

WOLFGANG DE MELO

Early Latin

Morphosyntactic Structures – Part 1: Overview



Subject and object

Mark loves Anna.

Marcus Annam amat.

Marcus amat Annam.

Amat Marcus Annam.

Etc.

Pragmatics

If you are tired, you should sleep: regular conditional clause

If you are tired, there's a coffee machine downstairs: pseudo-conditional clause

Plaut. Poen. 1038: *Carthagine ego sum gnatus, ut tu sis sciens.*

'Just so you know, I was born in Carthage.'

Pragmatic functions

- Pragmatic functions influencing word order:
 - Old information / topic
 - New information
 - Contrast and focus

Plaut. Bacch. 392: *techinam de auro aduorsum **meum** fecit **patrem**.*

‘He played a trick against my father about the gold.’

Meus... X: 17% meus X: 37% X meus: 32% X... meus: 14%

Word, clitic, affix

- Word: lexical meaning; (potentially) accented; free movement
- Clitic: sometimes lexical meaning; unaccented; attached to host
- Affix: no lexical meaning; unaccented; fully attached

How many words in a sentence?

Mark cut the bread with a knife.

Accented: *Mark, bread, knife.*

Potentially accented: *cut.*

Attached to host: *the, a.*

Probably also attached: *with.*

Latin clitics

- Second position: *enim, autem*.
- Attached to noun as enclitic: *-que, -ue*
- Attached to NP as proclitic: most prepositions
- Potentially second position: *ego, tu, mihi, tibi* etc.

- Importance of metrical tests for ‘clitichood’:
 - Iambic shortening: *uoluptas mea*
 - Law of Bentley and Luchs
 - Ritschl’s law and law of Hermann and Lachmann

Cases and adpositions

- Basic functions of the six cases
- Core versus periphery
- Grammaticalization of adpositions

Predication

- Valency
- Voice alternations
- Core and periphery again

Clause I

- Relative clauses, indirect questions, adverbial clauses
- Moods and sequence of tenses

Clause II

- Accusative and infinitive versus accusative and participle
- Absolute and relative tense
- Early Latin usage of infinitives
- Ellipsis of subject accusatives

Thank you!