Appendix A: Object-verb idioms in Korean

This appendix and the next present the data from Korean and Vietnamese that we gathered. Each idiom is listed in a sentential context to illustrate its use, with the elements that are a fixed part of the idiom boldfaced. Any element that is not boldfaced can be changed.

A1: N-V idioms, no functional elements

We have found 65 idioms of this type, but do not believe this to be an exhaustive list.

A1.1 Idioms that permit functional elements

1. il.il.kwu kwukup.cha-ka cho-lul tatwu-e talli-ko iss-ta.
   one.one.nine emergency.car-NOM second-ACC dispute-e run-KO exist-DECL
   ‘The 119 ambulance is running in a very urgent situation.’ (dispute a second = urgent)

2. notongca-tul-uy pwulman-i hanul-ul ecilu-n-ta.
   worker-PL-GEN complaint-NOM sky-ACC pierce-PRES-DECL
   ‘Workers complain a lot.’ (pierce a sky = have a lot, great force)

   he-TOP sleeve-ACC roll.up-and business-in-only concentrate-PST-DECL
   ‘He took a positive attitude and concentrated on his business.’ (roll up sleeve = take a positive attitude)

4. wuli-nun siemeni-ey tayhayse yelsimhi hopak.ssi-lul kka-ss-ta.
   we-TOP mother.in.law-in about hard pumpkin.seed-ACC peel-PST-DECL
   ‘We backbit our mother in law.’ (peel pumpkin seeds = backbite)
(5) wuli-nun icey kyewu katak-ul cap-ass-ta.
   we-TOP now barely strand-ACC catch-PST-DECL
   ‘We barely understood a situation by now.’ (catch strand = get a clue)

(6) sihem-ey moltwuha-ki wihay chinkwu-tul-kwa pal-ul kkunh-kess-ta.
   test-in focus-NML in-order.to friend-PL-with leg-ACC cut.off-FUT-DECL
   ‘I will discontinue a relationship with my friends to focus on my test.’ (cut off a leg = discontinue a relationship)

(7) hyeng-i hayko-toy-ese sonkalak-ul ppal cikyeng-i-ta.
   elder.brother-NOM fire-become-because finger-ACC suck condition-COP-DECL
   ‘Because my elder brother was fired, he is in the situation of starving.’ (suck finger = starve)

(8) emma-ka atul-hantey son-ul ta tul-ess-ta.
   mother-NOM son-DAT hand-ACC all hold.up-PST-DECL
   ‘The mother gave up her son.’ (hold up hand = give away/up)

(9) sokaything hwu Mina-ka na-hantey kaci-lul chi-ki-lo yaksokhay-ss-e.
   blind.date after Mina-NOM I-DAT branch-ACC lop.off-NML-lo promise-PST-INT
   ‘After the blind date, Mina promised me to set up a blind date for me.’ (lop off branch = introduce to, make something subsidiary)

(10) ku-nun cho-lul chi-nun-tey senswu-i-ta.
    he-TOP vinegar-ACC spread-ADN-NML player-COP-DECL
    ‘He interrupts very well.’ (spread vinegar = interrupt)

(11) sosel ssu-ci mal-ko ttokpalo malhay-la.
    novel write-ci NEG.IMP-and straightforwardly tell-IMP
    ‘Do not lie, and tell me straightforwardly.’ (write novel = lie)

    game-GEN victory.defeat-TOP lid-ACC open-e-try know-FUT-INT
    ‘We will know the result of the victory or defeat of the game once the game is done.’ (open lid = find out a result)

A1.2 Idioms that permit non-functional elements

(13) ku nom-tul-i amwuli aklalhay-to wuli sayng.kacwuk-ul peski-ci-nun anh-ul
    that guy-PL-NOM however mean-although our alive.skin-ACC peel.off-ci-ADN NEG-ACC
    kes-i-ta.
    NML-COP-DECL
    ‘No matter how mean they are, they would not rob us of things we have.’ (peel off skin = rob of by employing all means)
(14) ipen-ey tayhak mwul-ul mek-ess-teni mollapokay
this.time-in college water-ACC eat-PST-because unrecognizably
selyen-toy-cye-ss-e.
elegant-become-become-PST-INT
‘Because she started her college this time, s/he became much more elegant.’ (eat water = be influenced by surroundings)

(15) nay-ka emma-uy sok-ul cengmal manhi kulk-ess-ta.
I-NOM mother-GEN stomach-ACC very much scratch-PST-DECL
‘I made my mother worry very much.’ (scratch stomach = make worry)

