

## Introduction

Interlinear morpheme-by-morpheme glosses are common in linguistic texts to give information about the meanings of individual words and morphemes in the language being studied. A set of conventions called the **Leipzig Glossing Rules** was developed to give linguists a general set of standards and principles for how to format these glosses. The most recent version of these rules can be found in PDF form at [this link](#), provided by the Department of Linguistics at the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology.

There is a staggering variety of LaTeX packages designed to properly align and format glosses (including `gb4e`, `ling-macros`, `linguex`, `expex`, and probably even more). These modules vary in the complexity of their syntax and the amount of control they give to the user of various aspects of formatting. The `typst-leipzig-glossing` module is designed to provide utilities for creating aligned Leipzig-style glosses in Typst, while keeping the syntax as intuitive as possible and allowing users as much control over how their glosses look as is feasible.

This PDF will show examples of the module's functionality and detail relevant parameters. For more information or to inform devs of a bug or other issue, visit the module's Github repository <https://github.com/neunenak/typst-leipzig-glossing>

## Basic glossing functionality

As a first example, here is a gloss of a text in Georgian, along with the Typst code used to generate it:

from "Georgian and the Unaccusative Hypothesis", Alice Harris, 1982

ბავშვ-ი      ატირდა  
bavšv-i      aṭirda  
child-NOM    3S/cry/INCHO/II  
The child burst out crying

```
#import "leipzig-gloss.typ": gloss
#gloss(
  header: [from "Georgian and the Unaccusative Hypothesis", Alice Harris, 1982],
  source: ([ბავშვ-ი], [ატირდა]),
  transliteration: ([bavšv-i], [aṭirda]),
  morphemes: ([child-#smallcaps[nom]], [3S/cry/#smallcaps[incho]/II]),
  translation: [The child burst out crying],
)
```

And an example for English which exhibits some additional styling, and uses imports from another file for common glossing abbreviations:

I'm            eat-ing    your    head  
1SG.SBJ=to.be   eat-PROG   2SG.POSS   head  
"I'm eating your head!"

```
#gloss(
  source: ([I'm], [eat-ing], [your], [head]),
  source-style: (item) => text(fill: red)[#item],
  morphemes: ([1#sg.#sbj\=to.be], [eat-#prog], [2#sg.#poss], [head]),
  morphemes-style: text.with(size: 10pt, fill: blue),
  translation: text(weight: "semibold")[I'm eating your head!],
  translation-style: (item) => ["#item"],
)
```

The `#gloss` function has three pre-defined parameters for glossing levels: `source`, `transliteration`, and `morphemes`. It also has two parameters for unaligned text: `header` for text that precedes the gloss, and `translation` for text that follows the gloss.

The `morphemes` param can be skipped, if you just want to provide a source text and translation, without a gloss:

*Trato de entender, debo comprender, qué es lo que ha hecho conmigo*  
I try to understand, I must comprehend, what she has done with me

```
#gloss(
  source: ([Trato de entender, debo comprender, qué es lo que ha hecho
  conmigo],),
  source-style: emph,
  translation: [I try to understand, I must comprehend, what she has done with
  me],
)
```

Note that it is still necessary to wrap the `source` argument in an array of length one.

Here is an example of a lengthy gloss that forces a line break:

**Ich arbeite ein Jahr um das Geld zu verdienen, das dein Bruder an  
I work one year to the money to earn, that your brother on  
einem Wochenende ausgibt.  
one weekend spends.  
"I work one year to earn the money that your brother spends in one weekend"**

```
#gloss(
  source: ([Ich],[arbeite],[ein],[Jahr],[um],[das],[Geld],[zu],[verdienen],[
  das],[dein],[Bruder],[an],[einem],[Wochenende],[ausgibt.]),
  source-style: text.with(weight: "bold"),
  morphemes: ([I],[work],[one],[year],[to],[the],[money],[to],[earn],[
  that],[your],[brother],[on],[one],[weekend],[spends.]),
  translation: ["I work one year to earn the money that your brother spends in
  one weekend"]
)
```

To add more than three glossing lines, there is an additional parameter `additional-lines` that can take a list of arbitrarily many more glossing lines, which will appear below those specified in the aforementioned parameters:

Hunzib (van den Berg 1995:46)

