

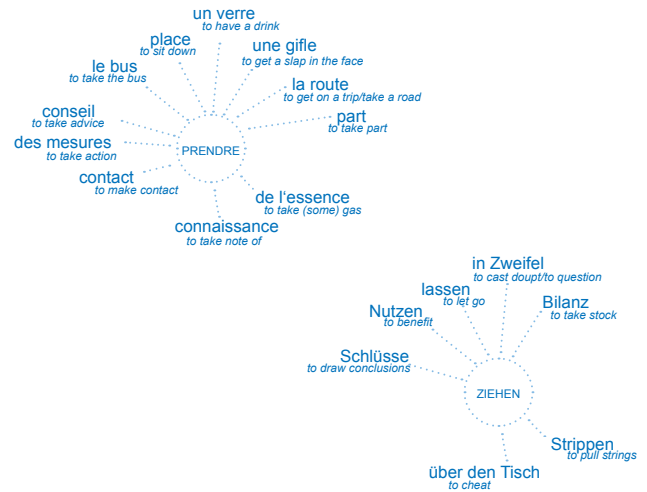
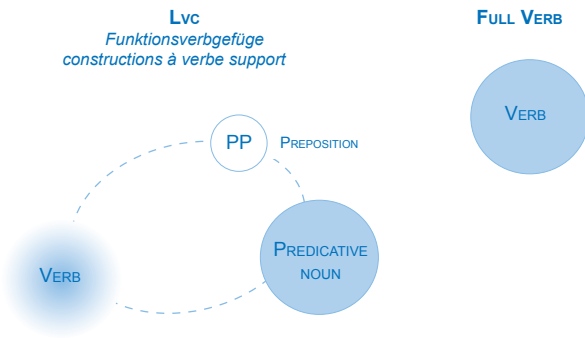
Light-verb constructions in French and German (LVC).

A contrastive analysis of semantic structures in LVC and complex predicates.

Criteria & semantically lightness

Complex predicates are predicative constructions characterized by the fact that at least two predicational elements contribute to a joint meaning. Light verbs are part of such complex predicates with a certain loss of semantic content compared to the full verb existing in identical form.

Issues of Definition & classification: LVC vs. collocations



Examples

FRENCH	(a) prendre en considération - to take into consideration
	(b) prendre du retard - to delay / to fall behind
GERMAN	(c) in Erwägung ziehen - to take into consideration
	(d) in Verzug geraten - to delay / fall behind

DETGES (1996)	Verbal nucleus of complex predicates provided by N FV + N FVG
BURER (2003)	LVC as a subcategory of general verb & noun collocation
STEYER (2000)	Mehrwortverbindungen vs. einzelwort-bezogene Kookurrenz
HELBIG (2006)	LVC ≠ general verb & noun collocation

Mental images in french and german LVC



- How does the set of meanings encoded in french and german light-verb constructions evoke different mental images and therefore different connotations?
- What nuances and interpretations is lead to by the semantic structure of complex predicates and the conceptual content of its smaller units?

e.g. Spatiality, direction

