Using the *Sprachpraxis* Anglistik Form–Function Tutor

Access the tutor here (currently under review). Click to activate the tutor. Once activated, it will live permanently inside MS Copilot until you remove it or until it is turned off. Make sure the Microsoft Copilot 365 app is installed on your device and that you are logged in before activating the tutor.

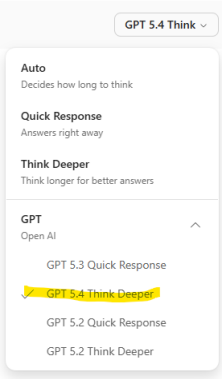
What the tutor does

The tutor analyses input (e.g. sentences) in terms of their syntactic form and function on the basis of the *Sprachpraxis* Form-Function terminology document. Before you start, read the document to make sure you are familiar with the form vs. function distinction.

How to use the tutor

In order to get the most accurate analysis, always

1. ensure that the agent is in 'GPT 5.4 Think Deeper' mode. Where it says 'Auto' in the top right corner of the agent, click the arrow and then under 'GPT Open AI' click the arrow again and choose 'GPT 5.4 Think Deeper'.



2. use the pre-formatted recommended prompt. Not using the prompt will result in a wrong or incomplete analysis. Use the prompt as follows: Click 'Recommended prompt' right underneath the message box; the prompt will appear in the message box; then paste the input you want to have analysed at the end of the prompt). You can then ask follow-up questions (e.g. Why is … not a modifier? / Isn't … a subject complement?)
3. analyse one sentence at a time rather than several sentences in a batch.

You can also simply ask questions such as:

- What's a(n) [e.g. nominal relative pronoun]?
- What kind of adverbial is [chunk]?
- What's the syntactic form of [chunk]?

- What's the syntactic function of [chunk]?
- Why is [chunk] a(n) [e.g. prepositional complement] and not a(n) [e.g. direct object]?

What the tutor will *always* do

1. Start by providing a pre-analysis inventory by listing:
    a. all clauses (main/subordinate; finite/non-finite)
    b. all adverbials
    c. all major phrases (NPs, VPs, PPs, AdjPs, AdvPs)
2. Provide a detailed analysis of all clauses and phrases that includes the syntactic form and function of all the elements within them.

What the tutor *should* do

1. The recommended prompt instructs the tutor to **always** perform a complete, detailed, and thorough internal syntactic form and function analysis step by step before sending you the result. If you see 'Reasoning completed in … steps' at the very top of the output (directly under 'Sprachpraxis SynFormFun tutor'), that means the analysis has been conducted as per the instructions; if you don't see it, open a new chat inside the agent and run the sentence again for maximum accuracy.
2. The tutor is trained to inform you if you introduce or ask about terminology or grammar frameworks that are not used in the department's *Sprachpraxis* section. In such cases, it *should* give you the corresponding *Sprachpraxis* label as per the Form-Function terminology document linked above.

What the tutor will *not* do

- **Remove the need for you to have a good grasp of form and function**
- Apply other grammar frameworks, e.g. the one used in the department's *Linguistics* section
- Produce tree diagrams

Last but not least

The tutor is relatively accurate but it isn't perfect. It can and will make mistakes! If in doubt, ask your instructor, who is always the final arbiter. For questions or feedback, contact Dan Honert.

The tutor is also very much a work in progress and will become more accurate over time. If you notice any serious or recurring issues, please forward them to Dan. The best way to do this is by copying the agent's whole output (**not** just the wrong string) into a Word document and forwarding it to Dan.