

IX. How to Deal with Syntax

How do words fit together to form sentences?

What is the best translation?



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Reading Assignments

Optional:

Pike, *Linguistic Concepts* 1-38

Berkhof, *Principles of Biblical Interpretation* 82-99

Goetchius, *Language of the New Testament*
chap. 3, pp. 13-19

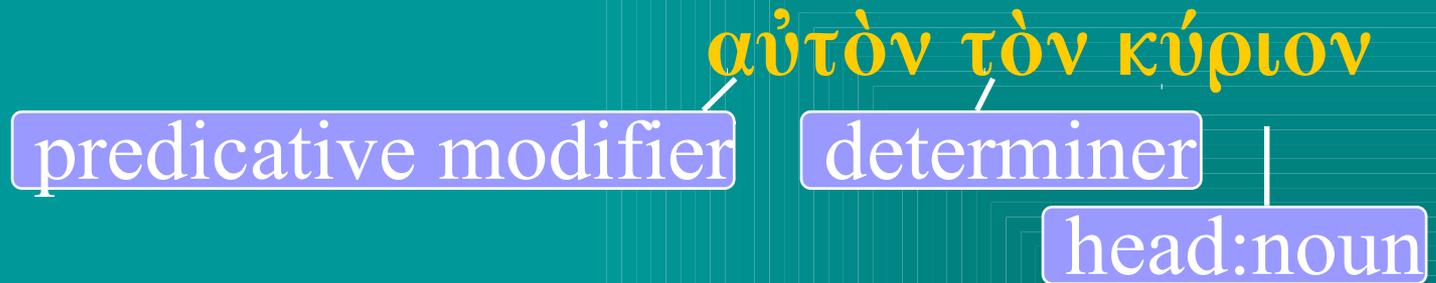
Poythress and Grudem, *Gender-Neutral Bible Controversy*

What Is Syntax?

Morphology = formation of individual words.



Syntax = constructions with several words.



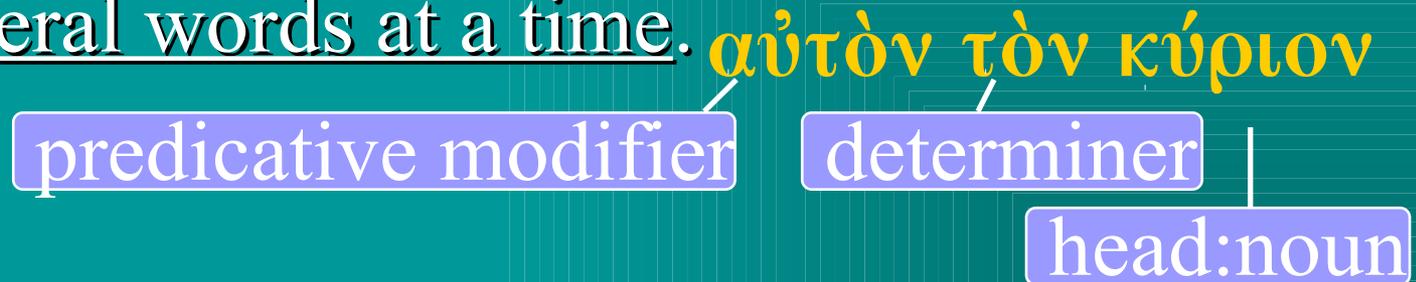
Whole sentences need study.

What Is Syntax?

Morphology = studying the grammatical patterns involved in the formation of individual words.



Syntax = studying the grammatical patterns involved in forming constructions involving several words at a time.



Whole sentences are one of our concerns.

Where Are We?

1. Preliminary acquaintance with the text
2. **Exegesis in the original setting**
3. Relations with other passages
4. Role in redemptive history
5. Application

Obtaining doctrine from sentences
(section VIII.) involves syntax.

Where Are We?

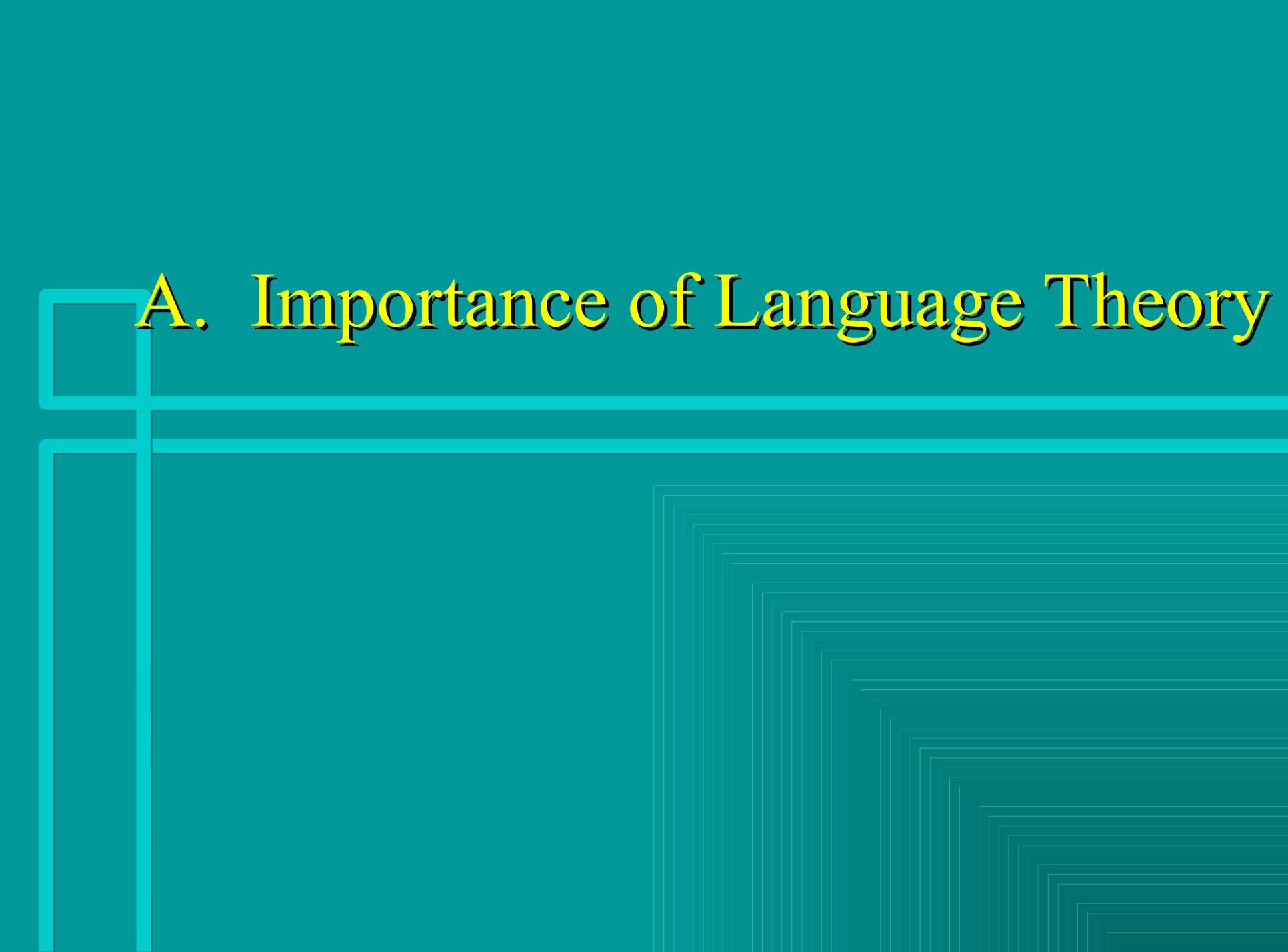
1. Preliminary acquaintance with the text
2. Exegesis in the original setting
3. Relations with other passages
4. Role in redemptive history
5. Application

Obtaining doctrine from whole sentences
(as in section VIII.) involves using syntax.

Implications of *Lex Christi*

5C implies harmony in how words fit together in Scripture.

A. Importance of Language Theory

A decorative graphic on a teal background. It features a vertical teal line on the left side, a horizontal teal line crossing it, and a series of concentric, slightly offset teal lines that form a spiral pattern in the bottom right corner.

Language and the Bible

The Bible is composed in language.

Its central message is clear.

Details come from studying Greek, Hebrew, and Aramaic.

For details, know how languages operate.

Nonnative speakers need caution and study.

Language and the Bible

The Bible is composed in language.

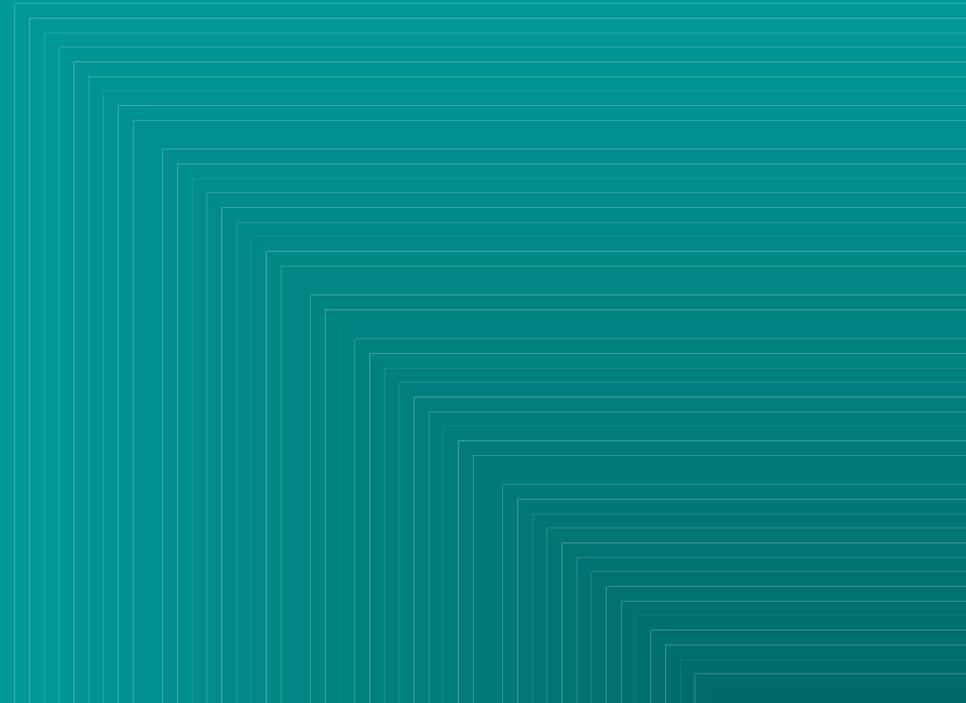
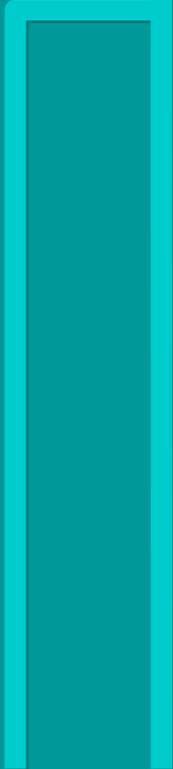
Its central message is clear.

But details come from studying Greek, Hebrew, and Aramaic.

To appreciate the details, we need also some knowledge of how languages in general operate.

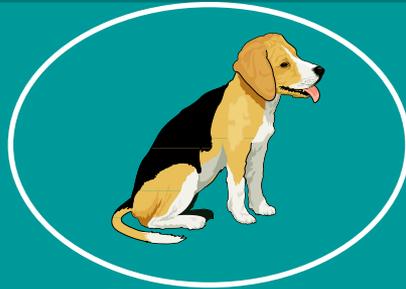
We are not native speakers, which implies continued caution and study.

