

The Cuyonon Verb System: A First Approximation

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Cuyonon, a West Visayan language, is one of the eight indigenous languages of Palawan. Of the eight it is the most dominant one, since it is spoken all over the province. This paper is a descriptive analysis of Cuyonon verbal sentences. The underlying semantic relationship that exists between verbs and noun phrases is described using Fillmore's Case Grammar. Classification of verbs is made according to the environment that accepts them as reflected in the case frames and the semantic features that they co-occur with. A case frame is the total number of noun phrases that may cooccur with a verb in a case relationship. It is a convenient way of putting all verbs that may have the same number and kinds of verb phrases together. Another area examined in the study is aspect. Aspect is the characterization of an event as begun or not begun, and if begun, as completed or not.