

Morphosyntactic Correlates of Reference in Auye

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Auye (Wissel Lakes) employs a very distinct reference strategy for narrative discourse. A "dominant" referent (or group) is consistently marked throughout the narrative with morphosyntactic forms that distinguish it from other referents. Languages around the world that have such a reference strategy usually mark the distinction on the referent NP. Auye, instead, expresses the distinction by means that are both morphological (tense-aspect marking on the mainline verb) and syntactic (special temporal adverbial clause types). The study also proposes a Dominance Hierarchy that attempts to represent the correlation between the relative degree of dominance assigned to the referents and their morphosyntactic expressions.