

Púmbó¹

- 1) **dùṅú** **òṅ** **wíli** **ndé** **Gbàsò** **sǎ** **ndò.**
 sit-PST certain man COMP Gbàsò call hunt

There was a certain man named Gbàsò (who) called a hunt.

- 2) **éyí** **má** **nè** **á** **pírà** **ndò,**
 PL-people CON go PREP place hunt

(Many) people went to the location of the hunt

- 3) **wâ** **má** **gbè** **nám** **gó** **zíná** **sàkà** **ná.**
 3p CON kill animal like exisit-NEG game NEG

They killed animals seriously (lit. not like a game).

- 4) **wâ** **ndàkà** **ébélá** **nám** **né** **né.**
 3p chase-PST PL?-burned? animal go go

They chased (???) animals go go.

- 5) **wâ** **má** **nè** **nè** **kpá** **òṅ** **nám** **ndé** **púmbó.**
 3p CON go go find certain animal COMP púmbó

They went went found a certain animal called púmbó.

- 6) **nám** **kí** **é** **sá** **mà** **líṅ** **wènè** **ná**
 animal DEM 3sINDEF call IMP name 3s NEG

That animal, one must never say his name

- kó** **wènè** **fè** **só** **fè,**
 even 3s die PERF death

even if he has died death

- 7) **kà** **mè** **sá** **líṅ** **wènè,**
 if 2s call name 3sINALN

If you say his name

- à** **kùrú** **ṅgóχ** **mé.**
 3s rise-PST seize 2s

He (will) rise up (and) seize you.

- 8) **éyí** **má** **hò** **á** **pírà** **púmbó** **kè;**
 PL-people CON arrive PREP place púmbó DEM

The people arrived at this pumbó place;

¹ Mbodomo text transcribed phonetically.

9) **yí mé sà líŋ wènè zíná.**
 people PURP say name 3sINALN exist-NEG
There was nobody (who) knew his name.

òŋ yí ndé òlò wé sà á Tò
 certain people COMP 3pLOG try call PREP Spider
Someone (said) that they (should) try call to Spider

10) **báχdī à tà gbár líŋ nám kè á óló.**
 maybe 3s FUT declare name animal DEM PREP 3pLOG
Maybe he will declare that animal's name for them.

11) **Tò má tè tè gbár líŋ nám kè.**
 Spider CON come for declare name animal DEM
Spider came to declare that animal's name.

12) **kùrúà mé púmbó á kí, ná bǎá á Tò**
 rise-PST-NOM POSS púmbó PREP DEM FOC say-PAST PREP Spider
At the rising of púmbó there, (he) said to Spider

ndé: Tò mé sá líŋ mí, nè mí nè mé
 COMP Spider 2s call name 1sPOSS:inalien with 1s with 2s

súè.

today

that Spider, you called my name, (from) today you and I will be together.

13) **Tò má kpò yù, púmbó má kpò híní Tò nè mbèrá ġimà.**
 Spider CON start flight púmbó CON start with Spider go sing-PST song
Spider started to flee, Púmbó started to go with Spider singing (a) song:

Tò kà sà mí ndé púmbó Tò bé nè á yò
 Spider REL call 1s COMP púmbó Spider FUT go PREP where
Spider who called me Púmbó, Spider will go where?

14) **tí tò té tò, Tò bé nè á yò,**
 Spider FUT go PREP where
Ti to, te to, Spider will go where?

dāŋá déŋtélé bélé Tò bé nè á yò.
 bad little foot Spider FUT go PREP where
bad little foot, Spider will go where?

Tò kà sà mí ndé púmbó Tò bé nè á yò

Spider REL call 1s COMP púmbó Spider FUT go PREP where
Spider who called me Púmbó, Spider will go where?

15) tí tò té tò, Tò bé nè á yò,
Spider FUT go PREP where
Ti to, te to, Spider will go where?

dāṅá déṅtélé bélé Tò bé nè á yò.
bad little foot Spider FUT go PREP where
bad little foot, Spider will go where?

