

Cover Page



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Appendices

Appendix 1: The performers and the performances

Performer	Age & Occupation	Date of recording	Time of the day	Story	Song
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Performers in Ayou

Klikpo Cece	1904 traditional doctor	12-4-1976	morning	Ay 1	song
Klikpo Cece		27-4-1976	morning	Ay 2	2 songs
Klikpo Cece		27-4-1976	morning	Ay 3	
Klikpo Cece		27-4-1976	morning	Ay 4	
Klikpo Louis	1906 traditional doctor, tailor	30-4-1976	morning	Ay 5	song
Klikpo Louis		30-4-1976	morning	Ay 6	
Klikpo Louis		30-4-1976	morning	Ay 7	song
Klikpo Louis		30-4-1976	morning	Ay 8	song

Performers in Abomey-Calavi (women)

Zomagba Clémentine	1901	4-5-1976	evening	AC 1	song
Zomagba Clémentine		4-5-1976	evening	AC 3	
Zomagba Clémentine		8-6-1976	evening	AC 12	
Zomagba Clémentine		8-6-1976	evening	AC 13	
Zomagba Clémentine		8-6-1976	evening	AC 15	
Zomagba Clémentine		8-6-1976	evening	AC 17	
Zomagba Avosɛhwe	1940	4-5-1976	evening	AC 2	song
Zomagba Avosɛhwe		18-5-1976	evening	AC 7	song
Zomagba Avosɛhwe		18-5-1976	evening	AC 8	song
Zomagba Avosɛhwe		8-6-1976	evening	AC 19	3 songs
Agbazamasihùn Valentine	ca 1936	4-5-1976	evening	AC 4	song
Adekadjou Falilatu	1941	8-6-1976	evening	AC 14	
Adekadjou Falilatu		8-6-1976	evening	AC 16	
Adekadjou Falilatu		8-6-1976	evening	AC 18	

Performers in Abomey-Calavi (men)

Dottou Afɔ̀kpɔ Symphorien	ca 1930, wanderer	18-5-1976	evening	AC5	song
Akɔ̀tɔ̀xoto François	1958	18-5-1976	evening	AC 6	
Dansou Kiki François	1951, hand	3-6-1976	evening	AC 9	song
Dansou Kiki François		3-6-1976	evening	AC 10	song
Dansou Kiki François			evening	AC 11	

Performer	Age & Occupation	Date of recording	Time of the day	Story	Song
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Performers in Abomey (women)

Tokoudagba Nage	1895	16-6-1976	morning	A 2	song
Tokoudagba Nage		16-6-1976	morning	A 3	2 songs
Tokoudagba Nage		16-6-1976	morning	A 4	song
Tokoudagba Nage		16-6-1976	morning	A 5	song
Tokoudagba Vividemε	1926	16-6-1976	morning	A 6	
Tokoudagba Vividemε		16-6-1976	morning	A 7	song
Tokoudagba Tuna	girl 1972	16-6-1976	morning	A 9	

Performers in Abomey (men)

Cebesi Daniel	cook	14-6-1976	afternoon	A 1	
Tokoudagba Dossento	1916	16-6-1976	morning	A 8	
Tokoudagba ?	boy 1966	16-6-1976	morning	A 10	

Appendix 2: The day to thresh the millet (Abomey 4)

The day to thresh the millet (A 4)

P 1 Introduction

1. **onya dḗ we tḥin** [2.29]
man INDF aFOC exist
'There was a man'
2. **bḥ nya ḥ**
CJds man TOP_N
'and this man'
3. **é ze hwe** [1.89]
CL₃ break threshold
'he went for a walk'
4. **bo jǎwè xwé** [1.47] [flashback]
CJss be.just.about.arrive household
'and he was about to come back home'
5. **bo mḥ yǎkpḥ ḥ** [1.4]
CJss find young.girl DEF
'and he found this girl'
6. **o yǎkpḥ nyḥ dḗkpe** [0.18]
IJ young.girl be.good beauty
'oh! the girl was so beautiful'
7. **kákákákáká**
very.much
'extraordinarily beautiful'
8. **b'ḗ dḥ**
CJds.CL₃ say
'and he said'
9. **kóoyi**
well
'well'

P 3

20. **é d̥è mǎ nùgbó é ́** [1.52]CL₃ say thus truth RES TOP_{CL}

‘when he said so, I am speaking the truth’

21. **é dà yǎkpó ́** [2.72] [flash forward]CL₃ marry young.girl DEF

‘he married the girl in question’

22. **b’é wá yì xwé** [1.24]CJss.CL₃ come.to go home

‘and he returned back home’

