

# Contrastive Linguistics: English – German

Course Script WS 2005/6  
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## Phonology

### German consonants in comparison

	<i>English</i>	<i>German</i>
[p]	<b>pop</b> , stop	
[b]	<b>bed</b> , bomb	
[t]	<b>tense</b> , cut	
[d]	<b>disk</b> , did	
[k]	<b>cold</b> , kick	
[g]	<b>go</b> , gig	
[f]	<b>finger</b> , tough	
[v]	<b>vase</b> , have	
[θ]	<b>through</b> , tooth	
[ð]	<b>that</b> , teeth	
[s]	<b>swim</b> , kiss	
[z]	<b>zoo</b> , desire, has	
[ʃ]	<b>shy</b> , bush	
[ʒ]	<b>vision</b> , garage	
[tʃ]	<b>cheap</b> , match	
[dʒ]	<b>jump</b> , garbage	
[m]	<b>mother</b> , from	
[n]	<b>nasty</b> , can	

- [ŋ]    **si**ng, fi**ng**er
- [l]    **la**mp, bi**ll**
- [r]    **ra**t, fa**r**
- [h]    **ha**t, i**nh**all
- [y]    **u**se
- [w]    **wi**ndow, **wh**at
- [r]    **bu**tter, wri**ter**
- [ʔ]    **uh-oh**, Ba**t**man
- [ ]
- [ ]
- [ ]
- [ ]

### Classification of consonants

Consonants are classified along three dimensions:

1. Voicing
2. Manner of articulation: degree of constriction in the oral cavity
3. Place of articulation: constriction in the front or back of oral cavity

Voiced and unvoiced speech sounds

[f]	‘father’	[v]	‘vase’
[s]	‘salt’	[z]	‘zoo’
[t]	‘tree’	[d]	‘door’

Manner of articulation

Plosives	[p] [b] [t] [d] [k] [g]	
Fricatives	[f] [v] [θ] [ð] [s] [z] [ʃ] [ʒ]	[ç] [x]
Affricates	[tʃ] [dʒ]	[pf] [ts]
Nasals	[m] [n] [ŋ]	
Liquids	[l] [r]	[ʀ]
Glides	[w] [y]	

Place of articulation

Bilabial:	[p] [b] [m] [w]	
Labiodental:	[f] [v]	[pf]
Interdental:	[θ] [ð]	
Alveolar:	[t] [d] [s] [z] [n] [l] [r]	[ts]
Palatal-alveolar:	[ʃ] [ʒ] [tʃ] [dʒ] [y]	[ç]
Velar:	[k] [g] [ŋ]	[x]
Glottal	[ʔ]	

Table 1. English consonants

	bilabial	labiodent.	interdent	alveolar	alv-palatal	palatal	velar
Stops	p b			t d			k g
Affric.					tʃ dʒ		
Fricativ.		f v	θ ð	s z	ʃ ʒ		
Nasal	m			n			ŋ
Liquid				l / r			
Glide	(w)					y	(w)

Table 2. German consonants

	bilabial	labiodent.	interdent	alveolar	alv-palatal	palatal	velar
Stops	p b			t d			k g
Affric.	pf			ts	tʃ dʒ		
Fricativ.		f v		s z	ʃ ʒ	ç	x
Nasal	m			n			ŋ
Liquid				l / R			
Glide						y	

## English vowels

### *Tense vowels*

- [i] he, heat, eat, people, believe, money
- [e<sup>i</sup>] gray, okay, hay, bait, great, they
- [u] boot, who, duty, through
- [o<sup>u</sup>] over, boat, grow, though

### *Lax vowels*

- [ɪ] injury, insist, bit, business, hit, kid
- [ɛ] bet, reception, head, says, guest, bed [epsilon]
- [æ] bat, anger, had, comrade, rally, hat [ash]
- [ʊ] put, could, butcher, hood, good
- [ɔ] caught, bought, core, wrong
- [ɑ] father, sergeant, hospital, car
- [ʌ] but, tough, another, hut
- [ə] among, diet, bear [schwa]

## English diphthongs

- [aɪ] island, bite, aisle, hide, high, height
- [aʊ] bout, brown, doubt, flower, loud, how
- [ɔɪ] boy, rejoice, annoy, toy

## German vowels

### *Tensed vowels*

[i]	<b>V</b> ieh, <b>I</b> gel
[e]	Reh, <b>E</b> sel
[ɛ:]	gähnen, Ähre
[y]	früh, über
[ø]	Böhe, Österreich
[u]	Kuh, Uhu
[o]	Boot, Ofen
[a:]	nah, Aachen

### *Lax vowels*

[ɪ]	Kind, Indien
[ɛ]	Stern, England
[ʏ]	Fürst,
[œ]	Gehör, örtlich
[ʊ]	Sturm
[ɔ]	Holm
[a]	Halm

## German diphthongs

[aɪ]	Eis, reiten, Brei
[ɔɪ]	heute, Euter,
[aʊ]	braun, Auto, Bau

## Classification of vowels

Vowels are classified along four dimensions:

- |                              |                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Height of the tongue      | high – mid - low       |
| 2. Advancement of the tongue | front – central – back |
| 3. Lip rounding              | rounded - unrounded    |
| 4. Tenseness                 | tense - lax            |

### Chart of English vowels

i		u
ɪ		ʊ
e <sup>ɪ</sup>	ə	o <sup>ʊ</sup>
ɛ	ʌ	ɔ
æ	ɑ	

### Chart of German vowels

i	y		u
ɪ	ʏ		ʊ
e	ø	ə	o
ɛ: ɛ	œ		ɔ
		a: a	

## Phonemes and allophones

Phonology is concerned with the mental dimension of the production and recognition of speech sounds. The mental representation of a speech sound is called a *phoneme*.

Native speakers are aware of the phonemes of their language, but they usually do not recognize the different physical instantiations of a phoneme.

English		Korean	
[læk]	‘lack’	[param]	‘wind’
[ræk]	‘rack’	[irím]	‘name’
[lif]	‘leaf’	[pal]	‘foot’
[rif]	‘reef’	[mal]	‘horse’

In English, [l] and [r] are in contrastive distribution, but in Korean, [l] and [r] are in complementary distribution, i.e. they are allophones of the same phoneme.

/l/ → [r] / V\_\_V  
[l] elsewhere

/r/ → [l] / \_\_#  
[r] / elsewhere

## Phonological processes of English

### Aspiration

[t<sup>h</sup>ɒp]            ‘top’  
[stɒp]            ‘stop’

p t k/ → [p<sup>h</sup> t<sup>h</sup> k<sup>h</sup>] / #\_\_, \_\_V  
[p, t, k] elsewhere

### Nasalization

[kæ̃n]            ‘can’  
[kɔ̃m]            ‘come’

/V/ → [Ṽ] / \_\_N  
[V] elsewhere

### Vowel lengthening

[bɛ:d]            ‘bed’  
[hæ:v]            ‘have’

/V/ → [V:] / \_\_ [+voice]  
[V] elsewhere

### Flapping (American English)

[bʊrr]            ‘butter’  
[bɛrr]            ‘better’

/t/ → [ɾ] / (after a stressed syllable at the beginning of an unstressed syllable)  
[t] elsewhere

### Dark [ɫ]

[kɔɫ]            ‘call’  
[kɔɫd]            ‘cold’

/l/ → [ɫ] / \_\_ (C)  
[l] elsewhere

## Phonological processes of German

(1) [ç] – [x]

[axt]	‘acht’	[ɪç]	‘ich’
[bux]	‘book’	[ɛçt]	‘echt’
[lɔx]	‘Loch’	[spreçə]	‘spreche’
[ho:x]	‘hoch’	[lɛçəlɪn]	‘lächeln’
[fluxt]	‘Flucht’	[riçən]	‘riechen’
[laxən]	‘lachen’	[fɛçtən]	‘fechten’

(2) German native speakers learning English often mispronounce some of the following words.

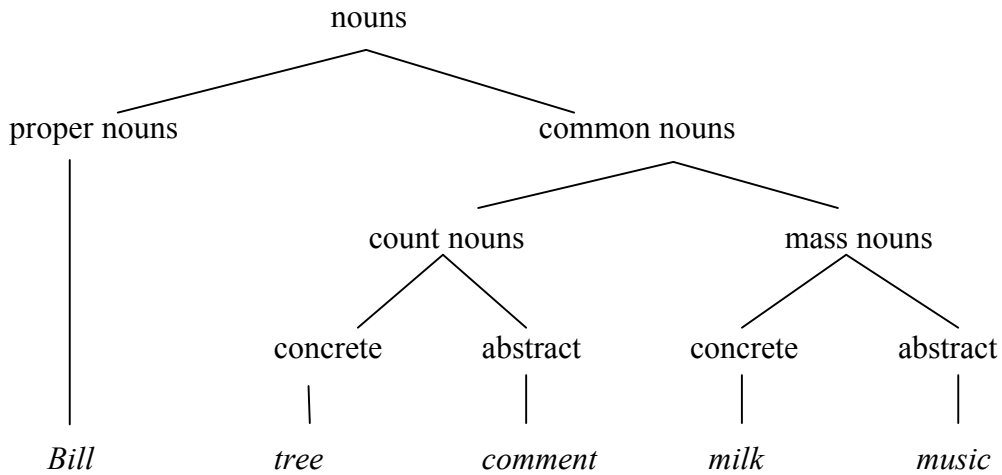
have	[hæf]
come	[kɑm]
leg	[lɛk]
kill	[kɪl]
is	[ɪs]
bag	[bæk]
bomb	[bɔmp]
back	[bæk]
jump	[ʒʌmp]
laugh	[laf]
begin	[bɛgɪn]

Hund	Hunde
Weg	Wege
tob	toben
Bund	Bünde
bunt	bunte



# Nominal categories

## 1. Nouns



- (1) a. \*the Peter  
b. der Peter

- Proper names and mass nouns don't pluralize
- Count nouns require a determiner
- Mass nouns do not take the indefinite determiner *a*

- (2) a. \*three Peters  
b. \*drei Peters
- (3) a. \*Car is parked in front of the house.  
b. \*Auto parkt vor dem Haus.
- (4) a. \*A water is in the bottle.  
b. \*Ein Wasser ist in der Flasche

The grammatical features of the noun: (i) number, (ii) gender, (iii) case:

## Number

### English

- (1) cat – cats  
(2) oxen  
(3) children  
(4) sheep

## Foreign plurals

- (1) stimulus — stimuli
- (2) corpus — corpora
- (3) appendix — appendices
- (4) analysis — analyses
- (5) phenomenon — phenomena

## German

(1)	der Tiger	die Tiger	zero
(2)	der Hund	die Hunde	-e
(3)	der Mensch	die Menschen	-(e)n
(4)	das Kind	die Kinder	-er
(5)	das Auto	die Autos	-s
(6)	das Buch	die Bücher	Umlaut + er
(7)	die Stadt	die Städte	Umlaut + e
(8)	die Mutter	die Mütter	Umlaut

## Gender

### English

- (1) the boy — he
- (2) the girl — she

### German

There are three factors that correlate with gender:

1. semantic features (including sex)
2. morphological features
3. phonological features

(i) Derivational suffixes:

MASC	-er	Behälter
	-ler	Wissenschaftler
FEM	-ei	Heuchelei
	-in	Lehrerin
	-heit	Krankheit
	-keit	Kleinigkeit
	-schaft	Freundschaft
	-ung	Befreiung
NEUT	-lein	Fräulein
	-chen	Gläschen
	-nis	Ergebnis
	-tum	Beamtentum

(ii) Nominalized infinitives are neuter:

NEUT      das Wandern  
             das Singen  
             das Nachdenken  
             das Erzählen

(iii) Compounds: if the second element is a noun, it determines the gender:

das Elefantentbaby  
 die Türkentaube  
 der Einigungsversuch

(iv) Phonological features: words ending in (k)-[f/ç/x]-t tend to be FEM:

die Luft	aber: der Knecht
die Kraft	der Wicht
die Sicht	
die Frucht	
die Pacht	

(v) Semantic features:

Days of the week	Alcoholic beverages	Metals	Emotive nouns
Der Montag	Der Gin	Das Silber	Die Liebe
Der Dienstag	Der Schnaps	Das Gold	Die Angst
Der Mittwoch	Der Whiskey	Das Blei	Die Furcht
Der Donnerstag	Der Wein	Das Eisen	Die Sehnsucht
Der Freitag	Der Grog		Die Freude
Der Samstag	Der Sekt		Die Schande
Der Sonntag	Das Bier		Die Enttäuschung

## Case

### *English*

Do English nouns have case marking?