B. *A Basic Framework for Thinking about Language*



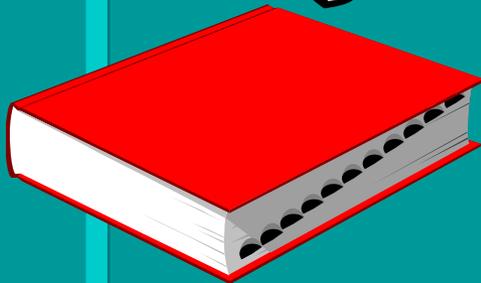
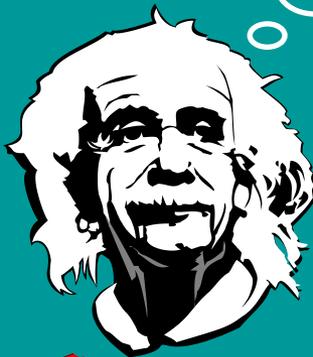
Language as System

Person
with ideas



"dog"

Particular
utterance

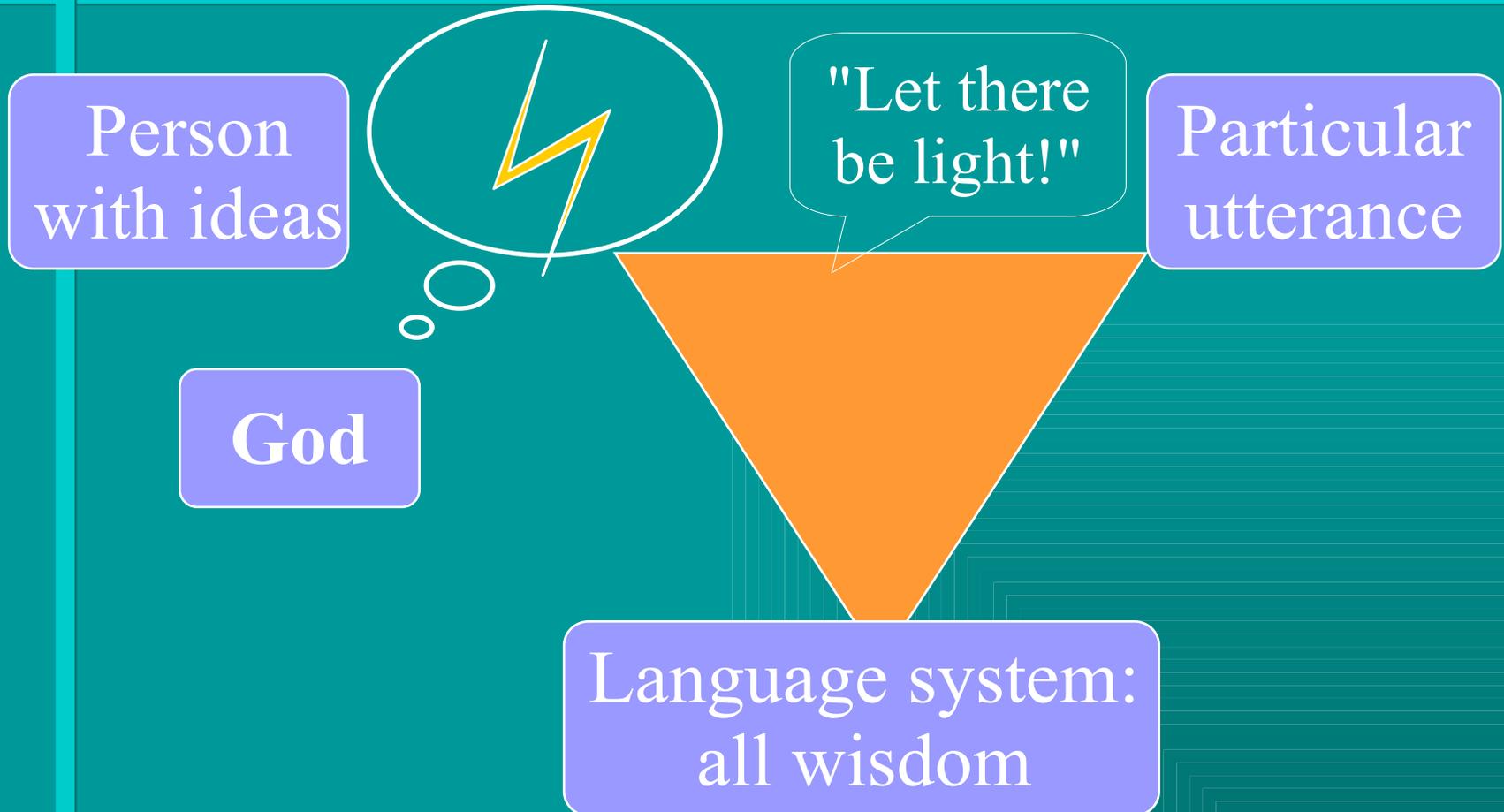


Language system:
use English

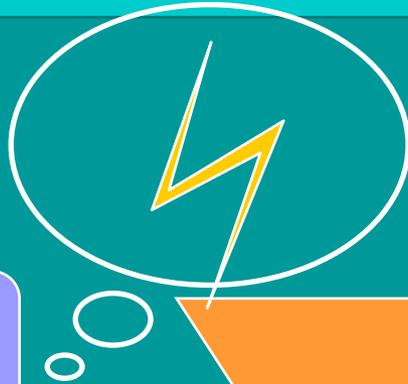
There already
before you
speak.



Archetype of Language



Language in God



"Let there be light!"

Plan of the Father

Particular utterance through the breath of the Spirit

Eternally there

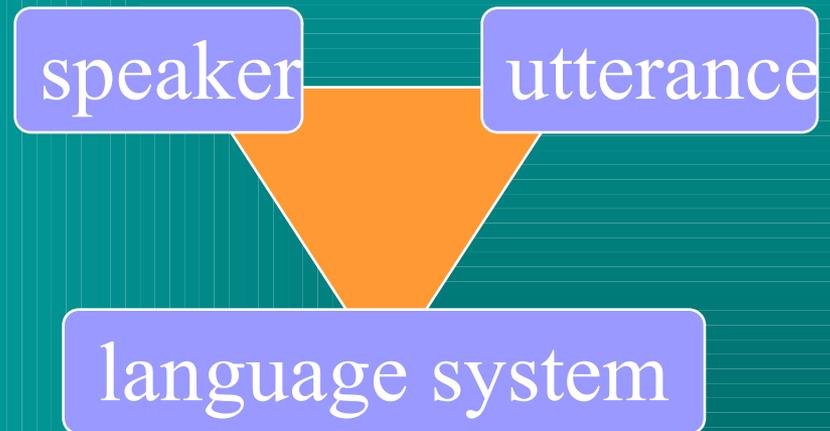
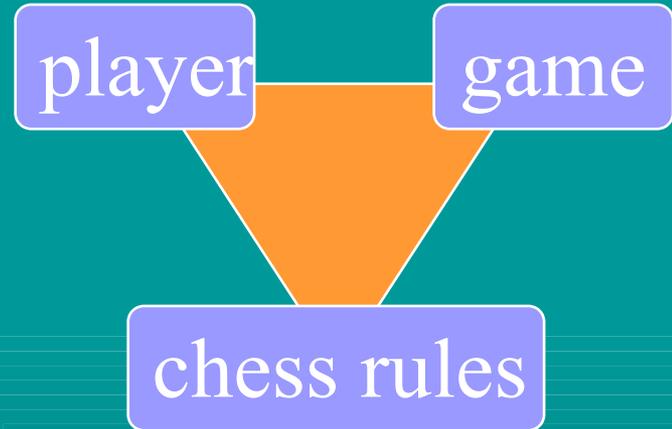


all wisdom in Christ the Logos

Language and Chess

Chess has a system of rules.

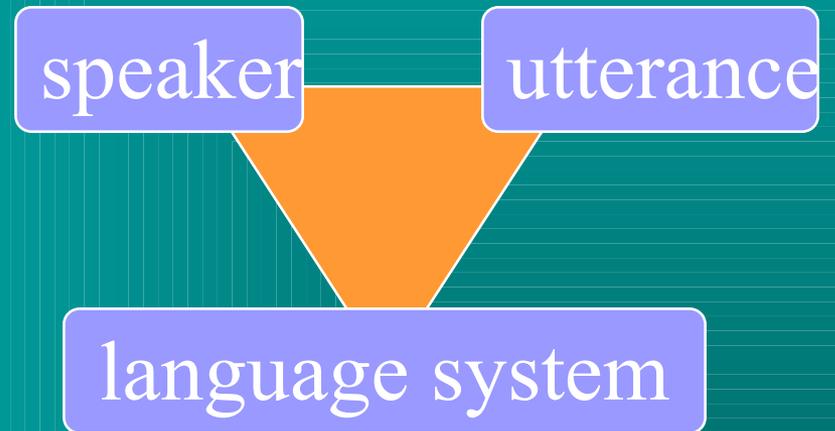
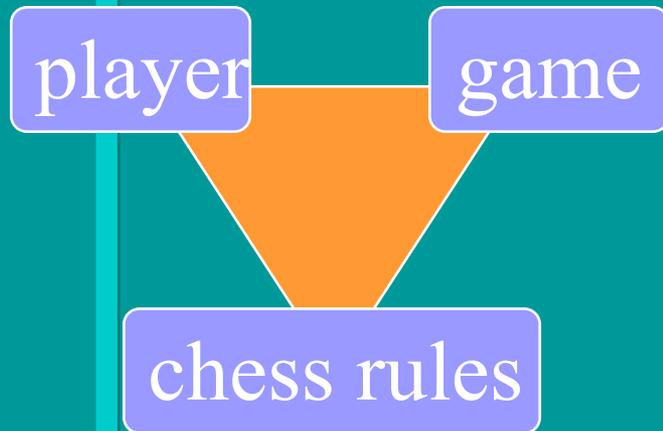
Language likewise.



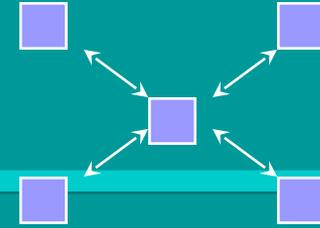
Language and Chess

Chess has a system of rules that lies behind particular games.

Language likewise.



Using the System



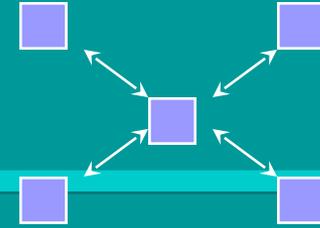
Meaning depends on relations.

E.g., what is the meaning of a knight or rook?

Chess meaning depends on structure, not past moves.

Linguistic meaning depends on structure, not etymology.

Using the System



Meaning of a particular item depends on relation to the system. E.g., what is the meaning of a knight or rook?

The meaning of a chess position depends on structure, not past history.

The meaning of a sentence depends on structure, not etymology.

Tacit Knowledge

Natives not conscious of the system.

I spoke English
even before I took
an English grammar
course in school.



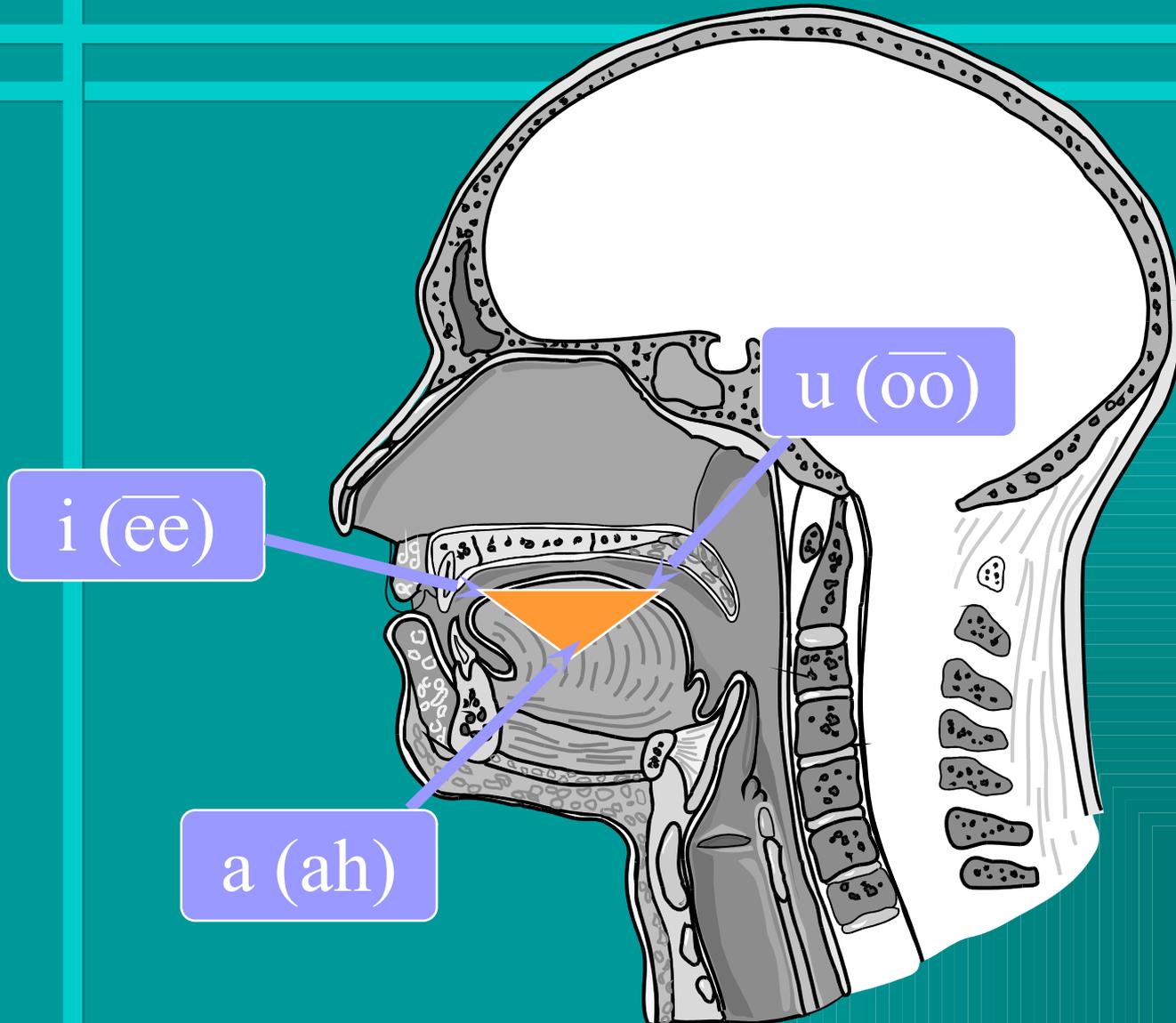
Tacit Knowledge

Native speakers are typically not consciously aware of the system.

