

How to use data from the DGS-Corpus for sign language teaching?



Julian Bleicken

*DGS-Corpus; University of Hamburg, Institute of German Sign Language and Communication of the Deaf

AKADEMIE DER WISSENSCHAFTEN IN HAMBURG

Background Information about DGS-Korpus project

Project time: 2009-2023 (15 years)

Project aims:

- Reference corpus of German Sign Language (DGS)
- Free public corpus (≈ 50 hours)
- Corpus-based dictionary DGS German (DW-DGS)

Reference corpus:

- Data collection: 2010-2012
- 13 regions across Germany
- 330 (near-)native signers
- 560 hours signing videos
- 92,5 hours lemmatised, 615,000 tokens

Main-Website

https://dgs-korpus.de

• Products

https://meine-dgs.de https://ling.meine-dgs.de https://annis.meine-dgs.de

https://dw-dgs.de

DGS corpus materials

- You can watch many videos on the websites of DGS-Korpus project.
- The participants signed naturally.
- Many variants have been collected and documented.
- You don't need registration or payment.

Good to know

- DGS-Korpus project collects and publishes language data.
- Here are some materials that can be used for your sign language (SL) teaching.
- The corpus contains examples of various sign forms and grammatical uses.
- To use it for teaching and learning, you need to get to know the website and possibilities first.
- You can use KWIC (Key Word in Context).

Background Information about the Situation of SL Teaching in Germany

Teaching materials in Germany (current situation)

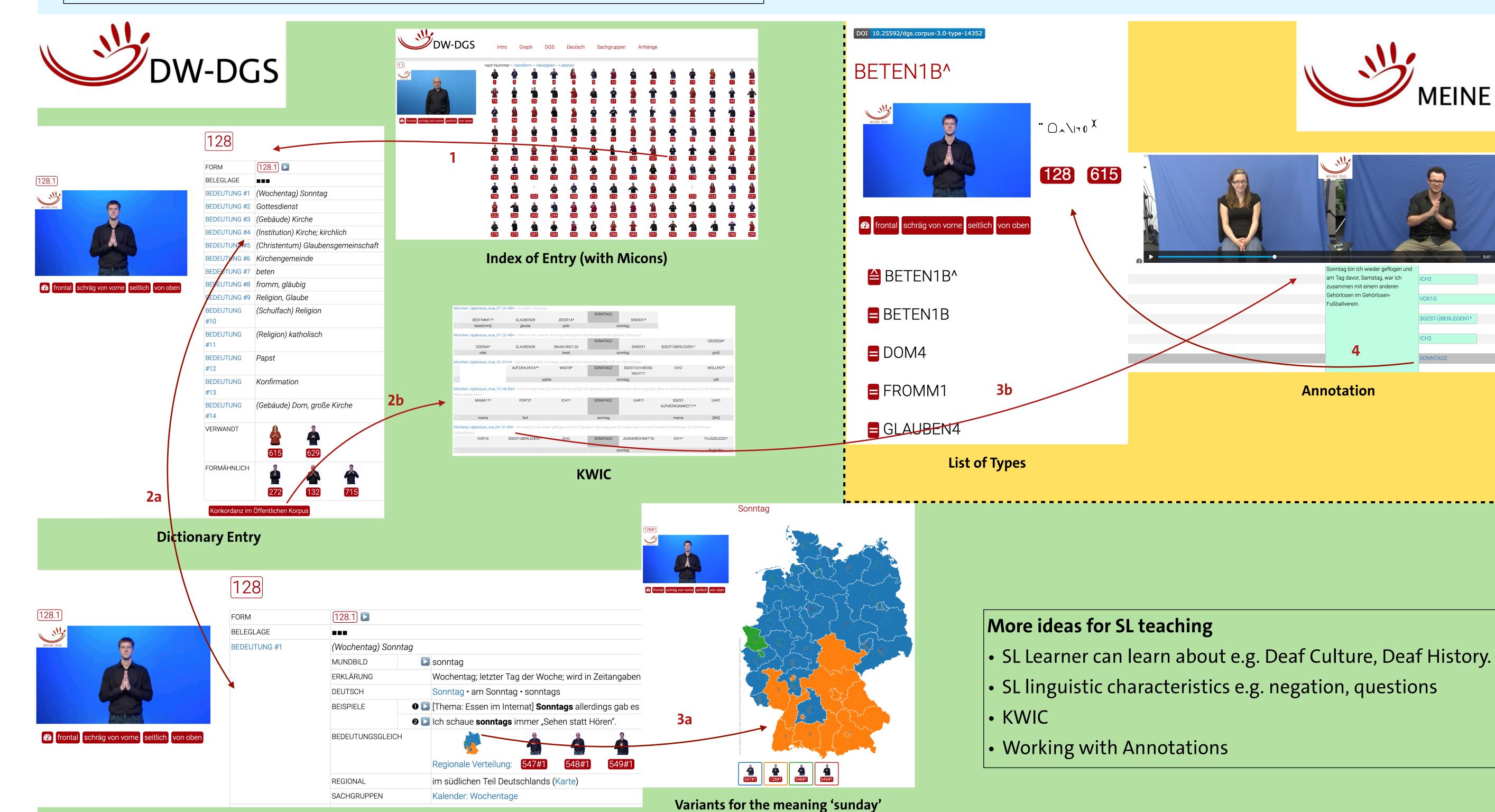
- Most teaching materials for SL consist of text and images only.
- Some materials offer videos in form of e.g. DVD (old-fashioned).
- Each teacher uses their sign variants (little variation).
- You have to pay for these materials.
- Corpus contains also variants not used by or known to teachers.

Results of Online-Survey (Bleicken 2021)

- SL teachers often produce their videos themselves.
- SL teachers are not sure how to use the corpus data for teaching.
- SL teachers have the desire to attend workshops.
- SL teachers are interested in newly developed teaching materials.

Poster presented at Deaf Academics and Research Conference.

11th DAC Vienna 2023, in Vienna, Austria. September 6th-8th, 2023.



Part of a Dictionary Entry

This publication has been produced in the context of the joint research funding of the German Federal Government and Federal States in the

Academies' Programme, with funding from the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg. The

Academies' Programme is coordinated by the Union of the German Academies of Sciences and Humanities.

References Advantages: • SL Teachers have the possibility, based on the big data set, to design their lessons freely. https://dgs-korpus.de (last access 28.08.2023) • Learners can see a variety of signers. Good for learning e.g. reception. •Bleicken, Julian (2021): "Die Nutzung von Videomaterial in der • Wide selection of sign variants (age, gender and regional variation). Lehre. Eine Bestandsaufnahme mit Blick auf DGS-Korpus-• These Data you can use for L1- and L2-learners. Vocabulary can be accessed very quickly. Daten." (Unpublished MA thesis, Universität Hamburg) You can use the data for lessons. **Contact: Conclusion:** julian.bleicken@uni-hamburg.de Learners have the possibility to work more independently (learner autonomy). • SL Teachers have the possibility, based on the big data set, to design their lessons freely. *I would like to express my sincere thanks to the DGS-Korpus team • The teachers save time. They don't need to produce their own videos. for providing the basic data. Improved quality of SL teaching.