

# A Typology of Case Through Translation

Michael Cysouw

or:

# How to Compare Like with Like

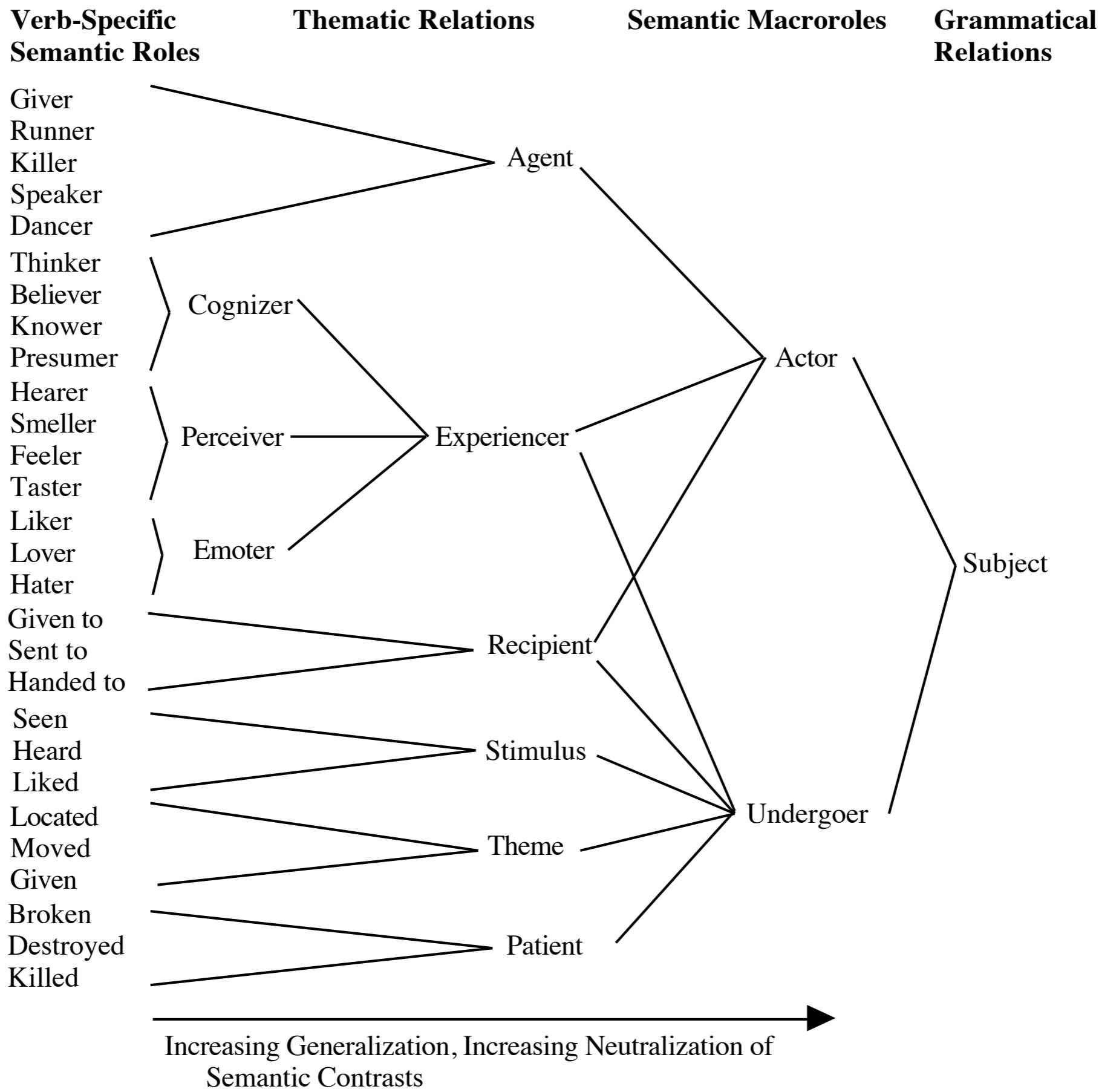
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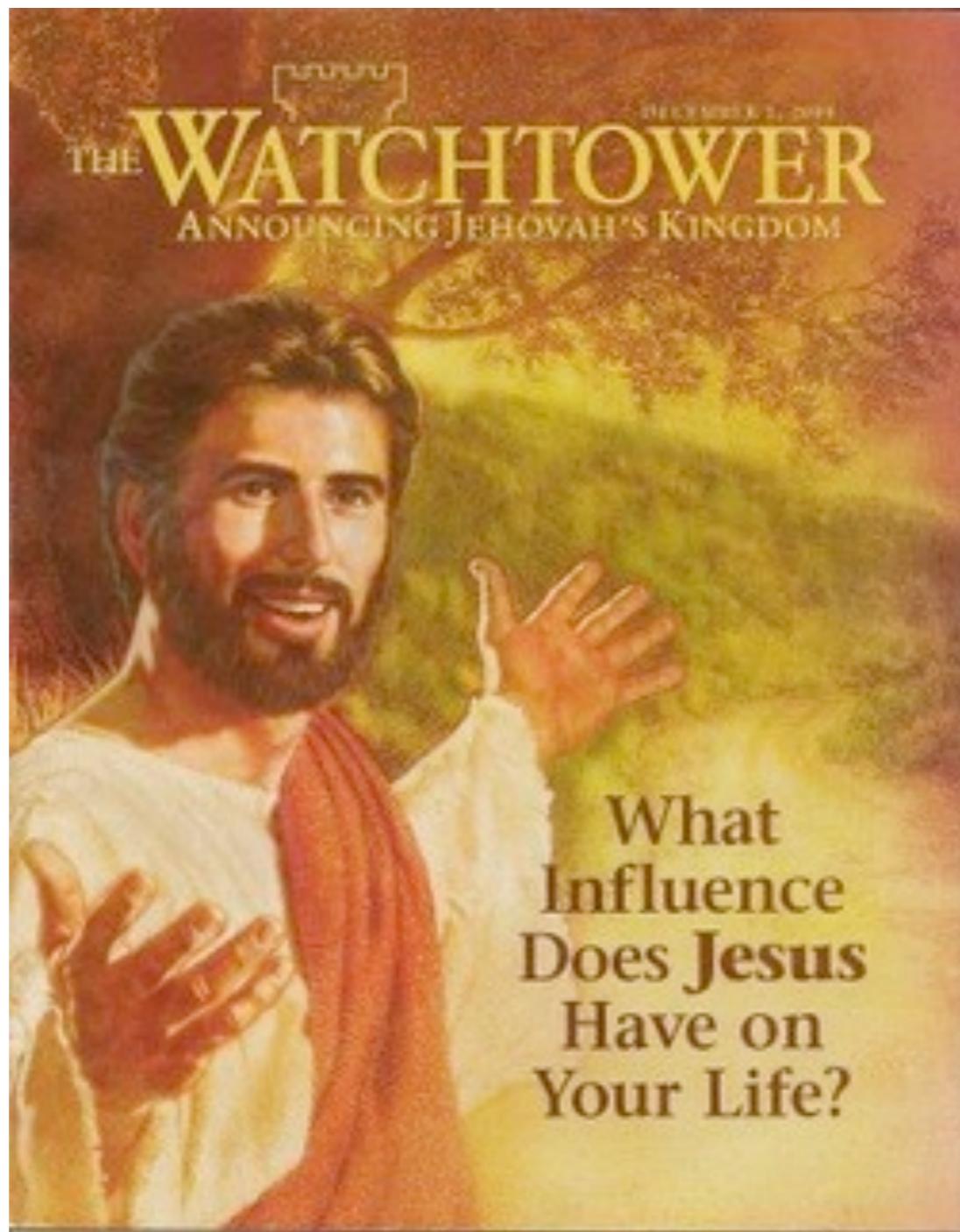
“How can we be sure that the data which we select from the languages in the sample form a coherent body of facts?”

