

Glossed Text

See p. 32 in:

Meeuwis, Michael. 2013. Lingala. In: Michaelis, Susanne Maria & Maurer, Philippe & Haspelmath, Martin & Huber, Magnus (eds.) *The Survey of Pidgin and Creole Languages, Vol. III: Contact Languages Based on Languages from Africa, Asia, Australia, and the Americas*, 25-33. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

The sample text is a transcribed conversation between a TV interviewer (A) and a musician (B), who recently left his band to join another.

A: *Mais sikóyo ndéngé o-béndán-í, bon*
but now manner 2SG-withdraw-PRS.PRF well
But now, as you withdrew, well

o-món-í té qu' o-ti-é
2SG-see-PRS.PRF NEG COMP 2SG-put-PRS.PRF
don't you think that you

mwá¹ mobúlú na mouve.
some chaos in band
disorganized the band a bit?

B: *Té, en tout cas mobúlú e-kóm-í*
NEG in each case chaos 3SG.INAN-arrive-PRS.PRF
No, anyway, the band got disorganized,

na mouve, na-ti-é penzá mobúlú té. Mais
in band 1SG-put-PRS.PRF truly chaos NEG but
I didn't disorganize it. But

¹ Together with the adnominal possessive pronoun used for contrast, the modifier *mwá* 'some', 'a bit' constitutes the only exception to the head-first word order in the noun phrase.

problème e-zá kaka que bamasta
 problem 3SG.INAN-be.PRS.PRF only COMP friends
 the problem is just that my friends

na ngá ba-tíkál-í kúná, bafrères
 CONN 1SG 3PL.ANIM-stay-PRS.PRF there brothers
 who stayed there, my brothers,

na ngá, e-zá té que
 CONN 1SG 3SG.INAN-be.PRS.PRF NEG COMP
 it's not that,

leló pó na-longw-é ná-lob-a
 today for 1SG-quit-PRS.PRF 1SG.SBJV-speak-FV
 today, because I left I can say

makambo mabé pó na bangó quoi.
 affairs bad for CONN 3PL.ANIM what
 bad things about them.

E-zá na yangó na tina té.
 3SG.INAN-be.PRS.PRF with 3SG.INAN with sense NEG
 It makes no sense.

Mais baóyo ba-tíkál-í kúná
 but DEM 3PL.ANIM-stay-PRS.PRF there
 But those ones who stayed there,

ba-zá pé balaentueux kaka néti
 3PL.ANIM-be.PRS.PRF also talented.people only as
 they are just as equally talented as

ngái. Ngá peut-être na-món-í que
 1SG 1SG maybe 1SG-see-PRS.PRF COMP
 I am. Maybe I think that

na-zá súr na talent na ngái, que
1SG-be.PRS.PRF sure about talent CONN 1SG COMP
I'm certain of my talent, that

sókí na-longw-é pé leló [name of band]
if 1SG-quit-PRS.PRF also today [name of band]
if I leave the band today,

tángo mosúsu pé na-ko-perdre na ngá pé
moment other also 1SG-FUT-lose with 1SG also
maybe I won't lose

rien. Na-món-í que l'heure mosúsu pé
nothing 1SG-see-PRS.PRF COMP hour other also
anything. I believe that maybe

e-kok-í ko-zal-a pé elóko
3SG.INAN-can-PRS.PRF INF-be-FV also thing
it can also be something

e-ko-remporter ngái pé elóko mosúsu ya
3SG.INAN-FUT-gain 1SG also thing other CONN
from which I'll gain another good thing,

bien plus tard na vie, na-yéb-í té quoi.
good more late in life, 1SG-know-PRS.PRF NEG what
later in life. That's it.