P 4

23. **é dà yǎkpó ́ wá yì xwé é ɔ**CL₃ marry young.girl DEF come go household CL₃ TOP_{CL}

‘after he married the girl, he took her home’ [2.71]

[tail-head construction: 21 + 22 + 23]

24. **asi t̥n** [2.58]

wife GEN

‘his first wife’

25. **wá kan byó d̥ɔ ji lé**

come search ask say CP CP

‘came asking, saying that’

26. **nè ká gbɛn b̥**

WH but pass CJds

‘now what was going on and’

27. **é jà wù le gbé ́ é mó nó yló**CL₃ be.about body bath PURP TOP_{CL} CL₃ NEG RM ask**mɛ d̥é nú é nó súnsún negbe n’í ’jí**person INDEF give CL₃ RM scrub back give.CL₃ ID

‘when she (=the new wife) was about to have a bath, that she did not once ask somebody to scrub her back for her’ [2.78] [cliff hanger]

P 5

28. **b'é** **ɖə** **ji** **lě** **mɛ** **ɖé** **ma** **kən** **nə** **súnsún**
CJds.CL₃ say CP CJ person SPEC NEG but RM scrub

nɛgbé **nú** **mɛ** **ɔ́** **ɖò**
back give person DEF be

‘and the man said that if nobody ever scrubbed somebody’s else’s back’
[tail-head]

29. **xwé** **à** **ɔ́** [2.16] [flashback]
household NEG TOP_{CL}
‘back home’

30. **din** **wè** **mɛ**
now aFOC sorry
‘now was the moment, wasn’t it’

31. **lé** **ɔ́** **ná** **wá** **húzú** **ají** [1.92]
CP DEF IRM come.to change ID
‘that this would be changed’

P 6

32. **é** **ɖò** **mò** **é** **ɔ́** [1.96]
CL₃ say thus RES TOP_{CL}
‘when he said those words’
[tail-head construction summarizing: 28, 29, 30, 31 = 32]

33. **'si** **towé** **ɔ́**
woman POS₂ TOP_N
‘your woman’

34. **xoxó** **ɔ́** **só** **kè** **nu** **ǎ** [1.87]
old DEF lift open mouth NEG
‘the first wife did not argue’

P 7

35. **yɔ̀kpó** **ɔ́** **fən** **ɔ́** [0.34]
young.girl DEF wake.up TOP_{CL}
‘when the young girl woke up’

36. **é nọ yí lè wǔ tòn** [1.99]

CL₃ RM get bath body GEN

‘she took a bath once more’

37. **bó nọ sọ nù** [1.03]

CJss RM take thing

‘and she took her trade once more’

38. **bó nọ yí axi tòn** [1.73]

CJss RM go market GEN

‘and she went once more to the market she always went to’

P 8

39. **bò gbe ɖokpó wá sù** [0.53]

CJds day one come.to arrive

‘and one day’

40. **b’é kó yí lè wǔ** [1.87] [flash forward]

CJss. CL₃ OSM get bath body

‘she had already taken a bath’

41. **bó kó yí axì** [1.17]

CJss OSM go market

‘and she had already gone to the market’

42. **asisi tòn sọ é ɖò do ba n’í wé**
co-wife GEN TOP_N CL₃ AUX hole look.for give.CL₃ pFOC

41. **é sọ** [0.73] [topic]

RES TOP_{CL}

‘that co-wife of hers, she tried to find fault with the new wife’

43. **é sọ hliké** [0.64]

CL₃ take knife

‘she took a knife’

44. **bó yí** [0.28]

CJss get

‘and she raised her hand’

45. **dó do tɔn mɛ** [0.53]
 put wall GEN LOC
 ‘to put it in the wall of the girl’s bathroom’

46. **bo lílílélé lílílé lílé** [1.39]
 CJss turn turn turn
 ‘and she kept on turning, turning, turning’

47. **b̀ ali ́ tɔn j̀ fi e o yɔkpó ́**
 CJds path DEF pierce fell place REL IJ young.girl DEF

nó ǹ bó nó l̀ ẁ é [1.58]
 RM stay CJss RM bath body CL₃

‘and the peephole appeared in the wall of the place where oh the young girl
 always stayed, taking her bath’ [peak]

48. **b’é lé ś ǹ ś d’é nu** [1.98]
 CJds.CL₃ repeat take thing close apply.CL₃ LOC
 ‘and she refilled the hole, closing it,’ [peak]

49. **bo jo dó** [2.35] [cliff hanger]
 CJss leave put
 ‘she left it at that’

P 9

50. **b’ayì h́n** [2.08]
 CJds.earth open
 ‘and the next day, at dawn’

