

# Lecture 5. Linguistic Features of Germanic Languages. Grammar.

## 1. Germanic morphology

1.1. Form building means in Old Germanic languages

1.2. Morphological system of Old Germanic nouns. Types of stems and declensions.

1.3. Germanic \_\_\_\_\_. Declensions of adjectives

1.4. Classes of Old Germanic pronoun

1.5. Verbal system in Old Germanic languages

## 2. Germanic \_\_\_\_\_

2.1. Word order and structure of OG simple sentence

2.2. The Word Order of OG Questions (Interrogative sentences)

2.3. Subordinate Clauses and Compound Sentences

2.4. \_\_\_\_\_

3. Seven distinctive features of Germanic languages

# What is grammar?

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= morphology, \_\_\_\_\_, and phonology,  
often complemented by \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_, and pragmatics.

**Grammar** is a branch of Linguistics, including \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as its two main parts.

- \_\_\_\_\_ studies the forms of words, the grammatical structure of words and the \_\_\_\_\_ realized by them.
- Syntax studies the \_\_\_\_\_ of words in word groups and sentences. It is the study of \_\_\_\_\_ between words and other units within sentence.



A **synthetic language** is a language which uses inflectional forms, such as endings, to indicate the \_\_\_\_\_ the parts of the sentence.

The opposite is an \_\_\_\_\_, in which the word forms are mostly or totally fixed, and \_\_\_\_\_ are indicated through the use of helper words and word order.

# I. Germanic \_\_\_\_\_

## I.1. Form Building Means

The formation of grammatical word forms, or \_\_\_\_\_, is the process that generates the forms of a \_\_\_\_\_ word.

*e.g. I speak – I spoke – I will speak*

*a table – the table – tables*

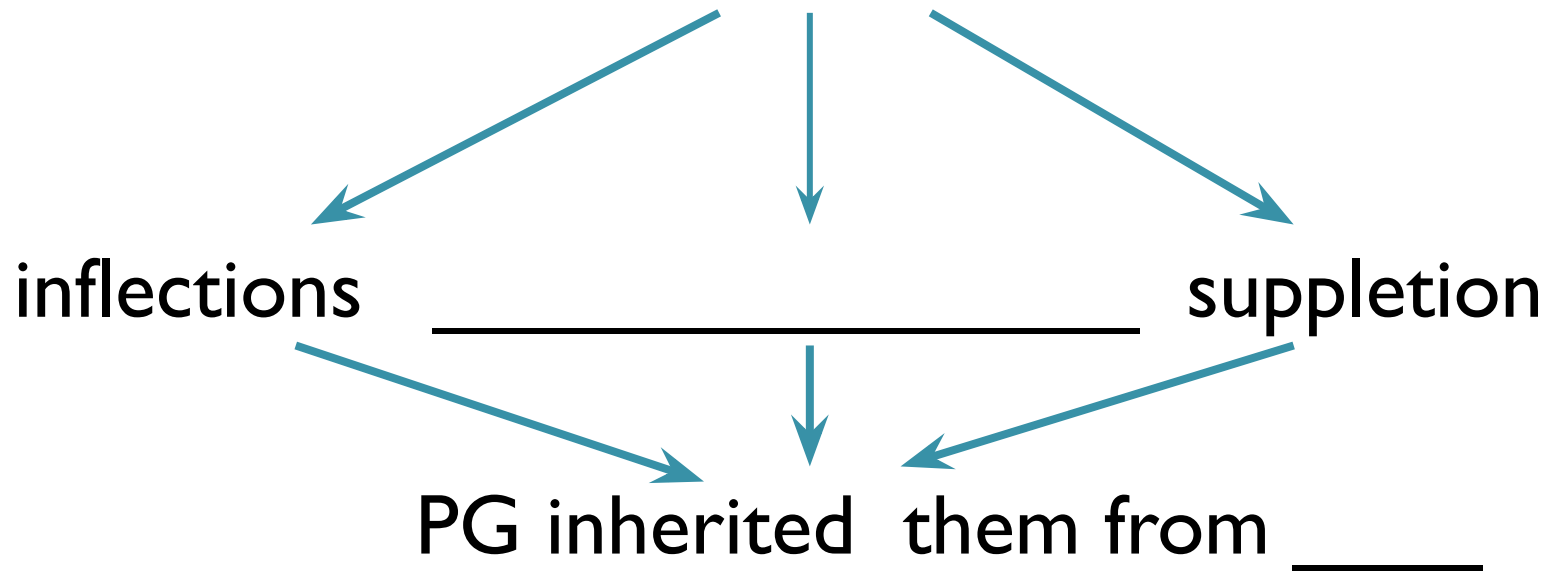
Where are the synthetic and analytic form-building means in this example?