16) yù kà Tò hṅ kí.
flight REL Spider run DEM
Flight that Spider ran there.

17) Tò làḡ só guànè dḗ á zàṅ kó wā.
Spider leave PERF pregnancy put/set PREP stomach wife 3sALN
Spider had left pregnancy put in his wife's stomach.

18) kóé kè má bḗl, á ndáṅ guànè kè béṅ tààr.
wife DEM CON give.birth PREP same pregnancy DEM child three
This wife gave birth from this same pregnancy three children.

19) ébéṅ ndòḅò má gbàṅ.
PL-child DEM.PL CON grow.up
Those children grow up.

20) wā má àḡ nán mùá ndé,
3p CON ask mother 3pPOSS:alien COMP
They asked their mother,

21) nán vòlò ná, bán vòló
mother 1pPOSS:alien:LOG COP father 1pPOSS:alien:LOG
(You) are our mother, (but) our father,

kà dḗ só guànè ólò nèá
REL put PERF pregnancy 1pPOSS:inalien:LOG go-PST

á yò?
PREP where

who had put our pregnancy, went where?

22) wènè má bḅ á wā ndé,
3s CON say PREP 3p COMP

She said to them that

23) é íŋ ná kó à zǐkà nè kpàsá.

LOG know NEG even.if 3s still PREP life

She know not if he is still in life.

24) à sà só íŋ òŋ nám ndé púmbó;

3s call PERF name certain animal COMP púmbó

He had said the name of a certain animal named Púmbó,

a nám kí hĩní wènè láχ né.

but animal DEM chase 3s leave go

But that animal chased him, leave go.

25) kùtírí béŋ gbòá nè zà, nè ndòdò, nè sélé, nè àdá;

first child exit-PST PREP sickle PREP arrow PREP spear PREP machete

The first child exited with (his) sickle, arrows, spear and machete.

ndàχpátá kàgó.

follow-track like.that

Like that, following the trail.

26) dɔχgĩliá, békóé gbòá nè góí, nè líbáŋ,

below-back-NOM young-woman exit-PST PREP broom PREP dish

Last born girl exited with her broom, dish

nè mbùtú jĩnà wã.

PREP powder medicine 3sALN

and medical powder

27) wá má làχ sàŋ mé nè á kèχ báŋ mùá.

3p CON leave now for go PREP search father 3pPOSS:alien

They left then to go to search for their father

28) kà wá hò á lé ngè, wá àká mò.

when 3p arrive PREP village DEM 3p ask-PST something

When they arrived at that village over there, they asked (about their father)

29) éyí kífídí á wá ndé,

PL-people responde:PST PREP 3p COMP

The people responded to them that,

30) hòá bèlè mòrkó kà Tò làká á kè hĩnè púmbó.

arrive-PST year five when Spider leave-PST PREP DEM with púmbó

Five years have arrived since Spider left from here with Púmbó

31) wá kà ná àká mò nè nè.

3p REL FOC demand-PST thing go go

They, who asked, continue on

32) **kà wâ hò á sòrsí, wâ àrà.**
when 3p arrive PREP ahead 3p ask-PST

When they go further ahead, they asked (again).

33) **éyí kífífi á wâ ndé,**
PL-people respond:PST PREP 3p COMP

The people responded to them that,

34) **wâ làrà hòá ngòndè ndán.**
3p leave-PST arrive-PST month one

They left (since) arrived one month (or: They left a month ago.)

35) **wâ má nè à wâ áχ;**
3p CON go CONJ 3p ask

They went (on) then they asked,

36) **yí ndé, wâ làrà á kè sárásò.**
people COMP 3p leave-PST PREP DEM yesterday

The people (said) that they left there yesterday.

37) **wâ má nè, wâ kpă òṅ wíli,**
3p CON go, 3p find certain man

They went (on), they find a certain man.

