

EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS

24 Febbraio 2020 – syllabus on moodle**25 Febbraio 2020**

Main parts of this course:

- 1) “nulla dies sine linea”: if the object of the discourse is not shared by me and the one who speak the message cant ‘go throw
- 2) Linguistic analysis: Way of interpretation the hermeneutic of the test
- 3) Document writing

Schliemann, he not only spoke more than 10 languages, but he suggested a methodology which is a good proposal for us, in order to improve learning skills Schliemann proposed the following method:

- 1) Reading
- 2) Repeating
- 3) Writing
- 4) Learning by heart

26 Febbraio 2020

Closed classes

Definite articles	English	Italian
Singular	The	Il, lo, la
Plural	The	I, gli, le

English is the most isolated language of the western logical system. Italian is a flexible language. English doesn’t acquire change from outside, meanwhile Italian does.

02 Marzo 2020

Lexical richness, Schliemann does not suggest repeating everyday language but literary text. Memorize subordinative structure. Why memorization? Why he proposed this methodology? Because you create a mental path which opens your synapses.

Dictate

We the people of linguistic analysis, master course in international relations and European studies, academic year 2018-2019, university of Firenze, Italy, as a result of our linguistic journey in order to provide our contribution for a new renaissance of Europe declare ad affirm: the following values, dignity, freedom, equality, solidarity, justice, citizens’ rights, are contained in the charter of fundamental rights of the European union, they are the essence of our European, wester identity.

We should neither take them for granted nor believe they are recognized and defended all over the world. They belong to our past, they are our present, we want them to be our future.

In order to prevent them from becoming empty words, we want to reaffirm that they are a great conquest, the result of a century long, evolutive process.

They are our precious fruit.

They have received their essential nourishment through the tank which constitutes our logic, our subordinative logic: the way we organized and structure our way of thinking, our way of speaking. Our subordinative, evolutive logic, is the result of the encounter around three hills, acropolis (Athens), Campidoglio (Rome), Golgota (Jerusalem); they are the roots of our identity.

This is what we are.

This is what we are, our logic, this is the way we think and speak shared by all 28 member states and also shared by the Russian federation, and also shared by the United States of America, and also shared by the Americas all and more. We firmly believe this is our European challenge in order to become aware of its logical structure to recognize it as a matter of identity and, last but not least, to learn our linguistic system profoundly and many languages which shared the same logical structure very easily.

How is the text structured? Each text has a target with a related strategy. Each text has a skeleton. It starts with the personal pronoun "we" that is the sum of I + you; "we" is the political personal pronoun for excellence.

- Opening declare = "we"
- List = link between the manifesto and the fundamental charter
- Past, present and future = typical of political discourse.
- Image of the tree, with the roots and the trunk
- Declare who we are
- Ended up with a project for the future

How do you define this type of text? Climax. What are the other types of structure? The Circular starts and ends at the same point.

In order to write our work, we have to decide the structure before. It depends from what is the target, what's the aim, what's the purpose?

09 Marzo 2020

We are human beings and what characterizes us is the fact that we are able to speak. Human beings = speaking creatures. Aristotle said that we are "zoon politicon" that means political animals. Root of the word political is "polis". We have the exclusive skill of speaking; we are creatures who need to have social contacts.

The way which characterized our communication activity is the fact that we speak. We shouldn't take it for granted. We need to talk and speak. **Point one: we are political animals; we need to speak.**

Point two: we speak according to a structure. Human speaking capacity is not simply nominalizations in forming list of words. Our linguistic system is quite complex and articulate. Second key point: structure.

The chapter refers to logical systems. We do not talk the all globe now; the all globe does not follow the same structure. We can divide the globe in two parts: one part of the globe thinks and speaks following the “subordinative structure”; the other part of the globe thinks and speaks following another structure, the “coordinative structure”.

Subordinative structure: we belong to the western side of the globe and we use this one. The entire western part follows the subordinative structure.

What does it mean subordinative structure? It means a structure organized according to the specific classes. **There are two subgroups of these classes: closed classes and open classes.**

- Closed classes = definite articles, indefinite articles, preposition, interjections, conjunctions, adverbs; six grammatical categories. Why close? Because they do not have access to modification, they are fixed.
- Open classes= finite verbs, non-finite verbs, adjectives, pronouns. Why open class? They have access to modification; they can be modified.

