The Aspectual System of Hmong Daw
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SOAS – London
MA Thesis
BA – University of Rochester 2009

1. Aims   4. Data and Analysis
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Examples:

Kuv   **tseem** *tabtom*   *noj*   *mov*
1SG   PROG   currently   eat   rice
1. 'I am currently eating.'

koj   *puas* **tau** *txhuam*   *koj*   *cov*   *kaws*   *hniav*
2SG   POLQ   STA.PFV brush   2SG   CL   CL   teeth
2. 'Have you brushed your teeth? (Elicited using Dahl 1985: #64)

nws   *mus*   *xeem*   *tau*   *lais.xeem*   **lawm** *ma*
3SG   go   test   POT   license   PFV   AFF
3. 'He/she was able to pass his/her road test.'

kuv   **tseem tsis**   *tau*   *dadej*   *li*
1SG   PROG   NEG   STA.PFV shower   IPFV?
4. 'I haven't showered yet.'

kuv   **tsis**   **tau** *qheb*   *lub*   *qhov*   *rais*   *ko*
1SG   NEG   STA.PFV open   CL   hole   window   this.answer
5. 'I did not open the window!' (Elicited using Dahl 1985: #63)

phau   *ntawv*   *ntawm.ko*   *nws*   *twb*   *tau*   *nyeem* **lawm**
CL   paper   that.one   3SG   already   STA.PFV read   PFV
6. 'He has already (completely) read that one.' (Elicited using Dahl 1985: #53)

wo   *zuotian*   *xie*   **-le**   *yi*   *feng*   *xin*
1SG   yesterday   write   -LE   one   CL   letter
7. 'I wrote a letter yesterday.' (Mandarin - Smith 1997: 264)

Kuv   *tsis*   **tau** *rov.qab*   *los*   *tsev*   *li.*
1SG   NEG   STA.PFV reverse   come   house   IPFV?
8. 'I have not yet returned home.'

daim   *niag*   *Tokyo* *twb*   *tsis*   **tau**   *tawm*   *puas*   *yog…*
CL   CL   Tokyo already   NEG   STA.PFV to.come.out   POLQ   AFF
9. 'The Tokyo movie hasn't come out yet, right?'

koj	*puas*	**tau**	*txhuam*	*koj*	*cov*	*kaws*	*hniav*
2SG	POLQ	STA.PFV	brush	2SG	CL	CL	teeth

10. 'Have you brushed your teeth?' (Elicited using Dahl 1985: #64)

kuv	**pheej**	*ua*	*dab.tsi*	*ne,*	*kuv*	*twb*
1SG	CONT	do	what	DPQ	1SG	already

yuav	*mus*	*tawm.rooj*	*ho*	*sav*
FUT	go	bathroom	DP	DP

11. 'What am I still doing here? I'm supposed to go to the bathroom.'

kuv	**pheej**	*xav*	*rau*	*kuv*	*tus*	*kheej*
1SG	CONT	think	to	1SG	CL	REFL

12. 'I keep thinking to myself.' (from conversation)

ua.ntej	*thaum*	*kuv*	*mus*	*tawm*	*rooj*	*kuv*	**pheej**	*Ua*	*dab.tsi*	*ne?*
Before	time	1SG	go	out	door	1SG	CONT	do	what	DPQ

13. *intended: 'What was I doing before I went to the bathroom?'

ua.ntej	*thaum*	*kuv*	*mus*	*tawm*	*rooj,*	*kuv*	**tseem**	*ua*	*dab.tsi*	*ne?*
before	time	1SG	go	out	door	1SG	PROG	do	what	DPQ

14. 'What was I doing before I went to the bathroom?'

kuv	**tseem**	*xav*	*mas.ntshe*	*lawv*	*twb*
1SG	PROG	think	maybe	3PL	already

15. I'm think**ing** that maybe they already (are zombies). (from conversation)

yog.vim.li.cas	*koj*	**pheej**	**tseem**	*yuav*	*noj*	*thiab*	*no*
why	2SG	CONT	PROG	FUT	eat	and	DP

16. 'Why are you still wanting to eat?' (polite) (shouldn't you be full already?)

kuv	*niam*	**yuav**	*tom*	*teb*
1SG	mother	FUT	over.there	land

17. 'My mother will go to the garden.'

kuv	**yuav**	*rov.qab*	*mus*	*tsev*
1SG	FUT	return	go	house

18. 'I'm going back home.' (I don't want to do this anymore.)

kuv	**mam.li**	*khiav*	*mus*	*los*	*mas*
1SG	BEN.FUT	run	go	DP	DP

19. 'Ok, I will leave.' (you don't want me here.)

kuv	**mam.li**	*ua*	*li*	*koj*	*hais*	*los*	*mas*
1SG	BEN.FUT	do	?	2SG	say	DP	DP

20. 'I will do whatever you say!' (please forgive me)

*kuv	**mam.li**		**yuav**	ua.li	koj	hais	los	mas
1SG	BEN.FUT		FUT	to.do	2SG	say	DP	DP

21. *intended: 'I will do what you say'

*kuv	**yuav**	**mam.li**		ua.li	koj	hais	los	mas		
1SG	FUT	BEN.FUT		FUT		to.do	2SG	say	DP	DP

22. *intended: 'I will do what you say'

tam.sim.no	kuv	tabtom		pleev	xim	dawb		
right.now	1SG	currently		paint	CL	white		
rau	kuv	lub	tsev	tab.si	tsis	tau	tiav	**li**
for	1SG	CL	house	but	NEG	STA.PFV	CESS?	IPFV?

23. 'Right now I'm currently using white paint to paint my house, but it is not done yet.'

kuv	tseem	ua	tsis	tau	**tag**	kiag	li
1SG	PROG	do	NEG	STA.PFV	CESS?	DP	IPFV?

24. 'I haven't done it (for you) yet.'

Abbreviations:

AFF	affirmative		PFV	perfective
BEN.FUT	benefactive future		PL	plural
CESS	cessative		POT	potential
CL	classifier		PROG	progressive
CONT	continuous		REFL	reflexive
DP	discourse particle		SG	singular
DPQ	discourse question particle		STA.PFV	stative perfective
FUT	future		POLQ	polar question
IPFV	imperfective		1	first person
NEG	negative		2	second person
			3	third person

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