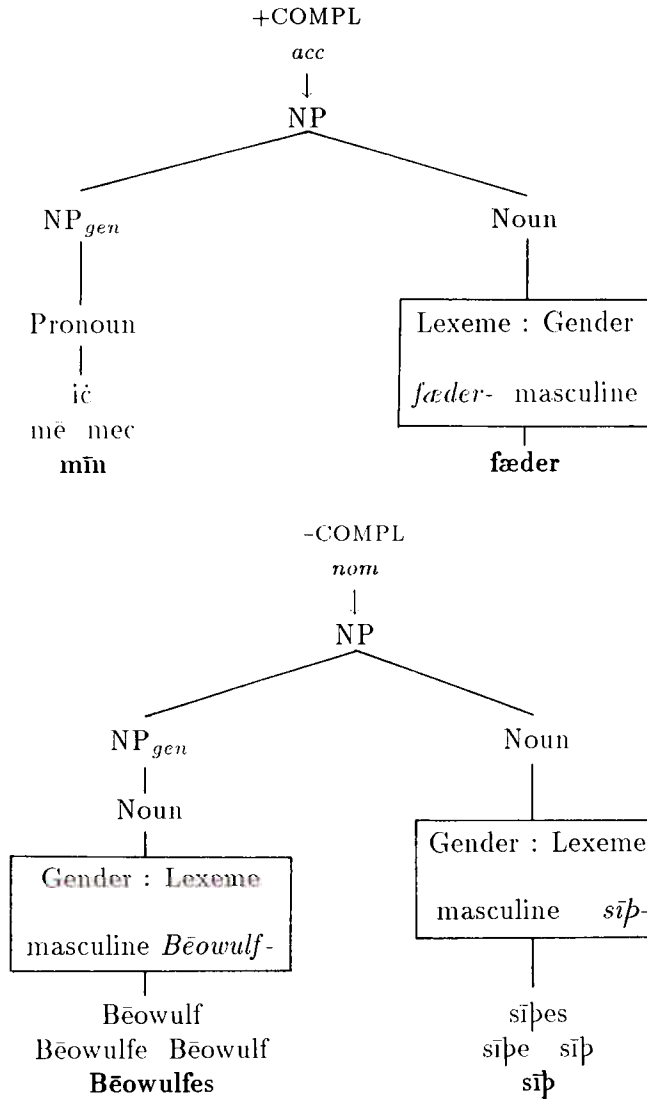
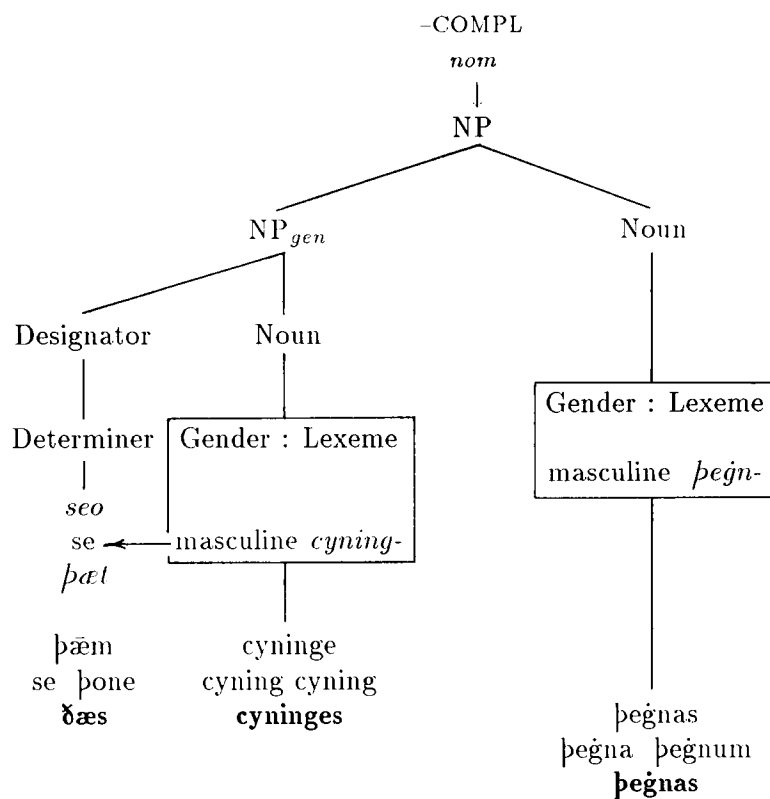


C. DEPENDENT OF NOUN Another kind of government by syntactic structure alone is that of a nominal occurring within a noun phrase (NP), when it is an immediate dependent (rather than the head) of that NP. It is functionally adjectival, and in every instance it is marked by genitive inflection: **mīn fæder** 'my father,' **Bēowulfes sīþ** 'Beowulf's venture,' **ðæs cyninges þēgnas** 'thanes of the king.'



