



### https://helda.helsinki.fi

### On embedded questions in Finnish

### Hakulinen, Auli

Indiana University Press 1977

Hakulinen , A 1977 , On embedded questions in Finnish . in D Sinor (ed.) , Studies in Finno-ugric Linguistics : Indiana University Uralic and Altaic Series . vol. 131 , Indiana University Press , Bloomington .

http://hdl.handle.net/10138/236515

cc\_by publishedVersion

Downloaded from Helda, University of Helsinki institutional repository.

This is an electronic reprint of the original article.

This reprint may differ from the original in pagination and typographic detail.

Please cite the original version.

# -> INDIANA UNIVERSITY URALIC AND ALTAIC SERIES

**VOLUME 131** 

# STUDIES IN FINNO-UGRIC LINGUISTICS

In Honor of Alo Raun

edited by

**DENIS SINOR** 

BLOOMINGTON

Kotimalsten kielten tutkimuskeskus SUOMALAIS-UGRILAINEN KIRJASTO

klassen nun auch für den permischen Bereich. Denn ebenso wie für das Finnisch-Wolgaische darf nun auch für das Permische und damit schliesslich auch für das Finnisch-Permische die — offenbar auf einer ursprünglichen Funktionsunterscheidung basierende — potentielle Zweistämmigkeit aller Nomina angenommen werden.

- 2. Die heutigen Verhältnisse, die einen lebendigen Stammwechsel innerhalb eines Dialekts nur noch relativ selten bewahrt haben, sind als Normierungen, also als Ausgleichungen nach jeweils einem der beiden Stämme, aufzufassen. Diese Normierung wurde offenbar durch Verblassung bzw. Verlust der alten Funktionsunterscheidung der beiden Stämme ausgelöst bzw. begünstigt.
- 3. Syrjänisch -j entspricht wotjakisch -j; beide gehen auf permisch \*-ij zurück. Permisch \*-ij: -ø entspricht finnisch-wolgaisch \*-a/-ä: -ø. Das heisst, es gab in der finnisch-permischen Grundsprache einen ø-Stamm (= Kons.-Stamm) und einen Stamm mit einer Endung, aus der sich im Finnisch-Wolgaischen \*-a/-ä, im Permischen \*-jj entwickelt hat.
- 4. Die Annahme einer historischen Identität von syrj. -j und frühurfinn. \*-e war ein Irrweg der bisherigen Forschung.

## ON EMBEDDED QUESTIONS IN FINNISH

## AULI HAKULINEN

O. In this paper I shall attempt to give a tentative description of the syntactic behaviour of embedded questions in Finnish. This is a topic that has been either overlooked or only marginally touched upon by Finnish grammarians. The reason for this is an obvious one: there is nothing ambivalent or shaky about the use of embedded questions—no problem to be tackled, no norms to be set, and no historical development specific to the Finnish language which would need to be explained. In other words, it seems to form an area where our linguistic behaviour is self-evident. It is just in these instances that a generative grammarian will find work to do. He will be interested in explicating and clarifying what is self-evident to a normal speaker-hearer. He wants to see what the self-evident behaviour consists of.

As I said, Finnish grammarians have had little to say about embedded questions. Setälä in his Suomen kielen lauseoppi states that there are "subordinated questions" and that they can be characterised as "those by-clauses which have interrogative pronouns (prominals) or particles as their initial elements". His examples include questions which are embedded in sentences with the following matrix predicates: tietää, kysyå, sanoa, kuulla. Penttilä has nothing to add to this treatment. Siro presents a wider collection of predicates that take a question either as their subject or object complement: on omituista, näkyy, tuntuu, jää salaisuudeksi; tajuaa, huomauttaa, kuvittelee. Nykysuomen sanakirja (under the entries for various pronouns) has, as often is the case, a still larger array of examples than any of the grammars. They have been included among the examples in the present treatment.

1.1 The first topic that will be dealt with is the difference or similarity between direct and embedded questions. Unlike in many Indogermanic languages (e.g. English), there is no difference in word order between the two in Finnish, nor is there any different choice of question particles between them (cf. English *whether*, Swedish *om* in embedded questions only). Let us look at some simple examples.

