial clause of manner. The connective *kà* (how) is polysemous in the sense that it can be used to express manner as well as temporal meanings. Its uses in the syntactic structures depend on its semantic interpretations in its domains. The Igbo language does not make use of prefix at all in expressing manner adverbials in the language. *Ọfuma* (well) that is considered as manner adverbial has qualitative property, while *hinnē* has degree property.

**Keywords:** Manner Adverbials, Reduplication, Ideophones, Phrases, Clauses.

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### I. INTRODUCTION

All human languages have ways of expressing adverbs and adverbial notions, but there exist some parametric variations in the ways of expressing them differ from one language to another. Adverbs and adverbials are universal phenomena. An adverb is a word that modifies the verb, another adverb, an adjective or a whole sentence. An adverbial is a word, phrase or clause that modifies a verb or a verb along with some other parts of the sentence. Both of them perform modification functions in the sentence and provide information about how, where, when, why the actions are performed in the sentences. Adverbial meanings are expressed by means of several sets of grammatical units in the language. The same adverbial meaning may be coded as bound grammatical morpheme in one language, an independent word in another, or a whole syntactic construction in another (Givón, 2001; Schachter, 1985).

Traditionally, manner adverbials belong to the group of adverbials in the natural human languages. The manner adverbials are used to specify the manner or way in which an eventuality or an action unfolds or how an action was performed or is intended to be performed. They answer the question how? They neither contribute to the temporal interpretation of the sentence (as temporal adverbial) nor do they link the sentence to the context surrounding it (example, by showing the speaker's attitude). Blake (2008:16) maintains that in English "a very large number of manner adverbs are formed from adjectives by the addition of the suffix *-ly*."

Igbo language does not have overt morphological marker for expressing manner adverbial notions as in English *ly form* such as *clumsily*, *surprisingly*, *cleverly*, *carefully* and so on. The language employs many structural devices for expressing manner adverbials such as incorporation of lexical words, reduplications, use of ideophones, phrases, clauses and suffixes. According to the Recommendation of the Igbo Standardization Committee of the Society for Promoting Igbo Language and Culture (SPILC) in Okaasusu (1985:18 and 240), "adverbial notions in Igbo could be expressed by expanding the verb with suffixes and reduplication of nouns"

The tone marking convention used in this work is the Green and Igwe (1963) convention where only the high tone is left unmarked whereas the grave accent ( ` ) is used to mark the low tone and the macron ( - ) is used to mark the downstep tone.

This paper organized into seven sections. Section presents the introduction. Section 2 discusses the theoretical review. Section is the methodology. Section four analyzes the data. Section five treats negation and the manner adverbials in the Igbo language. Section six discusses the manner adverbials in the Igbo complex sentences. Section seven is the conclusion.

## II. THEORETICAL REVIEW

Manner adverbials are used to specify the manner in which an eventuality or an action unfolds. The term “adverbial” is widely used as a general term which subsumes all categories” Crystal (2007:113). Within adverbials, many syntactic roles have been identified, of which verb modification has traditionally been seen as central. An adverbial is a word or a group of words that modify or tell us something about the time, place or manner of the action in the rest of the sentence. When an adverbial modifies a verb, it changes the meaning of that verb. According to Maienborn and Schaefer (2010:2), an adverbial refers to “a specific syntactic function within a sentence and therefore contrasts with other syntactic functions, such as subject, objects and predicate.” They also claim that adverbials are traditionally conceived of as being those elements that serve to specify further the circumstances of the verbal or sentence referent. Adverbials can have various semantic meanings which can specify temporal time meaning, locative meaning or manner meaning. thus:

1. a. Joseph smiled the whole hour.
- b. The students are clapping in the class.
- c. Jane dresses badly.