ождиг	хо <sup>h</sup> хе	мукъер
oʒdig	χõχe	muq'er
ož-di-g	xõxe	m-uq'e-r
boy-OBL-AD	tree(G4)	G4-bend-PRET
at boy	tree	bent

“Because of the boy, the tree bent.”

```
#gloss(
  header: [Hunzib (van den Berg 1995:46)],
  source: ([ождиг],[хо#super[н]хе],[мукъер]),
  transliteration: ([oʒdig],[χõχe],[muq'er]),
  morphemes: ([ož-di-g],[xõxe],[m-uq'e-r]),
  additional-lines: (
    ([boy-#smallcaps[obl]-#smallcaps[ad]], [tree(#smallcaps[g4]]),
    [#smallcaps[g4]-bend-#smallcaps[pret]]),
    ([at boy], [tree], [bent]),
  ),
  translation: ["Because of the boy, the tree bent."]
)
```

## Numbering Glosses

The `gloss` function takes a boolean parameter `numbering` which will add an incrementing count to each gloss. A function `numbered-gloss` is exported for convenience; this is defined as simply `#let numbered-gloss = gloss.with(numbering: true)`, and is called with the same arguments as `gloss`:

- (1) გვ-ფრცქვნი
  - gv-prtskvn-i
  - 1PL.OBJ-peel-FMNT
  - You peeled us
- (2) მ-ფრცქვნი
  - m-prtskvn-i
  - 1SG.OBJ-peel-FMNT
  - You peeled me

```
#gloss(
  source: ([გვ-ფრცქვნი]),
  transliteration: ([gv-prtskvn-i]),
  morphemes: ([1#pl.#obj\ -peel-#fmnt]),
  translation: "You peeled us",
  numbering: true,
)

#numbered-gloss(
  source: ([მ-ფრცქვნი]),
  transliteration: ([m-prtskvn-i]),
  morphemes: ([1#sg.#obj\ -peel-#fmnt]),
  translation: "You peeled me",
)
```

The displayed number for numbered glosses is iterated for each numbered gloss that appears throughout the document. Unnumbered glosses do not increment the counter for the numbered glosses.

The gloss count is controlled by the Typst counter variable `gloss-count`. This variable can be imported from the `leipzig-gloss` package and manipulated using the standard Typst counter functions to control gloss numbering:

- (21) from *Standard Basque: A Progressive Grammar* by Rudolf de Rijk, quoting P. Charriton  
Bada beti guregan zorion handi baten nahia.  
There always is in us a will for a great happiness.

```
#gloss-count.update(20)

#numbered-gloss(
  header: [from Standard Basque: A Progressive Grammar by Rudolf de Rijk,
quoting P. Charriton],
  source: ([Bada beti guregan zorion handi baten nahia.]),
  translation: [There always is in us a will for a great happiness.],
)
```

## Styling lines of a gloss

Each of the aforementioned text parameters has a corresponding style parameter, formed by adding `-style` to its name: `header-style`, `source-style`, `transliteration-style`, `morphemes-style`, and `translation-style`. These parameters allow you to specify formatting that should be applied to each entire line of the gloss. This is particularly useful for the aligned gloss itself, since otherwise one would have to modify each content item in the list individually.

In addition to these parameters, Typst’s usual content formatting can be applied to or within any given content block in the gloss. Formatting applied in this way will override any contradictory line-level formatting.

**This text is about eating your head.**

*I'm*            *eat-ing*    *your*        *head*  
1SG.SBJ=to.be   eat-PROG   2SG.POSS   head

**I'm eating your head!**

```
#gloss(
  header: [This text is about eating your head.],
  header-style: text.with(weight: "bold", fill: green),
  source: (text(fill:black)[I'm], [eat-ing], [your], [head]),
  source-style: text.with(style: "italic", fill: red),
  morphemes: ([1#sg.#sbj\=to.be], text(fill:black)[eat-#prog], [2#sg.#poss],
[head]),
  morphemes-style: text.with(fill: blue),
  translation: text(weight: "bold")[I'm eating your head!],
)
```

## Standard Abbreviations

The Leipzig Glossing Rules define a commonly-used set of short abbreviations for grammatical terms used in glosses, such as ACC for “accusative (case)”, or PTCP for “participle” (see “Appendix: List of Standard Abbreviations in the Leipzig Glossing Rules document)

By convention, these are typeset using SMALLCAPS. This package contains a module value `abbreviations`. Individual abbreviations may be accessed either with Typst field access notation or by importing them from `abbreviations`:

(from *Why Caucasian Languages?*, by Bernard Comrie, in *Endangered Languages of the Caucasus and Beyond*)

[qále-m ø-kw'-á] t'á-r  
city-OBL 3SG-go-PRF man-ABS

The man who went to the city.

```
#import "leipzig-gloss.typ": abbreviations
#import abbreviations: obl, sg, prf

#gloss(
  header: [(from Why Caucasian Languages?, by Bernard Comrie, in Endangered Languages of the Caucasus and Beyond)],
  source: ([\qále-m], [ø-kw'-á]), [t'á-r]),
  morphemes: ([city-#obl], [3#sg-go-#prf], [man-#abbreviations.abs]),
  translation: "The man who went to the city."
)
```

The full list of abbreviations is as follows:

## Full list of abbreviations

1 - 1 - first person  
2 - 2 - second person  
3 - 3 - third person  
A - a - agent-like argument of canonical transitive verb  
ABL - abl - ablative  
ABS - abs - absolutive  
ACC - acc - accusative  
ADJ - adj - adjective  
ADV - adv - adverb(ial)  
AGR - agr - agreement  
ALL - all - allative  
ANTIP - antip - antipassive  
APPL - appl - applicative  
ART - art - article  
AUX - aux - auxiliary  
BEN - ben - benefactive  
CAUS - caus - causative  
CLF - clf - classifier  
COM - com - comitative  
COMP - comp - complementizer  
COMPL - compl - completive  
COND - cond - conditional  
COP - cop - copula  
CVB - cvb - converb  
DAT - dat - dative  
DECL - decl - declarative  
DEF - def - definite

DEM - dem - demonstrative  
DET - det - determiner  
DIST - dist - distal  
DISTR - distr - distributive  
DU - du - dual  
DUR - dur - durative  
ERG - erg - ergative  
EXCL - excl - exclusive  
F - f - feminine  
FOC - foc - focus  
FUT - fut - future  
GEN - gen - genitive  
IMP - imp - imperative  
INCL - incl - inclusive  
IND - ind - indicative  
INDF - indf - indefinite  
INF - inf - infinitive  
INS - ins - instrumental  
INTR - intr - intransitive  
IPFV - ipfv - imperfective  
IRR - irr - irrealis  
LOC - loc - locative  
M - m - masculine  
N - n - neuter  
N- - n- - non- (e.g. NSG nonsingular, NPST nonpast)  
NEG - neg - negation, negative  
NMLZ - nmlz - nominalizer/nominalization  
NOM - nom - nominative  
OBJ - obj - object  
OBL - obl - oblique  
P - p - patient-like argument of canonical transitive verb  
PASS - pass - passive  
PFV - pfv - perfective  
PL - pl - plural  
POSS - poss - possessive  
PRED - pred - predicative  
PRF - prf - perfect  
PRS - prs - present  
PROG - prog - progressive  
PROH - proh - prohibitive  
PROX - prox - proximal/proximate  
PST - pst - past  
PTCP - ptcp - participle  
PURP - purp - purposive  
Q - q - question particle/marker  
QUOT - quot - quotative  
RECP - recp - reciprocal  
REFL - refl - reflexive  
REL - rel - relative

RES - **res** - resultative  
s - **s** - single argument of canonical intransitive verb  
SBJ - **sbj** - subject  
SBJV - **sbjv** - subjunctive  
SG - **sg** - singular  
TOP - **top** - topic  
TR - **tr** - transitive  
VOC - **voc** - vocative

## Building used-abbreviations pages

A user of `leipzig-glossing` might wish to generate an introductory page displaying which abbreviations were actually used in the document.

## Further Example Glosses

These are the first twelve example glosses given in <https://www.eva.mpg.de/lingua/pdf/Glossing-Rules.pdf>, along with the Typst markup needed to generate them:

- (1) Indonesian (Sneddon 1996:237)

Mereka di Jakarta sekarang.  
they in Jakarta now  
They are in Jakarta now

```
#numbered-gloss(  
  header: [Indonesian (Sneddon 1996:237)],  
  source: ([Mereka], [di], [Jakarta], [sekarang.]),  
  morphemes: ([they], [in], [Jakarta], [now]),  
  translation: "They are in Jakarta now",  
)
```

- (2) Lezgian (Haspelmath 1993:207)

