CHAPTER-III

TENSE, ASPECT AND MOOD
3.0 Introduction

This chapter studies the morpho-semantic features of the verbal inflectional categories such as tense, aspect and mood (TAM) in Hawa Nokte. The section 3.1 presents a brief account of the general conceptual definition of TAM. The section 3.2 examines how tense and aspect are realized in Hawa Nokte. In other words, it discusses the mechanism employed to encode time or to locate the events in time. The section 3.3 investigates the different mood categories found in Hawa Nokte. In short, the present chapter chiefly deals with the three closely related verbal categories such TAM.

3.1 Overview of Tense, Aspect and Mood

Time is a universal feature. Every language has its own mechanism to locate or indicate the time of events. Originally, the term ‘tense’ is derived from Latin tempus meaning ‘time’, and thus it is used to indicate the time of the events described by the verbs. It is considered as a deictic category that expresses a temporal relation between the situation described by a sentence and some deictic centre, most often the speech time. The basic function of tense is, thus, to locate the time of event or action in relation to the time of utterance or moment of speech. Traditionally, the three parameters are used to identify the tense: (i) the location of the deictic centre (either at the present moment - in the so-called 'absolute tenses', or at a different point in time - in the so-called 'relative tenses'); (ii) the location of the situation with respect to the deictic centre (i.e. prior to, subsequent to, or simultaneous with the deictic centre); and (iii) the distance in time at which the situation referred to is located from the deictic centre (Comrie, 1985). Thus, if a language is said to have a tense, then, the commonest tenses could be past, present and future. The present tense is one which described the situation located temporally simultaneous with the moment or time of speaking (e.g., I am eating food). The past tense described the situation or event as located prior to the speech moment (e.g., I ate food), and the future tense locates the event subsequent to the time of speaking (e.g., I will eat the food).
can be represented schematically below, where \( S \) stands for the time of speaking and \( E \) for the time of the event:

| Present: | \( S \_ E \) |
| Past:    | \( E \) before \( S \) |
| Future:  | \( S \) before \( E \) |

However, time is not uniformly marked across the languages. Languages differ the way time is located or indicated in their grammar of language. In many of the world languages, the category of tense is not prominently marked. Language such as Manipuri, for instance, has two-fold tense distinction; the future versus non-future and other language such as Kannada shows past and non-past distinction (Bhat, 1999) as illustrated in (1).

(1) a. \textit{avannu manege ho:-d-a}  
he home go-PST-3SG.M  
‘He went home’

b. \textit{avannu manege ho:gu-\texttt{tt}-a:ne}  
he home go-NONPST-3SG.M  
‘He goes home (habitually)’ or ‘He will go home’

Aspect is another common inherent inflectional category of verb. However, unlike tense, aspect is situation-internal and non-deictic, as it is not concerned with relating the time of the situation to any other time point. Comrie (1976) states that aspect is not concerned with relation the time of the situation to any other time point but rather with the ‘internal temporal constituency’ to the one situation; one could state the difference as one between situation-internal time (aspect) and situation external time (tense). The basic function of aspect is to highlight the internal temporal unfolding of the predication. Essentially, aspect indicates whether the event, state, process or action that is denoted by a verb is completed or in progress. Take for
instance, in sentence (2a), the event of dancing is in progress and has not ended whereas in (2b), the event of dancing has completed or ended.

(2) a. *Mary is dancing.*

b. *Mary has danced.*

The word ‘mood’ is also derived from Latin *modus* meaning ‘way’ or ‘manner’; thus, it originally meaning is to indicate the verb’s ‘attitude’ or ‘manner of speaking’. The mood, for Payne (1997), functions as to describe “the speaker’s attitude toward a situation, including the speaker’s belief in its reality, or likelihood” (p. 224). In short, mood refers to the speaker’s perspective on the event such as certainty or uncertainty, wish or command, permission, capability, necessity, emphasis or hesitancy.

