



The
Word Order in
Western Asia
Corpus

metadata for the data set

Turkic — Oghuz (Gagauz)

05 November 2022
(doc v1.0)

Overview of the data set

data set	turk_oghuz_gagauz
contributors	Mahîr Can Doğan
published	22 September 2021
texts	2
tokens	594 analyzed (928 total)
notes	XLS/TSV contain entire source text

Metadata for individual texts

Text A

source	Menz (1999: Text 1) (WAV ✗ PDF ✓)
location	Tomai, Moldova (46.5733° N, 28.3247° E)
recorded	1995
text type	personal narrative
speaker	01 — male, age 43
tokens	381 analyzed (527 total)

Text B

source	Menz (1999: Text 7) (WAV ✗ PDF ✓)
location	Chişinău, Moldova (47.0139° N, 28.8500° E)
recorded	1995
text type	personal narrative
speaker	02 — male, age 67
tokens	213 analyzed (401 total)

Background to the data set

The texts analysed here were kindly provided by Astrid Menz. They were originally published in Menz (1999) with a German translation, based on Menz' fieldwork. We have provided an English-language translation. Unfortunately it has not been possible to locate the corresponding sound files. For a short summary of Gagauz syntax, see Menz (2013).¹

¹ https://multicast.aspra.uni-bamberg.de/resources/wowa/data/_pubs/Menz2013_gagauz.pdf

Text A (labelled ‘Text 1’ in Menz 1999) is a recording of a 43-year-old male speaker from Tomai village, recorded there in the summer of 1995. The speaker has completed secondary education, and has excellent Russian language proficiency. In this text, the speaker recounts a number of events from his childhood and teenage years. His wife can occasionally be heard in the background. Her speech was also transcribed; her utterances are marked with “F:” in order to distinguish them from those of the main speaker. Where her turns consist of only a single word, they were not numbered separately. Since she sat some distance from the microphone, not all of her utterances could be transcribed. At two points the interviewers were asked questions; their answers were transcribed as well (marked with “I:”), since they are crucial for comprehending the text that follows, but they were likewise not numbered separately.

Text B (labelled ‘Text 7’ in Menz 1999) is a recording of a 67-year-old male speaker from Copceac, recorded in Chişinău in the summer of 1995. The speaker studied to become a teacher after spending some time at a religious seminary. He is the only informant recorded for Menz (1999) who speaks excellent Romanian in addition to Russian. The speaker spent some time in Turkey, with noticeable effects on his vocabulary. Like the speaker of the first text, he recounts various episodes from his youth. One of these episodes, about a mulberry tree, was turned into a Gagauz children’s book by the speaker.

References

- Menz, Astrid. 1999. *Gagausische Syntax: Eine Studie zum kontaktinduzierten Sprachwandel*. Wiesbaden: Harrassowitz.
- Menz, Astrid. 2013. Gagauz. *Tehlikedeki Diller Dergisi [Journal of Endangered Languages]* 2(2). 55–69.