Subordinate logic or structure immediately you have to think to closed classes and open classes.

Three main points:

- We are human beings and as human beings what characterized us is the fact that we are speaking beings and it is a necessity because we are political animal (zoon politicon – Aristotle)
- Focus on how we speak, we speak according to a structure
- There is no one single logical structure but two, one belonging to the western world – subordinative- and one belonging to the eastern world – coordinative.

What does it mean structure? A metaphor to understand think of a building, there are essential elements that it needs to be able to be sustained. These elements are the foundation and the skeleton. The structure is what sustained and characterized a language.

Globally speaking we have two different logical systems which organize our speaking and thinking. There is not only one and this is also provable thanks to the neuro images. The part activated in our brain differs whether we speak one language belonging to the western logical system or one belonging to the eastern logical system.

Focus now on the subordinative structure which belongs to our western world. Our system is the result of the encounter of three cities, Athens, Rome, and Jerusalem. These three are founding our roots (= pleonastic expression).

This encounter has given birth to pearls: democracy, art, science, grammar which organized man woman. From the encounter of these three beautiful cities we can nowadays enjoy what we can find in the charter of fundamental rights: our values: dignity, liberty...

The roots are deeply radicated in the ground and is the ground that feed the roots, the trunk brings the food.

Diachronic process: our logic is an evolutive logic = main element of difference from the eastern one which is organized with the concept of repletion. Different ways of thinking and speaking.

Western fruits: democracy = demos; democracy was born in Athens together with philosophy. The ground was fertile to democracy.

10 Marzo 2020

Structure of our linguistic identity (western system):

- **Closed classes** = which grammatical categories belong to this group? Closed = no access, no possibility to modify. If something is closed is not open to modification.

Definite article: The; example, “give me THE pen” = it does mean that between the sender and the receiver of the message there is a shared knowledge concerning the pen we both refer to. Only one single pen on the table, no possibility of misunderstanding; “The” express the willness of a pen in particular.

Indefinite article: a; example, “give me A pen” = it does not mean the pen in particular, or something that I have in mind and I shared with a listener. It means any pen, the stress here is on the essence of the word generally speaking.

Prepositions: is something pre posed before the main aspects; example, “go TO the park” = it is interrelated to the park and it does depend on the park. There is a relationship, it is posed before the words it refers to.

Interjections: it is a sort of exclamation; example, “OH, what a wonderful day is today”.

Conjunction: cum iungere = to link with; example, “I think AND speak”. Possibility to connect two different concepts, we can create a bridge between two elements.

Adverbs: something that is close to verbs; example “she plays the piano BEAUTIFULLY”. They have a typical form in English, they end with “ly”, the function played by the adverbs is to add something, to evaluate the verbs. Example “worldwide” is an adverb = it does add something to the fact that this international rule is valid. How and where it is valid?

- **Open classes** = if something is open it does mean that provide access, it gives tools of communication. It can be modified. All these grammatical categories that are in this class are modifiable, open to modification.

Finite verbs: finite means limited, if I say “I WAS in London in 1984” the verbs “was” give us a finite information.

Non-finite verbs: “LOOKING at these slides I can make clear in my mind ...”, -ing form is something non- finite, the action is in process.

Substantives: nouns = what is the essence of this word? Sub stantia = “sub” is an adverb that means under; substantives are those words which add in themselves the essence. Substantia is something that is under that you cannot possibly discover at the first side.

Adjectives: words which add something; example, “Silvia is a CLEVER girl”; adjectives qualified the nouns. There is an evaluation of something.

Adjectives and adverbs are grammatical categories which express evaluation and can influence people. That's why they are crucial in political speeches.

Pronouns: there are different types, but we will focus on the personal ones because are very important in political speeches. Why? Think about what political discourse is for.

Related questions:

- Can you find any similarity between the word "subordinative" and the word "substantive"?
- Can you think of any other related word which share the same root?

Dictate – Churchill test; he introduced the combination of language and power.

