

Glossed Text

See p. 229-230 in:

Meyerhoff, Miriam. 2013. Bislama. In: Michaelis, Susanne Maria & Maurer, Philippe & Haspelmath, Martin & Huber, Magnus (eds.) *The Survey of Pidgin and Creole Languages, Vol. I: English-based and Dutch-based languages*, 223-231. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

This text was recorded on Malo island in 1995. The speakers are Lolan, a 30-year old school teacher, and Papa, her father in law, who is in his late 60s. They are chatting in Papa's kitchen house. Also present is Miriam (fieldworker). They are talking about the elders in the local church (who I identify only by an initial). I have edited out some of the usual disfluencies and interjections that are characteristic of spoken conversation to make the text easier to follow.

L: *Be mi tingbaot olsem, mi neva fogetem, a,*
but 1SG think.about like.that 1SG never forget uh,
But y'know I remember, I've never forgotten, uh,

olfala B., elda B. Taem ia i stap
old.ADJ B. elder B. time DEF AGR HAB
the old man B., elder B. The time he

karem sevis, taem ia mifala i kam spel ia [...]
take service time DEF 1PL AGR come spell DEF [...]
took the service, that time when we were on holiday [...]

P: *mm*

L: *Mi talem! Yumi, yumi go insaed long naen*
1SG tell 1PL.INCL 1PL.INCL go inside at nine
I'm telling you! We, we went in at nine

oklok, yumi kamaot long tu oklok.
o'clock 1PL.INCL come.out at two o'clock
o'clock, we came out at two o'clock.

E, man ia. No, olfala ia, taem i karem
eh man DEF NEG old.ADJ DEF time AGR take
Eh, that man. No, that old man, when he takes

sevis ia i longwan ia.
service DEF AGR long.ADJ DEF
the service it's a long one.

P: [whistles]

L: *Ivin storian blong ol pikinini, hem i olsem i*
even story of PL children 3SG AGR like AGR
Even the children's address, he's like he's

prij long ol.
preach to PL
preaching to them.

M&P: [laugh]

L: *O no, mi lukaotem tawean, mi les.*
oh NEG 1SG look.out tawean 1SG lazy
Oh no, I catch sight of our tawean [kinship term],
my heart sinks.

P: *Hem ia, ol man oli save. Taem long sevis*
3SG DEF PL man AGR know time in service
Him, everybody knows about him. When it's time for
service,

oli askem "Hu i tekem sevis tede?" Sapos i talem
AGR ask who AGR take service today if AGR tell
they ask "Who is taking service today?" If they say

narafala man oli glad blong go. Sapos i talem
other.ADJ man AGR glad PURP go if AGR tell
it's some other guy, they're happy to go. But if they say

se elda, elda S., sam oli slip.
COMP elder elder S. some AGR sleep
that it's elder, elder S, some people will sleep in.

L: *Bambae jioj i empty.*
IRR church AGR empty
The church will be empty.

P: *I empty. Yu luk we oli save talem nara man, jioj i*
AGR empty 2SG look COMP AGR HAB tell other man church AGR
It's empty.

fulap.
full.up
full.