- 1. Onko hän sairas?
- 'Is he ill?'
- Haluan tietää, onko hän sairas. 'I want to know whether he is ill.'

must be expressed by a higher verb but not by particles added to the take any morphological indications of other kinds of speech acts However, there are some differences. The embedded question is predicate of the embedded question itself. like rhetorical questions, suggestions or exclamations. These functions used only in the illocutionary function of a question. That is, it cannot

3a. Kuka*han* hän on?

\*Muistan \*En tiedä kuka*han* hän on.

4a. Missä*pä* saisi olla rauhassa!

5a. Eikö ollut*kin* hauskaa? saisi olla rauhassa.

'I don't know I remember

'I wonder who he is'

who I wonder he is.

\*On vaikea huomata, missäpä be at peace!' 'Where is the place where one could

'It is hard to notice, where...'

'Wasn't it fun?'

\*Oletko kuullut, eikö ollutkin hauskaa?¹

'Have you heard, whether it wasn't

translations of the examples This restriction is a universal one, as can be seen from the unacceptable

sentence by using the initial particle entä: structure. This is the peculiar way of asking about the "comment" of a There is another question type that can never occur in an embedded

6a. Entä vaara terveydelle?

terveydelle. \*Hän ei tiennyt, entä vaara

Entä miten minun käy?

\*Haluaisin vain tietää, entä miten minun käy.

become of me.'

'I would like to know what will 'He did not know how about the danger to health.' 'What will become of me?' 'How about the danger to health?'

undergone Equi deletion and has thereby become non-finite: question is possible. If a direct question is grammatical at all, it is felt to be elliptic. This is the case where the embedded question has There is, on the other hand, one instance where only the embedded

- 8a. Kuljimme tietämättä, minne 'We walked not knowing where to
- 8b. Minne mennä? (= En tiedä, minne mennä.) go.'
  'Where to go? (= I don't know where to go.)'
- and is therefore not formalised to any extent, I want to review the illocutionary power other than that which is evident from the matrix Katz and Postal. This is because subordinate clauses do not possess both, it cannot have a performative reading like the one suggested by look. Although the present discussion should be seen as preliminary 1.2 Next we have to take a stand as to how the description might be used for both direct and embedded questions. If it is used for possibilities that have been suggested for a formal description. Baker (1970) has taken up the use of a clause-initial morpheme Q which could

of the predicates of the matrix clause for the embedded questions. intuition would be the postulating of an abstract performative verb for but is used only for the purpose of triggering off some movement the direct questions, and trying to take into account the semantic features transformations is always doubtful. More in accordance with our morpheme in the deep structure which never gets a surface realisation It has been pointed out by Langacker (1969) that postulating a

and wh-questions are special cases of a more general question type, of any disjunction, whether a question or a statement: morpheme ko (real, not abstract) which always occurs in the first part namely disjunctives. For Finnish, we could say that there is a disjunctive It sounds plausible when Langacker claims that both yes-no questions

9a. Onko hän tullut (vai ei)?

'Has he come (or not)?'

Kuka hän on (Kalleko vai ...)? 'Who is he (K or ...)?'

Sinne tulee joko Kalle tai Ville. 'Either Kalle or Ville there. will come

embedded clause, this repetition is impossible: be repeated. However, if the questioned item is also the theme of the If the two disjuncts have different predicates, the morpheme ko has to

En ole varma, voittaako Kalle vai luovuttaako Pekka. win or Pekka yield.' 'I am not sure whether Kalle will

10.

Hän kysyi, eikö ollutkin hauskaa. 'He asked whether it wasn't fun! This, in my opinion, should rather be seen as a case of indirect discourse and not We can find this structure in a subordinate clause as follows:

11a. En ole varma, Kalleko En ole varma, Kalleko voittaa vai ) \*Pekkako Pekka.