(Stassen 2011: 90)

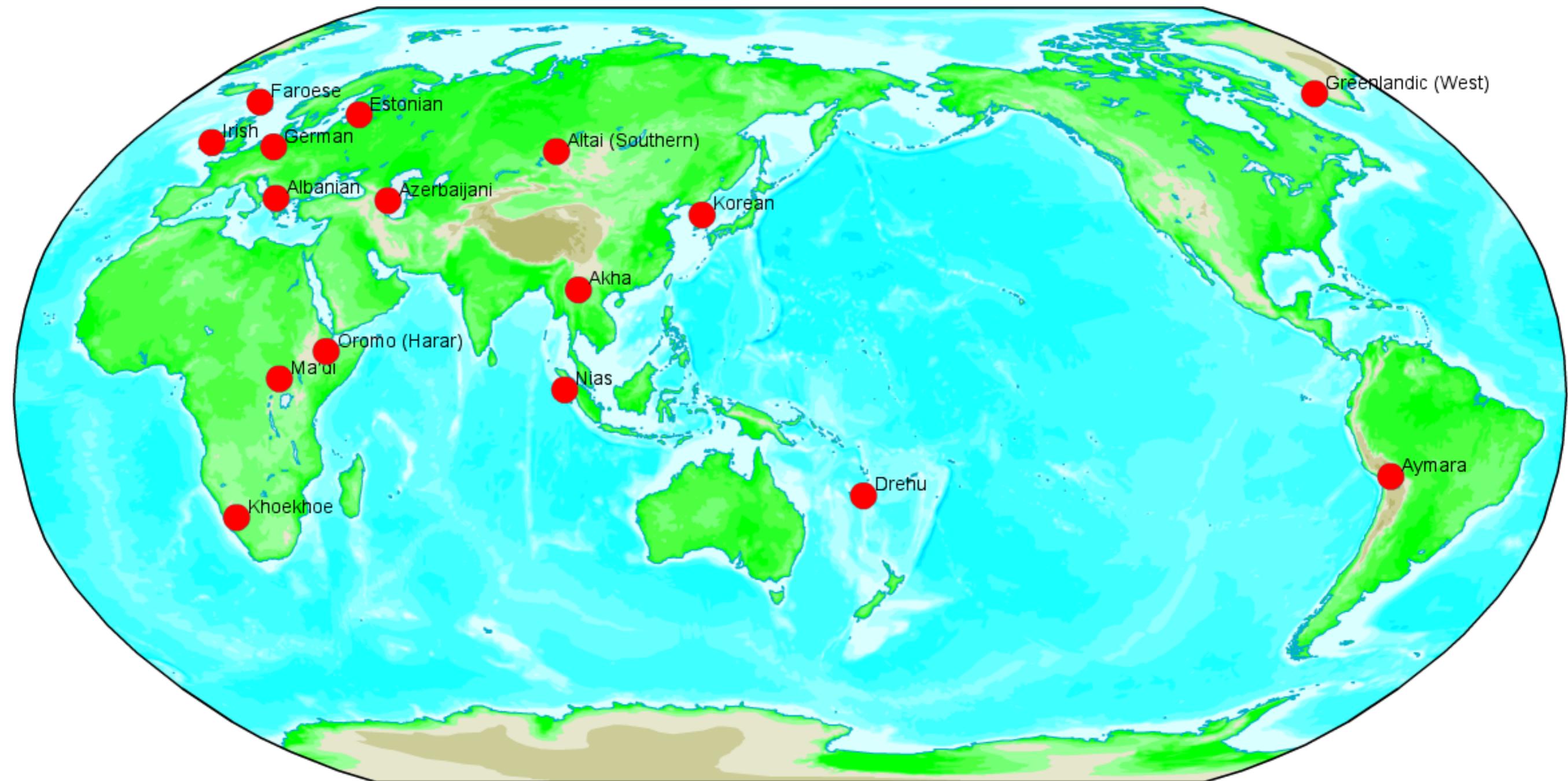
“In several respects, the formation  
of a cross-linguistic data base for a  
typological research project can  
be compared to the making of a  
translation”

(Stassen 1997:617)





