3 The Structure of Turkic

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Introduction
Throughout their history and in spite of their huge area of distribution, Turkic languages share essential structural features. Many of them are common to Eurasian languages of the Altaic and Uralic types. While often dealt with in typologically oriented linguistic work, most aspects of Turkic structure still call for more unbiased and differentiated description. The following survey will give some examples of characteristic common features and of more language-specific phenomena.

Sound Systems

Vowels and Consonants
Many Turkic languages, e.g. Turkish, exhibit eight vowel phonemes, a, i, o, u, e, i, ö, ü, which can be classified with respect to the features front vs. back, unrounded vs. rounded, and high vs. low:

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<th>Front unrounded</th>
<th>Front rounded</th>
<th>Back unrounded</th>
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<tr>
<td>high</td>
<td>i</td>
<td>ü</td>
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<td>low</td>
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<td>ö</td>
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Some Turkic languages display fewer or less clear-cut distinctions than indicated in this scheme. Thus, modern Uyghur lacks a clear differentiation i : ī, while Iranised Uzbek dialects show centralising tendencies which affect all the distinctions e : a, ē : o, ü : u, i : ā.

On the other hand, several Turkic languages display more distinctions than shown in the scheme. Some, such as Azerbaijani, exhibit an opposition between an open e and a more closed ē. Many languages have a phonemic contrast between long and short vowels. These length distinctions may be primary, as in Yakut, Turkmen and Khalaj. Long vowels may also be present in loanwords from Arabic, Persian etc., or developed secondarily through
consonant contractions. Long vowels are often diphthongs. Reduced vowels, on the other hand, are typical of the Volga region: Chuvash, Tatar, Bashkir. In these languages, due to the shifts dealt with in Chapter 5 (p. 92), the realisation of vowel distinctions deviates considerably from the scheme given above, though the basic relations in principle remain valid.

The consonant systems are more different from each other. The phonetic realisations with respect to the distinction front vs. back varies a good deal. Gagauz and Karaim, which are strongly influenced by Slavic, show palatalised front consonants. The Sayan Turkic languages Tuvan and Toña exhibit a glottal element functioning as a fortis (strong consonant) signal, e.g. aňt ‘horse’. Atypical sounds include the fricatives f, v, ȥ, ŧ, and the affricates ts, dz. Long consonants normally only emerge at morpheme boundaries, but may also be found, for instance, in numerals and affective words, e.g. Uzbek ikki ‘two’, Turkish anne ‘mother’.

**Syllable Structure**

A Turkic syllable typically consists of a vowel with one preceding and/or subsequent consonant, e.g. qum-da ‘in the sand’. Vowel hiatus and initial consonant clusters are avoided. Final clusters with one nasal, liquid or sibilant occur commonly, e.g. Türk ‘Turk’, üst ‘upper side’. When two morphs join, maximally three consonants may cluster together, e.g. dostlar ‘friends’.

Word-initial n, m, ɳ, l, r are avoided, the only seemingly native exception being the interrogative ne ‘what’ (cf. p. 106). Loanwords beginning with nasals and liquids are often provided with prothetic vowels, e.g. Kazakh orîs ‘Russian’.

The most general sound harmony phenomenon is an intrasyllabic front vs. back harmony that affects whole syllables with their vowel and possible consonants. Each syllable is classified as front or back. The frontness or backness is signalled by both vowels and consonant segments. For example, a back syllable may be realised as qul ‘slave’, whereas its front counterpart is realised as kül ‘ashes’. There are, however, numerous exceptions to this phonetic situation. Not all consonants have clearly distinguished front and back variants. The reduced vowels of some languages do not signal frontness and backness in a clear-cut way. In loanwords, phonetically front vowels may go with back consonants and vice versa, e.g. Turkish kâr [kəːɾ] ‘profit’ (< Persian). Nevertheless, the syllable as a whole is classified as phonologically front or back.

Normally, the front consonants k and g occur in front syllables, whereas the back consonants q, ǧ and γ occur in back syllables. In Yakut, however, k also occurs with high back vowels, e.g. kûs ‘girl’, whereas ɣ, pronounced as an affricate [kx], only occurs with the low vowels a and o, e.g. ɣäš ‘goose’.

**Morphophonological Variation in Primary Stems**

As regards morphophonological variation in primary stems, the second syllable of certain stems has an unstable vowel that does not appear in front
of suffix-initial vowels, e.g. Tatar kürêk ‘beauty’, kürkê ‘its beauty’, Turkish oğul ‘son’, oğlu ‘her, his son’. In primary stems with an unstable vowel, consonant assimilation may also create cases of variation such as Tuvan egin ‘shoulder’ → ekti (< *ekni < *egni) ‘his/her shoulder’, âs (< *ayîz) ‘mouth’ → aqsi ‘his/her mouth’ (< *aqzi < *ayzi), with syllable-final devoicing triggering progressive assimilation.


Intervocalic lenes are often further weakened, that is fricativised or deleted, e.g. Turkish göğü [ ɔgy] ‘its heaven’, Uyghur ayîyi ‘its foot’, Tuvan balî(< balîyi) ‘its fish’, Khakas az âm (< azayîm) ‘my foot’. Morphemes with final lenis thus have two allomorphs. Polysyllabic stems end in lenes, while monosyllabic stems may also end in fortes (strong consonants), e.g. Turkish yûk ‘burden’, yûki ‘its burden’. This kind of lenis vs. fortis variation is not manifested in all Turkic languages, e.g. Khalaj topuq ‘ankle’, topuqum ‘my ankle’, compare Turkish topuk, topuçum.

Primary stem variation may also emerge through contraction, e.g. Uyghur qî-p ‘doing’ ← qîl- + -îp ‘doing’, Tuvan â-p ‘taking’ ← al- + -îp, or through regressive simplification of a consonant cluster, e.g. Uzbek Tâshkent ‘to Tashkent’ ← Tâskêngâ ‘to Tashkent’ + -gâ.

The reason may also be regressive devoicing, e.g. Kazakh jassam ‘if I write’ ← jaz- + -sAm. This kind of assimilation is frequent in Siberia, e.g. Yakut akka ‘to the horse’ ← at ‘horse’ + -GA. Siberian languages also exhibit other cases of primary stem variation due to diachronic processes, e.g. Yakut as- (before consonants) ~ any- (before vowels) ‘stick, pierce’ (see p. 107). A specific kind of morphophonological variation in primary stems is caused by Modern Uyghur so-called umlauting, a regressive assimilation of low vowels, e.g. baş ‘head’ → bêsim ‘my head’ (see pp. 93, 383).

**Morphophonological Variation in Suffixes**

The intersyllabic phonotactic relations are characterised by a number of assimilations ofmorphs within word forms.

**Intersyllabic Sound Harmony**

The rules of intersyllabic sound harmony vary across languages. Suffixes are often non-harmonic at an early stage of development. Their development into harmonic suffixes may also be blocked by foreign influence, e.g. by Iranian influence in dialects of Uzbekistan, Afghanistan and Iran.

Front vs. back harmony, mostly called ‘palatal harmony’, is a systematic
neutralisation of the phonological distinction front vs. back in suffix syllables under the influence of a dominant immediately preceding syllable. This means that the quality of the last syllable of a stem determines the quality of a following suffix with respect to front vs. back. Primary stems allow a free choice of front and back syllables, e.g. Tatar at ‘horse’, it ‘meat’, ét ‘dog’, ut ‘fire’, üt ‘pass!’, öt ‘win!’, öt ‘singe!’. In the case of suffixes subject to intersyllabic front vs. back harmony, however, a front or a back variant must be selected to match the last stem syllable. Though this harmony manifests itself most clearly in the choice of vowels, it affects the whole syllable. Thus, dative suffixes are of the type -GA with variants such as -ke, -ge, -qa, -ya. If the harmony rules are applied consistently, back and front syllables exclude each other within word forms, e.g. Turkish ev-ler-im-e ‘to my houses’, at-lar­tm-a ‘to my horses’.

It would be wrong to claim that the harmony is caused by the preceding vowel. It is also observed after stems with weak or vanishing ‘minimal vowels’, e.g. in Tatar dialects, or after the neutral i in Uyghur. In loanwords, the final syllable may have a back vowel, but still be front, i.e. take on front suffixes, and vice versa, e.g. Turkish rol-ü ‘its role’, harb-i ‘its war’. Apart from non-harmonic suffixes, there also are many cases of phonetically less clear vowel realisations, notably in strongly Iranised dialects. But not even here do we find any general breakdown of the syllabic front vs. back harmony.

Some languages only display this kind of harmony, e.g. the Tatar third-person simple past forms čiqtii ‘went out’, ketté ‘went’, önti ‘won’, ötté ‘singed’. Others also apply a rounded vs. unrounded harmony, the so-called ‘labial harmony’, which is more of a real vowel assimilation. It implies neutralisation of the distinction rounded vs. unrounded in suffix syllables: the quality of the vowel of the last stem syllable determines the suffix vowel. One additional property of the preceding syllable is thus reflected in the suffix.

In many languages, this harmony only affects high suffix vowels, in Tatar and Bashkir centralised vowels (p. 92). This creates suffixes with vowels displaying a fourfold harmony such as the Turkish first-person singular possessive suffix -(X)m or the Bashkir third-person simple past suffix -DX, e.g. Turkish kizım ‘my girl’, atım ‘my horse’, elim ‘my hand’, ipım ‘my rope’, pulım ‘my stamp’, yolım ‘my way’, gülım ‘my rose’, gölım ‘my lake’, Bashkir šiqti ‘went out’, ketté ‘went’, öttö ‘won’, öttö ‘singed’.

Some languages such as Yakut and Kirghiz go further, applying labial harmony to low-vowel suffixes as well (‘labial attraction’). The latter thus exhibit four variants, e.g. Yakut -LAr in ayard ‘fathers’, oyolor ‘children’, kihiler ‘persons’, börolör ‘wolves’. However, no Turkic language applies this harmony consistently. For example, the roundedness of the Yakut stem vowels u, ü, ū, “o, and “ö is not reflected in suffixes, e.g. ular ‘waters’, and Kirghiz labial harmony does not apply after u, e.g. qušqa ‘to a/the bird, sūya ‘to water’. The scope of labial harmony must be specified for each language.
The distinction low vs. high always has semantic implications and is not subject to harmony, e.g. Turkmen ādama ‘to a/the man’ (dative), ādami ‘the man (accusative)’.

Consonant Assimilations
Consonant assimilations create further suffix allomorphs. A very common phenomenon is progressive devoicing after voiceless consonants, d > t, j > č, g > k, etc., e.g. Turkish gel-di ‘came’ vs. git-ti ‘went’, Uzbek ĭy-gă ‘to the house’ vs. ēšik-kă ‘to the door’. The devoicing is relatively weak in some languages, and not always indicated orthographically. In the present volume, it is ignored in the notations for a few languages, e.g. Azerbaijani -mAkDa.

Certain languages display progressive assimilation of suffix-initial l to n, d, ķ, t, etc., e.g. in the plural suffix -LAr: Kazakh at-tar ‘horses’, köl-der ‘lakes’, Bashkir taw-dar ‘mountains’, Tuvaña ġol-dar ‘hands’, nom-nar ‘books’. Some Chuvash suffixes have allomorphs beginning with q = written t (after l, r, n) and with r (otherwise), e.g. värman-ḏa ‘in the forest’, tu-ra ‘on the mountain’ (see Table 27.5, p. 439).

Many suffixes have allomorphs with an initial consonant after stem-final vowels, and with an initial vowel after stem-final consonants. With the type -(V)C, the vowel is dropped when the stem ends in a vowel, e.g. Turkish ev-im ‘my house’, baba-m ‘my father’. With the type -(C)V, the consonant is dropped when the stem ends in a consonant, e.g. Turkish bašla-yan ‘beginning’, ol-an ‘being’, iki-šer ‘two each’, üç-er ‘three each’. There are diachronic reasons for this variation, and it would be wrong to claim that the segments indicated in brackets are ‘connective’ sounds inserted ephemerally to prevent hiatus or to break up consonant clusters.

A special kind of suffix variation is due to the so-called ‘pronominal n’ occurring in many languages between third-person possessive suffixes and case suffixes, e.g. Turkish -(s)I(n) in forms such as baba-sm-a ‘to his/her father’.

Prosodic Phenomena
The main factor in word-level accent is the capacity to carry high pitch. Underived items are accentable, e.g. at ‘horse’, or unaccentable, e.g. dA ‘and, too’. Most Turkic languages have pitch accent, that is increase of the tone height, on the last syllable of native lexical items.

Suffixes are classified into accentable ones, e.g. Turkish -DIm in Uyudüm ‘I slept’, and non-accentable ones, e.g. -(y)dIm in Uyûrdum ‘I would sleep’. Pitch accent occurs on the last accentable syllable in word forms, e.g. Turkish köylerde ‘in the villages’.

As a rule, personal suffixes of the pronominal type, copula markers, negation suffixes (except the negative -mAz or -mAs aorist) etc. are unaccented, e.g. Uyghur Sen kimsen? ‘Who are you?’, Yázmidi ‘(S)he did not write’. This is also true of enclitic particles such as dA ‘and, too’.

