Local variation in the Coffin Texts:

A case study of sentence structure and verbal structure in spell 75

Jorke Grotenhuis

Local variation in spell 75

- Local variation
- Method
- Results: sentence structure
- Results: verbal structure
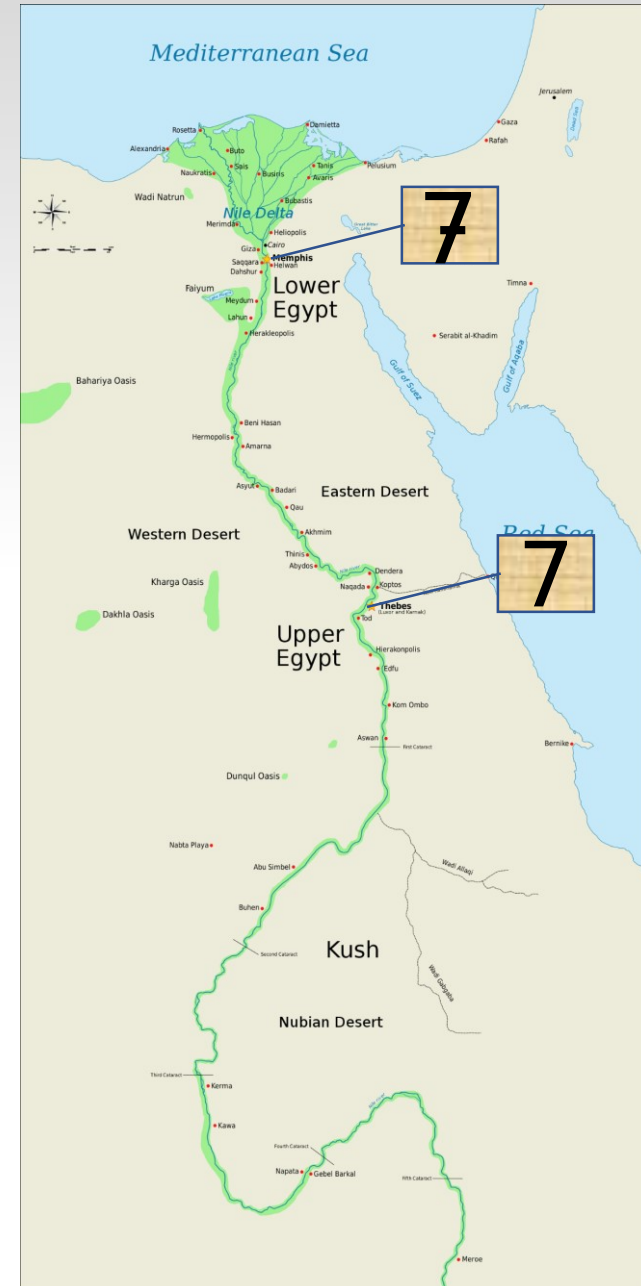- Future

Local variation

- Personal preference or local variation?

Local variation

- Personal preference or local variation?

Beni Hassan, tomb of Amenemhat, hall, north wall, register 1 (Newberry, plate 315)

Why Coffin Texts?

- Large corpus
- Multiple witnesses from the same and different locations
- Well published by de Buck

