Clause structure in Libras: types of sentence

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In this presentation, I will discuss results from a study on word order in Libras that will deepen our understanding of clause constructions and clause types in a sign language from the gobal south. There have been various advances in studies of sentence structure in Libras, initially starting from research that was carried out with Libras previously, such as Ferreira Brito (1995), Quadros (1999), Karnopp and Quadros (2004), Araújo (2013), Napoli, Sutton -Spence and Quadros (2017). However, it is necessary to complement these investigations. The presented research will now dedicate itself to exploring other possible combinations of arguments, including null arguments, omission, and verbal incorporation. I will present results from the functional linguistics perspective based on research on word order in Libras, including studies on sentences types and verbs. Royer (2019) investigates transitive verbs, relating the analysis of Libras to word order and types of sentences, but Royer (2023) considers an analysis of verb transitivity in relation to non-realized arguments, such as null arguments, omission, and verbal incorporation. I also present the research methodology that was used in the Grande Florianópolis corpus and the Deaf Reference corpus. Annotations are made using the ELAN software. The analysis of the selected corpus data, along with the research of existing transcriptions, will be related to the data found within theoretical references. Royer (2019) analyzes the results with regard to word order in Libras, using some statistical data to compare the structures signaled by the participants. From this methodology, it is concluded that the basic structure of Libras is SVO. Royer (2023) compares the structures signaled by the participants, the results confirm the presence of null arguments, omissions and incorporations as constituent elements of clause structures in Libras. Thus, this presentation identifies the grammatical role of various types of verbs in Libras including transitive verbs in the composition of sentence structures in sign languages.