(Q) Relatively Speaking (1/2) [Solution]

Q1.

(a) Fai moa noa.
   *There are only birds.*

(b) Kua holoholo foki he faiaoga ne takafaga e au a ia.
   *The teacher that I caught has also washed him.*

(c) To muhu vaka e tama ka holoholo he moa.
   *The child that the bird will wash will have plenty of canoes. The child will have plenty of canoes that the bird will wash.*

Q2.

(a) *He will also read.*
   To totou foki a ia.

(b) *Sione has only had fish that the teacher will eat.*
   Kua fai ika noa a Sione ka kai he faiaoga.

(c) *The teacher that Mele saw built the canoe.*
   Ne tā he faiaoga ne kitia e Mele e vaka.

(d) *There have always been plenty of carpenters.*
   Kua muhu kāmuta tūmau.

Explanation

- The default word order is Tense + Verb + (Adverb) + Subject + Object

- Tense markers are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tense</th>
<th>Marker</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Past</td>
<td>ne</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Perfect</td>
<td>kua</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Present</td>
<td>Ø</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Future</td>
<td>to</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- Nouns must normally be preceded by a case marker:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Ergative</th>
<th>Absolutive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Name / Pronoun</td>
<td>e</td>
<td>a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Else</td>
<td>he</td>
<td>e</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The ergative is used for a subject if it is followed by an object; the absolutive is used elsewhere.

- Nouns can be followed by a relative clause:
  - Relative clauses are introduced by *ne* if the clause is in the past tense, and *ka* in the future, then follow typical syntax.

- Verbs come in two types: existential verbs, *fai be/have* and *muhu be/have plenty*; and general verbs.
  - Existential verbs are translated as *there + be* without a subject, and as *have* with a subject.
  - The object is compulsory. The head noun is moved to come directly after the verb, and does not appear with case markers. Relative clauses stay in the object position.
  - Note that existential verbs are always treated as intransitive, i.e., subjects of existential verbs are absolutive.
