
Chapter 10: Multi-Clause Constructions

Italian

Sandra A. Thompson

Selected abbreviations: INF = Infinitive, SJV = Subjunctive (a semi-finite verb form). Some of the morphemes are separated and glossed for you, just to get you started.

1. Io parl-o inglese. 'I speak English.'
1SG speak-1SG English
2. Lui parl-a inglese. '_____.'3SG.M -3SG
3. Io vogli-o parl-are inglese. 'I want to speak English.'
want-1SG -INF
4. Lui vuol-e che lei parl-i inglese. 'He wants her to speak English.'
want-3SG 3SG.F -SJV
5. Lui sa che lei parla inglese. '_____.'know.3SG
6. Lei sper-a di mang-iare la pizza. 'She hopes to eat the pizza.'
hope-3S -INF DET
7. Lei spera che lui mang-i la pizza. '_____.'-SJV
8. Lei cred-e che lui mangi pizza. 'She believes that he eats pizza.'
believe-3SG
9. Lui sa che lei mang-ia la pizza. '_____.'-3SG
10. Lui vuole andare alla spiaggia. 'He wants to go to the beach.'
11. Io spero di andare alla spiaggia. '_____.'
12. Io spero che lui prend-a la sua macchina. 'I hope that he'll take his car.'
take-SJV POSS car
13. Io so che lui prend-e la sua macchina. 'I know that he'll take his car.'
-3SG

14. Lei dic-e che lui parla spagnolo. 'She says that he speaks Spanish.'
-3SG

15. Io so parlare spagnolo. 'I know how to speak Spanish.'

A. Fill in the missing English free translations.

B. Draw brackets around the complement clauses in these data.

On a separate page, please answer the following questions:

C. What structurally-defined types of complement clauses do you see in these data? Describe each type of complement clause, including its structural characteristics and your best interpretation concerning the conditions under which it occurs.

D. Are there any main clause predicates that take more than one complement clause type? If so, what are they?