3.2 Marking of Tense and Aspect in Hawa Nokte

Das Gupta (1971) observed that tense in Nokte is marked by adding suffixes to the verb root. Most of these affixes are syllabic and others are non-syllabic forms. Both prefixes and suffixes are used to mark the tense and aspect. Generally, the tense and aspect markers are clustered around the verbs along with PNAgr markers.

3.2.1 Present indefinite

The present indefinite is unmarked for tense. There is no overt morphological element to show marking of the tense. The verb roots are immediately followed by PNAgr markers. Take for instance, the present indefinite would be read as shown in (3) without any overt marking to indicate the tense.

(3) a. *ŋa boon-ŋə*

   I dance-1sg

   ‘I dance’
b. əte bəŋ-a

she dance-3SG

‘She dances’

3.2.2 Past tense maker

The past tense is marked by an inflectional suffix /t/. After the attachment of the past tense suffix to the verb roots, only then undergo PNAgr suffixation as shown in (4). The past tense forms of verb are given below;

(4) a. /vat/ ‘to beat’


3SG/PL [(vat)-t]PST-aʔ]3SG/PL

b. /lo/ ‘to catch’


3SG/PL [(lo)-t]PST-aʔ]3SG/PL

In case of past tense, the event denoted by the verb took place prior to the speech moment. The tense marker usually occurs in between the verb stem and PNAgr form as shown in (5). In negative constructions, tense marker is immediately preceded by negation as shown in (5b).
(5) a. əte tfəm tfʰ-aʔ-t-aʔ?
   he food eat-PST-3SG
   ‘He ate food’

b. əte tfəm tfʰ-aʔ-ɾaʔ-t-aʔ?
   he food eat-NEG-PST-3SG
   ‘He did not eat food’

c. əte tfəm tfʰ-aʔ-t-aʔ-a
   he food eat-PST-3SG-QP
   ‘Did he eat food?’

In (6a), temporal adverbial *yesterday* also agrees with the past tense marker */t/, whereas in (6b) the temporal adverbial *tomorrow* and the past tense marker */t/ don’t complement with each other. As Bhat (1999) pointed out that “…it is necessary to describe the system of tense independently of these adverbials because the latter are only optional elements that may be used to modify tense, if necessary; they do not form an essential part of the tense system” (p. 30). In other words, tense is independent of temporal adverbials and can stand on its own even without the support of temporal adverbials. Thus, the use of temporal adverbial in Haw Nokte is optional.

(6) a. məʤa əte səkun-nəŋ ka-t-aʔ?
   yesterday he school-LOC go[down]-PST-3SG
   ‘Yesterday he went to school’

b. *ninəp əte səkun-nəŋ ka-t-aʔ?
   tommorow he school-LOC go[down]-PST-3SG
   ‘Tommorow he went to school’
3.2.3 Future tense marker

Hawa Nokte employs two future tense markers such as /e/ and /min/ to indicate the subsequent events or the events that occur after the speech moment. The two verbal forms of future tense are shown in (7).

(7) a. /hun/ ‘to love’

| 1SG  | FUT[{e-(hun)}-ǝŋ]SG |
| 1PL  | FUT[{e-(hun)}-i]PL  |
| 2SG  | FUT[{e-(hun)}-o]2SG |
| 2PL  | FUT[{e-(hun)}-e]2PL |
| 3SG/PL| FUT[{e-(hun)}-a]3SG/PL |

b. /bin/ ‘to bury’

| 1SG  | (bin)-min]FUT |
| 1PL  | (bin)-min]FUT |
| 2SG  | (bin)-min]FUT |
| 2PL  | (bin)-min]FUT |
| 3SG/PL| (bin)-min]FUT |

Both future markers denote future event or action. The difference between these two future markers is such that the future marker /e/ occurs as prefix as shown in (8a), whereas the other one occurs as suffix without PNAgr form inflected on the verb as shown in (8b). Also, in case of future marker /e/, the probability mood marker /tʰǝm/ can occur as suffix to the verb stems as shown in (8c), whereas in other case it is not possible to co-occur with probability marker as shown in (8d).

