

Titel: Categories of conjugational morphemes, [whitfield] 015-0240

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Anvendt udgave: Louis Hjelmslev og hans kreds

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published in *Linguistique historique* et p« 175-198) nouns and verbs are to be found in all languages of the world. This universal distinction corresponds to a distinction between things and processes, and is accompanied by a grammatical distinction of the types Declension/C onjugation« Of course the terms "noun", "declension", etc. must in this context be taken in a wider sense than is normally done« By anchoring, as it were, the verb in the processes Meillet tries to deduce the various conjugational categories. The several parts of speech, as conceived by the ancient grammarians, Meillet says, are not distinguished on homogenous principles, nor are these eight parts of speech found in all languages of the world. Meillet asserts that there are only two kinds of words, which are clearly opposed to each other, and whose distinction is universal (cf. Meillet's essay "Le caractère concret du mot.".. L«H0IT pp« 9^23, in which he says that words proper must be either nouns or verbs)« It must, however, be noticed that Meillet uses the term "word" ('mot') in different senses in different contexts« Meillet himself was conscious of this difficulty (cf. Meillet: "L'évolution des formes grammaticales")« See, in this connexion, the introduction to Diderichsen: "Morpheme categories in modern Danish", *TCLC V*, pp. 134-155 (1949)° Diderichsen's formulation of the sign relation may, however, give rise to misunderstanding« Analysing the Old Church Slavonic expression $r^{\wedge}k$. "hand" we find the (syllables) $r^{\wedge} \sim lca$, or, analysing still further, whereas the extrinsic units resulting from a projection of content-units on to the expression plane are different: $rok-a$ « Similar instances of incongruence between intrinsic and extrinsic units are found in the content. In the study of conjugational categories, we face immediately the many problems specifically associated with extrinsic units« See Hjelmslev, "La stratification du langage", *TCLC XII*, pp. 36-4\$, especially pp« 62 ff *TCLC V*, pp« 97-111j