There is also an interacting changeable dynamic stress accent, charac-
terised by more energy of articulation. It tends to fall on the first syllable, and seems to be the original factor of intersyllabic progressive sound harmony and of rhyme patterns in Old Turkic poetry. Being sensitive to phonetic factors such as weight, it often falls on heavy syllables, that is closed syllables or syllables with a long vowel, e.g. Turkish *Evde* ['evdə'] 'at home'.

Pitch and stress accent may coincide in a non-final syllable, followed by a corresponding fall in the next syllable, which yields a higher degree of prominence. Lexical items displaying this feature are mostly of foreign origin, recent borrowings or place and personal names. The accent falls on the nearest heavy penult or antepenult, e.g. Turkish *lokanta* ['lok'ánta] 'restaurant', *pencere* ['pændʒere'] ‘window', or, if none of the syllables is heavy, on the nearest light syllable. Such patterns may, however, be replaced by word-final accent if the words in question are nativised.

Non-accentable suffixes often produce a coincidence of pitch and stress accent on the immediately preceding syllable, e.g. Turkish *Güzelsin* ['y'zelsın] 'You are beautiful'. This phenomenon allows minimal contrasts between words such as Uzbek *yəźmə* ['józmaŋ'] 'do not write' and *jozmaŋ* 'writing', *Ātğ* ['otğ] 'Throw!' and *oitğ* 'your horse'. Conjunctions and adverbially used elements tend to be accented on the first syllable, e.g. Tatar *emmə* ['ēmman] ‘but’. Turkish *yalniz* ['jahniz] ‘only’; compare *jahniz* ‘alone’ (adjective). Items of compound origin and reduplications behave similarly, e.g. Tatar *niçe* ['nîtʃe] ‘how many’, *appaq* ['ıpːak] ‘very white’, Turkish *nasıl* ['násil] ‘how’, *şimdi* ['ʃimdi] ‘now’. This accent is often used for affective or emphatic effects, e.g. Turkish vocative *kardes* ['kárdeʃ] ‘brother!’ ← ['kardəʃ].

Both accent types are subordinated to higher pitch and stress patterns at phrase, clause and sentence levels. The components of word accent are also distributed differently in the individual Turkic languages. Central Asian languages often tend to give more prominence to the initial syllable; languages of the Volga-Kama region to the last syllable. The differences between pitch and stress accent are usually ignored in studies of Turkic accent systems. In general, reliable dates on Turkic prosodic phenomena are rather scarce. Intonation patterns are particularly poorly investigated.

**Morphology**

**Word Structure**

*Synthesis and Juxtaposition*

The structure of the Turkic word is agglutinative, that is characterised by a highly synthetic structure with numerous bound morphemes, and a juxtaposing technique with clear-cut morpheme boundaries and predictable allomorphic variation. An example is the Turkish word *parasızklärmdan*
‘because of their poverty’, consisting of para ‘money’, -slz privative suffix ‘-less’, -lIK abstractness suffix ‘-ness’, -lArI(n) 3p.pl. possessive suffix, -DNA ablative suffix.

There are rich possibilities of expanding stems by numerous bound morphemes, which serve word formation and the expression of grammatical notions. For many grammatical notions, the synthetic expression is the only available method, e.g. Turkish passive yaplı- ‘be done’, causative sevdir- ‘cause to love’, genitive kralım ‘the king’s, of the king’. A high degree of combinability allows long chains of morphs. Since hundreds of forms may be derived from each single primary stem, it is difficult to present complete paradigms.

The bound morphemes mostly have a highly generalised content and thus a high applicability. For example, Turkish -lIK ‘ness’ and -CI ‘professional’ are much more productive than corresponding English devices, e.g. gazeteci ‘journalist’ ← gazete ‘newspaper’, avcı ‘hunter’ ← av ‘hunting’, sucu ‘water seller’ ← su ‘water’.

**Regularity**

All these factors contribute to a considerable morphological regularity. The morphemes have few and phonologically predictable allomorphs, added rather mechanically to the stem according to the rules of assimilation mentioned above. The agglutinative technique yields transparency: regular, easily segmentable structures. The content is readily matched with its segmental expression, e.g. Turkish işler-in ‘affair + plural + genitive’, without any fusion of significants as, for instance, in the Latin counterpart rerum.

This regularity should, however, not mislead to unjustified simplifications concerning the meaning of complex forms. Certain combinations of morphs have grammatical functions not derivable from the functions of the components. Accent may also distinguish seemingly identical forms.

The few exceptions to phonological predictability include the choice of causative allomorphs and the choice between high and low vowels in the ‘aorist’ suffix -(V)r, e.g. Turkish bil-dir- ‘let know’, anla-t- ‘let understand’, bil-ir ‘knows’, dön-er ‘turns’. Some irregularities in primary stems have been pointed out above. Nevertheless, Turkic languages basically lack declensional and conjugational classes, irregular verbs, suppletive forms, etc.

The method is consistently affixing, one morph following after the other. The primary stem is the leftmost morph (not segmentable synchronically). The affixes are thus suffixes, mostly monosyllabic ones. The primary stem can always be used as a free form, e.g. Turkish at ‘horse’ (nominal stem), At ‘Throw!’ (verbal stem). It remains intact, without infixes, additive or replacive elements. The few exceptions relate to the declension of pronouns, e.g. Turkish ben ‘I’, ban-a ‘to me’. Neither are there usually real prefixes. Elements preceding primary stems are mostly nominal elements that can also
occur as free forms, e.g. ön ‘front’ in the Turkish loan translation öngör-‘foresee, provide for’ ↔ French prévoir. Some languages under strong foreign influence have a few copied prefixes, e.g. Uzbek nā-toyṛi ‘incorrect’.

The originals of loanwords often represent morphological processes alien to Turkic, prefixation, ablaut, metatheses, etc. One Arabic root may be represented by various forms, e.g. ḥlm in Turkish hüküm ‘judgement’, hikmet ‘wisdom’, hākim ‘judge’, hakīm ‘wise’, mahkūm ‘sentenced’, mahkeme ‘law court’, muhākeme ‘lawsuit’, mukem ‘solid’, etc. Such processes are unproductive in the Turkic languages that incorporate the loanwords in question. Copies of Arabic plurals with internal inflection are sometimes used as singulars and provided with Turkic plural suffixes, e.g. Turkish tüccār-lar ‘merchants’ ↔ singular tācir.

**Use of Suffixes**

It is a typical feature of Turkic to use morphological devices economically and avoid redundance. There are few cases of agreement. Third-person singular forms are often unmarked and the singular is used after cardinals, and certain suffixes such as number, case, possessive and copula markers may be shared by several syntactically parallel segments and only attached to the last of them, e.g. Turkish Görmiş ve duymuş-lardı ‘They had seen and heard it’.

The order of suffixes is subject to rigid rules. Suffixes form distributional classes according to their ability to occupy relative positions within the word, that is their relative distance to the primary stem. Suffixes modifying the primary stem directly are closest to it, which means that derivational suffixes precede inflectional ones. Each added suffix tends to modify the whole preceding stem, e.g. Kirghiz üylörömdö (‘house + plural + my + in’) ‘in my houses’.

**Suffixes and Enclitic Particles**

Suffixes must be distinguished from enclitic particles, which are free unaccentable units. They include postpositions, relators of other kinds, modal items, etc., e.g. Uzbek burun ‘before’, ēdi ‘was’, Turkish ki ‘that’. Enclitics are similar to suffixes in that they are often subject to assimilatory processes such as sound harmony, e.g. Turkish da ‘and, too’. Note that some free enclitic markers have suffixes of the unaccentable type as variants, e.g. Turkish idi ~ -(y)DI ‘was’, ile ~ -(y)lA ‘with’, Ottoman içün ~ -çün ‘for’.

**Stem Formation**

Verbal and nominal stems are sharply distinguished, homonymous stems such as English face being extremely few, e.g. āj- ‘be hungry’ and āj ‘hunger, hungry’. All stems, whether primary or secondary, can be used as free forms.

From verbal and nominal stems, expanded verbal or nominal stems are formed. Since nominal stems take on denominal suffixes, and verbal stems take on deverbal suffixes, there are four possibilities of derivation:
1 denominal nominal stems, e.g. Turkish *yolda§* ‘fellow traveller’ ← *yol* ‘way’
2 deverbal nominal stems, e.g. Turkish *yatak* ‘bed’ ← *yat-* ‘lie’
3 denominal verbal stems, e.g. Turkish *yolla-* ‘send’ ← *yol* ‘way’
4 deverbal verbal stems, e.g. Turkish *yolla-n-* ‘be sent’ ← *yolla-* ‘send’.

The last two devices should be compared with the possibilities of analytical derivation of verbal stems. Denominal verb formation also includes lexicalised verbal phrases containing auxiliary verbs (pro-verbs) such as *et-, eyle-, qil-, yap-* ‘do’ + incorporated nominal elements which do not function as free objects, e.g. Turkish *imza et-* ‘sign’ (compare *imza-la-*), *affet-* ‘forgive’.

Similarly, a converb and a form of a second verb may form verbal phrases with strong semantic fusion, e.g. Uzbek *âlip kël-* ‘bring’ (‘taking come’), *yiylâb yubâr-* (‘crying send’) ‘start crying’. For postverb constructions, see p. 42. There are also combinations of thematic stems (see p. 42) with auxiliary verbs such as *er-* ‘be’, *bol-* ‘become’.

**Word Classes**

The main word classes of Turkic languages are nominals and verbals. This division is not identical with the classification into nominal and verbal stems, since verbals may also be nominal stems. Nominals comprise nouns, adjectives, pronouns, and numerals. The remaining parts of speech will be referred to as indeclinables.

**Nominals**

**Nouns**

Wherever an indefinite article is used, it is formally identical with the numeral ‘one’, e.g. *bir* in Turkish *iyi bir at* ‘a good horse’. Many languages use this device rather infrequently, e.g. Kirghiz *zaqši* at ‘a/the good horse’. Turkic lacks definite articles, though demonstrative pronouns may sometimes seem to be used in a similar way. Grammatical gender is also absent and thus cannot constitute an agreement factor. Even morphologically marked feminine lexical items are lacking, except a few derived with copied foreign suffixes, e.g. Turkish *kraliçe* ‘queen’, Karaim *Karayka* ‘Karaim woman’.

Nouns may contain plural, possessive and case suffixes. Their order and combinability is basically common to all Turkic languages, though in Chuvash possessive suffixes precede the plural suffix. Examples of inflectional paradigms are given in the individual chapters of the present volume.

The plural suffix is generally -*lAr* or -*LaR*, e.g. Tatar *qolaqlar* ‘ears’, the Chuvash counterpart being -*sem*. Unmarked forms, e.g. *qolaq* ‘ear’, are referred to as singular forms, though they also have generic and collective uses (see p. 51).
Possessive suffixes typically express possession and correspond in function to English possessive pronouns. They often exhibit forms such as -(I)m, -(I)n, -(I)mIz, -(I)nIz, -(L)ArI(n), signalling person and number of the possessor. The first- and second-person plural forms contain a plural element -Iz.

There are usually five core cases expressed by accentable suffixes: a genitive in -NI or -(n)I, a dative in -GA or -(y)A, an accusative in -NI or -(y)I, a locative in -DA, and an ablative in -DAn. Headless genitives are created with suffixes of the type -KI, e.g. Kirghiz Bul at ayamdiq 'This horse is my brother's'. The nominative is suffixless, identical with the bare stem. There are many deviations from this scheme, e.g. coincidence of accusative and dative in Chuvash, of accusative and genitive in Uzbek dialects, Kumyk and Karachay-Balkar, lack of the genitive in Yakut and partitive use of -DA in the same language. Many case suffixes correspond in function to English prepositions. The core cases do not signal very specific relations, but have rather wide functional areas. The genitive, the accusative, and partly the dative fulfil abstract-relational functions.

Certain descriptions also reckon with a more peripheral set of cases, equative ('like'), directive ('towards'), terminative ('until'), comitative ('together with'), instrumental ('by means of'), proressive ('for'), comparative ('than'), etc. The markers of this group are mostly unaccentable. Some of them are rather like postpositions, since they govern primary cases. Many similar suffixes, including several Old Turkic ones commonly regarded as case markers, are unproductive and are only present in adverbial relicts.

Adjectives
Adjectives are not clearly distinguished from nouns in morphological respect. However, some suffixes primarily form adjectives, e.g. Turkish -I/l, which is only attached to nouns. Adjective phrases are formed from adverbial locative phrases with suffixes of the type -GI or -KI, e.g. Uzbek yâzdâgî 'taking place in summer' ← yâzdâ 'in summer', Chuvash kunâ 'local' (with contraction) ← kunta 'here'. Under foreign influence, some languages may mark adjectives with special copied suffixes, e.g. Ottoman -I, copied from Arabic, Turkish -sal, a neologistic suffix, Altay -niy, -ski, Khakas -nay, -skay, copied from Russian in invariable forms.