> 'I am not sure whether it is Kalle who will win or Pekka.

voittaa vai f \*Pekkako luovuttaa (luovuttaako Pekka.

and the ko morpheme appears only if the alternatives are being listed [-def.], the surface form of the ensuing question will be a wh-q, different semantic functions. the basis of these facts I am claiming that the underlying form has both a yes-no question, the morpheme will always appear on the surface. On after the question. When there are only two alternatives as in the case of If there is an NP in the question clause with the feature specification the performative verb and a question particle. They have clearly

delineate the area of investigation. What we are facing in fact is the question of how to subcategorise verbs. It is a well known state of affairs 2.0 Having thus given the rough frame of reference I shall now others are not. In other words, we must be able to account for that if we aim at descriptive adequacy we must be able to account for the the ungrammaticality of the following examples. fact that certain verbs are subcategorised for embedded questions

12a. \*Me uskoimme, olivatko he 'We believed whether someone was there.

Toivon, tuleeko joku

'I hope whether someone'll come.' 'They asked that we come.'

13a. \*He kysyivät, että me

\*On epävarmaa, että hän ehti 'It is doubtful that he caught the

both. If a verb can take an embedded question, it either may or may question morpheme, but not an että-clause. This seems to mean that a would take a question and an infinitive complement without the not take an että-clause as well. There are no cases of verbs which that only take embedded questions, and some that seem to go with verb taking an embedded question has to have the complement marked There are verbs that can only take an embedded että-clause, others for tense. See, however, examples (41-46) below for some further

complications

possibilities of occurrence: verb, in which case it will be called complement (subject, predicative can be adjoined either to a nominal, in which case it is attributive, or to a or object complement). As an attribute, the question has very limited briefly the positions in a sentence which a question can occupy. It 2.1 Before tackling the question of subcategorisation, let us summarise

14. Hänellä on mielenkiintoinen ehdotus, miten älyllisen kulttuurin eheyttämistä voi

how the integration of intellectual 'He has an interesting suggestion

G. esittää tapauksia, kuinka eräät hallitsijat tekivät Rooman perillisekseen

16. Sitä seikkaa, voidaanko asia todistaa oikeaksi tai vääräksi, G. pitää ratkaisevana

kriteerinä.

Kysymys, ruokkivatko joukkotiedotusvälinee tarpeitamme oikeassa suhteessa,...

> 'G. presents cases how some rulers culture can be promoted.'

made Rome their heir.'

proven or disproven G. regards as 'The fact whether a case can the decisive criterion.

feed our needs in right propor-'The question whether mass media

its synonyms; secondly so called general nouns like seikka 'fact', tapaus Two types of noun may appear here as head: kysymys 'question' and 'case, event', which possess little lexical information.

occur as subjects here are kysymys 'question', ongelma 'problem', asia after the copula (in so-called predicative position). The nouns which Somewhat more frequent is the attributive occurrence of a question

18. Eri asia on, saako NN kokoon 'It is a different thing whether NN kaikki 10 maailmanmestawill get all those 10 world champion-

is the following one: analysed as a predicative or as a subject complement; a good example It is not always easy to figure out whether a certain case should be

19. Mitä kaikki muutokset merkitsevät, on mielenkiintoinen ongelmavyyhti

> interesting tangle of problems.' What all the changes mean is

2.2 The predicates (verbs and adjectives) that take questions as their subject complement can be grouped as follows.

(1) Predicates that EXPRESS UNCERTAINTY:

on epätietoista 'is doubtful'
on epävarmaa 'is insecure'
näyttää epävarmalta 'seems insecure'
ei näytä itsestään selvältä 'doesn't seem self-evident'
on epäselvää 'is unclear'
on kyseenalaista 'is questionable'
epäilyttää 'looks suspicious'

Some examples of the occurrence of these;

20. Onko tätä kirjaa suositeltava 'Should this book be recommended psykologeille, ei näytä to psychologists, doesn't seem selfitsestään selvältä.

(2) Predicates that EXPRESS INDECISION. The speaker leaves the question open; the answer depends on the outcome of the event mentioned in the other half of the sentence:

ilmenee 'turns out; becomes evident' riippuu jstkn 'depends on' seuraa 'follows' vaikuttaa 'influences'

 Missä määrin lait ovat hyödyllisiä, riippuu lain säätäjän poliittisesta tahdosta.

legislator.'

depends on the political will of the

'To what extent laws are useful

- 22. Myöhemmin tulee ilmenemään, kuinka riippumaton tuomioistuin säätää toimintaansa ohjaavan lain.
- 23. Lähiajan strategiaan vaikuttaa, onko ao puolueen edustaja hallituksessa vai ei.
  - 'Later it will ecome evident how the independent tribunal will legislate about its own activities.'

