

MAIN PURPOSE

- Properties constraining word order in L2:
 - at **lexicon-syntax** interface [Unaccusativity Hypothesis]
 - at **syntax-discourse** interface [Topic, Focus]

DATA COLLECTION: 2 LEARNER CORPORA

• CORPUS L1 English – L2 Spanish CEDEL2 “Corpus Escrito del Español L2”

- 160 essays (so far)
- 70,000 words (so far)
- 1 million words (target)
- Person in charge: Cristóbal Lozano
- Online data collection (webpage)
- Learners from universities all over the world (USA, UK, Australia, Spain)
- Data gathering:
 - Learning background
 - Spanish Placement Test (Wisconsin)
 - Essay

• CORPUS L1 Spanish – L2 English WriCLE “Written Corpus of Learner English”

- 260 academic essays (so far)
- 300,000 words (so far)
- 1 million words (target)
- Person in charge: Paul Rollinson
- 1st and 3rd year students of English at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid
- Data gathering:
 - Learner profile
 - Essay profile
 - Oxford Quick Placement test

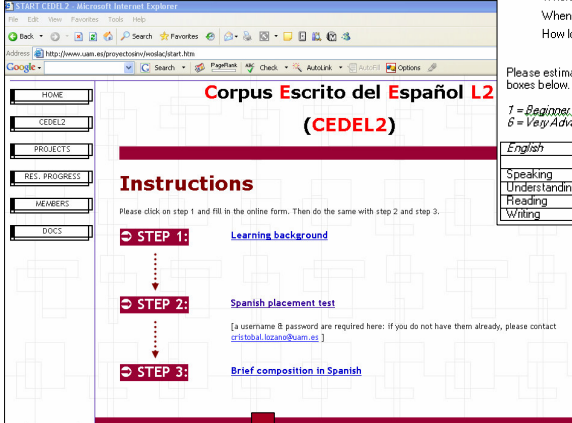
SOFTWARE: UAM CORPUS TOOL

- It can select and annotate a structure: text / sentence / phrase / word.
- The can assign features to that structure: example: cleft sentence.
- Automatic detection of patterns.
- XML format.

WOSLAC project: 2 learner corpora

CEDEL2 L1 Eng – L2 Spa WriCLE L1 Spa – L2 Eng

<http://www.uam.es/woslac/cedel2.htm>



Corpus Escrito del Español L2 (CEDEL2)

Instructions

Please click on step 1 and fill in the online form. Then do the same with step 2 and step 3.

STEP 1: Learning background

STEP 2: Spanish placement test

[A username & password are required here. If you do not have them already, please contact cristobal_lozano@uam.es]

STEP 3: Brief composition in Spanish

LEARNER PROFILE

First Name: _____
 Surname: _____
 e-mail: _____
 Female Male Age: _____
 University: _____ Department: _____
 Degree: _____ Year of Course: 1st 2nd

Your native language: _____
 Your father's native language: _____
 Your mother's native language: _____
 Language(s) spoken at home: _____

Age at which you started to learn English: _____
 Number of years studying English: _____
 Have you stayed in an English-speaking country? Yes No

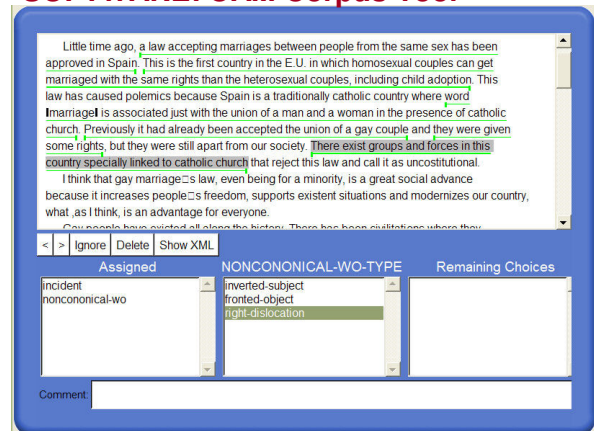
Where? _____
 When? _____
 How long? _____

Please estimate your ability to speak, understand and write English, by boxes below.

1 = Beginner, 2 = Elementary, 3 = Lower Intermediate, 4 = Upper Intermediate, 5 = Proficient, 6 = Very Advanced

English	1	2	3	4	5	6
Speaking						
Understanding						
Reading						
Writing						

SOFTWARE: UAM Corpus Tool



Little time ago, a law accepting marriages between people from the same sex has been approved in Spain. This is the first country in the EU in which homosexual couples can get married with the same rights than the heterosexual couples, including child adoption. This law has caused polemics because Spain is a traditionally catholic country where word marriage is associated just with the union of a man and a woman in the presence of catholic church. Previously it had already been accepted the union of a gay couple and they were given some rights, but they were still apart from our society. There exist groups and forces in this country specially linked to catholic church that reject this law and call it as unconstitutional. I think that gay marriage's law, even being for a minority, is a great social advance because it increases people's freedom, supports existent situations and modernizes our country, what, as I think, is an advantage for everyone.

Assigned: incident nonconventional-wo

NONCONONICAL-WO-TYPE: inverted-subject, fronted-object, right-dislocation

Remaining Choices: _____

Comment: _____

CONTRIBUTION TO THE FIELD

- **LING THEORY:** Better understanding of interfaces (lexicon-syntax, syntax-discourse, syntax-phonology) → better understanding of the language faculty.
- **SECOND LANG ACQUISITION:** better understanding of L1 influence on interlanguage grammars (based on large data: Learner Corpora). ALSO
- **CORPUS STUDIES:** better understanding of how learner corpora can be used to the study of formal L2 properties.
 - Creation of the first corpus of L2 Spanish (CEDEL2).
 - Creation of Written Corpus of Learner English (WriCLE).
- **PEDAGOGY:** better understanding of word order errors in order to improve language teaching.

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