(16) hyentay.in-tul-un ton-ttaymwuney mengey-lul ssu-ko sal-a-ka-n-ta.
modern.person-PL-TOP money-because yoke-ACC wear-ko live-a-go-PRES-DECL
‘Modern people are heavily bound by money.’ (wear a yoke = be bound by something)

(17) yenkum mwuncey-uy khal-calwu-lul ewi-n salam-un palo
pension problem-GEN knife-hilt-ACC hold-ADN person-TOP exactly
kim-tayphyo-i-ta.
kim-representative-COP-DECL
‘It is exactly the representative Kim who has an actual authority to the problem of pension system.’
(hold a hilt of knife = have actual political power, authority)

(18) celtaylo ku-nun i sasil-ey tayhayse nabalpwu-l salam-i ani-ta.
absolutely he-TOP this fact-in about bugle blow-FUT person-NOM NEG-DECL
‘Absolutely he is not a person who talks about it exaggeratedly.’ (blow a bugle = talk about something absurdly, exaggeratedly)

(19) choysen-ul ne-eykey tol-ul tenci-l salam-un amwuto eps-ul
best-ACC do-ADN you-DAT stone-ACC throw-ADN,FUT person-TOP anyone not.exist-ACC
NML-COP-DECL
‘There would not be anybody that criticizes you who did your best.’ (throw a stone = criticize)

(20) ku-ka yaksok-ul cikhi-tolok sswayki-lul pak-aya kyess-ta.
he-NOM promise-ACC keep-in.order.to wedge-ACC drive.in-indeed FUT-DECL
‘We should take steps to make sure that he will keep his promise.’ (drive in wedge = make certain)

(21) ku il-i palmok-ul cap-ase yehayng-ul mos ka-yo.
that job-NOM ankle-ACC grab-because trip-ACC cannot go-POL
‘The job prevented me from going to the trip.’ (grab ankle = prevent, interrupt)

(22) ku kycleceng-ey nongmin-tul-un wulpwun-uy phi-lul thohay-ss-ta.
that decision-in farmer-PL-TOP resentment-GEN blood-ACC vomit-PST-DECL
‘For that decision, farmers were outraged.’ (vomit blood = be outraged)
nay-ka chinhan chinkwu **paltung-ul ccik-ess-ta.**
I-NOM close friend instep-ACC hack-PST-DECL
‘I betrayed my close friend.’ (hack instep = betray)

ipen il-ey kunye-tul-i **chay-lul cap-ass-ta.**
this.time matter-in she-PL-NOM stick-ACC grab-PST-DECL
‘The women lead on this matter.’ (grab stick = lead)

han sitay-lul **cwulum cap-ten ye.paywu-ka ecey kyothong sako-lo**
one period-ACC wrinkle grasp-used.to female.actress-NOM yesterday traffic accident-INST
decease-PST-DECL
‘The very famous female actress in this period deceased yesterday due to traffic accident.’ (grasp wrinkle = be famous)

ku mal-un **sincang-ul khok ccil-less-ta.**
that word-TOP heart-ACC firmly stab-PST-DECL
‘That word attacked me; that word gave some hurt to me.’ (stab heart = attack an essential part)

Kim Sanghyen eskheyi-eyse **nalkay-lul phyte-ta.**
Kim Sanghyen SK-in wing-ACC spread-DECL
‘Kim Sanghyen (the baseball player), his dream comes true in SK.’ (spread wings = have one’s dream come true)

na-uy uykyen-i **thulli-myen seng-ul ka-n-ta.**
I-GEN opinion-NOM not.correct-if family.name-ACC change-PRES-DECL
‘I swear that my opinion is correct.’ (change family name = swear)

Aiphon-un nul nao-l ttaymata **kakkwang-ul pat-nun-ta.**
iPhone-TOP always come.out-ADN whenever limelight-ACC receive-PRES-DECL
‘IPhones always gain popularity whenever their new versions come out.’ (receive limelight = be popular)

wuli hakkyo-uy **ilum-ul kel-ko ku sang-ul kkok tha-keyss-ta.**
our school-GEN name-ACC hang.up-and that prize-ACC certainly win-FUT-DECL
‘I will win the prize to be responsible for my school’s reputation.’ (hang up name = be responsible for one’s reputation)

seymwu kemsa-lo **ku hoysa-nun khukey seli-lul mac-ass-ta.**
tax inspection-because that company-TOP greatly frost-ACC get.hit-PST-DECL
‘Due to the tax inspection, the company had a great loss.’ (get hit by frost = gain damage or loss)

ku-nun pwumo-nim maum-ey **mos-ul pak-ass-ta.**
he-TOP parent-HON heart-DAT nail-DECL drive-PST-DECL
‘He hurt his parents.’ (drive nail = hurt)
‘They disclosed the hidden details of their colonization.’ (bring out a horse leg = disclose hidden details)