Method

- Encoding a database

project [RAMSES] project

Method

- Encoding a database
- Create analysis files

Method

- Encoding a database
- Create analysis files

Method

- Encoding a database
- Create analysis files
- Spells as proteins

Method

- Encoding a database
- Create analysis files
- Spells as proteins

```
>S1C
RR--R--RRRMRRMRRRRRMRMMRMRRMRR-R-RMR-MRRRRRRRRMRR--MRRRMRRRRM-M---RRRRR---RRRRRR-MM------RRRR--R-R
>S2C
RN-MR--RMRKR--RRMRRMKRKKNKMRKRR-R-RKR-RRRRRMMRRRRRRMRRRMKR-MMK--MMM--RN------RMNM-KKMMMMMM-MMR--RM-
>S14C
-N-KM--NNRR-RRNNRMMRRNRRNLK--MM-N-RL-------KNMRRRRRKR---RRRRR-RR---RRR----------------------------
>T3C
-R-NK--NNRR-MRNNNRKRNNNRNILRRKN-M-NIM-RRMRNLRNMNRRRLNRRNRLRMRIRMK---NPRM----RNHRNKMLL------RRRN--M-M
>B3C
-D-LNRRDDNL-NNDDKNLNLMLNRRINNLK-DMDRNRNRKMMNDDNKNRMIKMMRIMKKHRLR---DMKDRRRMNDNNDLK-------MNNDRRN-N
>B1Bo
-M-ILMNDDMI-KKCMLNNNIKILRNHRRIDMKKDRR-NRLKKIKCDRMRRHLRNRHKLLKRNR---MKLCMRMKNDRKDNRII------KNNMRRN-N
>B1C
-K-NINNCKRH-LDCKIKRDDDDDRNNMRNC-RRMRRRNRRRNDRKKRKRNRDRDRGLRRRLNN---CLNRNMNRDNIDRRNRR------NDRDNND-N
>B2L
-L-NHNRCLRG-RDRRNLRDDDDDRNNRRNC-RRRRNRNRRRNDNLRNRRNRDKCREDRRLNDN---CINRNNNRMRMDRRNRH------NCRKNND-K
>B1P
-D-NNNNCIRE-NDDDDDRDDDDDRNNKRNC-RRKRRRNRRRNDRDNNNMKRDLCRRNIRRNDN---CHNRNNNRDRKDRRNRR------NCRDNMD-N
>B6C
-DMHGRNDDNQ-NNMDDDNKHLHNRRGNNHD-D-DHN-KRI-LNLCDNNRDGIRCRQNHIGRKL---NGNC----KDLLDNRHG------LKKLMKN-N
>B7C
-------------------------------------------------------------------------NRR------NL-INND-N
>M3C
-R-NDDRNQRR-RCRNNRIRGCNCRRDRRRN-R-NRR-NRRRNRDQRRRRDNNRKRCDRRTRNR---CNDR----CCDRCI-G-------DCRHDND-N
>M20C
-R-NDDNNQRD-RCRCNRHRNCRCRRRRRRN-R-NRR-NRRRNRRQRRRRDNNR-------RNR---CDDR----CNNRCDNNE------DCRNDND-N
>B4C
-DK---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------
>M4C
-R-NR--RRRC-RCRRHRRRRNRCRHRDRNQ-R-NGR-RRRRRHDI--------------------------------------------------
>M5C
```

10

Method

- Encoding a database
- Create analysis files
- Spells as proteins

L.-T. Nguyen, H.A. Schmidt, A. von Haeseler, B.Q. Minh (2015) IQ-TREE: A fast and effective stochastic algorithm for estimating maximum likelihood phylogenies.. *Mol. Biol. Evol.*, 32:268-274. https://doi.org/10.1093/molbev/msu300

Method

- Encoding a database
- Create analysis files
- Spells as proteins
- Visualization

Dendrogram

A B C D E F

Dendroscope 3

by Daniel H. Huson

with contributions from Benjamin Albrecht.
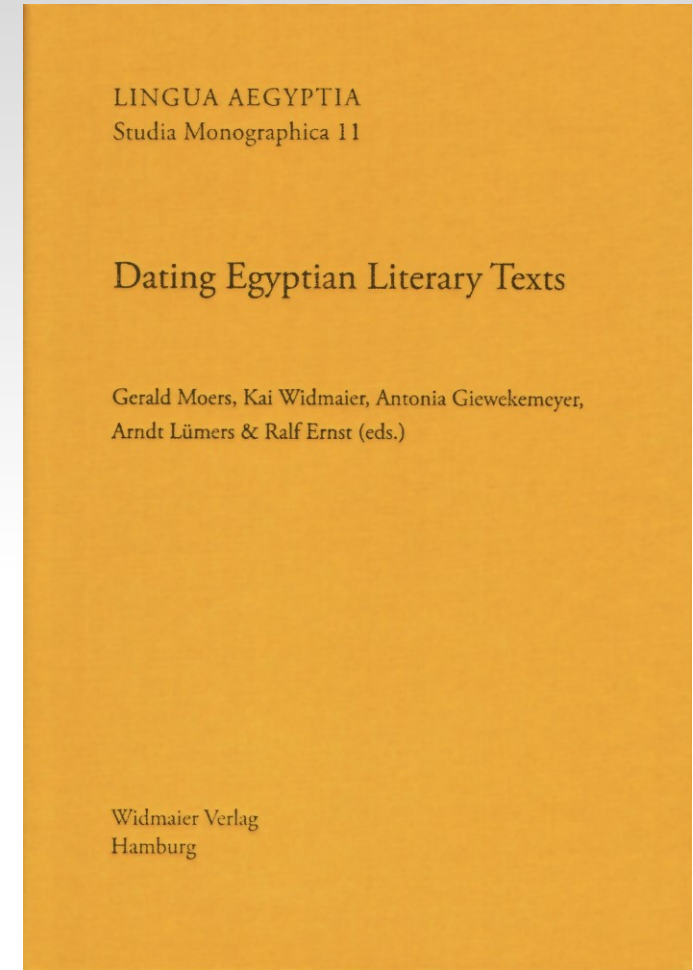Philippe Gambette, Leo van Iersel,
Celine Scornavacca and others.

