

## Variation and Awareness in Kinyarwanda Morphosyntax

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### Survey design

#### Section 1: Free-response questions

- Have you ever noticed that other people speak Kinyarwanda differently? If so, what are some things that people say differently?
- What kind of person do you think speaks standard Kinyarwanda? Do you think you speak standard Kinyarwanda?
- What kind of person do you think speaks nonstandard Kinyarwanda? Can you think of anything they say that is nonstandard?
- What situations or times do people use standard Kinyarwanda or nonstandard Kinyarwanda? Do you have times when you use standard Kinyarwanda or nonstandard Kinyarwanda?
- Do you think Kinyarwanda is changing? How so?
- Do people from different parts of Rwanda speak differently? Can you think of anything that people only say in one part of Rwanda?
- Do young and old people speak differently? For example, do you say anything differently from your parents? Do you have children and notice that they speak differently?
- Do men and women speak differently? Are there things that men say or that women say?

#### Section 2: Morphosyntactic variation

Prompts were of the following format, where (a) was the variant predicted to be more frequent and (b) the variant predicted to be less frequent:

*Here is a sentence: < sentence (a) >*

*Some people might say the same sentence like this: < sentence (b) >*

*Would you yourself say the second sentence? (multiple-choice)*

5. *I would always say it like that.*
4. *I would often say it like that.*
3. *I don't know.*
2. *I would occasionally say it like that.*
1. *I would never say it like that.*

#### *Free-response questions*

- *Have you heard anyone else say the second sentence? If so, what kind of person says it this way? Do you think of anyone when you read this sentence?*
- *Is there any time when you would prefer to say one sentence or the other? Is anything wrong with either sentence?*
- *Do you have any other thoughts on the difference between these sentences?*

The prompts and questions were presented for the following pairs of sentences:

Periphrastic

- (1) a) Aka kanya, n-da-tekerez-a.  
this moment 1sg.SBJ-DJ-think-FV  
'Right now, I'm thinking.'
- b) Aka kanya, n-di gu-tekerez-a.  
this moment 1sg.SBJ-COP INF-think-FV  
'Right now, I'm thinking.'

Negated *ra-*

- (2) a) Aka kanya, imvura nt-i-ri ku-gw-a.  
this moment rain NEG-SBJ-COP INF-fall-FV  
'Right now, it isn't raining.'
- b) Aka kanya, imvura nt-i-ra-gw-a.  
this moment rain NEG-SBJ-DJ-fall-FV  
'Right now, it isn't raining.'

Complementizer *ngo*

- (3) a) Ejo, w-a-ra-vuz-e ngo, "hanze hijimye."  
yesterday 2sg.SBJ-PST-DJ-say-FV COMP outside it's.dark  
'Yesterday, you said that it's dark outside.'
- b) Ejo, w-a-ø-vuz-e ngo, "hanze hijimye."  
yesterday 2sg.SBJ-PST-CJ-say-FV COMP outside it's.dark  
'Yesterday, you said that it's dark outside.'

Adverbs

- (4) a) Buri muni, Joyeuse a-ø-ririmb-a neza.  
every day Joyeuse 3sg.SBJ-CJ-sing-FV well  
'Every day, Joyeuse sings well.'
- b) Buri muni, Joyeuse a-ra-ririmb-a neza.  
every day Joyeuse 3sg.SBJ-DJ-sing-FV well  
'Every day, Joyeuse sings well.'

G- concords

- (5) a) U-mw-embe u-mwe w-a-gu-ye hasi  
AUG-CL3-mango CL3-one CL3.SBJ-PST-fall-FV down  
'One mango fell down.'
- b) U-mw-embe gu-mwe gw-a-gu-ye hasi  
AUG-CL3-mango CL3-one CL3.SBJ-PST-fall-FV down  
'One mango fell down.'

