MASKED INVERSION IN FRENCH

Paul M. Postal

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Masked Inversion In French:

Masked Inversion in French ,1987   **Masked Inversion in French** Paul M. Postal,1989-02-28 In this important work of linguistic analysis Paul M Postal addresses a paradigm anomaly in French that has hitherto resisted explanation A general restriction limiting the form of direct objects in complex infinitival constructions with main verbs like faire fails to hold with certain subordinate verbs especially conna tre Marshaling extensive evidence Postal argues that this apparent irregularity is a symptom of a deeper regularity Rather than being an ordinary transitive complement the subordinate clause in these cases is actually an Inversion structure one in which the logical subject demotes to indirect object However since this demotion induces no word order change or other direct morphological consequences the inversion is masked and revealed only by several types of apparent anomalies This analysis has significant consequences for contemporary syntactic theories First the arguments support the view that a sentence s superficial structure cannot be identified with its syntactic structure even though such an identification is a fundamental assumption of several currently influential grammatical frameworks Second even certain theories that do posit abstract aspects of grammatical form fail to allow for the needed Inversion structures Postal s study supports theories based on the notion of arc and stratification into levels which provide a natural treatment consistent with the factual requirements Masked Inversion in French is the first systematic account of this puzzling French syntactic anomaly and its findings will stimulate research in many areas of natural language grammatical structure   *Topics in French Syntax* Geraldine Legendre,2016-11-10 The main goal of this study first published in 1994 is to present a substantial part of the grammar of French This goal is achieved by bringing together two aspects of syntactic investigation First the study focuses on a vast range of French clausal phenomena including Object Raising constructions Causative constructions of various types Impersonal constructions amongst many others Second the investigation is conducted within the framework of Relational Grammar This title will be of interest to students of language and linguistics

French North America in the Shadows of Conquest Ryan André Brasseaux,2020-12-29 French North America in the Shadows of Conquest is an interdisciplinary postcolonial and continental history of Francophone North America across the long twentieth century revealing hidden histories that so deeply shaped the course of North America Modern French North America was born from the process of coming to terms with the idea of conquest after the fall of New France The memory of conquest still haunts those 20 million Francophones who call North America home The book re examines the contours of North American history by emphasizing alliances between Acadians Cajuns and Qu b cois and French Canadians in their attempt to present a unified challenge against the threat of assimilation linguistic extinction and Anglophone hegemony It explores cultural trauma narratives and the social networks Francophones constructed and shows how North American history looks radically different from their perspective This book presents a missing chapter in the annals of linguistic and ethnic differences on a continent defined in part by its histories of dispossession It will be of interest to scholars and students

of American and Canadian history particularly those interested in French North America as well as ethnic and cultural studies comparative history the American South and migration **Phi-features and the Modular Architecture of Language** Milan Rezac,2010-11-12 This monograph investigates the modular architecture of language through the nature of uninterpretable phi features person number gender and Case It provides new tools and evidence for the modular architecture of the human language faculty a foundational topic of linguistic research At the same time it develops a new theory for one of the core issues posed by the Minimalist Program the relationship of syntax to its interfaces and the nature of uninterpretable features The work sets out to establish a new cross linguistic phenomenon to study the foregoing person governed last resort repairs which provides new insights into the nature of ergative accusative Case and of Case licensing itself This is the first monograph that explicitly addresses the syntactic vs morphological status of uninterpretable phi features and their relationship to interface systems in a similar way drawing on person based interactions among arguments as key data base **Proceedings of the 12th West Coast Conference on Formal Linguistics** Stanford Linguistics Association,1994 Proceedings of a conference on Formal Linguistics **Routledge Dictionary of Language and Linguistics** Hadumod Bussmann,2006-02-20 The Routledge Dictionary of Language and Linguistics is a unique reference work for students and teachers of linguistics The highly regarded second edition of the Lexikon der Sprachwissenschaft by Hadumod Bussmann has been specifically adapted by a team of over thirty specialist linguists to form the most comprehensive and up to date work of its kind in the English language In over 2 500 entries the Dictionary provides an exhaustive survey of the key terminology and languages of more than 30 subdisciplines of linguistics With its term based approach and emphasis on clear analysis it complements perfectly Routledge s established range of reference material in the field of linguistics **Tzotzil Clause Structure** J. Aissen,2012-12-06 xv NOTES ON THE ORTHOGRAPHY AND CITATIONS xxi LIST OF ABBREVIA TIONS XXIl CHAPTER 1 GRAMMATICAL NOTES 1 1 Introduction 1 2 Basics 1 3 Major Lexical Classes 2 3 1 V 3 3 2 N 3 3 3 A 5 3 3 1 Quantifiers 6 3 3 2 Existentials and Locatives 6 4 Minor Lexical Classes 7 4 1 Clitics 7 4 1 1 Clause proclitic 7 4 1 2 S enclitic 8 4 1 3 V enclitic 8 4 1 4 Clause second 9 4 2 Directionals 9 4 3 Particles 11 5 Flagging 11 6 Word Order 12 7 Construction Survey 12 7 1 Negation 12 13 7 2 Questions 7 3 Complement Clauses 14 16 7 4 Motion cum Purpose 17 7 5 Topics 7 6 Prepredicate Position 18 19 Notes CHAPTER 2 THEORETICAL SKETCH 20 20 1 Arcs vii Vlll T ABLE OF CONTENTS 1 1 Sets of Grammatical Relations 22 1 2 Stratum 24 Ergative and Absolutive 1 3 25 1 4 25 Formal Connections between Arcs 2 Sponsor and Erase 26 2 1 Successors 26 2 2 Replacers 28 2 3 Self Sponsor and Self Erase 30 3 Ancestral Relations 31 4 Pair Networks 31 Resolution of Overlapping Arcs 32 5 6 Coordinate Determination 33 7 Rules and Laws 35 8 Word Order 36 9 APG Versions of RG Laws 36 9 1 Stratal Uniqueness Law 36 9 2 Chomeur Law and Motivated Chomage Law 36 Relational Succession Law and Host Limitation Law 9 3 *Three Investigations of Extraction* Paul Martin Postal,1998 In this technical monograph Paul Postal deals with several issues that inexplicably have been treated

