

# Some Welsh syntactic structures in the Welsh translation of Harry Potter

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## 1 a+INFINITIVE

See Shisha-Halevy [4, §1.1] and [6].

1

10/4:

<sup>pulled</sup> <sup>the professor</sup>  
**Tynnodd** yr Athro McGonagal  
<sup>handkerchief</sup> <sup>pocket</sup> <sup>lace</sup> <sup>out</sup> <sup>and wipe, dry</sup>  
hances boced les allan **a sychu**  
<sup>her</sup> <sup>eyes</sup> <sup>of(f)under her</sup> <sup>spectacles</sup>  
ei llygaid o dan ei sbectol. [...]

Professor McGonagall **pulled**  
out a lace handkerchief **and**  
**dabbed** at her eyes beneath  
her spectacles. [...]

2

11/2:

<sup>opened</sup> <sup>the professor</sup>  
Agorodd yr Athro McGonagal  
<sup>her</sup> <sup>mouth</sup> <sup>but</sup> <sup>changed</sup> <sup>her</sup>  
ei cheg, ond **newidiodd** ei  
<sup>mind</sup> <sup>swallow</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>say</sup>  
meddwl, **llyncu a dweud**,  
‘[...]’ [...]

Professor McGonagall  
opened her mouth, **changed**  
her mind, **swallowed**, and  
then **said**, “[...]” [...]

3

12/14:

by dry his eyes on sleeve  
 Gan sychu ei lygaid ar lawes  
 his coat jumped on  
 ei gôt, **neidiodd** Hagrid ar  
 back motorbike and give, put kick  
 gefn y motor-beic **a rhoi** cic  
 take the engine rise  
 i ddeffro'r peiriant. **Cododd**  
 to the air by roar and disappear to the  
 i'r awyr gan ruo **a diflannu** i'r  
 night  
 nos.

Wiping his streaming eyes  
 on his jacket sleeve, Hagrid  
**swung** himself on to the mo-  
 torbike **and kicked** the en-  
 gine into life; with a roar it  
**rose** into the air and off into  
 the night.

4

13/1:

turned and  
**Trodd** Dumbledore **a**  
 walk aback down the  
**cherdded** yn ôl i lawr y  
 street on the corner stopped  
 stryd. Ar y gornel **arhosodd**  
 and pull the Put-Outer silver  
**a thynnu**'r Diffoddwr arian  
 out  
 allan.

Dumbledore **turned** and  
**walked** back down the  
 street. On the corner he  
**stopped and took** out the  
 silver Put-Outer.

5

14/5:

rolled on his back and try  
**Rowliodd** ar ei gefn **a cheisio**  
 remember about what was he after  
 cofio am beth roedd o wedi  
 be in dream  
 bod yn breuddwydio.

He **rolled** on to his back **and**  
**tried** to remember the dream  
 he had been having.

6

15/5:

got up from the bed  
 [...] **Cododd** Harri o'r gwely  
 in slow and start search about, for  
 yn araf **a dechrau** chwilio am  
 his socks  
 ei sanau. [...]

[...] Harry **got** slowly out of  
 bed and **started** looking for  
 socks. [...]

## 2 ti:chi:(chdi)

### 2.1 You-Know-Who

- **Wyddost-Ti-Pwy:**

- Professor McGonagal → Dumbledore. (8/6, 8/10, 8/12 ('Wyddost-Ti – O! [...]''))
- Dumbledore → Professor McGonagal. (8/11)
- Hagrid → Harry Potter. (43/1, 43/2, 43/5, 62/10)
- Harry Potter → Hagrid. (43/7, 62/11)

- **Wyddoch-Chi-Pwy:**

- A man in a violet cloak → Vernon Dursley. (4/3)
- Harry Potter → Dumbledore. (236/10)

### 2.2 Other examples

#### 2.2.1 The author → the reader

7

1/1 (absolute beginning):

<sup>bragged</sup> <sup>and</sup> <sup>number</sup>  
Broliai Mr a Mrs Dursley, rhif  
<sup>four</sup> <sup>their</sup> <sup>be</sup>  
pedwar Privet Drive, eu bod  
<sup>they</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>family</sup> <sup>whole, absolute</sup> <sup>normal</sup>  
nhw'n deulu cwbl normal,  
<sup>thank</sup> <sup>in</sup> <sup>big</sup> <sup>right</sup> <sup>to you</sup>  
diolch yn fawr iawn **ichi.**

Mr and Mrs Dursley of number four, Privet Drive, were proud to say that they were perfectly normal, thank you very much.

8

13/4 (epilogue):

[...] Privet Drive [...], y lle  
 last in the world that you would be  
 olaf yn y byd y **byddech**  
 chi you in expect to any thing  
**chi**'n disgwyl i unrhyw beth  
 astonishing happen  
 syfrdanol ddigwydd. [...]

[...] Privet Drive [...], the  
 very last place **you** would  
 expect astonishing things to  
 happen. [...]