The adjective in comparative constructions (see pp. 56–7) is in some languages followed by a comparative suffix, which may also simply signal a high degree of a property, e.g. Uzbek köprüq 'more, very much'. Yakut has a so-called comparative case in -TÂyAr (p. 421).

Intensive forms may be formed from adjectives and adverbs with a preposed reduplication of the first syllable. Between the reduplication and the stem, an m, p, r or s is inserted, replacing a possible syllable-final consonant, e.g. Old Uyghur ap arîy 'quite clean', Uzbek yâm-yâsîl 'quite green', Kirghiz
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köpkök ‘entirely blue’, Chuvash χυπ-χυρα ‘jet-black’, Turkish büsbütün ‘altogether’.

**Pronouns**

Personal and demonstrative pronouns form a morphologically distinct nominal subclass. They often exhibit oblique stems that differ from their nominative stems, whereas most other pronouns are inflected like nouns. Gender distinctions are lacking, e.g. Bashkir ul ‘it, she, he’.

As for personal pronouns, plural forms, with corresponding predicative forms, are often used for polite address. Reflexive pronouns can sometimes be used as more polite third-person personal pronouns, e.g. Turkish kendisi ‘(s)he [in person]’. As a rule, however, Turkic languages do not display very elaborate honorific systems.

Demonstratives mostly distinguish several deictic types for which features such as choice, distance and visibility seem to be relevant. Most Turkic languages have at least three-way systems, e.g. Bashkir bil, ošo, șul, without exact equivalents in the English system ‘near’ vs. ‘further away’. There are corresponding series of demonstrative nominals and adverbs, e.g. Turkish burası ‘this place’, buradan ‘from here’. Corresponding interrogatives are Turkish neresi ‘what place’, nerede ‘where’, Uzbek qayerga ‘where to’, etc.

Examples of pronominal verbs are Kazakh büyt- ‘do this way’, Yakut čayav-, Tuvan qanča-, Ottoman neyle- ‘do what’, Kirghiz Qantiš kerek? ‘What is necessary] to do?’

Possessive pronouns are formally genitives of personal and demonstrative pronouns. They are often, but not always, used for emphasis, e.g. Turkmen meniş adım ‘my name’, Uyghur męniş kitiplirim ‘my books’. Especially in spoken varieties, a free possessive pronoun may also be followed by a noun without a possessive suffix, e.g. Turkish bizim köy, Uyghur bizniş ýeza ‘our village’, Uzbek bizniş kitáp ‘our book’, Kirghiz menin at(ım), Chuvash man(än) laša ‘my horse’. Independent forms are created with suffixes of the type -kl, e.g. Turkish bizimki, Uzbek bizniki, Kazakh bizdiki, Chuvash piřenni ‘ours’. There are also corresponding interrogative, reflexive and other pronouns, e.g. Uyghur kimiňki ‘whose’, niminiňki ‘belonging to what’, özemniki ‘belonging to myself’.

Reflexive pronouns such as kendi, öz, bot, Chuvash xa are used attributively in the sense of ‘own’, e.g. Uyghur öz kitiwim ‘my own book’, Kirghiz öz qolüm ‘my own hand’, Tuvan bodumnuş ažišim ‘my own work’, and in the sense of ‘(my)self’ etc., with possessive suffixes, e.g. Uyghur men(iş) özem, Yakut min beyem ‘I myself’, Tuvan bodumya ‘to myself’, Chuvash esir čavār ‘you yourselves’, Karachay kesim ‘myself’. There are also reciprocal pronouns, mostly of the type bir(i)bir ‘each other’.

**Numerals**

Modern Turkic languages normally have lexical cardinal numerals for the units one to nine, for the tens ten to ninety, for hundred, for thousand, etc. The
tens sixty to ninety are of the multiplicative types altmiš, yetmiš, seksen, doqsan, i.e. they contain the digits six to nine (alti, yetti, sekiz, doquz). Some languages use multiplicative juxtapositions formed with ön ‘ten’ for lower tens as well, e.g. Tuvań üžen ‘thirty’, Kirghiz dialects čiton ‘seventy’, Fu-yu durdin ‘forty’.

Ordinals are often formed with suffixes of the type -(I)nčI, e.g. Kirghiz ekinči ‘second’, Uzbek néčanci, Crimean Tatar qačınči ‘which in order’. Chuvash uses the suffix -mėš. Collective numerals are formed with the type -AĞU, e.g. Old Uyghur üçëgü ‘three together’, Kirghiz altö ‘six together’. There are also the types Uyghur -(ü)len, e.g. ikkilen ‘two together’, Tuvań -(A)län, e.g. beželēn ‘five together’, Khakas -(O)l Ağ, e.g. altoląŋ ‘six together’, and the special Chuvash possessive element -ěšē, e.g. ikkešē ‘two of them, a pair’. Distributives are often formed with the type -sAr or -(s)Ar, e.g. Turkish be§er, Chuvash pilëkšer ‘five each’, Crimean Tatar yarımšar ‘a half each’.

**Personal Markers on Nominal Predicates**
The first- and second-person personal markers on nominal predicates, ‘subject representatives’, indicating the person and number of the first actant (see pp. 52–3), are unaccentable copula elements developed from personal pronouns, e.g. Turkish Evdeyim ‘I am at home’, Bashkir Min yaדٍisümën ‘I am a writer’, Kirghiz Men qirγizmën ‘I am a Kirghiz’. In the third person, there is mostly no personal marker as a copula, e.g. Kazakh Dosiin zaqsi’ adam ‘My friend is a good man’, Khakas Ol toišči ‘He is a worker’. In some languages, unaccentable suffixes of the type -DIR ‘is’ < turur ‘stands’ may be used in the third person.

Negative copulas are formed with particles such as Kazakh, Kirghiz, Uyghur emes, Uzbek èmäs, Chuvash mar, Turkish değil, Azerbaijani devil, Turkmen dāl, Tatar, Bashkir tāgp ‘(is) not’, e.g. Uyghur U muellim emes ‘He is not a teacher’, Kazakh Men muyalim emespin ‘I am not a teacher’, Turkish Fena değil ‘It is not bad’.

The past tense copula is mostly the past form édî ‘was’ of the old verb ěr- ‘be’; e.g. Turkish Fena deγïldi (< deγïl idî) ‘It was not bad’. The Chuvash counterpart is -ččē. There are also conditional copula particles of the type ěse ‘if . . . is’ and indirective ones such as imiş and ěken (p. 45). The old role of ěr- has largely been taken over by copula verbs such as (b)ol- ‘become, be’.

**Verbals**

**Verbal Morphology**
The verbal morphology is complex, comprising productive markers of actionality, voice, possibility, negation, aspect, mood, tense, person, interrogation, etc., normally in the order given here. Long derived stems can thus be produced, e.g. Turkish Kov-alan-ma-miş-tt-k (‘persecute + iterative +
passive + negation + post-terminal + anterior + 1p.pl.’) ‘We had not been persecuted’.

As regards actionality (German Aktionsart), any verb(al phrase) has a natural actional content with respect to phase structure. Transformatives imply an inherent crucial limit, a natural turning point, with the attainment of which a transformation takes place, e.g. öl- ‘die’, yat- ‘lie down, lie’. They comprise two subclasses: fini-transformatives, in which the end of the action is the crucial limit, e.g. öl- ‘die’, and initio-transformatives, in which the beginning of the action is the crucial limit, e.g. yat- ‘lie down, lie’. Non-transformatives do not imply any inherent crucial point, e.g. yaz- ‘write’.

Actionality suffixes, modifying the action expressed by the verb stem, include markers of intensity, frequentativity, etc., e.g. Crimean Tatar kes-kele- ‘cut continuously’, Tuvan biži-gile- ‘write repeatedly’. There are also desideratives and simulatives such as Old Uyghur -(V)GsA and -(V)msIn, e.g. körügse- ‘want to see’, kelimsin- ‘pretend to come’.

Simple suffixes of this type are weakly represented in modern languages. Analytical methods of derivation are more strongly developed. As already noted, a converb of a lexical verb and a second auxiliary verb may form a verbal phrase with strong semantic fusion. Such phrases have a common actancy pattern, and insertion of elements between the two verb forms is heavily restricted. The second verb – mostly with lost lexical meaning and generalised grammatical meaning – may contribute to describing the action in a more accurate manner, e.g. Uzbek ušläp ål- (‘grasping take’) ‘seize’, Uyghur əlip əlt- (‘taking go’) ‘lead’, Chuvash ilse pîr- (‘taking go’) ‘bring’, Turkish olup bit- (‘becoming end’) ‘happen’, Karachay aytib qoy- (‘saying put’) ‘blurt out’, or express actionality, i.e. specify a phase of the content of the preceding verb or indicate whether the action is lasting, repeated, momentary, attempted, etc., e.g. Turkish yazlp dur- (‘writing stand’) ‘write permanently’, gülïver- (‘laughing give’) ‘burst out laughing’, Uzbek yiyläb yubär- (‘crying send’) ‘start crying’, Uyghur oqup kör- (‘reading see’) ‘try to read’. Such actional auxiliaries, often erroneously called ‘aspect verbs’, correspond to Indo-European preverbs and may therefore also be referred to as postverbs. There is sometimes fusion of the two verbs, e.g. Uyghur yeziwal- < yezip al- (‘writing take’), Tuvan biživit- < bižip it- (‘writing send’) ‘write down’.

Various thematic stems can also combine with copulative verbs such as er- ‘be’ and bol- ‘become’, e.g. Old Turkic -(V)r bol- (‘become doing’), signalling the transition to an intraterminal state (see pp. 43-4), Turkish -mš ol- (‘become having done’), signalling the transition into a post-terminal state (see p. 44).

Voice is expressed by passive, reflexive-middle, causative and cooperative–reciprocal suffixes, which modify the meaning of the preceding verbal stem and affect its actancy pattern by changing the syntactic roles of actants. The most common passive suffix is -(V)I, e.g. ortül- ‘be covered’. Suffixes of the type -(V)n often express the middle voice, e.g. Old Uyghur,
Karakhanid aلين- 'take for oneself'. Causative suffixes include -(V)r, -GUr, -KUr, -(V)t, -DUr, -(V)z etc., e.g. ölür- ‘kill’, yedür- ‘give to eat’. Cooperative–reciprocal suffixes are generally of the type -(V)š, e.g. körüš- ‘see each other, meet’. Note that these suffixes are used to express plurality in Kirghiz verb paradigms, e.g. Qališši ‘They remained’, singular Qaldi, Jazıšat ‘They write’, singular Jazat.

Possibility markers are postverbal combinations of converbs with auxiliary verbs such as bil- (‘know’) and al- ‘take’, e.g. Kirghiz Bere alat ‘(S)he can give’. Most of them have developed into suffixes, e.g. Turkish Verebilir ‘(S)he can give’. The verbal negation suffix is -MA etc., e.g. Tuvan Kelbedиş ‘You did not come’.

Verbal predicates, whether finite or non-finite, are marked with thematic suffixes expressing aspect, mood and tense. Certain verb forms may occur both as finite and as non-finite items. It is important to note that they do not have identical meanings in these different syntactic functions. This has often been ignored by grammarians.

### Finite Forms

**Finite Thematic Forms**

Finite items constitute independent sentences and express various aspectual and modal perspectives relative to given temporal orientation points, notably the moment of speaking. Conjugated verb forms minimally consist of a verbal stem and a thematic suffix that signals such a perspective. Though most of them are morphologically nominal stems, e.g. Turkish gelir ‘coming’, gelmiş ‘having come’, gelecek ‘foreseen to come’, they readily fulfil the syntactic role of constituting sentences. As mentioned, however, their finite functions differ from their non-finite ones.

The number of simple and compound aspect–mood–tense forms is relatively high, and their designations are not standardised in the grammatical literature. Modern languages exhibit numerous past tenses, mostly more than one present tense, but seldom genuine future items.

Turkic languages make use of a number of aspect or viewpoint markers, which offer different ways of envisaging events with respect to their limits, that is their beginning and their end: intraterminals, post-terminals and simple terminals. Most languages exhibit rather elaborate aspecto-temporal systems.

**Intraterminals, Post-terminals, Terminals**

With intratermal items such as presents and imperfects, the event is envisaged within its limits, that is after its beginning and before its end. Some are more focal, putting a narrower focus on what is currently going on at the orientation point, sometimes in the sense of English progressives, e.g. Uzbek Kёlâyёт ‘(S)he is just coming’, Noghay Barayatиr ‘(S)he is just going’, Kazakh Žazиp otir, Uyghur Yёziwa-tidu ‘(S)he is writing’, Turkish okumaktayın, Kirghiz oğüdаmin ‘I am
reading’. Less focal items are used for events seen as ongoing within a broader period of time, for protracted, habitual or general events, e.g. Bashkir ēsley ‘(S)he works’, Noghay Baradit ‘(S)he goes’, Tatar Yaza, Uyghur Yazidu ‘(S)he writes’, Uzbek Bilmām ‘I know’, Kazakh Oľ iłyły śay işedi ‘(S)he always drinks tea’, Qus uşadî ‘A/the bird flies’.