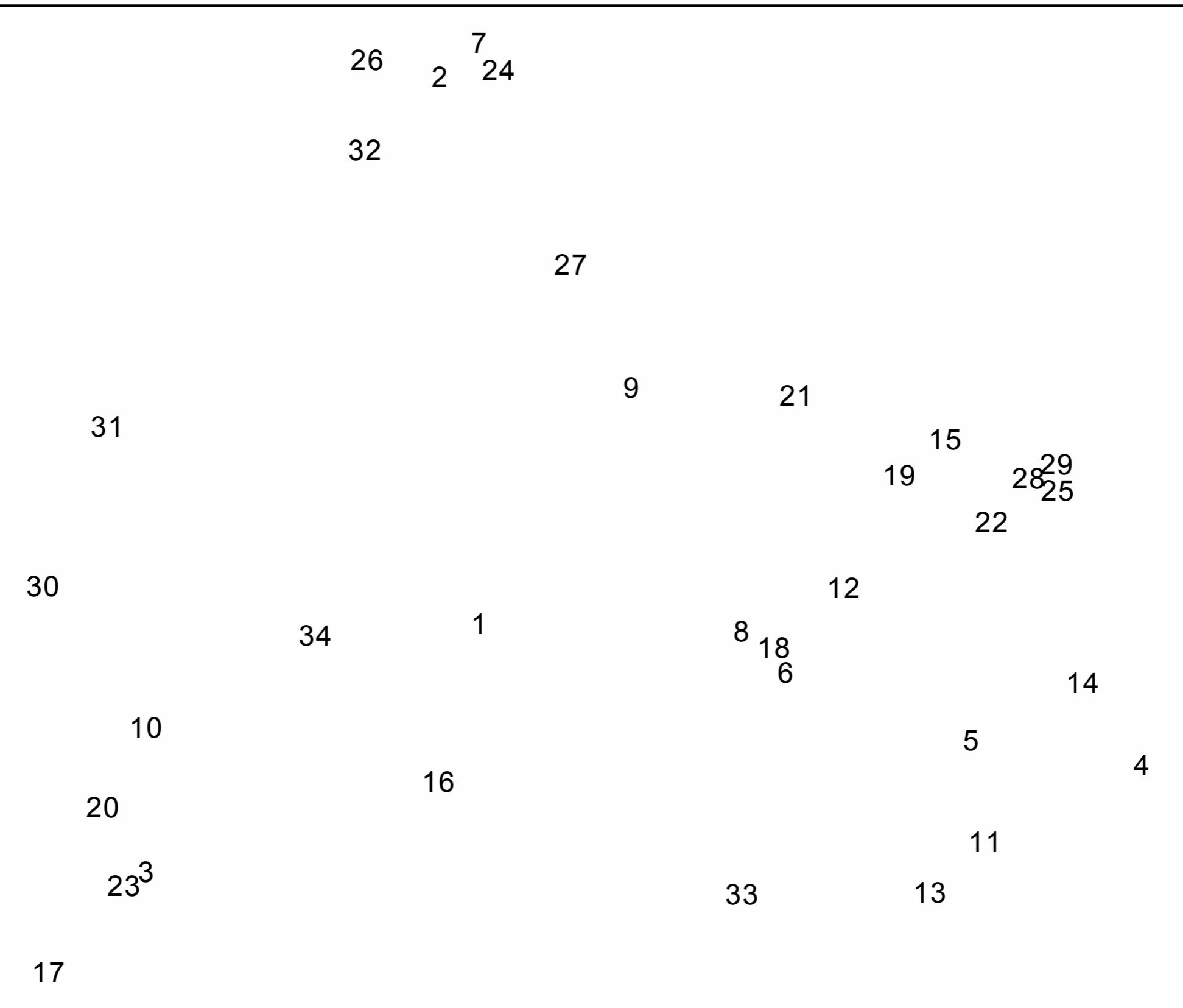
- 1 What important information is contained in the Bible?
- 2 Who is the Bible's author?
- 3 Why should you study the Bible?
- 4 The Bible is a precious gift from God.
- 5 The Bible alone tells us what we must do to please God.
- 6 The Bible was written by some 40 different men over a period of 1,600 years, beginning in 1513 B.C.E.
- 7 So God in heaven, not any human on earth, is the Author of the Bible.
- 8 God made sure that the Bible was accurately copied and preserved.
- 9 More Bibles have been printed than any other book.
- 10 Not everyone will be happy to see you studying the Bible, but do not let that stop you.
- 11 But the Bible tells us that there is only one TRUE God.
- 12 But when the Bible was written, the name Jehovah appeared in it some 7,000 times
- 13 God is a Spirit, says the Bible.
- 14 The Bible reveals Jehovah's personality to us.
- 15 The Bible tells us that he is also merciful, kind, forgiving, generous, and patient.
- 16 We learn about God from creation and from the Bible.
- 17 Another way we can learn about God is by studying the Bible.
- 18 By disobeying God's command, the first man, Adam, committed what the Bible calls sin.
- 19 This is what the Bible refers to as the ransom.
- 20 Some of your loved ones may become very angry because you are studying the Bible.
- 21 What is the Bible's view of separation and of divorce?
- 22 The Bible says that a husband is the head of his family.
- 23 Parents need to spend time with their children and study the Bible with them,
- 24 When marriage mates have problems getting along together, they should try to apply Bible counsel.
- 25 The Bible urges us to show love and to be forgiving.
- 26 But God does not approve of them if they come from false religion or are against Bible teachings.
- 27 The only two birthday celebrations spoken of in the Bible were held by persons who did not worship Jehovah.
- 28 The Bible teaches that only a few people are on the narrow road to life.
- 29 The Bible foretold that after the death of the apostles, ...
- 30 True Christians love one another, respect the Bible, and preach about God's Kingdom.
- 31 Another mark of true religion is that its members have a deep respect for the Bible.
- 32 They try to live by the Bible in their everyday life.
- 33 The Bible is the basis for what is taught.
- 34 By now you have learned many good things from the Bible.