38) **kà wâ áχ wíli kè, wíli kí ndé**
when 3p ask man DEM man DEM COMP

When they asked this man, that man (said) that

wâ kà gbíni kónò sàṅ.
3p ? break:PST? bend now

they just turned the bend.

39) **wâ má nè; kà wá dè lí,**
3p CON go when 3p set eye

They went, when they looked,

wâ nzóχ ná púmbó kà hīn Tò gá.
3p see FOC púmbó REL chase Spider like.that

The saw Púmbó who was chasing Spider like that.

40) **béwíli ndòkò má nzèdī púmbó sàṅ gbè**

young-man DEMPL CON shoot.arrow púmbó now kill

pí á nù..
throw PREP ground

Those boys shot an arrow at Púmbó now, killing and throwing him to the ground.

41) wá má hò sàŋ.
3p CON arrive now

They arrived then.

42) békóé kè má hòr kò ā á nú Tò.
young-woman DEM CON make broth put PREP mouth Spider

This young woman made broth and put (it) in Spider's mouth.

43) Tò má àχ wá: éné té nè yò?
Spider CON ask 3p 2p come PREP where

Spider asked them, "Where do you come from?"

44) wá má kífífi ndé
3p CON respond COMP

They responded that

ná guànè kà wènè làχ só dǎ
FOC pregnancy REL 3s leave PERF set

The pregnancy that he had left set

á zàŋ kóé wǎ kè
PREP stomach wife 3sALN DEM

in the stomach of his wife, that one,

kà ɓèlá nè óló.
REL give.birth-PST PREP 1pLOG

(was) what gave birth to us.

45) wá má kù Tò sí né á lé.
3p CON take Spider return go PREP village

They took Spider (and) returned went to the village.

46) kà mà kárà, Tò ndé:
when ? later Spider COMP

Later on, Spider (said) that

mí dùŋ só nè béŋ béwílí,
1s sit PERF PREP child young-man

I have stayed with (my) son

47) **kà wènè tà né nè kú ndàrá làmò mé ngòtó**
if 3sg FUT go PREP take skin chieftancy POSS crab

If he will go and take the royal skin of Crab

á zǔ màṅ á é.
PREP surface sea ? ?

on the surface of the sea.

48) **ébéṅ ndòkò má nè nè kú ndàrá kè**
PL-child DEMPL CON go go take skin DEM

Those children went, took that skin

á zù mǎṅ pél né.
PREP surfacesea return go

from the surface of the sea (and) returned.

49) **má dùṅ hórò, Tò nzéla ndé òṅ líṅ bíò ndé**
? sit again Spider hear COMP certain name drum COMP

Again, Spider heard of a certain name drum called

nzáná, Tò ndé, é dùṅ só nè béṅ béwíli,
xylophone Spider COMPL LOG sit PERF PREP child young-man

xylophone, Spider (said) that he had remained with son

ḅà wá tà né nè kú nzáná kí té nè.
if 3p FUT go CONJ take xylophone DEM come PREP

if they would go and take that xylophone and bring it.

50) **nzáná kí dǔṅ kà á kó éyí mè mèsimbá**
xylophone DEM sit HAB PREP hand PL-people POSS miracle

á zàṅ ò.
PREP bowel water

That xylophone habitually remains in the hands of a miraculous people (who live) under water.

51) **ébéṅ ndòkò má làḅ.**
PL-child DEMPL CON leave

Those children left.

52) **kùfírí béṅ ndé, é tà né sòrsí;**
first child COMPL LOG FUT go ahead

The first child (said) that he will go ahead.

wènè má lè lí, kífi mbòṅgò bẹ́j.
 3s CON enter water change baby? child
He entered the water (and) changed into a newborn.

òṅ kóé òkà wènè sì nè wíli wā,
 certain woman since 3s marry PREP man 3POSS:alien

wā bél bẹ́j ná,
 3p bear child NEG

A certain woman, (who) since she married with her husband, they had not had a child,

53) wènè má kpà bẹ́j kè sàṅ
 3sg CON find child DEM now
she found that child now

54) káṅ wènè nè kpá nè wíli wā.
 carry 3s CONJ find PREP man 3POSS:alien
carried him and found her husband.