There are corresponding past items, more or less focal imperfects such as Turkmen lyyärdim ‘I was just eating’, Azerbaijani Alirdi (< alir idi) ‘(S)he was taking, took’, Kumyk Barad edim ‘I was going, went’, Chuvash Şirattām ‘I was writing’. Several languages also have special habitual past forms, e.g. Kazakh Baratūn ‘(S)he used to go’, Kirghiz Oqūcumun ‘I used to write’, Khakas Xiyyirjaşmān ‘I used to read’.

With post-terminal items such as perfects, the event is envisaged after its relevant limit, i.e. typically after it has been carried out. The relevant limit varies according to the actional content (see p. 42). More focal items, with a narrow focus on the orientation point, are stative or resultative, e.g. Turkish Olmuş bulunuyor (‘is in the state of having died’) ‘(S)he has (just) died’. Less focal items are similar to English perfects, signalling the current relevance of a past event, e.g. Uzbek Yâyıyân ‘(S)he has written’, Kumyk Barvan ‘(S)he has gone’, Uyghur Bu kitapni men oquyān ‘I have once read this book’. There are also corresponding pluperfects, indicating a post-terminal aspect in the past, e.g. Azerbaijanian Yazmisdığ (< yazmīş + idik) ‘We had written’, Kumyk Barvan edim ‘I had gone’.

Special negative items include categorical pasts such as Uzbek Yâyıyānim yoq (‘there has not been any writing of mine’) ‘I have not written at all’, Kazakh Körgenim zoq, Bashkir Kürgenêm yoq ‘I have not seen it’, Turkmen Bilemōq ‘I do not know at all’, and items denoting that an event has not yet taken place, e.g. Kirghiz Kelelek ‘(S)he has not come yet’ (from -A elek), Yakut Bara ilık ‘(S)he has not gone yet’.

All Turkic languages have simple terminal items which present the event directly and as a whole, implying the attainment of its relevant limit: a simple past (‘preterite’) of the type -DI, e.g. Uzbek Yâzdīm, Chuvash Şirtām ‘I wrote’.

**Modal Forms** Turkic also uses verbal suffixes to convey certain modal meanings with respect to the speaker’s attitude.

Imperatives exhibit different forms functioning at various levels of politeness. The thematic marker of the second-person singular is ŏ, e.g. Al ‘Take!’. Optatives express voluntative modality and often occur in purpose clauses. Optatives have close connections with imperatives and conditionals, sometimes occurring in similar functions. There are also necessitative or obligatory items of the types -mAK, -(y)AsI, -mAll etc., e.g. Kirghiz Jōnömökpüz ‘We must set out’, Tatar Barasibiz ‘We must go’, Azerbaijani Gelmeliyem ‘I ought to come’, and intentional items such as Uzbek -mākči, e.g. Meni körməkči ‘(S)he will, intends to see me’, Uyghur Men yazmaqšimen ‘I am going to write’.
The so-called ‘aorist’ in -(V)r is mostly modal, expressing disposition, inclination, prospectivity etc., e.g. Tatar Kiler ‘(S)he may/will come’, Chuvash Ширап ‘I will write’. There are also more clear-cut prospectives or future items, e.g. Tatar Kilecek ‘(S)he will come’. Most Turkic languages have special presumptive verb forms, e.g. Turkish Uyuyordur (intraterminal + DIr < turur ‘stands’) ‘(S)he is presumably sleeping’, Turkmen Ol ogoyannır ‘(S)he is probably reading’, Uyghur Yazyandu (post-terminal + du < turur ‘stands’) ‘(S)he has probably written’.

Indirective Forms Turkic languages also possess indirective categories, certain kinds of evidential items used to qualify the experience of the event spoken about. Indirective statements concern the conclusion regarding an event and thus do not present the event itself in a direct way. The source of information may be hearsay, inference from results, or direct experience (‘as is obvious’, ‘as it turns out’, etc.). The expression of this epistemic modification varies across languages. Post-terminals such as -mLš and -(V)pIr tend to get indirective interpretations as ‘subjective pasts’, e.g. Turkish Ali gelmiş ‘Ali has [reportedly, apparently, obviously] come’, Uzbek Язиpitлар ‘They appear to have written’, Uyghur Язиит ‘(S)he appears to have written’, Kazakh Barипти, Altay Barиптүр, Yakut Barипт ‘(S)he appears to have gone’.

Besides these deverbal past tense devices, there are also tense-indifferent indirective copula particles of the types imi§, èken, which combine with nominal stems, e.g. Turkish imiş-(y)mLš, e.g. Ali geliyormuş ‘Ali is/was [reportedly, apparently, obviously] coming’, Uyghur imiş, èken, Turkmen -mLš, èken, Uzbek èmi§, èkän. The particle èken tends to convey the meaning ‘as is/was obvious’ or ‘as it turns/turned out’.

Personal Markers
The most peripheric inflectional items are personal markers, ‘subject representatives’, indicating the person and number of the first actant (see pp. 52–3). The dominant type of first- and second-person markers is the one used after nominal predicates (see p. 41): unaccentable markers of pronominal origin, e.g. Turkish Geliyor-sun ‘You come, are coming’, Kirghiz Kele-biz ‘We come’. The third person is unmarked or sometimes marked by an unaccentable suffix of the type -DIr < turur ‘stands’. Certain thematic stems, notably the simple past, take on acceptable suffixes of the possessive type, e.g. Uzbek Kёldи-m ‘I came’. Note that some authors in the present volume do not analyse the simple past as DI + personal markers -(I)m, etc., but rather as D + personal markers -lm, etc.

The enclitic copula particles, developed from forms of the obsolete verb er- ‘be’, have already been mentioned. Past markers of the type ëdi ‘was’ locate the thematic perspectives temporally, e.g. Turkish Gelmışti ‘(S)he had come’. The roles of indirective copula particles such as èmi§ and èken have just been mentioned.
Non-finite Forms

Non-finite Thematic Forms
Turkic is rich in non-finite predicative forms based on action nouns, participles and converbs. The corresponding suffixes function as thematic markers and serve to non-finitise verbal stems. Some of them take on personal markers.

Action Nouns
Action nouns refer to actions and are used to construct complement clauses, e.g. Turkish -DIK, -(y)AcAK, -(y)I§, -mA, Uzbek -Gân, -GânliK, -(â)yâtgân, -(â)yâtgânliği, -adîgân/-ydîgân, -(i)ê, Turkmen -A(:)n, -jek, Chuvash -ni. They are, as a rule, used with possessive suffixes as ‘subject representatives’, e.g. Turkish aldîgîm (‘my taking’) ‘that I take/took’. After nominal stems, corresponding copulative markers are used, e.g. forms of copula verbs such as (b)ol- ‘become, be’, copula particles of the type êken, e.g. Uzbek ekûn, êkânlik, or other older derivates of er- ‘be’, e.g. Ottoman idîk, Turkmen -DIK. These markers also carry possessive suffixes, e.g. Turkish hasta oldûgûm (‘my being ill’) ‘that I am/was ill’.

Participles
Participles refer to entities participating in actions, and can be used as attributes or without a head. They are often identical in form with action nouns. Thus, the Turkish form duydugûm ‘my hearing’ means, in isolation, both ‘the fact that I hear(d)’ and ‘what I hear(d)’.

Many languages have special intraterminal (‘present’) participles, presenting the event as current, e.g. Uzbek -(ä)yatgûn, Kazakh -Âzatqan, Chuvash -(A)kAn, Khakass -(p)AštKAn, Tuva -(V)p turar, Turkmen -yân, e.g. Kirghiz oqup jatqan student ‘a/the student who is/was reading’. Some of these intraterminal participles are less focal, e.g. Uzbek -adîgân/-ydîgân. There are also participles with post-terminal or terminal meaning (perfect participles), e.g. Azerbaijani -mlî, -DIK -(y)An, Turkmen -A(:)n, Tatar -Gân, Uzbek -Gân, Chuvash -nA.

There are also prospective (future) participles such as Bashkir -(y)AsAK, Kumyk -(A)ezAK, Tuva -(V)r, Chuvash -(A)s, e.g. Kumyk oxužaq ‘who will read’, and necessative participles such as Tatar -AsÊ/-ysÊ, Chuvash -mAİA, e.g. Tatar yazası, Chuvash şirmalla ‘(necessary) to write’. One type of participle denotes events that have not yet taken place (participium nondum facti, i.e. participle of the not yet done), e.g. Tuvan kelgelek ‘not having come yet’, Altay kirgelek ‘not having entered yet’, Kirghiz körö elek ‘not having seen yet’ (compare pp. 413, 427).

Active participles, e.g. -GAn, may often, notably in older languages, refer to entities different from the first actant of the verbs. This may yield ‘impersonal’ functions and seemingly ‘passive’ readings without passive suffixes, which is the basis for ‘impersonal’ interpretations of relative clauses (see p. 62), e.g. Khakas say-an inek (‘milk-PART cow’) ‘a/the cow [that somebody has] milked’.
In such cases, possessive markers may function in a way reminiscent of ergative markers: *kör-gen-im* (‘see-PART-my’) ‘what I have seen’.

**Converbs** Converbs are adverbial forms of the verb signalling various semantic relations to the content of the superordinate clause. A few converb markers are simple, morphologically unanalysable, e.g. -(y)V, -(V)B, -GAI, -GAČ, -sA. More elaborate forms are based on verbal nouns and mostly marked with adverbial cases such as locative, dative, ablative, instrumental, equative or with postpositions. Some converbs lack a clear one-to-one relationship of affirmative and negative forms.

Intraterminal converbs are formed with -(y)V, -(y)ArAK, -(y)Vr and locative, etc., e.g. Bashkir *ala* ‘taking’, Tuvan *kele* ‘coming’, Turkish *giderek* ‘(by) going’. Converbs in -(y)V tend to occur in pairs, e.g. Yakut *oxto oxto* ‘running’. There are also post-terminal converbs in -GAČ, -mlš + locative etc., e.g. Bashkir *alγaθ*, Tuvan *alγas* ‘having taken’. All Turkic languages have a terminal converb marker of the type -(V)B, Chuvash -sA, Yakut -(A)m, e.g. Turkish -(y)lp in *gidip* ‘going (and ...)’ (see p.64). Conditionals may sometimes occur in finite functions.

**Personal Suffixes**

Action nouns and participles generally take on personal suffixes of the possessive type, e.g. Turkish *gel-diğ-im* (‘my coming’) ‘that I come/came’. Most simple converbs do not carry personal suffixes, but in Yakut they generally conjugate for person and number, e.g. *bar-am-mi* ‘me going/having gone’. More elaborate converb endings often contain personal markers, e.g. Old Turkic *olor-duq-* m-a ‘as I sat down’.

The simple conditional mostly takes on accentable personal suffixes of the possessive type, e.g. Turkish *gel-se-m* ‘if I should come’ (hypothetical), which also combine with the past copula particle, e.g. Turkish *gel-se-ydim* ‘if I came’ (counterfactual). There are also combinations of nominal verb forms with conditional copula markers of the type *ése* ‘if ... is’, e.g. Turkish *gelirsem* ‘If I come’.

**Indeclinable Word Classes**

The indeclinable word classes include adverbs, postpositions, copula particles, interjections and conjunctions or similar relators signalling connections between the parts of a sentence.

**Adverbs**

Adverbs do not constitute morphologically well-defined categories in modern Turkic languages, e.g. Gagauz *bîn* ‘today’, Uyghur *bek* ‘very’, *emdi* ‘now’, *burun* ‘formerly’, *tüniğün* ‘yesterday’, Bashkir *biyîl* ‘this year’, Kirghiz *beri* ‘hither’. Many of them are fossilised case forms such as old directives or instrumentals, old participles and converbs, or forms of unknown origin, e.g. Uzbek *sogrâ* ‘afterwards’, Bashkir *yeyên* ‘in summer’, Old Turkic *eðgüti*
‘well’, birle ‘together’. Adverbs may also be formed with productive equative suffixes such as -JA or -DAY, e.g. Turkish gizlice ‘secretly’, Uzbek bunday ‘this way’. Case forms of pronouns are often used as conjunctive adverbs, ‘adjunctors’ (see pp. 48–9), e.g. Kazakh sond qtan ‘thus’. Certain Turkic languages make frequent use of converb forms as adverbs, e.g. Uyghur harmay ‘unremittingly’, yaxšilap ‘in a friendly way’.

