



Upskilling your “Introduction to language variation class”

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Topic 2, Class 3

The bloc in THEORY

You institution has rigid curricula which can hardly be changed from one year to the other, but you still find the UPSKILLS proposal interesting...

Upskills is not just a repository of content blocs, but **it also is an approach** to teaching, which aims at promoting the development of additional skills in an interactive class environment.

Where “additional” refers to the fact that an instructor must not replace the disciplinary content, for instance, theoretical linguistic, with practical notions, but integrate the two aspects.

♻️ Upskilling your “Introduction to Language variation” course



Teacher: Marie Berthouzoz

Teacher: Margherita Pallottino

Teacher: Genoveva Puskas

After the completion of this unit block, students will be familiar with:

- The concept of language variation
- The basic principles of Generative Grammar

In addition, they will be able to:

- Collect linguistic data
- Organize and annotate the data
- Confront the data with a theory (analyze)
- Compare analyses/theoretical approaches
- Interact minimally with programming
- Elaborate a report of the research activities

All of it with the support of a game!



HOW TO USE THIS
BLOC



TOPIC 1: Introduction
to language variation



TOPIC 2 - Data
collection



TOPIC 3 - Theory
driven data analysis



TOPIC 4 - Researching
classifiers cross-
linguistically



READING LIST &
references

PAGE

Topic 1 - Class 1



QUIZ

Topic1 - Class 1 -
Verification quiz



1. Learning Outcomes: **Provide examples of a non-binary/binary linguistic feature/attribute**

2. Class layout **Organization of the time in class**

2.1 Learning material

Readings: [Radford \(2009, pp. 1-19\)](#); [“Guess the language” Manual of instructions](#)

Games: [“Guess the Language!©” Hasbro](#) [“Guess who? ®”](#)

2.2 In-class activity: **“Break the ice with a guessing game” material needed, goal of the activity, carrying out the activity, estimated time**

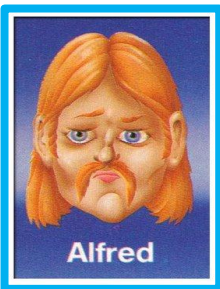
2.3 Debrief and introduction **to Generative Grammar**

3. Proposed homework

4. Assessment

5. Detailed workload (for the teacher, for the students)

Guess Who?



FINNISH

- Politeness
- Pro-drop
- Imperative morph.
- Past morph.
- SVO
- Order Possess. - N
- Wh-Fronting

FRENCH

- 20 base
- Politeness
- Gramm. Gender
- Definite article
- Indefinite article
- Self and reflexive
- Future morph.
- Imperative morph.
- Past morph.
- SVO
- Wh-Fronting

GERMAN

- Politeness
- Gramm. Gender
- Definite article
- Indefinite article
- Self and reflexive
- Imperative morph.
- Past morph.
- Order Adj. - N
- Wh-Fronting
- Order Prep. - N

HINDI

- Cha for 'tea'
- Reduplication
- Politeness
- Gramm. Gender
- Pro-drop
- Future morph.
- Imperative morph.
- Past morph.
- Order Adj. - N
- Order Possess. - N

HUNGARIAN

- Reduplication
- Politeness
- Definite article
- Indefinite article
- Pro-drop
- Past morph.
- Order Adj. - N
- SVO
- Order Possess. - N

RUSSIAN

- Hand-arm
- Cha for 'tea'
- Politeness
- Gramm. Gender
- Self and reflexive
- Imperative morph.
- Past morph.
- Order Adj. - N
- SVO
- Wh-Fronting
- Order Prep. - N

SPANISH

- Politeness
- Gramm. Gender
- Definite article
- Indefinite article
- Self and reflexive
- Future morph.
- Imperative morph.
- Past morph.
- SVO
- Wh-Fronting
- Order Prep. - N

SWAHILI

- Hand-arm
- Reduplication
- Definite article
- Self and reflexive
- Pro-drop
- Future morph.
- Imperative morph.
- Past morph.
- SVO
- Order Prep. - N

TURKISH

- Cha for 'tea'
- Reduplication
- Politeness
- Indefinite article
- Pro-drop
- Future morph.
- Imperative morph.
- Past morph.
- Order Adj. - N
- Order Possess. - N

YORUBA

- 20 base
- Reduplication
- Politeness
- Self and reflexive
- Tone
- Pro-drop
- Order Adj. - N
- Wh-Fronting
- Order Prep. - N

Does your language have a politeness distinction in its pronoun system?

YES

NO

Computer: 16 cards left

SWAHILI

- Hand-arm
- Reduplication
- Definite article
- Self and reflexive
- Pro-drop
- Future morph.
- Imperative morph.
- Past morph.
- SVO
- Order Prep. - N

Does your language have only separate words referring to the hand and (a segment of the)

Ask question

Finish turn

Game materials

ACTIVITIES



Break the ICE in class

Teach how to interact with a
JavaScript file

Teach different data collection
techniques

Teach what language diversity
comes down to be

Teach how to organize data in a
meaningful way



THANK YOU & HAVE
FUN PLAYING!

Download *Guess the Language!* ©
from the chat on Zoom: [GamePack.zip](#)

Open [index.html](#) to play on your browser