I do not see why we should not try to spread our common language even more widely throughout the globe and, without seeking selfish advantage over any, possess ourselves of this invaluable amenity and birthright.

Some months ago, I persuaded the Ministers to study and report upon Basic English. Here you have the plan. There are others but here you have a very carefully wrought plan for an international language capable of a very wide transaction of practical business and interchange of ideas. The whole of it is composed in about 650 nouns and 200 verbs or other parts of speech - no more indeed than can be written on one side of a single sheet of paper. [...]

The hypothesis of BASIC English was first defined by C. K. Ogden during the First World War, as a simplified version of English 'a selection of 850 English words, used in simple structural patterns, which is both an international auxiliary language and a self-contained first stage for the teaching of any form of wider or Standard English'. Ogden's concept was, however, more than a mere word list; idioms were to be eliminated as were most verbs, since for Ogden, as for Bentham, whose works on language Ogden had studied closely, verbs were 'slippery eels' and liable to cause linguistic difficulties. Instead of verbs Ogden admitted 18 'operators' into his list: only 'come' and 'go', 'give' and 'get', 'put' and 'take', and 12 others were permitted. These operators, along with the remaining 832 carefully selected words, must fulfill the function of the normal twenty-thousand-word English vocabulary. The full word list appears, among other places, as a fold-out sheet facing the title page of Basic English (London 1930). Amazingly, despite a certain blandness and an occasional circumlocution, when used by a skilled practitioner Basic is often indistinguishable from 'normal' English (Garay 1988: 281-282).

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Can you find any similarity between the word "subordinative" and the word "substantive"? these two words have in common the initial part of the word, the part "sub". Sub means under, so subordinative means to ordinate under. The source of this information is the dictionary, the Oxford one. It provides the history of the word and his etymology.

Substantive = same root "sub" + "substance" comes from the latin word "substare" and together means to be or stand under, to be present.

An essence is what is essential, present and is under and it does not appear on the surface.

Substantia means essential nature, essence.

Can you think of any other related word which share the same root? Find in presentia or in absentia, two different way of analysis. Something in absentia is something that is present but not seen at the first side.

Example of related word which shared the root "sub": subject.

Automatically in our mind comes the basic sentence structure = S (subject)+ V (Verb) or S+ V+ O (object). The subject is the leader of our sentence.

Etymology of subject: it comes from latin verb "subicere" = that is under the dominion or role of a sovereign, a superior entity, an entity which is above.

There is a relationship between the entity which is under and the entity which is above, they stay in a subordinative relationship.

A subject is an entity which is under and this imply that there is something else that is above, and these two entities are in a relationship. There is not a simple relation, but they have a subordinative relation.

Analysis of dictate "English a political choice or a political act?"

The title has an inclusive expression linked by "both" and "and"; this is an inclusive path referring to two nouns "choice" and "act". The word "act" include and increase the word "choice" = increasing relationship = before acting you need to have done your choice, these two word are in a relationship = in linguistic this is called "climax"; Climax is a linguistic tool which confirm an increase from one point and goes up.

Opening paragraph: "I" was one of Whiston Churchill's preferred words because he was a leader and he wanted to play the role of a leader.

At the beginning two negative expressions that mean a positive affirmation.

Why a politician poses his attention on language? Language and power are in deep relationship, language belongs to the policy, language is the founding element of a policy. Churchill was well aware of the importance of language and also that is necessary to spread it.

"Possess ourselves of this invaluable amenity and birthright" amenity gives the idea of something joyful and birthright is a gift that I received at the birth time so let's enjoy them, this concept is reinforce by the evaluation mark of the adjective "invaluable".

He recognized the importance of language and see it as a gift to widespread.

"I persuaded" = he knows what he wants.

"Study and report" = climax

Basic English is an international language valid at international level and capable of international transaction

Bear in mind "simplified": the target was the one to simplification to create a language suitable for business and exchanges of ideas.

Ogden's idea: he refers to Bentham works; for them verbs were "slipper eels" and "liable to cause linguistic difficulties" = example of contrastive pair composed on simplification and on the other side difficulties.

Ogden's solution: admit 18 operators = there is a shift from verbs to operators.

