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Conventions for glosses and translations

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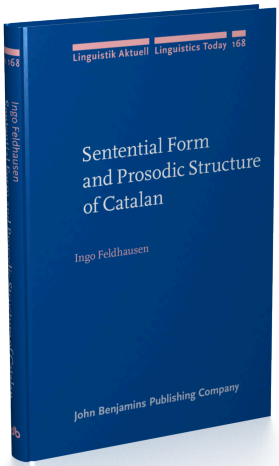

Pages xi–xii of
Sentential Form and Prosodic Structure of Catalan
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Conventions for glosses and translations

The interlinear glosses used throughout this work are based on the Leipzig Glossing Rules (LGR),[1] a standard set of conventions proposed to the community of linguists. Hence, my glosses are left-aligned vertically, word by word, with the example. If segmental morphemes are separated in the examples, they are done so by hyphens ('-'), both in the example and in the gloss. If clitic boundaries are marked, they are marked with an equals sign ('='), both in the object language and in the gloss. Grammatical morphemes are generally rendered by abbreviated grammatical category labels which are printed in small capitals ('CAPITALS'). A list of abbreviations is given at the end of this section. Instead of category labels a word from the meta-language can also be used ('1PL' or 'we'; 'ART' or 'the'). When a single object-language element is rendered by several meta-language elements (words or abbreviations), these are separated by periods ('.'; e.g.: '2PL.PST'). Person and number are not separated by a period ('1PL').

Deviations from the LGR: The LGR is not applied entirely in every example. I include a minimum of information along the lines proposed in López (2009a: 20): Clitics (i.e. weak pronouns) in Catalan may appear in an invariant form (e.g. the adverbial pronouns *en* or *hi*) or they may inflect for φ-features (number, gender, and person). I include the minimum of information in order that a clitic can be easily identified with the associate: the Catalan clitic for the masculine, plural direct object, *els*, is glossed only as 'CL.ACC', so the reader sees it is associated with the accusative argument. Additionally, clitics and their associates are co-indexed in the original example. This becomes important in cases where the dislocated element is not marked with Case (i.e. where they are merely glossed by 'CL'). Verbal morphology may inflect for tense, person, number, aspect, and mood. However, if a verb is infinite, it is glossed by '.INF', otherwise it is finite (*Subjunctive* is glossed by SBJ; *aspect* is not of relevance here). If I do not indicate tense on a finite verb, it should be understood to be present. Likewise, if person and number are not indicated on the finite verb, it should be understood to be third singular (3SG). Determiners, for example, are not glossed for grammatical morphemes. The indefinite, plural article for masculine nouns *uns* is rendered by the word form 'a' of the meta-language English.

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1. http://www.eva.mpg.de/lingua/pdf/LGR04.09.21.pdf

The English translations are nearly always in a neutral word order. As a native speaker of German, I do not try to reproduce the information structure of the original example (mostly Catalan) in the English translation. In general, it is difficult to translate the information structure. For example is the Romance CLLD identical to that of an English topicalization (as proposed in Rochemont 1989: 154ff.); or is CLRD better translated into an 'as for' – construction (e.g. Frascarelli 2000: 160: ex.206b) or into a cleft-construction (e.g. Cecchetto 1999: 58: ex.40)?! I find the translation into neutral word order is a prudent approach, and is the least misleading choice.

With respect to quoted references and page numbers (as previous in the preceding paragraph), they should be understood as follows:

- Prieto et al. (2009: 288&301) => Page 288 and page 301 of Prieto et al. (2009)
- Frascarelli (2000: 160: ex.206b) => Example 206b on page 160 of Frascarelli (2000)
- Astruc (2005: 154: Table 4.3) => Table 4.3 on page 154 of Astruc (2005)