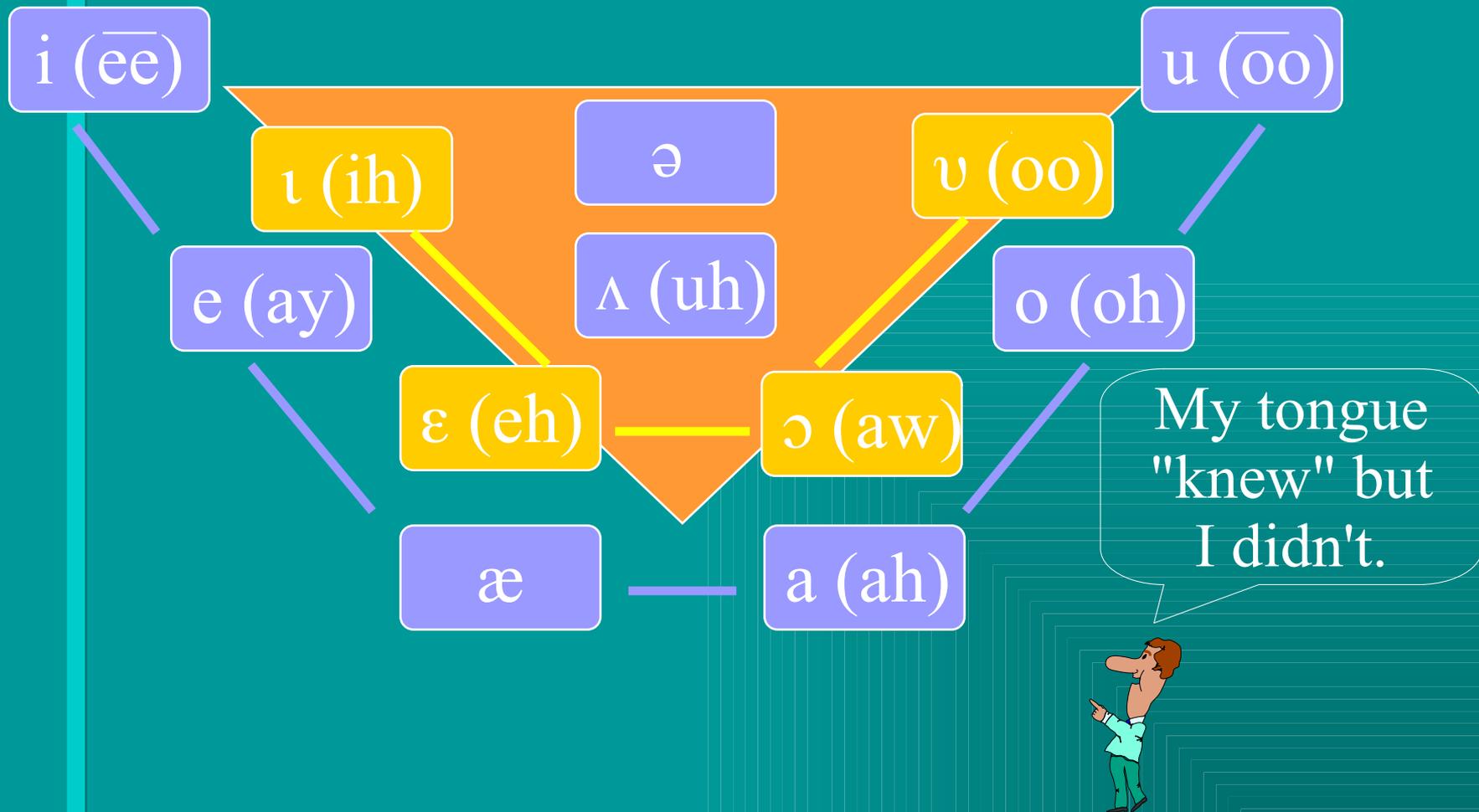
I spoke English
even before I took
an English grammar
course in school.



Referent Points for Vowels



English Vowel System



English Verb System: Basic

Completive:

present

weave

has woven

past

wove

had woven

future

will weave

will have woven

participle

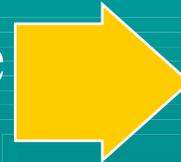
weaving

having woven

infinitive

to weave

to have woven



Adding Durative Meaning

weave

wove

will weave

weaving

to weave



has woven

had woven

will have woven

having woven

to have woven



is weaving

was weaving

will be weaving

being weaving (?)

to be weaving

has been weaving

had been weaving

will have been weaving

having been weaving

to have been weaving

Adding Passive

weave
wove ...



has woven
had woven ...

is weaving
was weaving ...

has been weaving
had been weaving ...

is woven
was woven

has been woven
had been woven ...

is being woven

was being woven ...

has been being woven

had been being woven ...

Noun Phrase in English

“his father-in-law’s three big spotted Dalmatian fire dogs with tongues hanging out, which came from the same litter”

Not: “his three spotted big dogs”

Not: “his big spotted three dogs”

Not: “his the dogs”

I knew that tacitly.



We know about this structure without consciously knowing how and what we know!

Native and Nonnative

The native speaker knows intuitively.

Nonnatives become conscious of the system.

Native and Nonnative

The native speaker knows the system without thinking.

Since we are not native speakers of Hebrew and Greek, we must become conscious of the system.

C. *Word-Based Syntax*

(including prepositions)

“A slack hand causes poverty, but the hand of the diligent makes rich” (Prov. 10:4).

Example from Isa. 51:18

אֵין-מְנַהֵל לָהּ מִכָּל-בָּנִים יְלֵדָה
וְאֵין מַחְזִיק בְּיָדָהּ מִכָּל-בָּנִים גְּדֹלָהּ:

Determine the meaning of

מַחְזִיק בְּיָדָהּ in Isaiah 51:18

(literally, “strengthen in her hand”).

Example 1 for Word-Related Syntax

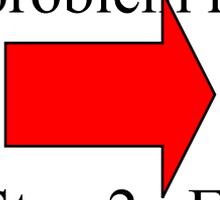
9.4a

Isaiah 51:18

אֵין-מְנַהֵל לָהּ מִכָּל-בָּנִים יְלָדָה
וְאֵין מַחְזִיק בְּיָדָהּ מִכָּל-בָּנִים גְּדָלָהּ:

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of מַחְזִיק בְּיָדָהּ in Isaiah 51:18 literally, “strengthen in her hand”).

Step 1. Search: what major vocabulary item, if any, is the syntactical problem related to?



Step 2. Evaluate: under the major vocabulary item, or elsewhere, does BDB provide an account of the syntax? What?

Step 3. Decide: give one of two translations in your own words to make sure that you understand the clause.

Step 1. Search: Look for Major Vocabulary Item

For an idiom,

Look for a key noun, a verb, an adjective, or perhaps an adverb;
not a preposition or conjunction.



Try מתזיק ; not ב.

Example 1 for Word-Related Syntax

9.4a

Isaiah 51:18

אֵין-מְנַהֵל לָהּ מִכָּל-בָּנִים יְלֹדָה
וְאֵין מַחְזִיק בְּיָדָהּ מִכָּל-בָּנִים גֹּדֵלָה:

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of מַחְזִיק בְּיָדָהּ.

Step 1. Search: what major vocabulary item, if any, is the syntactical problem related to?

חזק, *from* מַחְזִיק.

Step 2. Evaluate: under the major vocabulary item, or elsewhere, does BDB provide an account of the syntax? What?

Step 3. Decide: give one of two translations in your own words to make sure that you understand the clause.

Step 2. Evaluate: Is It an Idiom?

Under the major vocabulary item, or elsewhere, does BDB or BAG provide the information? Look for special idiomatic phrases or constructions.

The lexicon
includes
some syntax.



BDB, p. 304 col. 2 חֲזַק Hiph.

9.4b

Je 5^{3†}. **Hiph.**₁₁₈ *Pf.* הִחֲזִיקָהּ Ju 7⁸⁺; 3fs.

הִחֲזִיקָהּ Je 49²⁴⁺; sf. הִחֲזִיקְתִּי Je 8²¹; Ne

5¹⁶⁺³ t.; וְהִחֲזִיקְתִּי Ez 30²⁵, etc.; *Impf.* יִחֲזִיק

Jb 8¹⁵⁺² t.; 1s. וְאַחֲזִיק Is 42⁶; יִחֲזִיקוּ Je 6²³⁺² t.;

יִחֲזִיקוּ Dn 11³², etc.; *Imv.* הִחֲזִיק II S 11²⁵⁺² t.,

etc.; *Inf. cstr.* הִחֲזִיק II K 15¹⁹ Is 64⁶; sf. הִחֲזִיקִי

Je 31³² (הַחֲ Cod. Petrop. v. RS^{JPh xvi, 1888, 73}); *Pt.*

מִחֲזִיקָהּ Ex 9² + 9 t.; sf. מִחֲזִיקָהּ Dn 11⁶; fs. מִחֲזִיקָת

Ne 4¹¹; pl. מִחֲזִיקִים Ne 4¹⁰⁺⁵ t.; cstr. מִחֲזִיקֵי

Ez 27^{9.27}; -- **†1.** **a.** *make strong, strengthen* ←

Je 51¹². **b.** *make firm, the kingdom* 2 K 15¹⁹

(+בִּידּוֹ). **c.** *display strength (late)* 2 Ch 26⁸

(|| וַיִּלְךָ שְׂמוֹ עַד וְגו' ||), Dn 11³² (|| וַעֲשֵׂה^a ||). **†2.** ←
make severe, of battle 2 S 11²⁵. **†3.** sq. יָד= ←
support Ez 16⁴⁹; sq. זְרוּעוֹת Ez 30²⁵ (sub. ״ ; but Co
rds. **Pi.** as v²⁴)†. **4.** = *repair*, walls of Jerus., ←
Ne 3^{4.4.4} + 31 t. Ne 3; cf. (in gen.) pt. used
substant. מַחְזִיקֵי בְדִקָּךְ Ez 27^{9.27} of Tyre and her
ships (|| מִלְּחָיִם , etc.) **†5.** *prevail*, abs. Dn ←
11⁷; sq. הַח' בּוֹ לְאֹכְלֵי עַל Jb 18⁹; *prevail upon to*
II K 4⁸. **6.** esp. *take or keep hold of, seize*, ←

