

# Contents

<i>List of Figures</i>	page xix
<i>List of Tables</i>	xxi
<i>Preface</i>	xxv
<i>Acknowledgments</i>	xxvii
<i>A Note on Teaching Morphosyntax</i>	xxix
<i>A Note on Language Examples</i>	xxx1
<i>List of Abbreviations</i>	xxxiii

## PART I INTRODUCTION

<b>1 Grammatical Constructions, Semantic Classes, and Information Packaging</b>	3
1.1 What Is Morphosyntax?	3
1.2 Why Constructions?	6
1.2.1 Word Classes and Semantic Classes	6
1.2.2 Word Classes and Constructions	8
1.2.3 Constructions and the Organization of this Textbook	12
1.3 Why Information Packaging?	12
1.4 How Do We Compare Constructions within and across Languages?	16
1.5 How Do We Analyze the Structure of Sentences in a Particular Language?	22
1.6 Appendix – Interpreting Language Examples: Interlinear Morpheme Translations	28
<b>2 Propositional Act Constructions: The Skeleton of a Sentence</b>	32
2.1 Propositional Acts: Semantic Classes and Information Packaging	32
2.2 The Major Propositional Act Constructions and their Structure	35
2.2.1 Anatomy of a Construction: Wholes and Parts, and Heads and Dependents	35
2.2.2 Types of Constructions: Phrases and Clauses	37
2.2.3 Noun, Verb, and Adjective as Comparative Concepts: Prototypical Constructions	39
2.2.4 More on the Structure of Propositional Act Constructions	44
2.2.5 Nonprototypical Propositional Act Constructions	46

2.3	Three Principles of the Mapping between Form and Function	48
2.4	Recruitment Strategies for Nonprototypical Constructions	53
2.5	Two Crosslinguistic Universals of Grammatical Strategies	58

**PART II ARGUMENT PHRASE STRUCTURE: REFERENCE  
AND MODIFICATION**

<b>3</b>	<b>Reference and Referent Expressions</b>	<b>65</b>
3.1	The Semantics of Referring Phrases: Reference and Referents	65
3.1.1	Semantics of Reference	66
3.1.2	Semantic Categories of Nouns and the (Extended) Animacy Hierarchy	69
3.1.3	Combined Means of Reference, and the Ontological Categories	70
3.2	The Information Status of Referring Phrases: Pronouns and Articles	72
3.3	Information Status: Identity Known to Speaker and Hearer	76
3.3.1	Accessibility and the Accessibility Scale	77
3.3.2	Referring Phrase Constructions at the Upper End of the Accessibility Scale	81
3.3.3	The Grammaticalization of Definite Constructions from Demonstrative Constructions	83
3.4	Information Status: Real Referents, but Unknown Identity	87
3.4.1	Pragmatic Specificity and the Theater Metaphor for Referents	88
3.4.2	Typology and Grammaticalization Paths of Referents: From Anaphoric to Nonspecific	90
3.5	Nonreal Referents: Indefinite Pronouns/Articles and the Semantic Map Model	95
3.6	Generic Reference	100
<b>4</b>	<b>Modification: Semantic Types and Morphosyntactic Strategies</b>	<b>103</b>
4.1	Information Packaging and Semantics of Modifiers	103
4.1.1	The Information Packaging Function of Modification	104
4.1.2	Property Concepts and Scalar Admodifiers: Sorting Referents into (Sub)Types	105
4.1.3	Numerals, Quantifiers, and Set-Member Modifiers: Selecting a Referent	109
4.1.4	Nominal (Object) Modification Constructions: Situating a Referent	111
4.1.5	Action Modification	113
4.2	Simple Encoding Strategies, and Word Order	114
4.3	Relational Encoding Strategies: Flags	117
4.4	Indexical Encoding Strategies	120
4.4.1	Person Indexation	121
4.4.2	Nonperson Indexation	124
4.4.3	The Classifier Strategy	126