Gila abur-u-n ferma hamišaluğ güğüna amuq'-da-č.  
now they-OBL-GEN farm forever behind stay-FUT-NEG  
Now their farm will not stay behind forever.

```
#numbered-gloss(  
  header: [Lezgian (Haspelmath 1993:207)],  
  source: ([Gila], [abur-u-n], [ferma], [hamišaluğ], [güğüna], [amuq'-da-č.]),  
  morphemes: ([now], [they-#obl\ -#gen], [farm], [forever], [behind], [stay-#fut\  
-#neg]),  
  translation: "Now their farm will not stay behind forever.",  
)
```

- (3) West Greenlandic (Fortescue 1984:127)

palasi=lu niuirtur=lu  
priest=and shopkeeper=and  
both the priest and the shopkeeper

```
#numbered-gloss(
  header: [West Greenlandic (Fortescue 1984:127)],
  source: ([palasi=lu], [niurtur=lu]),
  morphemes: ([priest=and], [shopkeeper=and]),
  translation: "both the priest and the shopkeeper",
)
```

- (4) Hakha Lai  
 a-nii -láay  
 3SG-laugh-FUT  
 s/he will laugh

```
#numbered-gloss(
  header: [Hakha Lai],
  source: ([a-nii -láay],),
  morphemes: ([3#sg\ -laugh-#fut],),
  translation: [s/he will laugh],
)
```

- (5) Russian  
 My s Marko poexa-l-i avtobus-om v Peredelkino  
 1PL COM Marko go-PST-PL bus-INS ALL Peredelkino  
 we with Marko go-PST-PL bus-by to Peredelkino  
 Marko and I went to Peredelkino by bus

```
#numbered-gloss(
  header: [Russian],
  source: ([My], [s], [Marko], [poexa-l-i], [avtobus-om], [v], [Peredelkino]),
  morphemes: ([1#pl], [#com], [Marko], [go-#pst\ -#pl], [bus-#ins], [#all],
  [Peredelkino]),
  additional-lines: (([we], [with], [Marko], [go-#pst\ -#pl], [bus-by], [to],
  [Peredelkino]),),
  translation: "Marko and I went to Peredelkino by bus",
)
```

- (6) Turkish  
 çık-mak  
 come.out-INF  
 to come out

```
#numbered-gloss(
  header: [Turkish],
  source: ([çık-mak],),
  morphemes: ([come.out-#inf],),
  translation: "to come out",
)
```

- (7) Latin  
 insul-arum  
 island-GEN-PL  
 of the islands



```
#numbered-gloss(
  header: [Latin],
  source: ([insul-arum],),
  morphemes: ([island-#gen\-#pl],),
  translation: "of the islands",
)
```

(8) French

aux            chevaux  
to-ART-PL   horse.PL  
to the horses

```
#numbered-gloss(
  header: [French],
  source: ([aux], [chevaux]),
  morphemes: ([to-#art\-#pl],[horse.#pl]),
  translation: "to the horses",
)
```

(9) German

unser-n        Väter-n  
our-DAT-PL   father.PL-DAT.PL  
to our fathers

```
#numbered-gloss(
  header: [German],
  source: ([unser-n], [Väter-n]),
  morphemes: ([our-#dat\-#pl],[father.#pl\-#dat.#pl]),
  translation: "to our fathers",
)
```

(10) Hittite (Lehmann 1982:211)

n=an            apedani        mehuni        essandu.  
CONN=him   that.DAT.SG   time.DAT.SG   eat.they.shall  
They shall celebrate him on that date

```
#numbered-gloss(
  header: [Hittite (Lehmann 1982:211)],
  source: ([n=an], [apedani], [mehuni],[essandu.]),
  morphemes: ([#smallcaps[conn]=him], [that.#dat.#sg], [time.#dat.#sg],
[eat.they.shall]),
  translation: "They shall celebrate him on that date",
)
```

(11) Jaminjung (Schultze-Berndt 2000:92)

nanggayan    guny-bi-yarluga?  
who            2DU.A.3SG.P-FUT-poke  
Who do you two want to spear?

```
#numbered-gloss(  
  header: [Jaminjung (Schultze-Berndt 2000:92)],  
  source: ([nanggayan], [guny-bi-yarluga?]),  
  morphemes: ([who], [2#du.#A.3#sg.#P\-#fut\-poke]),  
  translation: "Who do you two want to spear?",  
)
```