51. **b̀ yɔkpó tówé yì xɔ gúdo** [1.31]
 CJds young.girl POS₂ go hut LOC
 ‘(and) your girl went behind the hut’

52. **bó kó yì ẁ lé gbé** [1.31]
 CJss OSM go body bath PURP
 ‘and she had already washed herself’

53. **b’é sé e kó ɔ̀ sin wún dó wũ wè** [1.32]
 CJds.CL₃ hear CL₃ OSM AUX water draw apply body pFOC
 ‘and the first wife heard that she had already drawn water to wash herself’

54. **bó yí hùn nù sín** [0.77]
 CJss get open mouth ORIG
 ‘and she opened the opening of’
55. **ali é tón é nú** [0.88]
 path REL pierce CL₃ give.to
 ‘the peephole that she made in the wall’ [cliff hanger]
- P 10
56. **e hùn nù sín é nú é ɔ** [0.96]
 CL₃ open mouth ORIG REL give CL₃ TOP_{CL}
 ‘after she opened the opening of the peephole in front of her’
 [tail-head construction: 54 + 55 = 56]
57. **é m̀d̀ nũ j̀è ỳɔkp̀ɔ́ ɔ́ wú bí** [1.32]
 CL₃ see thing fall young.girl DEF GEN.body QF
 ‘she saw the body of the girl completely’ [flash forward]
58. **bó m̀ɔ́ ɖ̀d̀ awa ɖ̀ɔkp̀ɔ́nɔ́** [1.48]
 CJss see CP arm unique
 ‘and she saw that she had only one arm’
59. **bo ɖ̀'áhɛɛn**
 CJss say.well
 ‘and she said I see’
60. **hũn nù é m̀ɔ́ nɔ́ l̀è wũ ɖ̀d̀ wexo a** [1.38]
 so thing CL₃ NEG RM bath body be publicly NEG
- éné áji**
 DEI ID
 ‘so that is why she did not publicly take a bath, there you are’
61. **bo sú** [0.91]
 CJss close
 ‘and she closed’
62. **nũ ali ɔ́ nu** [1.01]
 thing road DEF GEN.edge
 ‘down the opening of the peephole’

63. **bo wa so** [2.61] [flash forward]
 CJss come again
 ‘and she hurried back again’
64. **b’asú yètón wá xwé** [1.1]
 CJds.husband 3PL.GEN come household
 ‘and their husband came home’
65. **b’é dǒ n’í dǒ ji** [1.92]
 CJds.CL₃ say give. CL₃ CP CP
 ‘and she said to him that’
66. **lé azǎn**
 CP 24.hours
 ‘that in’
67. **tantǎn gbe lè sú ǒ** [1.48] [flash forward]
 eight PURP REL close TOP_{CL}
 ‘eight days from now’¹²⁶
68. **e nà sǒ lì** [2.13] [cliff hanger]
 INDF IRM thresh millet
 ‘one would thresh the millet’

P 11

69. **lé nùkún e só é ǒ bì kó vò**
 CI grain INDF thresh RES TOP_{CL} QF OSM finish
 ‘that after the grain was threshed, the affair was all over and done with’
 [1.66]¹²⁷

[Audience:]

70. **nyðnú xóxó-’né dǒ mǒ dǒ wε-’ne**
 woman old-DEM_R AUX thus say pFOC-DEM_R
 ‘that was that old woman who said that’
71. **nyðnú xó ǒ-’né dǒ mǒ dǒ wε-’ne** [1.41]
 woman old DEF-DEM_R AUX thus say pFOC-DEM_R
 ‘that was that old bag that said that’

¹²⁶ Note that this means two weeks.

¹²⁷ Note that the performer uses TOP_{CL} without a pause, for a flash forward follows.

72. **lé e nà só** [0.74]
 CP INDF IRM grind
 ‘that one would thresh’
73. **li dǎji** [1.08]
 millet ID
 ‘the millet’
74. **dó do e é kó mǎ nú** [1.12]
 apply hole RES CL₃ OSM see thing
 ‘through the peephole she had already seen the single arm’
75. **nyǎnú yaǎé-yaǎé bo dǎ n’asisi tǎn lé**
 GEN.woman new-new CJss say give-co-wife GEN PL

é wú [1.48]
 CL₃ body
 ‘of the new woman and she told her co-wives’
 [flash forward]
76. **bǎ asisi tǎn lé bǐ d’ǎcǎjí** [1.43] [flash forward]
 CJss co-wife GEN PL all be-on.the.alert
 ‘and all her co-wives were on the alert’
77. **bo nyǎwen dǎ li so gbe ko su**
 CJss sister.in.law say millet thresh GEN.day OSM arrive

gbe’né ǎ gbé ǎ [0.25]
 day-DEM_R DEF PURP TOP_{CL}
- and the sisters-in-law said: when the day to thresh the millet had actually arrived, that very day’
78. **e nǎ mǎ** [0.43]
 CL₃ IRM see
 ‘one would’
79. **do n’í kpé** [1.62][cliff hanger]
 hole give.CL₃ be.enough
 ‘finally find out about her’

P 12

80. **é cí m̀ é ́** [5.39] tail head

CL₃ stay thus RES TOP_{CL}

‘when this was the present state of affairs’

81. **oo**

MDM [voiceless]

‘ooh!’

