(2.25) a. (MPP) mathá ki hent na-wéha-wa-a?g.
    (1sg) bear the those stem-3-plon+-agrum-where
    'I heard those bears.'

b. Mathá ki hent (mújí) na-mú-a-ká yri.
    bear the those (1sg) stem-1sgon3-sawn+-hear prt.
    'Those bears heard me.'

Lakhdar, Arabic

(2.26) a. Ník bari libra@ bat oparitu d-i-a-t.
    1sg-zagh 2sg-dat book-acc one give-as.gift 3sgon3-have-2sgon3-1sgon3
    'I have given you a book (as a present).'

b. Hi-k mi-ri libra@ bat oparitu d-i-da-k.
    2sg-zagh 1sg-dat book-acc one give-as.gift 3sgon3-have-1sgon3-2sgon3
    'You have given me a book (as a present).'

Verb agrees with subject and object.

Barque, Spain/France

Case Marking

(2.27) a. Ülitél'mi-á da-l-a kung-a ženčšin-e.
    teacher-singnom give-PAST-PFL book-acc woman-DAT
    'The teacher gave the book to the woman.'

b. Ženčšin-a-ülitél'mi-á goveri-l-a tumer-l-a.
    woman-teacher-singnom talk-PAST-PFL die-PAST-PFL
    'The woman/teacher talked/declined.'

c. Marí-t a gyerek-ni ad-a ar ééš-e.
    Mary-PFL now the child-DAT give-3sg PAST the clock-ACC
    'Mary gave the clock to the child.'

Hungarian, not indoeuropean

Mary-PFL now the child-DAT give-3sg PAST the clock-ACC
'Mary gave the clock to the child.'

Korean

    Chelkoo gave the book to Sowatha.

Telugu, India/Dravidian

d. Anu-3 da-si ni tana pellami-ki ci-rt-a du.
    3mrg-nom 3mrg-sit self write-DAT give-PAST 3sgm
    'He gave it to his (own) wife.'

Russian, Indoeuropean

In typologically diverse languages
### Table 2.1. Case-marking patterns

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Term</th>
<th>Nominaive—Accusative</th>
<th>Ergative—Absolutive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Subject of transitive verb</td>
<td>(A) Nominative</td>
<td>Ergative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subject of intransitive verb</td>
<td>(B) Nominative</td>
<td>Absolutive</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct object of transitive verb</td>
<td>(C) Accusative</td>
<td>Absolutive</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>O</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S</td>
<td>S</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Accusative pattern: Ergative pattern: Absolutive pattern

Figure 2.3. Accusative versus ergative patterns

### Examples

**Ergative Language**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(2.28)</th>
<th>a. Kupi-gju maf-mg@ iacu-ml.</th>
<th>Yalannga, Australia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fish-ENG fish-ABS bite-PAST</td>
<td>'The fish bit the fish.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Milpa-gku kupi@ iacu-ml.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fly-ENG fish-ABS bit-PAST</td>
<td>'The fly bit the fish.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Milpa@ kapi@ waka-ml.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fly/fish-ABS fall-PAST</td>
<td>'The fly/fish fell.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Absolutive Language**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(2.29)</th>
<th>a. Nino-in aversa seur-eb-i gne-s.</th>
<th>Georgian, Caucasian</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nino-ENG shovona pictures-PL-ABS Gna-DAT</td>
<td>'Nino showed the pictures to Gna.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Balam xom@ bagni yag-ah ga wagan bagal</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INLAAR bago-ABS MNE-LERG OBE-RES Gave-NML-DAT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>woman-DAT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'The man gave bear to the woman.'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Ergative languages also use active Case for recipient.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(2.30)</th>
<th>a. Žvračit-a napita-xa karadaš-em.</th>
<th>Dyirbal, Australia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>woman-DEM write-PAST pig pencil-DAT</td>
<td>'The woman wrote with a pencil.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Žula yugus@ bagni yag-ah nu-dir bange bari-ahu.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NM-LAR tree-ABS NM-LERG man-ABS cut</td>
<td>'The man cut down the tree with an axe.'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Ys hal-e daus Aoto des.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Man-GEN seek-GEN dog-GEN have</td>
<td>'The GEN man-GEN seek</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>dog-GEN have</td>
<td>'...dog-GEN have'</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'I saw the man’s car.'</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Fj-i wagi@ bagen dągąmbil-gu bagen</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NM-LAR boomerang-ABS NM-LERG woman-GEN NM-LERG yag-ahu bagel.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>man-ABS saw</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>'The man saw the woman’s boomerang.’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(2.32) a. Užiččir-si-a ponoq-t-aa Zerččin-si-a, Russian
  teacher-nom help-past-pig woman-dat/woman-acc
  'The teacher helped the woman.'
  Latvian
  living-GEN remember-1sg
  'I remember the living.'