only marginally in the development of current linguistic theorizing He focuses on three problems in syntactic theory that are connected to extraction the occurrence of an element in a distinguished position distinct from its unmarked locus in simple clauses He examines a largely ignored body of systematic contrasts among known extraction types the status of the Coordinate Structure Constraint and the phenomenon of Right Node Raising Current Studies in Linguistics 29 **Syntactic Change in Medieval French** Barbara S. Vance,2012-12-06 1 0 V2 AND NULL SUBJECTS IN THE HIS TORY OF FRENCH The prototypical Romance null subject language has certain well known characteristics verbal inflection is rich distinguishing six per sonlnumber forms subject pronouns are generally emphatic and when there is no need to emphasize the subject the pronoun is not expressed at all Spanish and Italian for example fit this description rather weIl Modem French however provides a striking contrast to these lan guages it does not allow subjects to be missing and not unexpectedly it has a verbal agreement system with few overt endings and subject pronouns which are not emphatic One of the goals of the present work is to examine null subjects in two dialects of Romance that fit neither the Italian nor the French model later Old French 12th 13th centriries and MiddIe French 14th 15th centuries Old French has null subjects only in contexts where the subject would be postverbal if expressed cf Foulet 1928 and Mid dIe French has null subjects in a wider range of syntactic contexts but does not freely allow a11 persons of the verb to be null The work of Vanelli Renzi and Beninca 1985 along with many other works by these authors individually shows that a number of other geographically proximate medieval dialects had similar systems though it appears that there are significant differences in detail among them **Manual of Grammatical Interfaces in Romance** Susann Fischer,Christoph Gabriel,2016-09-12 Different components of grammar interact in non trivial ways It has been under debate what the actual range of interaction is and how we can most appropriately represent this in grammatical theory The volume provides a general overview of various topics in the linguistics of Romance languages by examining them through the interaction of grammatical components and functions as a state of the art report but at the same time as a manual of Romance languages **Theory Groups and the Study of Language in North America** Stephen O. Murray,1994 Theory Groups in the Study of Language in North America provides a detailed social history of traditions and revolutionary challenges to traditions within North American linguistics especially within 20th century anthropological linguistics After showing substantial differences between Bloomfield s and neo Bloomfieldian theorizing Murray shows that early transformational generative work on syntax grew out of neo Bloomfieldian structuralism and was promoted by neo Bloomfieldian gatekeepers in particular longtime Language editor Bernard Bloch The central case studies of the book contrast the increasingly revolutionary rhetoric of transformational generative grammarians with rhetorics of continuity emitted by two linguistic anthropology groupings that began simultaneously with TGG in the late 1950s the ethnography of communication and ethnoscience Parasitic Gaps Peter W. Culicover,Paul M. Postal,2001-01-29 This book offers a comprehensive survey of research on parasitic gaps an intriguing syntactic phenomenon This book offers a comprehensive

