Glossary

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(W: Webster's 9th Collegiate Dictionary, SIL: Summer Institute of Linguistics Glossary of Linguistics, J: Jonah, a Handbook of the Hebrew Text). Cynthia Miller, *The Representation ov Speech in Biblical Hebrew Narrative*. Robert Longacre, *Joseph, a story of divine providence: a text-theorectical and textlinguistic analysis of Genesis 37 and 39-48*.

act – one of the successive parts in an episode focused on a particular situation where the action or activity is part of the definition of its boundaries. An act is constituent element of an episode and its constituent elements are scenes.

adjunct – (J) At the syntactic level, the term refers to non-verbal elements that can be removed from the predicate without disrupting the grammatical construction.

anaphora – (J) a grammatical element that references another word that appeared earlier in the text.

aphaeresis – the dropping of an initial vowel or consonant during inflection. It is most common in Biblical Hebrew when a weak letter (נ, ל , י , א) is not supported by a full vowel, such as the verb meaning 'to take' לְקַח inflected in the Qal imperative: a hypothetical לְקַח appears as קַח.

apocopation – (J) the shortening of a word at the end (often the dropping of a final guttural), resulting in changes to the syllable structure.

apodosis – the main clause in a conditional sentence; that is, in a sentence of the form *If X, then Y*, the apodosis is *Y* (expressing the conclusion). The term is commonly contrasted with *protasis*, which denotes the subordinate clause in such a construction; that is, in a sentence of the form *If X, then Y*, the protasis is *X* (expressing the condition).

apposition – (J) the placement of two nouns in juxtaposition, with one noun serving as a descriptive or explanatory modifier to the head. The noun in apposition has the same syntactic function as the head noun.

asyndetic – (J) the coordination of nouns or clauses without normal coordinating or subordinating conjunctions.

brachyology – a figure of speech that is an abbreviated expression, a general term for abbreviated or condensed expression, of which aposiopesis, asyndeton, are types.

calque – In linguistics, a calque or loan translation is a word or phrase borrowed from another language by literal, "word-for-word" (Latin: "verbum pro verbo") or root-for-root translation.

cataphora – (J) a grammatical element that points forward to other words that appear in a sentence or unit.

casus pendens – 'noun or pronoun at the head of a clause in such a way as to stand aloof from that which follows, and then resumed by means of a retrospective pronoun.' Jouon, §156. Related to *fronting* and *left dislocation*. Finegan, 272-4.

clause – (SIL) A clause is a grammatical unit that includes, at minimum, a predicate and an explicit or implied subject, and expresses a proposition. Clauses may be classified as an independant clause (one that stands alone) or an dependant clause (one that is necessarily depen-

dant on an independent clause). In Hebrew clauses are also defined as verbal clauses and nominal clauses. For this work, a verbal clause is a clause of which a noun (or pronoun included in the verbal form [*GKC* §140*b*]) and its predicate is a finite verb and that verb is the first element is a verb in the clause (including verbs with a prefixed ו). A nominal clauses is a clause whose first element is not a verb. A verbless clause is a clause that does not contain a finite verb form. This may also be called a pure nominal clause. For this last definition see *GKC* §140*f* and Longacre (2003).

clitic – a grammatically independent and phonologically dependent morpheme. A morpheme that functions like a word, but appears not as an independent word but rather is always attached to a following or preceding word. It is pronounced like an affix, but works at the phrase level. For example, the Hebrew ל is a preposition that is employed prefixed to a word and is phonologically pronounced with the following word but functions as an independant grammatical unit, i.e. preposition.

complement – (J) At the syntactic level, the term refers to obligatory, non-omissible, and non-verbal parts of the predicate that complete the verb. Direct objects and indirect objects are two examples of complements.

complimentizer – (Miller, 200) "a word, phrase, or clitic which functions to introduce a complement" often in the case of reported speech. לאמר functions frequently in this role.

deixis – (J) a system of words that shift in reference, depending upon the speech situation (he/she; this/that; now/then).

dependent clause – (J) any clause that stands in relationship to an independent clause. Also referred to as a subordinate clause.

diaphora – (J) the repetition of a word in a discourse, where the meaning of the word has shifted slightly with each occurrence.

direct object – (J) a noun that receives the action of a transitive verb.

direct speech – (SIL) direct speech is quoted speech that is presented without modification, as it might have been uttered by the original speaker.

discourse – (SIL) a discourse is an instance of language use whose type can be classified on the basis of such factors as grammatical, lexical, and syntactic choices .

discourse switch cue – (J) a word or grammatical construction used to signal the reader that the discourse has changed. Not always present.

double entendre – (J) a word or phrase used by the author with the intention of invoking multiple levels of meaning in the mind of the reader.

elision – ommission of a consonant or vowel (phoneme) from either the front or end of a word usually for phonetic euphomy or, in Hebrew, having to do with word formation, especially that associated with weak or semi-weak verbs.

embedding – (J) the placement of one type of discourse within another type of discourse.

emic – (W) Of, relating to, or involving analysis of linguistic or behaviouoral phenomena in terms of the internal structure of functional elements of a particular system. I.e., a word as a subject, predicate, object, etc.

episode – (W) a developed situation that is integral to but separate from a continuous narrative. An episode is a constituent element of a larger narrative unit. Its constituent element is the act. An episode will have an over all theme and/or perhaps one main character. In the biblical text an episode may transcend chapter divisions.

etic – (W) Of, relating to, or involving description of linquistic or behavioural phenomena considered in isolaiton from a particular system or in relation to preetermined general concepts. I.e., a word as a noun, verb, adjective, etc.