Postpositions
Turkic has rich systems of adpositions, grammatical relators which differentiate the relational concepts expressed by the cases. They are free word forms and, according to the left-branching syntax, postpositions. Some are homonymous with adverbs, e.g. birle ‘with’ or sopra ‘after’. Some go back to converbs, e.g. Uzbek körä ‘according to’, älip ‘from’, Uyghur qarap ‘to’. Many of them govern cases, e.g. the ablative, as in Uyghur bizdin burun ‘before us’, or the dative, as in Gagauz bana deyni ‘for me’. Some govern the genitive of personal and demonstrative pronouns, e.g. Kirghiz menin menen, Uzbek mën(iI) blän ‘with me’, Uyghur sen(sëniI) ücün ‘for you’. One kind of postposition clearly goes back to nouns, notably space nouns (nomina loci), provided with possessive and case suffixes, e.g. Uzbek äldimda ‘before me’, unI yanigá ‘to him/her/it’. The possessive suffix may refer to a preceding noun phrase in the genitive or the nominative, e.g. Turkish ev(in) önünde ‘in front of the house’, ev(in) arkasından ‘from behind the house’, Bashkir ötel ötönde ‘on the table’, Uyghur şeher yénida ‘near the town’, Chuvash tęp şine ‘on the ground’.

Conjunctions
Turkic languages have few conjunctions. Even coordinative conjunctions meaning ‘and’, ‘or’, ‘but’, ‘for’ etc. are often copied from Persian, Arabic, Russian, etc., e.g. Uyghur peqat ‘but’, Shor no ‘but’. Old Turkic displays a few free conjunctions such as azu ‘or’; compare Tuvan aзи. Many languages use enclitic particles such as Uzbek Dä in Këldi-dä, ketti ‘(S)he came and left’. Elements denoting ‘with’, instrumental cases or postpositions such as birle and ile, may be used instead of coordinative devices, e.g. Uyghur ata bilen ana ‘father and mother’, Turkish karga ile tilki ‘the crow and the fox’, Chuvash naukapa praktika ‘science and practice’. With increasing Europeanisation, pure juxtaposition without syndetic elements as ‘and’, ‘or’ etc. becomes less frequent.

Turkic clauses are embedded by means of suffixed subordinative elements, non-finite predicative markers, referred to here as subjunctors (pp. 59–60). The use of free subordinative items, conjunctions and relative pronouns is thus untypical. Where such items do occur, they are homonymous with interrogatives, e.g. qacan ‘when’, kim ‘who’, or copied from other languages. Fossilised converbs of verbs meaning ‘say’, e.g. dep, deyü, diye, tese, têyen, dégan, dégen, serve as unquoting particles placed after quoted direct speech or content of thoughts, e.g. Uzbek këläsän dëb (‘saying: you will come’) ‘with
the idea that you will/would come', *kêtsin dêb* (‘saying: may he go!’) ‘in order for him to go’.

Many items referred to as conjunctions in the literature are in reality conjunctural adverbs, referred to here as adjunctors, e.g. Old Uyghur, Karakhanid *aîn* ‘therefore’, Kumyk *şo sayâli* ‘for that reason’, Kazakh *sonđîgqan* ‘thus’, Chuvash *ančaq* ‘however’, Uyghur *şuglaşqa* ‘therefore, hence’.

**Syntax**

**Nominal Phrases**

Since Turkic syntax is basically head-final or left-branching, i.e. dependents precede their heads according to the so-called ‘rectum-regens rule’, the head of a nominal phrase succeeds modifiers such as adjectival, genitival and participial attributes. A common order pattern is demonstrative pronoun + cardinal number + adjectival attribute + head, e.g. Turkish *bu üç mavi kuş* ‘these three blue birds’. In languages that use the numeral *bir* as an indefinite article, the latter tends to stand next to the head, e.g. Turkish *bûyûk bir ev*, Uzbek *kâtâ bir üy* ‘a big house’. There is no agreement in number or case between dependents and heads.

One type of nominal phrase is the combination adjectival attribute + noun, e.g. Turkish *bûyûk evler* ‘big houses’. A second type, in which the attribute has predicative force, i.e. can take complements, is the combination participial attribute + noun, e.g. Turkish *bekleyen adam* ‘the man who is/was waiting’, *kaldıgm ev* ‘the house I stay/stayed in’ (see relative clauses pp. 61–3).

The attributive use of adverbials is limited, e.g. Crimean Tatar *âçlıqtañ ölüm* ‘death by starvation’, Turkish *taştan duvar* ‘wall of stone’, *Londra'da (oturan) bir Türk* ‘a Turk (living) in London’, *halka (yapulan) hizmet* ‘service (rendered) to the people’. Some adverbial expressions can be used attributively with the addition of the -*ki*, e.g. Turkish *sokaktaki adam* ‘the man in the street’, *bugünkü görüme* ‘today’s meeting’.

**Genitive Constructions**

In the combination genitival attribute + noun, the first element, expressing the possessor, carries a genitive suffix, whereas the head, indicating the entity possessed, is provided with a possessive suffix. Examples with third-person possessive suffixes are Kirghiz *âttin başı*, Chuvash *lašan pušė* ‘a/the horse’s head’. Uzbek *âdamnîñ üyi* (‘man’s house-his’) ‘the man’s house’, Turkish *ôğretmenin kitabî* ‘the teacher’s book’, *evin kapısı* ‘the door of the house’, Tatar *kitapnîñ tışî* ‘the cover of the book’, Bashkir *qalanîñ baqsañî* ‘the park of the town’. In Yakut, which lacks a genitive suffix, the attribute is in the nominative, e.g. *kihi jîte* ‘the man’s house’. If the head is an action noun, e.g. Turkish *Ali’nîn beklemesi* ‘Ali’s waiting’, Kirghiz *kûndûy čûyîşî* ‘the rise of
the sun’, it has predicative force, i.e. can take complements. Genitive constructions with headless adjectives may be used to express superlativity, e.g. Uyghur *atmiŋ yazšisì* ‘the best of (the) horses’.

**Compounds**

The dominant type of nominal compound adheres to the possessive pattern noun + noun + third-person possessive suffix, e.g. Turkish *el çanta-st* ‘handbag’, *ev kapt-st* ‘front-door’, Turkmen *yöl hereket-i*, Kirghiz *jol qiyym-il-i* ‘road traffic’, Uyghur *uyyur helq-i* ‘the Uyghur people’, Kirghiz *qirïziq til-i* ‘the Kirghiz language’. A possessive suffix expressing personal possession replaces the third-person suffix, e.g. Turkish *el çanta-m* ‘my handbag’. Unlike in the genitive construction, no element can be inserted between the nouns. Numerous cases of absence of the possessive suffix, notably in nominative forms of the compound, are observed in older and modern languages, e.g. Karachay-Balkar *alma terek* ‘apple-tree’ (compare cases such as *alma terek-in-den* ‘from an/the apple-tree’). There is also a similar neologistic Turkish compound type, e.g. *budunbilim* (‘people science’) ‘ethnology’.

Identity attribution means that two nouns referring to the same entity are juxtaposed asyndetically as qualifying attribute + head, e.g. Turkish *kadın öğretmen* ‘woman teacher’, *haydut polis* ‘brigand policeman’, *dostum Ali* ‘my friend Ali’. The attribute often refers to materials, e.g. *taş köprü* ‘stone bridge’, Chuvash *çul şurî* ‘stone house’, Turkmen *altın Oayat* ‘golden watch’, Turkish *altın elma* ‘golden apple’. The attribute may also be a participle with predicative force, that is the basis of a relative clause, e.g. Turkish *konuşan adam* ‘the man who speaks/spoke’, *sevdiğim kadın* ‘the woman I love(d)’.

The asyndetic type noun + noun is also used in coordinative compounds, so-called twin words or binomes. In this case, two parallel nouns with similar meanings form a synonym compound, hendiadys, e.g. Old Turkic *iš kũč* (‘work, strength’) ‘efforts’, or a hyponym compound to express a higher concept, e.g. Uzbek *bãriš-keliš* (‘going, coming’) ‘mutual relations’, Karachay *ališ-beriš* (‘taking, giving’) ‘trade’, Uzbek *aţâ-ţâna* (‘father, mother’), Yakut *iye-aγγa* (‘mother, father’) ‘parents’, Tuvan *imïrä-sëk* (‘mosquito, fly’) ‘flying insects’. This type often includes alliteration and rhyme formations, e.g. Kazakh *kiyim-kešek* ‘clothing’, Turkish *karkoca* (‘wife, husband’) ‘married couple’, *dedikodu* (‘said, laid’) ‘gossip’. Sometimes only one of the elements has a lexical meaning, e.g. Karakhanid Turkic *yãš yõš* ‘vegetables, greens’, Turkish *çoluk çöçuk* ‘family, wife and children’.

Turkic languages often display echolaly constructions expressing ‘etce-tera’, ‘and the like’: a given word is followed by a reduplicating ‘echo word’ with an initial labial consonant, *m-, b- or p-*, which replaces a possible original consonant, e.g. Uzbek *nán pán* ‘bread and similar baker’s ware’.

**Adjective Phrases**

Compound adjectives such as Karachay *qaraqaš* ‘with black eyebrows’ are rather frequent. Due to the head-final structure, adverbials precede their head
STRUCTURE OF TURKIC

in the adjective phrase, e.g. Uzbek jüda issiq ‘very hot’, Karaim astri kat’i ‘very hard’. Adjectives may also be used as heads of nominal phrases, e.g. Uzbek yâšlär ‘young ones’. In older languages and some modern Siberian languages, adjectives may serve as abstracts denoting qualities, e.g. Yakut bây ‘rich(ness)’, without a suffix of the type -lIK, which forms abstract nouns in most Turkic languages, e.g. Karachay bayliq ‘wealth’.

Use of Possessive and Plural Forms

In addition to its normal possessive function, a third-person singular possessive suffix may refer to a known entity or, anaphorically, to something preceding it in the discourse, e.g. Kirghiz bâri ‘all (of it, them)’, Turkish başkasi ‘the other (one)’. This limited function does not make it a definite article in the proper sense. There are often duplications of the possessive suffix such as in Turkish bir-i-si ‘one of them’, Uzbek köp-i-si ‘most of it’. Third-person singular possessive suffixes can also have adverbialising functions, e.g. Uzbek kečäsi ‘at night’.

Plural suffixes mostly signal individual plurality, e.g. Turkish elmalar ‘[single] apples’, Chuvash pürtsem ‘[a number of individual] houses’. The singular has a broad, partly number-indifferent range of use, which also includes collective or generic reference, e.g. Turkish Elma aldum ‘I bought apple(s)’. Plural suffixes may also be used in an honorific sense, to express respect. Plurality expressed by cardinal numerals and other quantifiers mostly excludes agreement in the form of plural marking, e.g. Turkish iki at (‘two horse’) ‘two horses’. Numerators (counting words) are sometimes placed after the numeral, e.g. Turkmen ðänî (literally ‘count’), Uzbek dânä, Kirghiz dänâ ‘piece’, Uzbek bâš ‘head’ (for animals), Tatar tâp ‘root’ (for plants). Uzbek has numerators of the type bittä, iktà, uštä, where -tä means ‘piece(s)’.

The Syntax of Numerals

The syntax of numerals is rather regular. Complex numerals are formed by combining the primary cardinals for digits, tens, hundred, thousand, etc. Hundreds, thousands etc. are expressed multiplicatively, e.g. Turkish iki yüz ‘two hundred’, Tatar biš yöz ‘five hundred’, ikë yöz mëñ ‘two hundred thousand’. Intermediate numbers are expressed additively, e.g. Turkish on iki (‘ten two’) ‘twelve’. Higher numerals precede lower ones, the highest decimal place being the leftmost one, e.g. Tatar unber ‘eleven’, mëñ elli iki ‘1052’, Kazakh jîyîrma jeti mëñ beš jûz 70qson bir ‘27,591’, Turkish bin dokuz yüz doksan dokuž ‘(thousand nine hundred ninety nine)’ ‘1999’. Approximative numbers are often expressed by means of juxtaposition, e.g. Turkish altu yedi ‘six or seven’.

While most Turkic languages count in tens and units, Karachay-Balkar displays, as in earlier Kumyk, a vigesimal system based on the number twenty as a counting unit, e.g. Karachay jîyîrma bile on (‘20 + 10’) ‘thirty’, eki jîyîrma bile on (‘2 x 20 + 10’) ‘fifty’, beš jîyîrma (‘5 x 20’) ‘one hundred’,
on şiirma (‘10 x 20’) ‘two hundred’; compare French quatre-vingt (‘4 x 20’) ‘eighty’. Khalaj has interesting variants such as äkki ottuz (‘2 x 30’) ‘sixty’, äkki qırq (‘2 x 40’) ‘eighty’, üç hottuz u yirmi (‘3 x 30 + 20’) ‘one hundred and ten’, etc.

Yellow Uyghur still partly preserves an older subsystem of higher rank counting, combining the digit numeral with the numeral of the higher ten, e.g. per yiğirm (‘one twenty’) ‘eleven’, per otus (‘one thirty’) ‘twenty-one’ (see pp. 74, 144).

Predications
With respect to relational typology, Turkic languages adhere to a so-called nominative–accusative pattern. There is a first actant which may manifest itself as the subject of a predication. The nominative marks the first actant of intransitive verbs, independently of semantic roles, agents and non-agents being coded in the same way. With transitive verbs, the nominative marks the first actant = mostly agent, and the accusative marks the second actant = mostly patient. There are no clear tendencies to code, as in so-called ‘active languages’, agentivic complements of intransitives differently from non-agentivic ones, or to mark, as in ‘ergative languages’, the agent of transitives with a special case. Note that some post-terminal participles and verbal adjectives may refer to non-agentivic first actants of intransitive verbs, whereas they refer to non-agentivic second actants of transitive verbs, e.g. Turkish yanık (having) burned’ ← intransitive yan- ‘burn’, kesik ‘(having been) cut’ ← transitive kes- ‘cut’.