4.4.4	Mismatches in Indexation Features and the Agreement Hierarchy	130
4.5	The Linker Encoding Strategy, and a Summary of Morphosyntactic Encoding Strategies	135
<b>5</b>	<b>The Structure and Origin of Modification Constructions</b>	<b>140</b>
5.1	Introduction	140
5.2	The Modification–Reference Continuum	140
5.2.1	Anchoring and Non-Anchoring Nominal Modification Constructions	140
5.2.2	Mensural and Quantifying Constructions	144
5.2.3	Inalienability Revisited	149
5.2.4	The Modification–Reference Continuum: Summary	153
5.3	Word Order and the Structure of Referring Expressions	155
5.4	Anaphoric-Head Constructions, Apposition, and the Origin of Referring Expressions	159
<b>PART III CLAUSE STRUCTURE: PREDICATION AND ARGUMENTS</b>		
<b>6</b>	<b>Event Structure and Argument Coding: Semantics, Transitivity, and Alignment</b>	<b>171</b>
6.1	Semantics and Information Packaging in the Clause	171
6.1.1	Predication and Arguments, and Events and Participants	171
6.1.2	How Many Participants? How Are They Expressed?	176
6.2	The Transitive Construction and the Prototypical Bivalent Event	183
6.2.1	The Transitive Construction as a Prototype Construction	183
6.2.2	Basic Argument Structure Encoding Strategies, including Basic Word Order	186
6.3	The Intransitive Construction, Monovalent Events, and Alignment Strategies	192
6.3.1	The Basic Alignment Strategies	192
6.3.2	‘Subject’ and ‘Object’ as Comparative Concepts?	195
6.3.3	Active/Inactive Alignment, and S as a Comparative Concept	197
6.3.4	Causativity	201
<b>7</b>	<b>Event Structure and Nonprototypical Argument Coding</b>	<b>206</b>
7.1	Introduction	206
7.2	Reflexives/Reciprocals/Middles: Between Monovalent and Bivalent Events	206
7.3	Lower Transitivity: Less Prototypical Bivalent Events	213
7.3.1	Motion Events and the Talmy Typology	214
7.3.2	Contact and Material Verbs: Manner vs. Result Verbs	216
7.3.3	Other Less Prototypical Bivalent Events, and the Transitivity Hierarchy	221
7.4	Experiential Events: Perception, Cognition, Emotion, Sensation – and also Ingestion	226

7.5	The Ditransitive Construction: Trivalent Events, and Possession	234
7.5.1	Defining Ditransitive Argument Structure Constructions and Trivalent Events	234
7.5.2	Major Alignment Strategies for Ditransitive Constructions	236
7.5.3	The Indirect Object – Possessive Continuum	239
7.6	Appendix: Summary of Event Semantic Classes	242
<b>8</b>	<b>Argument Coding and Voice: Discourse Factors</b>	<b>245</b>
8.1	Discourse and Frequency Factors in Voice Choice	245
8.1.1	The Basic Voice Construction and Nonbasic Voice Constructions	245
8.1.2	Discourse Motivation for Ergative and Accusative Alignment, and Preferred Argument Structure	248
8.2	Information Packaging Strategies for Nonbasic Voice Constructions	250
8.3	Passive–Inverse Constructions: Constructions for More Salient Ps	252
8.4	Antipassive Constructions: Constructions for Less Salient Ps (including Noun Incorporation)	263
<b>9</b>	<b>Argument Coding and Voice: Salience of Peripheral Participants</b>	<b>272</b>
9.1	The Expression of Obliques as Core Argument Phrases	272
9.2	Causative Constructions: Strategies and Functional Subtypes	273
9.3	Applicative Constructions	280
9.4	A Hierarchy of Overt Coding in Voice Constructions	287
<b>10</b>	<b>Nonprototypical Predication and Nonpredicational Clauses</b>	<b>289</b>
10.1	Introduction	289
10.1.1	Nonprototypical (“Nonverbal”) Predication	289
10.1.2	Predication and Nonpredicational Information Packaging in Clauses	290
10.2	Strategies for Prototypical and Nonprototypical Predication	294
10.3	Object Predication and Property Predication	298
10.4	Location and Possession Clausal Constructions: Predicational and Presentational	304
10.4.1	Location Clauses	304
10.4.2	Possession Clauses	305
10.4.3	Strategies for Presentational Constructions	317
<b>11</b>	<b>Information Packaging in Clauses</b>	<b>325</b>
11.1	Introduction	325
11.2	Topic–Comment Constructions	327
11.2.1	Function of Topic–Comment Constructions, and the Problem of Multiple Referents	327
11.2.2	Strategies for Topics that Are Not the Most Central Participant	329