‘I will control my mind and live a life in full.’ (tighten screw = control)

‘Chelswu has been educated to some sufficient extent.’ (eat ink = be educated)

‘I will not flatter my boss from tomorrow.’ (lick sole = flatter)

‘The female students listened to the story carefully and agreed with it.’ (set rhythm = listen carefully and agree)

‘I was brash, and proposed to the guy.’ (spread out iron pad = be brash)

‘We will get rid of the officials’ corruptions.’ (dry seeds = get rid of)

‘Those guys ruined the matter.’ (break a container for branches = ruin)

‘Boss Kwon who has made a great contribution to the history of donation’ (draw a stroke = make a crucial contribution)

‘Are you going to wake up if you have to go a jail?’ (eat bean rice = go to a jail)
(43) wuli-nun **kan-ul** **coli-ko** iss-ess-ta.
   we-TOP liver-ACC boil.down-KO exist-PST-DECL
   ‘We were being very nervous.’ (boil down liver = be nervous)

(44) **kamthwu-lul** sse-ss-u-myen ku-ey kelmac-nun phwumkyek-ul kacy-eya ha-n-ta.
    hat-ACC put.on-PST-u-if that-in befit-ADN dignity-ACC own-should do-PRES-DECL
    ‘If you are in a position of authority, you should have a dignity befitting that.’ (put on a traditional
    hat = gain authority)

(45) ku cong-un **tentheki-lul** ssu-ko cwukim-ul tangha-yess-ta.
   that servant-TOP worry-ACC wear-and killed-ACC suffer-PST-DECL
   ‘That servant got all the blame, and was killed.’ (wear worry = get blamed)

A1.4 Idioms that are fixed

(46) wunun aki-lul tallaynu-lako **ttam-ul** ppay-ss-ta.
    crying baby-ACC soothe-because sweat-ACC wring.out-PST-DECL
    ‘I had a hard time because I soothed the crying baby.’ (wring out sweat = have a hard time)

(47) kahayca-nun casin-i ohiye phihayca-i-n chek **kephwum-ul** mwul-ko
    assailant-TOP self-NOM rather victim-COP-ADN pretending foam-ACC bite-and
taytul-ess-ta.
    defy-PST-DECL
    ‘The assailant pretended to be rather a victim, and was very enraged and defied.’ (bite a foam =
    be enraged)

(48) moin salam-tul-i motwu **hye-lul** naytwul-ess-ta.
    gathered person-PL-NOM all tongue-ACC wave-PST-DECL
    ‘All gathered people were very astonished.’ (wave a tongue = get astonished)

(49) naynyen-ey-to **heli.tti-lul** **coll-a-may-ko** cal sal-a-po-ca.
    next.year-in-too waist.belt-ACC tight-and-tie-and well live-a-try-EXHORT
    ‘Let’s be frugal and live well next year, too.’ (tighten one’s belt = frugal)

(50) onul sihem-eyse **cwuk-ul** sse-ss-ta.
    today test-in porridge-ACC cook-PST-DECL
    ‘I failed in the test today.’ (cook a porridge = fail)

(51) ku-uy cenkwka-ka kongkay-toy-ca kakkawun chinkwu-tul-to
    he-GEN criminal.record-NOM publicize-become-once close friend-PL-even
    sayk.ankyeng-ul kki-ess-ta.
    color.glasses-ACC wear-PST-DECL
    ‘Once his criminal record became publicized, even his close friends got to have bad opinions
    about him.’ (put on color glasses = have bad opinions or prejudices)
52. Soyoung pretended not to know about it till the end. (detach a name tag = pretend not to know)

53. After the doctor’s examination, finally I got comfortable without any worries. (unfold limbs = get comfortable with no worries)

54. ‘I kept one eye on the bag.’ (mark a dot = keep one eye on)

55. ‘Until I die, I will not permit it.’ (put down a spoon = die)

56. ‘If you succeed (in your blind date), you should introduce me (to a girl).’ (baby bear = introduce to)

57. ‘We praised Hana all together (without any disagreement).’ (collect lips = act unanimously)

58. ‘Chelswu failed this test.’ (eat seaweed soup = fail)

59. ‘Kyengswu becomes always sensitive and nervous whenever the test date approaches.’ (stand blade = be sensitive)

60. ‘Young women were the representative of the work, and led it.’ (carry gun stock = become a representative and lead)