The adverbial expressions can be deduced through questions. The type of wh-word used for the deduction information differs with the semantics of the adverbials. The temporal time adverbial such as *the whole hour* in (1a) answers the question when/for how long ...? depending on whether they indicate the time or length of the *smiling*. The prepositional phrase *in the class* in (1b) is a locative adverbial, answering the question where ...? Finally, *badly* in (1c) is a manner adverbial, answering the question how ...? The above examples indicate that the functions of adverbials can be achieved by distinct types of phrasal units such as noun phrases, prepositional phrases and adverb phrases. In other words, adverbials can have wide range of syntactic forms; they can be single-words, prepositional phrases, noun phrases or even a whole clause. To Fischer (2007:315) adverbials include “all adverbs formally marked as adverbs, but it may also include NP (yesterday), prepositional phrase (of time and place), lexicalized prepositional phrases or larger phrases or clauses.” Crystal (1992:8) posits that adverbial is an “element of the clause structure which functions like an adverb.” He further adds that it may be a single adverb like *soon*, an adverbial phrase such as *very soon*, *in the afternoon* or an adverbial clause such as *when it was raining ...*. Bates (1976:128) defines adverbial as “a predicate which takes a complete predicate-argument nucleus as its argument, thereby creating a particular type of prepositional embedding.” In English, adverbials most commonly take the form of adverbs, adverb phrases, temporal time, noun phrases or prepositional phrases thus:

2. a. John replied immediately. (adverb) - When?
- b. John replied in French. (prepositional phrase) – How?
- c. John replied this evening. (noun phrase) – When?
- d. John replied in French because he had foreign visitor. ( adverbial clause) – Why?

In the above examples, the underlined adverbials tell us when, how and why of the actions of the verbs. Binnick (1991) posits that a phrase with an adverb as its head is an adverb phrase such as *very quickly* but this is also used to include phrases which are like adverbs in function as *in the garden*. Radford (2004:82) claims that adverb independently can be merged with a prepositional phrase complement like *of me* to form an adverbial expression such as *independently of me*. This can serve either as adverbial phrase on its own as in *She made up her mind independently of me* or as an intermediate ADV – bar projection which can be extended into an adverbial phrase with an appropriate specifier (like the adverb *quite*) as in *She made up her mind quite independently of me*. Various types of adverbs may be selected for propositions, events or actions and these interact with syntax to produce various adverbial behaviours. An adverbial can function as sentence connector as shown in the example below:

3. However/moreover/actually/frankly...think she was right.

## III. METHODOLOGY

The data used for the study come from both the primary and secondary sources. The primary source was made up of the data drawn largely from the indigenes who are the native speakers of Igbo language that is, the L<sub>1</sub> speakers through listening and recording of their natural occurring speeches during discourses,



4. a. Òbi bèrè akwa nwayò.  
Obi cry-rvpst cry slowly/gently.  
Obi cried slowly/gently.
- b. Nwanyò kà Obi bèrè akwa.  
Slowly/gently that Obi cry-rvpst cry.  
Obi cried slowly/gently.
- c. Òbi jì nwayò bee akwā.  
Obi hold slowly/gently cry cry.  
Obi cries slowly/gently.
5. a. O sìrì nri osiisò.  
3sg cook-rvpst food quickly.  
She cooked that food quickly.
- b. Osiisò kà o jì si nrī.  
Quickly that 3sg hold cook food.  
Quickly, he cooked the food.
- c. O jì osiisò si nrī.  
3sg hold quickly cook food.  
She quickly cook the food
6. a. Uchè mèrè òfuma  
Uchè do-rvpst well  
Uche did well
- b. Uchè mere ya òfuma  
Uche do-rvpst 3sg well  
Uche did it well
- c. Uchè mèrè òfuma n'ùle  
Uche do-rvpst well prep-examination  
Uche did well in examination
- d. Òfuma Uchè mèrè n'ùle nà-àkpa m obī uto  
Well Uche do-rvpst prep-examination aux-pr-make 1sg heart sweet  
I am happy that Uche did well in the examination.
7. a. Ngwa, Àda sìe nri ahù.  
Hurry/hastily/fastly, Ada cook-ovs food Dem  
Hurriedly/hastily/fastly, Ada cook that food.
- b. Sìe nri ahù ngwa, Àda.  
Cook-ovs food Dem hurriedly/hastily/fastly, Ada.  
Cook that food hurriedly/hastily/fastly, Ada.
- c. Àda, sìe nri ahù ngwa.  
Ada cook-ovs food Dem hurriedly/hastily/fastly.  
Ada, hurriedly/hastily/ fastly cook that food.
- d. Àda sìrì nri ngwa.  
Ada cook-rvpst food hurriedly/hastily/fastly.  
Ada cooked the food hurriedly/hastily/fasyly
- e. Àda, ngwa, sìe nri.  
Ada hurriedly/hastily/fastly si-ovs nri.
8. a. Ibè jèrè ugbō gboo.  
Ibe go-rvpst farm early.  
Ibe went to the farm early.
- b. Ijē ugbō gboo dī mma.  
To go farm early be good.  
To go to farm early is good.
- c. \*Gboo kà Ibè jere ugbo.  
Early that Ibe go-rvpst farm.  
Early that Ibe went to the farm.
9. a. O ñurù mmanya hinnē n' agbamakwụkwọ ahù.  
3sg drink-rvpst wine prep-wedding Dem.  
He drank wine in that wedding.
- b. O ñurù mmanya n' agbamakwụkwọ ahù hinnē.  
3sg drink-rvpst wine prep-wedding Dem much.  
He drank much wine in that wedding.

