# On headedness and coordination: noun phrase conjunction in head-final languages

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# 1. Introduction: context of the research

- (1) Minimalist hypothesis: language faculty builds up structure by recursively applying Merge
- (2) Merge = application of  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$  yielding < $\alpha$ , $\beta$ > (i.e. asymmetric)
- (3) General idea: Merge  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$  turns  $\beta$  into the dependent of  $\alpha$
- (4) Question: is linear order a direct translation of the dependency relation, s.t.  $\langle \alpha, \beta \rangle = /\alpha\beta/?$
- (5) If the complement is a dependent of the head, a positive answer to (4) implies universal head-initial structure (cf. Kayne 1994)
- (6) Given the possibility of movement, (4) can only be studied in 'primitive syntactic objects' such as juxtapositions and concatenations
- (7) Is coordination head-initial? Look at coordination in head-final languages.
- (8) Hmar, Sino-Tibetan

a.	bimol-in	fà:k	á	<u>tùm</u>	<u>thù</u>	á	<u>hrìl</u>
	Bimol-erg	eat	3sg	intend	comp	3sg	tell
	'Bimol says that he intends to eat.'						

b. à húŋ cún thú-<u>cù</u> á hùŋ hrìl à 3sg come 3sg and message-def 3sg come tell 'He came and told the message.'

# 2. Sample

- ! 164 languages
- ! variety sample
- ! 19 families (Ruhlen 1991) + 3 additional categories (isolates, pidgins/creoles, sign languages)
- ! slight underrepresentation of Niger-Kordofanian (large/homogeneous), Austric (id.), and Indo-Pacific (scarcity of data)
- ! currently being upgraded to a 215 language sample of 97 families (Gordon 2005)

# 3. Quantitative analysis

(9) Head-initial/final based on position of V and/or P w.r.t. their complement

		V AND P CLEAR		V or P	CLEAR	UNCLEAR
	CONVERGING	DIVERGING				
		V P		V	Р	
Initial	65	4	1	10	2	
FINAL	49	1	4	13	5	
TOTAL=164	114	5		23	7	15

#### (10) In sum

	NUMBER OF LGS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
HEAD-INITIAL	77	47
HEAD-FINAL	67	41
UNCLEAR/DIVERGING	20	12
Total	164	100

(11) Position of monosyndetic conjunction (n = noun phrase, c = clause)

	8	N AND &C CLEAR		&n or 8	C CLEAR	UNCLEAR
	CONVERGING	DIVERGING				
		&n &c		&n	&c	
Initial	94	0	2	31	9	
FINAL	2	2	0	11	0	
TOTAL	96	2		42	9	36

NB1 some languages display more than one pattern

NB2 unclear = no data (16) + hard to classify, mostly polysyndetic (20)

#### (12) In sum

	NUMBER OF LGS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL
&-INITIAL	134	82
&-FINAL	13	8
UNCLEAR/DIVERGING	38	23

NB the numbers don't add up because languages may display more than one pattern

# (13) Provisional conclusions:

- a. Final conjunctions are rare
- b. Final clause conjunctions are exceedingly rare
- c. If a conjunct is marked, it is the second conjunct
- d. If the conjunct is marked by a head/linker, it precedes its complement

### (14) What about Latin?

a. senatus populus-*que* romanus senate people-and roman

(common inscription)

- 'the Senate and the people of Rome'
- b. ingenia fecunda totius-*que* naturae capacia (Plinius, *Nat.* Q. 2, 190) mind<sub>NTR</sub>:PL prolific:NTR.PL entire:GEN-and nature:GEN able to grasp:NTR.PL 'minds that are prolific and able to grasp the entire universe'
- c. obtestantur per amicitiam per-que sua antea fideliter acta beseech:3PL by friendship through-and 3sg:Poss before loyally perform:PART.PERF 'they beg in the name of (their) friendship and their prior loyal behavior' (Sallustius, Jug 71,5)
- (15) -que is a 'second position' initial conjunction
- (16) *2P initial conjunctions in the sample* Amharic, Evenki, Fon, Hausa, Kalasha-ala, Lezgian, Turkish, Wardaman, West-Greenlandic

- (17) West Greenlandic, Eskimo-Aleut ippassaq tikip-put aqagu=lu ikinnguta-at tiki-ssa-put(Fortescue 1984:120) yesterday arrive-3PL:IND tomorrow=and friend their-PL arrive-FUT-3PL:IND 'They arrived yesterday and their friends will arrive tomorrow.'
- (18) Turkish, Turkic, Altaic Hasan iş-in-e git-ti Ali ev-in-e dön-dü H work-3sg-DAT go-PAST A house-3sg-DAT return-PAST
   ben-de park-ta kal-dı-m (Kornfilt 1997:109) I-and park-LOC stay-PAST-1sg

'Hasan went to work, Ali returned home, and I stayed in the park.'