2 K 4⁸. **ב.** esp. *take* or *keep hold* of, *seize*, ←
grasp: **א.** *take hold* of, *seize*, *catch*, sq. **בָּ** Gn
19⁴(J), 21¹⁸(E), Ex 4⁴(J; || אָחַז), Ju 7²⁰ 1 S 15²⁷
2 S 1¹¹ 1K 1⁵⁰ 2²⁸ 2K 2¹² 4²⁷ Is 4¹ Zc 8^{23.23} Pr 7¹³ 26¹⁷,
cf. also Ju 19^{25.29} 2 Ch 28¹⁵; with violence Dt
22²⁵ 25¹¹ 1 S 17³⁵ (perh. pf. consec. freq., v. Dr),
2 S 2¹⁶ 13¹¹; sq. **לָ** 2 S 15⁵; fig. *take hold* in order
to lead one (subj. **יָ**) sq. **בָּ** Je 31³², c. acc. Is
41^{9.13}; cf. Is 51¹⁸ (**בָּ**; || **יָהֵל**) sq. acc. Na 3¹⁴ *take*
hold of the brick-mould, Je 6²³ = 50⁴², Zc 14¹³
(with violence), ψ 35² Ne 4^{10.11}, seize the kingdom
Dn 11²¹; in metaph. Mi 4⁹ (**הַחֲזִיקֶךָ חֵיל**), Je 6²⁴
8²¹ 49²⁴ (v. Gie), 50⁴³; of pious laying hold of **יָ**,

sq. **ב** Is 64⁶, cf. 27⁵ 56^{2.4.6}; of other gods 1 K 9⁹ = 2 Ch 7²²; laying hold of wisdom Pr 3¹⁸, cf. 4¹³ Jb 2^{3.9} 27⁶ Je 8⁵. **b.** have or keep hold of, sq. **ב** Ju 16²⁶ 2 S 3²⁹ Je 50³³ Ne 4¹⁵. **c.** hold up, sq. **ב** fig. = *sustain, support* Lv 25³⁵; of **י** holding his servants Is 42⁶ 45¹, cf. Jb 8²⁰; v. also pt. used substantively Dn 11¹ (|| **מְעוֹז**), v⁶ (|| **מְבִיא** , **יְלֵד**); of Ne. holding fast to (**ב**) his work Ne 5¹⁶; cf. of wicked, holding to his house Jb 8¹⁵; *cleave or cling to* (**עַל**) one's brethren Ne 10³⁰. hence **d.** *keep, retain*, sq. **ב** Ex 9²(J) Je 7⁸ 19⁴; so Ez 7¹³ Sm Co (MT Hithp.); sq. anger (acc.) Mi 7¹⁸. **e.** hence also *hold, contain*, sq. acc. 2 Ch 4⁵.

Example 1 for Word-Related Syntax

Isaiah 51:18

אֵין-מְנַהֵל לָהּ מִכָּל-בָּנִים יְלָדָה
 וְאֵין מַחֲזִיק בְּיָדָהּ מִכָּל-בָּנִים גֵּד לָהּ:

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of מַחֲזִיק בְּיָדָהּ .

Step 1. Search: what major vocabulary item, if any, is the syntactical problem related to?

חזק, *from מחזיק* .

Step 2. Evaluate: under the major vocabulary item, or elsewhere, does BDB provide an account of the syntax? What?

מַחֲזִיק בְּ = *take hold of, seize*

Step 3. Decide: give one of two translations in your own words to make sure that you understand the clause.

"There is no one to take hold of her hand"

Step 3. Decide on Meaning

Give an alternate translation in your own words to make sure you understand the whole clause.

וְאֵין מִתְּזַיק בְּיָדָהּ

“There is no one to take hold of her hand ...”

Theory of Word-Based Syntax

Phrases can have special meaning.

A preposition is frequently linked to a verb, with joint meaning.

מִתְּזִיק בְּ =

a fixed construction,
with the meaning,
take hold of.

Theory of Word-Based Syntax

Idioms or stock phrases can have special meaning.

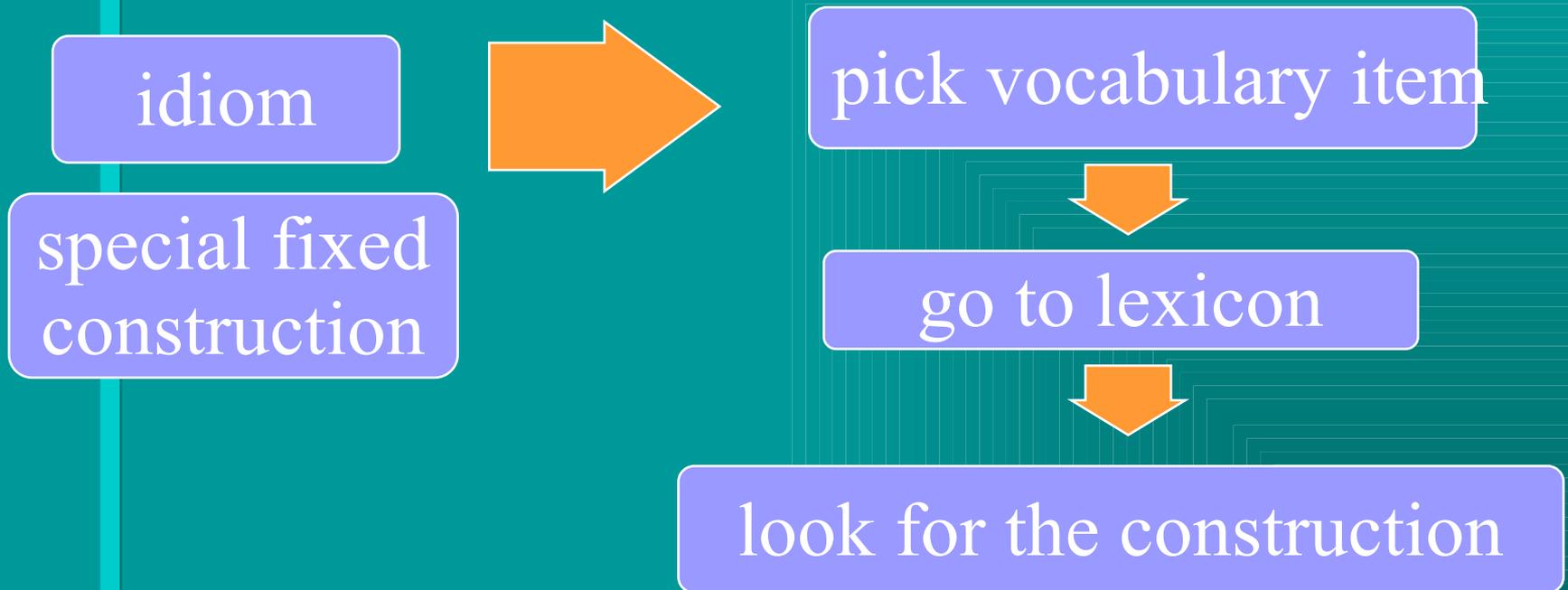
A preposition is frequently linked to a neighboring verb. The meaning of the two should be considered together.

מִתְּזִיק בְּ =

a fixed construction,
with the meaning,
take hold of.

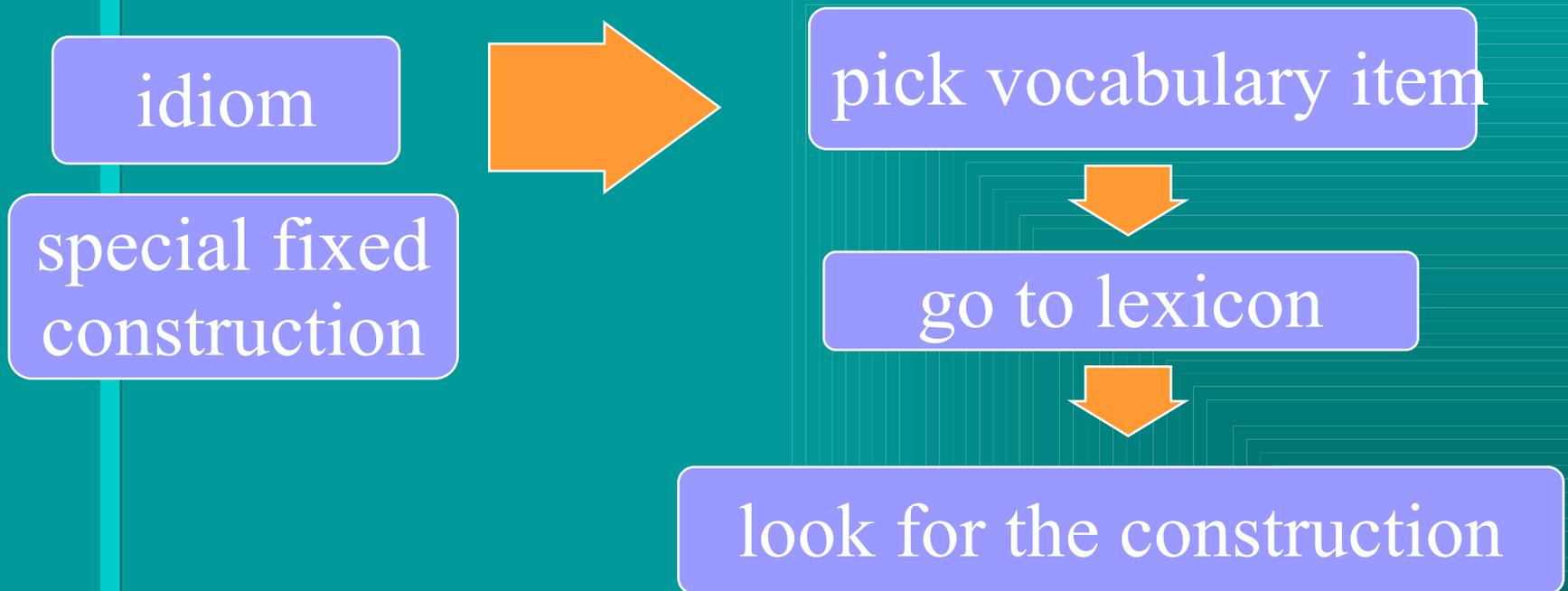
Dealing with Idioms

For a fixed construction, look under a major vocabulary item.



Dealing with Idioms

When you think there may be an idiom or fixed construction, look in the lexicon under a major vocabulary item.



Example 2 for Word-Related Syntax

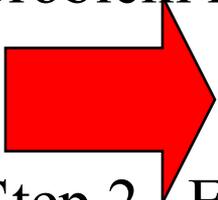
9.5a

Isaiah 52:8

קוֹל צִפִּידֶּךָ נִשְׁאָר קוֹל יִחְדָּדוּ יִרְנְנוּ
כִּי עַיִן בְּעַיִן יֵרְאוּ בְּשׁוּב יְהוָה צִיּוֹן :

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of עַיִן בְּעַיִן in Isaiah 52:8 (literally, “eye in eye”).

Step 1. Search: what major vocabulary item, if any, is the syntactical problem related to?



Step 2. Evaluate: under the major vocabulary item, or elsewhere, does BDB provide an account of the syntax? What?

Step 3. Decide: give one of two translations in your own words to make sure that you understand the clause.

Step 1. Search: Look for Major Vocabulary Item

If you think there may be an idiom,
Look for a key noun, a verb, an adjective, or
perhaps an adverb; not a preposition or
conjunction.



Try עִיז ; not בְּ .

Example 2 for Word-Related Syntax

9.5a

Isaiah 52:8

קוֹל צְפִידָּךְ נִשְׁאָא קוֹל יִחְדָּדוּ יְרִנְנוּ
כִּי עֵינַי בְּעֵינַי יִרְאוּ בְּשׁוּב יְהוָה צִיּוֹן :

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of עֵינַי בְּעֵינַי.

Step 1. Search: what major vocabulary item, if any, is the syntactical problem related to?

עֵינַי

Step 2. Evaluate: under the major vocabulary item, or elsewhere, does BDB provide an account of the syntax? What?

Step 3. Decide: give one of two translations in your own words to make sure that you understand the clause.

עֵינַי ... eye ... —eye. **1.** lit. as physical organ, ...

2. a. eyes as shewing mental qualities:
...