    'The short term strategy will be

'The short term strategy will be influenced by whether the party has a reprensentative in the government or not?

(3) Predicates that express indifference on the part of the speaker:

ei ole tärkeää 'is not important' jää ... omalle vastuulle 'will be left at the responsibility of...'

on saman-, yhdentekevää

wää 'makes no difference'

 On yhdentekevää, minne minut haudataan.

'It makes no difference where I will be buried.'

Most of the verbs in groups (1) and (2) can take only questions as their object complements. The verbs in group (3), on the other hand, can take either an että-clause or a question. What should we do with the description of this group? It sounds artificial to postulate two phonologically identical surface verbs (see Fretheim 1970) which show different syntactic behaviour. There is one pair of real verbs in Finnish, however, which happen to differ with respect to a q- feature only: riippuu 'depends' and johtuu 'follows'. The latter can take only että-clauses, while the former takes only embedded questions. Sentence (21) with the latter alternative would look like this:

21'. Lainsäätäjän poliittisesta tahdosta johtuu, että lait ovat näin hyödyllisiä.

With verbs like *ilmenee* 'is evident', *seurua* 'follows' and *vaikuttau* 'influences' the difference could be characterised as follows. When they go with *että* they state or predict a certain fact; when they take a question, they leave the future undecided. The latter has more often a future reading; the statement, on the other hand, is mostly in the past tense. Let us briefly look at the semantic difference involved in tärkeä 'important' (the negation has no influence here):

- 25a. Se uskotaanko teoriaan, ei ole 'Whether the theory is believed in tärkeää. is not important.'
- . Se että teoriaan uskotaan, ei 'That the theory is believed in is ole tärkeää. not important.'

The difference cannot be in factivity, as *tärkeä* in both cases ought to be a factive emotive verb. But the former is explicitly indifferent to the fact that there is both belief and disbelief. The predicate *ei tärkeä* apparently then has a choice: It is either+or-indifferent.

2.3 Let us now turn to the main bulk of examples, questions which

occur as object complements of certain verbs. Bresnan (1970) has claimed that all embedded sentences are introduced by one of three complementizers (that, q, for). If these complementizers are specified in the deep structure, verbs must be sub-categorised for the type of complement they take. In this way nothing semantic need to be marked in the feature matrices of the higher predicates: it is a purely syntactic choice. But somehow this is a bit unsatisfactory: unless the higher verbs are not distinguished by any semantic features, the co-occurrence seems to be arbitrary, which it cannot be anymore than linguistic behaviour is arbitrary in any of its part. Moreover, it makes a lot of sense to postulate an underlying complementizer että for all object clauses. This may, in spoken Finnish, turn up in an embedded question as well:

- 26. Mies kummasteli, *että mitä* 'The man wondered that what was siellä oikein oli tekeillä. going on there.'
- 27. Jo alkaa katsoa, että tunteeko '(He) begins to look that whether he hänet.

I would stick to the view then that all questions have in their deep description a disjunctive morpheme ko; in addition the morpheme occurs in disjunctive statement. When this morpheme co-occurs with certain features of a higher predicate, abstract or real, a question will ensue. All embedded, complement clauses are initiated by the complementizer että.

The verbs that take embedded questions as their object complements, either solely or among other alternatives, are all mental verbs. They form the following semantic classes:

ymmärtää	unohtaa	muistaa	(ei) tietää	kysyä	ihmetellä		ennustaa	arvailla	aavistaa	Uncertainty
'understand'	'forget'	'remember'	'(not) know'	'ask'	'wonder'		'foretell'	'guess'	'anticipate'	
	oppia	oivaltaa	nähdä	käsittää	kuulla	katsella	katsoa,	huomata	havaita	perception
	'learn'	'grasp'	'see'	'comprehend'	'hear'	'look'		'notice'	'observe'	•