82. **nya towe ́** [1.28] [cliff hanger]

man POS₂ TOP_N

‘your man’

83. **ado hu i káká b’ε ̀ ně é mí ká ná wà**

fear kill CL₃ until CJss.CL₃ say WH LOG but IRM do

nũ ye gbɛn ̀ gbɛ me din eji [1.42] [cliff hanger]

thing spirit pass be life LOC now ID

‘he was scared to death, and he said but what would he do, now how would he manage to stay alive?’

84. **e nà só ò** [0.63]

3SG IRM thresh millet

‘one would thresh the millet’

85. **an é kún wà nù ̀ dé ó** [1.15]

MDM[voiceless] CL₃ NEG do thing SPEC NEG

‘aye! He could not stop this special ceremony’

86. **bó ̀ mǎ** [0.34]

CJss say thus

‘and he said this to her’

P 13

87. **é nya towe dɔ̀ m̀ é ɔ́** [2.98]
 CI man POS say thus RES TOP_{CL}
 ‘after your man said so’
 [tail-head construction: 86 = 87]
88. **é kplá yɔ̀kpó ɔ́** [1.4]
 CL₃ accompany young.girl DEF
 ‘he accompanied the young wife’
89. **b̀ yě yì bokɔ̀nɔ̀ xwé** [1.85] [flash forward]
 CJds 3PL go diviner GEN.household
 ‘and they went to see the diviner’
90. **b'é yí** [0.24]
 CJds.CL₃ get
 ‘and the man asked’
91. **kan fa** [1.3]
 consult fa
 ‘to consult the Fa’
92. **b̀ bokɔ̀nɔ̀ dɔ̀ jí** [1.41]
 CJds diviner say CP
 ‘and the diviner said that’
93. **é nà yí xú** [0.18]
 CL₃ give get bone
 ‘the man had to provide bones’
94. **kandé nukún dɔ̀kpó** [1.8] [flash forward]
 40 grain one
 ‘forty-one’
95. **amiwó kandé nukún dɔ̀kpó** [1.62] [flash forward]
 oil.porridge 40 grain one
 ‘forty-one pieces of red porridge’

96. **b'ε** **nà** **hén** **wá** **b'émí** **ná** [0.38]
 CJds.CL₃ give hold come.to CJds-LOG IRM
 'and he had to bring them and that he (= diviner) would'

97. **sá** **vò** **ná** **n'i** [1.35] [flash forward]
 apply sacrifice give give- CL₃
 'sacrifice them for her'

98. **bo** **na** **wá** **bló** **nǔ** **dò** [0.1]
 CJss IRM come.to do thing be
 'and he would heal'

99. **awa-wú** **n'ĩ** [0.8]
 arm-GEN.body LOC.CL₃
 'her arm'

100. **bò** **awa** **na** **sɔ-gbe** **déji** [1.17] [cliff hanger]
 CJds arm IRM equal-voice ID
 'and the arm would be perfect'

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101. **é** **dò** **mǔ** **nùgbó** **é** **ś** [3.26] [flash forward]
 CL₃ say thus truth RES TOP_{CL}
 'after the diviner said this, I am speaking the truth'

102. **e** **mǐ** **amiwó** **ś** **kandé** **lisa** **ś** [0.92]
 CL₃ make.balls red.porridge TOP_{CL} 40 god.Sun DEF
 'the man rolled red porridge balls, the forty-one sacred ones'

103. **o** **xú** **kandé** **lisa** **ś** **je-ji** [1.15] [flash forward]
 IJ bone 40 god.Sun DEF to.be.added-to
 'oh! on top of the balls, there were also the forty-one sacred bones'

104. **b'é** **fó** **bó** **yì** **bokónó** **ś** **xwé**
 CJss. CL₃ gather.1.by.1 CJss go diviner DEF GEN.household
 'and he gathered them one by one and they went to the diviner'
 [1.25] [flash forward]

105. **nùgbó** **b'é** **bló** **nù** **ś** [0.7]
 truth CJds. CL₃ do ceremony DEF
 'I am speaking the truth, and the diviner did that ceremony'