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PIE = EPG = LPG = \_\_\_\_\_ languages

Synthetic means of word building in PG



- \_\_\_\_\_ (**endings**) = the principal means of form-building in OG.  
 inflections used in \_\_\_\_\_ languages  
 =  
 inflections used in \_\_\_\_\_ languages

But! PIE inflections became \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ in PG.

- **Sound interchanges** = characteristic feature of the Germanic group, \_\_\_\_\_

The consonants were \_\_\_\_\_ .

The vowels were \_\_\_\_\_ .

e.g. OE *beran* - *bær* - *bæron* – *boren* – *birþ* – *bearn* – *gebyrd*

NE *bear* – *bore* – *bore* – *born* – *bears* – *barn* – *birth*

# What linguistic term is used for these sound interchanges?

OE *beran* - *bær* - *báron* – *boren* – *birþ* – *bearn*

NE *bear* – *bore* – *bore* – *born* – *bears* – *barn*

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*Old* *bera* (to give birth) — *barn* (baby)

*Rus* *бреду* – *брод*

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*Gr* *patēr* – *pater*



# Suppletion

The suppletive way of form-building

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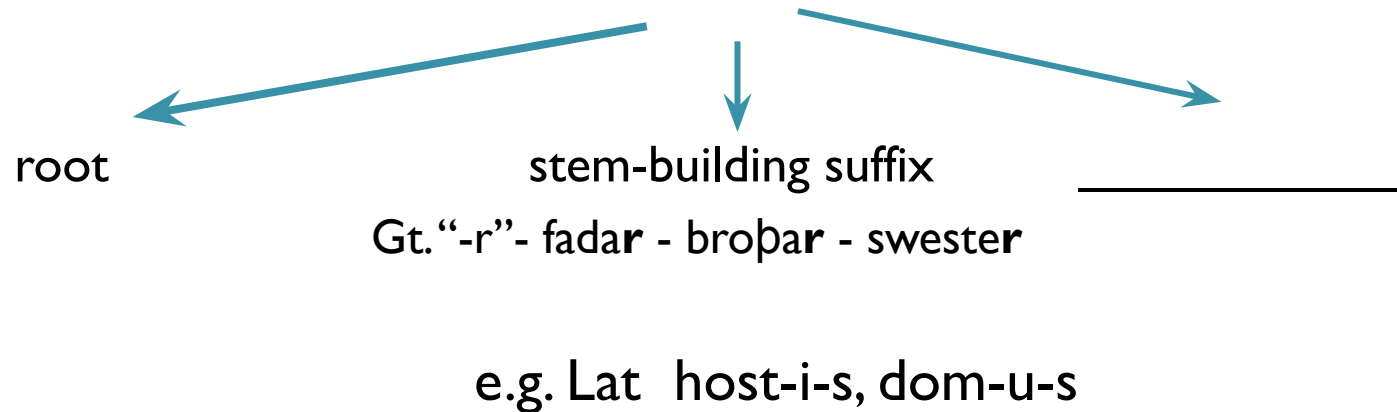
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a few PG personal pronouns, \_\_\_\_\_ and verbs.