"Permitted" = political word

We have seen a political operation of linguistic simplification = no possibility to distinguish between "basic English" which hides a political plan from normal English.

16 Marzo 2020

Poem, "Nove Marzo 2020", Mariangela Gualtieri, Internazionale

Stanza uno

Why we find this poem at the beginning of the journal? Because it is a proposal for politician and for readers for a magazine valide worldwide.

"questo ti voglio dire, ci volevamo fermare" = this is what I want to tell you, it was necessary for us to stop/ we had to stop.

"I" is the poet, and she wants to send us a message. I + you = we = we had to stop. She's in charge to give us a message. She has the role of the poet.

Title: March, the ninth, thousand and twenty = contemporary poem and we need to be aware of the context.

The mission of the poet is to give a message that is the following = it is necessary, for all of us, to stop.

In the firsts translations it is just beautiful the idea of necessity = if we want to add something in a climax way we can say that it was inevitable, a *conditio sine qua non*. We had to pass throw.

"lo sapevamo" = we knew that, all of us knew that our (WE) doing was too furious.

To stay inside things, to stage inside things. Inside is opposed of outside that is following = all outside ourselves = attention on the contrastive pairs, "inside VS outside"

Stanza due: we did not manage, we did not succeed; we as our community, a unique "WE". This is an explanation of the idea of necessity "andava fatto insieme" = we had to do it together = anaphoric way; we have to do it as a we;

Stanza tre: "e poichè questo era desiderio tacito comune, come un tacito volere" = and because this was a tacit common desire (contains the substance that is enrich by the two adjective "common" that means, shared by all; and "tacit") as an unconscious will;

17 Marzo 2020

When you approach a text, the straightforward method to apply is the "triangle" one because you focus on the performers of the actions.

Triangle:

1. Actors = we
2. Time = changed
3. Space = changed

Dictate

23 Marzo 2020

A language is composed by grammar rules, syntactic rules, phonetic rules, etymology rules; and it is essential to not lose this nourishment.

A European answer to the Corona threat to prove that the EU is a true community with a shared future: compare it with the one of Churchill? Can we find some common, shared aspects?

Actors = EU citizens, Time = present; Space = European Union.

A European answer to the Coronavirus threat to prove that the EU is a true community with a shared future

We European citizens understand that Covid-19 is a common threat, that may hurt one country sooner than another, but will eventually hurt us all, and can impact our daily life and economy almost like a war.

We European citizens are worried and scared by this threat; and even more by the cacophony, selfishness and self-destructive short-sightedness of the different, un-coordinated national responses; by the lack of foresight of our national leaders, who pretend not to know that our interdependence requires a single European answer with strict containment measures of the pandemics, and an EU-wide plan to re-start the European economy afterwards.

We European citizens denounce that the current EU is an incomplete Res Publica, thus ill-equipped to face this challenge, with little competences and powers to face the pandemics. We welcome the timely decision by the Commission to provide 25 billion euro and financial flexibility to cope with this threat. Maybe it's the most it can do, but it is not enough.

We call upon the European Commission and Parliament to propose, and on the national governments to adopt (starting with the Eurogroup meeting of March 16, and a following extraordinary European Council to be called soon after) the following urgent measures, also using the Lisbon Treaty passerelle clause and simplified Treaty revision provisions:

1. Make public health and contrast to epidemics a concurrent competence of the EU, subject to the ordinary legislative procedure, and provide the Commission with extraordinary powers to coordinate the response to the epidemics, as a federal government should do.
2. Enlarge the scope of the European Stability Mechanism to finance the immediate strengthening of the European and national health systems to cope with the pandemics, which threatens the lives of European citizens, and thus also the economic and financial stability of the EU.
3. Abolish the compulsory balanced budget provision for the EU and create an EU Safe Asset to be issued to finance an EU-wide plan to promote the EU economic recovery and social cohesion during and after the emergency.
4. Move fiscal issues to the ordinary legislative procedure and provide the EU with fiscal powers to adopt new own resources – such as the carbon tax (and carbon tariffs), the digital tax, the financial transaction tax – to finance the EU budget (or the Euro-area Budgetary Instrument, if the decision could be reached only at the Euro-area level).
5. Immediately approve the next Multiannual Financial Framework increasing the budget to at least 1,3% of the EU GDP, as requested by the European Parliament, on the basis of the

current structure of the budget financing; and with the provision to reach 2% with the new own resources, to ensure the provision of crucial EU-wide public goods.