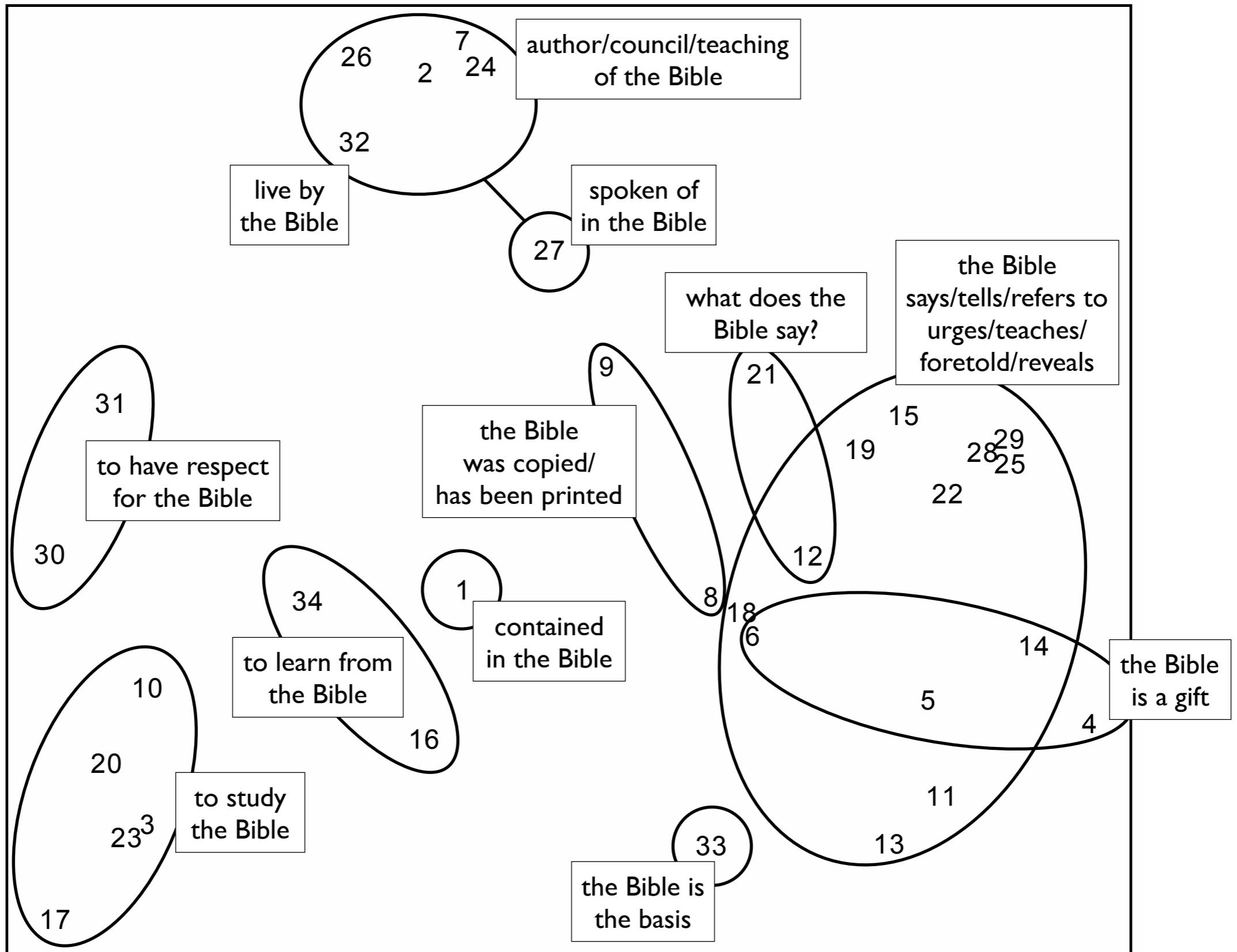


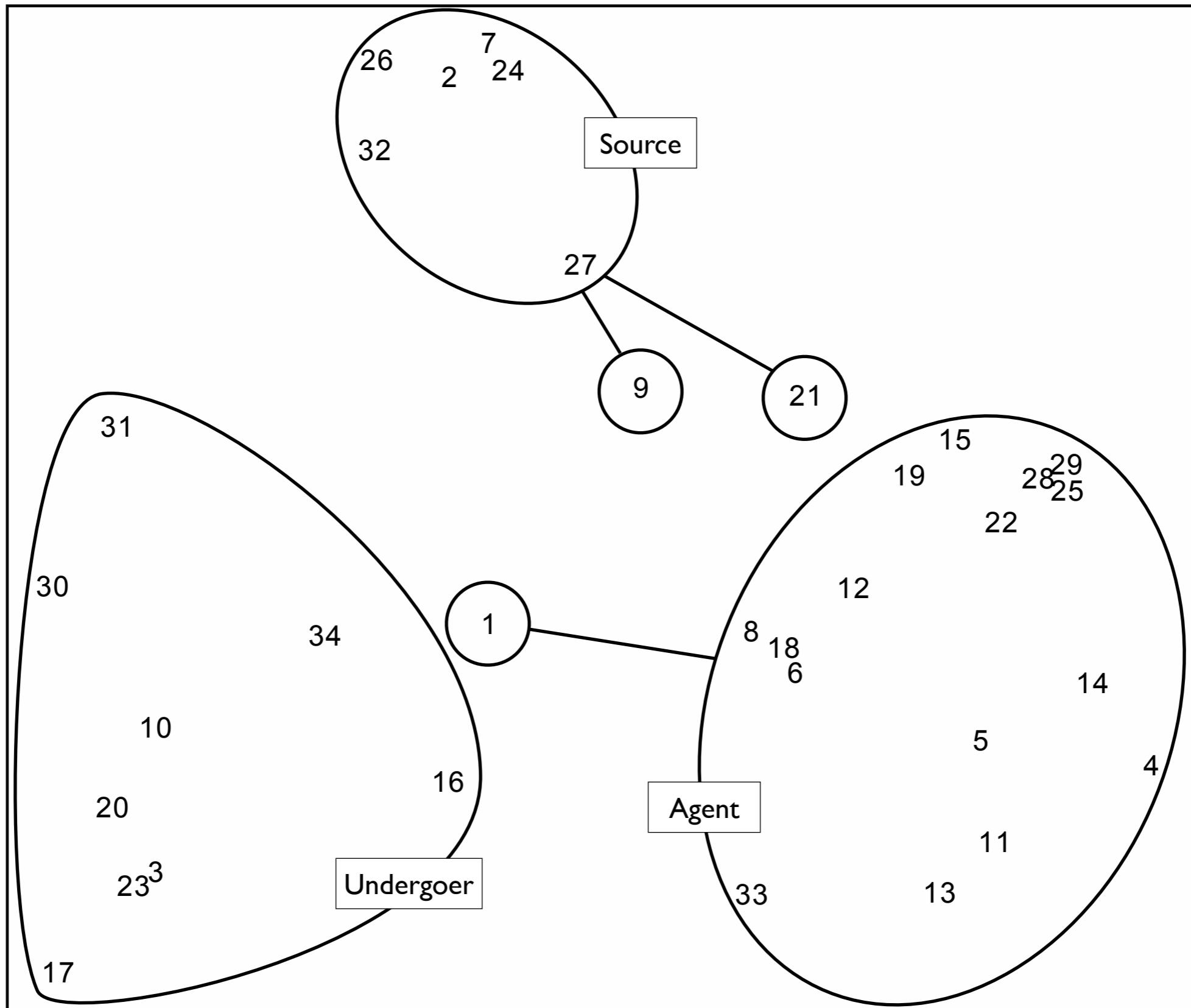
Albanian	Faroese	Estonian	Greenlandic
<i>bibla</i> Nominative	<i>biblian</i> Nominative	<i>þiibel</i> Nominative	<i>biibilip</i> Ergative
<i>biblën</i> Accusative	<i>bibliuna</i> Accusative	<i>þiiblit</i> Partitive	<i>biibli</i> Absolutive
<i>biblës</i> Genitive/Dative	<i>bibliunnar</i> Genitive	<i>þiibli</i> Genitive	<i>biibilmik</i> Instrumental
...	<i>bibliuni</i> Dative	<i>þiiblis</i> Inessive	<i>biibilmi</i> Locative
	...	<i>þiiblist</i> Elative	...
		...	