- c. Hinnē kà ọ nùrù mmanyà n' àgbamàkwùkwọ ahù.  
 Much that 3sg drink-rvpst wine prep-wedding Dem.  
 He/She drank much win in that wedding.
10. a. Mmanyà gwùrù kpam.  
 Wine finish-rvpst completely.  
 The wine finished completely.
- b. Mmanyà gwùrù kpam n' àgbamàkwùkwọ ahù.  
 Wine finish-rvpst completely prep-àgbamàkwùkwọ Dem.  
 The wine finished completely in that wedding.
- c. \*Kpam, mmanyà gwùrù n' àgbamàkwùkwọ ahù.  
 Completely, wine finish-rvpst prep-wedding Dem.  
 The wine finished completely in that wedding.

The manner adverbials modify the verbs in the above sentences by telling us how the actions are performed. In that case, they perform modification function. It is observed that some of the manner adverbials appear in the sentence-initial, medial and final position. In sentence (7e), it is observed that *ngwa* (hurriedly/hastily/fastly) appears preverbally. In examples (6a), (7d) and (10a), *ofuma* (well) and *ngwa* (hurriedly) and *kpam* (completely) appear postverbally where they act as complements respectively, strictly subcategorized by the verbs. Without the manner adverbs, the structures will be unacceptable. Some of them can appear pre-subject as in examples (6d) and (7a) respectively. Note that most manner adverbials in Igbo are verb phrase complements. *Ofuma* (well) or *hinnē* (much/abundantly) are also considered to be manner adverbs with qualitative or degree properties. *Gboo* (early) and *kpam* (completely) cannot occur at the sentence-initial position as shown in examples (8c) and (10c) respectively.

### 3.4. Reduplicated lexical words as manner adverbials in Igbo language

The Igbo language employs reduplication in order to express manner adverbial meanings or ideas. Emenanjo (1978:49) claims that “adverbial nouns may be reduplicated or triplicates with or without peculiar patterns and attendant meaning differences. Like the single-word manner adverbials, the reduplicated manner adverbials can also distribute themselves in the syntactic constructions, examples,