### *German*

Category	Ende	Examples
Nominative		der Mann, der Mensch
Accusative		der Mann, der Mensch
Dative	-(e), -en	dem Manne, dem Menschen
Genitive	-es, -en, -s	des Mannes, des Menschen, Peters

## 2. Determiners

	English	German
Definite article:	<i>the</i>	<i>der</i>
Indefinite article:	<i>a</i>	<i>ein</i>
Possessives:	<i>my</i>	<i>mein</i>
Demonstratives:	<i>this</i>	<i>dieser</i>
WH determiner:	<i>which</i>	<i>welchen</i>
Negative determiner:	<i>no</i>	<i>kein</i>
Quantifier:	<i>each</i>	<i>jeder</i>

Table 1. Definite article

	MASC	FEM	NEUT	PL
NOM	der	die	das	die
ACC	den	die	das	die
DAT	dem	der	dem	den
GEN	des	der	des	der

Table 2. Indefinite article

	MASC	FEM	NEUT	PL
NOM	ein	eine	ein	
ACC	einen	eine	ein	
DAT	einem	einer	einem	
GEN	eines	einer	eines	

- The distinction between nominative and accusative case is almost always unmarked.
- The distinction between accusative and dative case is clearly marked.
- Genitive case is marked very clearly.

What motives the case distinctions?

- (1) Das Mädchen beobachtet das Ereignis.
  - (2) Das Ereignis beobachtet das Mädchen.
- 
- (1) Peter fährt in die Stadt.
  - (2) Peter fährt in der Stadt.
- 
- (1) der Plan des Ministers
  - (2) den Plan des Ministers
  - (3) dem Plan des Ministers
  - (4) des Plans des Ministers

### 3. Adjectives

Adjectives serve two basic syntactic functions: (i) attributive, (ii) predicative.

- (1) A blue ball
- (2) The ball is blue.
  
- (3) Der blaue Ball
- (4) Der Ball ist blau.

In English adjectives are generally uninflected. In German, only predicative adjectives are uninflected.

- (5) Das Haus ist groß.
- (6) Die Häuser sind groß.

Attributive adjectives are inflected for gender, number and case:

- 1. weak declension (in NPs with definite article or demonstratives)
- 2. strong declension (in NPs with no determiner)
- 3. mixed declension (in NPs with indefinite articles etc.)

Table 1. Weak adjective declension

	MASC	FEM	NEUT	PL
NOM	der gute Mann	die gute Frau	das blaue Haus	die guten Leute
ACC	den guten Mann	die gute Frau	das blaue Haus	die guten Leute
DAT	dem guten Mann	der guten Frau	dem blauen Haus	den guten Leuten
GEN	des guten Mannes	der guten Frau	des blauen Hauses	der guten Leute

Table 2. Strong adjective declension

	MASC	FEM	NEUT	PL
NOM	guter Wein	gute Milch	gutes Obst	gute Äpfel
ACC	guten Wein	gute Milch	gutes Obst	gute Äpfel
DAT	gutem Wein	guter Milch	gutem Obst	guten Äpfel
GEN	guten Weines	guter Milch	guten Obstes	guter Apfel

Table 3. Mixed adjective declension

	MASC	FEM	NEUT	PL
NOM	ein guter Mann	eine gute Frau	ein gutes Haus	keine guten Leute
ACC	einen guten Mann	eine gute Frau	ein gutes Haus	keine guten Leute
DAT	einem guten Mann	einer guten Frau	einem guten Haus	keine guten Leute
GEN	eines guten Mannes	einer guten Frau	eines guten Hauses	keiner guten Leute

Table 4. Comparative and superlative forms in English

Base	Comparative	Superlatives
happy	happier	happiest
tall	taller	tallest
beautiful	more beautiful	most beautiful
good	better	best
bad	worse	worst

Table 5. Comparative and superlative forms in German

Base	Comparative	Superlatives
glücklich	glücklicher	am glücklichsten
groß	größer	am größten
schön	schöner	am schönsten
gut	besser	am besten
schlecht	schlechter	am schlechtesten

#### 4. Pronouns

1. Personal pronouns	<i>I, you, he, she, it</i>	<i>ich, du, er, sie, es</i>
2. Possessive pronouns	<i>mine</i>	<i>meiner</i>
3. Reflexive pronouns	<i>myself</i>	<i>sich</i>
4. Relative pronouns	<i>who</i>	<i>der</i>
5. Interrogative pronouns	<i>what</i>	<i>was</i>
6. Demonstrative pronouns	<i>this</i>	<i>dieser</i>
7. Indefinite pronouns	<i>somebody</i>	<i>jemand</i>

#### *Personal and possessive pronouns*

Table 1. Speaker and hearer pronouns in English

	1. Person		2. Person	
	SG	PL	SG	PL
Subject	<i>I</i>	<i>we</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>you</i>
Object	<i>me</i>	<i>us</i>	<i>you</i>	<i>you</i>
Genitive	<i>mine</i>	<i>ours</i>	<i>yours</i>	<i>yours</i>

Table 2. Speaker and hearer pronouns in German

	1. Person		2. Person	
	SG	PL	SG	PL
Nominative	<i>ich</i>	<i>wir</i>	<i>du</i>	<i>ihr</i>
Accusative	<i>mich</i>	<i>uns</i>	<i>dich</i>	<i>euch</i>
Dative	<i>mir</i>	<i>uns</i>	<i>dir</i>	<i>euch</i>
Genitive	<i>meiner</i>	<i>unser</i>	<i>deiner</i>	<i>eur</i>

Table 3. Third person pronouns in English

	MASC	FEM	NEUT	PL
Subject	<i>he</i>	<i>she</i>	<i>it</i>	<i>they</i>
Object	<i>him</i>	<i>her</i>	<i>it</i>	<i>them</i>
Genitive	<i>his</i>	<i>hers</i>	<i>its</i>	<i>theirs</i>

Table 4. Third person pronouns in German

	MASC	FEM	NEUT	PL
Nominative	<i>er</i>	<i>sie</i>	<i>es</i>	<i>sie</i>
Accusative	<i>ihn</i>	<i>sie</i>	<i>es</i>	<i>sie</i>
Dative	<i>ihm</i>	<i>ihr</i>	<i>ihm</i>	<i>ihnen</i>
Genitive	<i>seiner</i>	<i>ihrer</i>	<i>seiner</i>	<i>ihrer</i>

The genitive forms of the personal pronouns can be seen as possessive pronouns. Note that the possessive pronouns are distinct from the possessive determiners:

English:            my, your, his, her, its  
 German:            mein, dein, sein, ihr, sein

Table 5. Reflexive pronouns in English

		Singular	Plural
1st		<i>myself</i>	<i>ourselves</i>
2nd		<i>yourself</i>	<i>yourselves</i>
3rd	Masc	<i>himself</i>	<i>themselves</i>
	Fem	<i>herself</i>	
	Neut	<i>itself</i>	

- (1) Peter saw himself in the mirror.
- (2) Peter saw him in the mirror.

Table 6. Reflexive pronouns in German

		Singular	Plural
1st		<i>(mich)</i>	<i>(uns)</i>
2nd		<i>(dich)</i>	<i>(euch)</i>
3rd	Masc	<i>sich</i>	
	Fem		
	Neut		

- (1) Ich sehe mich im Spiegel.
- (2) Du siehst dich im Spiegel.
- (3) Er sieht sich im Spiegel.

Table 7. Demonstrative pronouns in English

	Singular	Plural
Proximal	<i>this</i>	<i>these</i>
Distal	<i>that</i>	<i>those</i>

- (1) Here are five pictures. Now, compare this one to *that one*.  
 (2) *This* is my teacher, Mr Jones.

Table 8. Demonstrative pronouns in German

	MASC	FEM	NEUT	PL
NOM	<i>dieser</i>	<i>diese</i>	<i>dieses</i>	<i>diese</i>
ACC	<i>diesen</i>	<i>diese</i>	<i>dieses</i>	<i>diese</i>
DAT	<i>diesem</i>	<i>dieser</i>	<i>diesem</i>	<i>diesen</i>
GEN	<i>dieses</i>	<i>dieser</i>	<i>dieses</i>	<i>dieser</i>

- (1) Gib mir den da.  
 (2) Meinst du diesen hier?

