

Chapter 1 : Non-configurational language - Wikipedia

This volume brings together a collection of 18 papers dealing with the problem of word order variation in discourse. Word order variation has often been treated as an essentially unpredictable phenomenon, a matter of selecting randomly one of the set of possible orders generated by the grammar.

VOS languages include Fijian and Malagasy. Using the guidelines above, the unmarked word order is then SVO. Many synthetic languages such as Latin , Greek , Persian , Romanian , Assyrian , Russian , Turkish , Korean , Japanese , Finnish , and Basque have no strict word order; rather, the sentence structure is highly flexible and reflects the pragmatics of the utterance. Topic-prominent languages organize sentences to emphasize their topic–comment structure. Nonetheless, there is often a preferred order; in Latin and Turkish, SOV is the most frequent outside of poetry, and in Finnish SVO is both the most frequent and obligatory when case marking fails to disambiguate argument roles. Just as languages may have different word orders in different contexts, so may they have both fixed and free word orders. In such an approach, the description of word order extends more easily to languages that do not meet the criteria in the preceding section. For example, Mayan languages have been described with the rather uncommon VOS word order. However, they are ergative–absolutive languages , and the more specific word order is intransitive VS, transitive VOA, where S and O arguments both trigger the same type of agreement on the verb. Indeed, many languages that some thought had a VOS word order turn out to be ergative like Mayan.

Functions of constituent word order[edit] A fixed or prototypical word order is one out of many ways to ease the processing of sentence semantics and reducing ambiguity. One method of making the speech stream less open to ambiguity complete removal of ambiguity is probably impossible is a fixed order of arguments and other sentence constituents. This works because speech is inherently linear. Another method is to label the constituents in some way, for example with case marking , agreement , or another marker. Fixed word order reduces expressiveness but added marking increases information load in the speech stream, and for these reasons strict word order seldom occurs together with strict morphological marking, one counter-example being Persian. Furthermore, acting participants especially humans are more likely to be talked about to be topic than things simply undergoing actions like oranges being eaten. If acting participants are often topical, and topic tends to be expressed early in the sentence, this entails that acting participants have a tendency to be expressed early in the sentence. This tendency can then grammaticalize to a privileged position in the sentence, the subject. The mentioned functions of word order can be seen to affect the frequencies of the various word order patterns: The vast majority of languages have an order in which S precedes O and V. Whether V precedes O or O precedes V however, has been shown to be a very telling difference with wide consequences on phrasal word orders. If we can identify the verb in a clause, and we know that the language is strict accusative SVO, then we know that Grob smock Blug probably means that Grob is the smocker and Blug the entity smocked. However, since very strict word order is rare in practice, such applications of word order studies are rarely effective. The paper compares a survey of languages with a "presumed phylogenetic tree" of languages, concluding that changes in word order tend to follow particular pathways, and the transmission of word order is to a great extent vertical i. According to this analysis, the most recent ancestor of[all? An Afro-Asiatic substratum has been hypothesized, but current scholarship considers this claim untenable, not least because Afro-Asiatic and Celtic were not in contact in the relevant period. Branching linguistics and Head directionality parameter The order of constituents in a phrase can vary as much as the order of constituents in a clause. Normally, the noun phrase and the adpositional phrase are investigated. Within the noun phrase, one investigates whether the following modifiers occur before or after the head noun. There are several common correlations between sentence-level word order and phrase-level constituent order. For example, SOV languages generally put modifiers before heads and use postpositions. VSO languages tend to place modifiers after their heads, and use prepositions. For SVO languages, either order is common. However, a small class of adjectives generally go before their heads une grande voiture. On the other hand, in English also SVO adjectives almost always go before nouns a big car , and adverbs can go either way, but

