

The Semantics of Bare Nouns cross-linguistically: Evidences from Cape Verdean
DATA

- (1) a. John is looking for secretaries.
b. John is looking for a secretary.
- (2) a. # There is a dog everywhere.
b. There are dogs everywhere.
- (3) a. *Nhu Manel tem kes báka bunitu.*
Mister Manel has those cow beautiful
'Mister Manel has those lovely cows.'
- b. *Nhu Manel tem boi bunitu.*
Mister Manel has bull beautiful
'Mister Manel has lovely bulls.'
- c. *Nu djuga/ês djuga / nhôs djuga.*
We play they play you play
'We play/they play/you play'
- (4) a. *(*Kel/*Un) tataruga sta ta kába.*
DEM INDF turtle is TMA ending
'Turtles are on the verge of extinction.'
- b. *(*Kel/*Un) tataruga ta poi óvu.*
DEM INDF turtle TMA lay egg
'Turtles lay eggs.'
- c. *Hómi stába detádu na txón. (*Kel) Hómi labanta pé.*
Man was lying on floor DEM Man raise foot
'A man was lying on the floor. The man rose his foot.'
- d. *Kel hómi stába detádu na txón.*
DEM man was lying on floor
'That man was lying on the floor.'
- (5) *Cigáru ta máta!*
Cigarette TMA kill
'Cigarettes kill.'
- (6) *N odja rátu.*
I saw mouse/mice
'I saw a mouse/mice.'

- (7) *Hómi stába detádu na txón. Hómi labanta pé.*
 Man was lying on floor Man raise foot
 ‘A man was lying on the floor. The man rose his foot.’
- (8) *Djon sta djobi (un) sekretária.*
 Djon is looking INDF secretary
 ‘Djon is looking for a secretary/secretaries.’
- (9) *Djon mata (# un) kuedju tardi interu.*
 Djon killed (#INDF) rabbit afternoon whole
 ‘Djon killed rabbit the whole afternoon.’
- (10) *Djon ka odja (un) mántxa na txon.*
 Djon NEG see INDF spot on floor
 ‘Djon hasn’t seen a spot on the floor.’
- (11) a. *Minis di gosi é só kabésa ríxu.*
 Children of now are all head hard
 ‘Children nowadays are naughty.’
 b. *Mudjeris di hoxi tem más liberdádi di expreson.*
 Women of today have more freedom of speech
 ‘Women nowadays have more freedom of speech.’
- (12) a. *un cigáru / un -s cigáru / *un -s cigárus*
 INDF cigarette INDF-PL cigarette INDF-PL cigarettes
 ‘a cigarette/ some cigarettes’
 b. *kel cigáru / ke -s cigáru / *ke -s cigárus*
 DEM cigarette DEM-PL cigarette DEM-PL cigarettes
 ‘that cigarette / those cigarettes’
 c. **cigáru -s ta máta!*
 Cigarette -PL TMA kill
 ‘Cigarettes kill.’
- (13) a. *dôs / trêš / kuátu... tomáti / káru*
 two three four tomato / car
 ‘two/three/four... tomatoes / cars’
 b. **dôs/trêš/kuátu... tomáti -s / káru-s*
 two three four tomato -PL / car-PL
 c. *Djon ta karega txeu livru (*livrus).*
 Djon TMA carries many book (books)

‘Djon carries many books.’

- (14) **Kel* /**ke* -s /**un* (s) /**dôs* /*três* /*kuátu...* *lêti* /*areia*/ *asúkra*
 DEM DEM -PL INDF(PL) two three four milk sand sugar
 ‘That/those/a/two/three/four milk/sand/sugar’

- (15) a. *Dôs kilo* (**kilo* -s) *di asúkra*
 Two kilo kilo -PL of sugar
 ‘Two kilos of sugar’
 b. *Dôs kudjer* (**kudjer* -s) *di azêti /mantêga*
 Two spoon spoon -PL of olive oil butter
 ‘Two spoons of olive oil/butter’

- (16) a. *Djon ta karega txeu* (**txeu* -s) *livru.*
 Djon TMA carries many many-PL book
 ‘Djon carries many books.’
 b. *Djon ta karega txeu areia.*
 Djon TMA carries much sand
 ‘Djon carries a lot of sand.’

- (17) *Djon tem más txeu livru ki Maria.*
 Djon has more many book than Maria
 ‘Djon has more books than Maria.’

- (20) Dogs are extinct.

- (23) a. **Ragazze in minigonna sono estinte.*
 girls in miniskirt are extinct
 b. *Qui, ragazze in minigonna sono rare.*
 here girls in miniskirt are rare

- (24) John bought books.

- (26) a. *san* *(*ge*) *nanhai*
 3 CL boy
 Three boys
 b. *yi* *(*ben*) *shu*¹
 one CL book
 One book

¹ Example (15) from Chierchia (2010)

- (29) a. *Káro sta na garági.*
 Car is in garage
 'The car/cars is/are in the garage.'
- b. In-the-garage ιx (car(x))
 c. In-the-garage $\exists^{\cup} \text{car}_k$
- (30) a. *Tres gátu sta mia.*
 Three cat is/are purring
 'Three cats are purring.'
- (31) a. *Ke -s gátu*
 DEM-PL cat
 'Those cat.'
- b. **kel gátus*
 DEM cats
- c. *Kel gátu*
 DEM cat
 'That cat.'
- (32) a. *Os gato*
 DEF-PL cat
 'The cat'
- b. **O gatos*
 DEF-SG cats
- c. *O gato*
 DEF-SG cat
 'The cat'
- (33) a. *Thes boy
 b. The boys
 c. The boy