www-ab.informatik.uni-tuebingen.de/software/dendroscope
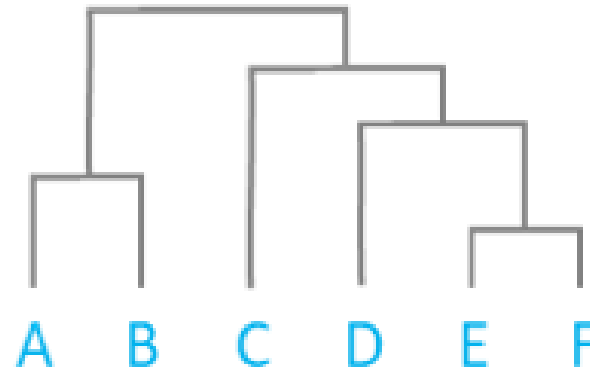
Method

- Encoding a database
- Create analysis files
- Spells as proteins
- Visualization

LINGUA AEGYPTIA
Studia Monographica 11

Dating Egyptian Literary Texts

Gerald Moers, Kai Widmaier, Antonia Giewekemeyer,
Arndt Lümers & Ralf Ernst (eds.)

Widmaier Verlag
Hamburg

Schweitzer, Simon D. 2013. Dating Egyptian literary texts: lexical approaches. In Moers, Gerald, Kai Widmaier, Antonia Giewekemeyer, Arndt Lümers, and Ralf Ernst (eds), *Dating Egyptian literary texts*, 177-190. Hamburg.
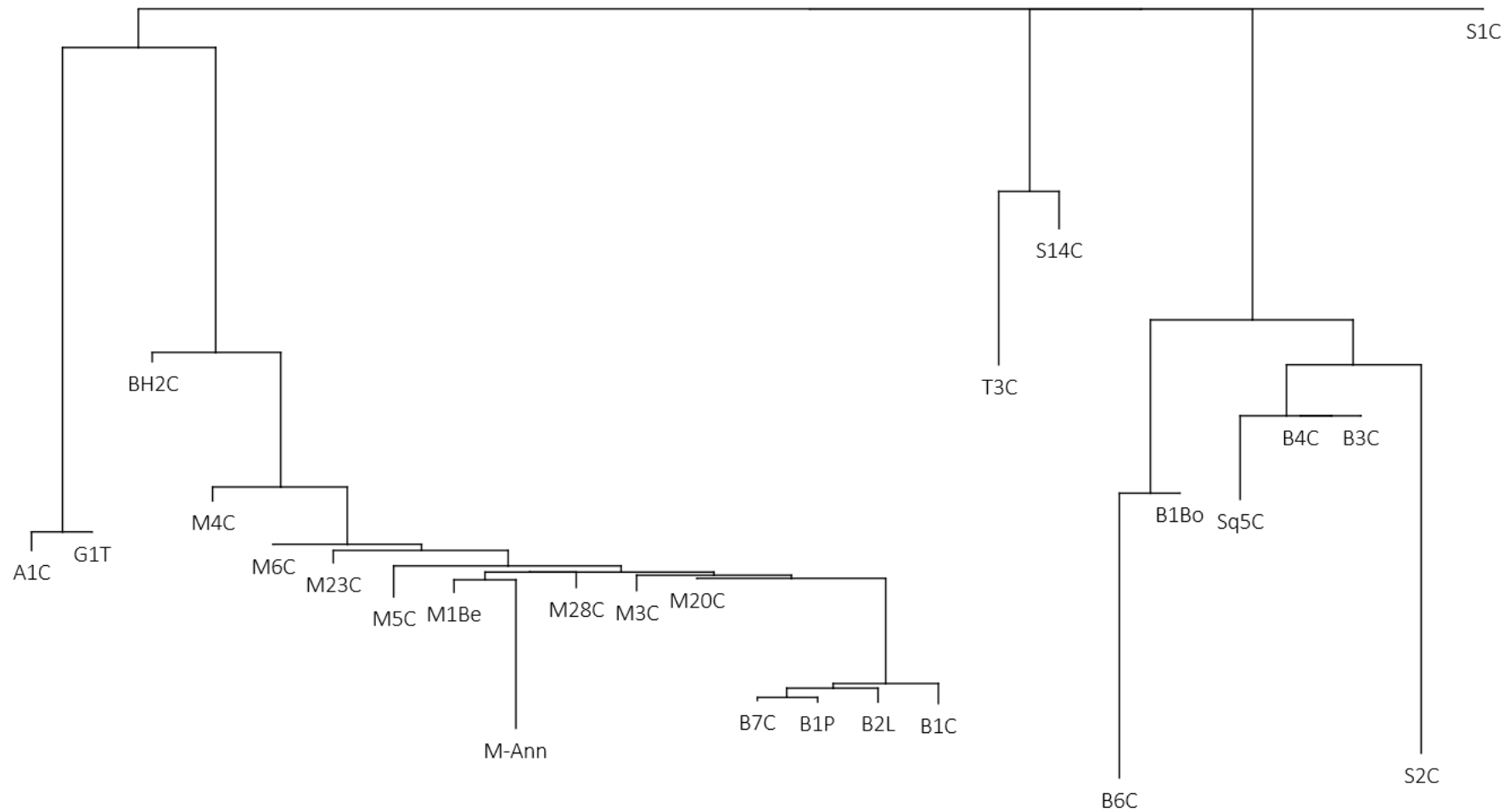
Spell 75