### 2.2.2 Vernon Dursley's free indirect speech

9

2/5:

couldn't  
 Fedrai Mr Dursley ddim  
 suffer, bear people REL. wear clothes  
 dioddef pobl a wisgai ddillad  
 unusual the kind things REL.  
 anarferol — y fath bethau a  
 chi you see chi you about, or people young  
**welwch chi** am bobl ifanc!

Mr Dursley couldn't bear  
 people who dressed in funny  
 clothes — the get-ups **you**  
 saw on young people!

### 2.2.3 A man in a violet cloak → Vernon Dursley

10

4/3:

chi  
 NEG. IMP. with apologise  
 'Peidiwch ag ymddiheuro,  
 sir because couldn't Fr. pas  
 syr. oherwydd fedrai dim  
 world my agitate I today  
 byd fy nghynhyrfu i heddiw!  
 chi rejoice! because  
**Llawenhewch,** oherwydd  
 is chi you know chi you who after  
 mae **Wyddoch-Chi**-Pwy wedi  
 go at last should  
 mynd o'r diwedd! Dylai  
 even Muggles like you  
 hyd yn oed Myglars fel **chi**  
 be in celebrate the day  
 fod yn dathlu'r diwrnod  
 happy happy this  
 hapus, hapus hwn!'

'Don't be sorry, my dear sir,  
 for nothing could upset me  
 today! **Rejoice,** for **You-**  
**Know-Who** has gone at last!  
 Even Muggles like **yourself**  
 should be celebrating, this  
 happy, happy day!'

2.2.4 Vernon Dursley → Petunia Dursley

11

5/5:

‘er, ‘אהובי  
 ‘Ym — Petiwnia, <sup>ti</sup>carriad — ‘Er — Petunia, dear — **you**  
<sup>ti</sup>you heard <sup>ti</sup>you <sup>ti</sup>something <sup>ti</sup>by, from <sup>ti</sup>your **haven’t heard from **your** sis-**  
**glywaist ti** <sup>ti</sup>rywbeth <sup>ti</sup>gan **dy** **ster lately, have you?’**  
<sup>ti</sup>sister <sup>ti</sup>in <sup>ti</sup>recent  
 chwaer yn ddiweddar?’

12

5/10:

<sup>ti</sup>well <sup>ti</sup>some, <sup>ti</sup>certain <sup>ti</sup>thought <sup>ti</sup>that I <sup>ti</sup>made I  
 ‘Wel, rhyw feddwl wnes i... ‘Well, I just thought...  
<sup>ti</sup>maybe <sup>ti</sup>be <sup>ti</sup>by it (by him) <sup>ti</sup>something <sup>ti</sup>maybe... it was something to  
 ella... <sup>ti</sup>fod <sup>ti</sup>ganddo <sup>ti</sup>rywbeth <sup>ti</sup>do with <sup>ti</sup>you know **do with **you** know... *her lot.***  
<sup>ti</sup>toits (his) <sup>ti</sup>do <sup>ti</sup>with <sup>ti</sup>you know **wyddost**  
 i ‘w wneud efo... **ti**... *ei chriw hi.*’  
<sup>ti</sup>you

2.2.5 Petunia Dursley → Harry Potter

13

14/3:

<sup>ti</sup>Get up! <sup>ti</sup>the <sup>ti</sup>minute <sup>ti</sup>here  
 ‘Cod! Y munud yma!’ ‘Up! Get up! Now!’

14

14/7:

<sup>ti</sup>you’re <sup>ti</sup>after <sup>ti</sup>get up <sup>ti</sup>now  
 ‘Wyt ti wedi <sup>ti</sup>codi <sup>ti</sup>bellach?’ ‘Are **you** up yet?’ she de-  
<sup>ti</sup>shouted **manded.**  
 gwaeddodd.

15

15/1:

<sup>ti</sup>hurry! I'm want/needfor <sup>ti</sup>you  
 'Wel **brysia**, dwi isio i **ti**  
<sup>look</sup> <sup>after</sup> <sup>the</sup> <sup>backon</sup> <sup>and</sup>  
 edrych ar ôl y cig moch. A  
<sup>ti</sup>NEG. IMP. <sup>ti</sup>youwith <sup>dare</sup> <sup>let</sup> <sup>for it (=him)</sup>  
**phaid ti** â meiddio gadael iddo  
<sup>burn</sup>  
 losgi; [...]

'Well, **get** a move on, I want  
**you** to look after the bacon.  
 And don't **you** dare let it  
 burn, [...]

## 2.2.6 Vernon Dursley → Harry Potter

16

16/2:

<sup>put!</sup> <sup>ti</sup>comb <sup>through</sup> <sup>your</sup> <sup>hair</sup> <sup>really</sup>  
 'Rho grib drwy **dy** wallt, wir!  
<sup>was</sup> <sup>his</sup> <sup>greeting</sup> <sup>morning (ADJ.)</sup>  
 oedd ei gyfarchiad boreol.

'Comb your hair!' he barked,  
 by the way of a morning  
 greeting.

## 3 Nominal predication (working notes)

See Shisha-Halevy [5, §3].

