



The Subject Notion and Functional Ways of Structuring Language

By Eric Weidner

GRIN Verlag. Paperback. Book Condition: New. Paperback. 40 pages. Dimensions: 8.5in. x 5.5in. x 0.1in. Seminar paper from the year 2007 in the subject English Language and Literature Studies - Linguistics, grade: 2, 3, University of Heidelberg (Institut fr Anglistik), course: Hauptseminar Functional Syntax, language: English, abstract: In this term paper I will investigate the structure of English sentences with the subject notion as a starting point. It presents a classical notion to analyse clauses and sentences but how exactly can a subject be defined For this purpose, I will show that the notion is not detailed enough and suggest a distinction into grammatical, logical and psychological subject. This proves useful to analyse sentences which at first glance do not appear to have any subject at all. In a next step I will focus on features of the grammatical subject according to the Cambridge Grammar of the English language (2005). The discussion will prove that the properties given for grammatical subjects do not constitute a fixed frame which sharply distinguishes between elements eligible to be subjects and others that are not. Instead I will argue that the subject category is best analysed as a prototype category and that its features have...

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