55) wā má dè tòtè.
 3p CON do happiness
They did happiness.

56) bẹ́j kè yàrà ndáṅ à nèá nò.
 child DEM day one 3s go-PST walk
That child, one day, he went on a walk.

57) yàrà ndáṅ hóró, bẹ́j kè mà déà ná sàrà
 day one again child DEM ? do-PST FOC play

á lí nzáṅá.
 PREP surface xylophone

Another day that child did play on the xylophone.

58) kě òṅ sóé, wíli kè má kù nzáṅá wā
 then one day man DEM CON take xylophone 3sALN

hā á bẹ́j kè ndé wènè à dé nè sàrà.
 give PREP child DEM COMP 3s AUX do INSTR play

The one day this man took his xylophone; give (it) to this child (saying) that he could play it.

59) bẹ́j kè má dè sàrà fáá.
 child DEM CON do play long.time

This child played a long time.

60) yí fèt má sǐ nè lá nù.
people all CON return CONJ sleep ground
Everyone returned (home) and went to sleep.

61) béŋ kè má kàŋ nzàǵá nè kpá nè
child DEM CON carry xylophone go find PREP
ébiá wā á nú bèlè.
PL-sibling 3sALN PREP mouth savanna
This child carried the xylophone went found his siblings at the entrance of the savanna.

62) wā má kù né nè hā á Tò.
3p CON take go CONJ give PREP Spider
They took went and gave (it) to Spider.

63) Tò hórò ndé è dúŋ só nè béŋ béwíli,
Spider again COMP LOG remain PERF ACMP child boy
Spider again (said) that he would remain with his son,

ḃà wènè tà nè kú ngòndè té né á é.
if 3s FUT go take moon come go PREP LOG
if he will go and take the moon and bring it to him.

64) béŋ ndòkò ndé dā élé kpásáǵá mé,
child DEMPL COMP father 1p survive-CAUS 2s
Those children (said) “Father, we saved you,

Tò nǒ ngè élé zíkà pél ḃò ná.
CONJ walk DEM 1p not.yet return again NEG
but (from) this walk we will not be able to return.

65) wā má làχ.
3p CON leave
They left.

66) kà òŋ ḃó ndé ê tóχ ngòndè,
when one said COMP LOG shoot moon
When one said that he shoot the moon,

à sǐkí á zàǵá.
3s fall:PST? PREP bowel
he fell inside.

67) **kà òŋ béwílí à kè 66 ndé**
 when another young-man PREP DEM said COMP
When another boy among them said that

è tóχ, à sǐkíí;
 LOG shoot 3s fall-PST
he shoot, he fell.

68) **békóé à kè ndé è bá ngòndè,**
 young-woman PREP DEM COMP LOG catch moon
The girl among them (said) that she catch moon

à sǐkíí á zàŋá.
 3s fall-PST PREP bowel
she fell inside.

69) **nán mùá ndé è bá à sǐkí 6ð.**
 mother 3pPOSS:alien COMP LOG catch CONJ fall:PST? also
Their mother (said) that she catch, but (she) fell also.

70) **ndé kà mé 6él béŋ,**
 COMP when 2s bear child
When you bear a child,

mè tí àχ mà mò kǎ tà làχ zù wǎ ná.
 2s must ask EMP thing REL FUT leave head 3pPOSS:inalien NEG
You must never ask something, which they can never do (lit. leave their head)

71) **ná mò kí kà Tò 6ðná né ìná wènè**
 COP thing DEM REL Spider remain-PST PREP alone 3s
That thing that (caused) Spider to be alone.

72) **ndé nzégǐlí tò bòŋ gò é.**
 COMP end tale 1sPOSS:alien like.that EXCL
That ends my tale like that!

73) **tò mè é.**
 tale 2sPOSS:alien EXCL
Your tale!