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106. **é e blò nù é s** [5.05] [tail-head]
 CI CL₃ do ceremony RES TOP_{CL}
 ‘after the diviner did that ceremony’ [start of denouement]
107. **yě jè xwé’li xò** [1.26]
 3PL fall go-path GEN.hut
 ‘they went back home’
108. **yè wá jè honto-gbó jí é s** [1.27]
 3PL come fall treshold-big LOC RES TOP_{CL}
 ‘when they got at the gate’
109. **e hùn hən s** [0.72]
 CL₃ open door DEF
 ‘after they opened the door’¹²⁸
110. **avun dè hǎan s** [0.54]
 dog say ONO TOP_{CL}
 ‘every time that a dog growled’¹²⁹
111. **e nə s xú dɔkpó** [0.92]
 CL₃ RM take bone one
 ‘at their turn, they took a bone’
112. **amiwó dɔkpó** [0.53]
 oil.porridge one
 ‘and a red porridge ball’
113. **bó nɔ s ny’ayĩ** [1.27]
 CJss RM take throw-ground
 ‘to throw on the ground again and again’
114. **e hùn dè s** [0.34] [breaking news]
 CL₃ open SPEC TOP_{CL}
 ‘when they opened the other doors’

¹²⁸ In this clause, the performer did not nasalize the definite marker. Furthermore, **hǎan** is one of the rare onomatopoeias in the corpus.

¹²⁹ The dog symbolizes the god **Lěgbà**. They growl: **hǎan**. This is a meta-discourse marker that means anger and indignation (see p.181).

115. **é** **ɔ̃** **hǎn** **ɔ̃** [0.59] [breaking news]
 CL₃ say ONO TOP_{CL}
 ‘every time that a dog growled’
116. **e** **nɔ̃** **sɔ̃** **xú** **ɔ̃kɔ̃pó** **amiwɔ̃** **ɔ̃kɔ̃pó** [0.37]
 CL₃ RM take bone one oil.porridge one
 ‘they took a bone and a ball of red porridge
 [breaking news]
117. **sɔ̃** **ny’ayĩ** [0.28] [breaking news]
 take throw.ground
 ‘and threw them on the ground’
118. **b’ɛ** **ɔ̃** **mɔ̃** **bló** **wé** **kákákáká** **bɔ̃** [1.8]
 CJss AUX thus do pFOC until CJds
 ‘and they continued to do this for a long time until’
119. **kandé** **lisa** **ɔ̃** [1.8]
 40 god.Sun DEF
 ‘the sacred forty-one sacrifices’
120. **bĩ** **vɔ̃** [1.79] [denouement]
 all finish
 ‘were completely finished’
121. **b’é** **ɔ̃** **éne** [0.58]
 CJds.CL₃ say DEI
 ‘and the man said there you are!’

[Audience:]

122. **hũn** **hɔ̃n** **kandé** **lisa** **w’ɛ** **hùn**
 MDM door 40 god.Sun pAUX.CL₃ open
 ‘right so! They opened forty-one doors thanks to the god Sun’
123. **un** [= ɛɛn]
 yes
 ‘yes’

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124. **é**e [0.14]

CI

‘when’

[Audience:]

125. **bo le m̀ avũn kanđé lisa ne** [flashback]CJss repeat find dog 40 god.Sun DEM_R

‘and they found these forty-one dogs at each door’

126. **éne** [0.71]

DEI

‘there you are’

127. **é**e [0.91]

CI

‘when’

128. **azã ́ so-gbè nùgbó é ́** [2.12] [flash forward]day DEF millet-day truth RES TOP_{CL}

‘when the day of the ceremony of the millet arrived indeed’

129. **yě bé akpakpo** [1.05]

3PL collect threshing.flail

‘they picked up the flails’

130. **đè li xíyá** [1.32]

be millet leave.to.dry

‘to thresh the millet that was left to dry’

131. **bo yè bé akpakpo** [1.77]

CJss 3PL gather threshing.flail

‘and they picked up the threshing flails’

132. **kɔn ny’ayĩ** [0.86]

pour throw-ground

‘pouring libations on the ground’