3. Fig. of mental and spiritual faculties, acts and states: ...

4. Transferred mngs.: a. visible *surface* of earth ...

BDB p. 745 column 1

5. Other phrases are: ע' תַּחַת ע' Ex 21²⁴ (E) = Lv 24²⁰(H), = ע' בֶּעַ' Dt 19²¹, all = *an eye for an eye*; ע' בֶּעַ' = *eye to eye*, Nu 14¹⁴(P) Is 52⁸ (fig.), cf. וְע' אֶת-ע' תְּרַאֲיֶנָּה Je 32⁴ 34³; esp. לְעֵינַי in the presence of, in full view of Gn 42²⁴(E) 47¹⁹(J) Ex 4³⁰(J) Nu 19⁵(P),+oft.; of business transaction Je 32^{12.12} Gn 23^{11.18} (P); so נִגַּד ע' Jo 1¹⁶, לְנִגַּד ע' Jb 4¹⁶, and even 1 S 21¹⁴ Ezr 3¹²; נִגַּדְתִּי מִנִּגַּד ע' ψ 31²³; בֵּין ע' = *on the forehead* Ex 13^{9.16} (JE) Dt 6⁸ 11¹⁸ 14¹ Dn 8^{5.21}.

Example 2 for Word-Related Syntax

9.5a

Isaiah 52:8

קוֹל צַפִּידָּ נִשְׂאוּ קוֹל יַחְדָּו יִרְנְנוּ
כִּי עֵין בְּעֵין יִרְאוּ בְּשׁוּב יְהוָה צִיּוֹן :

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of עֵין בְּעֵין.

Step 1. Search: what major vocabulary item, if any, is the syntactical problem related to?

עֵין

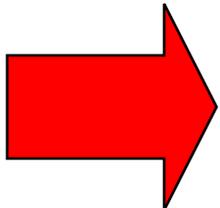
Step 2. Evaluate: under the major vocabulary item, or elsewhere, does BDB provide an account of the syntax? What?

ע' בַּע' = *eye to eye*

Step 3. Decide: give one of two translations in your own words to make sure that you understand the clause.

For eye to eye they will see ...

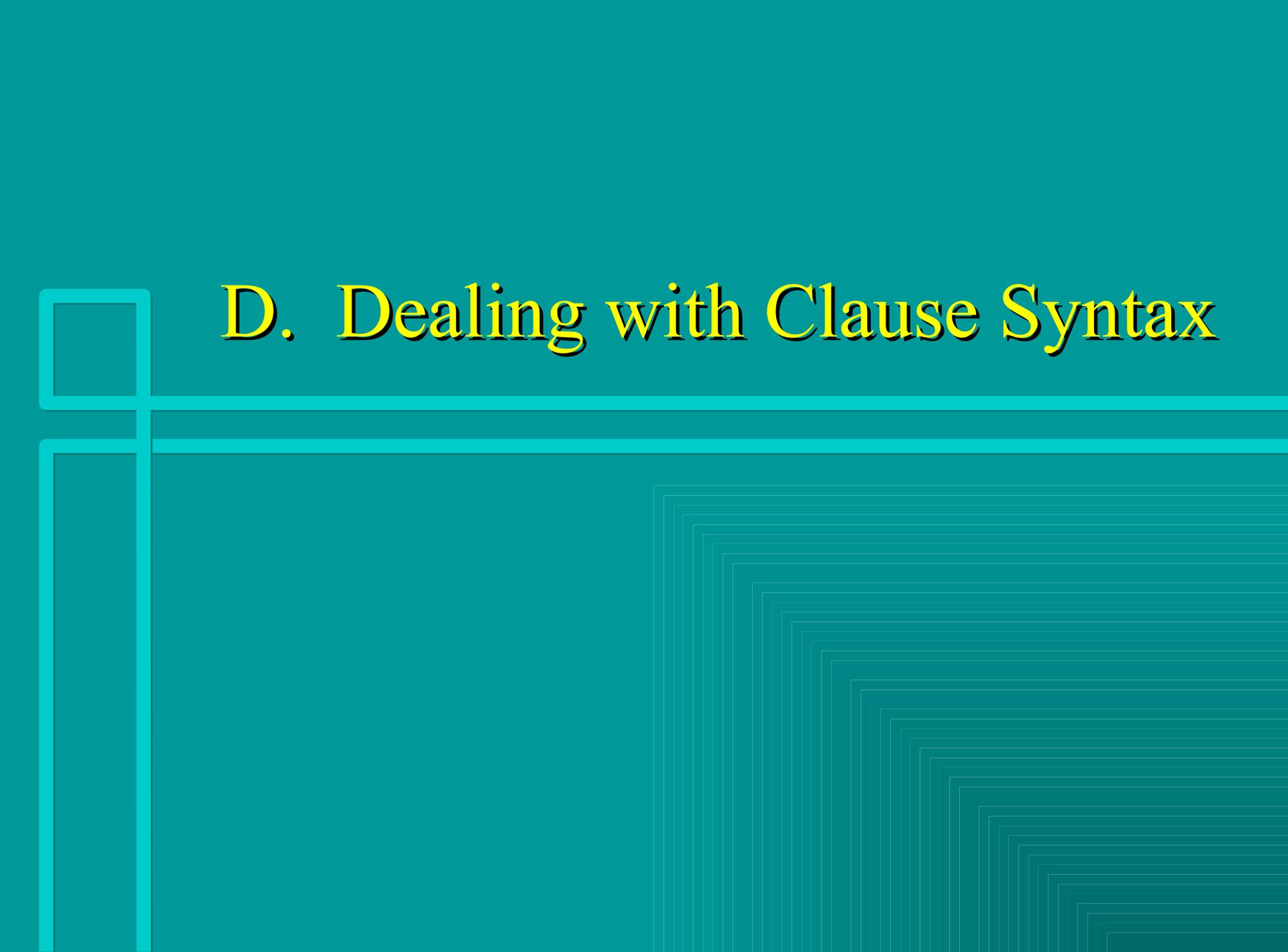
For face to face they will see



Steps for Word-Based Syntax

- Step 1. Search: Find Major Vocabulary Look for a main word.
- Step 2. Evaluate idiom Look for a distinct construction.
- Step 3. Decide on meaning Identify the meaning of the whole construction.

D. Dealing with Clause Syntax



a. *Warning from Bad Examples*

A Bad Example: Hendriksen

1 Thess 2:4, “Just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak [present tense in Greek].”

Hendriksen, p. 63: “Now it was in strict accordance with God’s directive, that these missionaries were always telling (note present continuative) the good news.”

Burton, Syntax 8: “The Present Indicative is used to express customary actions and general truths.”
(The same function belongs to English present tense; no need for “always.”)

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Burton, Syntax 8: “The Present Indicative is used to express customary actions and general truths.” (The same function belongs to English present tense, so there is no need to strengthen it with “always” or the like.)

A Bad Example: Morris

Rev 3:19, “So be zealous and repent [aorist tense].”

Leon Morris: “(repent is aorist of once-for-all action).”

Burton, Syntax 16: “[the aorist] represents the action denoted by it indefinitely; i.e. simply as an event, neither on the one hand picturing it in progress, nor on the other affirming the existence of its result.”

Hence “do” in Rev 2:5 is aorist. Even “suffer” in Heb 9:26 is aorist.

Easy to overinterpret a tense.

A Bad Example: Morris

Rev 3:19, “So be zealous and repent [aorist tense].”

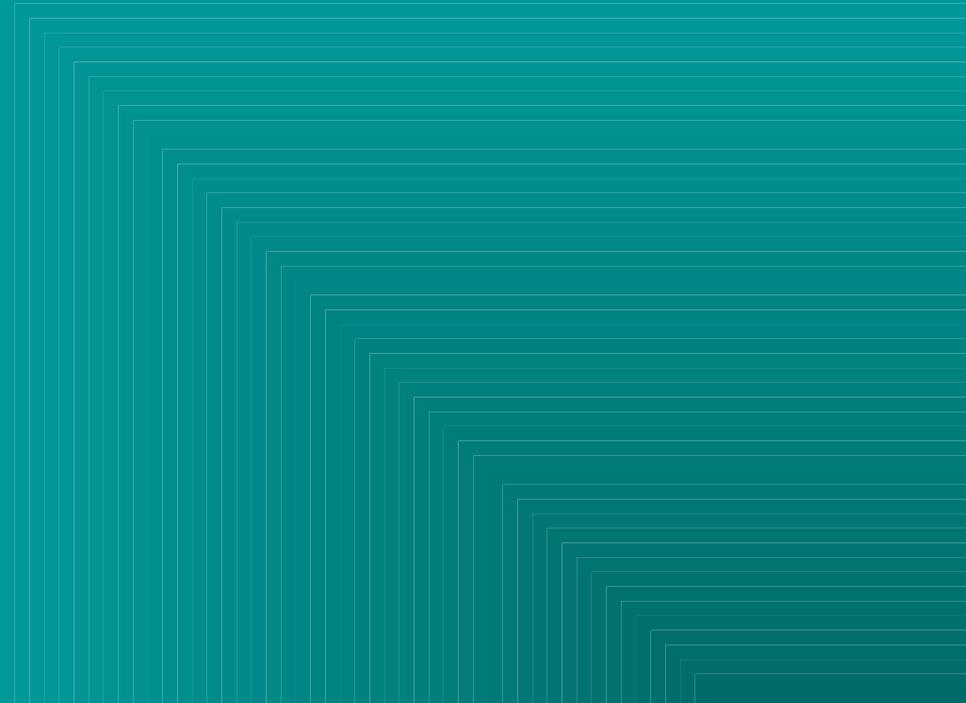
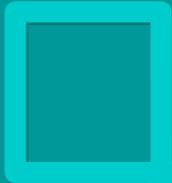
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Hence “do” in Rev 2:5 is aorist. Even “suffer” in Heb 9:26 is aorist.

It is easy to overinterpret the significance of tense or grammatical construction.

b. *The Right Way:
A Starting Example*



Syntax in Mark 14:55

οἱ δὲ ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ ὅλον τὸ συνέδριον ἐζήτουν
κατὰ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ μαρτυρίαν εἰς τὸ θανατῶσαι
αὐτόν, καὶ οὐχ ἠύρισκον·

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of
εἰς τὸ θανατῶσαι in Mark 14:55.

Example 1 with Clause Syntax

οἱ δὲ ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ ὅλον τὸ συνέδριον ἐζήτουν
κατὰ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ μαρτυρίαν εἰς τὸ θανατῶσαι
αὐτόν, καὶ οὐχ ἠύρισκον·

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of εἰς τὸ θανατῶσαι in Mark 14:55.

Step 1. Search. Try to find the relevant section in the advanced grammar.



Step 2. Evaluate. Determine what subheading(s) of the relevant section apply to your passage.

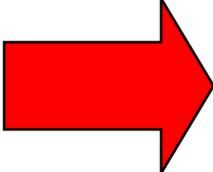
Step 3. Decide. Make a final decision as to the type and function of your grammatical construction, after you have weighed alternatives.

Example 1 with Clause Syntax

οἱ δὲ ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ ὅλον τὸ συνέδριον ἐζήτουν κατὰ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ μαρτυρίαν εἰς τὸ θανατῶσαι αὐτόν, καὶ οὐχ ἠύρισκον·

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of εἰς τὸ θανατῶσαι in Mark 14:55.

Step 1. Search. Try to find the relevant section in the grammar.



(a) Does a conjunction provide the clue ...?

(b) What, if any, is the technical philological term ...?

(c) What is the parsing (morphology) of the word ...?

(d) Does the syntactical construction arise from “governing” ...?

(e) Is the syntactical construction related to overall structure ...?

(f) If you have no idea what the syntax might be,

Step 1. Search for Information in Grammar or Lexicon

Clue



Go to

Conjunction?

Lexicon

Technical term?

Index of Subjects

Parsing?

Table of Contents,
Syntax of affixes

Governing?

Syntax of governing

Sentence as whole?

Table of Contents,
under Sentence

No clue?

Index of Passages

Step 1 for εἰς τὸ + infinitive

Clue



Go to

Conjunction?

no

Technical term?

articular infinitive



**Index of Subjects,
“Infinitive”**



Burton, *Syntax*, covers it.

Burton, *Syntax*, p. 190 column 1

INDEX OF SUBJECTS

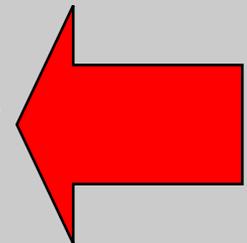
Infinitive: origin and stages of development, 361; classification of uses, 362, 363; negatives used with it, 480-484.

Constructions without the article: with imperative force, 364, 365; expressing purposes, 366,

...

...