(8) a. ǝṭe tʃǝm ǝ-tʃʰaʔ-a

he food FUT-eat-3SG

‘He will eat food’
In (9a & b), the temporal adverbial tomorrow agrees with both the future tense markers, whereas in (9c) the temporal adverbial yesterday doesn’t complement with neither of the future tense marker.

(9) a. ninap ga səkun-nəŋ e-vəŋ-rəŋ
   tomorrow I school-LOC FUT-come[up]-DIR[towards the Adr]-1SG
   ‘Tomorrow, I will come to school’

b. ninap ga səkun-nəŋ vəŋ-min
   tomorrow I school-LOC go[up]-FUT
   ‘Tomorrow I will go to school’

c. *məʤa ga səkun-nəŋ vəŋ-min
   yesterday I school-LOC go[up]-FUT
   ‘Yesterday, I will go to school’

It may be noted that in Hawa Nokte the same morpheme /min/ also functions as inclusive particle ‘also’ and reciprocal marker. Nevertheless, the ambiguity doesn’t arise as the future marker always occurs as suffix to the verb stems as shown in above examples in (8b) and (9b). On the other hand, the inclusive form may occupy the slot
in between the subject and the indirect object, or immediately follows the adverbial as shown in (10a & b).

(10) a. *ninəp nǝŋ *min *(ŋa-dǝmmǝn)* sekun-*nǝŋ vǝŋ-*min

tomorrow you also I-ASSOC school-LOC go[up]-FUT

‘Tomorrow you also will go with me to the school’

b. *ninəp *min *(ŋa-dǝmmǝn)* sekun-*nǝŋ vǝŋ-*min

tomorrow also you I-ASSOC school-LOC go[up]-FUT

‘Tomorrow also you will go with me to the school’

In case of verbal reciprocal, the reciprocal marker is first added to the verb stems and immediately followed by the future marker as shown in (11b). Thus, ambiguity is avoided.

(11) a. *mohon le ram tun-*min-k-a

mohon and ram hit-RECP-PRES-3SG

‘Mohon and Ram hit each other’

b. *ram le sita ni hun-*min-min

ram and sita two love-RECP-FUT

‘Ram and Sita will love each other’

3.2.4 Present continuous marker

The present continous is commonly referred to the description of *ongoing* or *continuous* events. It is the event taking place simultaneously at the speech moment. The inflectional suffix /k/ is used to indicate the progressive aspect as shown in (12a) and (12b). However, when sentence is negated, the negative marker knocks out the aspectual marker and PNAgr marker immediately follows the verb as shown in (12c).
(12) a. əte ʧəm tfʰaʔ-ʔk-a
he food eat-PRES-3SG
‘He is eating food’

b. əte ʧəm tfʰaʔ-ʔk-a-a
he food eat-PRES-3SG-QP
‘Is he eating food?’

c. əte ʧəm tfʰaʔ-ʔm-aʔ
he food eat-NEG-3SG
‘He is not eating food’

The past progressive event may be expressed in two ways – in the first case, a morpheme /vaʔ/ is directly added to the verb stem as shown in (13a). The verb also doesn’t show PNAGr. Secondly, the main verb is first marked by progressive/durative marker /tʰu/ and then verb /dəŋ/ ‘be’ is suffixed by /vaʔ/ as shown in (13b). Both sentences have the same meaning.