11. a. O bèrè akwa nwayoònwàyoò.  
 3sg cry-rvpst cry slowly/gently.  
 He/She cried slowly/gently.
- d. Nwayoònwàyoò kà o bèrè akwa.  
 Slowly/gently that 3sg cry-rvpst.  
 He/She cried slowly/gently.
- e. O bèrè akwa nwayoònwàyoò n' ùlò  
 3sg cry-rvpst cry slowly/gently prep-house.  
 He/She slowly/gently in the house.
12. a. Ha pùrù ngwangwā n' èzi.  
 3pl go-rvpst quickly prep-outside.  
 They went outside quickly.
- b. Ngwangwā ha pùrù n' èzi.  
 Quickly/fastly 3pl go-rvpst prep-outside.  
 Quickly/fastly they went outside.
- c. Ha pùrù n' èzi ngwangwā.  
 3pl go-rvpst prep-outside quickly/fastly.  
 They went outside quickly
13. a. Ụmụaka nọ ichèichè n' ùlè ahù.  
 Children sit differently prep-examination Dem  
 The children sat differently in that examination.
- b. Ichèichè kà ụmụakā nọ n' ùlè ahù.  
 Differently that children sit pre-examination Dem.  
 The children sat differently in that examination.
- c. N' ùlè ahù ụmụakā nò ichèichè.  
 Prep-examination Dem children sit differently.

The children sat differently in that examination.

In the above underlined reduplicated manner adverbials express the manner in which the actions were performed in the above sentences. They modify the verbs in the sentences and always occur after the verb. They cannot occur between the subject and the verb. It is observed that when these words/nouns are reduplicated, the tone patterns of the second reduplicated words/nouns are affected as shown in the above examples. Sometimes,

the words or nouns are reduplicated with attendant semantic meaning differences depending on the speaker's intention. For instance, when the words/nouns are reduplicated, they may act as intensifiers or they may indicate *very* as in *nwayoṅnwayoṅ* (very slowly/very gently), *oḩuma oḩuma*, (very well). Consider the following examples:

14. a. Mèe ya nwayoṅnwayoṅ.  
Do-ovs 3sg very slowly/gently.  
Do it very slowly/gently.  
b. Mèe ya oḩumaḩumā.  
Do-ovs 3sg very well.  
Do it very well.

It is important to note, that the reduplicated items may be an adjective, a noun or any other grammatical category which can indicate the manner in which an action is performed in the sentence.

### 3.5. Ideophones as manner adverbials in Igbo

Ideophones can be used to express manner adverbials. They are used to describe, dramatize and comment upon actions, process or states (Emenanjo 1978:50). Some ideophones indicate sounds, movements or gestures; others refer to colour, size, taste, smell, temperature and even silence. Ideophones in terms of meanings indicate vigour, colour or precision to an action or state that is being described, dramatized or commented upon. The tones and meanings of ideophones are syntactically and semantically conditioned. Below is the list of some ideophones:

- a. *fiamfiam* (hastily)  
b. *mùrì* (coldness)  
c. *chìm* (ready)  
d. *pòkòpòkò* (plump/smooth)  
e. *yòrì* (softness)  
f. *gbàà/zàà* (bright)  
g. *gegelegem* (stiftness)  
h. *bèlèbèlè* (fragile)  
i. *mii* (moping)  
j. *gagaragam* (tautness)

Consider the following examples

15. a. *Ọ nà-èrì nri fiamfiam.*  
3sg prog-pr-cat food hastily.  
He is eating the food hastily.  
b. *Aka Adā dī murì.*  
Hand Ada be cold.  
Ada's hand is cold.  
c. *Ndì aghā ahù kwù chìm n'ògbògù.*  
Those soldiers Dem stand ready prep-battle field.  
Those solders are ready in the battle field.  
d. *Àhụ yā dī pòkòpòkò.*  
Body 3sg be smooth.  
Her body is smooth.

In the above data, the ideophones modify the verbs. They can also be reduplicated in the syntactic structures as exemplified in (15a and d).

### 3.6. Phrases as Manner Adverbials in Igbo

A phrase is a group of words which are joined together following the rules of a grammar of a language. A phrase according to Radford (1981) is a set of elements which form a constituent without placing any barrier on the number of elements. To Pence and Emery (1971:12), "a phrase is a group of related words not containing a subject and a predicate". Kuiper and Allen (1996, p.89) posit that "a phrase is a unit, intermediate between words and sentences in the structure of sentences". Phrases have heads, and all the constituents of the phrase belong together to make a phrase a syntactic unit. Binnck (1991) postulates that a phrase used as adverb is referred to as an adverbial phrase. Because the Igbo language has scarcity of single-word adverbs, phrases can be used to express manner adverbial meanings as in:

16. a. *Ọ mèrè nkè oma.*  
3sg do-rvpst well.  
He did well.

