

RELATIVE CLAUSES This is the normal position for the kinds of information in relative clauses to be realized. This typically involves Events connected with the referent, but also can realize other kinds of information such as Comparison, Location, and Attributes. Again these appear either with or without the relative clause marker.

#24 set2 too1 cang5 h>ng6
animal CLF like sing
An animal which likes to sing.

#25 tam2 ?an4 pən5 haang3 waj6 han3
trap which they set beforehand there
The trap that they had set.

#26 cin6 t>>n2 loong1 ləə1 kuu4
meat piece big exceed me
A piece of meat bigger than me.

5. The function of classifiers in discourse

Classifiers play a role in referent identification in Tai Lue discourse. In the initial appearance of a referent in the text the referent will typically be identified by a full Nominal Group including both common noun and classifier noun. Often the classifier Noun Phrase includes the word nyng5 "one" in a position following the classifier. This is a position for numbers reserved for identifying the referent as new information.

On subsequent occasions within that paragraph, and often in any following occasion within the discourse, there typically is only a classifier Noun Phrase, often