A Turkic predication minimally consists of a predicate. An overt subject is optional, and personal markers are often missing in the third person, e.g. Turkish Yer [He, she, it] eats’. A verbal predicate consists of a predicate core, provided with a thematic marker and mostly with a personal marker, e.g. Turkish [Sen] gel-iyor-sun ‘You come’. A nominal predicate contains a nominal or adverbial item as the predicate core, e.g. Turkish Öğretmen ‘[(S)he is a] teacher’, Burada ‘[It is] here’.

Actancy Patterns
The predicate can be expanded according to specific actancy patterns, which determine the overt syntactic relations between predicate core and complements. Most of these relations are signalled by case suffixes and postpositions.

First Actants
A central first actant, typically (but not always) agent, that is source of the action, is necessary for subject realisation. It may be realised overtly as a subject and/or as a personal marker as ‘subject representative’, e.g. Ali asker ‘Ali is a soldier’, Uyudu-m ‘I have slept’. Personal markers are used whether an overt subject is present or not. Some thematic stems, however, do not take on personal suffixes, e.g. Turkmen Men geljek ‘I will come’, Uyghur Men yazyan ‘I have written’. In Salar and Yellow Uyghur, finite verb forms
normally dispense with personal markers altogether, Salar Men kiler ‘I will come’, Yellow Uyghur Sen parar ‘You will go’. Number agreement between inanimate subject referents and the predicate core is virtually never marked, e.g. Uzbek Ėşiklär yâpiq ‘The doors are closed’. With animate subject referents, there are varying language-specific rules, but there is a tendency to avoid two plural markers very close to each other, e.g. Turkish Öğrenciler geldit(*ler) ‘Students/the students have come’.

As was noted in connection with the participles, lack of a first actant referent yields ‘impersonal’ predications. This is often possible without passive-marking, especially at older language stages. There are remnants of diathetically less elaborated systems, where actant relations are less explicitly marked and where subject omission may suggest that no specific first actant is meant, e.g. Karakhanid Alin arslan tutar ‘[One] can catch a lion by guile’. This diathetical indifference is still common in certain types of relative clauses (see p. 62). Even some finite items in modern languages may be used this way, e.g. the necessitative -mAll in Turkish sentences such as Ne yapmalt? ‘What should one do?’

Second Actants
Second actants typically represent affected or effected goals of the action. In simple active verbal clauses, second actants of transitives are realised as direct objects, typically as ‘patients’, in the form of accusative or nominative complements according to certain rules of topicality/specificity, e.g. Uzbek kitâpni oqi-, Kirghiz kitepti oqu-, Chuvash keneke vula- ‘read the book’; compare the corresponding syntagms Uzbek kitâp oqi-, Kirghiz kîtep oqu-, Chuvash keneke vula- ‘read (one or more) books’.

Second actants of intransitives are realised as complements by means of adverbial cases or postpositions, e.g. the dative as with Kirghiz jaq-, Karakalpak una-, Noghay yara- ‘please’, Noghay yoliq- ‘meet’, Karakalpak isen-, Noghay inan- ‘believe’, Kirghiz oqso-, Karakalpak uşa-, Yakut märinnä ‘resemble’, the ablative as with Kirghiz tayman-, Azerbaijanian gorx-, Karakalpak qorq-, Yakut kuttan- ‘fear’, the locative as with Turkish ıle yetin- ‘be contented with’.

Third Actants
A third actant may occur as a complement in the dative, as ‘indirect object’, typically the ‘recipient’, the entity that receives a ‘patient’, e.g. Turkish bir şeyi bir kimseye ver- ‘give something to somebody’, Uzbek Meğâ kitâpni bêrin ‘Give me the book!’, Kirghiz Asan maya kitepti berdi ‘Hasan gave me the book’. It can also be in other cases, e.g. in the ablative such as in Turkish bir kimseyi birşeyden kurtar- ‘rescue somebody from something’.

Other Relations
Free adverbial constituents, not required by any actancy pattern, function as qualifiers at different levels and express location, direction, origin, means,
beneficient, manner, time, companionship, reason, etc. In addition to their abstract–relational uses, Turkic datives have local, directive, allative, and terminative functions. In some Siberian languages, the dative is also used in functions otherwise typical of the locative, e.g. Tuvan *Men Qizilya cuyttap turyan men* ‘I have lived in Kyzyl’. The locatives have very wide meanings of place in time or space, ‘in, on, at’, etc. The ablatives denote, in a concrete or figurative sense, source, origin, starting-point (‘from’, ‘out of’), way, channel (‘along’, ‘through’), reason, means, standard of comparison, etc. Equatives express similarity, but also have mensurative and prosecutive functions, expressing extension in time and space. As noted above, they sometimes serve as general adverb suffixes, e.g. Crimean Tatar *sayiya* ‘numerically’, Turkish *gülzelce* ‘beautifully’, *Fransızca* ‘French’ (< ‘in the French way’).

Other relations are specified by various means, notably postpositions, i.e. relators that form a constituent with a given dependent and connect it with the predicate core, e.g. Turkish *bir kimse ile konuş*– ‘talk with somebody’.

Manner adverbials may be expressed by equative suffixes, convers or other means, e.g. Turkish *gizlice* ‘secretly’, *gizli olarak* (‘being secret’) ‘secretly’, *gizli bir şekilde* ‘in a secret way’. Many time adverbials are unmarked, e.g. Turkish *bir gün* ‘one day’, *bir saat* ‘for an hour’.

A secondary predicative relationship in the sense of ‘being’, ‘as’, ‘in the function of’ may be established between a nominal constituent and a second copredicative nominal. Subjective predicatives (‘subject adjuncts’) are often provided with essive markers meaning ‘being’, e.g. Turkish *Öğretmen olarak çalışiyor*, Kirghiz *Muyalim bolup isteyt* *(S)he works as a teacher*. With certain transitive verbs, a corresponding secondary predicative relationship may obtain between the direct object and an objective predicative (‘object adjunct’), even without an essive marker, e.g. Turkish *Ali’yi başkan seçtiler* ‘They elected Ali (to be) president’.

**Diathetic Patterns**

Diathetic relations are encoded by means of passive, causative, reflexive, medial and cooperative–reciprocal voice markers, which systematically modify the basic actancy patterns and the roles of participants.

Cooperative–reciprocals and Reflexives

Cooperative–reciprocal markers such as -(V)s express cooperation or competition of participants.

So-called reflexive markers such as -(V)n indicate that the action does not transcend the domain of the first actant referent, but remains immanent, not related to any external entity (‘immanence’). The first actant may be the goal of the action (‘reflexive’), or the source of an action without a specified goal (‘deobjective’, ‘anti-transitive’, etc.). The first actant can also be the beneficiary of the action (‘middle voice’), in which case the verb may govern direct objects: ‘do something for oneself’. For example, the Tuvan reflexive form *bižittin-* ← *biži-* ‘write’ can be interpreted as ‘write’ (deobjective), ‘write
for oneself', and ‘be written’. Unambiguously reflexive meanings are mostly expressed by reflexive pronouns, e.g. Turkish kendini öldür- ‘kill oneself’. Furthermore, the suffix -(V)n is ambiguous in many Turkic languages, since it may also serve as an allomorph of passive markers, e.g. Turkish taran- ‘be combed, comb oneself’. Old Turkic -l'n and -(‘)d seem to signal the middle voice, whereas -(‘)K derives intransitives from transitives in a more general way. Many reflexive verbs have special lexical meanings, e.g. Turkish sev- ‘love’, sevin- ‘rejoice’.

Passives
Common to passive and causative patterns is that they signal ‘transcendence’ in the sense that the range of the action transcends the domain of the first actant, which is either the goal or the source of the action (see p. 56). In the first case, with passives, the transcendence is exogenic (originating from outside). In the second case, with causatives, it is endogenic (originating from within).

Passive patterns typically have one actant less than the corresponding active – ‘initial’ or ‘non-diathetic’ – pattern. The first actant of the corresponding active pattern, the ‘initial subject’, is demoted. It is not necessarily expressed, not even with passives derived from intransitives, e.g. Turkish Burada güzel yaşantıyor ‘One lives well here’ (cf. p. 228). With passives derived from transitives, a non-first actant of the corresponding active pattern is promoted to first-actantship, typically as ‘patient’, e.g. Turkish Ali resim çekti ‘Ali took a picture/pictures’ → Resim çekildi ‘A picture/pictures was/were taken’.

Passivisation is thus often used as a device not only for backgrounding but also for concealing the agent of an action. This function is similar to that of ‘impersonal’ active constructions not referring to specific first actants (see p. 53). An agent may be optionally indicated by adjuncts based on postpositions such as Old Turkic üze or items copied from other languages such as Turkish tarafından and Uzbek tâmânidân. Some languages, e.g. Chuvash, make rather restrictive use of passives.

In languages such as Chaghatay, Uzbek and Uyghur, passive verbs may also occur with accusative-marked direct objects, e.g. Chaghatay Ol rama-zânni Xojandta ötkerildi ‘That Ramadan was spent in Khojand’, Uzbek Çäyni içildi ‘The tea was drunk’, Uyghur Aşni yeyilgen ‘The food was eaten’. Here, first actant suspension by means of the passive is combined with direct object topicalisation by means of the accusative (see p. 58).

Passive markers may also be used for pure intransitivising, e.g. Turkish açılır- ‘open (intransitive)’, or to express reflexive meaning, e.g. Turkish katul- ‘attach oneself, join’.

Causatives
Causative patterns typically provide one actant more than the corresponding initial non-diathetic patterns. Causative markers signal that the first actant is
the source of the action as its causer (initiator, permitter, etc.).

The first actant of a corresponding non-diathetic pattern ('initial subject') is demoted and expresses the causee in the function of a direct or indirect object. Causative suffixes added to intransitives yield transitives, e.g. İbrahim, Ali'yi öldürdü 'Ibrahim killed Ali', 'Ibrahim caused Ali to die'. Added to transitives, they yield causative patterns in which the direct object of the corresponding non-causative active pattern may occur, e.g. Turkish İbrahim resmi çekirdi 'Ibrahim had the picture taken'. A causee agent, corresponding to the first actant of the non-diathetic pattern, can be optionally expressed, like the agent in passive patterns, though in this case mostly a dative complement is used, e.g. Turkish İbrahim resmi Ali'ye çekirdi 'Ibrahim had the picture taken by Ali'.

In some languages, causative suffixes added to transitives may also imply that the first actant is the patient, the entity affected by the action, e.g. Tuvan ölürt- 'let kill' or 'be killed' ← ölür- 'kill'. This is the meaning of 'transcendence' mentioned above. The agent, the entity performing the action and corresponding to the first actant of the non-diathetic pattern, is in the dative, e.g. Tuvan Xoy börüye çidirkten 'the sheep was eaten by the wolf'. The first actant referent is animate, and there is an implication of disadvantage for it, though the responsibility for this is not necessarily attributed to it. Such 'reversive' forms and patterns are widespread in Eurasian languages, and present in Old Turkic already. Without being identical to any of them, they show affinity to permissive causative constructions ('let do') and also to passives ('be done'), since an initial non-subject constituent is promoted to subject position.

There are also complex causative-passive, causative-causative, and causative-causative-passive forms such as Uyghur körsütül- 'be shown', Turkish öldürül- 'be killed', öldür- 'cause to kill', öldürtül- 'be caused to kill'.

However, causative suffixes cannot be followed by so-called passive suffixes unless these have antitransitive or reflexive readings, e.g. Turkish kurült- 'cause to curl'. There is little need to causativise passives such as açul- 'be opened', since the primary stems, e.g. aç- 'open', function as their transitive counterparts.

Possessive Constructions

Possessive constructions, corresponding to English 'have' constructions, are of the type possessor + genitive suffix + possessed entity + possessive suffix + bar 'existent' or yoq 'non-existent', e.g. Uzbek Pulim bär ('my money existent') 'I have money', Uyghur Dadisi yoq 'S)he has no father'; compare, however, the Khalaj type hat vaerum 'I have a horse' with vaer + possessive suffix. There are also locative constructions of the type Kirghiz Anda kitép bar 'S)he has a book', Turkish Ali' de para var 'at Ali money existent') 'Ali has money'. In non-finite clauses, the words bar and yoq are mostly replaced by a verb of the type bol- 'become, be' and its negation bolma-, e.g. Turkish parasi olmayan 'the one)
not having money’, *paraşı olmadığı* (‘his/her not having money’) ‘that (s)he does/did not have money’, *paraşı olmayarak* ‘without having money’.