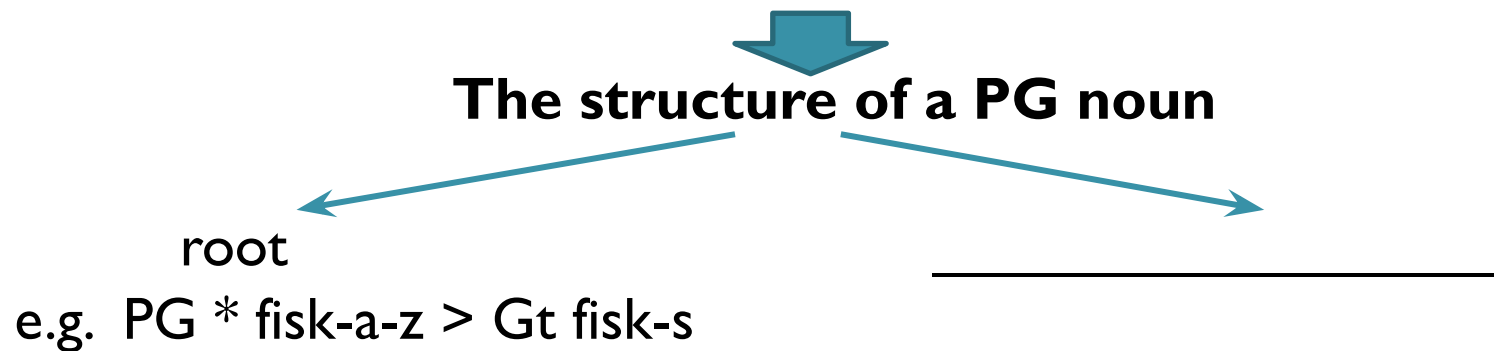
L	Fr	R	Gt	O Icel	OE	NE
ego	je	я	ik	ek	ic	I
mei	mon	меня	meina	min	min	my, mine
mihi	me, moi	мне	mis	mer	me	me

# I. 2. Morphological System of Old Germanic Nouns

## The structure of a PIE noun



## Simplification of a stem or



# *Types of Noun Stems and declensions in OG languages*

1) vocalic stems: -a-, -o-, -i-, -u- stems =

\_\_\_\_\_.

2) -n- stems = \_\_\_\_\_.

3) Stems in other consonants: -s-, and -r-  
stems = **s / r declension**

4) Root – stems: no stem-building suffix =

\_\_\_\_\_.

# What is a declension?

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e.g. *Eng a man – men*

*a table – tables*

*Rus 1 dec. (fem., musc., -а, -я)*

*ед. ч.*

*мн.ч.*

*И.п. мама*

*мамы*

*Р.п. мамы*

*мам*

*Д.п. маме*

*мамам*

*...*

What nominal grammatical categories can we see  
in Modern English and in Russian?

Grammatical categories	PIE nouns	OG nouns
Number	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Singular</li> <li>2. Plural</li> <li>3. Dual</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Singular</li> <li>2. _____</li> </ol>
Gender	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. _____</li> <li>2. Feminine</li> <li>3. Neuter</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Masculine</li> <li>2. Feminine</li> <li>3. _____</li> </ol>
Case	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. _____</li> <li>2. Accusative</li> <li>3. Genitive</li> <li>4. Dative</li> <li>5. Instrumental</li> <li>6. Ablative</li> <li>7. Locative</li> <li>8. Vocative</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Nominative</li> <li>2. Genitive</li> <li>3. Dative</li> <li>4. _____</li> </ol>

# 1.3. The Old Germanic Adjective

Adjectives = \_\_\_\_\_ in PIE

2 aspects of differentiation of N and Adj in IE:

- the category of gender was a grammatical category for adjectives and \_\_\_\_\_ – for nouns.
- adjectives had the \_\_\_\_\_.

Declension of adjectives in Old Germanic languages is typically Germanic feature.

Every adjective in OG was declined according to the \_\_\_\_\_ declension (with a vocalic stem) and to the \_\_\_\_\_ declension (with an -n- stem).

Weak declension forms are used when the adjectives are preceded by a demonstrative pronoun or the definite article, they are associated with the \_\_\_\_\_.

e.g. *þa geongan ceorlas* 'the young fellows' - weak

*geonge ceorlas* 'young fellows' - strong

# *Degrees of comparison*

\_\_\_\_\_ degrees of comparison in OG:

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The main form-building means = \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ degree of adjectives in EG  
languages

**-iz(a); -oz(a)** (in Gothic),  
in Western and Northern Germanic languages  
the rhotacism took place >**-ir(a), or(a)**.