6. Turn the planned Conference on the future of Europe into a fully-fledged European Convention to draft a new Constitutional Pact among the EU citizens and Member states.

We European citizens believe this is the defining hour for the EU. Social perception of the EU will be shaped for years by its response to this crisis. This is the time to prove the EU is a community of values with a shared destiny, the lifeline for its citizens and member states in the face of a turbulent global world with political, economic and health threats. It's time for bold common steps to overcome fear. It's time for European unity, not for national division.

Analysis of the text

Threat = double check the meaning, and ask yourself how you perceive the threat? Is it changing during these weeks?

The answer to the threat is to be a European citizen and the finality is to prove that the EU is a community, a true community with a shared future.

The focus is on the European Union, what other words can be combined with this idea? The idea of community that is true because it is a community able to share a future. We have a semantic build up on the idea of European union. What is a semantic field?

A Semantic field is a network of words which belong to the same idea. In this case we have EU Union reinforced by true and shared.

In the text there are three paragraphs and then a list: first paragraph "we citizens..."; second paragraph "we call upon ... "; third paragraph "We European citizens...".

At a first side we can say that is a short text in which each paragraph starts with the personal pronoun "We", the political personal pronoun. Attention on the skilful personal pronoun "WE". When we use the personal pronoun "WE" can change the grade of inclusiveness and can change the address.

Etymology of Community = Com = cum = with = to be united, to be link, to be together; together with = this is the main idea of the document and the main concerning the European Union.

Paragraph 1 = an inclusive We referring to all the European citizens. Covid = not a simple threat, it is a COMMON threat.

Climax = from threat to war.

"worried and scared" = tautology = repetition of an idea with synonyms. It is commonly used in political discourse. It describes how we feel.

First paragraph: two key word = 1) union/community; 2) threat

24 Marzo 2020

When one is aware of the threat the best thing to do is to create a community against the threat. Is the COVID the only one problem at the moment?

Paragraph 2

“to propose and to adopt” a figure of speech where I put two words whose relationship is a relation of increase = I start from point “a” and I go up and up or maybe we can have a declining climax.

Pointed list introduced by an imperative: Make, enlarge, approve...

What can you say about the imperative? It is an exhortation, a recommendation expressed by the mode imperative. This is a mode which characterizes out subordinate structure.

“Imperare” implies a command, but it’s not a simple way of commanding but also exhorting and recommending. We have a list of six recommended steps.

What the imperative mode suggests in terms of logical structure? Which is the difference “I go to the cinema” and “Go to the cinema”. The second one, with the imperative, implies the existence of a relationship between “I” and “You”. The imperative implies a relationship between at least two entities.

It is one of the modes which best embodies our subordinate structure, the western subordinate structure.

When you listen to an imperative you can visualize the imagine. There is an A part who imposes/recommends something to an entity B. So, the imperative mode is a mode of relationship.

Imperative is the mode of the law, but not only of the law, it is not only a relationship of submission, express also relationships who take care of someone else.

Why we have these six steps? To face, to share and overcome what is worrying.

Paragraph 3

The structure of the text is a climax: it opens with an introductory, but strong, paragraph, then it develops with the six points, and then it ends with these strong words.

Present indicative and then a reference to the future: what we do now will have consequences for many years ahead. Present to prove that is the time to act.

European Union, not simply a community, but a community of value. The idea of community is repeated, there is at the beginning and at the end. All the member states are a community with shared values.

“national division” = contrastive pairs is one of the main linguistic devices used in political discourse: good VS bad. The good is represented by the noun “unity” and the bad by the noun “division”.

Churchill's speech: divide the text in two paragraphs; considering that every single line can be a paragraph, total, 54. Compare the two documents and compare what they have in common and what they don't have in common. What they represented?

30 Marzo

Linguistic pills to enjoy the fact that we are speaking being.

First pill: WITH

Think about the beauty of being speaking beings.