- b. Nkè oma o mètè nà-àkpa m obi ùtò.  
Well 3sg do-rvpst aux-make 1sg heart sweet.  
His doing well makes me happy.
17. a. Etu òle kà o mètè ya?  
How that 3sg do-rvpst 3sg.  
How did he do it.
- b. O mètè ya etu òle?  
3sg do-rvpst 3sg how.

How did he do it?

18. a. Òtu à/ètu à o mètè kà mma.  
How 3sg do-rvpst that good.  
How he did is good.
- b. Kà ànyị mee ya òtu à/ètu à o kwùrù.  
Let Ipl do-ovs 3sg how 3sg say-rv pst.  
Let us do it how he said.

In data (16a) the phrase *nkè oma* (well) modifies the verb *mere*. It is also a noun complement phrase which indicates the manner in which the action is done in the sentence. In (16b), it occurs at the sentence-initial position. *Etu òle/otu òle* (how) in sentence (17a) occurs at the sentence-initial position while in (17b), it occurs at the sentence-final position. In those sentences, they modify the verbs by telling us how the actions are performed. In (18a), *etu à /otu à* (how) thus occurs at the sentence-initial position modifying the verb *mere* (do) while in (18b) it occurs at the sentence- medial position.

Furthermore, in Igbo prepositional phrases can function as manner adverbials. The prepositional manner adverbial phrases can be formed by merging a preposition with a noun thus: preposition + noun prepositional phrase as in:

19. a. n'eziē (in truth)  
b. n'ichè (in different) →  
c. n'uzò (in a way/manner)  
d. n'òtù (in a manner/way)  
e. n'ike (by force)  
f. n'òkụ (by fire)  
g. na ngwa (by hurry)

Consider the following examples:

20. a. N'eziē, Uchè kwùrù ya.  
Prep-truly, Uche say-rvpst 3sg.  
Truly Uche said it.
- b. O bìàrà n'uzò ziri èzi.  
3sg come-rvpst prep-way/manner show-rvpst right.  
He came in a right way/manner.
- c. O gwàrà ya okwu n'òtu kwesịrị èkwèsị.  
3sg talk-rvpst 3sg talk prep-way/manner please-rvpst please.  
He talked to him in a pleasing way/manner.
- d. Imē ya n'ichè kà mmā.  
To do 3sg prep-differently that good.  
To do it in differently is good.

In the above data, the phrases express manner adverbial meanings. They can also occur where the single-word manner adverbials occur in a sentence, that is, in sentence initial, medial and final positions.

### 3.7. Clauses as Manner Adverbials in Igbo

A clause which functions like an adverb is called an adverbial clause. Crystal (1992:65) posits that a clause is a “type of grammatical construction intermediate between a sentence and a phrase, containing such major functional elements as subject and verb.” Kuiper and Allen (1996:286) define a clause as “a unit with basic structure of a sentence (example, having a lexical verb), but which may be part of compound or complex sentence.” In the language, the manner adverbial clause is initiated by adverbial connectives or complementizers such as *ètu/òtu* (how), *kà* (how), and *uzò* (how/way/manner). They are used as the connectives to introduce the manner adverbial clauses. In this case, they are the heads of the manner adverbial clauses as shown in the examples below:

21. a. Uchè chọputara ètu/otu ànyị sịrị te ofe ahù.  
Uche find-rvpst out how Ipl cook-rvpst cook soup Dem.  
Uche found out how we cooked that soup.

- b. Unù mà kà o sì ème òmùme.  
 2pl know how 3pl is pr-do behaviour.  
 You know how he/she behaves.
- c. Ha chòputàrà uzò ànyị choro isi chekwa agwa ahụ.  
 3pl find-rvpst out how Ipl want-rvpst to preserve beans Dem.  
 They found out how we wanted to preserve those beans.