(2.33) a. ëg skita-ri henn-i pening-un-unum. Icelandic, Iceland, Germanic
  IJ loans return-past-1sg fish-dät money-dep dat
  'I returned her the money.'
  Chešš-nom Soondi-acc book-acc give-past-decl
  'Chešš gave Soondi the book.'
  c. Warrm-tš Pablo-tš kawštši-tš qa-qa-0. Ascanga Quechua
  woman-nom Pablo-acc song-acc give-past-3
  'The woman gave Pablo song.'

(2.15) a. Te gusta la música a moderna? Spanish
  2sg dat like-3sg music-3sg modern-3sg
  'Do you like modern music?'
  b. Nën interésas la leutz-3as llinguistik-3as.
  1sg dat interest-3pl music-3pl linguistic-3pl
  'We are interested in linguistic theories.'

(2.14) a. Der Vorschlag gefällt mir. German
  the.magn suggestion please-3sgres like-dat
  'I like the suggestion,' or 'The suggestion is pleasing to me.'

(2.15) a. Žand-i se svić-a Zagreb-š. Croatian
  Žand-a票据 dat place-3sg Zagreb-nom
  'Zand likes Zagreb.'
  b. Žen-ama je neugoda-0. Dative
  woman-fruit loc 3sg uncomfortable-acc
  'The women are embarrassed.'

Experiencers in Ergative languages

(1.11) a. Insuš-caa oil-0 qoč-ula. Avar, Russia, Daghestanian/Caucasian
  father-loc wood-loc chop-res
  'The father chops wood.'
  b. Insuš-da timer-0 wix-ama. Ergative-agent
  father-loc child-ars see-past
  'The father saw the child.'
  c. Insuš-je timer-0 bok-ula. locative - perceiver
  father-dat child-ars love-res
  'The father loves the child.'

Intransitive verb with non-agentive subject, absolutive case.

(2.12) a. Allig-tš maqala-tš Kte-0. Ergative- agent
  Allig-tš article-ars write-ars
  'Allig wrote an article.'
  b. Mušč-emat-0 Ibrahim-š esk-ama. locative - perceiver - dative
  Mušč-emat past Ibrahim-nom see
  'Mašč read Ismail.'
  c. Mašć-ul-0 xiru-w agaq-0. Ergative- agent
  Mašć-emat-0 village-all reach-ars
  'The man reached the village.'
  d. Ada-z gabš-zawa 3edi. in-dät hungry-impp perf
  'It (the bird) is probably hungry.'
(2.34) a. n-kwik’i’y y-čšx’t-x-a

Loc-chief A9-house:3Gen

‘to the chief’s house’

b. lo ‘to’ + yelled ‘boy’ → yelled ‘to a boy’

Modern Hebrew

b’. lo ‘to’ + ha ‘the’ + yelled ‘boy’ → yelled ‘to the boy’

C. case is a prefix

(2.35) a. Hanako ga Taro o hon o yin-ta.

Hanako nom Taro o 3 opposition accorded

‘Hanako gave a book to Taro.’

Japanese

b. Naligay ng lihag na bata ang halika.

gave ACC book DAT child fem man

‘The man gave a book to the child.’

Tagalog, Philippines

c. Der Mann hat der Frau einen Kuss.

the.Mgnom man has the.Femm woman one.Mgnom:acc kiss

given.

German

c’. Die Frau hat dem Mann einen Kuss gegeben.

the.Femm woman has the.Mgnom man one.Mgnom:acc kiss given.

‘The woman gave the man’s kiss.’

(2.36) a. Clio plant.

look at old man

‘He’s looking at the old man.’

Marasi, Nilotic, East Africa

b. Clio plant.

look at old man

‘The old man’s looking at him.’

(2.37) a. Ngóli/ngóliheh jëngyi kënih/kenihheh.

1sgPl/1sgPl like 3sg/3pl

‘We’re like him—he/them.’

a’. Kënih/kenihheh jëngyi ngóli/ngóliheh.

3sg/3pl like 1sg/1sgPl

‘He—she—they like(s) me/us.’

b. Jek mkuu gin lihung jek glu.

cat see two cat dog

‘The cat sees two dogs;’

b’. Lënhug jek glu gin jek mkuu.

two cat dog see two cat

‘Two dogs see the cat.’

Cantonese, China

No case or agreement. Word order is the only coding property of subject + object.