(19) 'postpositive' conjunctions (**[ A=& B]**, Haspelmath 2000) invariably seem to involve cliticization, no evidence for head-final structure

# 4. Qualitative analysis

- (20) Three types of noun phrase conjunction (Mithun 1988, Stassen 2003, Haspelmath 2000)
- a. and coordination (conjunctive strategy)
- b. *with* coordination (comitative strategy)
- c. *also/they* coordination (summary strategy)

(21)	Abun, West Papuan: comitative Apner git sugit si Fredik si Apner eat food with Fredik with 'Apner dined with Fredik and Musa.'	Musa Musa	(Berry & Berry 1999:97)
(22)	<i>Kalasha-ala, Nuristani: summary</i> zaga, ištri, şarmal <i>di</i> sārot? son wife cattle also healthy 'Are (your) son, wife, and cattle healthy?'		(Degener 1998:161)
(23)	Baule, Kwa: comitative + summary wũsĩ kpongbo nĩ sɛ be wash:IMP basin with pot 3PL 'Wash the basins and pots.'	nũ inside	(Timyan 1976:261)

- (24) Elements used in the summary strategy:
- a. copula (Hualapai, Paumarí, Wari')
- b. number expression or 'together' (Barasano, Daga, Enets, Kham)
- c. pronoun (Amele, Baram Kayan, Baule, Mapudungu)
- d. focus marker (Amharic, Baram Kayan, Barasano, Kalasha-ala, Kham, Slave, Wari', Western Desert Language)

LANGUAGE	AND	COMITATIVE	SUMMARY
Barasano (Jones & Jones 1991:134)			х
Enets (Künnap 1999:38)			х
Hualapai (Watahomigie et al 1999:414)		(X)	х
lka (Frank 1990:38)		х	
Kalasha-ala (Degener 1998:161,166)	х		х
Ket (Werner 1997:321)		Х	

(25) Final &n: type of coordination strategy

Kolyma Yukaghir (Maslova 2003:313,318)		х	
Logbara (Crazzolara 1960:100)	X?	х	х
Navaho (Reichard 1974:322-323)		х	
Paumarí (Chapman & Derbyshire 1991:189)			Х
Slave (Rice 1989:1066)		х	Х
Tubu (Lukas 1953:166)	Х		Х
Wari' (Everett & Kern 1997:164-165)			Х
W Desert Language (Glass & Hackett 1970:66)		х	Х
Yaqui (Dedrick & Casad 1999:363)		х	X?
(26) Kalasha-ala, Nuristani	<u> </u>	^	<u> </u>
	uctive)	([	Degener 1998:16

а.	e meši <i>ye</i> e muša a woman and a man	(productive)	(Degener 1998:166)
b.	meši-moša-y women-men-and 'men and women'	(fixed expression)	(Degener 1998:166)
(27)	<i>Logbara, Central Sudanic</i> à mu ὲri <i>pie</i> àkú-a we go he and home-to 'I went home with [sic] him.'		(Crazzolara 1960:100)
	NB, the inclusory effect (a plura exclusively found with the com		r one under coordination) is almost bie is not simply 'and'.
(28)	<i>Tubu, Saharan (Kaširda dialec</i> wúdɛn arkó <i>ye</i> gazelle goat and	()	(Lukas 1953:166)
	NB, other dialects have A ye B	or <i>A ye B ye</i> , which is also ι	used in complex numerals.
(29)	<i>Generalization</i> No language in the sample use	s final and-conjunctions exc	lusively
(30)	<i>Idealization</i> <i>And</i> -conjunctions are always ir	itial	
(31) a.	Initial <i>and</i> -conjunction next to f <i>Kalasha-ala, Nuristani</i> (22) vs		junction:
b.	<i>Ket</i> ətna hiss <del>i</del> j-diŋta 1PL:POSS forest?-NONMASC:S 'In our forest live many elks, re	G:ADESS many elk:PL rei	?n <i>haj</i> qo∙n duγi∙n' ndeer:PL and bear:PL live:3PL (Werner 1997:321)
C.	<i>Kolyma Yukaghir</i> tudā taŋdiet odul-pe that.time ca Yukaghir-F	kereke-pul- <i>n'e tāhile</i> L Koryak-PL-COM and	erpeje-pul-n'e Even-PL-COM[=RECIP]
	kimd'ī-nun-ŋi fight-HAB-3PL:INTR		(Maslova 2003:319)

