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**DFG-Projekt "Digitalisierung und Erschließung des Nachlasses des
Ägyptologen Adolf Erman (1854-1937)"**

Brief von Alan Henderson Gardiner an Adolf Erman

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London, 02.12.1927

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[urn:nbn:de:gbv:46:1-81708](https://nbn-resolving.org/urn:nbn:de:gbv:46:1-81708)

9, LANSDOWNE ROAD,

HOLLAND PARK, W. 11.

2 Dec. 27

Dear Professor Luman

It is kind of you to have written to me on your completion of the reading of my Grammar, and I am glad that you find yourself able on the whole to approve. I feel that in view of your weak eyesight it is a great compliment that you have

paid me in working through
the book. Forgive me if
I say a few words in
self-defence in the matter
of (a) terminology and (b)
supposedly philosophical reasoning.
I really don't think I can
plead guilty to the latter,
unless you call philosophical
the attempt I made to say
clearly what I mean when
I say "subject" or say "predicate."

As regards the meaning of tenses it was necessary, I felt, to use the abstract terms "repetition and continuity" and to try to show how time-distinctions can be ultimately squared with the possession only of non-temporal perfective and imperfective tenses.

As regards terminology, I think I ought to tell you that most of my terms (though not "semantic subject" to which Sethe has taken a special dislike!) were derived from the British Report of the Committee for the Reform of Grammatical Terminology. This was a Committee of prominent Unversität

Professors and schoolteachers who
got together to see whether
some uniformity of terms could
not be arranged for the
teaching of English, French, and
German. In using "noun
clause", "adverb clause" etc
I have only conformed to the
general practice of our schools
as advocated by this Committee.
I don't understand that you
had difficulty over "noun clause"
as I devoted a whole paragraph
(§182) simply and solely to the
definition of the three kinds of

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has the imagination of a true interpreter. We read a certain amount of Ptahhotp together and I think we have discovered quite a lot that is new. And de Buck has discovered quite his full share of the good things!

When I have finished writing to you I shall write to Schaals, who, I take it, are still at Schulpforte. I should like to see my godson, who must be quite a big boy by now.

On November 19th, we celebrated

our Siloua Wedding with a little
dance. Höchst modern, do you
not think? Heddie wore
her original wedding-dress
and looked so sweet and
young. It was truly a
great occasion!

Rolf will be in Berlin
again in the early months
of next year, and I must
get him to come and
visit you. I wish it
could be ourselves. I half
thought I should be able
to come across in the
autumn, but after all

the grammar kept me too busy.
The last Korrekturbogen was
only marked for press about
ten days ago! It has been
a fight against time to
get it ready before I leave
for Egypt.

I do hope that the
Wörterbuch is making good
progress. I have used it
with great profit to myself,
though of course the references
will add very greatly to its
value when we can have
access to these. I am
afraid Graßm has almost
unceasing toil in print of
him. I wish I could have

him over to England for a few weeks on my return from Egypt. It would do him a world of good to get some rest and a change of ideas, I feel sure.

But now I must close this wretched letter. Very special greetings to Fran Profenn, and mee again, all good wishes for Xmas and the New Year

Yours very sincerely

Alan Hardier

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