Table 9. Indefinite Pronouns in English

<b>Universal</b>	Pronoun	Determiner
<i>Positive</i>	<i>everyone/everything</i>	<i>every/each</i>
	<i>all</i>	<i>all</i>
<i>Negative</i>	<i>no one/nothing</i>	<i>no</i>
	<i>none</i>	
<b>Partitive</b>	Pronoun	Determiner
<i>Assertive</i>	<i>someone/something</i>	<i>some</i>
	<i>some</i>	
<i>Nonassertive</i>	<i>anyone/anything</i>	<i>any/either</i>

Table 10. Indefinite pronouns in German

<b>Universal</b>	Pronoun	Determiner
<i>Positive</i>	<i>jeder/jedes</i>	<i>jeder</i>
	<i>alle</i>	<i>alle</i>
<i>Negative</i>	<i>niemand/nichts</i>	<i>Kein</i>
	<i>keiner</i>	
<b>Partitive</b>	Pronoun	Determiner
<i>in all contexts</i>	<i>jemand</i>	<i>irgendein</i>
	<i>etwas</i>	<i>etwas</i>



## 5. Prepositions

### *English*

Simple prepositions:	<i>in, at, of, on, to, by, over, since, after, until, before, for, under, into, through, during, behind, above, below, with, concerning, along, between, from, underneath, about, despite, besides</i>
Complex prepositions:	<i>because of, in front of, away from, by means of, on behalf of, due to, for the sake of, opposite to, next to, near to, on account of, except for, in spite of, notwithstanding, as to</i>
Space:	<i>in, on, at, above, under, through</i>
Time:	<i>since, in, during, for, at, from ... to</i>
Cause:	<i>because of, on account of, for</i>
Instrument:	<i>by, with</i>
Accompaniment:	<i>with, without</i>
Concession:	<i>despite, in spite of</i>
Exception:	<i>except for, excluding, apart from</i>
Addition:	<i>in addition, besides, as well as</i>
Relation:	<i>as for, concerning, as regards</i>

### *German*

Simple prepositions:	<i>in, an, auf, unter, zu, bei, von, seit, ohne, um, gegen, bis, durch, aus, mit, nach, statt, wegen, während, trutz, statt, dank, vor, über, hinter, neben, zwischen</i>
Complex prepositions:	<i>anhand, infolge, diesseits, zugunsten, aufgrund, ungeachtet, abseits, entsprechend, vorbehaltlich, anlässlich, zuzüglich, abzüglich, anstatt</i>
Space:	<i>in, an, auf, unter, hinter, über</i>
Time:	<i>seit, nach, vor, bis</i>
Cause:	<i>wegen,</i>
Instrument:	<i>durch, mit</i>
Accompaniment:	<i>mit, ohne</i>
Concession:	<i>trotz</i>
Exception:	<i>außer</i>
Addition:	<i>zuzüglich</i>
Relation:	<i>hinsichtlich</i>

Complex prepositions are recent innovations. They emerge via grammaticalization from phrases.

GEN	DAT	ACC	GEN/DAT	DAT/AKK
kraft	aus	für	trotz	in
anhand	bei	durch	wegen	neben
infolge	zu	bis	statt	hinter
zugunsten	seit	ohne	während	vor
anlässlich	laut	um	mittels	über
ungeachtet	mit	gegen	dank	unter
aufgrund	nach			an
	gegenüber			auf
				zwischen

- Prepositions that occur with both genitive and dative undergo historical change: the dative forms are recent innovations
- Prepositions that occur with both dative and accusative case are distinguished by meaning:

- (1) Ich sitze auf der Mauer.
- (2) Ich klettere auf die Mauer.
- (3) Ich stehe vor dem Baum.
- (4) Ich setze mich vor den Baum.

Most complex prepositions take the genitive. Why?

- (1) an der Hand dieses Beispiels > anhand GEN
- (2) in Folge dieses Ereignisses > infolge GEN
- (3) aus Anlass dieses Ereignisses > anlässlich GEN
- (4) ohne Achtung des Risikos > ungeachtet GEN

### *Fusional forms*

- (1) im, am, vom, beim, zum, zur
- (2) ans, ins, hinterm, unterm, hinters

Definiteness marking is neutralized:

- (1) a. Peter arbeitet im Garten
- b. Peter arbeitet in dem Garten.
- c. Peter arbeitet in einem Garten.

### *Pronominal adverbs*

<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
hiermit	hereby
damit	thereby
hiervor	hereof
davor	thereof
hiervon	
davon	
hierzu	
dazu	
hierunter	
darunter	

+womit/von/durch

- (1) Peter träumt von einer langen Reise. Davon will Susanne nichts wissen.
- (2) Peter hat ein Auto. Das Dach davon ist jedoch nicht mehr wasserdicht.

## **6. Conjunctions**

### *English*

Coordinate conjunctions: *and, but, for, both ... and, either ... or, neither ... nor*

Subordinate conjunctions: *if, when, since, until, before, after, although, because, as*

### *German*

Coordinate conjunctions: *und, aber, denn, weder ... noch, entweder ... oder*

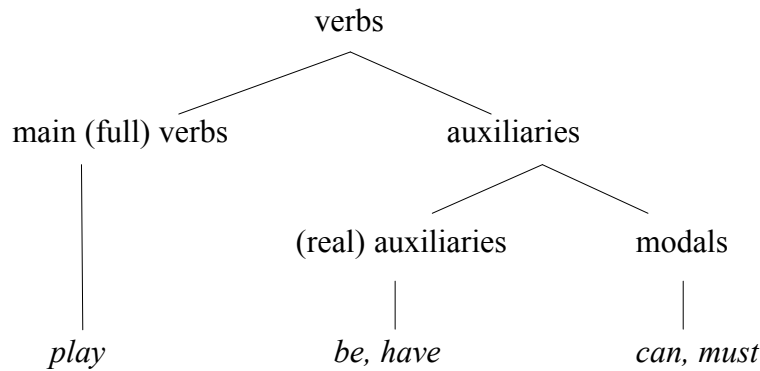
Subordinate conjunctions: *wenn, weil, nachdem, bevor, dass, ob*

### *Conjuncts / conjunctive adverbs*

<i>German</i>	<i>English</i>
deswegen	therefore
deshalb	however
demgegenüber	though
dementsprechend	accordingly
demzufolge	nevertheless
demnach	yet

# Verbal categories

## 1. Verbs



### **Grammatical categories**

1. person
2. tense
3. aspect
4. mood

### **Strong and weak verb forms**

English

weak conjugation

*walk*  
*walked*  
*walked*

strong conjugation

*drink*  
*drank*  
*drunk*

German

weak conjugation

*bauen*  
*baute*  
*gebaut*

strong conjugation

*trinken*  
*trank*  
*getrunken*

### **Auxiliaries**

English: *be, have, will, do*

German: *sein, haben, werden*

Grammatical features of AUX + MV in English:

- They can be fronted in questions  
Is Peter coming?  
Could you see me?
- They are negated without *do*:  
I won't come.  
This cannot be right.

## Modals

English:

- a. *can, may, shall, will, must, could, might, should, would*
- b. *used to, dare to, need to, have to, be able to, be supposed to, had better*

German

*dürfen, können, mögen, müssen, sollen, wollen, brauchen, möchten, lassen, werden*

- In both languages, MV are followed by bare infinitives:
  - (1) a. She can come.
  - b. Sie kann gehen.
- In both languages, the past tense forms can be used with present tense reference:
  - (2) a. Could you pass me the salt?
  - b. Könntest du mir bitte as Salz reichen?
- In both English and German MV are preterite present forms, i.e. they developed from old past tense forms.

	Modal verb	Main verb (past)	Main verb (present)
ich	will	lief	lauf-en
du	will-st	lief-e(-e)st	läuf-st
er	will	lief	läuf-t
wir	woll-en	lief-en	lauf-en
ihr	woll-t	lief-t	lauf-t
sie	woll-en	lief-en	lauf-en

- In German, MVs take a second infinitive rather than the past participle in perfective verb forms.

- (1) a. Er hat schlafen müssen.
- b. \*Er hat schlafen gemusst.
- c. Wir hatten aufbrechen wollen.
- d. \*Wir haben aufbrechen gewollt.

1. *Deontic* use of modals: express permission, obligation, volition
2. *Epistemic* use of modals: express an inference or conclusion

- (1) Peter can/must/should go now.
- (2) Peter could/must/may be right about this.

- (1) Sie mag Himbeereis.
- (2) Er möchte eine Erbsensuppe.
- (3) Er will den besten Startplatz.
- (4) Er mag/möchte/will, dass du bleibst.
- (5) Dass du bleibst, muss, kann, soll, darf sein.

## ***Person***

### *English*

I	walk	walked
you	walk	walked
he	walk-s	walked
we	walk	walked
you	walk	walked
they	walk	walked

### *German*

ich	bau-(e)	baut-e
du	bau-st	baut-est
er	bau-t	baut-e
wir	bau-en	baut-en
ihr	bau-t	baut-et
sie	bau-en	baut-en

## ***Tense and aspect***

Present tense:	walk	baue
Past tense:	walk-ed	baute
Present perfect:	has walked	hat gebaut
Past perfect:	had walked	hatte gebaut
Future	will walk	wird bauen
Future perfect	will have walked	wird gebaut haben

Present tense:	am walking
Past tense:	was walking
Present perfect:	have been walking
Past perfect:	had been walking
Future	will be walking
Future perfect	will have been walking

### *Present and future*

1. In English, the present tense of stative verbs indicates states, and present tense of dynamic verbs indicates habits or repeated events

- (1) a. Peter thinks that she will be there.
- b. Peter goes to London every year.

Non-stative verbs require the progressive to express present time reference.

- (2) a. Peter is playing the piano.
- b. Peter plays the piano.

Exceptions:

- (3) a. I enclose a form of application.
- b. I apologize for my behavior.
- (4) a. Jack tells me that the position is still available.
- b. I hear that you need an assistant.
- (5) a. The plane leaves for Berlin at 8 o'clock tonight.

Future tense is expressed by various verb forms:

1. The auxiliary *will* (or *shall*).

- (1) She will be there.

2. The periphrastic *be going to*.

- (2) Martha is going to lend us her camera.

3. The present progressive, which indicates "future arising from present arrangement, plan, or program" (commonly with motion verbs).

- (3) I am leaving in a minute.

4. In certain types of subordinate clauses, future time reference is expressed by present tense.

- (4) At this rate, the guest will be drunk before they leave.

5. Immediate future is expressed by *be about to*:

- (5) The train is about to leave.

2. In German, present tense covers the same range of functions as in English. In addition, it is used for ... ?

- (1) Peter spielt Klavier.
- (2) Peter geht morgen nicht zur Arbeit.
- (3) Peter wird morgen nicht zur Arbeit gehen.

*Past and Present Perfect*

1. English

- (1) The Normans invaded England in 1066.
- (2) We have lived in Amsterdam for five years.
- (3) Chomsky has shown that grammar has a mental dimension.
- (4) He broke his arm.
- (5) He has broken his arm.