(13) a. ŋa ʧəm tfʰaʔ-ʔvaʔ
I food eat-PST
‘I was eating food’

b. ŋa ʧəm tfʰaʔ-ʔtʰu dəŋ-vaʔ
I food eat-DUR be-PST
‘I was eating food’

3.2.5 Habitual marker

The habitual aspect denotes the action that occurs in regular mode or on a regular basis. Hawa Nokte distinguishes two habitual events such as present and past habitual aspects. For example, I go to school (every now and then) will be different
from *I used to go to the school* (before but not in the present time). Thus, accordingly, the two morphemes /ɾəŋ/ and /ʧi/ are used to denote the present habitual and past habitual aspects respectively. Both occur as prefixes.

### 3.2.5.1 Present habitual marker

The morpheme /ɾəŋ/ is used to mark the present habitual aspect. In (14), the two different events such as *drinking tea* and *smoking a cigarette* happens every now and then at regular period of time. The use of temporal adverbials such as *always, everyday, daily, morning, afternoon*, etc. are optional and required only when one has to specify the actual time.

(14) a. *ŋa rəŋkʰaʔ-ko (ʧąroakveʔ) kʰeləp rəŋ-ʧok-əŋ*

   I morning-in (everyday) tea HAB-drink-1SG

   ‘(Everyday) I drink tea in the morning’

b. *ram sirup rəŋ-ʧok-a*

   ram cigarette HAB-drink-3SG

   ‘Ram smokes cigarette’

In (15), the habitual marker is removed, thereby, the habitual reading is nullified. In this sentence, it only states the *desire of smoking a cigarette* and doesn’t indicate whether person smokes regularly or not. Thus, use of habitual marker is obligatory if the habitual reading is to be achieved.

(15) *ŋa sirup ʧok-əŋ*

   I cigarette smoke-1SG

   ‘I smoke cigarette’
3.2.5.2 Past habitual marker

The morpheme /ʧi/ is used to denote the past habitual aspect. It indicates that the event used to occur regularly in the past. Example (16a) indicates that a person used to drink (before), but as of now, he doesn’t drink anymore. Similarly, example (16b) also indicates that the event of going to the school was of past activity but presently it holds no relevance. In other words, the two events drinking wine and going to the school were the matter of past and doesn’t relate to the present context.

(16) a. ŋa kʰemberʧi-ʤok-t-ək
   I wine HAB-drink-PST-1SG
   ‘I used to drink wine’

b. əte sokun-nəŋʧi-ka-t-aʔ
   he school-LOC HAB-go[down]-PST-3SG
   ‘He used to go to the school’

3.2.6 Perfective marker

Hawa Nokte employs two perfective markers such as /la/ and /ʧuen/. The former occurs as prefix along with the past tense marker /t/ as shown in (17a) where verb also shows PNAgr with the subject, whereas the latter occurs as suffix without additional past tense marker as shown in (17b) and verb also doesn’t show any PNAgr marker.

(17) a. əte fəm la-tʰaʔ-t-aʔ
   he food PERF-eat-PST-3SG
   ‘He has eaten food’

b. əte fəm tʰaʔ-ʧuen
   he food eat-PERF
   ‘He has eaten food’
3.2.7 Durative marker

To indicate the duration of the event, either of the morphemes such as /tʰu/ or /poit/ can be used in Hawa Nokte. Basically, both morphemes denote ‘time’ or ‘duration’ of the action or event. They occur as suffix and show no PNAgr as shown in (18).

(18) a. əte hum-ŋeq vəŋ-tʰu poit
  he house-LOC go[up]-DUR/PRES
  ‘He is going to the house (at this time)’

b. əte hum-ŋeq vəŋ-tʰu-poit-ne
  he house-LOC go[up]-DUR/PRES-QP
  ‘Is he going to the house (at this time)’?

c. əte hum-ŋeq vəŋ-tʰu poit dəŋ maʔ
  he house-LOC go[up]-DUR/PRES-QP
  ‘He is not going to the house (at this time)’

