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"The analysis of Italian is simpler than that of English, basically following the traditional view of indicative as a realis mood, indicating truth in the actual world, with the subjunctive the default mood used when the indicative is inappropriate. It is immediately apparent what the problems are: indicatives governed by *say* and *dream* (*believe* takes the subjunctive in Italian), and subjunctives which follow emotive factives and causatives."

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"So either you begin with a velar or you're not a linguist."

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WISER WEB WANDERING

by Paul Hagstrom

These days, almost everybody and everything has a "home page" on the world wide web, or even several dozen. There are few advertisements in the popular media which *don't* sport a "www.something.com" somewhere. Within the past few years there has been an explosion of resources and information on the web. This is of course good, but there is a downside. The problem now is information overload — what we want to know is almost certainly out there, but finding it can take all day. This has prompted the creation of "search engines" designed to find specific information on the web (though in such numbers that it is now difficult to decide which search engine to use!). This general problem is also a problem in our little corner of the intellectual universe, and one which is not always well-suited to the big general web directories like Yahoo (www.yahoo.com) or full-internet search engines like AltaVista (www.altavista.digital.com). Enter, this article. Here, I'll review some of the major starting points for things of interest to linguists that will hopefully make the task of finding what you're after at least a little bit less frustrating.

Please note that all web addresses I give here have an implied "http://" prefixed to them. Not all browsers require you to type this prefix. Also, it is worth mentioning that the web is very volatile, and although these web pages exist as I describe them at the time of this writing, there is no guarantee that they will be there forever (or even tomorrow). I have tried to stick to the sites which appear to be the most stable, but still there are no guarantees.

I have to start the discussion with LINGUIST (www.linguistlist.org). For years LINGUIST has been the primary email list of linguistics, but their new web site is simply outstanding. If you haven't seen it within the last couple of years, go back and check it out. As would be expected, they have a variety of tools relating to the mailing list, including tools to search back issues, and instructions on how to tailor subscriptions to just topics of interest (for example, job announcements) allowing some control over the otherwise somewhat overwhelming volume of traffic on the list. LINGUIST The Mailing List has evolved into *the* accepted forum for announcing job openings, calls for papers, upcoming conferences, reviews, and forthcoming books in linguistics. LINGUIST The Web Site has taken it one step further, becoming *the* comprehensive collection of linguistics-related web resources. Linguistics departments across the world

have their home pages listed (probably the feature I use most often), as do most other organizations, publishers, conferences, and even individuals. There are also a great many links to other resources, such as course syllabi, software, fonts, and dictionaries. As far as I can see, if it's out there, you can get there via LINGUIST.

So why don't I stop there? Because although LINGUIST has a very comprehensive set of links, what you are looking for is almost certainly not uniquely specified in their lists. Like the yellow pages, LINGUIST gives you a large number of choices, but often very little to go by to differentiate the different sites it lists. In what follows, I will suggest starting points for looking up departments, fonts, online papers, individual email addresses, mailing lists, language-specific reference material, and conference materials.

Although I often start with LINGUIST when looking for department home pages, let me also mention a couple of other places to find this type of information. The LSA's web site (www.lsadc.org) has become quite sophisticated recently. Among other things, it now has a listing (with various statistics) of all US and Canadian departments with links to home pages when known. Another good list is the one from the University of Rochester (www.ling.rochester.edu/links/departments.html), listing major departments outside the US and inside the US. If a department has a web page, it will almost certainly be found on at least one of these lists.

In these days of fancy computers, most linguists have lost patience with Courier, and often wish to make use of non-standard fonts. If you are looking for fonts for a particular language, there are two places to start. First, for publicly available fonts, check the font archive at the University of Oregon's Yamada Language Center (babel.uoregon.edu/yamada/fonts.html), which has a list of fonts for over 100 languages (and also has some other links of particular interest to the specific language you are interested in). If you might be willing to spend a little money for the font you are after, the Fonts in Cyberspace page hosted by the Summer Institute of Linguistics site (www.sil.org/computing/fonts) has lists of fonts and word processors that include both free and commercial font links. If you are looking for a good IPA font, the best-looking and most complete one I have come across so far is IPAPhon

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(www.chass.utoronto.ca/~rogers/fonts.html), available for both Macintosh and Windows.

One of the biggest impacts the web has had on practicing linguists is in the realm of research distribution. Rather than mailing manuscripts off to people (which is slow, expensive, and memory-intensive), many linguists now put their papers on the web. Most people simply put their papers on their home pages, but this means that you have to (a) find their home pages, and (b) think to check them. A better solution is a centralized archive of papers, and there is no more successful example than the Rutgers Optimality Archive (ruccs.rutgers.edu/roa.html). As of the moment I type this, it has almost 300 papers, theses, and handouts relating in one way or another to Optimality Theory. Although not *everything* is on the archive (one notable omission is the Prince & Smolensky 1993 manuscript, which is only available through mail-order), chances are that if it has been written in or about the OT framework, it is on the ROA. Those whose work does not concern OT do not at present have a similar forum, although I hope that someone with the resources to make it happen will soon recognize this need. A (surprisingly) few linguistics departments have collected papers written by members of their community on their department web pages, which is a step in the right direction. Perhaps the biggest I've seen is at the University of Pennsylvania (ling.upenn.edu), followed by the one at MIT (www.mit.edu/~linguistics), and there are quite a number of smaller collections scattered through other departments of the world. LINGUIST has set aside a section for online papers, but so far the collection is small and has not been growing very fast.

Perhaps the most important thing the internet has given us is the availability of direct email contact between researchers. However, even armed with a person's academic affiliation, their email address may not be possible to guess. There are a couple of resources available for finding someone's email address. The LINGUIST site has a page with some suggestions (linguistlist.org/addresses.html), which include searching LINGUIST's subscriber list. A second good place to look is at the LSA's member list (www.lsadc.org/web2/membfr.htm).

Another form of information exchange that linguists may find useful is the mailing list. LINGUIST is a general mailing list that has been mentioned several times already, but there are many other, more topic-specific (and usually lower-traffic) lists as well. A nice and comprehensibly-sized list of mailing lists is maintained at Rochester (www.ling.rochester.edu/links/lists.html), which also points to other lists of lists as well. These lists are usually set up so that mail sent to the list server is automatically sent to all people on the list. Many of these mailing lists are specific to theoretical approaches, languages, or language families.

As linguists, we may occasionally find use for actual language reference material, some of which is already on the web. There are two particularly noteworthy sites dealing with online dictionaries, grammars, and courses in specific languages; they are Robert Beard's online dictionaries page (www.facstaff.bucknell.edu/rbeard/diction.html) and the Rivendell International Communications page (rivendell.com/~ric/resources/dictionary.html). Both of these are very comprehensive and up-to-date. Another good place to look for language-specific resources is the Human-Languages Page (www.june29.com/HLP), which has a very large, searchable database of links.

For a well laid-out and current summary of upcoming linguistics conferences, take a look at Peter White's conferences page (www.cltr.uq.oz.au/conf.html), which lists conference homepages, abstract deadlines, meeting dates, and contact information for every advertised conference in linguistics. Another important place to look for conference information is in the LINGUIST archives (www.linguistlist.org, you will recall); at LINGUIST there are separate sections for calls for papers and for conference announcements (the latter usually being schedules and registration information).

I will close (predictably) by mentioning the Blackwell Linguistics Resource Center which I maintain (www.blackwellpublishers.co.uk/linguist). This site has links to the above-mentioned sites along with other useful links that merit visiting on the web.

Happy hunting!