11.2.3	Nonparticipant (Hanging) Topic Phrases	332
11.3	Thetic Constructions	336
11.3.1	Function of Thetic Constructions, and Contexts Typically Construed as Thetic	336
11.3.2	Strategies for Thetic Constructions	339
11.3.3	Weather Constructions as Thetics	344
11.4	Identificational Constructions	347
11.4.1	The Function of Identificational Constructions, and Contexts Typically Construed as Identificational	347
11.4.2	Strategies for Identificational Constructions	353
11.5	Summary	358
<b>12</b>	<b>Speech Act Constructions</b>	<b>360</b>
12.1	Introduction: Speech Act Constructions and Their Relation to Modality, Polarity, and Information Packaging	360
12.2	Polarity: Negation of Declaratives	365
12.3	Interrogative Constructions	368
12.3.1	Functional Types of Questions	369
12.3.2	Strategies for Interrogative Constructions	370
12.3.3	Strategies for Response Constructions	372
12.3.4	Identificational Constructions, the Expression of (Un)Certainty, and Their Relation to Interrogative Constructions	375
12.4	Imperative–Hortative Constructions	378
12.4.1	Person, Politeness, and Prohibitives	380
12.4.2	The Relation of Deontic Modality and Predication to Imperative–Hortative Constructions	385
12.5	Exclamative Constructions	389
12.5.1	Function and Strategies for the Exclamative Construction	389
12.5.2	The Relation of Mirativity and Thetic Constructions to Exclamative Constructions	391
<b>13</b>	<b>Eventive Complex Predicates and Related Constructions</b>	<b>397</b>
13.1	Introduction	397
13.1.1	Complex Predicates and Information Packaging	397
13.1.2	Semantics and Evolution of Complex Predicates	399
13.2	Eventive Complex Predicate Constructions	401
13.2.1	Semantics of Eventive Complex Predicates: One Event or Two?	401
13.2.2	Strategies for Eventive Complex Predicates: Serial Verbs and Related Strategies	405
13.3	Grammaticalization and Lexicalization of Eventive Complex Predicates	412
13.3.1	Grammaticalization into Argument Structure Constructions and Voice	412
13.3.2	Lexicalization of Eventive Complex Predicates	413