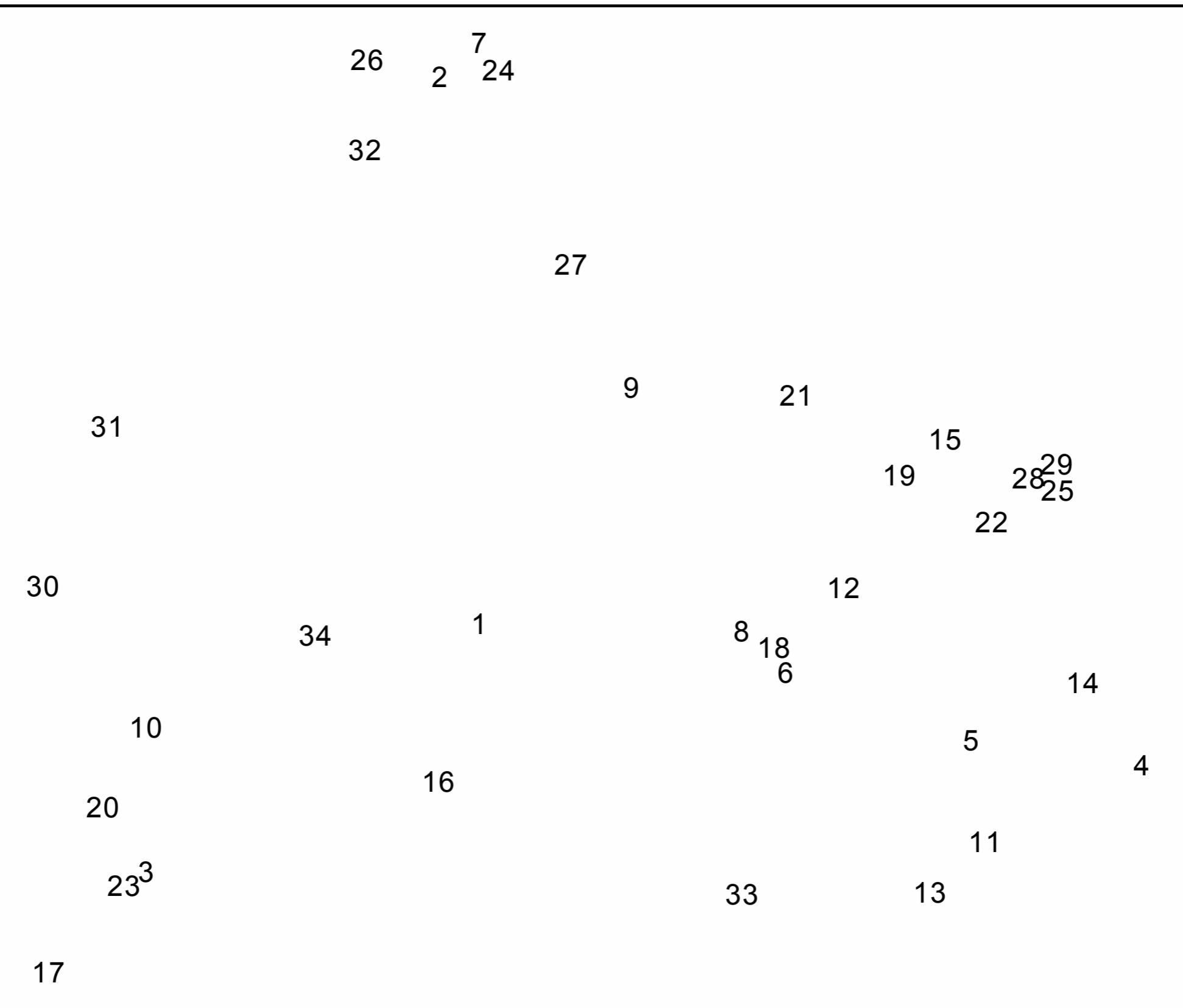
Context	Albanian	Faroese	Estonian	Greenlandic
1	bibla	bíbliuni	piibel	biibili
2	biblës	bíbliunnar	piibli	biibilimik
3	biblën	bíbliuna	piiblit	biibili
4	bibla	bíblian	piibel	biibili
5	bibla	bíblian	piibel	biiblip
6	bibla	bíbliuna	piibli	biibili
7	biblës	bíbliunnar	piibli	biibilimut
8	bibla	bíblian	piiblit	biiblip
9	bibla	NA	piiblit	biibili
10	biblën	bíbliuna	piiblit	biibilimik
11	bibla	bíblian	piibel	biibilimili
12	bibla	bíblian	piibel	biibilili
13	bibla	bíblian	piibel	biibilimi
14	bibla	bíblian	piibel	biibilimi
15	bibla	bíblian	piibel	biibilimi
16	bibla	bíbliuni	piibli	biibililu
17	biblën	bíbliuna	piiblit	biibilimik
18	bibla	bíblian	piiblis	biiblip
19	bibla	bíblian	piiblis	biibilimi
20	biblën	bíbliuna	piiblit	biibilimik
21	NA	bíblian	piibel	biibilimi
22	bibla	bíbliuni	piibel	biibili
23	biblën	bíbliuna	piiblit	biibilimillu
24	biblike	bíblian	piibli	biibilimi
25	bibla	bíblian	piibel	biibilimi
26	biblës	bíbliunnar	piibli	biibilimi
27	bibla	bíblian	piiblis	biibilimi
28	bibla	bíblian	piibel	biibilimi
29	bibla	bíblian	piibel	biibilimi
30	biblën	bíbliuna	piiblist	biibilimik
31	biblën	bíbliuni	piibli	biibilimik
32	biblës	bíbliuni	piibli	biibili
33	bibla	bíbliuna	piibel	biibilimik
34	bibla	bíbliuni	piiblist	biibilimeersunik