3.2.8 Imminence marker

The imminence aspect indicates the action that is likely to take place in immediate future. According to Van Driem (1987), the impendent “…is an apt and often used device to express the imminent realization or near completion of any verbal activity or process” (p. 125). In other words, it indicates the sense of ‘to be about to do’ or ‘to be on the verge of doing something’. In this case, the speaker already has an impression about the certainty of the event to occur. Consider an example from Limbu as in (19);

(19) si neʔl
  die impend
  ‘He’s about to die’ (Driem, 1987)
In Hawa Nokte, the imminence event or action is expressed by either of the two morphemes such as /la/ or /nəmnəm/. The first one occurs as prefix whereas the second one occurs as suffix. Morpheme /la/ can only occur in present tense and verb also shows PNAgr inflection as shown in (20a), whereas morpheme /nəmnəm/ can occur in both past and present and verb doesn’t show PNAgr marking as shown in (20b & c). Also, the reduced form of morpheme /nəmnəm/ can only occur with past progressive marker /vaʔ/ and not with /t/ as shown in (20d).

\[(20)\]

a. \textit{əte la-ri-k-a}  
\text{he IMM-die-PRES-3SG}  
‘He is about to die’

b. \textit{əte ri-nəmnəm}  
\text{he die-IMM}  
‘He is about to die’

c. \textit{əte ri-nəm-vaʔ}  
\text{he die-IMM-PST}  
‘He was about to die’

d. *\textit{əte ri-nəm-t-aʔ}  

3.3 Mood in Hawa Nokte

The category of mood in Hawa Nokte is used when the speaker desires to specify the relevant meaning or to denote it with emphasis. The different categories of mood may be discussed below:

3.3.1 Imperative mood

Imperative is a form of the verb used in issuing direct commands. It is restricted to the second person subject. The use of imperative is also restricted only to
the future and cannot be used or refered to the present or past tense. In Hawa Nokte, the imperative is morphologically unmarked or zero-marking as shown in (21). The verb shows PN Agr but no tense or aspect marker. Negative imperative is achieved by adding the negative marker to the verb as prefix as shown in (21b).

(21) a. ṇəŋ toŋ-o
    you sit-2SG
    ‘You sit’

b. ṇəŋ nǝk-toŋ-o
    you NEG-sit-2SG
    ‘you don’t sit’

When third person occurs as the subject, the morpheme /ʧen/ ‘let’ is added to the verb as shown in (22). In negative constructions such as in (22b), the negative marker /nǝk/ is added to the morpheme /ʧen/ followed by verb and other verbal inflectional categories.

(22) a. əte ʧen-ka-r-a
    he let-come[down]-DIR[towards the Sp]-3SG
    ‘Let him come’

b. əte nǝk-ʧen-ka-r-a
    he NEG-let-come[down]-DIR[towards the Sp]-3SG
    ‘Let him not come’

The polite way of seeking or granting permission is denoted by a marker /ta-/ which occur as prefix to the verb as shown in (23).

(23) a. ŋa ta-ʤap-øŋ-le
    I can-speak-1SG-QP
    (i) ‘May I speak?’
(ii) ‘Can I speak?’

b. \( \eta a \ ta-ka-r-\omega n-le \)
   I can-come[down]-DIR[towards the Adr]-1SG-QP
   ‘Can I come (there)’?

c. \( n\omega n \ ta-ka-o \)
   you can-go[down]-3SG
   ‘You can/may go’

3.3.2 Ability mood

The ability mood is expressed by a morpheme /ta/. It occurs as prefix to the verb root. This marker generally denotes ‘the ability of an agent for the performance of an act’ (Gupta, 1971). In short, it denotes ‘be able’ to perform action or activity. However, the addition of negative marker may negate the entire proposition as shown in (24b).