Constructions with the article:
general effect of prefixing the
article, 392; as subject, 393; as
object, 394; in apposition, 395;
with τῷ expressing cause, 396;
with τοῦ expressing purposes, 397;
with τοῦ expressing result, 398;
with τοῦ after adjectives, 399;
with τοῦ after nouns, 400; with
τοῦ after verbs that take the geni-
tive, 401-403; with τοῦ as subject or object,
404, 405; governed by prepositions, 406;
various prepositions used with it and their
force. 407-416; force of tense. 104-109.



Example 1 with Clause Syntax

οἱ δὲ ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ ὅλον τὸ συνέδριον ἐζήτουν κατὰ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ μαρτυρίαν εἰς τὸ θανατῶσαι αὐτόν, καὶ οὐχ ἠύρισκον·

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of εἰς τὸ θανατῶσαι.

Step 1. Search. Try to find the relevant section in the grammar.

(a) Does a conjunction provide the clue ...?

(b) What, if any, is the technical philological term ...? §§406-9

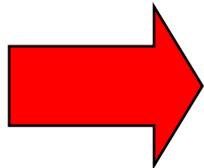
(c) What is the parsing (morphology) of the word ...?

(d) Does the syntactical construction arise from “governing” ...?

(e) Is the syntactical construction related to overall structure ...?

(f) If you have no idea what the syntax might be,

Step 2. Evaluate. Determine what subheading(s) apply.



406. **The infinitive with the Article governed by Prepositions.** The Infinitive with the article τό, τοῦ, τῷ is governed by prepositions. *HA*. 959; *G*. 1546.

The prepositions so used in the New Testament are: with the accusative, διά, εἰς, μετά, πρός; with the genitive, ...

407. These prepositions vary greatly in frequency in the New Testament. Εἰς occurs with the Infinitive 63 times

...

408. Διὰ governing the Infinitive with τό denotes cause, and is nearly equivalent to ὅτι or διότι, with the Indicative,

...

409. Εἰς with the Infinitive with τό most commonly expresses purpose. It is employed with special frequency by Paul, but occurs also in Heb., 1 Pet., and Jas.

Rom. 8:29; ...

Example 1 with Clause Syntax

οἱ δὲ ἀρχιερεῖς καὶ ὅλον τὸ συνέδριον ἐζήτουν κατὰ τοῦ Ἰησοῦ μαρτυρίαν εἰς τὸ θανατῶσαι αὐτόν, καὶ οὐχ ἠύρισκον·

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of εἰς τὸ θανατῶσαι.

Step 1. Search. Try to find the relevant section in the grammar.

(a) Does a conjunction provide the clue ...?

(b) What, if any, is the technical philological term ...? §§406-9

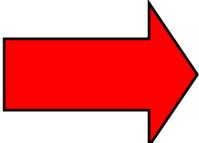
Step 2. Evaluate. Determine what subheading(s) apply.

§409

Step 2a. Are there *several* subheadings ...?

No.

Step 2b. Decide. Make a final decision as to the type and function of your grammatical construction, after you have weighed alternatives.

 *Purpose: "in order to put him to death."*

Step 2. Evaluate: Find the Applicable Subsection

Determine which subsections apply to your passage.

εἰς τὸ



§409

Step 2a. *Alternatives?*

Check whether there are any alternative explanations, possibly involving other subsections.

For Mark 14:55, no.

Step 3. Decide. Represent the Meaning in Translation

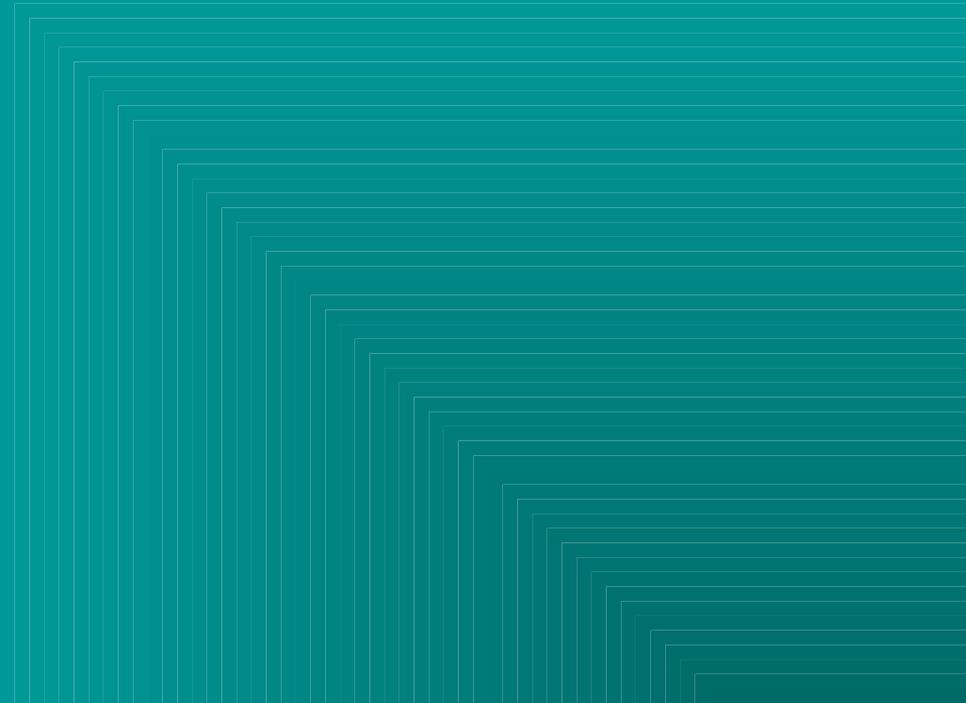
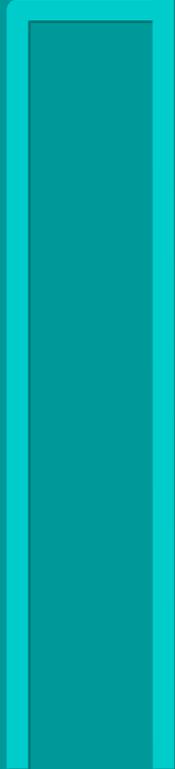
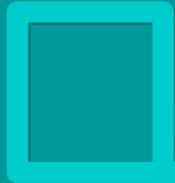
Give a translation of the clause that brings out the implications of your analysis.

Burton “expresses purpose.”



“in order to put him to death”

c. Theory of Clause Syntax

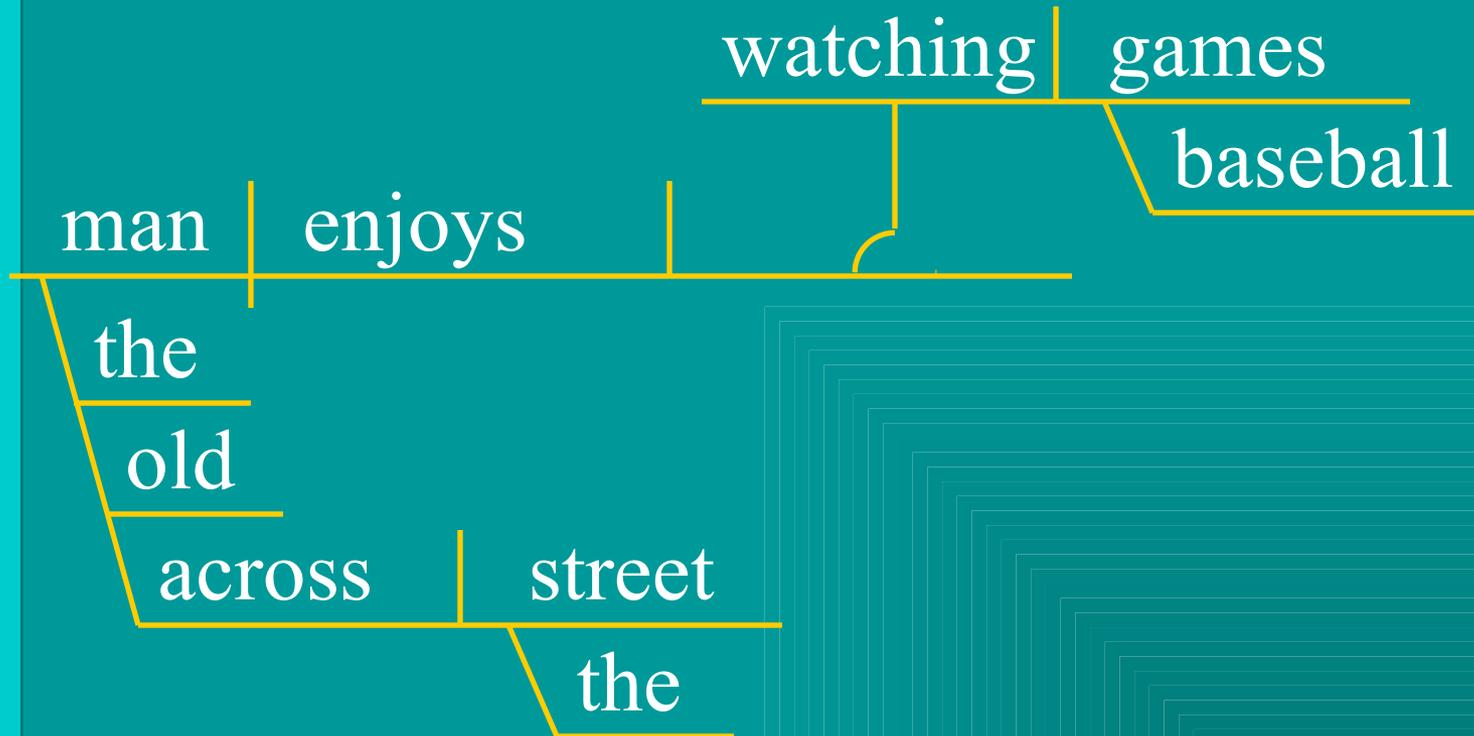


Sentence Diagramming



Clauses have a regular structure.

Complex Sentences



Governing

A “governing” word controls words around it.
Verbs govern their subjects and objects.

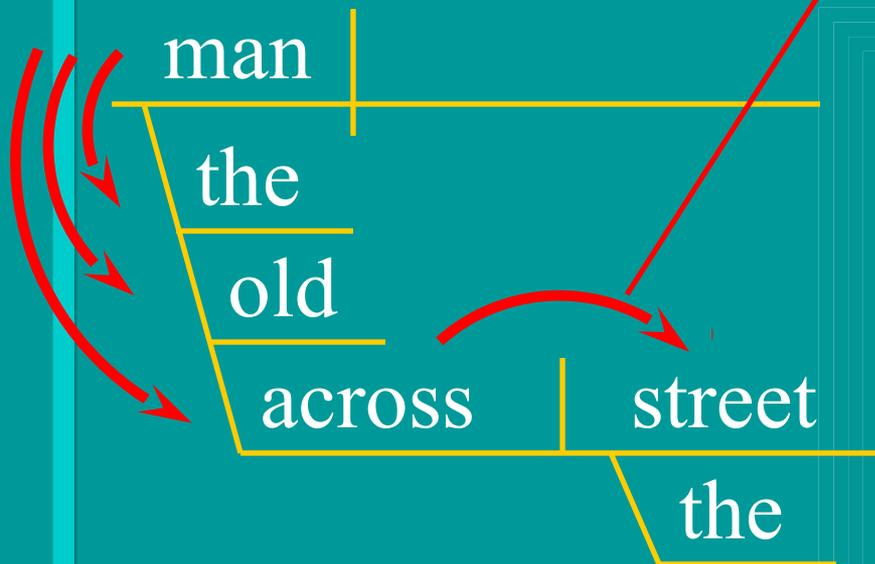


More Governing

A “governing” word controls words around it.

Nouns govern
their modifiers.

Prepositions govern
their objects.



...

THIRD PART

SYNTAX

Chapter I. The Parts of Speech

I. Syntax of the Verb

A. Use of the Tenses and Moods.

§ 106. Use of the Perfect

§ 107. Use of the Imperfect

§ 108. Use of the Cohortative

Governing in Contents of Gesenius' Grammar

relations between clauses

Chapter I. The Parts of Speech

I. Syntax of the Verb.

A. Use of the Tenses and Moods.

B. The Infinitive and Participle.

C. The Government of the Verb.

II. Syntax of the Noun.

III. Syntax of the Pronoun.

Chapter II. The Sentence

relations of verb to what it governs

relations of noun to what it governs

Clues from Governing

If you want to know about a governing relation, look in Gesenius under the section about the governing word.