133. **mɛ-ta** **mɛ-ta** [0.59]
 person-GEN.head person-GEN.head
 ‘to the ancestors, to the ancestors’¹³⁰
134. **’sisi** [0.26]
 co-wife
 ‘the first wife’
135. **é** **m̀** **ǹ** **dó** **́** **éné** [1.63]
 REL see thing hole RES DEM
 ‘who spied upon the one-armed girl through the peephole, that one!’
136. **bó** **d̀** **mɛ** **ce** **lé** **m̀** [1.59]
 CJss say person POS₁ PL 1PL
 ‘and she said: my dear friends! to us’ [direct speech]
137. **é** **yá** **è** [2.0]
 CL₃ be.ready DEI
 ‘the millet is ready and waiting! Look!’ [direct speech]
138. **m̀** **d̀** **li** **́** **ná** **só** **wɛ** **è** [1.67]
 1PL AUX millet DEF FUT thresh pFOC DEI
 ‘we will thresh the millet! here you are!’ [direct speech]
139. **mi** **wá** **f̀** **akpakpo** **mi-t̀n** **mi-t̀n** **bo**
 2PL come pick.up threshing.flail 2PL-GEN 2PL-GEN CJss
- nú** **m̀** **ná** **jé** **jí**
 CJ 1PL FUT fall LOC [2.03] [flash forward]
 ‘you pick up a threshing flail, each of you, each of you and let us start threshing’
140. **ỳkpó** **tówé** **ká** **nyì** **avɔ** **t̀n** **k̀** [0.42]
 young.girl POS₂ but throw cloth GEN neck
 ‘well, your young women threw her cloth around her neck’

¹³⁰ **mɛ** means ‘person’, but has also the meaning of ‘King of the earth’ or the ‘god **Sakpata**’ (Segurola and Rassinox 2000: 347). Fon people never mention his name.

141. **bo d̀ò tè** [2.61] [flash forward]
CJss be standing
'and proudly stood'
142. **b̀ò yè s̀ó ét̀on d̀okpó s̀ d'ásá mé n'ĩ** [1.8]
CJds 3PL take GEN one DEF put.leg LOC give.3SG
'and they put a threshing flail at her feet'
143. **b̀ò mɛ d̀è lé b̃ f̃** [1.93]
CJds person SPEC PL all pick.up
'and all the other people picked up'
144. **akpakpo** [1.68]
threshing flail
'a threshing flail'
145. **b̀ò xwé-gán l̀s s̀ó akpakpo** [0.98]
CJds house-GEN.chief also lift threshing flail
'and the chief of the family also took a threshing flail'
- [Audience:]
146. **a sé à gbɛ t̀on lé wi t̀on**
2SG understand Q comrade GEN PL honour GEN

d̀ò nà k̀ón wé 'né
AUX IRM remove pFOC DEI
'you mean that all his friends knew he would be dishonoured, is that so?'
147. **éne**
DEI
'that is it!'
148. **yě bì kó tuun d̀ò wi**
3PL QF OSM know CP honour
'They all already knew for sure that their chief'
149. **wi t̀on d̀ò nà k̀ón wè** [0.91]
honour GEN AUX IRM remove pFOC
'his name would be dishonoured'

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150. **é cí m̀̀ é ́** [2.24] [tail-head]
CL₃ stay thus RES TOP_{CL}
‘when that was the present state of affairs’
151. **ỳ̀kpó tówé ś ́** [1.5]
young.girl POS₂ lift TOP_{CL}
‘when your young woman took’
152. **akpakpo ɔ’álo t̀̀n** [0.7]
threshing.flail have.hand GEN
‘the threshing flail in her hand’
153. **’ɔ̀́sì ́ wú** [1.4]
right DEF GEN.body
‘in her right hand’¹³¹
154. **bo x̀̀ avo ś nyì gbè sín** [1.21]
CJss beat cloth take throw pour ORIG
‘and she flung her cloth, throwing it’
155. **amyó ́ jí** [1.7]
left DEF LOC
‘over her left shoulder’
156. **bo dó han nɛ** [2.53] [cliff hanger]
CJss apply song DEM
‘and started to sing the following song’

P 18 [Song]

157. **é nyí mi to mɛ l’alɔ-gan yaya**
CL₃ say 1PL country LOC WISH-hand-GEN.iron freely

na so li b’ɛ ná mé
FUT thresh millet CJds.CL₃ FUT be.fine
‘as the saying goes in our country may the metal bracelet without thinking
thresh the millet and it will be crushed to powder’

¹³¹ The right hand means ‘wise’, and the left hand means ‘powerful’.