(24) a. \( \eta a-ma \ ote \ ta-d\l g\i e-n-t-\omega k \)
   I-ERG he can-defeat-PST-1SG
   ‘I could defeat him’

b. \( \eta a-ma \ n\omega m \ d\l g\i a?-m\omega n \ ta-p^{b}t\omega k-m-\omega k \)
   I-ERG meat more-DEG can-eat-NEG-1SG
   ‘I cannot eat more meat’

3.3.3 Probability mood

This mood expresses the action which is possible or probable to occur in near future. The morpheme /t\omega m/ is used to denote the probability of the event. It is immediately added to the verb root followed by other verbal inflectional categories as shown in (25).
(25) a. əte səkun-nəŋ ka-ʃam-a
he school-LOC go[down]-PROB-3SG
‘He may/might go to school’

b. ŋa səkun-nəŋ ʃe-ka-ʃam-maʔ-r-əŋ
I school-LOC again-come[down]-PROB-NEG-DIR[towards the Adr]-1SG
‘I may/might not come again’

c. əte səkun-nəŋ ʃə-ka-ʃam-t-əŋ
he school-LOC PERF-go[down]-PROB-PST-3SG
‘He might have gone to the school’

3.3.4 Hortative mood

This mood denotes desire or wish. It is denoted by morpheme /tʰəŋmam/. It is preceded by another morpheme /ʃ’en/. The interesting thing about the hortative marker is that the form can be interchanged as shown in (26a & b). The form can also be split into two parts and then used them separately without affecting the meaning of the word or sentence as shown in (26c).

(26) a. ʃə-ʃa ɾəŋ ʃ’en-ʃəŋmam-pat-a
today rain let-HORT-fall-SFP
(i) ‘Today, let it rain’
(ii) ‘Today, may it rain’

b. pʰo-heʔ-ma ɣaʔ ʃ’aʔ ʃ’en-mam-ʃəŋ-kəp-ven-ʃ-a
brother-PLM-ERG fish more let-HORT-get-bring-DIR[towards the Adr]-3PL
‘May brother and his friends get and bring enough fishes’

c. ʃə-ʃa ɾəŋ ʃ’en-mam-pat-a or ʃə-ʃa ɾəŋ ʃ’en-ʃəŋ-pat-a
today rain let-HORT-fall-SFP
‘Today, may it rain’
3.3.5 Certainty mood

The certainty mood indicates the definiteness of the action. It denotes the certainty of action which is bound to occur. It is expressed by morpheme /dede/.

It generally occurs at the end of the sentence or at the sentence final-position.

(27) a. ǝte səkun-nəŋ vin dəŋ-min dede
    he school-LOC presence be-FUT MOD[certainty]
    ‘Certainly, he will be there in the school’

b. ǝte ʧʃəm la-tʃʰ-aʔ-t-aʔ dəŋ-min dede
    I food PERF-eat-PST-3SG be-FUT MOD[certainty]
    ‘Certainly, he has finished eating food’

3.3.6 Conditional mood

The condition mood is expressed with help of morpheme /me/ which occurs as prefix to the matrix verb, and the locative particle /ko/ is added after PNAgr at the right side of the verb. In a construction, when an adjective is introduced, the conditional marker is attached to the adjective as shown in (28b). Otherwise, it usually precedes the verb as shown in (28a).

(28) a. ɲəŋ me-se-o-kə ya le-se-min
    you COND-sing-2SG-LOC I NEG-sing-FUT
    ‘If you sing, I will not sing’

b. netʃʰe me-sen veʔ-en-kə e-pat-en
    you (two) COND-good study-2PL-LOC FUT-pass-2PL
    ‘If you (two) study well, you will pass’
3.3.7 Obligatory/Assertive mood

This mood indicates the obligation on the part of the person to oblige to the request. It is denoted by morpheme /ʤoba/ which occurs independently at the end of the sentence after tense and PNAgr markers as shown in (29). It may also be used as assertive marker to indicate that something really has had happened or may not as shown in (29b).