'That is how Yukaghirs fought with Evens and Koryaks long ago.'

#### (32) Mithun (1988):

the comitative construction is "originally used to circumvent coordinate noun phrases", an elaboration of a more basic asyndetic construction which has a similar purpose. Mithun notes that "conjoined noun phrases are actually relatively rare in spontaneous discourse, (...) considerably rarer than conjoined clauses" (1988:337). The observation Mithun makes is that in narrative, distinct entities are preferably introduced by distinct information units, e.g. separate clauses, after which they can be referred to by plural pronouns. This suggests that juxtapositions/summary constructions and comitative constructions are not strictly speaking coordinations

### 5. The diachronic dimension

#### (33) Grammaticalization of comitative markers as conjunctions

postpositional languages (where COM = postposition)	56
of these, using comitative strategy	21
of these, comitative element becomes initial conjunction	15

(34) Languages deriving initial conjunctions from postpositional comitative elements

Burmese	Kinnauri	Navaho
Dogon	Kokborok	Northern Qiang
Haida	Ladakhi	Slave
Japanese	Lavukaleve	Suppire
Ket	Mikir	Turkish

NB, two others (Kobon, Amele) have developed a bisyndetic coordination pattern, which also involves the introduction of an initial conjunction.

(35) a.	<i>Japanese, K</i> Mary ga Mary NOM 'Mary marrie	John John	nese to kekkon with married		(Kuno 1973:116)
b.	John to John <i>with</i> 'John and M	Mary	ga kekkon NOM married .'		(Kuno 1973:116)
(36) a.		<i>rən</i> dox with 3sg:	no-Tibetan chaṅ :GEN son	due be:3past	(Sharma 1988:91)
b.	<b>J</b> -		bi-tič :HON go-FUT:	1DU.INCL.HON	(Sharma 1988:182)
(37) a.	ram bi-bi	- <i>bay</i> elder.sister-v	yak-Bodo, Sino- phay-anu with come-will elder sister.'	Tibetan	(Pai 1976:56)
b.	Зним-and I		· · ] · ·	-to go-PRES	(Pai 1976:86)

