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# The Composite Sentence as a unit of syntax:

— Form, meaning and function. —  
Means of clause connection

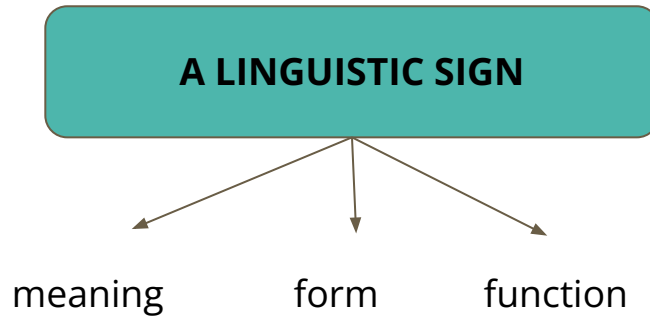
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# The Composite Sentence

!! It differs from the simple sentence: **a polypredicative construction.**

It is a structural, semantic and functional unity of two or more subject-predicate structures (Bloch).



# The Composite Sentence: Meaning

It is **a complex conceptual construction**, which reflects two or more situational events.

It expresses **a complex act of thought** -- an act of mental activity, which falls into **two or more closely combined intellectual efforts**.

It reflect two or more situational events, which form a unity.

# The Composite Sentence: Form

It is a **unity of two or more subject-predicate constructions** (predicative lines → clauses).

A clause corresponds to a separate simple sentence.

*E.g. He was wearing pyjamas when he came up into the square, but there was nobody to see him. Cf. He was wearing pyjamas. He came up into the square.*

*There was nobody to see him.*



**no** (coherently presented)  
**situational unity**

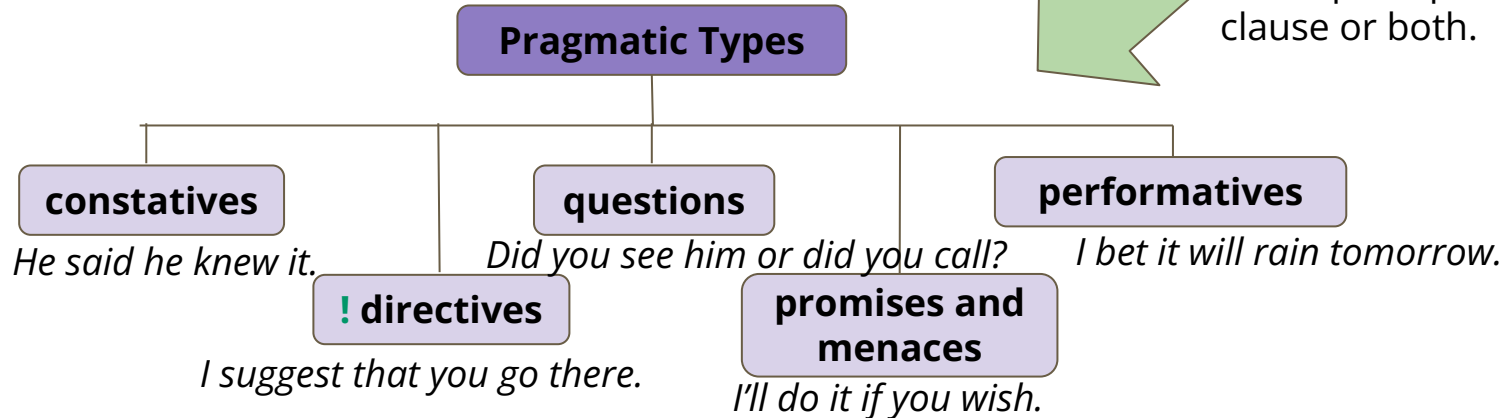
# The Composite Sentence: Function

It is characterised by **communicative intention -- to inform of a certain *complex situation***. (The sequence of simple sentences expresses the events in their natural temporal succession.)

!! The order of clauses.

**THEME** > **RHEME**

? Functional type corresponds to that of the principal clause or both.



# Means of Clause Connection: Syndetic

- ★ conjunctions (*and, but, because*)
- ★ conjunctive words\*: pronouns and adverbs (*who, what, where*)
- ★ conjunctive phraseological units (*so...that, hardly...when*)

\* Conjunctions **do not function** as members of a sentence, while conjunctive words do.

Conjunctions are used both in complex and compound sentences, while conjunctive words -- only in complex ones.

Conj. and conj. words can introduce not only subordinate clauses, but also **conjunctive phrases**: *when in Moscow*.

The **boundary b/w syndetic and asyndetic** joining is not clear sometimes. *E.g. Tom studied a lot, **yet** he didn't pass the test. **Yet*** -- a conjunction, an adverb? (Ilyish)

# Means of Clause Connection: Asyndetic

- ★ word order (*Had he been here, he would..., I know who he is*)
- ★ tense, phase, mood forms (*If he comes...*)
- ★ intonation

Asyndetic composite sentences, which consist of **similar parts**, may have the meaning of *enumeration, comparison*; of the **parts of different type** -- more complex semantic relations (in this case intonation is a means of connection).