## 2. German

- (1) Ich bin gerade erst vor zwei Minuten angekommen.
- (2) ??Ich kam gerade erst vor zwei Minuten an.
- (3) Bismark hat die Schlacht gewonnen.
- (4) Bismark gewann die Schlacht

### *Past perfect and future perfect*

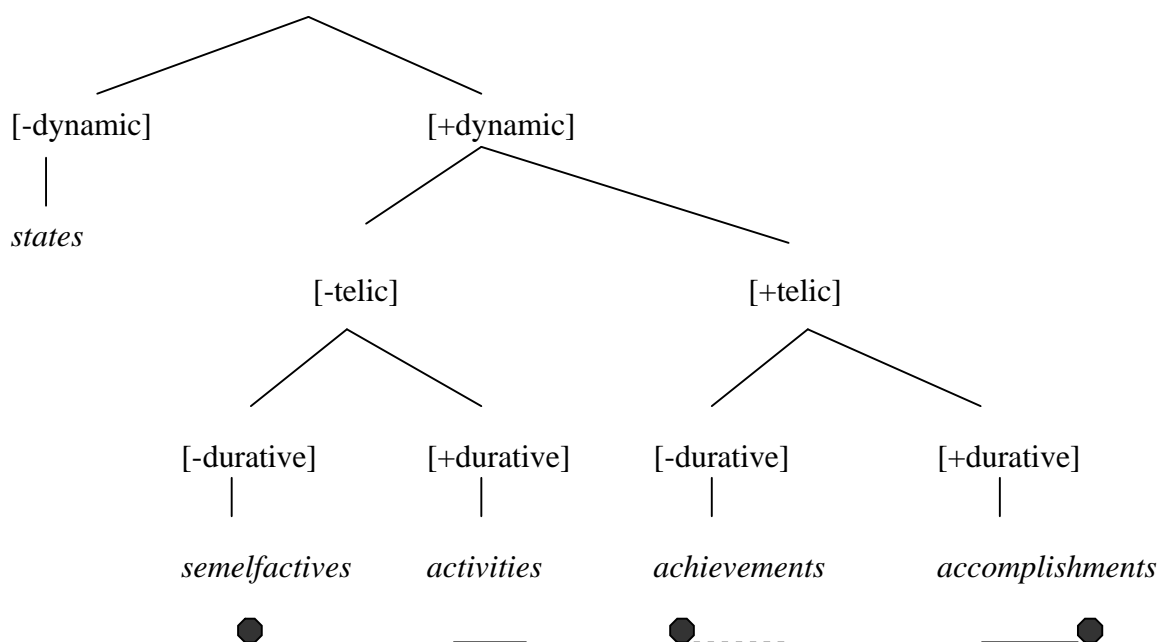
- (1) They had moved into the new house before the baby was born.
- (2) By next week, they will have completed their contracts.

### ***Aspect + Aktionsart***

Aspect is a grammatical feature of the verb. It reflects the way a situation is viewed or conceptualized: extended, completed, ongoing, etc. Aspect must be distinguished from the closely related category of *Aktionsart*. *Aktionsart* is a feature of individual verbs. The *Aktionsart* of the verb interacts closely with the grammatical marking of aspect.

### *The classification of situations/verbs*

- dynamic vs. non-dynamic (i.e. non-stative vs. stative). Diagnostics:
  - (i) stative verbs do not occur in the progressive
  - (ii) stative verbs do not occur in the imperative verb form
- durative vs. punctual
- telic vs. atelic (i.e. bounded vs. non-bounded)
- inchoative vs. resultative (focus on beginning/end)





- |   |                  |
|---|------------------|
| (1) She hates ice cream.                    | (State)          |
| (2) The gate banged.                        | (Semelfactive)   |
| (3) Your cat watched those birds.           | (Activity)       |
| (4) The cease-fire began at noon yesterday. | (Achievement)    |
| (5) Her boss learned Japanese.              | (Accomplishment) |

English has (at least) two verb forms that express aspectual differences.

### ***Mood***

The category mood indicates how the speaker judges the validity of the utterance.

1. *Indicative* indicates certainty
2. *Subjunctive* indicates uncertainty.

### *English*

- The *present subjunctive* is expressed by the base form. The base form is identical with the present tense except for the 3 person singular present, i.e. the subjunctive is indistinguishable from the indicative present except for the 3 person singular. In addition, *be* is consistently used for all persons as the present subjunctive. The present subjunctive occurs in complement clauses of verbs indicating demand, recommendation, proposal, or intention (e.g. *insists, prefer, propose, recommend, is necessary*):

- (1) I insist that we reconsider the Council's decision.
- (2) The employees demand that he resign.
- (3) I suggest that you be President.

- The *past subjunctive* survives only in *were* which occurs with all persons in the subjunctive. In all other forms the past subjunctive has the same form as the simple past tense. The past subjunctive occurs in counterfactual conditionals and in optative sentences.

- (1) If she were leaving you would have heard about it.
- (2) I wish I were you.

### *German*

Table 2. Subjunctive of weak verbs

	Present subjunctive	Past subjunctive
Ich	glaube	glaubte
Du	<b>glaubest</b>	glaubtest
Er/sie/es	<b>glaube</b>	glaubte
Wir	glauben	glaubten
Ihr	<b>glaubet</b>	glaubtet
Sie	glauben	glaubten

Table 2. Subjunctive of strong verbs

	Present subjunctive	Past subjunctive
Ich	reibe	<b>riebe</b>
Du	<b>reibest</b>	<b>riebest</b>
Er/sie/es	<b>reibe</b>	<b>riebe</b>
Wir	reiben	<b>riebt</b>
Ihr	<b>reibet</b>	<b>riebet</b>
Sie	reiben	<b>riebt</b>

- Present subjunctive occurs in complement clauses. In some complement clauses, the subjunctive is optional and can be replaced by the indicative. In other complement clauses, the subjunctive is ungrammatical.

- (1) Karl behauptet, dass Egon bleiben will/wolle.
- (2) Karl versteht, dass Egon bleiben will/\*wolle.

Many grammars assert that present subjunctive marks indirect speech; but present subjunctive is also found in many other contexts:

- (3) Karl tut so, also ob er die Antwort wisse.
- (4) Man nehme eine Bratpfanne und schlage ein Ei hinein.
- (5) Lang lebe die deutsche Bundespost.

- Past subjunctive occurs primarily in conditional clauses, but also in other sentences expressing possibility or counterfactuality

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| (1) Wenn du kommst, fahren wir.                              | present                |
| (2) Wenn du kämest, führen wir.                              | subjunctive / strong V |
| (3) Wenn du glaubtest ihn zu kennen, hast du dich getäuscht. | subjunctive / weak V   |
| (3) Wenn du gekommen wärest, wären wir gefahren.             | counterfactual         |

Note that the past subjunctive is often used in the domain of the present subjunctive:

- (1) Peter sagte, er käme zur Party.
- (2) Karla behauptete, sie ginge dort nicht hin.

Most grammars assert that present subjunctive is used in place of the past subjunctive because present subjunctive is formally less marked, but that is not the case. Most subjunctive verb forms occur in 3<sup>rd</sup> person, where present subjunctive is always clearly distinguished from the corresponding indicative verb form.

- Both present subjunctive and past subjunctive are often replaced by analytical *würde* forms.

- (1) Er behauptet, dass Peter kommen würde.
- (2) Wenn du bleiben würdest, würde er dich abholen.

## 2. Adverbs and particles

Table 1. Inflected and uninflected forms

	English	German
Inflected	Noun Main verbs Auxiliaries (Modal verbs) Demonstratives Interrogatives Relative pronouns	Nouns Main verbs Auxiliaries Modal verbs Demonstratives Interrogatives Relative pronouns Articles Adjectives
Uninflected	Adverbs Conjunctions Conjuncts Prepositions Prepositional adverbs Particles Articles Adjectives	Adverbs Conjunctions Conjuncts Prepositions Prepositional adverbs Particles

## 2. Adverbs

### English

1. simple adverbs: *well, back, down, near, out, here, there*
2. compound adverbs: *somehow, somewhere, therefore, yesterday, afterwards*
3. derivational adverbs: *ADJ-ly*

Syntactically, adverbs function as modifiers of (i) clauses, (ii) verbs, (iii) adjectives:

- (1) Fortunately, we didn't miss the train.
- (2) Peter walked slowly back to the car.
- (3) That was extremely useful.

### Comparative and superlative forms of adverbs

Base	Comparative	Superlatives
soon	sooner	soonest
comfortably	more comfortably	most comfortably
well	better	best

### German

1. simple adverbs: *eben, gerade, jetzt sofort, hier, dort*
2. compound adverbs: *unterhalb, vielleicht, hoffentlich, leider,*
3. derivational adverbs: *ADJ-weise*

### 3. Particles

#### *Focus particles*

Focus particles express a relationship between a referent/proposition and an alternative. Often they involve a scale.

English: only, also, already, too, about, ever

German: allein, auch, bereits, eben, erst, etwa, genau, nur, schon, sogar

- (1) a. Even Peter is able to do that.  
b. Sogar Peter ist in der Lage, das zu tun.
- (2) a. I am only happy when the sun shines.  
b. Ich bin nur glücklich, wenn die Sonne scheint.

#### Modal particles

They express the speaker's attitude towards the proposition or indicate the illocutionary force of the utterance.

German: aber, auch, bloß, denn, doch, eigentlich, ja, mal, wohl, halt, schon, ruhig, nämlich.

English: just, yet

Some particles are restricted to certain sentence types:

- (1) a. Er hat das ja so gewollt.  
b. \*Hast du das ja so gewollt.
- (2) a. \*Peter hat das denn nicht gewusst.  
b. Hat Peter das denn nicht gewusst.
- (3) Mach ja das Licht aus.

# Word order

## Functions of word order

- Grammatical relations

- (1) The cat caught a mouse.
- (2) Eine Maus hat die Katze gefangen.
- (3) Die Katze hat die Maus gesehen.
- (4) Die Maus hat die Katze gesehen.

- Pragmatic roles: theme-rheme

- (1) Was hat die Katze gefangen, einen Vogel oder eine Maus?  
Einen Vogel hat die Katze gefangen.
- (2) What did the cat catch, a bird or a mouse?  
\*A BIRD caught the cat.  
The cat caught a BIRD.  
It was A BIRD that was caught by the mouse.  
A BIRD was caught by the cat.

## Word order in English

ADV S V O ADV

- (1) Yesterday Peter talked to Mary on the bus.
- (2) In Boston they met their neighbours at the Picasso exhibition.
- (3) When they saw their neighbours, they talked to them.
- (4) \*When **yesterday** they met their neighbours, they talked to them.
- (5) Give me the key.
- (6) Is Peter coming to the party?
- (7) Should this happen, you should immediately leave.
- (8) Let's get together.
- (9) What did she say to Paul?

## *Negative inversion*

- (1) Never have I been so insulted.
- (2) Under no circumstances am I going to that meeting.
- (3) Rarely had England been in such a terrible situation.
- (4) Only Mary can talk to him.

### *Locative inversion*

- (1) Into the house ran the boys.
- (2) Across the street lives Mary.
- (3) \*In the house saw I Mary.

### *Topicalization*

- (1) This guy, I don't know.
- (2) The lecture on grammar, I find boring.

### *Historical note:*

English (900)	SVO	49%
	SOV	31%
	VSO	12%
English (1200)	SVO	72%
	SOV	16%
	VSO	6%

### **Word order in German**

- |  |                     |
|--|---------------------|
| (1) <b>Gehst</b> du zu der Veranstaltung?              | V1 - Stirnsatz      |
| (2) Peter <b>geht</b> zu der Veranstaltung.            | V2 - Kernsatz       |
| (3) Weil Peter zu der Veranstaltung <b>geht</b> , .... | V-letzt - Spannsatz |

### *Drach (1940): Feldertheorie*

<i>Vorfeld</i>	<i>Mitte</i>	<i>Nachfeld</i>
Peter	sieht	Susi
Er	geht	nach Hause

### *Satzklammer*

- (1) Peter **hat** mit ihr **gesprachen**.
- (2) Peter **muss** das Buch bis Mittwoch **lesen**.
- (3) Peter **hat versucht** das Buch **zu lesen**.
- (4) Peter **gibt** ihr das Buch **zurück**.