From our example emerge the grammatical characteristic of the preposition WITH. Grammar is a beautiful gift. Grammar is essential for our linguistic health.

With always goes with something else, is never alone. In other words, it is a PREPOSITION, from PRAE- PONERE, from Latin that in English means to put before.

With is the antidote to alone, and as zoon politicon we need not to be alone. We can not survive. Nothing we can do by ourselves; we need to be WITH.

Before implies something, which is after, logically speaking it could not possibly exist without a correspondent linguistic element AFTER, they go together.

If I express before I necessarily have in my logical thought the idea of after! Something comes before is something else come after!

Comparison between the two text: Churchill's text

There are two parts. **First one refers to the years of personal pronoun.** Enter inside of the personal pronouns, are one of the logical elements which deeply differed from our western logic, and the coordinative one. They have a totally different use: the subordinative structure works in a vertical prospective while the coordinative one works on a horizontal prospective. Personal pronouns, one of the pillars of our subordinative logic.

The second important issue is the fact that the main difference between these two texts is the presence in Churchill of the idea of memory greatly embodied in his common inheritance, the origins of his Cristian faith.

What is present in this one? It is memory. Churchill understood that we cannot do without this heritage. In the first document it is partially lacking.

Polysemy of the word? What type of word we are facing today? It depends of what you put inside the box of a word. Maybe there are some aspects in Churchill that could be applied today referring to the word "war".

Analysis of some paragraph:

11) *what is the sovereign remedy?*

The idea of remedy is linked to the semantic field of something ill; this continent is sick, but we can find a solution, we can propose a remedy. Remedy is a decision, an action to find a way out, a solution and physically the first meaning belong to the medical lexis. Of course, you can use it metaphorically. The first idea is a ill body for which a remedy can be found = metaphorically = Europe is ill but we can find a remedy. You can apply what Churchill said in this exact context to our situation?

12) *It is to recreate the European family, or as much of it as we can, and provide it with a structure under which it can dwell in peace, in safety and in freedom.*

The action asked is to do it again because already exists or existed.
Recreate the European family, in a family every single member share something; each and all. A family is a union composed by single important members.

13) *We must build a kind of United States of Europe.*

14) *There is already a natural grouping in the western hemisphere. We British have our Commonwealth of Nations.*

The globe is linguistically divided in east and west, but this division already exists in nature.

30) *If Europe is to be saved from the infinity misery, and indeed from final doom, there must be an act of faith in the European family and an act of oblivion against all the crimes and follies of the past.*

41) *The structure of United States of Europe, if well and truly built, will be such as to make the material strength of a single state less important. Small nations will count as much as large ones and gains their honour by their contribution to a common cause.*

Again, there is this idea of construction, there is a passage group a natural grouping to this act of building, the natural group is a natural gift, but we need to work on to achieve this reality of United states of Europe. Small – large = contrastive pairs.

52) *The salvation of the common people of every race and every land far from war or servitude must be established on solid foundations and must be guarded of all men and women to die rather than submit to tyranny.*

Plight – remedy- salvation = climax. Solid foundations, remember our roots: Athens, Rome and Jerusalem.

CONTRASTIVE PAIRS

Today, starting from **WITH**, we referred to the idea of **BEFORE** and I told you that it necessarily implies the idea of **AFTER**

BEFORE and **AFTER** constitute a contrastive pair, one of the most important linguistic tools in political discourse.

they are linked together, one is the *conditio sine qua non* of the other.

Another contrastive pair you are already familiar with is

UNDER and **ABOVE**,

do you remember the etymology of the word Subject? From subicere, to be under

If someone is **UNDER**, it necessarily implies that someone else is **ABOVE**.

GOOD and **EVIL**

LIGHT and **DARK**

BLESSING and **CURSING**

are other examples of contrastive pairs.

31 Marzo

With = preposition.

What a preposition is? It implies the idea of ANTE = before. A preposition necessarily needs to be followed by something else, it is linked to something else after.

The word preposition, which means something put before, implies to be followed by something else. It is intrinsically linked, connected with something else = deep relationship. It cannot possibly stay alone. We could say that it is a relationship word (logical definition, no logic definition). It asks to be followed by something else. It does depict its need of something else. Example, I'm WITH you, and I hope you are WITH me.