158. **é nyí mi to mɛ**
 CL₃ say 1PL country LOC
 ‘as the saying goes in our country’
159. **alɔ-gan kɛɖɛ ná so li b’ɛ ná mé**
 hand-GEN.iron only FUT thresh millet CJs.CL₃ FUT be.fine
 ‘only the metal bracelet will thresh the millet and it will be crushed to powder’
160. **é nyí’mi-le-tɔn lé.alɔ-gan yaya na**
 CL₃ say-LOG-self-GEN WISH.hand-GEN.iron freely FUT

só li b’ɛ ná mé
 thresh millet CJs.CL₃ FUT be.fine
 ‘as the saying goes back home may the metal bracelet thresh the millet without thinking and it will be crushed to powder’
161. **é nyí mi to mɛ**
 CL₃ say 1PL country LOC
 ‘as the saying goes in our country’
162. **alɔ-gan kɛɖɛ ná so li b’ɛ ná mé**
 hand-GEN.iron only FUT thresh millet CJs.CL₃ FUT be.fine
 ‘only the metal bracelet will thresh the millet and it will be crushed to powder’
163. **xó è hwi mi**
 word REL ANA₂ 1PL
 ‘the words that you, we’
164. **nó ɖɔ́ lé ɖokpó ná hwe ɖ’é mɛ ǎ**
 RM say CP one FUT fail be.CL₃ LOC NEG
 ‘say again and again, that one will not fail at all’
165. **é nyí mi to mɛ**
 3SG say 1PL country LOC
 ‘as the saying goes in our country’
166. **alɔ-gan yà yá ná só li b’ɛ ná mé**
 hand-GEN.iron freely FUT thresh millet CJs.CL₃ FUT be.fine
 ‘the mental bracelet will thresh the millet without thinking and it will be crushed to powder’

167. **éne** [2.32]

DEI

‘that is it!’

P 19 [Audience: 168, 169]

168. **é d̥ò m̀ bó jì han káká é ́**

CL₃ say thus CJss produce song until RES TOP_{CL}

‘when she had sung for a long time’

169. **yè só li b̀ li mé** [1.18]

3PL thresh millet CJds millet be.fine

‘they threshed the millet and it was crushed to powder’

170. **al̥ d̥ò ganjí e só m̀** [2.2]

hand be perfect CL₃ take see

‘the hand was perfect, one saw’

[Audience: 171, 172, 173]

171. **al̥ t̥n̥ ’nè** [0.35]

hand GEN DEM_R

‘that hand of hers’

172. **d̥è hwé dó d̥è wú ǎ** [1.68]

SPEC fail apply be body NEG

‘the one that missed’

173. **m̥ é d̥ò xó é m̀ winnyá-’né** [0]

person CL₃ say word CL₃ see shame-DEI

‘the person who slandered, shame on her!’

174. **é m̀ winnyá-’né** [1.61]

CL₃ see shame-DEI

‘shame on her!’

[Audience:]

175. **éné ́ wá yí-’né**

DEI DEF shame get-DEI

‘there you are! shame on her!’

Appendix 3: Graphical representation Abomey 4

Pause nr	Narrative element	Rhetorical element	Graphical representation
p001			<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Abomey 4, Length of the pauses</p> <p>paragrag number and pause umber</p> <p>(p), Length of the pause</p> </div>
p002			
p003			
p004		FB	
p005		CP	
p006			
p007			
p008			
p009			
p010			
p011			
p012			
p013			
p014	end of paragraph 1	CH	
p015			
p016		FF 042	
p017			
p018		FF	
p019	end of paragraph 2	TH	
p020			
p021	peak		
p022	end of paragraph 3	TH	
p023			
p024		Agent B	
p025			
p026			
p027	end of paragraph 4	TH	
p028			
p029			
p030			

Pause nr	Narrative element	Rhetorical element	Graphical representation																																																																																													
p031	end of paragraph 5	TH	<p style="text-align: center;">Abomey 4 Length of the pause (cont)</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Data for Abomey 4 Length of the pause (cont)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Paragraph</th> <th>Pause nr</th> <th>Length of the pause (approx.)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>5</td><td>p031</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>5</td><td>p032</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>p033</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>p034</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>6</td><td>p035</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>p036</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>p037</td><td>1.0</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>p038</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>p039</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>p040</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>p041</td><td>1.0</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>p042</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>7</td><td>p043</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>p044</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>p045</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>p046</td><td>1.0</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>p047</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>p048</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>p049</td><td>2.5</td></tr> <tr><td>8</td><td>p050</td><td>2.0</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>p051</td><td>1.0</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>p052</td><td>1.0</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>p053</td><td>1.0</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>p054</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>p055</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>p056</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>p057</td><td>1.0</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>p058</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>p059</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>p060</td><td>1.0</td></tr> </tbody> </table> <p>(p), Length of the pause</p>	Paragraph	Pause nr	Length of the pause (approx.)	5	p031	1.5	5	p032	1.5	6	p033	0.5	6	p034	1.5	6	p035	0.5	7	p036	1.5	7	p037	1.0	7	p038	1.5	7	p039	0.5	7	p040	1.5	7	p041	1.0	7	p042	0.5	7	p043	0.5	8	p044	0.5	8	p045	0.5	8	p046	1.0	8	p047	1.5	8	p048	1.5	8	p049	2.5	8	p050	2.0	9	p051	1.0	9	p052	1.0	9	p053	1.0	9	p054	0.5	9	p055	0.5	9	p056	0.5	9	p057	1.0	9	p058	1.5	9	p059	0.5	9	p060	1.0
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Pause nr	Narrative element	Rhetorical element	Graphical representation
p061			<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Abomey 4, Length of the pause</p> <p>Paragraph number and pause number</p> <p>0,00 2,00 4,00</p> <p>(p), Length of the Puase</p> </div>
p062			
p063		FF	
p064			
p065			
p066			
p067		CH	
p068	end of paragraph 10		
p069		FF	
p070	audience		
p071		Agent B	
p072			
p073			
p074			
p075		FF	
p076		FF	
p077			
p078			
p079	end of paragraph 11	CH	
p080	TH statement		
p081			
p082	CH		
p083	CH		
p084			
p085			
p086			
p087			
p088			
p089	end of paragraph 12	TH	
p090			