**Comparative, Equative and Similative Constructions**

The comparative degree of gradable adjectives and adverbs is normally expressed by adding an ablative suffix to the segment denoting the standard of comparison, e.g. Turkish *buzdan soğuk* ‘colder than ice’, Uzbek *mendân yaxşî* ‘better than I’, Chuvash *turan pişâk* ‘bigger than the mountain’. The adjective may be preceded by a word for ‘more’, or, as noted above, followed by a comparative suffix e.g. Turkish *daha iyi*, Tatar *yaxşîraq* ‘better’, Chuvash *pişâkraç* ‘bigger’, Uyghur *uzunraq* ‘longer’. Superlatives are mostly formed with adverbs such as *eň*, Chuvash *ci*, in front of the adjective, e.g. Uzbek *eň yaxşî* ‘best’.

In grammatical constructions expressing equality or similarity, e.g. ‘A is as big as B’ and ‘A sings like B’, a postpositional phrase or an equative suffix usually marks the standard of comparison (‘as’, ‘like’), e.g. Azerbaijani *geder*, Uyghur *qeder* ‘so much’, Azerbaijani *kimî* ‘like’, Turkmen *yâli*, Tatar *kêbêk*, Yakut *kurduk*. Thus, ‘white as snow’ may be rendered as Karakalpak *qarday aq*, Uzbek *qarday âppaq*, Tatar *qar şiêllë aq*, Yakut *xär kurdûk mayan*, etc. The standard marker may be accompanied by a reinforcing emphatic element such as Turkish *tûpu* ‘exactly, just’.

**Order of Constituents**

Since the Turkic languages are, as noted above, basically head-final, the unmarked order of constituents is subject + object + predicate core. The predicate core is normally clause-final, preceded by complements and free adverbials, the subject being the first complement. Adverbials referring to the entire clause often appear initially. Postpositions per definition take the final position in postpositional phrases. Note that the order of determination within the clause is the reverse of the successive modification through suffixes within the word. The order rules are also valid for non-finite clauses, and even tend to be more rigidly observed there than in finite clauses.

**Finite Clauses**

Predications are realised as clauses, basic text-building units occurring in pluripredicative constructions within the limits of sentences. They may be finitised as main clauses and non-finitised as dependent clauses.

In the former case, they function as independent sentences, optimally marked for aspect, mood, tense, personal reference and illocution. Their first actants are realised as subjects in the nominative.

In yes/no questions, an interrogation marker is placed after the whole predication or the constituent asked for, e.g. Turkish *Ali bugün geliyor mu?* ‘Does Ali come today (or does he not)?’, *Ali mı bugün geliyor?* ‘Is it Ali who comes today (or who)?’, *Ali bugün mû geliyor?* ‘Is it today Ali comes (or when)?’ The placement of the marker in relation to personal markers varies
across languages, and also some language-internally to some degree, e.g. Uyghur *Sen muellim-mu-sen?* ~ *Sen muellim-sen-mu?* ‘Are you a teacher?’; compare the only Turkish option *Sen öğretnen misin?*

The verbal negation can vary its scope without changing its place, whereas more mobile nominal negation particles such as *emes* and *değil* (Chuvash *mar*) ‘not’ may be used specifically for constituent negation, e.g. Uyghur *Bëšim emes, közüm ayıydu* ‘What aches is not my head, but my eyes’. Note that certain verb forms of a stronger participial nature do not use -mA, but such particles, e.g. Tatar *Kileček tügël* ‘(S)he is not coming’, Turkmen *Men gitçek dæl* ‘I will certainly not go’.

Chuvash has a special imperative negation: the postposed particle *mar* in the first persons and the preposed element *an* in the other persons, e.g. *An kil* ‘Do not come!*

**Discourse-Pragmatic Functions of Word Order**

Finite clauses often display systematic deviations from the unmarked constituent order. This versatility is motivated by modifications of the functional sentence perspective, by the assignment of communicative, discourse-pragmatic functions.

**Postpredicative Elements**

The permitted deviations often include loosening of the final position of the predicate core. The postpredicative position may be occupied by extraposed elements from the clause, defocused constituents, often representing topics already activated, afterthoughts, etc. The elements are often detached from the preceding predicate core by an intonational juncture, e.g. Turkish *Gitti, postact* ‘He has already gone, the postman’. The postpredicative position seems to be a natural place for some types of sentence adverbials, for example those expressing comments on the proposition such as Turkish *herhalde* ‘certainly, probably’.

The postpredicative position is not the position for new information, for interrogative pronouns and adverbs or for unmarked direct objects with specific reference. Subject pronouns found in this position cannot have topic function. Note that postpredicative elements are not confined to less carefully planned speech, but have also been part of written varieties throughout the history of Turkic.

**Topic**

There are mostly no fixed syntactic configurations to the left of the predicate core. Since the syntactic relations between constituents are clear from case-marking, word order modifications may be used for prominence relations, notably for topic and focus assignment.

As expected, the initial position is the preferred place of the sentence topic, the constituent which often contains known information and about which the rest of the predication gives new information. In rhetorically neutral sentences
it is identical with the subject, e.g. Turkish Ali resmi çekti ‘Ali took the picture’. There are also special topicalisation markers following the topicalised nominal phrase such as Turkish ise, Turkmen bolta (‘if it is’) ‘as for’, e.g. Turkish Ali ise resmi çekti ‘As for Ali, he took the picture’.

Other constituents may be topicalised by taking the initial position, e.g. Resmi Ali çekti ‘As for the picture, Ali took it’. A direct object can be topicalised by passive constructions, e.g. Resim Ali tarafından çekildi ‘The picture was taken by Ali’, but this option is less often chosen because of the devices offered by the constituent order.

Focus
The position immediately in front of the predicate core is used for focused constituents, offering new or relatively important information. This is the natural position for unmarked direct objects and for interrogative pronouns asking for new information, e.g. Tatar Sin kêmên kürdêg? ‘Whom did you see?’ A non-object in this position is emphasised, so that the sentence cited above, Resmi Ali çekti, may also be rendered as ‘It was Ali who took the picture’.

This device is more common than only marking focus by stress in situ, as in English (‘Ali took the picture’), where non-subjects normally do not take the initial position in active clauses. Another method is to use a cleft sentence with a participle as subject in initial position and the focused element as a nominal predicate, e.g. Turkish Resmi çeken Ali’ydi (‘The one taking the picture was Ali’) ‘It was Ali who took the picture’.

Position and Specificity
In most Turkic languages, the position in front of the predicate core is open to non-topical nominative direct objects, e.g. Ali (bir) resim çekti ‘Ali took a picture’, and thus allows a formal contrast with respect to specificity. An accusative object in this position seems to be marked as ‘specific’, e.g. Turkish Ali, resmi çekti ‘Ali took the picture’, Ali, bir resmi çekti ‘Ali took a certain picture’, whereas a nominative object is not. When the direct object is separated from the governing verb, accusative marking is mostly necessary, e.g. Uyghur Jawapni muellim berdi ‘It was the teacher who gave the answer’. The topicalisation itself may also often suggest ‘specific’ readings.

Participant Reference
Most Turkic languages are relatively unexplicit with respect to participant reference. Under certain conditions, actants may remain overtly unexpressed. A constituent representing an old text topic may often be omitted. Thus, anaphoric pronouns can also largely be dispensed with if the referent is assessed as identifiable from co-text and/or situational context, e.g. Azerbaijani Gelir ‘[(S)he/it] comes’. This is also true of causers and causees in causative patterns, e.g. Turkish Çalşıturyor ‘(S)he lets [someone] work’. Explicit expression is, however, normally required in a predication that starts
a discourse. A subject pronoun such as o ‘he, she, it’ cannot introduce a new text topic if it occurs in postpredicative position.

Non-finite clauses
Action nouns, participles and converbs allow non-finite realisations of predications as embedded clauses. The suffixes of these categories function as subjunctors, marking the clauses as embedded, much like English subordinative conjunctions and relative pronouns or adverbs. As dependents, non-finite clauses typically precede their heads. The embedding is recursive in that the clauses may contain non-finite clauses themselves. They may also be coordinated with each other. Their thematic suffixes occupy positions corresponding to those of aspect–mood–tense suffixes of finite clauses, but the inventories in question are different and less elaborate. For example, not all forms carry personal markers.

Action Clauses
Clauses based on paradigmatic verbal nouns, action nouns, are complement clauses, mostly corresponding to English that clauses. They mostly take on possessive personal markers, and their syntactic functions in the matrix clause are marked by case markers or postpositions. The formal relationship with their subjects mostly corresponds to genitive constructions, e.g. Orhan’un bildiği (‘Orhan’s knowing’) ‘that Orhan knows/knew’. The nominative is also often used, e.g. Chuvash açaşem kayni ‘the children having gone’. In cases where the subject can take on both cases, genitive-marking tends to express ‘specificity’, much like the accusative-marking dealt with above, e.g. Turkish para/paranın kaybolduğu ‘the fact that money/the money disappeared’.

There is usually a difference between factive and non-factive action clauses. The former are construed with suffixes such as -GAn and -DIK + possessive suffixes, e.g. Turkish Ali’nin burada oturduğunun söylüyor ‘(S)he says that Ali lives/lived here’, Uzbek Kêlgânînîn bilâmân ‘I know that (s)he has come’, Aybekniň bu kitâbni yâzyânînî bilâmân ‘I know that Aybek has written this book’, Kirghiz Men sizdin ayîlya bolyonuguzdu bilem ‘I know that you have been to the village’, Turkmen Nîrê goçênînî bilemőq ‘I do not know where (s)he has moved’. The suffixes used have various aspecto-temporal meanings. Thus, Uzbek -(â)yâtgân is intraterminal, presenting the event as current, while -Gân is not.

Action clauses based on nominal predicates use copulative forms such as Uzbek ekân, Turkish olduk or extended forms such as Uzbek ekânlık and Kirghiz ekendik + possessive suffixes. Forms in -LIK and -DIK go back to the copula verb er- ‘be’, compare Ottoman iđık, e.g. in Turkmen Onun ayamdiyînî tanadim ‘I realised that he was my elder brother’. Suffixes of this kind can be added to participial forms, e.g. Turkmen -A(Ŝ)dILK and -yAndernILK in gelendi(yî ‘his/her having come’ or olyândi(yî ‘his/her being dying’, Kirghiz -GAnILK in Bala oqyanlıdîyîn bilem ‘I know that the child reads’, Uzbek -GânliK, -(â)yâtgânliK, etc. Such extended action noun forms are not
used as attributes to form relative clauses.

Action clauses referring to non-factive actions are based on suffixes such as -mA, -(I)s and -(U)w, e.g. Tatar ēšlēw ‘work(ing)’, Kazakh žasaw ‘do(ing)’, Kumyk geti ‘go(ing)’. They can be used to form purpose clauses such as Turkish Ali gelmelerini sōylüyor (‘Ali says their coming’) ‘Ali says that they shall come’, or infinitival complement clauses, often governed by modal lexical items, e.g. Uzbek Kētišimiz kerāk (‘our going necessary’) ‘We must go’. Such clauses often imply first-actant coreference with their verbal head without carrying personal markers, e.g. Uzbek Mēn ičišni istāyman ‘I want to drink’, Turkish Ali gelmek istiyor ‘Ali wants to come’.

Relative Clauses

Relative clauses, nominal actor clauses, refer to participant entities to which actions are ascribed, and are based on participles. They can be used as the head of a nominal phrase, e.g. Turkish gelen ‘(the) one coming/having come’, Kirghiz aytqanı ‘what (s)he has said’, Uyghur eytqanirinizi (‘your said [things]’) ‘what you have said’, Yakut ülelebet ‘who does not work’. They can also be attributed to a head in the sense of an identity attribution (see p. 50), e.g. Uyghur kelgen kisi ‘a/the man who has come’, Azerbaijanian ozdaryum kitab ‘a/the book I read’.

The participial markers used, e.g. Turkish -(y)An, -(DIK), -(y)AcAK, -mš, -mš olan, Uzbek -Gan, -(a)yätgan, -adigän-ydigän, or Tuvan -(V)r, -GAn, are relative subjunctors comparable to English relative pronouns and adverbs. They also signal various aspecto-temporal meanings. There are thus post-terminal participles as in Kazakh kelgen kisi, Chuvash kilnē šin ‘a/the person who has arrived’, Tuvan uşqan īyaš ‘a/the fallen tree’, more focal intra-terminal participles as in Kazakh kele žatqan kisi, Uzbek kēlāyādigān kisiš, Chuvash kilken šin ‘a/the person just coming’, less focal intra-terminal participles as in Uzbek yâzdāyān kiši ‘a/the (usually) writing’, prospective participles as in Tuvan kelir cīl ‘a/the coming year’, etc. Some subjunctors have a more general terminal use, e.g. the Turkish and Azerbaijanian markers -(y)An and -(DIK). Predicates such as gören and gördügü can thus be rendered as ‘who sees/saw/has seen’ and ‘whom [somebody] sees/saw/has seen’.