61. ‘Hana took an interval of time before she told about something.’ (let the rice settle in its own steam = give an interval of time)
sensayngnim-i yen-ul manhi pat-u-si-ess-ta.
teacher-NOM heat-ACC much receive-u-HON-PST-DECL
‘The teacher got very angry.’ (receive heat = get angry)

Jwumi-nun motun chongkak-hantey kkoli-lul chy-ess-ta.
Jwumi-TOP all unmarried.man-DAT tail-ACC wag-PST-DECL
‘Jwumi flirted with all the guys.’ (wag tail = flirt)

Khulisu-nun ecey sicang-eyse pakaci-lul sse-ss-ta.
Chris-TOP yesterday market-in bowl-ACC wear-PST-DECL
‘Chris was ripped off in the market yesterday.’ (wear bowl = be ripped off)

ku cali-nun nay-ka myengham-ul naymil manhan kos-i ani-ta.
that position-TOP I-NOM name.card-ACC hold.out worth place-NOM NEG-DECL
‘The position is not the place that I can show my identification (i.e., there are many other people
who are more excellent than me. I am not much as competitive as they are).’ (hold out name card = identify oneself)

A2: N-V Idioms with functional elements
All of these permit the functional elements to vary.

(1) kwansim-kwa yelceng-ulo han wumwul-ul pha-la.
interest-and passion-with one well-ACC dig-IMP
‘Focus on one matter with your interest and passion.’ (dig one well = focus on one matter)

(2) wuli-nun onul-pwuthe han soth.pap-ul mek-nun-ta.
we-TOP today-from one cauldron.rice-ACC eat-PRES-DECL
‘From today we live in the same house.’ (eat one cauldron rice = live in the same house; work
together in the same team)

(3) swuswul-i sengkongcekulo kkuthna-se icye han swum-ul tolli-n-ta.
surgery-NOM successfully finish-because now one breath-ACC turn-PRES-DECL
‘Because the surgery was successfully finished, now we get relieved.’ (turn one breath = get
relieved)

(4) wuli-nun han ipwul-ul teph-nun sai-ya.
we-TOP one blanket-ACC cover-ADN relation-INT
‘We are married.’ (cover one blanket = marry)

(5) ne-nun sinsa-losse ettehkey twu mal-ul ha-ni?
you-TOP gentle.man-as how two word-ACC do-Q
‘How come do you as a gentleman change your mind so easily?’ (say two words = change one’s
mind so easily)
Chelswu-nun **yang tali-lul** kelci-n-ta.
Chelswu-TOP both leg-ACC span-PRES-DECL
‘Chelswu is a two-timer.’ (span two legs = date more than one person at a time)

i kos-ey cip-ul sa-myen ancen-ha-ko kyengchi-to coha-se **twu swu-lul**
this place-in house-ACC purchase-if safety-do-and landscape-too good-because two move-ACC
po-nun kes-i-ta.
see-ADN thing-COP-DECL
‘If you purchase a house in this place, you gain double profits because it is safe and its landscape
is great.’ (see two moves = gain double profits)

wuli-ka icey **han pay-lul** tha-ss-ta.
we-NOM now one boat-ACC ride-PST-DECL
‘We now share a destiny.’ (ride one boat = share the same destiny)

Kim sacang sosik-ey wuli motwu **han pang-ul mek-ess-ta.**
Kim boss news-in we all one fist-ACC eat-PST-DECL
‘We were very shocked at the news about the boss Kim.’ (eat one fist = be shocked)

ku-nun sakwa-nun khenyeng **han swul-ul te tte-se hwa-lul nay-ess-ta.**
he-TOP apology-TOP rather-than one spoon-ACC more scoop-and angry-ACC make-PST-DECL
‘He made the situation more worse by getting angry rather than apologizing.’ (scoop one spoon
more = make the situation worse; outwit)

Kim sacang-i **han ken-ul oly-ess-ta.**
Kim boss-NOM one matter-ACC raise-PST-DECL
‘Our boss Mr. Kim made some achievements.’ (raise one matter = make some achievements)

Min kyoswu-ka haksayng-tul-eykey **han thek-ul sso-ass-ta.**
Min professor-NOM student-PL-DAT one tray-ACC shoot-PST-DECL
‘Professor Min treated his students.’ (shoot one tray = treat)

**han nwun-ul phal-ci mal-ko kongpwu-man hay-la.**
one eye-ACC sell-ci NEG-and study-only do-IMP
‘Focus on studying.’ (sell one eye = not to focus)

Hana-nun mikwuk-eyse **twu mali thokki-lul** motwu **cap-ass-ta.**
Hana-TOP America-in two CL rabbit-ACC all catch-PST-DECL
‘Hana accomplished what she has planned in America.’ (catch two rabbits = accomplish)