(29) a. ɴəŋ ʧəm ʧʰaʔ-min ʤوبا

   you food eat-FUT OBL
   (i) ‘You have to eat’
   (ii) ‘You should eat’
   (iii) ‘You must eat’

b. ɲa-ma ɴəŋ ƣun huʔ- maʔ- t- ʧ ʤوبا

   I-ERG you money steal-NEG-PST-1SG MOD[assertive]
   ‘I really didn’t steal your money’

3.3.8 Hearsay or reportage mood

The morpheme /ɲa/ usually functions as independent verb meaning ‘to tell/say’ in Hawa Nokte. It is also used to mark hearsay of relatively recent past event. For example, in (30a), the speaker has no first on-hand information about the person who has just died; it is only through somebody that he (the speaker) got the information. The morpheme always occurs at the end of the sentence or in other words it closes the clause or sentence as shown in (30a & b). However, if it is used as main verb, then it is generally inflected for tense and PNAgr as shown in (30c).

(30) a. ʃte  la-ŋak hu-t- h-a ɲa

   he PERF-back come-PST-DIR[towards the Sp]-3SG HSY
   ‘He has returned’ (I heard or somebody has told)
b.  ꦣaɁa vaʔ ꦣoʔ?min-t-iʔ teka-va-pa ri-t-aʔ ꦣa
   yesterday from meet-PST-1PL old-MASC-DEF die-PST-3SG HSY
   ‘The old man whom we met yesterday has died’

c. ꦣa-ma əte-ŋa ꦣa-t-ək
   I-ERG he-ACC tell-PST-1SG
   ‘I told him’

3.3.9  Miscellaneous moods

3.3.9.1  Mood ꦬat/

The morpheme denotes ‘something not known or experienced before’ (Gupta, 1971). It occurs as prefix. In (31a), it affirms that the person has once seen the tiger. In (31b), the person has not seen the tiger even once in his life. However, in (31c) though the person has seen the tiger once but nowadays he doesn’t see it anymore.

(31) a. ꦣa saʔ la- ꦬat-kət-e-t-ək
   I tiger PERF-MOD-see-PST-1SG
   ‘I have seen tiger’

b. ꦣa saʔ ma- ꦬat-kət-e-k-əŋ
   I NEG-MOD-dance-PRES-1SG
   ‘I have never seen tiger’

c. ꦣa saʔ ma- ꦬat-kət-e-tu-k-əŋ
   I NEG-MOD-dance-never-PRES-1SG
   ‘I have not seen the tiger nowadays’

In another example (32), the form is used as a kind of warning to abstain someone from doing something or repeating the action. In (32a), the person has not
visited yet he has been warned not go, whereas in (32b) the person has been warned of his previously visited event and never to repeat the same.

(32) a. /lists\( nən ətf^h in hum-nən ʔat-ka-tan \)
     you they house-LOC MOD[warning]-go[down]-REQU
     ‘You should never go to their house’

b. /lists\( nən-ma moʔ^o ʔat-ʔo-tu-tan \)
     you-ERG lie MOD[warning]-tell-never-REQU
     ‘You should never ever tell lie anymore’

3.3.9.2 Mood /\( ɲ^a/\)

This morpheme denotes the speaker’s intention of performing action with some reservation. For instance, in (33a), the speaker is willing to lend the money but he has some reservations, which is why, he is unwilling to lend the money.

(33) a. /lists\( ɲa-ma nən-nən gun ɲ^a-koʔ-t-i? \)
     I-ERG you-DAT money MOD-give-PST-1SG
     ‘I would have given you the money’

b. /lists\( ǝtɛ ɲ^a-ka-t-h-a \)
     he MOD-go[down]-PST-DIR[towards the Sp]-3SG
     ‘He would have come…’

3.3.9.3 Mood /\( poŋ/\) or /\(^b/am/\)

This morpheme is used to indicate the regularity of the event. This is usually associated with negative attitude towards the event that occurs frequently or more than what is required. For eg; event such as non-stop raining, talking or telling about the same thing again and again, etc., may be expressed with help of this morpheme.
Alternatively, either of the form may be used without affecting the core meaning of the word as shown in (34).