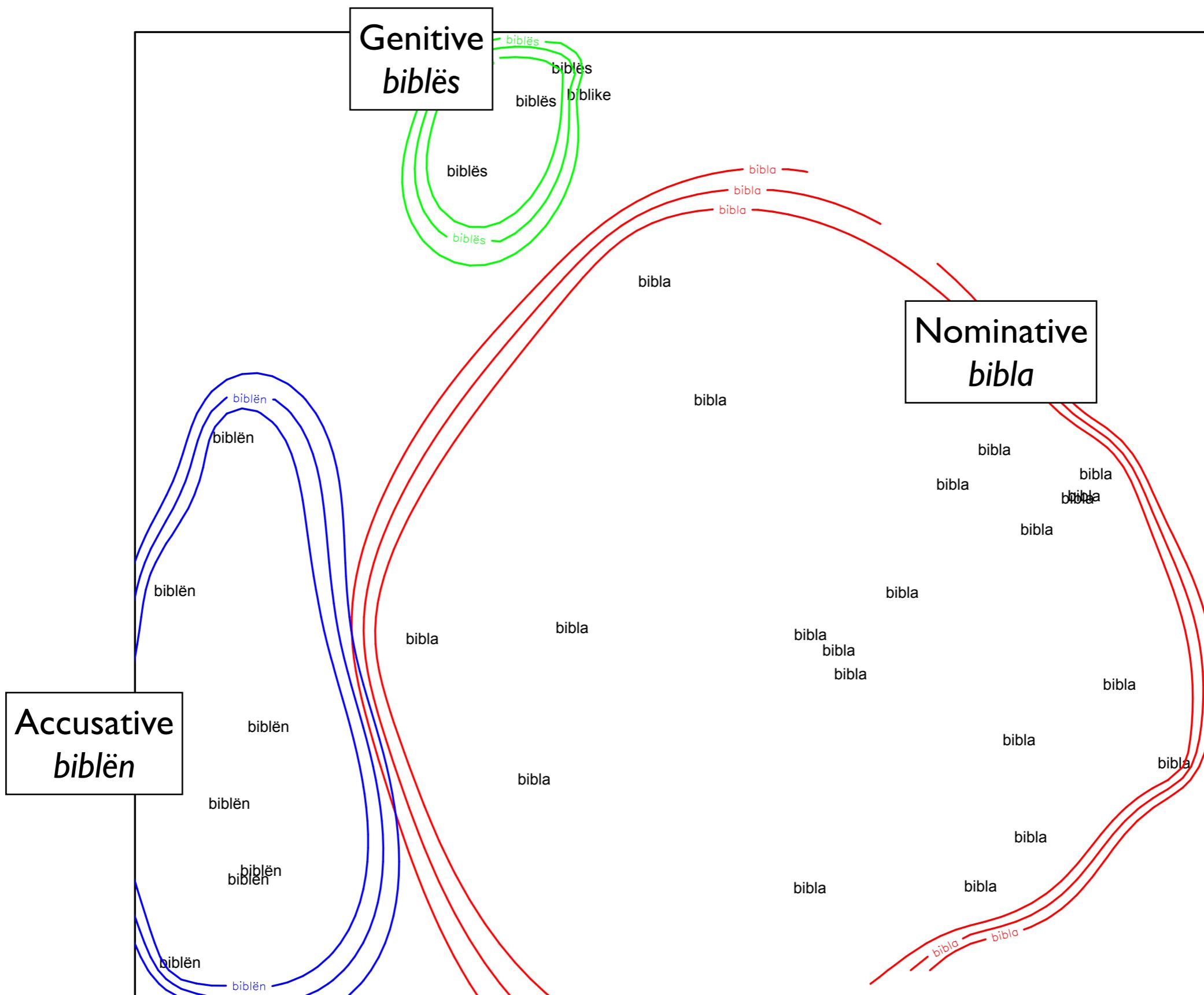




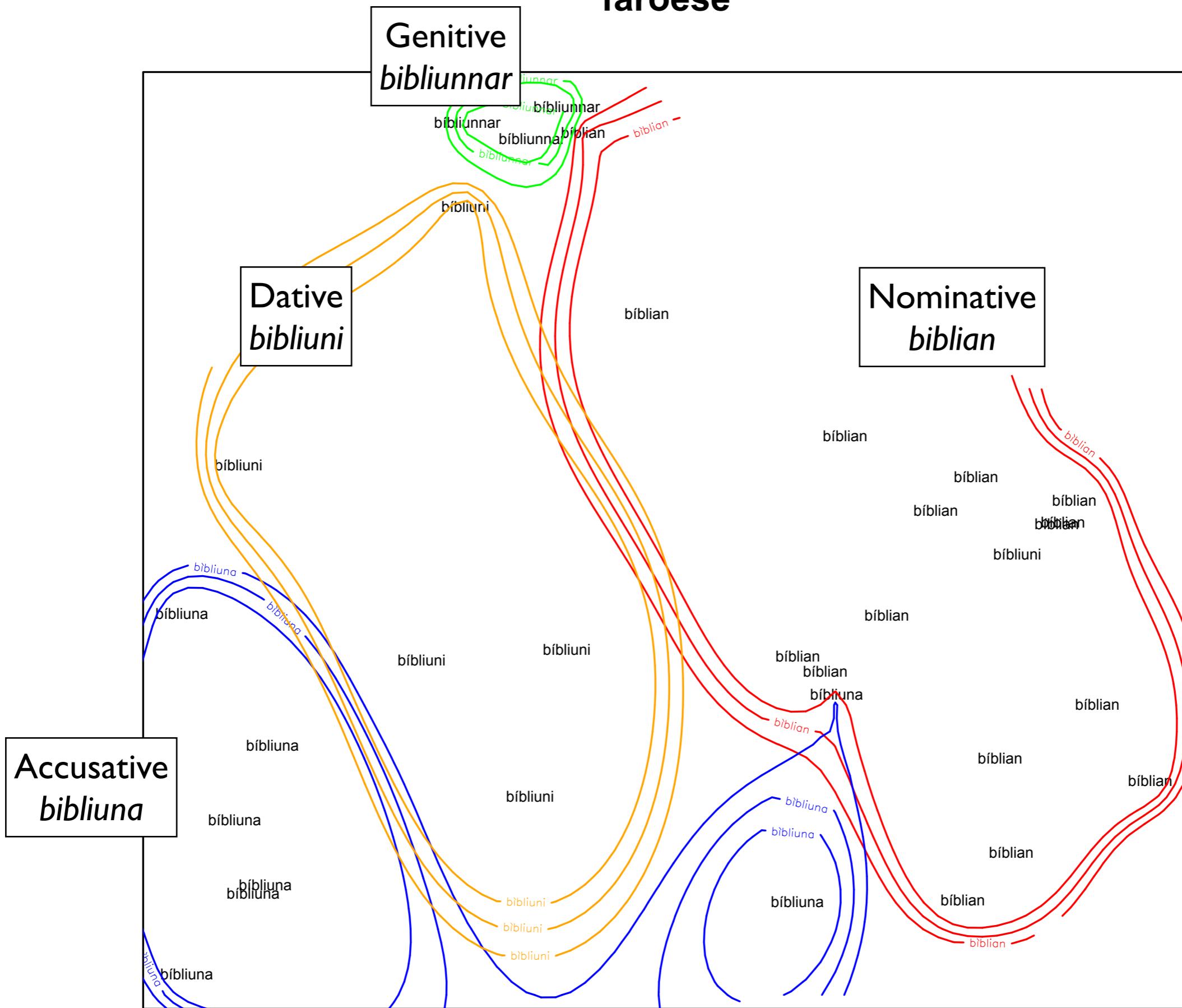




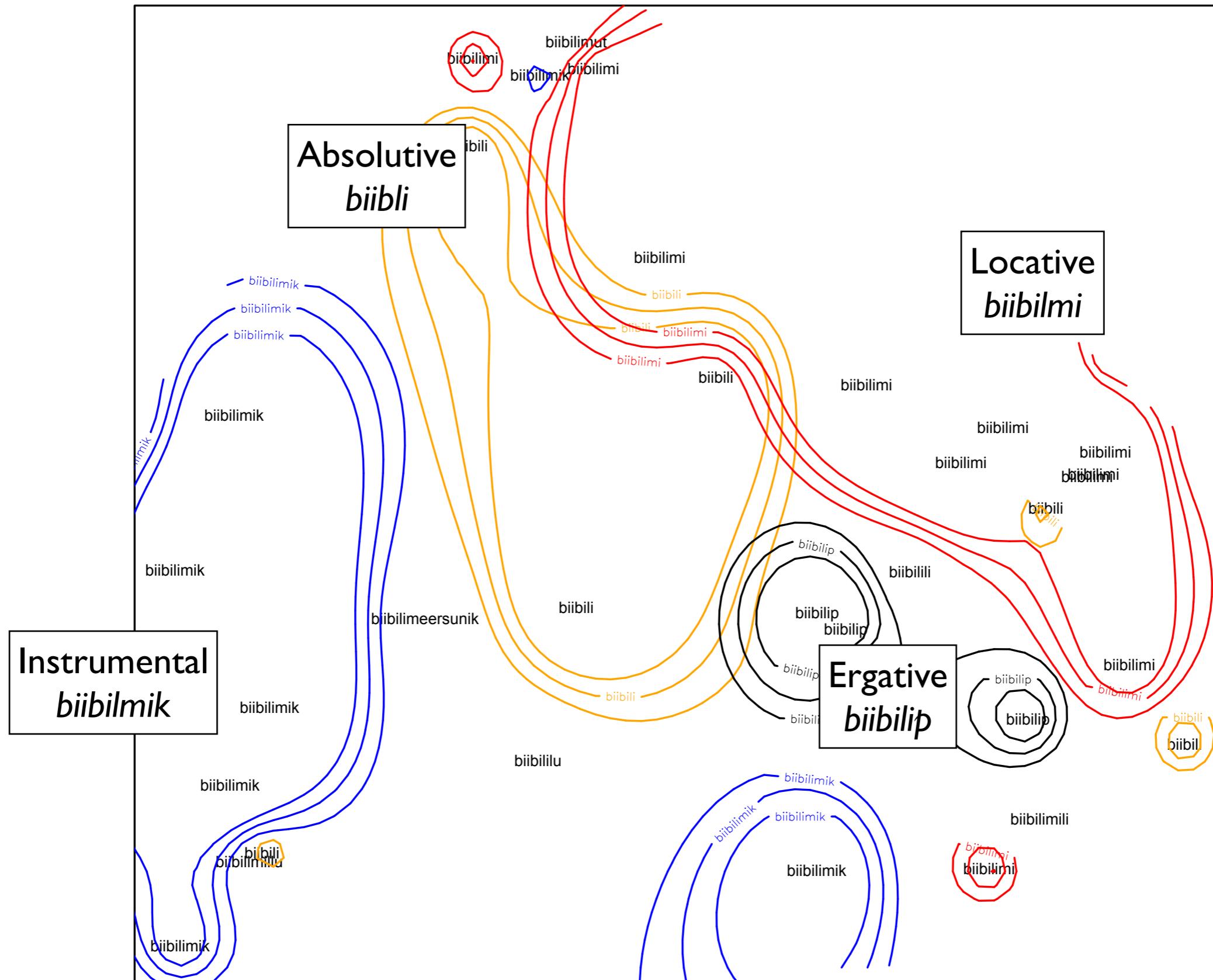
# albanian

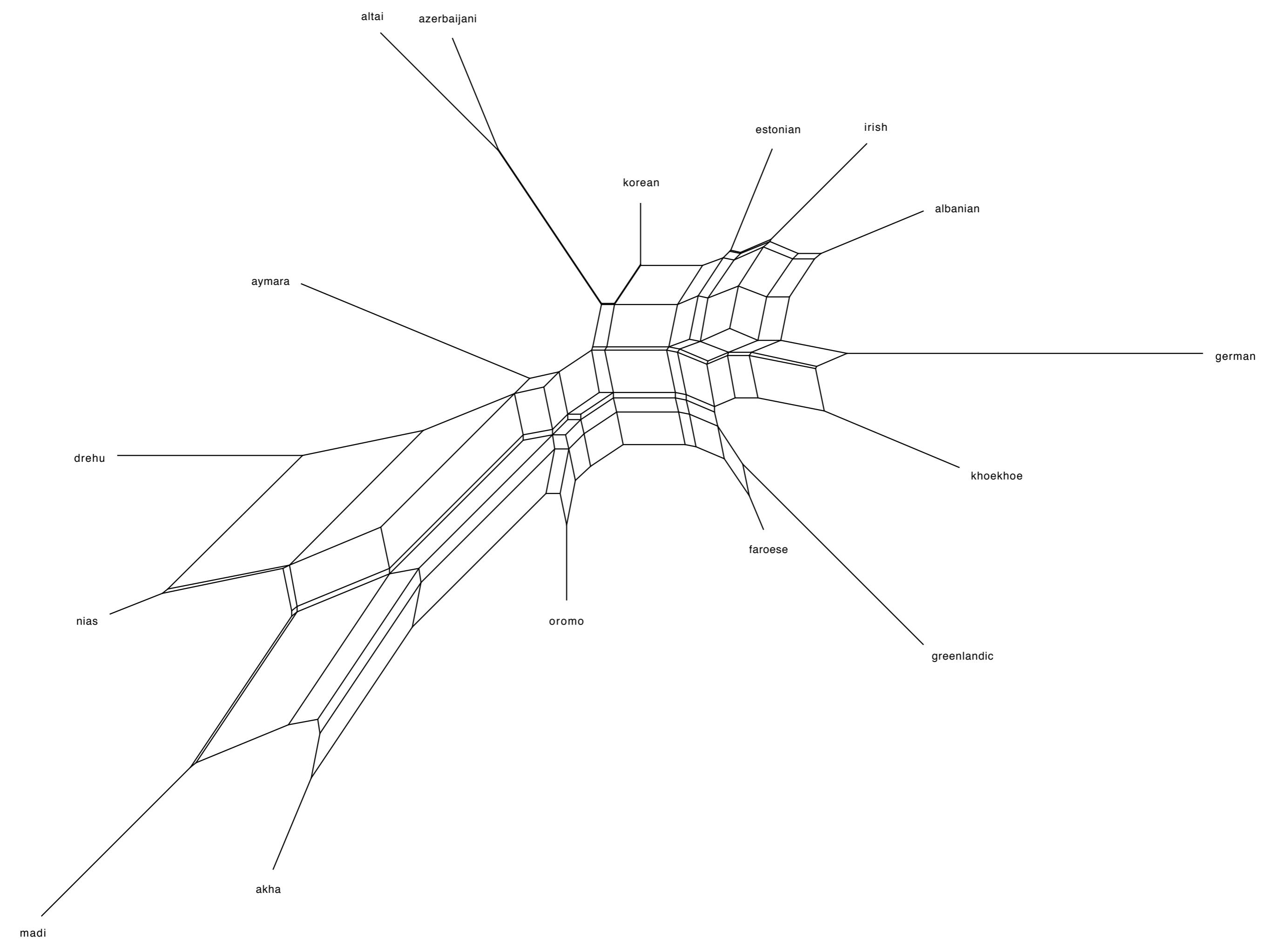


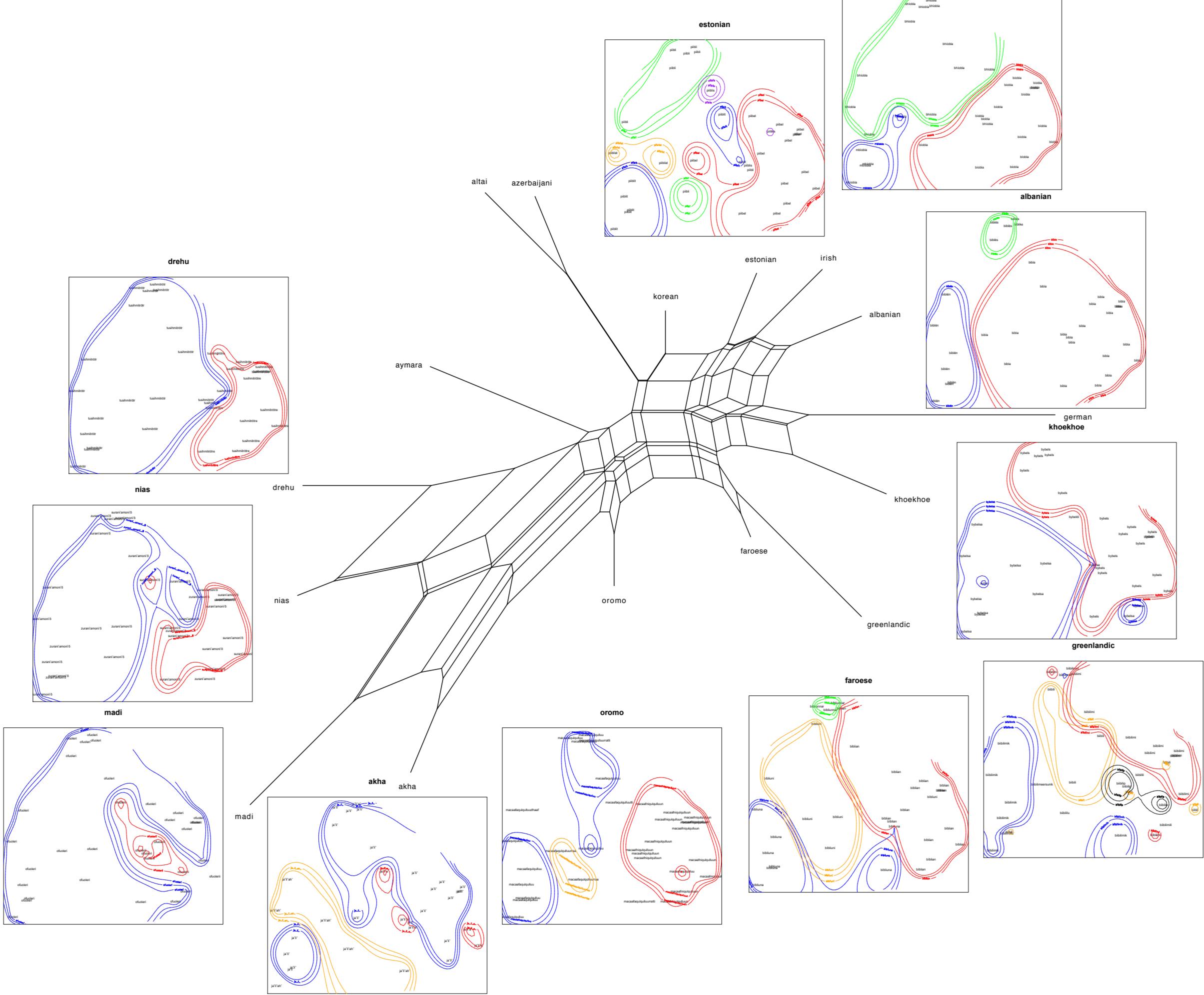
# faroese



# greenlandic







# How to compare like with like?

- Translations offer a suitable approach to selected ***functionally*** similar data
- Then, ***formal*** similarity only is established within single languages
- ***Contextually Situated Roles*** are the most basic level of grammatical roles
- ***Translations in different languages*** can be used to derive similarity between roles