Coreference with the First Actant

If the first actant of the relative clause is coreferential with the head, it is not signalled by any personal marker, e.g. Tatar kelgen kēsē, Chuvash kilnē etem ‘a/the man who has come’. In this case, Turkish and similar Oghuz varieties use the type of relative subjunctors that do not take on personal markers, e.g. -(y)An.

The same situation obtains if the head is coreferential with the ‘possessor’ of the subject of the relative clause, e.g. Turkish evi yanand adam ‘a/the man whose house is burning/burnt’, Uzbek ânasi kâsâl bolýân bâlā ‘a/the child whose mother is ill’, Kirghiz qizi sulâ boloyon kisi ‘a/the person whose daughter is beautiful’. Here the heads, adam ‘man’ etc., are coreferential with
the genitival attributes of the corresponding constructions adamın evi ‘a/the man’s house’, etc.

There are also similar nominal constructions, e.g. Uzbek källäsī kätta kiiši ‘a/the man whose head is big’, where kiiš ‘man’ is coreferential with the possessor of kätta källäs ‘big head’, Kirghiz baliyy bar köl (‘its fish existent lake’) ‘a/the lake full of fish’. Possessive constructions of this kind, e.g. Uzbek änası käsäl ‘whose mother is ill’, Kirghiz qolu ačīq (‘his/her hand open’) ‘generous’, eli köp (‘its people numerous’) ‘densely populated’, are sometimes called ‘bahuvrihi’ compounds by analogy with the pattern exemplified in Old Indian bahu vṛṣṭi (‘abundant rice’) ‘rich in rice’ (with the reverse order of elements).

Coreference with Other Entities

The head may also be coreferential with an entity other than the first actant, i.e. another actant or an entity expressing time, location, direction, source, instrument, etc. In such cases most Turkic languages make use of the same participles and the same order of elements.

An isolated syntagm such as körgen kiiš, Chuvash kurnăśīn etc. may thus in principle mean both ‘a/the person who has seen’ and ‘a/the person whom somebody has seen’. The precise relation between the modifying clause and its head noun is established by pragmatic means alone. As noted above, this allows ‘impersonal’ expressions that do not refer to any specific first actant referent, e.g. Uzbek bāryān yēr ‘a/the place [someone has] gone to’, Kirghiz jaz Yan qat ‘a/the letter [someone has] written’. With causatives, the agent is in the dative, e.g. Kirghiz maya soyduryan qoy ‘a/the sheep which they [= someone] had me slaughter’. These constructions should not be confused with constructions containing passives such as Kirghiz jazīlyan qat ‘a/the written letter’.

The first actant may be expressed by a subject, e.g. a subject pronoun as in Azerbaijanian men ačan gāpī ‘a/the door I open(ed)’, Uzbek mēn yāz Yan kitāb ‘a/the book I have written’, mēn bāryān yēr ‘a/the place I have gone to’, Tatar sin körgen kēşē, Chuvash esē kurnă etem ‘a/the man you have seen’, esē yulakan yurā ‘a/the song you are singing’, epir kayakan poyezd ‘a/the train we are going in’, Kirghiz ayam jazbayan qat ‘a/the letter that my father has not written’, Uyghur men oquyan kitap ‘a/the book I have read’. This simple construction is common in many languages.

The first actant may also be expressed by a personal marker of the possessive kind. This marker may be added to the head of the construction, e.g. Uzbek yāz Yan kitābīm ‘a/the book I have written’, bāryān yērīm ‘a/the place I have gone to’, Kumyk satīb āy Yan atūm ‘a/the horse I have bought’. A corresponding subject referring to a specific entity normally stands in the genitive, e.g. Turkmen mēn(ī)yan alan kitābīm ‘a/the book I have bought’, Uzbek Nāvāinī yāz Yan asārlārī ‘works/the works which Navā’ī has written’, mēn(ī)yan yāz Yan kitābīm ‘a/the book I have written’, mēn(ī)yan bāryān yērīm ‘a/the place I have gone to’.
The personal marker may also be added to the participle, e.g. Old Turkic eštiniş ‘what (s)he has heard’, Turkish aldığım ‘what I take/took/have taken’. Turkish and partly Azerbaijanian use special types of subjunctors in these cases, -DİL, -(y)AcAK etc., e.g. Turkish oturduğum köy ‘the village I live(d) in’, geldiğim gün ‘the day I arrive(d)’. The presence of personal markers requires genitive subjects, e.g. Orhan’ın gördüğü adam ‘the man whom Orhan sees/saw/has seen’. A corresponding relativisation out of possessive constructions is possible when the head is coreferential with a ‘possessor’ of an entity other than the first actant, e.g. Turkish babasını tanıdım çocuk ‘the child whose father I know/knew/have known’.

Thus, relative constructions such as gördüğüm at ‘the horse you see/saw/have seen’ and yediğim et ‘the meat I eat/ate/have eaten’ correspond to the Kirghiz type sen körgön at, men jegen et. However, even Turkish may use the latter type, notably if the first actant referent is non-topical/non-specific and the head refers to a place, e.g. su akan yer ‘a place where water flows’, dondurma satılan dükkan ‘a/the shop where ice-cream is sold’. It can also, for example, use the participle in -(y)AcAK in the impersonal way discussed above, e.g. okuyacak bir kitap ‘a book to read’; compare Kirghiz oqur kitap, Bashkir uqih’ ki’tap.

As noted above, the precise relation between the relative clause and its head is not specified by the syntactic construction itself. Thus, Kirghiz men kelgen şär means ‘the town I have come to’ or ‘the town I have come from’, and Turkish taşındıgım ev may mean ‘the house I move/moved have moved into’ or ‘the house I move/moved have moved out of’. If necessary, the relation may of course be specified, e.g. by means of possessive postpositions such as içine ‘into its interior’ and içinden ‘from its interior’, e.g. Turkish içine taşındıgım ‘into which I move(d)’ and içinden taşındıgım ‘from which I move(d)’.

Non-propulsive Relative Clauses
Due to the left-branching subordination, prepositive Turkic relative clauses are not propulsive, i.e. cannot advance the plot beyond the point of time represented by the head clause unless the sequence of the events is specified by other means, e.g. Turkish Taşındıgım evi buldum ‘*I found the house, which I moved into’.

Converb Clauses
Converb clauses, adverbial action clauses, are based on converb markers. The latter are mostly monofunctional, i.e. do not serve to form other clause types. Some are morphologically simple, e.g. Turkish gelerek ‘coming’, Uzbek yâzıyaš ‘having written’, whereas others may be rather complex, for example, consisting of combinations of participles with case markers, postpositions or nouns, e.g. Kirghiz kelgende ‘when arriving’, Turkish geldikten sonra ‘after coming’, geldiğiz zaman ‘when (s)he comes/came’. Subjects of converb clauses are usually in the nominative. Some markers require identity between the first
actants of the converb clause and the head clause, e.g. Yakut -Ajn, Turkish -(y)lp (with few exceptions). Most markers do not require this identity, e.g. Turkish Ali gelince Osman şaşırdı ‘When Ali came, Osman was surprised’.

Semantic Relations
Converb markers express various semantic relations, a wide range of aspectual, temporal and other relational concepts: intraterminality, post-terminality, terminality, anteriority, posteriority, temporal inclusion (‘while’), abtemporality (‘since’), terminativity and limitation (‘until’, ‘as long as’), reason (‘because’), means, instrumental (‘by’), purpose (‘in order to’), contrast (‘whereas’), accordance (‘as’), substitution (‘instead of’), preference (‘rather than’), condition (‘if’), etc.

Conditional clauses are usually based on suffixes of the type -sA, with personal markers of the possessive kind, and copula particles of the type èse ‘if . . . is’. The conditional forms may contain particles and auxiliary verbs to express various temporal and other distinctions, e.g. Uyghur yazızan bolsaŋ édi ‘if you had written’. In many languages, conditional clauses may be introduced by copies of the Persian conjunction agar, e.g. Uyghur eger yazsam ‘if I (should) write’.

Subjunctors of the types diye, dep ‘saying’ (see pp. 48, 117) form other kinds of adverbial clauses, e.g. purposive and motivating causal clauses containing optatives or prospectives, e.g. Turkish ev yansan diye (‘saying: the house may burn’) ‘in order for the house to burn’, Chuvash sazär iles tese (‘saying: will buy sugar’) ‘in order to buy sugar’.

Non-modifying Converb Clauses
Not all converb clauses are used in a propositionally restrictive sense, modifying the head clause semantically. Those based on markers of the -(V)B type, Yakut -(A)n, Chuvash -sA, Tuvan -GAs, etc. may, though they are syntactically dependent clauses, represent events of equal narrative value with the event of the head clause. They can thus often be rendered with English coordinative constructions, e.g. Gülüp odadan çıktı ‘(S)he laughed and left the room’, Kirghiz Oqup tüşündü ‘(S)he read and understood’, Chuvash Kılse kurçē ‘(S)he came and saw it’. These non-modifying converbs are terminal and thus propulsive, capable of ordering events linearly, e.g. Turkish Ali kayıp düştü ‘Ali slipped and fell’. Beside their purely joining function, these markers may get various contextual readings such as anteriority, cause, concession, manner and condition. Ambiguity between converb clauses of this kind and the postverb constructions mentioned above (p. 42), e.g. Kirghiz Oqup turdu ‘(S)he read it and stood up’ versus ‘(S)he kept reading’, are prevented by prosodic features, notably pitch patterns.

Non-modifying terminal converbs of this type are ideal for the discourse function of narrative linking and serve as central text-constructing units in traditional narrative styles. They allow periodic chain sentences of considerable length to be constructed, corresponding to whole text paragraphs in other styles:
extended sequences of propulsive clauses, representing thematically closely interconnected narratively equal events, e.g. Kirghiz *Men ertej menen turup zaryadka żasap kiyinip zscheup mektepe barażatam* ‘I get up in the morning, do gymnastics, dress, wash myself and go to school’ (see pp. 353–4). No link in such chains necessarily modifies the next one, and only the final head clause is fully equipped to permit a definitive personal, aspectual, modal, temporal and illocutional interpretation of the chain. Different converb types may be used as text-subdividing devices signalling different degrees of thematic closeness between the events of the chain. These old and widespread narrative patterns are vanishing in more Europeanised styles.

Questions of Scope
Since finite clauses are asserted as a whole, embedded modifying converb clauses are outside the scope of illocutionary markers signalling assertion. They are also outside the scope of a negation of the head clause, and must take on negative markers of their own. Negative converb markers such as Turkish -mAdAn, Tuvan -BAyn etc. are modifying (‘without doing/having done’), e.g. Turkish *Selam vermeden gittim* ‘I left without greeting’. Non-modifying converb clauses may, however, be included in the scope of negation, e.g. Turkish *Gelip görmek* ‘You did not come and [did not] see’. There are also non-modifying negative markers of the type -mAylB, e.g. Turkish *Selam vermeyip çktım* ‘I did not greet, but left’.

A final interrogative particle questions the content of a whole sentence, e.g. Turkish *Ali gelince gittin mi?* ‘Did you leave when Ali came?’ As with all modifying adverbial constituents, the content of a modifying converb clause may be interrogated separately by shifting the position of the interrogation marker, e.g. Turkish *Ali gelince mi gittin?* ‘Was it when Ali came that you left?’

Other Forms of Junction
There are also other forms of clause junction, commonly regarded as copies of Indo-European subordinative structures, e.g. postpositive clauses which modify the preceding clause or a constituent of it. They are provided with predicative markers typical of finite clauses and preceded by junctors such as *kim* or *ki* ‘who, that’, *qaçan* ‘when’ etc.

Though such clauses may resemble English constituent and relative clauses, they often differ considerably from them. The junctor signals a close semantic connection with the subsequent clause, but normally does not introduce it, e.g. Turkish *Sarum ki, gelecek* ‘I think (s)he will come’, Uzbek *Mên bildim ki, siz kélgan ēdigiiz* ‘I got to know that you had come’. Clauses of this type are mostly not embedded as postpredicative constituents of the preceding clause, but appended to it in a looser way. In certain modern languages such as Turkish, most imitations of this kind are not stylistically acceptable any more.

On the other hand, languages which have been under strong Persian or Slavic influence tend to reproduce the originals in a more genuine way. Some
of them make use of native junctors modelled on foreign ones, e.g. Gagauz ani ‘who, which, that’. There are even tendencies to use conditionals and optatives in the sense of Indo-European subjunctives.

Free junctors plus conditional or optative predicate cores (‘whoever’, ‘whenever’, etc.) are very often used for generalising relative and adverbial constructions, e.g. Old Uyghur kim qorqsar ‘whoever fears’, Turkish ne olursa olsun ‘whatever may happen’. Languages under predominantly Slavic influence prefer indicative forms in such cases, e.g. Chuvash Käm ĕšlemešt, vâl simest ‘Who does not work, does not/should not eat’ (present tense).

Further Reading

Since existing general descriptions of Turkic structure have a more or less diachronic orientation, most of the relevant literature will be listed in the bibliography added to Chapter 5. References to descriptions of Turkish structure will be given in Chapter 11. The following list includes titles in which the terminology and the analyses adopted in this chapter are elaborated on.


