Vietnamese Grammar

Vietnamese, like many languages in Southeast Asia, is an analytic (or isolating) language. Vietnamese does not use morphological marking of case, gender, number or tense (and, as a result, has no finite/nonfinite distinction).[20] Also like other languages in the region, Vietnamese syntax conforms to subject–verb–object word order, is head-initial (displaying modified-modifier ordering), and has a noun classifier system. Additionally, it is pro-drop, wh-in-situ, and allows verb serialization.

The basic structure is S + V + O like Thai, Lao, Chinese, and Cambodian.

Some Vietnamese sentences with English word glosses and translations are provided below.

> Mai   là   sinh viên.
> Mai   be   student
> "Mai is a student." (College student)

Compared with Thai:

ใหม่ + เป็น + นักเรียน

ใหม่ +เจีย + นิสิต (เขมร)

Người   đó   là   anh   nó.
person   that   be   brother   he
"That person is his brother."

Tôi   thích   con   ngựa   đen.
I (generic)   like   classifier   horse   black
"I like the black horse."

ต้อย ธิช กอน งัว เด็น

Con   chó   này   chẳng   bao giờ   sủa   cả.
classifier   dog   this   not   ever   bark   at.all
"This dog never barks at all."
Source: Wikipedia