(34) a. əte tʃen-ranŋ pəŋ-ka-r-a-a

you QF-for ITER-come[down]-DIR[towards the Sp]-3SG-QP

‘Why he often comes?’

b. le-dəŋ-li ən nək-质感 tə-o-o or le-dəŋ-li ən nək -ŋam -tə-o-o

NEG-be-NOMZ talk NEG-ITER-tell-2SG

‘You don’t often tell the nonsense things’

3.3.9.4 Mood /ʃəm/

This mood expresses the adversative events or actions. It denotes the event or action contrary to what might be expected as shown in (35).

(35) a. nəŋ-ma hun dəʔaŋ ʃəm-met-o, miŋnantʃəng təŋ-təнием-m-o?

you-ERG money more MOD-spend-2SG, people heart can-win-NEG-2SG

‘Although you spent lot of money, you cannot win the people’s heart’

b. nəŋ-ma əte-nəŋ ʃəm-hun-roʔ, əte-ma nəŋ-nəŋ hun-maʔ-h-o

you-ERG she-DAT MOD-love-reason, she-ERG you-DAT love-NEG-INVS-2SG

‘Although you loved her, she doesn’t love you’

3.3.9.5 Mood /tʃənmanŋ/

This morpheme denotes the events or actions which happen for a brief period of time. It denotes the temporary moment of the event or duration of action which may not last for considerable period of time. For instances; to visit a sick person, visiting a neighbour, taking food just before leaving home, etc., as given in (36).
(36) a. ŋa i-ko ka-ʃiɛməŋ-k-ǝŋ
   I DIST-LOC go[down]-TEMP-PRES.DIR[away from the Adr]-1SG
   ‘I am going there (for a moment)’

   b. ŋa tʃɔm tʰa?-ʃiɛməŋ-ǝŋ ɑnʃʰ-a-to ɓɔm-ɛŋ-h-ǝŋ
   I food eat-TEMP-1SG little-QUANT wait-REQUS-INVS-1SG
   ‘Let me take food, wait for me a moment’

3.3.9.6 Mood /tʰak/

   This morpheme usually means ‘to try’ or ‘to measure’ in Nokte. It functions as
an attemptive marker as shown in (37).

(37) a. nøŋ tʰak-ka-tan-o
   you ATTMP-go[down]-REQU-2SG
   ‘You try to go’

   b. ɓeɾe bøŋ-pa tʃen-to ʤøŋ-a tʰak-tʰak-tan-o
   this tree-DEF QF-DEG MOD-length-QP ATTMP-measure-REQU-2SG
   ‘You try to measure how long the tree is?’

3.3.9.7 Mood /ma/

   This morpheme functions as presumptive marker. It usually occurs as prefix as
shown in (38).

(38) a. ɛte ma-ɗøŋ-laʔ-o su-ka-o
   he MOD-be-CONV.3SG-SFP see-go[down]-SFP
   ‘He may be the one, you go and see’

   b. ɲun-pa ɲa-ma ma-maʔʷe-ɬək-o
   money-DEF I-ERG MOD-lose-CONV.1SG-SFP
   ‘I might have lost the money’
3.4 Summary

Tense, aspect and mood in Hawa Nokte are marked morphologically. There are different markers used to denote time of an event such as time prior to speech moment, simultaneous and subsequent to the speech time. They usually clustered around the verb either as prefixes or suffixes. Some of these affixes are either exist in single phonological unit or syllable. In this language, the past tense and the future tense are overtly marked on the verb stems, whereas the present indefinite is unmarked. The habitual has two readings such as the past habitual and the present habitual which are marked by different markers. Mood is an additional element which may or may not be present, whereas tense/aspect is obligatory. Generally, the imperative is unmarked.