(38) a.	Northern Qiang, Sino-Tibetan qa khumtsi- <i>ղa</i> tiantsə-ʁa kaː (LaPolla 2003:96) 1sg Khumtsi-com store-Loc go:PROSP:1sg 'I am going to the store with Khumtsi.'				
b.	mutsitsu- <i>na</i> -tugantsu zəpəq-ta ho-lu-aː-ji (LaPolla 2003:95) Mutsitsu-com-Tugantsu earth-LOC DIR-come-PROSP-CHST 'Mutitsu and Tugantsu wanted to come to earth.'				
	NB, PROSP = prospective aspect, CHST = change of state marker				
(39) a.	<i>Mikir, Sino-Tibetan</i> la- <i>pen</i> na corapnon (Jeyapaul 1987:76) 3sG-Ass 2sG eat 'You eat with him.'				
b.	notbuk, kitap <i>pen</i> penchil (Jeyapaul 1987:135) notebook book and pencil				
(40) a.	Lavukaleve, East Papuan, Indo-Pacific(Terrill 2003:159)ma-mita'keu-malvavo-ne3PL.POSS-dog-PLPL.DEF3PL-with'with their dogs''with their dogs'				
b.	airal mima e-ma-re vo-mal nala man:DU way of life <sub>NTR</sub> 3SG.NTR.OB-take-INF come-DU MASC.DU.DEF				
	finalaSeponeLaumate(Terrill 2003:160)3DU.MASC.FOCS <sub>MASC</sub> andL <sub>MASC</sub>				
	'The two men who brought the church were Sepo and Laumate.'				
(41) a.	Slave, Athabaskan, Na-Dene(Rice 1989:1073)?įyę bee hé tadįhwee(Rice 1989:1073)meat knife with 2sg:cut'You cut the meat with the knife.'				
b.	hįníi tsá <i>hé</i> tehk'ái kwik'íi t'áh kagenįwe (Rice 1989:1067) past beaver with muskrat gun with 3P∟:hunted 'In the past, people hunted beaver and muskrat with guns.'				
(42) a.	<i>Haida, Na-Dene</i> kilraad- <i>7ad</i> xàaydas- <i>7ad</i> tIljing xàaydaraay- <i>7ad</i> hIlnagid Tsimshians-with Haidas-with Bellabellas-with Tlingits				
	gud-7ilaa gina-ra suu-s-ii (Skidegate; Enrico 2003:1080) REC-different thing-PP sing-PR-TC				
	'Tsimshians and Haidas and Bellabellas and Tlingits were singing different songs.'				
b.	kyaa.nq'aal-gee-rahltaaw-ee-7isan'lagya.alatl'a.a-gancanempty-DF-withfood-DF-too3PLbring-PA'She brought the empty cans and the food.'(Masset; Enrico 2003:1081)				
(43) a.	<i>Turkish, Turkic, Altaic</i> Hasan Ali- <i>yle</i> opera-ya git-ti-⊘ (Kornfilt 1997:115) H A-with opera-DAT go-PAST-3SG 'Hasan went to the opera with Ali.'				

b.	Ali- <i>yle</i> Zeynep A-with Z 'Ali and Zeynep wer	yesterday c	inema-ya inema-DAT na yesterday.'	git-ti-ler go-PAST-3P	L	(Korr	filt 1997:114)
5.1 Other final elements developing into initial conjunctions							
! foc	us markers						
(44) a.	Lezgian, Northeast Caucasian Zun-ni q <sup>h</sup> üre-na (Haspelmath 1993:32 1sg:abs-also smile-AOR 'I also smiled.'					ath 1993:328)	
b.	Isa-di- <i>ni</i> Ali- Isa-ERG-CONJ Ali- 'Isa and Ali shook h	ERG one-one-/	•		wuga-na (Haspelmath 1993:327) give-AOR		
(45) a.	Kayardild, Pama-Ny ngada ban 1sg.nom too	/ungan, Austra	alian			(Eva	ns 1995:395)
b.	riya-thi nga-rr-a east-REM 1-DU-NC	• •	kabathaa-tl c catch-ACT	n <i>bana</i> and	banga-a turtle-NOM	<i>bana</i> and	banga-a turtle-NOM
	<i>bana</i> banga-a and turtle-NOM					(Eva	ns 1995:394)
	'Way in the east we two caught turtles and turtles and turtles and turtles.' MLOC = modal locative case, expressing 'instantiated' modality						
(46) a.	<i>Monguor</i> mori nige <i>da</i> horse one also 'There is not a singl				(De Smedi	t & Most	aert 1964:51)
b.		geni xulōx key hitch. and the donke	up		(De Smedt & Mostaert 1964:163)		
! <b>No</b>	ncomitative postpo	sitions					
(47) a.	<i>Ainu, Korean-Japar</i> nupuri ka <i>wa</i> hills top.of fror 'Someone called in	hotuypa n call.in.lou		the mountai	n.'	(Tamı	ıra 2000:133)
b.	otcike huraye <i>wa</i> tray wash and 'Wash and wipe the					(Tamı	ıra 2000:149)
! Suffixes							
(48)	<b>U</b>	<i>i-ənna</i> bärbä -and peppe	er I:broug			(Lesl	au 2002:154)