	tutkia	todentaa		testata	sopia	selvittää, setviä 'sort out	ratkaista	päätellä	pohtia	määrätä	mitata	miettiä	kontrolloida	trying to find out
	'investigate'	'verify'		'test'	'agree'	iä'sort out'	'solve'	'conclude'	'ponder'	'order'	'measure'	'reflect'	'control'	out
vihiata	selittää	puhua, sanoa		paljastaa	osoittaa	näyttää	mainita	luetella	käsitellä	kirjoittaa	kuvata	kertoa	ilmoittaa	news announcement
'hint'	'explain'	'speak, say'	reveal'	'lay bare,	tuo tuiod,	'show'	'mention'	'list'	'deal with'	'write'	'describe'	'tell'	'inform'	ment

of feeling and saying (perception+news announcement), and verbs of For the sake of clarity I have grouped the verbs in that manner. groups. The first general observation to be made on the basis of uncertainty where problem solving verbs would fit as a subcategory Quite clearly, they could be made to form two larger groups: verbs my little sample of examples is that almost a half of them (55 out of 123) On the other hand, there are some differences among verbs within the modal element that contributes the feature to the matrix predicate [uncertainty], as in the case of kertoa 'tell' or tietää 'know', it is this important. When the verbs themselves have no feature [indecision] or negation, imperative or conditional; can/may/must or difficult/possible/ have some modal element in the predicate of the matrix clause: it is muistaa, sanoa, ilmoittaa, kirjoittaa. This leads us to presume that it is complement only when they are negated: aavistaa, arvailla, katsoa, phrase. The following verbs in my sample get preferably a question that we are after, but rather the co-occurrence of the whole of a not the co-occurrence of a lexical verb and an embedded question misleading to mark only the verbs according to which "complementizers" higher predicate and an embedded question. For this reason, it would be

There are a few verbs that obligatorily take only questions, and cannot have että at all:

kysyä, tutkia, setviä, ratkaista (verbs of inquiry) miettiä, pohtia (verbs of pondering)

kuvata, luetella (describing, listing) katsella, kuunnella, tarkastella (verbs of conscious observing)

cannot be known to the subject. The verbs which take both are equally problematic as tärkeä in our earlier discussion. Observe for lexical description, as the outcome of asking, pondering or listing example the following sentences: All these can be said to have the feature [+uncertainty] in their

28a. Epäilen, onnistutko.

Epäilen, että et onnistu. Epäilen, että onnistut.

> 'I doubt whether you'll succeed.' 'I doubt that you'll succeed.'

'I doubt that you won't succeed.'

Strictly taken there should be no difference in meaning between a and b. between a and c. The sentence b actually means 'I have a suspicion In colloquial practice there tends to be no difference in meaning two lexical items which are phonologically, but not syntactically that you'll succeed.' We might say, then, that in this case we do have identical:  $ep\ddot{a}ill\ddot{a}+q$  'doubt', and  $ep\ddot{a}ill\ddot{a}+ett\ddot{a}$  'suspect'. like kertoa 'tell' Let us now look at a verb which lacks the inherent feature of uncertainty,

29a. Maija ei kertonut, että he olivat syöneet.

Maija ei kertonut, olivatko he syöneet.

> eaten.' 'Maija did not tell that they had

'Maija did not tell whether they had eaten.'

factivity. But let us now look at a real factive verb. At first look one would be ready to say that the difference is one of

30a. Hän ei tiedä, että Maija tuli 'He does not know that Maija came

Hän ei tiedä, tuliko Maija ajoissa

ajoissa

'He does not know whether Maija came on time.'

with factivity, can be illustrated through the following experiment: It if we continue the other sentence in the same way (30'): is quite possible to say (29'), but we get an ungrammatical sentence That the verbs kertoa and tietää belong to different groups in respect

> 29a'. Maija ei kertonut, että he olleetkaan. olivat syöneet, eivätkä he eaten, and they hadn't.' 'Maija did not tell that they had

30a'. Hän ei tiedä, että Maija tuli 'He does not know that Maija came ajoissa, \*eikä hän tullut- on time and she didn't.'

