Antipassives

West Greenlandic Inuttut (Eskimo) / Kalaallisut


(1) a. Toquppaa.
   toqut-Va-a
   kill-IND[+trans]-3s/3s
   ‘He/she/it killed him/her/it.’

b. Toqutsivoq.
   toqut-si-Vu-q
   kill-AP-IND[-trans]-3s
   ‘He/she/it killed (something).’

(2) a. Junna-p Anna kunip-p-a-a
   Junna-ERG i Anna(ABS) j kiss-IND-[+trans]-3s,i.3s,j
   ‘Junna kissed Anna.’

b. Junna (Anna-mik) kunis-si-v-u-q.
   Junna(ABS) i (Anna-INST) kiss-APASS-IND[-trans]-3s,i
   ‘Junna kisses/is kissing (Anna).’

(3) a. Qimmit anussaat piareersarpai.
   qimmi-t anussaat piariirsaq-Va-i
   dog-DIR.3p future.harness.ABS.3p/p prepare-IND[+trans]-3s/3p
   ‘He/she prepared the dogs’ harnesses.’

b. Qimmit anussaannik piareersaavoq.
   qimmi-t anussaq=annik piariirsaq-i=Vu-q
   dog-DIR.3p future.harness=INST.3p/p prepare-AP=IND[-trans]-3s
   ‘He/she prepared dog-harnesses / harnesses for (the) dogs’
Chamorro


“The … Antipassive then, which turns a transitive proposition into an intransitive one, should not strike speakers of English as strange, since English has a similar process where the Object is demoted into a prepositional phrase, making the sentence intransitive as well.” (p. 578)

(This identification was made in Heath 1976; cf. Postal 1977, Dixon 1994:147)

cf. Eng. *Ben was cooking some stew* vs. *Ben was cooking on some stew.*

*The prisoner was pounding the wall* vs. *The prisoner was pounding at the wall.*

(4) a. Un-patek i ga’lagu.
   2s.ERG-kick the dog
   ‘You kicked the dog.’

b. Mamatek hao gi ga’lago.
   AP.kick 2s.ABS LOC dog
   ‘You kicked at the dog.’

(5) a. Hu-hongege i taotao.
   1sg.ERG-believe the man
   ‘I believe the man.’

b. Man-hongee yo’ nu i taotao.
   AP-believe 1sg.ABS OBL the man
   ‘I believe/have faith in theman.’

(6) a. Ha-guaiya yo si Juan.
   3s.ERG-love 1s.ABS UNM Juan
   ‘Juan loves me.’

b. Mang-guaiya si Juan nu guahu.
   AP-love UNM Juan OBL 1s.EMP
   ‘John is in love with me.’

*Antipassive: prefix man- (in the realis), fan- (in the irrealis) (data from Chung 1998)*

(7) a. Humanao pāra u-fañ-akki quini gi un lanchu-n taotao. C38 agr.go Fut agr-AP-steal here Loc a farm-L person
   ‘(The two) went to steal over here at somebody's farm.’

b. Asta pa'gu ti man-hóhonggi yu' nu ennao ädyu i until now not agr.AP-believe.Prog I Obl that that the siñát ginin i chächaflik. C38 sign from the dying.one
   ‘Even now I still don't believe (in) those signs from the dead.’