(49)	Tauya, Adelbert Range, Indo-Pacific(MacDonald 1990:247)fei-tiya-tu-a-?a(MacDonald 1990:247)boil-CONJ1SG-give-3SG-IND'She cooked it and gave it to me.'				
(50) a.	Kiowa, Tanoanbáò:⊘-né-dò:gômí:⊘-né-dò:gôcat2/3sg.AG-1sg.PAT:DU.OB-be and:ss almost 2/3sg.AG-1sg.PAT:DU.OB-lose:PERF'They are my cats and I almost lost them.'(Watkins 1980:293)				
b.	òːpàl sép ⊘-cándé-àː nò pàhí̯ː bà-tʰá̯ːdáy closer rain 3sg-arrive-coming and:Ds clearly 2PL-get wet:PERF 'The rain is getting closer and it's obvious that we'll get wet.' (Watkins 1980:272)				
С.	màːyí gò k'yą́ːhî̯ː (Watkins 1980:288) woman and man				
! <b>Ve</b>	rbs				
(51) a.	Suppire, North Central Niger-Congo, Niger-Kordofanian Uru na ŋ-káágé sà ù kàcììyí bàrà Bàmbɛmɛ wúyi he:ЕМРН PROG INTR-go:IMPF go his bones:DEF add Babemba POSS:DEF(IISG)				
	na Sogo Kanha na (Carlson 1994:267) on Sikasso town at				
	'He was going to go add his bones to Babemba's in Sikasso.'				
b.	Mu <i>bárà</i> mìì na, wùù sí ỳ-kàrè Sukwoo na (Carlson 1994:268) you add me on we FUT FUT-go Sikasso at 'You and I, we will go to Sikasso.'				
6. Other cases of head-final languages using initial conjunctions					
(52)	Kolyma Yukaghir, Uralic-Yukaghir(Maslova 2003:318)pajpe tāhile mēmē(Maslova 2003:318)woman CAbear'The woman and the bear.'				
(53)	Kabardian, West Caucasian(Colarusso 1992: 159)p'śə-k'wə-z(Colarusso 1992: 159)ten-plus-one(eleven'				
(54)	Logbara, Central Sudanic, Nilo-Saharan möödrí drì-nï àlö (Crazzolara 1960:38) ten on-it one 'eleven'				
(55)	Mao Naga, Kuki-Chin-Naga, Sino-Tibetan okhro kaxi ye khodu kali (Giridhar 1994:454) dao two and gun one 'two daos and a gun'				
(56)	Central Asmat, Trans New Guinea, Indo-Pacific Juwúr enĕrim Ew dog and crocodile [story title]				

(57)	<i>Canela, Ge-Pano-Carib</i> capi <i>me</i> kryt ma tẽ (Popjes Capi and Kryt away go 'Capi and Kryt go away.'	& Popjes 1986:150)			
(58)	Basque, isolate lagun eta ahaide-ei agur egi-n d-⊘-ie-⊘ friend and relative-PL:DAT salute make-PERF 3ABS-PRES:AUX2-3PL: 'He has greeted his friends and family.'	:DAT-3SG:ERG (Saltarelli 1988:90)			
(59)	Ket, isolate: (31b)				
(60)	Daga, Trans New-Guinea, Indo-Pacific wata ge manapawa yesterday and day before yesterday 'yesterday and the day before yesterday'	(Murane 1974:95)			
6.1 Cc	onjunctions borrowed into head-final languages				
(61)	Djingili, Australian ŋargu'lii an ŋuilaimbirgari Tommy and Ned an < English and	(Chadwick 1975:97)			
(62)	<i>Lezgian, Northeast Caucasian</i> güzel wa č'exi šeher (Ha beautiful CONJ big city 'a beautiful and big city' wa < Turkic < Arabic wa	spelmath 1993:330)			
(63)	<i>Turkish, Turkic, Altaic</i> sen <i>ve</i> ben you and I <i>ve</i> < Arabic <i>wa</i>	(Lewis 1986:206)			
(64)	<i>Generalization</i> Borrowed conjunctions are invariably initial				
7. Bi	syndetic conjunction				
(65)	Amele, Madang, Indo-Pacific Banag ca Bunag ca ale due bele-si-a B add B add 3DU dance go-3DU-HOD.PAST 'Banag and Bunag have gone to the dance.'	(Roberts 1987:105)			
(66)	<i>Generalization</i> If there is an unmarked monosyndetic counterpart to bisyndetic conjunction, it is initial.				
(67) a.	<i>Marind, Trans New-Guinea, Indo-Pacific</i> nok namèk <i>a</i> nok namùk <i>a</i> 1sG brother and 1sG sister and 'my brother and my sister'	(Drabbe 1955:135)			
b.	inah <i>a</i> izakod two and one 'three'	(Drabbe 1955:26)			