### 3.1 *oedd* 'nominal sentence'

17

1/2:

<sup>director</sup> <sup>company</sup>  
 Cyfarwyddwr cwmni  
<sup>produce</sup> <sup>drills</sup> <sup>fromthe</sup> <sup>name</sup>  
 cynhyrchu driliau o'r enw  
<sup>was</sup>  
 Grunnings **oedd** Vernon  
 Dursley, [...]

Mr Dursley **was** the director  
 of a firm called Grunnings,  
 which made drills. [...]

18

10/4 (on Dumbledore's golden clock):

<sup>watch</sup> <sup>strange</sup> <sup>right</sup> <sup>was</sup>  
 [...] Oriawr ryfedd iawn **oedd**  
<sup>she</sup>  
 hi. [...]

[...] It **was** a very odd watch.  
 [...]

### 3.2 Copular pattern (?)

19 10/6 — Dumbledore (on the Dursleys):

[...] Nh<sup>they</sup>w y<sup>≈is</sup>d<sup>the</sup>i'r unig<sup>only</sup> deulu<sup>family</sup> [...] They're the only family  
 that is left by him since that he has left now.  
 sydd ar ôl ganddo erbyn hyn.'

20 13/7:

the only thing that liked Yr unig beth yr hoffai Harri The only thing Harry liked  
 about his look himself was ynghylch ei olwg ei hun **oedd** **was** a very thin scar on his  
 the scar fine fine on form y graith fain fain ar ffurf forehead which was shaped  
 lightning on his forehead like a bolt of lightning.  
 mellten ar ei dalcen.

21 13/7 ('He had had it as long as he could remember —'):

and the question first that [...] a 'r cwestiwn cyntaf y [...] and the first question he  
 could remember his (=its) ask to Aunt could ever remember asking  
 gallai gofio 'i ofyn i Anti his Aunt Petunia was how was he  
 Petiw<sup>was</sup>nia **oedd** sut roedd o had got it.  
 after her (=its) get she (=it) wedi ei chael hi.

22 15/6 ('Exactly why Dudley wanted a racing bike was a mystery to Harry, as Dudley was very fat and hated exercise —'):

that ≈is if (that) not was [...] — hynny yw, os nad oedd [...] — unless of course it in-  
 he mean that got thresh o'nin golygu y câi ddyrnu volved punching somebody.  
 someone rhywun.

23 200/16 — Ronan ('Collwyn' in the Welsh translation):

innocent ≈is the victims  
 ‘Y diniwed **ydi**’r dioddefwyr ‘Always the innocent are the  
 first he said so <sup>PAST</sup>was he (=it) first victims,’ he said. ‘So it  
 cyntaf,’ meddai. ‘Felly **bu** hi has been for ages past, so it is  
 in the time REL. was so is now.’  
 yn yr amser a fu, felly **y mae**  
 still  
 o hyd.’

### 3.3 Circumstantially-converted nominal rheme

24

1/3:

was in sister  
**Roedd** Mrs Potter **yn** chwaer Mrs. Potter **was** Mrs. Durs-  
 to but they were not ley’s sister, but they hadn’t  
 i Mrs Dursley, ond doedden met for several years; in fact,  
 they Fr. pas after meet since Mrs. Dursley pretended she  
 nhw ddim wedi cyfarfod ers didn’t have a sister, [...]  
 blynyddoedd; a dweud y gwir,  
 years and say the truth  
 IMPF took on her that not  
 cymerai Mrs Dursley arni nad  
 by her sister  
 oedd ganddi chwaer, [...]

25

8/4 — Professor McGonagall (criticising the careless behaviour of the wizards):

but isn’t that in Fr. pas  
 ‘Ond **dydi** hynny’n ddim “But that’s no reason to lose  
 reason for lose our heads our heads. [...]  
 rheswm dros gollu’n pennau.  
 [...]

26

8/5 — Professor McGonagall (on You-Know-Who):

QUESTION  
 is he in true his be he after  
 [...] **Ydi** o’n wir ei fod o wedi [...] I suppose he really has  
 go mynd, Dumbledore? gone, Dumbledore?”

27

10/2 — Professor McGonagall:



QUESTION  
 is he                      QUESTION  
 'Ydi o — Ydi o'n wir?' "It's — it's true?" faltered Pro-  
asked                      the                      professor  
 gofynnodd                      yr                      Athro fessor McGonagall. [...]  
 McGonagal. [...]  
he in

28 15/5 (Harry Potter tries to remember a dream he had):

3sg.  
 was                      in                      dream                      good  
**Roedd yn** freuddwyd braf.                      It **had been** a good one.

29 129/1:

in                      true                      since                      that                      was  
 Yn wir, erbyn hynny roedd [...] Indeed, by the next  
and                      in                      think                      be  
 Harri a Ron yn meddwl fod morning Harry and Ron  
meet                      thedogthree                      head                      after                      be  
 cyfarfod y ci tri phen wedi **bod** thought that meeting the  
in                      adventure                      excellent  
**yn** antur ardderchog [...] an excellent adventure [...]

## References

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