survey of research on parasitic gaps an intriguing syntactic phenomenon The first section of the book contains a history of work on the topic and three fundamental previously published papers The remaining three sections present new perspectives on the theory of parasitic gaps based on data taken from diverse languages Contributors Michael Calcagno Peter W Culicover Elisabet Engdahl Robert Hukari Andreas Kathol Christopher Kennedy Katalin Kiss Robert Levine Alan Munn Jamal Ouhalla Paul M Postal Christine Tellier   *Representation of Cognitive Structures* Michel Achard,2011-08-17 No detailed description available for Representation of Cognitive Structures   **Microparametric Syntax and Dialect Variation** James R. Black,Virginia Motapanyane,1996 Richard Kayne s introduction to this volume stresses that comparative work on the syntax of very closely related languages and dialects is a research tool promising to provide both a broad understanding of parameters at their finest grained and an approach to the question of the minimal units of syntactic variation The 11 articles in this collection demonstrate the use of this tool in analyzing microparametric variation principally with reference to Chomsky s Minimalist program in a variety of languages Topics include se si constructions hypothetical infinitives and adverbial quantifiers in French and other Romance languages that trace variation Scandinavian possessive constructions reflexives and subject verb agreement in Icelandic anaphoric agreement in Labrador Inuttut negative particle questions in Chinese imperative inversion in Belfast English and the second person singular interrogative in the traditional vernacular of Bolton   **Complex Verb Formation** D. Gary Miller,1993-01-21 This investigation of complex verb formation seeks to identify and clarify the way s in which a base verb becomes complex The author carefully considers both the syntactic and the morphological side of this question and in doing so brings a wealth of data from very diverse languages to bear on claims made about the relationship between syntactic and morphological structure The work takes the radical position that most data admit of either a syntactic Phrase Structure or lexical analysis because both are likely to be valid under different circumstances Both approaches are consistently defended in an attempt to illustrate the complementarity of the two and ascertain which is the better formulation for a given set of data Placing his analysis firmly in the context of historical linguistics the author shows that it is necessary to admit the possibility of lexicalization The book pays attention to many alternative viewpoints and its value is further enhanced by a 40 page bibliography Miller s insightful treatment of questions of lexical decomposition the relationship of morphology to syntax and the encoding of argument structure on verbs make this a work of the utmost importance for syntacticians as well as morphologists   *Argument Structure and Syntactic Relations* Maia Duguine,Susana Huidobro,Nerea Madariaga,2010-07-14 The topic of this collection is argument structure The fourteen chapters in this book are divided into four parts Semantic and Syntactic Properties of Event Structure A Cartographic View on Argument Structure Syntactic Heads Involved in Argument Structure and Argument Structure in Language Acquisition Rigorous theoretical analyses are combined with empirical work on specific aspects of argument structure The book brings together authors working in different linguistic fields semantics syntax and language acquisition who explore new findings as

well as more established data but then from new theoretical perspectives The contributions propose cartographic views of argument structure as opposed to minimalistic proposals of a binary template model for argument structure in order to optimally account for various syntactic and semantic facts as well as data derived from wider cross linguistic perspectives

Generative Grammar's Grave Foundational Errors Paul M. Postal,2025-08-04 This work examines Noam Chomsky s widely accepted ontological assumptions now referred to as biolinguistics and demonstrates that they are internally inconsistent Notably it is shown that Chomsky himself has at least once admitted this flaw Additionally the volume challenges a fundamental assumption from Chomsky s 1950s linguistic writings This is the claim that the grammars of natural languages particularly of English must be constructive proof theoretic devices usually called generative grammars It is shown that this persistent view cannot in principal account for a multitude of linguistic structures realized as perfectly natural sentences Finally the work scrutinizes Chomsky s frequent assertion that there is essentially only one language spoken on Earth revealing it to have no actual substance The exposition of these flaws calls for a reassessment of fundamental aspects of generative linguistics *Grammatical Relations* Clifford S. Burgess,Katarzyna Dziwirek,Donna B. Gerdts,1995 This is a collection of discussions of grammatical relations and related concepts using current syntactic theory **Grammatical Relations** Patrick Farrell,2005-07-01 Patrick Farrell shows how grammatical relations are characterized in competing theories of grammar and reveals the different theories merits and limitations He compares mainstream generative transformational theory with formalist and functionalist approaches showing points of convergence and divergence This is an ideal introduction to the field for graduate students and will be a useful reference for theoretical syntacticians of all persuasions

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