In Blass-Debrunner, look mostly under the section about the governed word._

...

127-496	Part III. SYNTAX	
127-130	1. Subject and Predicate	70
127-128	(1) Omission of the Verb εἶναι	70
129-130	(2) Omission of the Subject	72
131-137	2. Agreement	72
131-132	(1) Agreement in Gender	72
133	(2) Agreement in Number	73
134	(3) <i>Constructio ad Sensum</i>	74

Governing in Blass- Debrunner's Grammar

noun as governed

preposition
as governing*

adjective as governed

article as governed

verb relations
to other clauses

Part III. Syntax

1. Subject and Predicate
2. Agreement
3. Use of Gender and Number
4. Syntax of Cases
5. Syntax of Prepositions
6. Syntax of Adjectives
7. Syntax of Numerals
8. The Article
9. Syntax of Pronouns
10. Syntax of the Verb

d. Practice with Clause Syntax

Isaiah 51:17

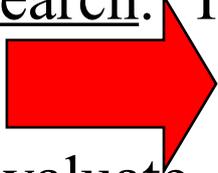
Example 2 with Clause Syntax

Isaiah 51:17

הַתְּעוֹרְרֵי הַתְּעוֹרְרֵי קוּמֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם
 אֲשֶׁר שָׁתִית מִיַד יְהוָה אֶת-כּוֹס חַמָּתוֹ
 אֶת-קַבְעֵת כּוֹס הַתַּרְעֵלָה שָׁתִית מִצִּית:

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of כּוֹס חַמָּתוֹ in Isaiah 51:17.

Step 1. Search. Try to find the relevant section in the advanced grammar.



Step 2. Evaluate. Determine what subheading(s) of the relevant section apply to your passage.

Step 3. Decide. Make a final decision as to the type and function of your grammatical construction, after you have weighed alternatives.

Syntax in Isaiah 51:17

הַתְּעוֹרְרֵי הַתְּעוֹרְרֵי קוּמֵי יְרוּשָׁלַם
אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁתִּית מִיַּד יְהוָה אֶת־כּוֹס תְּמָתוֹ
אֶת־קַבְעֵת כּוֹס הַתַּרְעֵלָה נִשְׁתִּית מְצִית׃

DETERMINE the meaning of
כּוֹס תְּמָתוֹ in Isaiah 51:17.

Step 1. Search for Information in Grammar or Lexicon

Clue



Go to

Conjunction?

Lexicon

Technical term?

Index of Subjects

Parsing?

Table of Contents,
Syntax of affixes

Governing?

Syntax of governing

Sentence as whole?

Table of Contents,
under Sentence

No clue?

Index of Passages

Step 1 for בּוֹס חֶמֶתוֹ

Clue



Go to

Conjunction?

no

Technical term?

construct relation



**Index of Subjects,
Construct**



No entry.
Instead, find under
“Genitive, expression of”

Step 1 for בּוֹס חֶמֶתוֹ

Clue



Go to

Conjunction?

no

Technical term?

construct relation



Index of Subjects,
Construct

Parsing?

בּוֹס (noun) in
construct state



Table of Contents,
Syntax of noun

§122. Indication of the Gender of the Noun

§123. The Representation of Plural Ideas by means of Collective, and by the Repetition of Words

§124. The Various Uses of the Plural-Form

§125. Determination of Nouns in general ...

§126. Determination by means of the Article

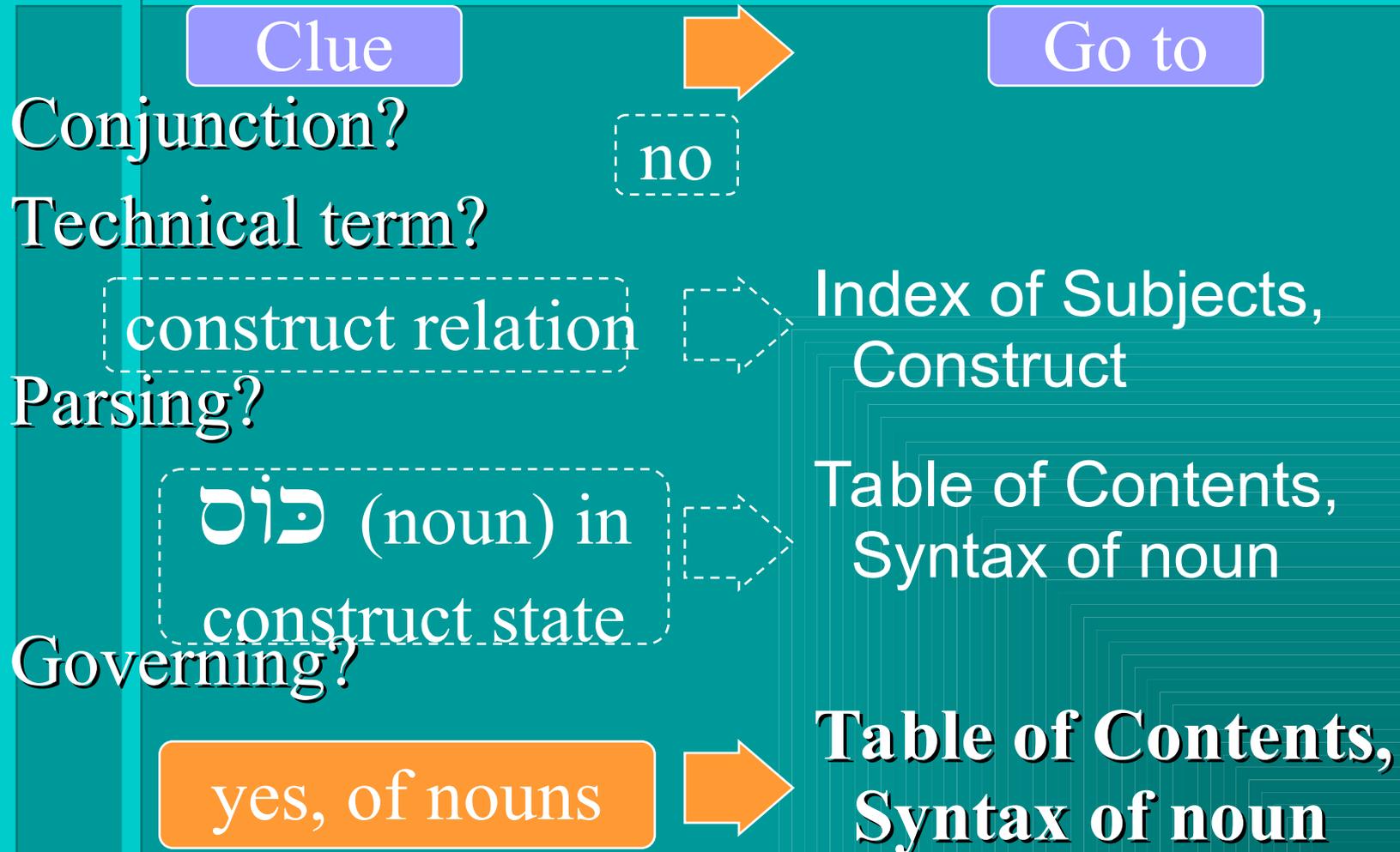
§127. The Noun determined by a following
Determinate Genitive

§128. The Indication of the Genitive Relation by
means of the Construct State

§129. Expression of the Genitive by Circumlocution

§130. Wider Use of the Construct State

Step 1 for בּוֹס חֲמָתוֹ



Example 2 with Clause Syntax

Isaiah 51:17

אֲשֶׁר שָׁתִית מִיַּד יְהוָה אֶת־כּוֹס חַמָּתוֹ
 אֶת־קַבְעֵת כּוֹס הַתַּרְעִילָה שָׁתִית מִצִּית׃

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of כּוֹס חַמָּתוֹ .

Step 1. Search. Try to find the relevant section in the grammar.

(a) Does a conjunction provide the clue ...?

(b) What, if any, is the technical philological term ...? **§128**

(c) What is the parsing (morphology) of the word ...?

(d) Does the syntactical construction arise from “governing” ...?

(e) Is the syntactical construction related to overall structure ...?

(f) If you have no idea what the syntax might be,

Step 2. Evaluate. Determine what subheading(s) apply.

Step 2. Evaluate: Find the Applicable Subsection

Determine which subsections apply to your passage.

Go to §128

page number

larger topic

section number

414

The Parts of Speech

[§128 a-c

§ 128. *The Indication of the Genitive Relation by means of the Construct State.* section title

a 1. The genitive relation is regularly expressed (see §89) by the close connexion of the *nomen regens* (in the construct state) with the *nomen rectum* (in the genitive).

...

logical subdivisions

b Rem. As the fundamental rules stated above are the necessary consequences not merely of *logical* but more especially of

c (a) Genitives after the absolute state, e.g. Is 28¹ ...

reference markers for paragraphs

(b) Genitives after a noun with a suffix ... *d*

...

(c) The interposition of a word is assumed between ... *e*

...

2. The dependence of the *nomen rectum* on the *nomen regens* by no means represents merely what is, properly speaking, the genitive relation (see the examples under *g-i*). Very frequently the *nomen* *f*

rectum only adds a nearer definition of the nomen regens, whether by giving the name, the genus or species, the measure, the material, or finally an attribute of it (*genit. epexegeticus* or *appositionis*,¹ see the examples under *k-q*).

Examples. The *nomen rectum* represents--

g **(a)** A *subjective genitive*, specifying the possessor, author, &c., e.g. בֵּית־הַמֶּלֶךְ *the king's house*; דְּבַר יְהוָה *the word of the Lord*.

h **(b)** An *objective genitive*, e.g. Ob¹⁰ מִתְּמַס אָחִיךָ *for the violence done to thy brother*² (but in Ez 12¹⁹ מִתְּמַס is followed by a subjective genitive); Pr 20² אֵימַת מֶלֶךְ *the terror of the king*; Gn 18²⁰

i (c) A *partitive genitive*; this includes especially the cases in which an adjective in the construct state is followed by a general term, e.g.

חַכְמוֹת שְׂרוֹתֶיהָ *wisest of her ladies* Ju 5²⁹; cf. ...

...
(d) Of the *name*, e.g. נְהַר פְּרָת *the river Euphrates*; אֶרֶץ כְּנַעַן *the land of Canaan*; ...

...
l (e) Of the *genus*, e.g. Pr 15²⁰ (21²⁰) כְּסִיל אָדָם *a fool of a man = a foolish man*); cf. ...

...

m **(f)** Of the *species*, e.g. אֶתְחִינֹת קֶבֶר *a possession of a burying-place, i.e. hereditary sepulchre*, Gn 23⁴;

...
n **(g)** Of the *measure, weight, extent, number*, e.g. מְסֻפָּר ... *people of number, i.e. few in number*, Gn 34³⁰, Dt 26⁵; cf. also Ez 47³⁻⁵ ...

o **(h)** Of the *material*³ of which something consists, e.g. כֵּלֵי חַרְשׁ *vessel of earthenware*, Nu 5¹⁷; ...

...

(i) Of the *attribute* of a person or thing, e.g. Gn p 17⁸ *an everlasting possession*; Pr 17⁸ *a precious stone*; cf. Nu 28⁶, Is 13⁸, 28⁴, ψ 23², 31³, Pr 5¹⁹, ...

In a wider sense this use of the genitive also includes statements of the purpose for which something is intended, e.g. צֹאן טְבָהָה *sheep for the slaughter*, ψ 44²³; מוֹסֵר שְׁלוֹמֵנוּ *the chastisement designed for our peace*, Is 53⁵; cf. 51¹⁷ (*the cup which causes staggering*), ψ 116¹³; finally, also, the description of the material, with which something is laden or filled, e.g. ...

q

finally, also, the description of the material, with which something is laden or filled, e.g. I S 16²⁰
יֵין וְנֹאֵד וְנֹאֵד לֶחֶם וְנֹאֵד יֵין *an ass laden with bread and a bottle of wine* (but probably עֵשְׂרָה is to be read for חֶמֶר); cf. Gn 21¹⁴, Pr 7²⁰, &c.

Example 2 with Clause Syntax

אֲשֶׁר שָׁתִית מִיַּד יְהוָה אֶת-כּוֹס חַמָּתוֹ
 אֶת-קַבְעֵת כּוֹס הַתְּרַעְלָה שָׁתִית מְצִית:

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of כּוֹס חַמָּתוֹ .