- (68) Daga, Trans New-Guinea, Indo-Pacific: involving summary strategy
   a. nenip Bure ge nenip Dukuik dere (Murane 1974:94)
   bird Bure and bird Dukuik two
   'the Bure bird and the Dukuik bird'
- b. wata *ge* manapawa (Murane 1974:95) yesterday and day before yesterday 'yesterday and the day before yesterday

#### 8. Head-initial languages using final conjunctions?

The only candidates seem to involve the summary strategy:

(69)	Eastern Kayah Li, Karen, Sino-Tibetan						
	νē	?om⊼	k⊼	Mòphrè	<i>nέ</i> Pímò	sī	klēmēkū
	1sg	lie down	COM.PRT	Mophre	NE Pimo	and them	between
	'I slept between Mophre and Pimo.'					(Solnit 1997:171)	

(70) Mapudungu, Andean
(iñché) eymi inchiu i-y-u
I you:SG we:DU eat-IND-1NONSG-DU
'You and I ate.'

# 9. Conclusion

- (71) a. *and*-conjunctions are universally initial
  - b. there appears to be a universal developmental path from final comitative and summary elements to initial conjunctions

(Smeets 1989:177)

- c. borrowed conjunctions are universally initial
- d. where polysyndetic conjunction has an unmarked monosyndetic counterpart, it is always of the initial type
- (72) In the domain of coordination, head-final languages have a strong preference for head-initial structure

#### Appendix: list of languages in the sample

*Khoisan*: !Kung, [to be decided]; *Niger-Kordofanian*: Krongo, Soninke, Toucouleur, Temne, Grebo, Dogon, Nateni, Suppire, Mundang, Ngbaka, Kalabari, Baule, Fon, Yoruba, Degema, Igbo, Jukun, Ibibio, Duka, Birom, Tiv, Tikar, Limbum, Ewondo, Kikuyu, Nkore-Kiga; *Nilo-Saharan*: Dilling, Lango, Logbara, Tubu, Songhai; *Afro-Asiatic*: Kabyle, Lele, Margi, Hausa, Kafa, Iraqw, Gulf Arabic, Amharic; *Kartvelian*: Georgian; *North Caucasian*: Kabardian, Lezgian; *Indo-Hittite*: Gojri, Kalasha-ala, Dimli, Portuguese, Breton, Dutch, Russian, Albanian; *Uralic*: Kolyma Yukaghir, Enets, Hungarian; *Altaic*: Turkish, Monguor, Evenki; *Korean-Japanese*: Ainu, Japanese; *Chukchi-Kamchatkan*: Chukchi; *Eskimo-Aleut*: West Greenlandic, Aleut; *Dravidian*: Brahui, Abujhmaria, Tamil; *Sino-Tibetan*: Cantonese, Ladakhi, Kinnauri, Kham, Kokborok, Eastern Kayah, Mao Naga, Burmese, Digaru, Northern Qiang, Mikir; *Austric*: [to be decided], Bhumij, Vietnamese, Chrau, Khmer, Temiar, Kam, Tsou, Chamorro, Tagalog, Ivatan, Hiligaynon, Mongondow, Muna, Baram Kayan, Malagasy, Sama, Acehnese, Toba Batak, Roti, Kambera, East Makian, Lusi, Kilivila, Loniu, Tiri, Sie, Iaai, Ponapean, North Efate, Fijian, Samoan; *Indo-Pacific*: Nabak, Kobon, Central Asmat, Marind, Daga, Amele, Tauya, Eipo, Nimboran, Abun, Arapesh, Abelam, Yimas, Lavukaleve, [to be decided]; *Australlian*: Dyirbal, Kayardild, Western Desert Language, Djingili, Wardaman, Gooniyandi; *Na-Dene*: Slave, Navaho, Tlingit, Haida; *'Amerind*<sup>+</sup>: Eastern Ojibway, Nootka, Paumarí, Wari', Hixkaryana, Kadiweu, Canela; *Isolates*: Basque, Burushaski, Ket, Nivkh; *Pidgins/creoles*: Ndyuka, Mauricien, Naga Pidgin, Cape Verdean Creole; *Sign Languages*: American Sign Language.

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