

# **Syntactic typology: Word order typology**

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## Word order (Dyrrer, M. 2007. in *Shopen Language Typology and Syntactic Description*, eBook CAU Bibliothek)

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- Often word order (or constituent order) = the order of subject, object, and verb with respect to each other (e.g. SOV, SVO, etc.)
- More generally, word order refers to the order of any set of elements
  - either **at the clause level**
  - or within **phrases**, e.g. the order of elements within a noun phrase or an adpositional phrase

## Word order (Dyrrer, M. 2007. in *Shopen Language Typology and Syntactic Description*, eBook)

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- Two kinds of questions
  - what is the order of elements is in the language?
  - how does the word order in the language conforms to cross-linguistic universals and tendencies?

## Wortstellung/Satzstellung

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- Was kann man auf der Grundlage der folgenden Beispielen (a-e) über die Wortstellung im Lesgischen (Nakh-Daghestanisch) sagen?  
Was ist ähnlich mit dem Deutschen, was ist anders?

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# Wortstellung/Satzstellung (en. word order)

## Lesgisch

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- a) *Alfija-di maqala kxe-na*  
Alfija-ERG article.ABS write-PST  
'Alfija wrote an article.'
- b) *Zun ata-na*  
I.ABS come-PST  
'I came.'
- c) *Zi gweči wax ata-na*  
I.GEN little sister come-PST  
'My little sister came.'
- d) *Dnaxtur-ri-n patariw fe-na*  
doctor-PL-GEN to go-PST  
'She went to doctors.'
- e) *Zun tonzdi-m k'anikaj Nadjadi-n čini-z kilig-na.*  
I.ABS umbrella-GEN under Nadja-GEN face-DAT look-PST  
'I looked at Nadja's face from under the umbrella.'

# Wortstellung/Satzstellung (en. word order)

## Lesgisch

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a) *Alfija-di maqala kxe-na*  
Alfija-ERG article.ABS write-PST  
'Alfija wrote an article'

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## Wortstellung/Satzstellung (en. word order)

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### - **SOV**

*Alfija-di      maq̃ala      kxe-na*

Alfija-ERG    article      write.PST

SOV 'Alfija wrote an article'

# Wortstellung/Satzstellung (en. word order)

## Lesgisch

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d) *Dnauxtur-ri-n patariw fe-na*

doctor-PL-GEN to go-PST

‘She went to doctors.’

e) *Zun tonzdi-m k’anikaj Nadjadi-n čini-z*

I.ABS umbrella-GEN under Nadja-GEN face-DAT

*kilig-na.*

look-PST

‘I looked at Nadja’s face from under the umbrella.’



## Wortstellung/Satzstellung (en. word order)

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- Lezgian employs **postpositions**, which follow the NP, rather than prepositions:

*duxtur-rin*                      *patariw*

doctor-GEN.PL      to

‘to doctors’

## Wortstellung/Satzstellung (en. word order)

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- Genitive noun phrases/possessors precede the noun/possessee

*Nadjadi-n čini-z*

Nadja-GEN face-DAT

‘at Nadja’s face’

## Individuelle Arbeit: Word Order

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- Lesen Sie den Text und beantworten Sie die Fragen/Lösen die Aufgabe auf der Rückseite

### Order of Subject, Object and Verb

This survey considers the ordering of subject, object, and verb in a transitive clause, more specifically declarative clauses in which both the subject and object involve a noun (and not just a pronoun), as in the English sentence in (1):

(1) [The dog] chased [the cat].  
          S          V          O