

L98: Introduction to Computational Semantics

Pre-Lecture 9 Exercise: Morphology and Word Order

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Can you understand the following sentences?

- (1) a. Mama have you said, that you first your homework make must.
- b. When you this ready have, then you can to Julia go.
- c. Lara, can you me please out the bath a towel bring?

Use bi-lexical dependency graphs to present your analysis.

Last step

Watch the first segment of the this video from *Knallerfrauen*:

<https://www.bilibili.com/video/BV1eK4y1D7GL>.

Transcription of Video

- Friend, in German:** A colleague of mine is sending her two-year-old to a bilingual nursery.
- Mum, in German:** Oh right?
- Friend, in German:** To be honest, I think this is a bit over the top. Doesn't this put too much pressure on kids that age?
- Mum, in German:** Well, it really isn't all that wrong. In the first three years, the grammar structure in the brain are formed. They will never learn languages that well as they do now. We are doing the same in this household. Jochen speaks German with Lara, and I speak nothing but English with her.
- Daughter, in German:** Kann ich zu Julia? (= Can I go visit Julia?)
- Mum, in English:** In English, please.
- Daughter, in English:** Can I to Julia?
- Mum, in English:** Mama has you told that you first your homework make must. (= Mama hat dir gesagt, dass du zuerst deine Hausaufgaben machen must.)
- When you this ready have, then you can to Julia go. (= Wenn du das fertig hast, dann kannst du zu Julia gehen.)

Transcription of Video, ctd.

- Friend, in German:** Do you really think this is going to help **that** much?
- Mum, in German:** Sure does! Think of all the pressure on today's job market. It's my duty to give my kids the best possible chances. You really don't want to be left behind. With the little one, I have been speaking only Chinese since he was born.
- Mum, in German:** Well that was a big burp.
- Mum, in Chinese:** 小宝宝 (=little baby), 肚子饱了 (=have a full stomach), 打饱嗝了 (a big burp), 你真可爱 (you are so cute)
perfect Mandarin Chinese
- Mum, in English:** Lara, can you please get out the bath a towel bring? (= Lara, kannst du mir bitte aus dem Bad ein Handtuch bringen?)
Your brother has a little [uninterpretable] made. (= Dein Bruder hat ein kleines Bäuerchen [?] gemacht.)