the two do not always coincide. This proves that we are not dealing with factivity but uncertainty:

question are the following ones: Among verbs which can only have an että- complement but not a

sallia, suoda, tahtoa 'let, allow, want' luulla, luottaa, uskoa 'think, trust, believe' ehdottaa, huomautaa, vakuuttaa 'suggest, remark, assure' hävetä, ilkkua, harmittella 'mock, feel ashamed, regret'

decisive role: there are verbs of both types in this group. have anything to do with indecision. Here again, factivity plays no These verbs quite clearly lack the feature uncertainty, nor do they

question. Some of them, however, cannot take a yes-no question at all have to make any difference between a yes-no question and a wh-Some examples of these are given here: 2.4 For most of the verbs that take embedded questions we do not

ymmärtää oivaltaa aavistaa 'grasp' 'anticipate' 'understand' kuvata luetella lausua osoittaa 'describe' 'pronounce' show, point

only NPs. This may apply to lausua as well. What we are obviously being led to here is the problem of the so-called free relatives. In other words, they cannot have propositions as complements, but Two of them, kuvata and luetella, do not take an että- clause, either. The question we are facing here is whether the complements of two structures is vague, and it has aroused some discussion (Baker they should be included among relative clauses. The line between the kuvata and luetella can be regarded as questions anymore, or whether 1970, Andersson 1974). There is a semantic difference between them:

free relatives are supposed to denote things, questions are not.2 extensional(ised) verbs like wash, and verbs which are ambiguous to into three categories: intensional verbs like wonder, obligatorily Andersson has come up with an appealing solution. He groups verbs if the governing verb demands that, and become relatives through deep structure as embedded questions, but they are 'extensionalised' this feature. According to this treatment, free relatives have the same derivation. The confusion between a question relative arises less easily judgement, free relatives, with the matrix verb extensionally used, and gets a pronominal antecedent: se, mikä. The following are, to my in Finnish than in English, because there the free relative mostly not embedded questions at all.

31. Ja hän kirjoitti, mitä minä olin 'And he wrote what I had been kertonut. telling.

Hän puhui, mitä oli nähnyt ja kuullut pihamaalla. 'He spoke about what he had seen and heard on the yard

32.

33

tiesi asiasta

Todistaja alkoi luetella, mitä 'The witness began to list what he knew about the things

even ambiguous; it can only take a free relative: difference between the structures.3 In this case, the second verb is not The following pair of sentences could serve as an illustration of the

34a. Hän kysyi, mitä pihalla oli tapahtunut.

9 Hän toisti, mitä pihalla oli tapahtunut. the yard.

'He repeated what had happened on the yard. 'He asked what had happened on

3. Let us now turn to the question forming rule. We learn from stopping it. All leftward moves are unbounded move as many sentences up as necessary with no sentence boundaries Bach (1971) that the question word movement is unbounded, i.e. it can in this way. If

= real questions and 'conjunctive' questions which are generated through coordination. <sup>2</sup> In a lecture (summer 1970) J. R. Ross preferred to draw a line between 'disjunctive'

The latter correspond to the free relatives. A possibly suitable test that helps to keep the two apart is the adding

\*Han toisti, mitä pihalla oli oikeastaan puhuttu

oikeastaan 'actually' in the embedded clause. It can only be inserted in the question

Hän kysyi/tiesi, mitä pihalla oli oikeastaan puhuttu.

there are some restrictions to the movement of the questioned NP, these must be due to violations of some other principles or constraints. Let us see how things are in Finnish.

35. Minne sanoit hänen mennecn? 'Where did you say he went?' 'Why do you believe he did it?'

37. Kuinka sanoisit hänen sen? onnistuneen?

36. Miksi uskot hänen tehneen

'How would you say he succeeded?

complement to the front of the matrix clause, and the result is perfectly acceptable. Let us now look at sentences where there still In these sentences the question word has moved from the participial is an internal sentence boundary:

38a. Minkä rikoksen sanoit että hän on tehnyt?

Miksi uskot että hän on tehnyt sen?4

39a. piileksii? is hiding?"

\*Minne ihmettelette, että hänet valittiin?

'Which crime did you say he committed?