The manner adverbial clause in sentence (21a) specifies the way of preparing the soup. Sentence (21b) specifies the information about the behavior while (21c) specified the way of preserving the beans. The adverbial connectives in the above sentences can take sentence-initial and medial positions but cannot appear at the sentence-final position. Their occurrence at the sentence final-position will yield ungrammatical sentence thus:

22. a. \* Uchè chòputàrà ànyị siri te ofe ahụ ètu/otu  
 Uche find-rvpst out Ipl cook-rvpst cook soup Dem how.  
 Uche found out how we cooked that soup.
- b. \* Unu mà o si ème omùme kà.  
 2pl know 3sg is pr-do behaviour how.  
 You know how she behaves.
- c. \* Ha chòputàrà anyị choro isi chekwa agwa ahụ ka  
 3pl find-out Ipl want-rv-pst pr-look preserve beans Dem how.  
 They found out how we wanted those beans to be preserved.

### 3.8. Suffixes as Manner Adverbials in Igbo

Apart from using single-words, reduplications, ideophones, phrases and clauses to express manner adverbials in the Igbo language, suffixes are often used to express manner meanings. When they are used, they are attached to the verb roots to express manner readings. The range of adverbial roles carried out by suffixes in Igbo cut across several diversities. They occupy distinct positions within the enclave of the verb phrases.

Examples:

#### Examples:

23.	Verb roots	Suffixes	Words
a.	nwu (die)	chu (prematurely)	→ nwuchu (die prematurely)
b.	so (follow)	chi (persistently)	→ sòchi (follow persistently)
c.	bị (live)	kòtara (together)	→ bikòtara (live together)
d.	rị (eat)	kọtacha (all together)	→ rikọtacha (eat all together)
e.	ri (eat)	kòrò (together)	→ rikòrò (eat together)
f.	be (cut)	riri (slicely)	→ beriri (cut slicely)
g.	kène (greet)	rịta (reciprocal)	→ kènèrìtá (greet reciprocally)
h.	ri (eat)	sapù (separate)	→ risàpu (eat separate)
i.	ri (eat)	pịa (completely)	→ ripịà (eat completely)
j.	me (do)	si (persistently)	→ mesi (do persistently)

Consider the following examples;

24. a. Ha nà-ànwuchunà ntorobjà.  
 3pl aux-pr die-prematurely prep-youth.  
 They die prematurely at youth.
- b. Obi nà-èsochinà ya anya.  
 Obi Aux-pre-follow-persistently father 3sg eye.  
 Obi is persistently following his father.
- c. Ha bikòtara n'outonụlò.  
 3pl live together prep-one house.  
 They live together in one house.
- d. Umàkà rikòrò nri.  
 Children ate together food.  
 The children ate together.
- e. Ibè beriri anụ Ego.  
 Ibe cut rv-pst meat Ego.



- Ibe cut slicely ego's meat.
- f. Uchè nà Àda kènèrìtara ònwe hā.  
 Uche conj Ada greet-reciprocally self 3pl.  
 Uche and Ada greeted themselves reciprocally.  
 From the above data, the underlined suffixes that are attached to the verb roots indicate the manner of how the actions are performed in the sentences. The attaching of each of these different manner adverbial suffixes to the verb roots specifies different adverbial notional contents. We also observe that manner adverbial suffixes can be quite recursive in Igbo grammar.

### 5. Negation and Igbo Manner Adverbials

Negative is a form of transformation involving the contraction of the propositional content of a sentence and can often be achieved through the use of several different strategies such as affixation, tonal alternation, melody and independent lexical items in different languages. To Lyons (1977), negation is a denial of an assertive proposition or a predication that a proposition is untrue.