Pause nr	Narrative element	Rhetorical element	Graphical representation
p091			<div style="text-align: center;"> <p>Abomey 4 Length of the pause (cont)</p> <p>13</p> <p>Paragraph number and Pause number</p> <p>0,00 1,00 2,00 3,00</p> <p>(p), Length of the pauses</p> </div>
p092			
p093			
p094		FF	
p095		FF	
p096			
p097		FF	
p098			
p099			
p100	end of paragraph 13	CH	
p101	TH statement	TH	
p102	Agent A, god Sun		
p103		FFgod Sun	
p104		FF	
p105	end of paragraph 14	TH	
p106			
p107	start of denouement		
p108			
p109			
p110			
p111			
p112			
p113			
p114		BN	
p115		BN	
p116		BN	
p117		BN	
p118			
p119			
p120	denouement		

Pause nr	Narrative element	Rhetorical element	Graphical representation
p121			<p>Abomey , Length of the pauses (cont)</p> <p>Paragraph number and pause number</p> <p>0,00 5,00 (p), Length of the pause</p>
p122	audience		
p123	end of paragraph 15		
p124			
p125	audience		
p126			
p127		[= R 124]	
p128		CH	
p129			
p130			
p131		[= R 129]	
p132			
p133			
p134			
p135			
p136		Agent B DS	
p137		DS	
p138		DS	
p139		DS FF	
p140			
p141		FF	
p142			
p143			
p144			
p145			
p146	audience		
p147			
p148			
p149	end of paragraph 16	TH	
p150	TH statement	TH	

Pause nr	Narrative element	Rhetorical element	Graphical representation																																																
p151			<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Abomey 4 Length of the pauses (cont)</p> <table border="1"> <caption>Data for Abomey 4 Length of the pauses (cont)</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Paragraph</th> <th>Length of pause (p)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td>p151</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>p152</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>p153</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>p154</td><td>1.2</td></tr> <tr><td>p155</td><td>1.8</td></tr> <tr><td>p156</td><td>2.5</td></tr> <tr><td>p157</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>p158</td><td>0.8</td></tr> <tr><td>p159</td><td>1.0</td></tr> <tr><td>p160</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>p161</td><td>0.8</td></tr> <tr><td>p162</td><td>0.8</td></tr> <tr><td>p163</td><td>0.8</td></tr> <tr><td>p164</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>p165</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>p166</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>p167</td><td>2.2</td></tr> <tr><td>p168</td><td>0.1</td></tr> <tr><td>p169</td><td>1.0</td></tr> <tr><td>p170</td><td>2.2</td></tr> <tr><td>p171</td><td>0.5</td></tr> <tr><td>p172</td><td>1.5</td></tr> <tr><td>p173</td><td>0.0</td></tr> </tbody> </table> </div>	Paragraph	Length of pause (p)	p151	1.5	p152	0.5	p153	1.5	p154	1.2	p155	1.8	p156	2.5	p157	0.5	p158	0.8	p159	1.0	p160	0.5	p161	0.8	p162	0.8	p163	0.8	p164	0.5	p165	0.5	p166	1.5	p167	2.2	p168	0.1	p169	1.0	p170	2.2	p171	0.5	p172	1.5	p173	0.0
Paragraph	Length of pause (p)																																																		
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p168	audience																																																		
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p173	audience																																																		
p174	comment performer																																																		
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Legend:

- CH : cliff hanger
- FB : flashback
- FF : flash forward
- TH : topic