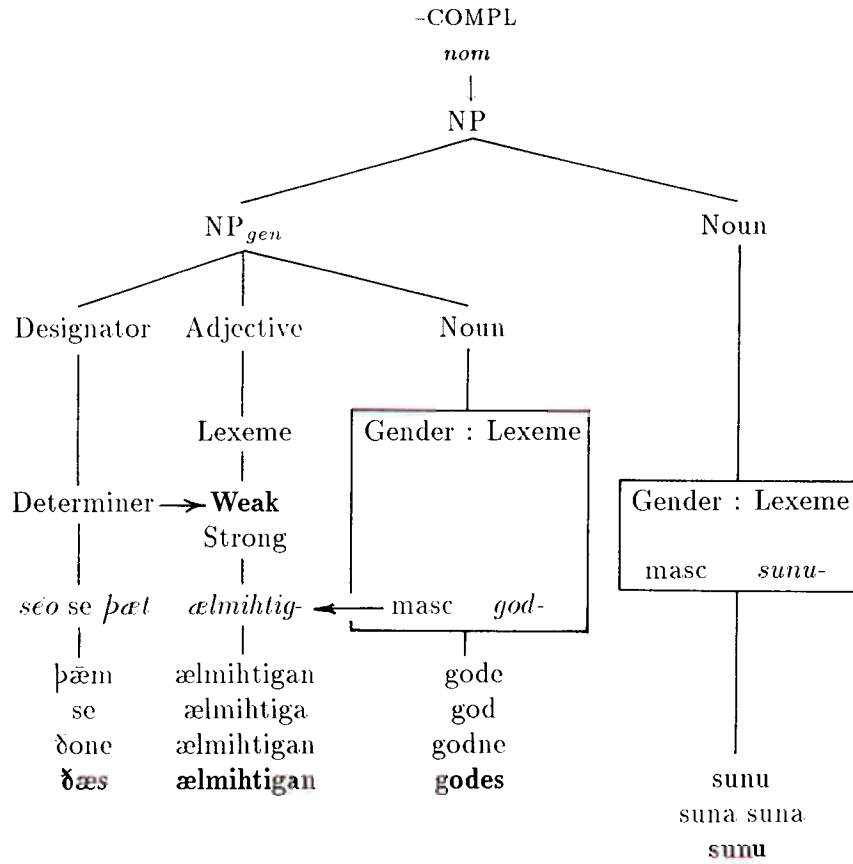


The same principle of government holds, of course, when there has been deletion of the head noun to eliminate unneeded repetition. **Hwæs sunu ys hē? ... Dauides.** ‘Whose son is he? ... David’s.’

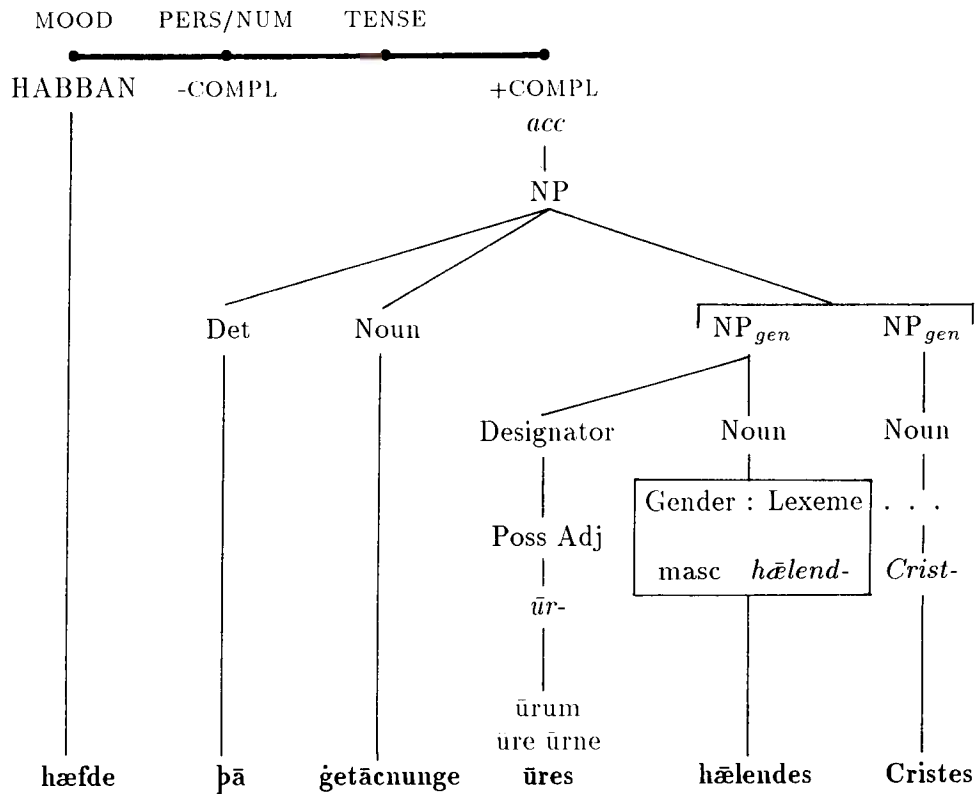
þa brōhton hī him [þone penig].
 þā sǣde hē him, ‘Hwæs is þēos
 anlicnys and þis gewrit?’
 Hī cwædon, ‘Ðæs cāseres.’
 Dā cwæð se hǣlend tō him,
 ‘Āgyfað þām cāsere þā þing
 þe þæs cāseres synd, and Gode
 þa ðe Godes synd.’