Preposition are those word with form connections. Every single word is de touched, but prepositions play the role of connection.

Each single class of words has is proper function, and the one of preposition is connection.

A frame which organized our way of speaking in a particular part of the word and following specific rules, the subordination rules.

PREPOSITION

PRE PONERE = PUT BEFORE

WITH

WITH is in the **necessity** of being followed by something else

PREPOSITIONS are those class of words which need another element, they are intrinsically in the position of need of something else, they are linked to something else

PREPOSITONS are RELATIOSHIP-WORDS

Subordinative logic VS coordinative logic.

This is a political logical approach; we have divided the globe into two distinguished logical structures. Consider the fact that we think and speak according to a certain structure. We do not follow all of us the same logical structure, there are two different way of thinking and speaking.

We belong to the part of the word that is organized according to a frame that we defined "subordinative logic" (Sub – means under); we are following a vertical structure with an entity under and another above.

What in linguist terms the subordinative logic implies?

The simple sentence is composed with SUBJECT + VERB (+COMPL) = this is the basic sentence = Mary (subject) loves (verb).

This is the minimal sentence, nothing smaller than that.

Who is the subject? What is the role played by the subject? Mary Is the leader, she in charge to command the sentence, Mary is the one who loves. Mary, the subject, commands, gives order to the verb.

1 Aprile

Two documents totally different in terms of length: 3 paragraphs VS 52; also, the length of each paragraph is different.

The two texts present to some extent similar situations and similar and context because Churchill uses this word "plight" and this word can be use today in the present situation. Think about the mining of the two words combined with each context.

At Churchill time there was not an epidemic, so there are differences in terms of moment we are living.

With these two texts we have the opportunity to look at each context and to refer the use and meaning of a word in relations to a context.

Between the two authors the contexts are totally different and also the meaning, in Churchill the meaning is not a physical and real meaning: there is no epidemic going on, so in Churchill is a metaphoric use of the word = metaphorical plight = symbolic use of the word. "Epidemic" is a real use of the word, there is a real epidemic today.

So, you have to understand if there is a metaphoric or real use of a word. A word so is a castle and we ask to enter this castle to discover the rooms that are contained.

Do you think that "epidemic" is used only in a real use?

We are aware if we accept the word and little by little become aware of the situation, that we are sick, that we live in a condition of illness. This is not an automatic mechanism, but this is the first step: become aware of the ill, we need to let it in, we need to open our eyes and ears.

The second step is to accept it. Especially when the situation is not sunshine but very demanding.

Every single word can be polysemic. The meaning of the word "war" referred to Churchill' text and the Coronavirus differs because at Churchill time there was the Second World War. On the chronological axes we would put IIWW on the temporal axes (category of time). As far the coronavirus is concern, we need to accept the fact that we are at war, but what type of war? A different type, not declared, our enemies are invisible, dangerous...

Our war against epidemic needs first of all to be recognized. Is a necessary process in order to do what? To find a remedy. We need a remedy. Once I have accepted to face the situation I can go on and react. We're ask to find a remedy and our remedy is to accept that now I'm at home. I need to adapt myself to a very new situation. Only when we react, we can find a remedy.

In both cases the idea of remedy goes together with the idea of agency: we cannot waste time.

The idea of remedy needs to be combined with the idea of urgency = we need to find a remedy right now. Both texts shared the idea of community VS the idea of isolation.

The proposed remedy is to maintain, or in case of Churchill to form, a community. Community = antidoted against isolation.

With: we are one with the other, we are together and that's the remedy. The remedy proposed by both tests have a lot in common. The focus in both texts is "relations" VS isolation.

Who is the leader of a sentence? Verb or subject? Different point of views.

In English we need to express the subject? Why in English there is this necessity and in Italian no? Because the verb does not characterize the subject. In English the form of the verb is always the same, we have little flexion while in Italian we still have it. In English no flexion a part for the third person. In Italian each person is characterized.

Even if Italian and English belong to the same subordinative logical structure they have some differences.

In English we always need to express the subject to avoid misleading. In Italian the person, the subject is already contained in the flexion. In Italian I can eliminate the personal pronoun because the verb already contained the person.