Step 1. Search. Try to find the relevant section in the grammar.

§§128, 130

Step 2. Evaluate. Determine what subheading(s) apply.

§128q

Step 2a. Are there *several* subheadings ...?

Look at §128r-y, §130.

Step 3. Decide. Make a final decision as to the type and function of your grammatical construction, after you have weighed alternatives.

Purpose: "cup bringing his wrath."

On content: "cup containing his wrath."

Step 2a. Alternatives?

Check whether there are any alternative explanations, possibly involving other subsections.

Check §128r-y; §130

Step 3. Decide. Represent the Meaning in Translation

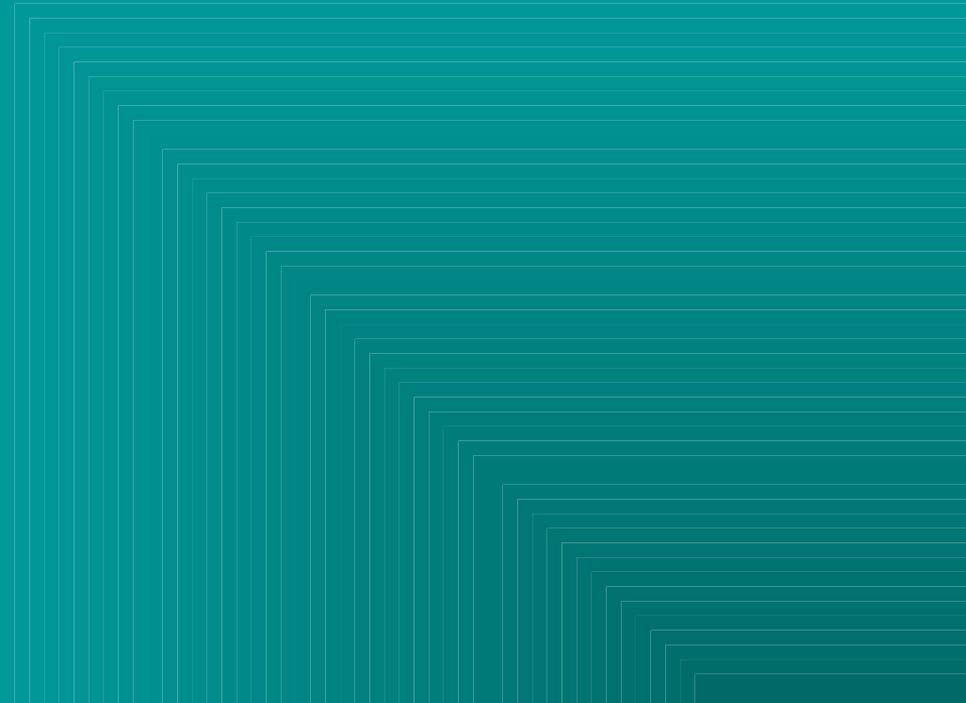
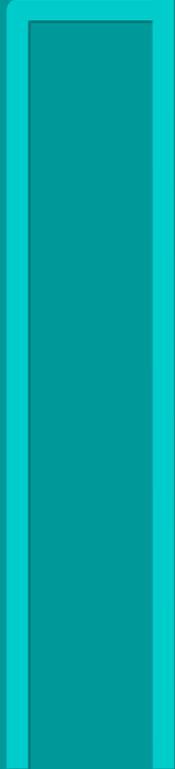
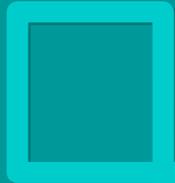
Give a translation of the clause that brings out the implications of your analysis.

Gesenius §128q: “statements of the purpose for which something is intended, ...”



“cup bringing his wrath”

Example with Isaiah 51:23



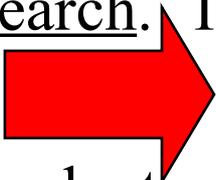
Example 3 with Clause Syntax

Isaiah 51:23

וְשִׁמְתִיהָ בַיַּד-מוֹגִיךָ.
 אֲשֶׁר-אָמְרוּ לְנַפְשֶׁךָ שְׁחִי וְנַעֲבֶרְהָ
 וְתִשְׁיֵמֵי כָאֶרֶץ גִּוּד וְכַחוּץ לַעֲבָרִים:

DETERMINE the meaning of וְנַעֲבֶרְהָ in Isaiah 51:23.

Step 1. Search. Try to find the relevant section in the advanced grammar.



Step 2. Evaluate. Determine what subheading(s) of the relevant section apply to your passage.

Step 3. Decide. Make a final decision as to the type and function of your grammatical construction, after you have weighed alternatives.

Syntax in Isaiah 51:23

וּשְׁמַתִּיהָ בַיַּד-מוֹגֵן.
אֲנֹכֶה-אֶמְרוּ לְנַפְשָׁךְ שְׁחִי וְנַעֲבֹרָה
וְתִשְׁמְעֵנִי כְּאֶרֶץ גִּוּף וְכַחוּץ לְעִבְרִים:

DETERMINE the meaning of

שְׁחִי וְנַעֲבֹרָה in Isaiah 51:23.

Step 1. Search for Information in Grammar or Lexicon

Clue



Go to

Conjunction?

Lexicon

Technical term?

Index of Subjects

Parsing?

Table of Contents,
Syntax of affixes

Governing?

Syntax of governing

Sentence as whole?

Table of Contents,
under Sentence

No clue?

Index of Passages

Step 1 for וְנִעְבְּרָה

Clue

Conjunction?

Technical term?

Parsing?



no

no

Go to

cohortative



**Table of Contents,
Syntax of verb**

...

THIRD PART

SYNTAX

Chapter I. The Parts of Speech

I. Syntax of the Verb

A. Use of the Tenses and Moods.

§ 106. Use of the Perfect

§ 107. Use of the Imperfect

§ 108. Use of the Cohortative

...

Circumstantial clauses, 156: expressing negative qualities, 152 *u*: noun-clauses, 156 *c*: verbal, 156 *d*.

Citation, formulae of, 150 *e*.

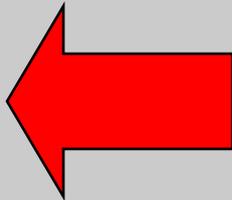
Cognate accusative, 117 *p-r*.

Cohortative, 48 *b*: form of, 48 *c*, *d*: meaning, 48 *e*: syntax of, 108: very rare in verbs 75 , ל"ה *l*.

Coins, Hebrew, 2 *d* (4).

breaks

key section



Gesenius on the Cohortative

Index of Subjects:

Cohortative, 48 *b* form of, 48 *c*, *d* meaning,
48 *e* syntax of, 108 very rare in verbs , ה"ל
75 *l*.

key section

breaks

Example 3 with Clause Syntax

Isaiah 51:23

וּשְׁמַתִּיהָ בְיַד-מוֹגִידָ:

אֲשֶׁר-אָמְרוּ לְנַפְשָׁךְ שְׁחִי וְנַעֲבֶרָה

וְתִשְׁיַמֵּי כְּאֶרֶץ גִּוּד וְכַחוּץ לְעִבְרִים:

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of וְנַעֲבֶרָה .

Step 1. Search. Try to find the relevant section in the grammar.

(a) Does a conjunction provide the clue ...?

(b) What, if any, is the technical philological term ...?

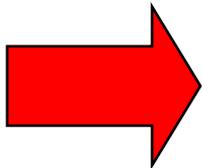
(c) What is the parsing (morphology) of the word ...? **§108**

(d) Does the syntactical construction arise from “governing” ...?

(e) Is the syntactical construction related to overall structure ...?

(f) If you have no idea what the syntax might be,

Step 2. Evaluate. Determine what subheading(s) apply.



Step 2. Evaluate: Find the Applicable Subsection

Determine which subsections apply to your passage.

Go to §108

...

§108. *Use of the Cohortative.*

a

The cohortative, i.e. according to §48*c*, the 1st pers. sing. or plur. of the imperfect lengthened by the ending -ִיָּ-, represents in general an endeavour directed expressly towards a definite object. While the corresponding forms of the indicative rather express the mere announcement that an action will be undertaken, the cohortative lays stress on the determination underlying the action, and the personal interest in it.

Its uses may be divided into—

Its uses may be divided into—

1. The cohortative standing alone, or coordinated with another cohortative, and frequently strengthened by the addition of the particle **נָא** : b

(a) To express self-encouragement, e.g. Ex 3³
אֶסְבֹּךָ נָא וְגַ *I will turn aside now, and see ...!* So especially as the result of inward deliberation (in soliloquies), e.g. Gn 18²¹, 32²¹ (rarely so used after **אַל־**, Gn 21¹⁶ *let me not look ...!* Jer 18¹⁸), and ...

...

c (b) To express a wish, or a request for ...

d 2. The cohortative in dependence on other moods, as well as in conditional sentences: (a) In dependence (with *waw copulative*; ψ 9¹⁵ after לְמַעַן) on an imperative or jussive to express an intention or intended consequence, e.g. Gn 27⁴ *bring it to me, וְאֹכְלָהּ that I may eat, prop. then will I eat*; Gn 19⁵, 23⁴, 24⁵⁶, 27²⁵, 29²¹, 30^{25f.}, 42³⁴, 49¹, Dt 32¹, Ho 6¹, ψ 2⁸, 39¹⁴, Jb 10²⁰ *Q^erê*; ...

...

e **(b)** In conditional sentences (with or without אם)
to express a contingent intention, e.g. Jb 16⁶
אִם-אֶדְבַּר-הָאָדָמָה *should I determine to speak, my grief is*
not assuaged, וְאַחֲדֶלָּהּ and should I forbear, what
am I eased? without אם Jb 19¹⁸, 30²⁶ (where,
however, וְאֵיחָלָהּ is probably intended); ...

f **(c)** Likewise in the apodosis of conditional
sentences, e.g. Jb 31^{7f.} *if my step hath turned out of*
the way ... , אֲזַרְעָהּ then let me sow; cf. 16^{4f.} I also
could speak as ye do, if! So even when the
condition must be supplied from the context, e.g.

...

Example 3 with Clause Syntax

Isaiah 51:23

וּשְׁמַתִּיהָ בְיַד־מוֹנִיָּךְ׃

אֲשֶׁר־אָמְרוּ לְנַפְשֶׁךָ׃ שְׁחִי וְנַעֲבֶרָה

וּתְשִׁימֵי כָאָרֶץ גִּוּר׃ וְכַחוּץ לְעִבְרִים׃

Assignment: DETERMINE the meaning of **וְנַעֲבֶרָה** .

Step 1. Search. Try to find the relevant section in the grammar.

§108

Step 2. Evaluate. Determine what subheading(s) apply.

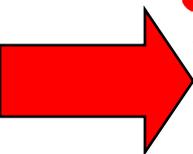
§108d

Step 2a. Are there *several* subheadings ...?

None.

Step 3. Decide. Make a final decision as to the type and function of your grammatical construction, after you have weighed alternatives.

Intention: "in order that we may pass over."



Step 2a. Alternatives?

Check whether there are any alternative explanations, possibly involving other subsections.

None.

Step 3. Decide. Represent the Meaning in Translation

Give a translation of the clause that brings out the implications of your analysis.

Gesenius §108d: “to express intention”



“Bow down, in order that we may pass over.”

Under “Verbal Conjugations and Clauses”

29. Introduction to the Conjugations
30. Suffix (Perfective) Conjugation
31. Prefix (Non-Perfective) Conjugation
32. *Waw* + Suffix Conjugation
33. *Waw* + Prefix Conjugation
34. Jussive, Imperative, Cohortative
35. Infinitive Absolute
36. Infinitive Construct
37. Participles
38. Subordination
39. Coordination and Clausal Adverbs

...

Jussive and Cohortative after Imperative 34.6

After an imperative a verbal form not preceded by its subject or a negative particle is normally either a jussive (##1-2) or a cohortative (##3-5; cf. 34.5.2b).³¹ Where a non-perfective is not morphologically marked in such a context, it may be taken as having jussive (#6) or cohortative (#7) force (34.1d n. 3). The second volitional form signifies purpose or result, in contrast to the sequence *imperative + imperative* (cf. ##3, 10).³² A chain of jussives or cohortatives can follow an imperative. When the verb after an imperative ...

Homework with Clause Syntax

In John 8:12, determine why περιπατήση is subjunctive and how it contributes to the rest of the sentence.