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## Why Jesus and Job spoke bad Welsh : the origin and distribution of V2 orders in Middle Welsh

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# Stellingen bij het proefschrift

## *Why Jesus and Job spoke bad Welsh: The origin and distribution of V2 orders in Middle Welsh*

Marieke Meelen, 21 Juni 2016

1. Both linguists and philologists will benefit from well-annotated corpora and more cooperation when creating those. (this thesis, Chapter 2)
2. Historical research on information structure needs a more systematic and consistent approach if we want it to inform our syntactic generalisations. (this thesis, Chapter 3)
3. Sentences with do-periphrastics should be distinguished from object-initial sentences, because the information structure of the arguments and events is different. (this thesis, Chapter 4)
4. OVS order is only possible if direct objects convey New information or if they are Familiar Topics. (this thesis, Chapter 5)
5. Both base-generation and movement approaches are required to account for variation in challenging agreement patterns in Middle Welsh. (this thesis, Chapter 6)
6. Middle Welsh generalised V2 was the result of a combination of innovations: syntactic rebracketing and spec-to-head reanalysis on the one hand and information-structural extensions of sentence-initial constituents on the other. (this thesis, Chapter 7)
7. Jesus and Job spoke bad Welsh from both a Middle and a Modern Welsh point of view. (this thesis, Chapter 8)
8. Every linguist should read De Saussure's *Writings...* and pay particular attention to Aphorism 3315.3: “Un linguiste qui n'est que linguiste est dans l'impossibilité à ce que je crois de trouver la voie permettant seulement de classer les faits.”
9. @AcademicsSay's addition to Kurt Lewin's adage is indispensable for any academic: “There is nothing as practical as a good theory. *Or an operational definition of 'good'.*”
10. Spending more time outdoors will teach linguists from all sub-disciplines how trees can bring us all a bit closer.
11. Climbing in North Wales prepares you for any challenging peak.
12. Every PhD candidate should put a laminated poster of the following Frisian proverb in their office: “As 't net kin sa 't moat dan moat 't sa 't kin”.