13.4	Grammaticalization of TAMP: Auxiliary Constructions	414
13.5	Support Verb Constructions: Between Grammaticalization and Lexicalization	419
13.6	Argument Complex Predicate Constructions: Verb + Argument “Idioms”	424
13.7	Summary	429
<b>14</b>	<b>Stative Complex Predicates, including Manner</b>	<b>432</b>
14.1	Stative Complex Predicates: Semantics	432
14.2	Strategies for Stative Complex Predicates	435
14.3	Stative Complex Predicates and the Modification–Predication Continuum	443
14.4	Ideophones and Stative Complex Predicates, and ‘Manner’ Revisited	448
14.5	Motion Events as Complex Predicates: The Talmy Typology Revisited	451
<b>PART IV COMPLEX SENTENCES</b>		
<b>15</b>	<b>Temporal and Causal Relations between Events: Coordinate Clause and Adverbial Clause Constructions</b>	<b>461</b>
15.1	Complex Sentence Constructions	461
15.1.1	Discourse and Complex Sentences	461
15.1.2	Complex Sentences and the Main–Subordinate Clause Distinction	463
15.1.3	The Information Packaging of Coordinate vs. Adverbial Clause Constructions: A Gestalt Analysis	465
15.2	Coordinate Clause Constructions and Coordination in General	469
15.2.1	Functional Characterization	469
15.2.2	Strategies: Coordinators and Related Forms	473
15.2.3	Strategies: Balancing vs. Deranking	476
15.3	Adverbial Clause Constructions	481
15.3.1	Functional Characterization	481
15.3.2	Strategies: Balancing vs. Deranking, and Action Nominals vs. Converbs	484
15.4	Adverbial Clause Constructions, Coordinate Clause Constructions, and the Source of Conjunctions	486
<b>16</b>	<b>Reference Tracking in Coordinate and Adverbial Clause Constructions</b>	<b>493</b>
16.1	Introduction: Reference Tracking Systems	493
16.2	Balanced Reference Tracking Systems	495
16.3	Deranked Reference Tracking Systems	498
16.4	Switch-Reference Systems	500
16.5	Zero Expression of Arguments and the Predicate in Coordinate Constructions	506

<b>17 Other Semantic Relations between Events: Comparative, Conditional, and Concessive</b>	<b>513</b>
17.1 Introduction	513
17.2 Comparatives and Equatives	513
17.2.1 Semantics and Information Packaging of the Comparative Construction	513
17.2.2 Strategies for Comparative Constructions	514
17.2.3 Universals and Explanations for Comparative Strategies	516
17.2.4 Equative Constructions	522
17.3 Conditionals, Concessives, and Concessive Conditionals	528
17.3.1 Conditional Constructions	528
17.3.2 Concessive Constructions	536
17.3.3 Concessive Conditional Constructions	539
17.4 More Complex Constructions	544
17.4.1 Comparative Conditionals	545
17.4.2 The <i>Let Alone</i> Construction	545
17.5 The Formal Expression of Semantic and Pragmatic Relationships between Events Expressed in Complex Sentences	546
<b>18 Events as Arguments: Complement Clause Constructions</b>	<b>550</b>
18.1 Introduction: Events as Arguments (Complement Clauses) and Events as Modifiers (Relative Clauses)	550
18.2 The Semantics of Complement Clauses	551
18.2.1 Introduction	551
18.2.2 Semantic Types of Complement-Taking Predicates	552
18.3 Strategies for Complement Clause Constructions	560
18.3.1 Balancing and Deranking Strategies, and the Binding Hierarchy	560
18.3.2 How to Avoid Complements, and How to Create Them	566
18.4 Argument Structure and Reference Tracking in Complement Clause Constructions	572
18.4.1 The Gradual Unification of Argument Structure in Complement Clause Constructions	572
18.4.2 Reference Tracking in Complement Constructions: Logophoric Systems	580
<b>19 Events as Modifiers: Relative Clause Constructions</b>	<b>586</b>
19.1 The Semantics and Information Packaging of Relative Clause Constructions	586
19.2 Strategies for Relative Clause Constructions	587
19.2.1 Balancing and Deranking	587
19.2.2 Expression of the Shared Participant: The Externally Headed Strategy	588
19.2.3 Expression of the Shared Participant: Internally Headed, Adjoined, and Related Strategies	592

19.2.4	Noun Modifying Clause Constructions as a Relative Clause Strategy	598
19.3	The Semantic Role(s) of the Shared Participant and the Accessibility Hierarchy	603
19.4	Anaphoric-Head Relative Clauses and the Origin of Externally Headed Relative Clauses	612
	<i>Epilogue</i>	616
	<i>References</i>	617
	<i>Glossary of Terms</i> (online)	
	<i>Author Index</i>	660
	<i>Language Index</i>	668
	<i>Subject Index</i>	674