exegetical – (J) the function of clarifying preceding material.

focus – a grammatical or linquistic structure used for emphasis.

fronting – (J) the placement of a clausal constituent (noun, noun phrase) before the verb (ex., "from before the Lord, he was fleeing.") Finegan 271-2.

hendiadys – the expression of an idea by the use of two words.

incident – part of a scene in a narrative that is the main action of that scene.

indirect object – (J) a noun that receives the direct object in a clause.

intransitive – (J) a verb that does not take a direct object.

jussive – (J) a volitional expression that conveys a wish or indirect command in the *yiqtol* third or second person. With weak verbs, the jussive may appear apocopated.

left-dislocation – like fronting, left dislocation is the placement of a causal constituent (noun, noun phrase) before the verb with the added presence of a pronoun in the body of the main clause. It often serves to reintroduce information that has not been mention in the near context and at times can present contrastive material. See also *casus pendens*, *fronting*.

matrix clause – the clause the introduces the quotative frame, i.e., how the quotation is introduced and how it fits into the narrative structure of the discourse (Miller, 94).

matrix verb – the main verb within the matrix clause (Miller, 94).

merismus – (J) a poetic device in which an idea is alluded to by reference to its two parts, often expressed in opposite terms. For example, when the psalmist speaks of meditating on God's word "day and night" (Ps 1 – 2), he refers to the larger concept of "continually" meditating.

metalanguage – (Miller, 49, from Tarski) "technical language that describes or characterizes an object language . . . the reflexive use of natural language to describe or characterize various aspects of language itself. "

metapragmatics – (Miller, 50) use of language to report pragmatic features of an original locution or utterance. Linguistic features related to, indexing, or depicting a speech event.

modal imperfect (§GKC 107*m*) – "Use of the imperfect/yiqtol to express actions, events, or states, the occurance of which is to be represented as willed (or not willed), or as in some way conditional, and consequently only contingent." (cf. Longacre, *Joseph*, 2nd. ed., 122).

notional – (W, SIL) Of or representing what exists or occurs in the world of things as distin-
quished from syntactic and linguistic categories. A notional noun is a person, place, or thing.

paragraph – (Longacre [2003, 81]) a structural term (not the orthographically depicted indented
unit) composed of clauses forming a single unit with a common topic.

phrase – (SIL) a phrase is a syntactic structure that consists of more than one word lacks the sub-
ject-predicate organization of a clause.

pleonasm – (J) the unnecessary use of a grammatical element, resulting in redundancy.

pragmatics – (SIL) The study of the aspects of meaning and language use that are dependent on
the speaker, the addressee and other features of the context of utterance, such as the follow-
ing –

The effect that the following have on the speaker's choice of expression and the addresee's
interpretation of an utterance –

Context of utterance

Generally observed principles of communication

The goals of the speaker

Programmatic concerns, such as

the treatment of given versus new information, including presupposition

deixis

speech acts, especially illocutionary acts

implicature, and

the relations of meaning or function between portions of discourse (see interpropositional re-
lation) or turns of conversation (see conversation analysis).

predicate – that part of the sentence (or clause) which states something about the subject. The
predicate may be a verb or a noun or noun equivalent with or without a copula or linking
verb.

preterite – (Longacre [2003, 65]) calls what has been traditionally labeled the imperfect with
waw consecutive the *preterite*. He notes that "Comparative Semitic studies reveal, however,
that the preterite [the imperfect with waw consecutive] is *not* a historical development from
the imperfect, but is a separate tense form that has come by convergence to resemble the im-
perfect."

protasis – the subordinate clause in a conditional sentence; that is, in a sentence of the form *If X,
then Y*, the protasis is *X* (expressing the condition). The term is commonly contrasted with
apodosis, which denotes the main clause in such a construction; that is, in a sentence of the
form *If X, then Y*, the apodosis is *Y* (expressing the conclusion).

rheme – the part of a sentence that communicates new information about the topic.

scene – (W) a constituent element of an act presenting continuous action in one place. Its consti-
tuent element is the incident.

semantics – (J) the study of the meaning of words. This can be applied to either a word alone or in the context in which it is located.

semantics – (SIL) Generally defined, the study of meaning of linguistic expressions. It is more narrowly defined as the study of the meaning of linguistic expressions apart from consideration of the effect that pragmatic factors, such as the following, have on the meaning of language in use: features of the context, conventions of language use, and the goals of the speaker.

sentence – (SIL) A sentence is a grammatical unit that is composed of one or more clauses.

stative verb – (J) a verb that describes a state of being rather than an event involving action (i.e., קָטֹן).

subordinate clause – (J) any clause that stands in relationship to an independent clause. Also referred to as a dependent clause.

syndetic – (W) Marked by a conjunction.

syntagmeme – a syntactic construction, viewed as a sequence of the tagmemes of which it consists.

syntax – (J) the term refers to the study of clauses and sentences in a language, with particular attention given to the formal connections and relationships that exist between the elements found therein.

tagmeme – (Wik) the smallest functional element in the grammatical structure of a language.

topic – a special function for orienting a text or clause to its larger context.

topicalization – (J) refers to a focus-shifting device in which new information is placed in a location where given information is usually found.

utterance – actual words of an interlocutor or speaker.

valency – used by many as another means of expressing verbal transitivity, the distinction being that valency refers to the number of arguments controlled by a verbal predicate, including the subject of the verb.

waw copulative – (J) the normal conjunction (וְ) that is prefixed to any word to connect words, phrases, or clauses. Also known as the "waw conjunction." The waw copulative has no semantic value, other than that of "and."