

Working your way up the structural ladder to large-scale analysis

## Discourse Analysis

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## Determining Limits of Units

Phonological Levels		
Level	In English	In Greek
Phoneme	/a/	/a/
Syllable	/faʃ/ in father	/pa/ in πατήρ
Phonological word (i.e., stress group)	the 'man e'quivalent	ὁ πατήρ ἐν ἐμοί ἐστιν
Phrase group	*When John arrived, †I fell silent	-
Phonological paragraph	-	-
Phonological monologue	-	-

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## Determining Limits of Units (cont)

Grammatical Levels			
		In English	In Greek
Expandable	Morpheme	-ness, -ing	-ου, -ψ
Nonexpandable	Word	Truthfulness	-
Expandable	Clause	When he saw him...	-
?Expandable?	Paragraph		
Nonexpandable	Monologue		

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## Discourse Analysis

- Fundamental Aspects of Discourse
  - *Integrity*: Discourses are integrated “chunks” comprising smaller “chunks.”
  - *Prominence*: Some things “stick out” in a discourse, carrying the main impact.
  - *Organization*: The different parts of a discourse are related to one another.

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## Discourse: 1. Integrity

- Discoverable “outline”
- Unity of Theme: Common subject matter
- Connections: Structural Grouping
- Boundaries: Indications of the Edge of Groupings

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## Integrity: Outline

- Discoverable “ordinary outline” displaying the main points, sub points, and sub-sub points.
  - I. Main point
    - A. Sub point
      - 1. Sub-sub point
      - 2. Sub-sub point
    - B. Sub point
  - II. Main point
    - A. Sub point
    - B. Sub point

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## Integrity: Theme

- Recurrence of key content words
- Recurrence of key phrases or clauses
- Recurrence of affixes
- Recurrence of ideas:
  - Synonyms, e.g., comfort/consolation
  - Antonyms, e.g., comfort/afflict
  - Hyponyms, e.g., animal → mammal → dog → working dog → Spaniel → Cocker
  - Shared Setting
  - Semantic Domains

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## Integrity: Themes (cont)

Semantic Domains	
Clean טָהוֹר καθαρός	Holy קֹדֶשׁ ἅγιος
Unclean טָמֵא ἀκάθαρτος	Profane, common לֵל לֵל βέβηλος

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## Integrity: Connections

- Parallelism (e.g., ABAB, ABA, ABBA, or "envelope" closure)
- Grammatical Dependence
  - Subordinators
  - Conjunctions
  - Propositions
  - Case Relations
  - Deixis (i.e., referring to something before or after)
- One Proposition Referentially Supporting Another (i.e., related content)

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### Integrity: Boundaries

- Discourse boundaries in Hebrew
- Sentence boundaries in Greek
- Paragraph boundaries in Greek

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### Discourse boundaries in Hebrew

- "Therefore" (לָכֵן, עַל־כֵּן)
- "And it came to pass" (וַיְהִי)

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### Sentence Boundaries in Greek

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| ■ <i>and</i> /καί                               | ■ <i>accordingly</i> / ὡστε   |
| ■ <i>for or because</i> /γάρ                    | ■ <i>but or and</i> /δέ   |
| ■ <i>therefore, thus, so, accordingly</i> / οὖν | ■ <i>but</i> /ἀλλά  |
| ■ <i>therefore, for this reason</i> /διό        | ■ <i>emphatic</i> /μέν  |
| ■ <i>then, next, afterwards</i> /ἐπειτα         | ■ <i>consequently</i> / ἄρα   |
|   | ■ <i>with the result that, in order that, therefore</i> / διὰ τοῦτο |

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### Paragraph Boundaries: Greek Narrative

- Change of actor
- Change of setting (time, location)
- Use of ἐγένετο in the sense of “it came to pass”

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### Paragraph Boundaries: Greek Epistles

- Vocative (e.g., “brothers” as an address)
- “Now concerning” (i.e., περί + genitive) for introducing a new subject
- Disclosure formula with γινώσκω, οἶδα/“to know,” etc.
- Use of γράφω/“to write” with respect to communication between parties.
- A performative verb λέγω/“to say,” ἐρωτάω/“to ask,” or παραγγέλω/“to command”
- Use of nominative pronoun ἐγώ, ἡμᾶς, οὐ, ὑμᾶς where the grammar doesn’t require it
- Use of λοιπόν to mean “finally”

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### Discourse: 2. Prominence

- Grammatical super-ordination
  - Hebrew: *כי, וכן, משום*
  - Greek: ὅτι, ἵνα, ὥστε, ὅπως, εἰ, ἕως, and γάρ.
  - English: *because, for, that, in order to, thus, if, in order that,* etc.
- Rhetorical fullness
- Maximum amount of cross reference to neighboring portions of the discourse
- Thematic material accounts well for the presence of everything else.

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## Discourse: 3. Organization

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