

Proto human language:

WIKIPEDIA : [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proto-Human\\_language](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Proto-Human_language)

## Syntax

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**SVO** (MOST INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES; Eg. English, French German, Italian Spanish, and Slavic languages)

versus

**SOV** (Eg. Hungarian, Turkic, Amerindian etc)

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In a 2011 paper, [Murray Gell-Mann](#) and [Merritt Ruhlen](#) argued that the ancestral language had subject–object–verb (**SOV**) word order.<sup>[16]</sup> The reason for thinking so is that **in the world's natural language families, it is typical for the original language to have an SOV word order**, and languages that evolve from it sometimes deviate. Their proposal develops an earlier one made by [Talmy Givón](#) (1979:271–309).<sup>[how?]</sup>

**Languages with SOV word order have a strong tendency to have other word orders in common, such as:**<sup>[16]</sup>

- [Adjectives](#) precede the nouns they modify.
- Dependent [genitives](#) precede the nouns they modify.
- "[Prepositions](#)" are really "postpositions", following the nouns they refer to.

For example, instead of saying *The man goes to the wide river*, as in English, Ruhlen's Proto-Human speakers would have said *Man wide river to goes*. However, half of all current languages have SOV order, and historically languages cycle between word orders, so finding evidence of this order in the reconstructions of many families **may reflect no more than this general tendency, rather than reflecting a common ancestral form.**

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- Morphology.
- Syntax.
- Phonetics.
- Phonology.
- Semantics.
- Pragmatics.
- Neurolinguistics

# “Classification of Languages

<https://ielanguages.com/classification-languages.html>

## LINGUISTICS TOPICS

### Indo-European family of languages

- Italic / Latin
  - Romance
    - Catalan
    - French
    - Italian
    - Occitan / Provençal
    - Portuguese
    - Rhaeto-Romansch
    - Romanian
    - Spanish
- Germanic
  - North Germanic
    - Danish
    - Faroese
    - Icelandic
    - Norwegian
    - Swedish
  - East Germanic
    - Gothic (extinct)
  - West Germanic
    - Afrikaans
    - Dutch
    - English
    - Flemish
    - Frisian
    - German
    - Yiddish
- Slavic
  - Western
    - Czech
    - Polish
    - Slovak
    - Sorbian
  - Eastern
    - Belarusian
    - Russian
    - Ukrainian
  - Southern
    - Bulgarian
    - Croatian

- Macedonian
  - Old Church Slavonic
  - Serbian
  - Slovene
- Baltic
  - Latvian
  - Lithuanian
  - Old Prussian (extinct)
- Celtic
  - Brythonic
    - Breton
    - Cornish (extinct)
    - Gaulish (extinct)
    - Welsh
  - Goidelic
    - Irish
    - Manx Gaelic (extinct)
    - Scots Gaelic
- Hellenic / Greek
- Albanian
- Armenian
- Anatolian (extinct)
- Tocharian (extinct)
- Indo-Iranian
  - Indo-Aryan (Indic)
    - Assamese
    - Bengali
    - Bihari
    - Gujarati
    - Hindi-Urdu
    - Marathi
    - Punjabi
    - Romani
    - Sanskrit
    - Sindhi
    - Singhalese
  - Iranian
    - Avestan
    - Balochi
    - Farsi / Persian
    - Kurdish
    - Pashtu / Afghan
    - Sogdian

**Afro-Asiatic** languages are spoken in Northern Africa and the Middle East. They include Berber, Egyptian, Omotic and Cushitic languages (Somali, Iraqw) as well as the modern Semitic languages of Hebrew, Arabic and Amharic, in addition to languages spoken in biblical times, such as Aramaic, Akkadian, Babylonian, Canaanite, and Phoenician.

**Uralic** (or Finno-Ugric) is the other major family of languages spoken on the European continent. Finnish, Estonian and **Hungarian** are examples.

The **Altaic** languages are classified as Japanese and Korean, though some linguists separate these languages into their own groups.

**Sino-Tibetan** languages include Mandarin, Hakka, Wu, Burmese, Tibetan, and all of the Chinese "dialects."

**Austro-tai** languages include Indonesian, Javanese and Thai; while the **Asiatic** group includes Vietnamese.

The **Dravidian** languages of Tamil and Telugu are spoken in southeastern India and Sri Lanka.

The **Caucasian** language family consists of 40 different languages, and is divided into Cartvelian (south Caucasian), North-West Caucasian and North-East Caucasian language groups. Some languages are Georgian, Megrelian, Chechen, Ingush **Avarian**, Lezgian and Dargin. These languages are mostly spoken in Georgia, Turkey, Syria, Iran, Jordan and parts of the Russian federation.

The **Niger-Congo** family includes most of the African languages. About 1,500 languages belong to this group, including the Bantu languages of Swahili, Tswana, Xhosa, Zulu, Kikuyu, and Shona. Other languages are Ewe, Mina, Yoruba, Igbo, Wolof, Kordofanian and Fulfulde.

Other African language groups are **Nilo-Saharan**, which includes 200 languages spoken in Central and Eastern Africa; and **Khoisan**, the click languages of southern Africa. The Khoisan group only contains about 30 languages, most of which are spoken in Namibia and Botswana.

The **Austronesian** family includes about 900 languages, mostly spoken in the South Pacific and Asia. Hawaiian, Maori, Tagalog, and Malay are all representatives of this language family.

Many **Amerindian** languages are, or were, spoken in North and South America by the indigenous populations before European colonization. Knowledge of these languages is somewhat limited, and sadly many of these languages are endangered and may die out over the next 50 to 100 years. “

**END OF QUOTE**