### *Erweiterte Feldertheorie*

<i>(Konjunktion)</i>	<i>Vorfeld</i>	<i>Finite V</i>	<i>Mittelfeld</i>	<i>Nonfinite V</i>	<i>Nachfeld</i>
	Peter	liest	ein Buch.		
Denn	er	hat	Susi das Buch	gegeben.	
	Er	hat	ihn	gefragt	ob sie kommt.
Und	gestern	ist	Peter zur ihr	gefahren.	

### *Das Vorfeld*

- (1) **Peter** hat gestern mit Gabi telefoniert.
- (2) **Gestern** hat Peter mit Gabi telefoniert.
- (3) **Mit Gabi** hat Peter gestern telefoniert.
- (4) **Telefoniert** hat Peter mit Gabi gestern.
- (5) **Dass Peter mit Gabi telefoniert hat**, habe ich nicht gewusst.

### *Das Mittelfeld*

- (1) Gestern hat **der Mann den Garten** umgegraben.
- (2) \*Gestern hat **den Garten der Mann** umgegraben.
  
- (1) Gestern hat **der Mann ihn** gesehen.
- (2) Gestern hat **ihn der Mann** gesehen.
  
- (1) Gestern hat **eine Biene den Hans** gestochen.
- (2) Gestern hat **den Hans eine Biene** gestochen.

### *Das Nachfeld*

- (1) Er hat ihm gesagt, **dass er kommt**.
- (2) Er hat den Zug genommen, **weil das schneller geht**.
- (3) Er hat das Buch gelesen, **das ihr Peter empfohlen hat**.
- (4) Er hat mit dem Vorsitzenden gesprochen, **nach der Versammlung**.
- (5) Er denkt über den Film nach, **auf dem Weg nach Hause**.

## Grammatical relations

### *Subject*

- Agent / actor

- (1) The man is kicking the ball.
- (2) Der Mann wirft den Ball ins Tor.

- But: (3) The ball is rolling down the hill.  
(4) The ball was kicked against the wall.

- Case marking

- (1) He saw her.
- (2) Er hat ihn gesehen.

- But: (3) Him be a doctor!  
(4) Mir ist kalt.

- Position

- (1) Peter saw Mary.
- (2) Paul hat Elke gesehen.

- But: (3) Here comes the sun.

- Agreement

- (1) She loves bananas.
- (2) Er liebt Bananen.

- But: (3) There are my shoes.  
(4) Das sind meine Schuhe.

- Controller

- (1) Peter talked to Sally and then went home.
- (2) Peter hat mit Susi gesprochen und ist dann nach Hause gegangen.
- (3) Walking down the street, Peter noticed somebody in the garden.

- Antecedent of reflexive

- (1) He saw himself in the mirror.
- (2) Er hat sich selbst im Spiegel gesehen.



## Direct object

- Patient / undergoer

- (1) Bill kicked the ball.
- (2) Peter hat den Fußball ins Tor geschossen.

But: (3) Bill likes Mary

- Case marking

- (1) He saw her.
- (2) Er hat ihn gesehen.

But: (3) Wir helfen ihm.  
(4) Wir bedürfen deiner Unterstützung.

- Position

- (1) Peter met Sally.
- (2) Das Pferd hat das Schwein gejagt.

But: (3) Sally, Peter met.  
(4) Mir schmeckt das Essen.

- Controller

- (1) He convinced her to leave.
- (2) Er hat sie überzeugt wegzugehen

But: (3) He promised her to leave.  
(4) Er hat ihr versprochen wegzugehen

## *Indirect object*

- Recipient / benefactor in ditransitive clauses

- (1) He gave Peter the book.
- (2) Er hat Peter das Buch gegeben.

- Case marking

- (1) (He gave him the book.)
- (2) Er hat ihm das Buch gegeben.

### *Adverbials/ adjuncts*

- PP

- (1) He went home after dinner.
- (2) Nach dem Abendessen ist er nach Hause gefahren.

- But:
- (3) He was not there last week.
  - (4) Letzte Woche war er nicht da.

- Time, place, cause, manner

- (1) After dinner, they left.
- (2) Morgen fahren wir nach Hause.
- (3) Because of the bad weather we left.
- (4) Völlig erschöpft sind wir dort angekommen.

- Optional

- (1) They left (after dinner).
- (2) Wir fahren (um drei Uhr) nach Hause.

- Several can be combined

- (1) He has been working in his office since noon to finish the project.
- (2) Er hat seit Mittag in seinem Büro gearbeitet, um das Projekt zu beenden.

### *Prepositional objects / complements*

- PP

- (1) He thought of his vacation in England.
- (2) Er hat an seinen Urlaub in England gedacht.

- Meaning: abstract rather than concrete

- (1) He talked about his plans.
- (2) Er hat über seine Pläne gesprochen.

- Obligatory

- (1) He thought of her after we left. (\*He thought after he left).
- (2) He slept until noon after we left. (He slept after we left).

## Thematic roles

Agent:	The initiator of some action, capable of acting with volition.  (1) ‘ <b>David</b> cooked the soup.’
Patient:	The entity undergoing the effect of some action (e.g. change in state). ‘The sun melted <b>the ice</b> .’
Theme:	An entity that is only ‘indirectly’ affected by some action (in ditransitives) or the ‘object/subject’ of an emotional/psychological state.  (1) ‘Peter gave Mary <b>the ball</b> .’ (2) ‘Peter likes <b>bananas</b> ’
Experiencer:	The entity which is aware of the action or state described by the predicate but which is not in control of the action/state.  (1) ‘ <b>Kevin</b> is ill.’ (2) ‘ <b>Mary</b> saw the smoke.’
Instrument:	The means by which an action is performed.  (1) ‘They cleaned the wound <b>with a sponge</b> .’ (2) ‘They signed the treaty <b>with the same pen</b> .’
Beneficiary:	The entity for whose benefit the action was performed.  (1) ‘Robert filled in the form <b>for his mother</b> .’ (2) ‘They baked <b>me</b> a cake.’
Recipient:	A type of goal involved in actions that involve change of possession.  (1) ‘He sold <b>me</b> this wreck.’ (2) ‘He left his fortune <b>to the church</b> .’
Location:	The place in which something is situated or takes place.  (1) ‘The monster was hiding <b>under the bed</b> .’ (2) ‘ <b>London</b> is in England.’
Goal:	The entity towards which something moves, either literally or metaphorically.  (1) ‘Sheila handed her license <b>to the policeman</b> .’ (2) ‘Pat told <b>her</b> a joke.’
Source:	The entity from which something moves, either literally or metaphorically.  (1) ‘The plane came back <b>from London</b> .’ (2) ‘We got the idea <b>from a French magazine</b> .’

## Linking

Definition: The term linking refers to the relationship between thematic roles and grammatical relations.

### *Macro-roles*

Semantic roles can be defined at different levels:

- (1) Peter hit John.
- (2) Peter saw Mary.
- (3) The knife cut the bread.
- (4) Peter lives in London.
- (5) Bavaria is in southern Germany.

Example:

- |                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| a. specific:     | Peter = BEATER, John = BEATEN   |
| b. intermediate: | Peter = AGENT, John = PATIENT   |
| c. general:      | Peter = ACTOR, John = UNDERGOER |

### *The theta hierarchy*

- |  |            |
|--|------------|
| (1) ‘Ursula broke the ice with a pickaxe.’ | Agent      |
| (2) ‘The pickaxe broke the ice.’           | Instrument |
| (3) ‘The ice broke.’                       | Patient    |

agent > instrument/experiencer > theme > source/goal/location > patient

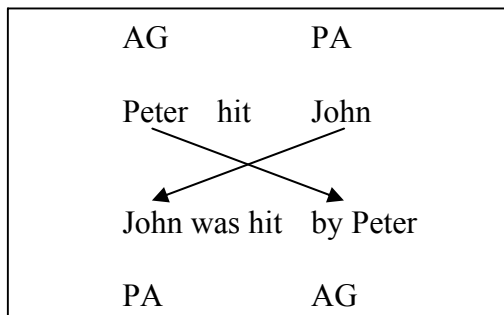
In an unmarked declarative sentence, the highest ranked thematic role will be subject (i.e. it occurs in nominative case, in subject position, etc.).

- |                              |                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------|
| (1) Peter hit the ball.      | AG – PA             |
| (2) The key opened the door. | INST – LOC          |
| (3) Peter saw Mary.          | EXPERIENCER – THEME |

## *Passive*

### *English*

- (1) Peter threw the ball.
- (2) The ball was thrown by Peter.



An alternative construction:

- (3) I got hit by a car.

### *German:*

- (1) Die Scheibe wird (von Peter) zerschlagen.
- (2) Die Scheibe wurde (von Peter) zerschlagen.
- (3) Die Scheibe ist (von Peter) zerschlagen worden.
  
- (4) Die Scheibe ist zerschlagen.
- (5) Die Scheibe war zerschlagen.
- (6) Die Scheibe ist zerschlagen gewesen.

Alternative constructions:

- (1) Es wird gestritten.
- (2) Man streitet sich.
- (3) Ich bekomme einen Ball geschenkt.
- (4) Diese Entscheidung ist schwer zu akzeptieren.

- (1) Das Haus besitzt ein Dach.  
\*Ein Dach wird (von dem Haus) besessen.
- (2) Peter wiegen 70 Kilo.  
\*70 Kilo werden (von Peter) gewogen.
- (3) Peter gleicht Manfred.  
\*Manfred wird (von Peter) geglichen.
- (4) Der Film gefiel den Schülern.  
\*Die Schüler wurde (von dem Film) gefallen.

### *Unergative vs. unaccusative verbs*

- a. unergative verbs: *run, jump, sing, dance*
- b. unaccusative verbs: *die, melt, explode, fell down, vanished*

Unergative verbs allow for the formation of pseudo passive sentences:

- (1) ?The fence was jumped over by the running horses.  
(2) \*The bed was died in by George Washington.

### **Linking in English and German: A comparison**

Grammatical relation	Thematic role	Case
Subject	Agent	Nominative
Direct object	Patient / Theme	Accusative
Indirect object	Beneficiary / Recipient	<b>Dative (in ditransitives)</b>

- (1) Peter gave him the ball.  
(2) Peter hat ihm den Ball gegeben.

In German, dative case is not restricted to the indirect object in ditransitive sentences.

- (1) Peter hilft ihm.  
(2) Peter dankt ihm.  
(3) Peter folgt ihm.  
(4) Peter sagt ihm ab.

DAT in ditransitive sentences: *geben, kaufen, schicken, sagen, mitteilen, sagen, verbreiten, berichten, erzählen, versprechen*

DAT in non-ditransitive sentences: *helfen, danken, folgen, gehorchen, gratulieren, trauern, ausweichen, absagen*

### ***Dative objects***

- (1) Peter half ihm.  
(2) Peter was helping him.

- Passive

- (1) \*Er wurde geholfen.  
(2) Ihm wurde geholfen.  
(3) He was helped.

- Controll

- (1) Er hat gehofft, gefunden zu werden.
- (2) \*Er hat gehofft, geholfen zu werden.
- (3) He hoped to be helped.