Then they brought him the penny.
 Then he said to them, ‘Whose is
 this image and this inscription?’
 They said, ‘Caeser’s.’ Then
 said the Saviour to them,
 ‘Give to Caesar those things
 which are Caesar’s, and to God
 those which are God’s.’

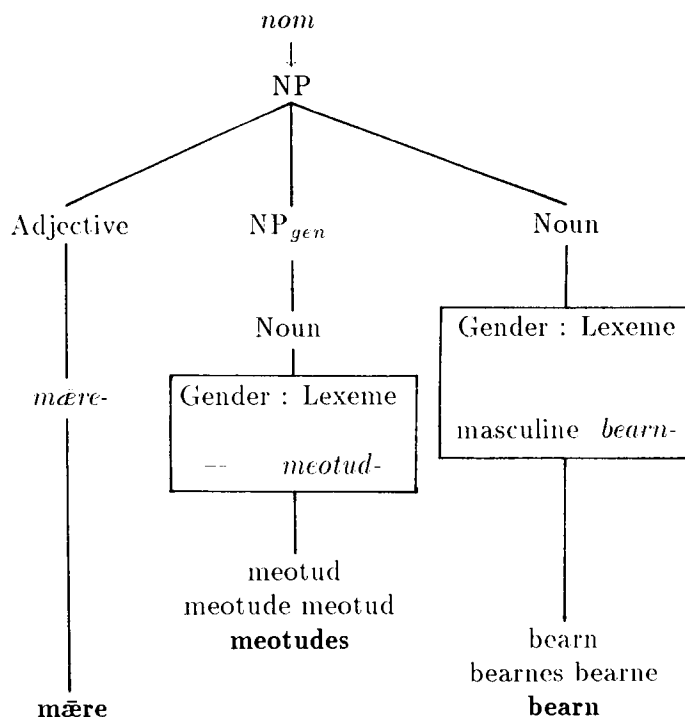
In the same way, any constituent modifier has the same genitive inflection as does that of the genitive noun which heads its immediate phrase: **þæs ælmihtigan godes sunu** ‘(the) son of the-almighty-God’; **ælc̅es libbendes mannes mægen ... is idelnes** ‘the virtue of every living person is vanity.’



When a determiner occurs with the noun that heads a dominant NP, a dependent NP follows the head of that NP (rather than preceding it): **ġe·earnode him þā ġife Hālġes Gāstes** '(he) earned the gift of the holy spirit'; **þæt ġē cunnon ðā ġerȳnu godes rīġes** 'that ye may know the secrets of the kingdom of God'; **Se heofonlīca mete hæfde þā ġetācnunge ūres Hālenġes Cristes, þe cōm of heofonum tō ūs** 'The heavenly food [manna] has the signification [i.e., symbolic meaning] of our Saviour Christ, who came from heaven to us.'



However, a differing case inflection for a form preceding the noun in the dependent NP marks it as not belonging to that dependent NP construction: in **Ān sunu, mære meotudes bearn** ‘One son, illustrious child of the Creator,’ the constituent structure is **mære ... bearn**, and not **mære meotudes**.



Not only is any nominal marked by genitive case inflection when it is a dependent (rather than head) in a noun phrase, but any nominal dominated in turn by such a dependent NP is also marked by its own (separate) genitive inflection, as illustrated by one of the genitive forms being singular, the other plural, in **Ēow is ġeseald tō witanne heofona rīces ġerȳnu** ‘To you is given to know the secrets of the kingdom of the heavens,’ and in **Đā slōh hyra ān þāra sacerda ealdres þēow** ‘Then one of them struck (the) servant of (the) chief of the priests.’ In Modern English the layering of the structure is similar, but reversed in sequence and converted to phrasal (not inflectional) marking. (With both dependent NPs in singular form, the pattern is the same: **on Godes mægnes swȳþran healfe** ‘on the right side of the power of God.’) Periphrastic genitive (constructed with *of*) evolved only later in the history of English.