Minne sanoit että hän meni? 'Where did you say he went?' 'Why do you believe that he did it?'

\*Mitä kadut, että menetit? \*Missä hän tietää, että kissa 'Where does he know that the cat 'What do you regret that you lost?'

\*Kenet näit että hän tapasi? 'Whom did you see that he met?'

elected? Where did you wonder that he was

sentence which has a complex NP-node dominating it. Semantically Sentences 39a.-d. are bad because the verb of the matrix clause is factive. constituent from a lower sentence if you are focussing on it or asserting it. the same restriction can be formulated like this: You can pull out a This constraint says that you cannot pull out a constituent from a We could say that they are barred because of the complex NP constraint. clause rather than questioning the factive verb itself. focus, by questioning, or something in the presupposed complement When the higher predicate is factive, it is semantically anomalous to

4.1 As the last problem, I want to take up embedded questions which do not have overt subjects. The subject has either been deleted

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> To many speakers these sentences do not feel quite acceptable, particularly when seen in the written form. In spoken Finnish, however, they abound.

person corresponding to Eng. 'obe'. In Finnish, the use of an infinitive question complement is much more restricted than in English: by Equi, or it is a 'missing person', that is, a non-occurring third

40a. We tell it how to recognise the right number

\*Me kerromme sille, miten tuntea numeron.

by the following sentences In Finnish, infinitives are produced by Equi only, as is illustrated

- 41a. Partiopojat miettivät, ketä 'The scouts wondered whom to
- Kuljimme tietämättä, minne 'We walked without knowing where to go.
- aloittaa.5 Hänellä ei ollut selvillä, miten 'He had no idea how to begin and how to continue.
- Hänen päässään liikkui muitakin ajatuksia: miten lä- how to approach the blonde hestyä vaaleata naista. 'In his head other thoughts crossed: woman.

finite generic expression in Finnish: Corresponding to the English infinitive in cases like (40a), there is

40c. Me kerromme sille, miten oikean numeron tuntee

has no overt subject under identity with which Equi could apply, or when the matrix has a missing person as well: This generic expression is the only way out when the matrix clause

42. On samantekevää, Koskaan ei tiedä ihan Ei tiedetä, varmastı, milloin pääsee mitä tekee. \*minne mennä. minne pitää mennä \*mitä tehdä. is allowed home.' It is not known. 'It is all the same One never knows for sure when one where to go. where one should go what to do. what one does

43.

4

with a deleted pronoun and one which has undergone Equi: An interesting semantic difference can be observed between a sentence

45a. Hän ei tiennyt, kuka on. b. Hän ei tiennyt, kuka olla. 'He didn't know who to be. 'He didn't know who (he) is.

the subject (hän) who he chooses to be; this interpretation is not become clearer through the following pair of examples: possible with the former sentence. The distinction in meaning will The latter sentence demands to be interpreted so that it depends on

46a. Hän ei tiennyt, \*kuinka on. 'He did not know how (he) is.

b. Hän ei tiennyt, kuinka olla. 'He did not know how to be.'

meaning 'to behave', and in the a examples it is just an empty copula We have here two different verbs olla; in the b examples it has the

is rather seldom reason to question one's own future doings, i.e. to complement, the application of Equi, is rarely met. This is because there clauses. Only tenseless complements can be infinitivised, as Kalevi verbs which take embedded questions also tend to take tensed that limited. Examples are hard to come across. The reason for this is that ments are those which can take only question complements: embedded clause. The verbs with which we do find infinitive compleget a coreferential subject in the verb of uncertainty and in the Wiik has pointed out. Also, the other condition for an infinitive As I said earlier, the use of an infinitive in embedded questions is

47. Toimikunta pohti/mietti/ kysyi/tiedusteli, mitä tehdä.

pondered/asked/enquired about what to do.' 'The committee deliberated,

Or else the matrix predicates denote 'not knowing':

48. En tiedä/ole selvillä/käsitä/ ymmärrä, mihin ryhtyä. 'I don't know/see/grasp/ understand what to take up

active initiation on the part of the subject person. The violation of this restriction produces ungrammatical results of the following type: has to be an action verb, and not one which doesn't involve the There is a restriction concerning the verbs in the complement clause. It

49. \*En tiedä, milloin päästä kotiin täältä. 'I don't know when to be allowed home from here.