- Agreement

- (1) Ihm wird geholfen.
- (2) Uns wird/\*werden geholfen.

### ***Free datives***

#### Ethischer Dativ

- (1) Ich lobe mir das Landleben.
- (2) Du bist mir vielleicht ein Angeber.

#### Dativ des Beurteilens

- (1) Du schreibst mir zu selten.
- (2) Er spendet ihm zu wenig Geld für die Flutopfer.

#### Dativ Commodi

- (1) Er putzt ihm die Schuhe.
- (2) Er fängt ihm einen Fisch.

#### Pertinenzdativ

- (1) Sie tritt ihm auf den Fuß.
- (2) Er hat ihr etwas weggenommen.

### ***Dative subjects***

- (1) Mir ist kalt.
- (2) Mir graut vor dem nächsten Quizz.
- (3) Mir ist übel.

- (1) Mir gefällt das Buch.
- (2) Mir fällt etwas ein.
- (3) Mir begegnen viele Menschen.
- (4) Mir gehorchen die Schüler nicht.
- (5) Mir tut das Bein weh.

Old English:

- (1) 

þæm	cyng	licoden	peran.
that.DAT.SG	king	like.PL	pears.NOM/ACC.PL

  
'The king likes pears.'
- (2) 

the king	licoden	pears.
NOM/ACC	like.PL	pears.PL
- (3) 

the king	liked	pears.
----------	-------	--------
- (4) 

He/*him	liked	pears.
---------	-------	--------

Psych verbs:

- (1) Mir gefällt das Buch.  
(2) Mir fällt etwas ein.  
(3) Mir macht das keinen Spaß.  
(4) Mir leuchtet das nicht ein

Cause verbs:

- (1) Mir gelingt etwas.  
(2) Mir glückt etwas.  
(3) Mir passiert etwas.  
(4) Mir entgleitet etwas.

Possess verbs:

- (1) Mir gebührt etwas.  
(2) Mir fehlt etwas.  
(3) Mir genügt etwas.  
(4) Mir gehört etwas.

### ***Genitive object***

About 50 verbs take genitive objects in Modern German:

bedürfen, gedenken, spotten, bedienen, bemächtigen, entledigen, berauben, beschuldigen, überführen, schämen

In 1890, Blatz still listed 160 verbs that occur with a genitive object. Many of them disappeared:

- (1) Er ist seiner Wunden genesen.  
(2) Sie hat des Lebens sich entbrochen.

Passive:

- (1) Wir gedenken der Toten.  
(2) Der Toten wird gedacht.  
(3) \*Die Toten wird gedacht.



# Sentence Types

Basic sentences types:

1. declaratives
2. interrogatives
3. imperatives
4. exclamatives

Each sentence type is associated with a particular function:

1. declarative sentences convey information
2. interrogatives request information
3. imperatives instruct the hearer to do something
4. exclamatives express the speaker's emotional stance

## Interrogatives

*Yes-no questions*

English

- (1) Has the boat left?
- (2) Do you like bananas?
- (3) The boat left?
- (4) You like bananas?

German

- (1) Hat das Boot den Hafen verlassen?
- (2) Gehst du zu dem Treffen?
- (3) Das Boot hat bereits den Hafen verlassen?
- (4) Du gehst zu dem Treffen?

*Wh-questions*

English

- |                                   |       |
|-----------------------------------|-------|
| (1) Who is coming to the party?   | SUBJ  |
| (2) What did you bring?           | DO    |
| (3) Who(m) did you give the book? | IO    |
| (4) What was she talking about?   | PP    |
| (5) Whose dog is that?            | GEN-N |
| (6) Which bike is yours?          | DET-N |
| (7) Where do you live?            | ADV   |
| (8) When did you arrive?          | ADV   |
| (9) How are you?                  | ADV   |

## German

(1) Wer hat den Mann gesehen?	SUBJ
(2) Wen hat der Mann gesehen?	DO
(3) Wem hast du den Brief gegeben?	IO
(4) Mit wem hast du gesprochen?	PP
(5) Wessen Hund ist das?	GEN-N
(6) Welches Fahrrad ist deins?	DET-N
(7) Wo wohnst du?	ADV
(8) Wann bist du angekommen?	ADV
(9) Wie geht es dir?	ADV

## Imperatives

### English

- (1) Jump!
- (2) Be reasonable!
- (3) Consider yourself lucky!

### German

- (1) Spring (vom Stuhl)!
- (2) Hol mir ein Bier!
- (3) Holt mir ein Bier!
- (4) Holen Sie mir ein Bier!

### *Adhortatives*

- (1) Let's go!
  - (2) Let's you and him fight!
- 
- (1) Lass uns gehen!

## Exclamatives

### English

- (1) What a wonderful time we've had!
  - (2) How quickly you eat!
- 
- (3) Hasn't she grown!
  - (4) Boy, do you look annoyed!

## German

- (1) Wie wunderschön das Leben sein kann!
- (2) Wie schnell du laufen kannst!
  
- (3) Hat er vielleicht Glück gehabt!
- (4) Hat das aber gut geklappt!

## Word order in English verb-first constructions:

- |   |       |          |
|---|-------|----------|
| (1) Is Peter coming to the party.         | AUX S | MAIN.V O |
| (2) Let's talk to him.                    | AUX S | MAIN.V O |
| (3) Has she grown!                        | AUX S | MAIN.V O |
| (4) Had Peter talked to him, he would ... | AUX S | MAIN.V O |
| (5) Go home!                              |       | MAIN.V O |

John Hawkins: "Both English and German have productive verb-first structures in which the verb stands in absolute initial position in the clause. All the clauses in question ... share the semantic property that they are not descriptive of the real world." (195)

---

V-first	V-second
Peter likes the book?	Does Peter like the book?
Isn't that fantastic!	That's fantastic!
Let's go!	We should go now!
Come (to me)!	I want you to come!
Had Peter been here, he would have ...	If Peter had been here, he would have ...
	The book costs \$20.

---

V-first constructions are (1) non-assertive, (2) do not describe a factual information in the world.

## Particular clause types

### Copular clauses

#### English

- |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| (1) Peter is my friend.          | (predicative nominal)             |
| (2) Peter is lazy.               | (predicative adjective)           |
| (3) It is cold.                  | (nonreferential <i>it</i> )       |
| (4) There is Peter.              | (locative <i>there</i> )          |
| (5) There are Peter and Mary.    | (locative <i>there</i> —subject?) |
| (6) There was an old man who ... | (existential <i>there</i> )       |

#### German

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (1) Peter ist mein Freund.  | (predicative nominal)       |
| (2) Peter ist faul.         | (predicative adjective)     |
| (3) Es ist windig.          | (nonreferential <i>es</i> ) |
| (4) Dort ist Peter.         | (locative subject)          |
| (5) Das ist ein Bär.        | (uninflected <i>das</i> )   |
| (6) Das sind meine Freunde. | (uninflected <i>das</i> )   |

### Verb-particle constructions

#### English

Particles: off, up, out, back, away, down, in, around, on, away

a. Intransitive verb-particle construction:

- (1) The ball touched *down*.
- (2) Did it fell *off*?
- (3) Mary showed *up*.
- (4) They went *away*.

b. Transitive verb-particle constructions:

- (1) Mary put *down* the garbage can.
- (2) Peter took *off* the hat.
- (3) They picked him *up*.
- (4) Mary send Bill *away*.

Transitive verb-particle constructions must be distinguished from transitive clauses including a prepositional object:

1. Position of particle and direct object:

- (1) Mary put down the garbage can.
- (2) Mary put the garbage can down.
- (3) Peter talked about his new book.
- (4) \*Peter talked his new book about.

2. Position of particle and pronominal object:

- (1) Put it *away*!
- (2) \*Put *away* it!
- (3) He thought of it.

3. Position of particles / prepositions in relative clauses:

- (1) the sign (which) I pointed *to*
- (2) the sign *to* which I pointed
- (3) the hat (which) I took *off*
- (4) \*the hat *off* which I took

What determines the order of object and particle in the verb-particle construction?

- (1) Joe looked it up.
- (2) Joe looked the number up.
- (3) Joe looked the number of the ticket up.
- (4) Joe looked the number that Mary had forgotten up.

German

Separable prefixes:      weg, zurück, auf, zu, hin, her,  
Inseparable prefixes:    zer-, be-, über-, ver-, ent-,

- (1) Peter legt den Ball weg.
  - (2) Susi hebt den Ball auf.
  - (3) Susanne macht die Tür zu.
  - (4) Thomas stellt die Teller hin.
- 
- (1) Peter zer-bricht die Flasche.
  - (2) Susi be-schimpft den Mann.
  - (3) Klaus über-arbeitet den Aufsatz.
  - (4) Tom ent-fällt der Gedanke.
- 
- (1) Weil Peter den Ball weggelegt hat, ...
  - (2) Bevor Susi den ball aufhebt, ...
  - (3) Nachdem Susanne die Tür zugemacht hat, ...
  - (4) Als Thomas die Teller aufgestellt hat, ...

- (1) Weil Peter die Flasche zerbricht, ...
- (2) Wenn Susi den Mann beschimpft, ...
- (3) Nachdem Klaus den Aufsatz überarbeitet hat, ...
- (4) Wenn Tom der Gedanke entfallen ist, ...

### Left- and right dislocation

#### English

- (1) Well, my car, *it's* an old Chevy.
- (2) The BMWs, you can get airbacks in *them*.
- (3) Could *it* be in the front yard, your bike?
- (4) I don't like *him*, your new football coach.

#### German

- (1) Mein Auto, das ist der blaue BMW.
- (2) Die Audis, die bekommst du nicht so leicht.
- (3) Könnte sie in der Küche sein, deine Tasche.
- (4) Ich mag ihn nicht, deinen neuen Fußballtrainer.

### Cleft-sentences

#### English

- (1) It was *Tom* who caused all the trouble.
- (2) What I didn't notice was *any sense of hostility*.

#### German

- (1) Es war Tom, der den ganzen Ärger verursacht hat.
- (2) Was ich nicht bemerkt habe, ist seine negative Einstellung.

