

3. Sentence analysis!

Because of standards of anatomical and clinical terminology, the structure of the sentence doesn't have to be reflected in the word order. Knowing the structure can help us understanding the sentence better and translating it with more ease. This would apply when translating from Latin and from English, but we will start with Latin. Here is a sentence:

Status post fracturam femoris lateris sinistri sine dislocatione complicatam

a) Find all nouns.

Status post fracturam femoris lateris sinistri sine dislocatione complicatam

b) Find all adjectives.

Status post fracturam femoris lateris sinistri sine dislocatione complicatam

c) Identify the subject. It will always be at the start of the sentence and in nominative case.

S
status

c) Find the closest attributes belonging to *status*. Attribute: NA (non-agreed), AA (agreed), PP (prepositional phrase). Write the agreed attributes to the left of the subject and all other attributes to the right.

S
status
PP
post fracturam

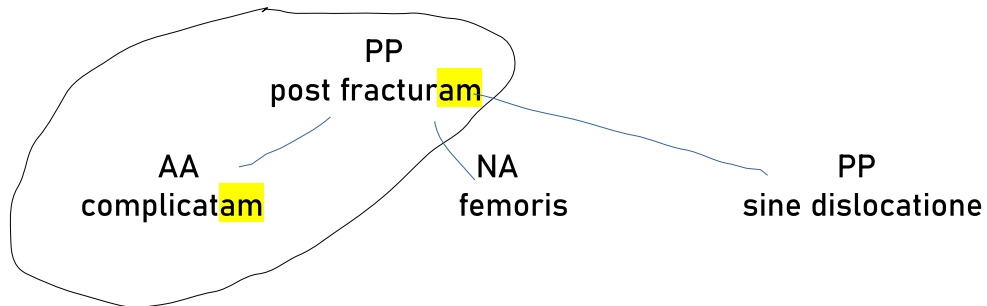
d) Continue with this path, find attributes to fracturam, then attributes to the attributes etc.

S
status
PP
post fracturam
AA
complicatam
NA
femoris
PP
sine dislocatione
NA
lateris
AA
sinistri

Notice how there is a clear path of nouns in the middle!

Notice how agreed attributes and the noun they belong to share case + number + gender.

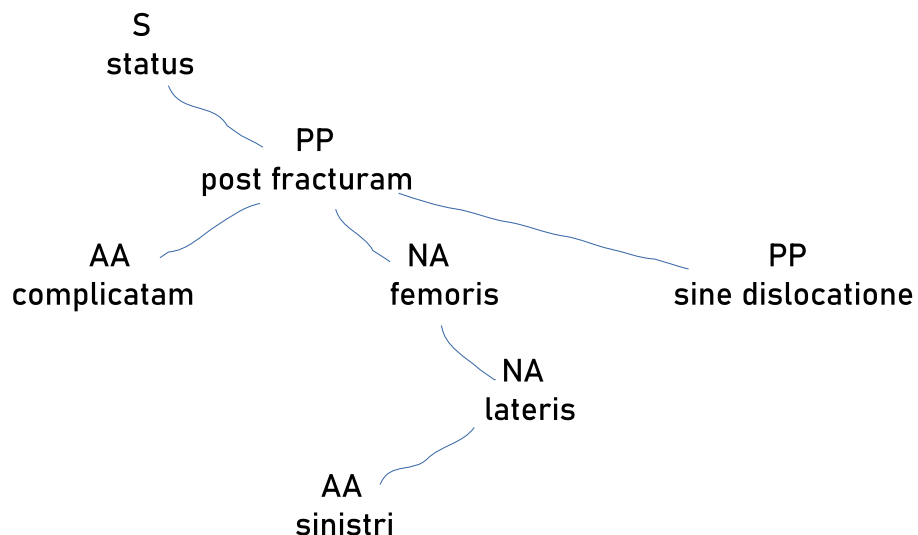
Notice how nothing is attached to agreed attributes.



The word one level above influences only the words one level below (eg. *status* has no influence in grammatical categories over *femoris* [two levels below] or *sinistri* [3 levels below]).

Subject can be sometimes made of two nouns, for example, it is common with names of muscles (*musculus abductor*, *musculus flexor* etc.). We would then put them on the same level next to each other.

Once we have the complete graph, we can use to translate. We will start at the top, then go one level down to the attribute most on the left, then moving to the right. If an attribute has other attributes, we would first follow that trail down in translation and then go back up and to the right.



1. status ↓ 2. post fracturam ↓ 3. complicatam → 4. femoris ↓ 5. lateris ↓ 6. sinistri ↑ ↑ → 7. sine dislocatione

Because the English word order is different than Latin, we will need to adjust accordingly:

state (1.) after (2.) complicated (3.) fracture (2.) of the femur (4.) of (5.) the left (6.) side (5.) without dislocation (7.)