<sup>41</sup>c shows that Equi applies under identity with the deep subject, not necessarily with the ungrammaticality of the former is not that the controller of Equi is in oblique case. s When we compare examples 40a and 41c we realise that the reason for the

100

### AULI HAKULINEN

### REFERENCES

1952 Siro, Paavo 1964	Setälä, E. N.	Penttilä, Aarni 1957		Langacker, Ronald W.	19 de	Kiparsky, Paul, and Kiparsky, Carol "Fact", Pro		Fretheim, Thorstein 1970	Bresnan, Joan 1970		Baker, Leroy 1970	Bach, Emmon 1971		Andersson, Lars-Gunnar 1974
Suomen kielen lauseoppi. Helsinki, Sanoma Oy	Suomon biolon louseonni Helsinki, Otava.	Suomen kielioppi. Porvoo, WSOY	mimeo.	"An Analysis of English Questions, I-IV". Preliminary draft,	K. R. Heidolph. The Hague, Mouton.	arsky, Carol "Fact", Progress in Linguistics, ed. by M. Bierwisch and	plementation". Osculd mimeo.	"Some Notes on Norwegian Verbs Taking 'whether' Com-	"On Complementizers", Foundations of Language, 6/3,	of Language, 6.	"Notes on the Description of English Questions", Foundations	"Questions", Linguistic Inquiry, 11/2,	Reports: Göleborg:	"Questions and Other Open Structures", Logical Grammar

## ZUR GESCHICHTE DER TEMPORA IM UNGARISCHEN

### B. KÁLMÁN

die andere Tendenz stärker aus. Eine Teilstruktur scheint eine beigenaueren, nuancierteren Ausdruck. Bald wirkt sich die eine, bald denzen, nämlich das Streben nach Einfachheit aber auch nach einem als überflüssig, die dann nach ein paar Generationen veralten, oder der gleichen Bedeutung entstehen; von ihnen erweisen sich einige ihre Systemhaftigkeit plötzlich aufgelöst, indem parallele Formen mit nahe vollkommene Entwicklungsstufe zu erreichen; bald darauf wird 1. Im Leben einer jeden Sprache wirken zwei entgegengesetzte Tenvon zwei parallelen Ausdrucksformen wird sich nur die eine behaupten ungen zu erkennen. Die Literatursprache wirkt manchmal für lange können. Es ist oft äusserst schwierig, die Ursache von solchen Veränderkann auch vorkommen, dass sich geschriebene und gesprochene Sprache Zeit hemmend auf die Herausbildung einiger Tendenzen ein; es etwas an ihren strengen Regeln, sie übernimmt neu entstandene Formen (was meistens erst mit gewisser Verspätung erfolgt), sie lockert entweder passt sich die Schriftsprache der gesprochenen Sprache an für eine gewisse Zeit trennen. In dem Falle gibt es zwei Möglichkeiten: oder lehnt schon veraltete Varianten ab. Will die Literatursprache aber diesen Kompromiss nicht eingehen,

ziellen Sprache wurde.

Das Französische hat im Laufe der lautlichen Veränderungen sein ganzes von dem Lateinischen geerbtes Kasussystem verloren. Im Altfranzösischen wurde die Deklination auf nur noch zwei Kasus reduziert;

dann kann sie sich von der gesprochenen Sprache vollkommen lösen und auf diese Weise entsteht eine sakrale oder gelehrte Sprache, wie das Lateinische, das Kirchenslawische oder neuerdings das norwegische

riksmål im Vergleich zum landsmål. Eine ähnliche Erscheinung war auch die mit arabischen Elementen vollgestopfte literarische und offizielle Sprache der Türkei im Gegensatz zum gesprochenen Türkischen

bis zu den zwanziger Jahren des 20. Jahrhunderts. Manchmal kann dann eine zur Sakralsprache erstarrte, gestorbene Literatursprache auf künstliche Weise wieder zum neuen Leben erweckt werden, wie

im Staat Israel, wo in unserem Jahrhundert das Hebräische zur offi-