initially is more common greatly improved. English has a very small number of adjectives that go after their heads, such as *extraordinaire*, which kept its position when borrowed from French. Pragmatic word order[edit] This article needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. July Learn how and when to remove this template message Some languages have no fixed word order and often use a significant amount of morphological marking to disambiguate the roles of the arguments. However, some languages use a fixed word order even if they provide a degree of marking that would support free word order. Also, some languages with free word order, such as some varieties of Datooga, combine free word order with a lack of morphological distinction between arguments. Typologically, highly-animate actors are more likely topical than low-animate undergoers, a trend that would come through even in languages with free word order languages. That a statistical bias for SO order or OS in the case of ergative systems, but ergative systems do not usually extend to the highest levels of animacy and usually give way to some form of nominative system, at least in the pronominal system. In some of those languages, a canonical order can still be identified, but that is not possible in others. Hungarian word order is not free in the sense that it must reflect the information structure of the sentence, distinguishing the emphatic part that carries new information from the rest of the sentence that carries little or no new information. The position of focus in a Hungarian sentence is immediately before the verb, that is, nothing can separate the emphatic part of the sentence from the verb. For "Kate ate a piece of cake", the possibilities are: The only freedom in Hungarian word order is that the order of parts outside the focus position and the verb may be freely changed without any change to the communicative focus of the sentence, as seen in sentences 2 and 3 or sentences 6 and 7 above. These pairs of sentences have the same information structure and communicative intention, because the part immediately preceding the verb is left unchanged. Note that the emphasis can be on the action verb itself, as seen in sentences 1, 6 and 7 or on parts other than the action verb, as seen in sentences 2, 3, 4 and 5. Also note that the enclitic -t marks the direct object: In Portuguese, clitic pronouns and commas allow many different orders: Thanks to conjugation, the grammatical person is recovered. Latin word order In Latin, the endings of nouns, verbs, adjectives, and pronouns allow for extremely flexible order in most situations. The Subject, Verb, and Object can come in any order in a Latin sentence, although most often especially in subordinate clauses the verb comes last. Thus the following sentences each answer a different question: *Hanc urbem condidit Romulus*. Latin prose often follows the word order "Subject, Direct Object, Indirect Object, Adverb, Verb", [18] but this is more of a guideline than a rule. Adjectives in most cases go before the noun they modify, [19] but some categories, such as those that determine or specify e. *Via Appia* "Appian Way", usually follow the noun. In Classical Latin poetry, lyricists followed word order very loosely to achieve a desired scansion. Albanian[edit] Due to the presence of grammatical cases nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, ablative, and in some cases or dialects vocative and locative applied to nouns, pronouns and adjectives, the Albanian language permits a large number of positional combination of words. In spoken language a word order differing from the most common S-V-O helps the speaker putting emphasis on a word, thus changing partially the message delivered. Here is an example: Thus, a sentence consisting of a subject, a verb and two objects a direct and an indirect one, can be expressed in six different ways without "mua", and in twenty-four different ways with "mua", adding up to thirty possible combinations. Indo-Aryan languages[edit] The word order of many Indo-Aryan languages can change depending on what specific implications a speaker wishes to make. These are generally aided by the use of appropriate inflectional suffixes. Consider these examples from Bengali: However, most languages are generally assumed to have a basic word order, called the unmarked word order; other, marked word orders can then be used to emphasize a sentence element, to indicate modality such as an interrogative modality, or for other purposes. In English, OSV is a marked word order because it emphasises the object, and is often accompanied by a change in intonation. An example of OSV being used for emphasis: *Bill I can see*. Translation[edit] Differences in word order complicate translation and language education "€" in addition to changing the individual words, the order must also be changed. This can be simplified by first translating the individual words, then reordering the sentence, as in interlinear gloss, or by reordering the words prior to translation.

Chapter 2 : Word order - Wikipedia

Abstract. This volume brings together a collection of 18 papers dealing with the problem of word order variation in discourse. Word order variation has often been treated as an essentially unpredictable phenomenon, a matter of selecting randomly one of the set of possible orders generated by the grammar.