### Resultative construction

#### English

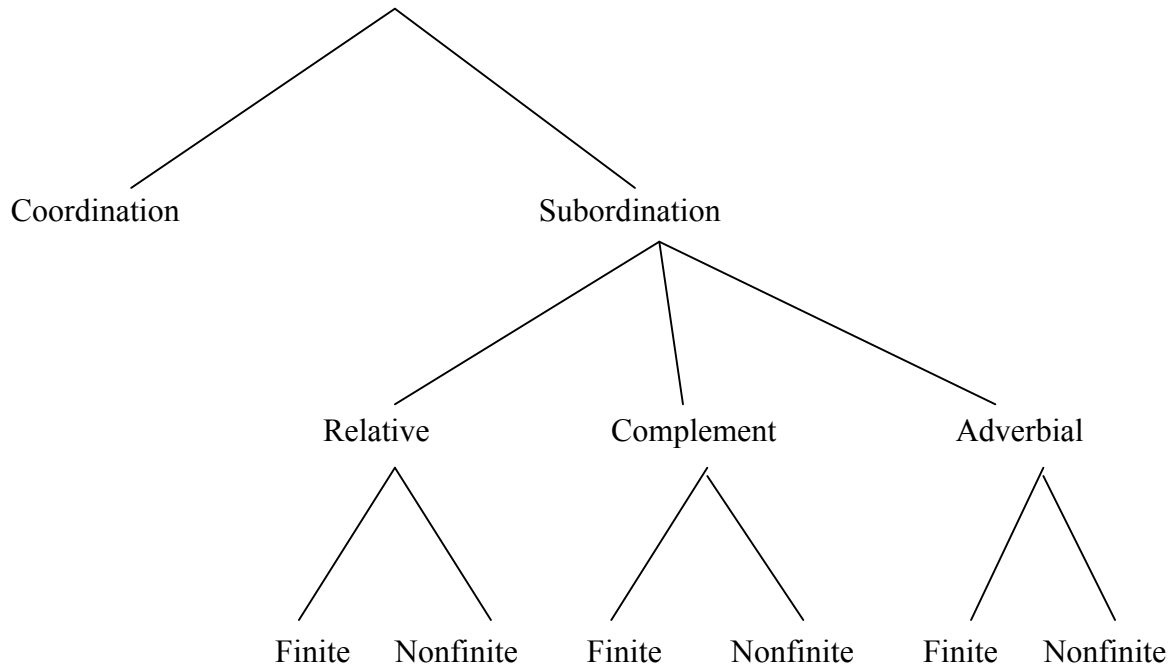
- (1) She wiped the table clean.
- (2) He made me happy.
- (3) Peter talked us dizzy.

#### German

- (1) Peter wischt den Fußboden sauber.
- (2) Er macht mich glücklich.
- (3) Peter redet uns schwindlig.

# Complex sentences

## Overview of complex sentences



### Coordinate

- (1) a. Peter played with Sally and John worked in the garden.  
b. Peter spielt mit Susie und Karl arbeitet im Garten.

### Finite relative

- (2) a. This is the book I was looking for.  
b. Das ist das Buch, das ich gesucht habe.

### Nonfinite relative

- (3) a. The man standing over there is my neighbour.  
b. \*Der Man dort drüben stehend ist mein Nachbar.

### Nonfinite relative

- (4) a. The next train to arrive was from London.  
b. \*Der nächste Zug anzukommen war von Berlin.

### Finite complement

- (5) a. Peter claimed that your hypothesis is invalid.  
b. Peter behauptet, dass die Hypothese nicht haltbar sei.

### Nonfinite complement

- (6) a. I saw him running in the park.  
b. Ich habe ihn im Park laufen gesehen.

### Nonfinite complement

- (7) a. She expects me to come.  
b. \*Sie erwartet mich zu gewinnen.

### Finite adverbial

- (8) a. They will come when they have finished the game.  
b. Sie kommen, wenn sie das Spiel beendet haben.

### Nonfinite adverbial

- (9) a. Watching television, he suddenly noticed somebody outside.  
b. \*Fernsehen schauend, hat er plötzlich draußen jemanden bemerkt.

### Nonfinite adverbial

- (10) a. In order to open the door, you need to press this button.  
b. Um die Tür aufzumachen, musst du diesen Knopf drücken.

Subordinate clauses serve a specific syntactic function in the main clause:

- Relative clauses function as noun modifiers/attributes
- Complement clauses function as (verbal) arguments
- Adverbial clauses function as verb/clause modifiers

- (1) The lamp that broke > the broken lamp  
(2) I noticed that Peter arrived > I noticed Peter's arrival  
(3) Since Peter arrived it is raining > Since Peter's arrival it is raining

### ***Problematic cases***

#### *Relative clauses in German*

- (1) a. Peter liest ein Buch, das ihm sehr gut gefällt.  
b. Peter liest ein Buch, das gefällt ihm sehr gut.

#### *Complement clauses in English*

- (2) a. I assume that this will be an easy task.  
b. The assumption that this will be an easy task may be invalid.  
(3) a. Peter thought that must be a mistake.  
b. That's a mistake, I think

### **General properties of subordinate clauses**

1. Functional: (i) Subordinate clauses tend to provide given or background information.  
(ii) They do not have an independent illocutionary force.
2. Formal: In German, subordinate clauses are marked by a particular word order: the sentence final position of the finite verb.



## Word order in German subordinate clauses

### *V-second in complement clauses*

- (1) a. Es scheint, du brauchst neue Schuhe.  
b. Karl behauptet, Paul sei deutscher Tennismeister.

### *V-second in adverbial clauses*

- (2) a. Ich komme, obwohl ich keine Lust habe.  
b. Ich komme, obwohl eigentlich habe ich keine Lust.  
(3) a. Wir sind nach Hause gefahren, weil es die ganze Zeit geregnet hat.  
b. Wir sind nach Hause gefahren, weil es hat die ganze Zeit geregnet.  
(4) a. Weil es die ganze Zeit geregnet hat, sind wir nach Haus gefahren.  
b. \*Weil es hat die ganz Zeit geregnet, sind wir nach Haus gefahren.

## Relative clauses

### Finite relative clauses in English

- |     |   |         |
|-----|---|---------|
| (1) | That's the book <u>I was looking for</u> .                | zero    |
| (2) | That's the book <u>that was looking for</u> .             | that    |
| (3) | That's the man <u>who(m) we met in Berlin</u> .           | Pronoun |
| (4) | That's the town <u>where I lived when I was younger</u> . | Adverb  |

### External syntax (filler)

- |     |  |      |
|-----|--|------|
| (1) | The <i>guy</i> <u>we saw</u> was Peter.                      | SUBJ |
| (2) | I know the <i>guy</i> <u>you are talking about</u> .         | DO   |
| (3) | Peter gave the man <u>we saw</u> the keys                    | IO   |
| (4) | He lives in the same <i>house</i> <u>where Peter lives</u> . | OBL  |
| (5) | That's the <i>picture</i> <u>I made</u> .                    | PN   |

*Restrictive* REL-clauses restrict the referential scope of the head noun; non-restrictive REL-clauses provide additional information. Nonrestrictive REL-clauses are generally introduced by a *wh*-word and separated by a comma/ intonation break.

- (1) Angela Hunt, who is (over there) in the corner, wants to meet you.

### Internal syntax (gap)

- |     |   |      |
|-----|---|------|
| (1) | The man <u>who slept</u> .                | SUBJ |
| (2) | The man <u>I met</u> .                    | DO   |
| (3) | The man <u>I gave the picture to</u> .    | IO   |
| (4) | The man <u>I talked to</u> .              | OBL  |
| (5) | The man <u>whose dog chased the cat</u> . | GEN  |

### Finite relative clauses in German

- |     |   |         |
|-----|---|---------|
| (1) | Peter grüßt den Mann, <u>den wir getroffen haben</u> .  | der     |
| (2) | Das Faltblatt, <u>welches an ihrem Platz ausliegt</u> . | welches |
| (3) | Die Stadt, <u>wo ich wohne</u> .                        | wo      |

### External syntax

- |     |   |      |
|-----|---|------|
| (1) | Der Mann, <u>der ins Zimmer kommt</u> , ist Herr Schmid.          | SUBJ |
| (2) | Peter kennt den Mann, <u>der ins Zimmer kommt</u> .               | DO   |
| (3) | Peter gibt dem Mann, <u>der ins Zimmer kommt</u> , die Schlüssel. | IO   |
| (4) | Wir gehen in das Zimmer, <u>in dem er wohnt</u> .                 | OBL  |
| (5) | Das ist das Zimmer, <u>in dem er wohnt</u> .                      | PN   |

### *Internal syntax*

- |     |   |      |
|-----|---|------|
| (1) | Der Mann, <u>der schläft</u> .                      | SUBJ |
| (2) | Der Mann, <u>den ich gesehen habe</u> .             | DO   |
| (3) | Der Mann, <u>dem ich das Buch gegeben habe</u> .    | IO   |
| (4) | Der Mann, <u>mit dem wir gesprochen haben</u> .     | OBL  |
| (5) | Der Mann, <u>dessen Hund die Katze gejagt hat</u> . | GEN  |

### *Welcher*

- (1) \*Das Haus, welchen Schornstein Karl gebaut hat.
- (2) \*Die Bauer, welcher Dörfer zerstört sind.
- (3) Welchen Unglücks kannst du dich nicht erinnern?
- (4) Welcher deiner Schandtaten schämst du dich am meisten?

### *Wo*

- (1) Die Kreuzung, wo es gestern gekracht hat.
- (2) Der Moment, wo das passiert.
- (3) Ein Vorschlag, wo man nicht weiss, was ihm folgt.
- (4) Eine Ehe, wo immer Krach ist.
- (5) \*Die Aufsätze, wo Hany korrigiert hat.

## **Particular types of relative clauses**

### *Headless/free relative clauses*

- (1) What I bought was very expensive.
- (2) Whoever says that is wrong.
- (3) Wer zuerst kommt, (der) gewinnt.
- (4) Wen ich zuerst treffe, (den) frage ich.

### *Sentential relative clauses*

- (1) He admires Ms Hewitt, which surprises me.
- (2) He walks for an hour each morning, which would bore me.
- (3) Er hat den Brief vergessen, was ihm aber niemand übel genommen hat.
- (4) Wir haben das Spiel verloren, was uns die Meisterschaft gekostet hat.

### *Appositive clauses*

Appositive REL-clauses have features of both REL-clauses and COMP-clauses. Like REL-clauses, appositive clauses can be restrictive or nonrestrictive, but they do not include a

relativized element. Moreover, appositive clauses only occur with abstract head nouns such as *fact*, *proposition*, *reply*, *remark*, *answer*. Many of these abstract head nouns are derived from complement-taking verbs.

- (1) The belief that no one is infallible is well-founded.
- (2) I agree with the old saying that absence makes a heart grow fonder.

In German, appositive clauses are introduced by *dass*.

- (3) Der Glaube, dass wir gewinnen werden, macht uns stark.
- (4) Die Tatsache, dass wir verloren haben, lässt sich nicht verleugnen.

### **Nonfinite relative clauses**

#### 1. *-ing* participles

- (1) A tile falling from a roof shattered into pieces at his feet.
- (2) He is talking to a girl resembling Joan.

#### 2. *-ed* participles

- (1) The only car (being) repaired by the mechanic is mine.
- (2) Any coins found under the table must be handed to the police.

#### 3. *to* infinitives

- (1) The next train to arrive was from New York.
- (1) The man for John to consult is Wilson.
- (2) It's time for you to go to bed.

## Complement clauses

### Finite complement clauses in English

#### 1. *that*-clauses

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| (1) <u>That Peter didn't come</u> didn't bother us.           | SUBJ |
| (2) I noticed ( <u>that</u> ) <u>somebody spoke English</u> . | OBJ  |

Parenthetical matrix clauses:

- (1) That's wrong, I think.
- (2) Suppose we do it this way.
- (3) You're right, I guess.
- (4) I bet you missed the bus, didn't you?
- (5) You know, we've been here before.