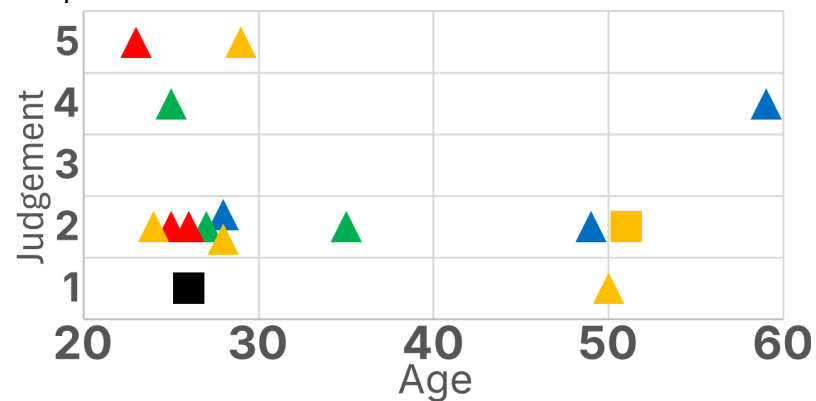
## Results

		periphrastic (1)		negated <i>ra-</i> (2)		comp. <i>ngo</i> (3)		adverbs (4)		<i>g-</i> concords (5)	
Age	Region	score	aware?	score	aware?	score	aware?	score	aware?	score	aware?
23	E	5	TRUE	1	TRUE	5	TRUE	3	TRUE	1	TRUE
24	S	2	TRUE	4	TRUE	2	TRUE	2	TRUE	1	TRUE
25	E	2	TRUE	1	TRUE	1	FALSE	1	FALSE	3	TRUE
25	W	4	TRUE	4	TRUE	2	TRUE	2	TRUE	3	TRUE
26	K	1	FALSE	2	TRUE	1	FALSE	1	FALSE	1	TRUE
26	E	2	TRUE	2	TRUE	2	TRUE	1	FALSE	4	TRUE
27	W	2	TRUE	2	TRUE	1	TRUE	1	FALSE	1	TRUE
28	S	2	TRUE	2	TRUE	1	FALSE	1	FALSE	1	TRUE
28	N	2	TRUE	1	FALSE	1	TRUE	1	FALSE	2	TRUE
29	S	5	TRUE	1	TRUE	5	TRUE	1	FALSE	1	TRUE
35	W	2	TRUE	2	TRUE	1	TRUE	1	TRUE	2	TRUE
49	N	2	TRUE	2	TRUE	4	TRUE	1	FALSE	1	TRUE
50	S	1	TRUE	1	TRUE	2	FALSE	5	FALSE	1	TRUE
51	S	2	FALSE	2	FALSE	1	TRUE	2	FALSE	1	FALSE
59	N	4	TRUE	4	TRUE	2	TRUE	1	FALSE	1	TRUE

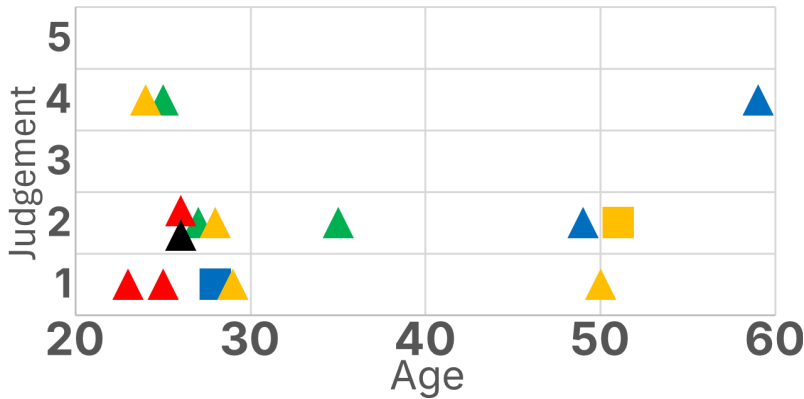
## Key



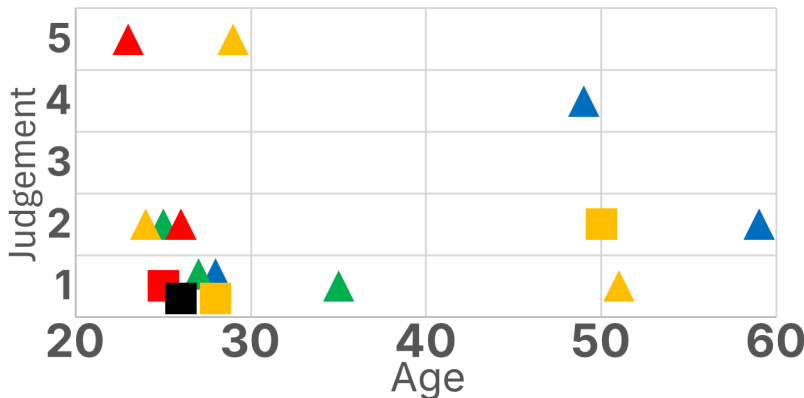
Periphrastic (1b)



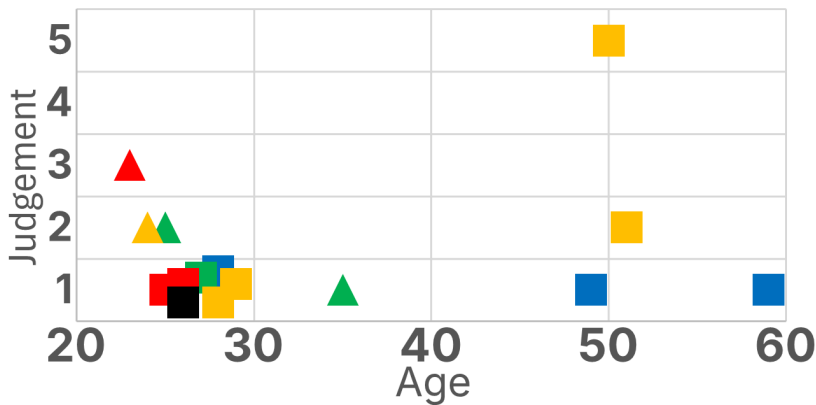
Negated *ra*- (2b)



Complementizer *ngo* (3b)



Adverbs (4b)



G- concords (5b)

