

6 Textual, interpersonal, and topical Themes

Internal structure of a multiple Theme

well	but	then	surely	Jean	wouldn't	the best idea	be to join in?
con- tinu- ative	struc- tur- al	con- junc- tive	mo- dal-	voc- at- ive	finite	topical	
textual			interpersonal				
Theme							Rheme

7 Grammatically 'marked' Themes

Unmarked vs. marked Themes

	Function	Class	Clause example
unmarked Theme	Subject	nominal group: pronoun as Head	I # have a dream
		nominal group: noun as Head	my sister # has a new boyfriend
		nominalization	what I want # is a proper cup of tea
marked Theme	Adjunct	adverbial group	merrily # we roll along
		prepositional phrase	on Saturday night # I lost my wife
	Complement	nominal group: noun as Head	Eliot # you're particularly fond of
		nominal group: pronoun as Head	this # they should refuse
		nominalization	what chance gave # chance took away

(Based on Halliday and Matthiessen)