The negative suffixes that exist in Igbo language include: the general negator *-ghì* (not), the imperative negative suffix *la-na* (do not/don't) and the perfective negative suffix *beghì* (not). Among these negative suffixes, the manner adverbials in Igbo cannot have scope over them in the sentences examples;

25. a. Hà amaghì ya òfuma.  
 3pl pr-know-Neg 3sg well.  
 They do not know him well.
- b. \* Hà òfuma amaghì ya.  
 3pl well pr-know-Neg 3sg.  
 They well know not him.
26. a. Anala ya ego ahù n'ike.  
 Don't 3sg money Dem prep-force.  
 Don't take that from him by force.
- b. \* N'ike anala ya ego ahù.  
 Prep-force don't 3sg money Dem.  
 By force don't take that money.
27. a. O meghì ya nke oma.  
 3sg do-Neg 3sg well.  
 He did not do it well.
- b. \* Nke oma o meghì ya.  
 Well 3sg do-Neg 3sg.  
 Well he did not do it.
28. a. Hà àkpàbèghì nkàta nwayòò.  
 3pl pr-discuss perf-Neg discussion gently.  
 They have not discussed gently.
- a. \* Hà nwayòò àkpàbèghì nkàta.  
 3pl gently pr-discuss-perf-Neg discussion  
 The gently discuss not

From the above data, it is observed that the manner adverbials in Igbo cannot have scope over the Igbo negators in the sentences. This results to the ungrammaticalness of all the sentences in (b) of (25 – 28) above. Furthermore, in below examples, the sentences in (29b) and (30b) are ungrammatical because the manner adverbials connectives have scope over the negators.

29. a. Uchè achọputaghì etu/otu ànyị siri te ofe ahù.  
 Uche pr-find-Neg out how Ipl cook rvpst cook soup Dem.  
 Uche did not find out that soup was cooked.
- b. \* Uchè ètu/otu achọputaghì ànyị siri te ofe ahù.  
 Uche how pr-find-Neg out Ipl cook-rv pst cook soup Dem.  
 Uche how find not that soup was cooked.
30. a. Ha amaghì kà o si ème òmùme.  
 3pl pr-know-Neg how 3sg is pr-do behaviour.  
 They do not know how he/she behaves.
- b. \* Ha kà amaghì o si ème òmùme.  
 3pl how pr-know-Neg 3sg is pr-do behaviour.

They how know not he/she is behaves.

## 6. Manner Adverbials in Complex Sentence

The Igbo lexical manner adverbials, phrases and clauses can combine with one another or be joined with conjunctions to form complex sentences thus:

31. a. Àda zàrà ụlọ ahù òfuma ngwangwā kà o wèè jèè ukà gboo.  
Ada sweep-rvpst house Dem well quickly conj. 3sg take-o go-ovs church early.  
Ada swept that house well quickly so that she will go to church early.
- b. N'ezie, Chike jèrè ozi ahù nkè oma n'agbanyeghì nà o nà-ème ara arā  
Prep truly, Chike go-rvpst errand Dem well in as much as conj 3sg Aux-pr-do mad mad.  
Truly, Chike went that errand well in as much as he behaves like a mad person.
- c. O mèrè ya ètu ha chọrọ ọsiiso n'uzo kà mma.  
3sg do-rvpst 3sg how 3pl want-rvpst quickly prep-way conj good.  
He did it how they wanted quickly in way that is good.

The above data indicate that two or three manner adverbials can occur in a sentence with conjunction.

## IV. CONCLUSION

This paper examines the syntax of manner adverbials in Igbo. The Igbo manner adverbial are syntactically expressed using lexical words, nouns, reduplications, idiophones, phrases, clauses and suffixes. The manner adverbial clauses are introduced by connectives such as *ètu/òtu* (how), *kà* (how) and *uzò* (how). The manner adverbials are tied to the surrounding syntactic and semantic structures leaving much space for variation and adaptation. Wherever the manner adverbials find suitable integration site, they attach to it and supply additional information. In as much as most Igbo manner adverbials distribute themselves freely within the syntactic structures, *gboo* (early) and *kpam* (completely) cannot occur at the sentence-initial position. The Igbo manner adverbials cannot take scope over the Igbo general negator *ghì* (not) in the syntactic structures. Igbo manner adverbials do not make use of prefix at all in expressing manner adverbial meanings in the language. The Igbo manner adverbials do not occur in between the subject and the verb. *Òfuma* (well) that is considered as manner adverbial has qualitative property, while *hinnè* (much/abundantly) has degree property.

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