However the first to publish a description of non-configurationality was Chomsky himself in his lectures on Government and Binding , in which he referred to an unpublished paper by Hale. Hale later published his own description of non-configurationality in Warlpiri. Distinction[edit] The following trees illustrate the distinction: The presence of the VP constituent in the configurational tree on the left allows one to define the syntactic relations subject vs. The subject is the argument that appears outside of the VP, but the object appears inside it. More generally, Hale proposed that non-configurational languages have the following characteristics: On the other hand, it has been argued in Lexical Functional Grammar that these attempts are flawed, and that truly non-configurational languages exist. If they are not, no language can be truly non-configurational. Controversy with dependency grammars[edit] The distinction between configurational and non-configurational languages can exist for phrase structure grammars only. Dependency grammars DGs , since they lack a finite VP constituent altogether, do not acknowledge the distinction. In other words, all languages are non-configurational for DGs, even English, which all phrase structure grammars take for granted as having a finite VP constituent. The point is illustrated with the following examples: No structure will have a finite VP constituent. DGs, in contrast, do not see finite VPs as constituents. Both phrase structure grammars and DGs do, however, see non-finite VPs as constituents. The dependency structure of the example sentence is as follows: Since the finite VP will have a finite VP constituent does not qualify as a subtree, it is not a constituent. What this means based upon the criterion of configurationality is that this dependency structure like all dependency structures is non-configurational. The distinction between configurational and non-configurational has hence disappeared entirely, all languages being non-configurational in the relevant sense. Note, however, that while the finite VP is not a constituent in the tree, the non-finite VP have a finite VP constituent is a constituent because it qualifies as a subtree. Dependency grammars point to the results of standard constituency tests as evidence that finite VP does not exist as a constituent [10] While these tests deliver clear evidence for the existence of a non-finite VP constituent in English and other languages , they do not do the same for finite VP.

Chapter 3 : Editions of Word Order in Discourse by Pamela A. Downing

A collection of 18 papers, this volume demonstrates that word-order discourse is not random, but rather is governed by principles which can be subjected to scientific investigation and are common to.

Chapter 4 : Discourse | Definition of Discourse by Merriam-Webster

Integrating various aspects of human communication traditionally treated in a number of separate disciplines, Olga T. Yokoyama develops a universal model of the smallest unit of informational discourse, and uncovers the regularities that govern the intentional verbal transfer of knowledge from one interlocutor to another.

Chapter 5 : Ø-ØŞÙ†Ù,,Ù`Ø- Ú©ØªØŞØ" Word Order in Discourse

Integrates various aspects of human communication traditionally treated in several disciplines. The author develops a universal model of the smallest unit of informational discourse and uncovers the regularities that govern the intentional verbal transfer of knowledge from one speaker to another.

Chapter 6 : "SYNTACTIC RESTRICTIONS AND DISCOURSE FUNCTIONS OF WORD ORDER IN STAN

SYNTACTIC RESTRICTIONS AND DISCOURSE FUNCTIONS OF WORD ORDER IN STANDARD HINDI. VIJAY GAMBHIR, University of Pennsylvania. Abstract. Until fairly recently, word order variation was assigned to factors such as, 'taste', 'idiolect', and 'style' (Ross 44).

Chapter 7 : Word Order in Discourse | Edited by Pamela A. Downing and Michael Noonan

Yiddish word order The main rule in Yiddish word order concerns the placement of the finite verb. The basic rule of Yiddish word order in declarative sentences is the placing of the finite verb at the second position in sentences as well as in subordinate clauses.

Chapter 8 : Discourse and Word Order | Olga T. Yokoyama

These example sentences are selected automatically from various online news sources to reflect current usage of the word 'discourse.' Views expressed in the examples do not represent the opinion of Merriam-Webster or its editors.

Chapter 9 : Discourse and Word Order - Olga T. Yokoyama - Google Books

But if you choose to conduct your discourse in word snaps, or soundbites, then you reap the crop of dumb that you sow. Why We Should Hate 'Haters Gonna Hate'.