The subject gives direction, taught the verbs to shine.

You can object that it's the verb itself which entitles a sentence to be defined as such. It's only such a relationship that the subject is defined as subject and the verb takes in the indication from the subject. They do not live separated, in isolation but they live only for the fact that they are in relations. They are somehow subject to their relations. Are the verbs which dictates the rules, the flexion. It has to take in. is the subject which can be defined a subject only because is the verb which following its instruction gives birth to the sentence.

Verbs and subjects are not isolated monad. Verbs and subjects are in relations one with the other.

They exist only in this relation.

"All in all, it's just another brick IN the wall"

The preposition we're now analyzing is IN.

In this context the preposition IN expresses the sense of belonging of a tiny object to a much bigger entity with a metaphorical meaning. "IN" also implies a feeling of unity with something bigger (and thus stronger) than the object alone. If the brick on itself has no purpose and no reason to be, once it is INside the bigger object, it gains a fundamental role as part of the wall that can both represent a defense or a limit to somebody freedom, to be intended as freedom of mind or freedom of body.

A small entity makes a big difference withIN its context, many small entities create an entity stronger in meaning.

6 April

Be aware that we are speaking beings. We speak according to a certain structure, the subordinative structure.

Prepositions = relational words = a word which exist only because is put ante, before, and it is necessarily followed by something else. They do exist only in a combination.

There are some grammatical categories which, more than other, insist upon this relational aspect because they work more on the connective texture of the word, of the language. Prepositions are included in this special part of the language.

Preposition = Something which is put before something else and only exists in this relation → example → for you = existence of "for" is guarantee by its relationship with you. Also "you" is guarantee in this meaning by the preposition "for".

Time and space = some prepositions present both combinations and meaning, following the category con time and space. Example: → preposition BEFORE: "before midnight" = refer to the category of time; "before" me = in front of me. The same preposition can assume both temporal and special connotation.

Comprehensive prospective:

- With/without = one is positive, there is a presence, and the second does underline the lack of something;
- Before/After;
- In/Out;
- Inside/Outside;
- For/against

Each language approaches and uses preposition according its own structure. If you are aware of the power of each preposition will be automatic to double check.

Focus on the word "relation": in our subordinative structure and following this inclination, we face such a sentence structure composed at the minimum level of a subject + verb = where the subject leader of the sentence and somehow dictate rules to the verb but at the same time the verb itself imposes its rules as a matter of that a sentence to be declared as such needs a verb; only with a verb I can define a linguistic unity as sentence. So, a subject by itself is not sufficient. Another exclusive issue: these two linguistic entities are not de touched monads; they are in relations. Their role cannot be played monadically, but it can only be played in relation one with the other.

S + V are in relation one with the other, they are not detached monads.

On the way to language: Martin Heidegger

Simple sample and taste of Heidegger's work. Focus on the title: "On the way to language" → we are walking towards; we are on the way to language. It does means that we have started our linguistic journey. Now we are on our way.

What do you understand when we say "I'm on my way to language"? it is a lifelong journey! Language is our life. On...to → express the idea of working in progress, and evolution. This text can help to understand what it means "subordinative" and "coordinative" logic and conferring a geographical connotation.

Chapter 3, dialogue between a Japanese and the authors and they are referring to what the count Kuki refers about language. What is interesting is the impossibility in translating some idea from the western logic to the eastern one.

Count Kuki tried to use words in order to express eastern ideas using European aesthetics and philosophy. So, count cookie whose German was absolutely perfect run in this impossible task of translating some concepts and transferring them from the eastern in to the western one, using western philosophy.

The Japanese report that he bumped in sufficient patterns/structure of the language. What the count cookie wants to do is to transport some eastern ideas using western European philosophy and aesthetic.

Count Kuki wanted to translate the word "IKI" using European philosophical thought and European aesthetic categories. That was the problem. this is the way throw which Heidegger introduces the founding differences between the two logic.

Heidegger gives us a beautiful definition of language: language (= linguaggio) is the home of being.

8 April 2020

Perception of time and space.

Name = identity = idea of sacrality

Preposition = implies the idea of relationship