\_\_\_\_\_ degree was formed with the help  
of suffixes **-ist, - ost**.

e.g. Gt hauhs –hauh**iza** - hau**hist**



# I. 4. Classes of pronouns in OG

Modern Germanic Pronoun classes are:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ (I, you),
2. \_\_\_\_\_ (her, mine),
3. \_\_\_\_\_ (this, those),
4. \_\_\_\_\_ (Who, which),
5. \_\_\_\_\_ (*all, any, anyone, each, few, many, none, one, and something*),
6. \_\_\_\_\_ (that, which, who), reflexive (myself),
7. \_\_\_\_\_ (*each other and one another*).

Old Germanic pronoun classes are:

1. Personal
2. Demonstrative
- +  
3. interrogative,
4. indefinite (negative),
5. relative

## OG Personal Pronouns

In OG (OE, Gothic), there are besides singular and plural personal pronouns, also \_\_\_\_\_ pronouns for the 1st and 2nd persons.

\_\_\_\_\_ (typical way of form-building )

L	Fr.	Goth	OE	NE
ego	je	ik	ic	I
mei	mon	meina	min	my, mine
mihi	me, moi	mis	me	me

# 1.5. Verbal system in Old Germanic languages

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**PIE verbs** had

\_\_\_ **moods**: indicative, imperative, subjunctive and optative, as well as possibly the injunctive;

\_\_\_ **voices**: active and mediopassive,

\_\_\_ **persons**: first, second and third

\_\_\_ **numbers**: singular, dual and plural.

\_\_\_ **"tenses/ aspects"**: continuous, the momentaneous, and the resultative.

## OG verbs



Strong verbs \_\_\_\_\_

= the main mass of verbs.

Weak verbs were specifically Germanic in the type of \_\_\_\_\_.

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- the preterit-present verbs
- a few \_\_\_\_\_ verbs

Grammatical categories	PIE verbs	OG verbs
<b>Person</b>	First, Second and Third	_____, Second and Third
<b>Number</b>	Singular Dual Plural	Singular _____
<b>Tense/ aspect</b>	Continuous Momentaneous Resultative	Present Past
<b>Moods</b>	Indicative Imperative Subjunctive Optative	_____ Imperative _____
<b>Voice</b>	Active Mediopassive	Active

# PIE Aspects >>>>>> Germanic tenses

Greek:

Leipo (I leave) = IE continuous > OG present

Elipon (I left) = IE momentaneous > OG past

Leloipa (I have left) = IE resultative > OG ?

# Characteristic features of OG groups of verbs (\_\_\_\_\_)

## *Strong verbs*

\_\_\_\_\_ = verbs are strong because they

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and in this sense weak verbs had not such variety of form.

The system of strong verbs is based on vowel gradation (\_\_\_\_\_), which is also found in verbs of other IE languages.

# *Forms of the strong verbs*

\_\_\_\_\_ basic forms: the infinitive, the past singular, the \_\_\_\_\_, the second participle.

All strong verbs fall into \_\_\_\_\_ classes according to the type of gradation.

The main type of vowel gradation of first 5 classes was **e – a – 0 – 0**

<i>infinitive</i>	<i>past singular</i>	<i>past plural</i>	<i>past participle</i>
I Gt reisan	rais	<u>ri</u> sum	<u>ri</u> ans



Class \_\_\_\_ gradation is **a-ō- ō -a**

<i>infinitive</i>	<i>past singular</i>	<i>past plural</i>	<i>second participle</i>
VI <u>f</u> aran - go	<u>f</u> or	<u>f</u> orum	farans

Verbs of class \_\_\_\_ (1 type) have no vowel alternation.

Verbs of class \_\_\_\_ (2 type) have an alteration -  
**e - o - o - e.**

<i>infinitive</i>	<i>past singular</i>	<i>past plural</i>	<i>second participle</i>
VII haitan - call	haihait	haihaitum	haitans
letan - let	lailot	lailotum	letans

# Weak verbs

Weak verbs derive their past tense and second participle by means of a \_\_\_\_\_ [θ, ð, d/t].