#### 2. *wh*-clauses

- (1) Do you know who will be there.
- (2) I'm not sure who has paid.
- (3) I asked them what they want.
- (4) The problem is who can we get to replace her.

*Wh*-complements are often subdivided into:

1. indirect questions
2. headless relative clauses

- |  |      |
|--|------|
| (1) <u>Whoever did that</u> should admit it frankly. | SUBJ |
| [the person who did that ... ]                       |      |
| (2) I took <u>what they offered me</u> .             | OBJ  |
| [the things that they offered me]                    |      |

Many *wh*-complements are ambiguous between an interpretation as indirect question and relative clause.

- |                                     |                      |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|
| (3) They asked me what I knew.      |                      |
| > They asked me things that I knew. | REL-interpretation   |
| > They asked me 'what do you know'? | INTER-interpretation |

#### 3. *if/whether*-clauses

- (1) I can't find out if the flight has been delayed.
- (2) They didn't say whether it will rain or be sunny.

## Finite complement clauses in English

### 1. *dass*-clauses

- |   |      |
|---|------|
| (1) Dass du gekommen bist, freut mich sehr.   | SUBJ |
| (2) Ich freue mich, dass du gekommen bist.    | OBJ  |
| (3) Er sagt, dass er nicht da gewesen sei.    |      |
| (4) Er sagt, er sei gestern nicht da gewesen. |      |

### 2. *wh*-clauses

- (1) Weißt du, wer dort sein wird?
- (2) Ich bin mir nicht sicher, wen du meinst.
- (3) Peter überlegt, wann es ihm passt.
- (4) Ich habe ihn gefragt, was er will.
- (5) Das Problem ist wer kann sie ersetzen?

### 3. *ob*-clause

- (1) Ich weiß nicht, ob er kommt.
- (2) Ob er das machen wird, ist fraglich.

## Nonfinite complement clauses

### *Formal division*

#### 1. Bare infinitives

- (1) Peter can go.
- (2) Peter kann gehen.
- (3) I make him leave.
- (4) Ich höre ihn kommen.

#### 2. 'to' / 'zu' infinitives

- (1) He tried to come.
- (2) Er hat versucht zu kommen.
- (3) He convinced Peter to leave.
- (4) Er hat Peter überzeugt zu kommen.

#### 3. Participles

- (1) He ceased smoking.
- (2) She saw him running in the park.

### *Grammatical function*

- (1) To be neutral in this conflict is out of question.

In German, the use of ‘to’ infinitives in subject function is limited to a few psych verbs:

- (1) Viel zu reden widerstrebt ihr.  
(2) Das Spiel zu gewinnen ist ihnen nicht geglückt.  
(3) Nichts zu verstehen macht mir nichts aus.

These are constructions in which the dative object is ranked higher on the theta hierarchy than the subject.

### **NP-V-VP vs. NP-V-NP-VP**

- (1) Peter wants to leave.  
(2) Peter wants Bill to leave.  
(3) Peter stopped smoking.  
(4) Peter saw me leaving.
- (1) Peter versucht zu bleiben.  
(2) Peter überredet Karl zu kommen.

### ***NP-V-VP constructions***

Leaving aside modal verbs, we have to distinguish two basic types of this construction:

1. Constructions in which the subject serves as the controller of both verbs.
2. Constructions in which the subject is only the controller of the non-finite verb.

- (1) He tried to come.  
(2) She finished playing music.  
(3) Er hat aufgehört zu rauchen.  
(4) Sie hat angefangen zu rauchen.
- (5) Peter seems to win.  
(6) Peter scheint zu gewinnen.
- (7) It seems that Peter will win.  
(8) Es scheint, dass Peter gewinnt.

In classical transformational grammar, it was assumed that the infinitive constructions are derived from the sentences including a finite complement clause. Based on this analysis, these constructions were called ‘subject-to-subject raising’, while the other infinitive constructions were called ‘equi’ or ‘control’. Subj-to-subject raising is rare in both English and German:

- (1) Peter is likely to win.
- (2) Peter happens to be sick.
- (3) Peter pflegt mit dem Taxi zur Schule zu fahren.
- (4) Die Wand droht einzustürzen.

### ***NP-V-NP-VP constructions***

Like NP-V-VP constructions, NP-V-NP-VP constructions can be divided into equi and raising constructions:

#### Equi/Control

- (1) Peter asked her to follow him.
- (2) Peter forces her to give him the key.
- (3) Peter bittet ihn, ihm zu folgen.
- (4) Peter zwingt ihn, ihm den Schlüssel zu geben.

#### Raising

- (1) Peter expects her to win.
- (2) Peter wants her to win.
- (3) Peter sieht ihn das Haus verlassen.
- (4) Peter hört ihn nach Hause kommen.

#### Tests:

##### 1. Expletives

- (1) \*Peter asked it to rain.
- (2) Peter expects it to rain.
- (3) \*Peter bittet es zu regnen.
- (4) Peter hört es regnen.

##### 2. Passivization

- (1) a. Peter asked the doctor to examine the patient.  
b. Peter asked the patient to be examined by the patient.
- (2) a. Peter bittet den Doktor den Patient zu untersuchen.  
b. Peter bitte den Patienten sich untersuchen zu lassen.
- (3) a. Peter expects the doctor to examine the patient.  
b. Peter expects the patient to be examined by the doctor.
- (4) a. Peter sieht den Doktor den Patienten untersuchen.  
b. Peter sieht den Patient sich vom Doktor untersuchen lassen.

#### Subject-to-object raising:

- (1) a. Peter expects him to come.  
b. Peter expects that he will come.

### ***The minimal distance principle***

- (1) Peter promised Mary to come.



## Adverbial clauses

### Finite adverbial clauses in English

Features of subordination:

1. cataphoric pronoun
  - (1) When he<sub>i</sub> came to Leipzig, Peter<sub>i</sub> met Mary.
  - (2) \*He<sub>i</sub> came to Leipzig, and Peter<sub>i</sub> met Mary.
2. extraction
  - (1) What did you tell her \_\_\_ when you left?
  - (2) \*What did you tell her \_\_\_ and you left.
3. ordering
  - (1) Peter admitted that Mary was right [before he left].
  - (2) [Before he left] Peter admitted that Mary was right.
  - (3) Peter admitted, [before he left], that Mary was right.
  - (4) Peter admitted that Mary was right [and (then he) left].
  - (5) \*[And he left] Peter admitted that Mary was right.
  - (6) \*Peter admitted, [and he left], that Mary was right.
4. gapping
  - (1) \*Bill played the guitar when John \_\_\_ the piano.
  - (2) Bill played the guitar and John \_\_\_ the piano.

### Semantic types

#### 1. Temporal clauses

*when, after, since, while, until, before, as soon as, once*

- (1) We left when it began to rain.
- (2) After he had closed the door, somebody unlocked it.
- (3) He was there before we arrived.

*seitdem, nachdem, bevor, während, wenn, als, bis, sobald*

- (1) Wir sind gegangen, als es anfing zu regnen.
- (2) Nachdem er gegangen war, sind wir gekommen.
- (3) Er war da, bevor wir gekommen sind.

## 2. Causal clauses

*because, since, as*

- (1) She watered the flowers because they were dry.
- (2) Since we live near the sea we often go sailing.
- (3) As Jane was the eldest she looked after the others.

*weil, da*

- (1) Sie hat die Blumen gegossen, weil sie trocken waren.
- (2) Da du schon mal hier bist, können wir das gleich erledigen.

## 3. Conditional clauses

*if, unless, given that, on condition that, provided that*

- (1) If you put the baby down, she'll scream
- (2) Unless the strike has been called off, there will be no trains tomorrow.
- (3) Assuming that the movie starts at eight, shouldn't we be leaving now?
- (4) Had I known I would have written before.

*wenn, es sein denn dass, angenommen*

- (1) Wenn du nicht aufhörst, schreie ich.
- (2) Es sei denn dass er doch noch kommt, bleiben wir hier.
- (3) Angenommen du hast recht, sollten wir dann nicht etwas tun?
- (4) Ginge er zum Arzt, würde man ihn krank schreiben.

### a. hypothetical conditional

- (5) If Colin is in London, he is undoubtedly staying in the Hilton.

### b. counterfactual conditional

- (6) If you had listened to me you wouldn't have made so errors.

## 4. Concessive clauses

*although, though*

- (1) Although he had just joined the team he was treated like all others.

*obwohl, obgleich*

- (1) Obwohl er gerade erst gekommen ist, schläft er schon.

## 5. Concessive conditionals

*even if*

- (1) Even if you don't like museums you will like the MOMA.

*selbst wenn*

- (1) Selbst wenn es regnen sollte, werden sie kommen.

## 6. Result clauses

*so that*

- (1) We paid him immediately so that he left contended.

*so dass*

- (1) Wir haben sofort bezahlt, so dass er sich nicht beschweren konnte.

## 7. Instrumental

*so that*

- (1) You will get a blanket so that you won't freeze.

*damit*

- (2) Wir geben dir eine Decke, damit du nicht frierst.

## 8. Purpose

*in order to*

- (1) They went home in order to tell Peter the story.

*um zu*

- (1) Sie sind nach Hause gegangen, um Peter die Geschichte zu erzählen.

## Correlatives

- (1) Peter tut das **deshalb**, weil ihm sonst niemand hilft.  
(2) Ich mache das nur **dann**, wenn du wirklich kommst.  
(3) Wir machen das **so**, dass sich niemand beschweren kann.

## Nonfinite adverbial clauses

### 1. Infinitival clauses

- (1) In order to be fair, I have to help Peter.
- (2) Um gerecht zu sein, muss ich jetzt Peter helfen.
- (3) Anstatt dich zu beschweren, solltest du lieber mit anpacken.
- (4) Ohne zu antworten, ist er gegangen.

### 2. Participle clauses

- (1) Driving home, I accidentally went through a red light.      *-ing*
- (2) Disturbed by the police they decided to leave.      *-ed*

Absolute participles include their own semantic subjects, whereas the semantic subject of free adjuncts is identical with the grammatical subject of the main clause.

- (1) Winds becoming gusty the crew decided to sail home.      ABS
- (2) The meeting cancelled he had nothing to do.      ABS
- (3) Walking down the street he noticed Mary.      Free ADJ
- (4) Persuaded by my optimism he gladly joined our team.      Free ADJ

Participle clauses can be introduced by a conjunction:

- (1) While reading the newspaper Bill smoked a cigar.
- (2) Before running outside you should check the weather.

*Gerund* is a traditional name for the *-ing* form functioning as a verbal noun:

- (1) Swimming is good exercise.
- (2) Lisa's going topless upset her father.
- (3) I enjoy the dancing.

### 3. verbless clauses

Verbless clauses denote a state without including a verb. In a corresponding verbal clause, *be* would be the most common form in these structures:

- (1) Alone in Peggy's room, Ms Biggs switched on the vacuum cleaner.
- (2) Although always helpful, he was not much liked.