**These verbs are peculiar to Germanic languages.**

In all Germanic languages except \_\_\_\_\_ there were \_\_\_\_\_ classes of weak verbs, which were distinguished by their stem-building suffixes. All of them had 3 principal forms: infinitive, past and \_\_\_\_\_.

<i>infinitive</i>	<i>past</i> <i>singular/plural</i>	<i>second participle</i>
OE macian - make	macode	macod

# The Gothic classes of weak verbs had the following forms:

<i>infinitive</i>	<i>past singular</i>	<i>past plural</i>	<i>second participle</i>
I hausjan - hear	hausida	hausidedum	hausi s
II salbon - salve	salboda	salbodedum	salbo s
III haban - have	habaida	habaidedum	habai s
IV fullnan - fill	fullnoda	fullnodedum	-

## 2. Germanic syntax

### 2.1. \_\_\_\_\_ and structure of OG simple sentence

What type of word order is characteristic for the Modern English language?

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#### Evidence for \_\_\_\_\_ Order in Simple Clauses

*Gallehus* Runic inscription provides a typical pattern of the Proto-Germanic sentence structure:

- *ek hlewagastiz holtijaz horna tawido.*
- *I Hlewagastiz of Holt horn I-made*
- *I, Hlewagastir of Holt, made the horn.'*

# Structural features typical for Old Germanic languages.

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*Nástrǫndo á, norðr horfa dyrr*; at Nastrond,  
the door facing north;  
Scyldes eafore      *Scedelandum in*  
Scyld's offspring    in the Scandinavian lands  
(*Beowulf*)

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as in *Beowulf* 2430:  
Hēold mec ond hæfde    Hrēðel cyning,  
King Hrethel protected and kept me.

## 2.2. The Word Order of OG Questions (\_\_\_\_\_)

There were \_\_\_ types of interrogative sentences in OG languages: with and \_\_\_\_\_ an interrogative pronoun.

1. Questions without interrogative marker have the verb in \_\_\_\_\_ position (VS word order), as in the Old High German baptismal vows:

- *Forsahhistu unholdun?*

*Do you forsake the devil?*

- enclitic -u, as in \_\_\_\_\_:

*Maguts-u drigkan stikl...? Can you drink the cup...? John 19:39*

2. When questions include an \_\_\_\_\_ pronoun or adverb, it is \_\_\_\_\_, both in direct and indirect questions,

- *Hvat's þat drauma?*

*What sort among dreams is that? Eiríksmál I*

## 2.3. Subordinate Clauses and Compound Sentences

Subordinate clauses may be distinguished as those

- that \_\_\_\_\_, i.e. relative clauses,
- that \_\_\_\_\_, either as objects or as adverbial clauses.

- *e.g. und þana dag ei waírbái þata, dupē ei ni galáubidēs waúrdam meináim, þōei usfulljanda in mēla seinamma. (Luke 1:20)*
- *... until the day that these things shall be fulfilled, because thou believest not my words which shall be fulfilled in their season.*

## 2.4. Expression of Negation

Negation in OG languages = the particle \_\_\_\_ commonly placed \_\_\_\_\_ the verb, as also in Proto-Indo-European:

- *Hē bēot ne ālēh, He didn't fail to perform the promise, Beowulf 80*

When used with nominal and adverbial elements it is prefixed and generally \_\_\_\_\_, PGmc *un-*,

- Go. *unkunþs*, ON *ūkūðr*, OE *uncūþ*, NE *uncouth*,
- and similarly in nouns,
- Go. *unkunþi* 'lack of knowledge',
- Go. *unhráinei* 'uncleanliness' and numerous others throughout the dialects; cf. also Gothic *ni hwas* and *ni áins* 'no one'.

Negative words were often added to strengthen the negation;

- **Nē** *hīe hūru winedrihten wiht ne lōgon, Beowulf 862*
- *They did not blame their lord a whit,*





# Seven distinctive features of Germanic languages