- 24+1 witnesses
  - 8 witnesses from Deir el-Bersheh
  - 8 witnesses from Meir (+1 unpublished, courtesy of Tobias Konrad, Mainz)
  - 3 witnesses from Asyut
  - 1 witness from Beni Hassan
  - 1 witness from Gebelein
  - 1 witness from Aswan
  - 1 witness from the Theban area
  - 1 witness from Saqqara
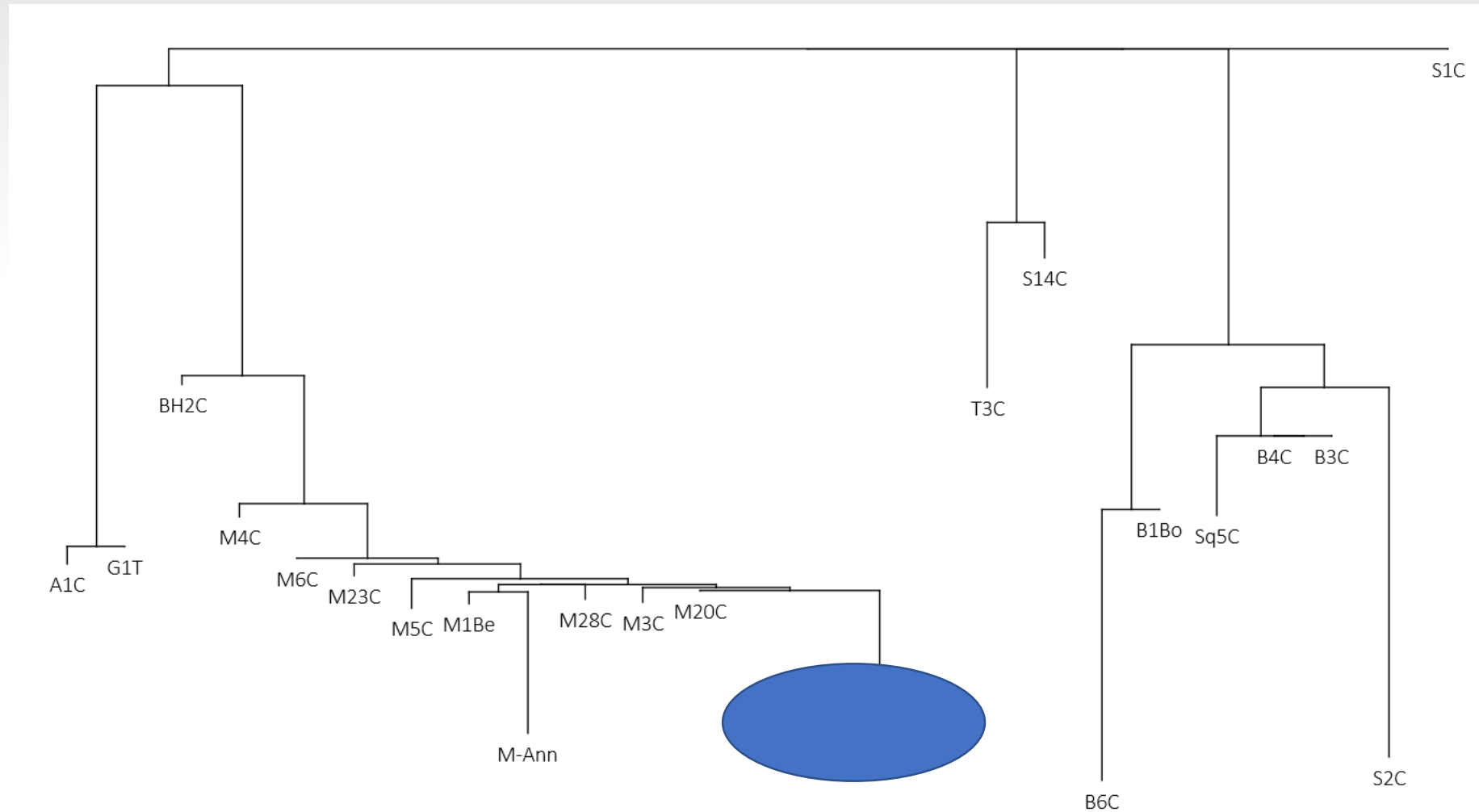- 191 phrases

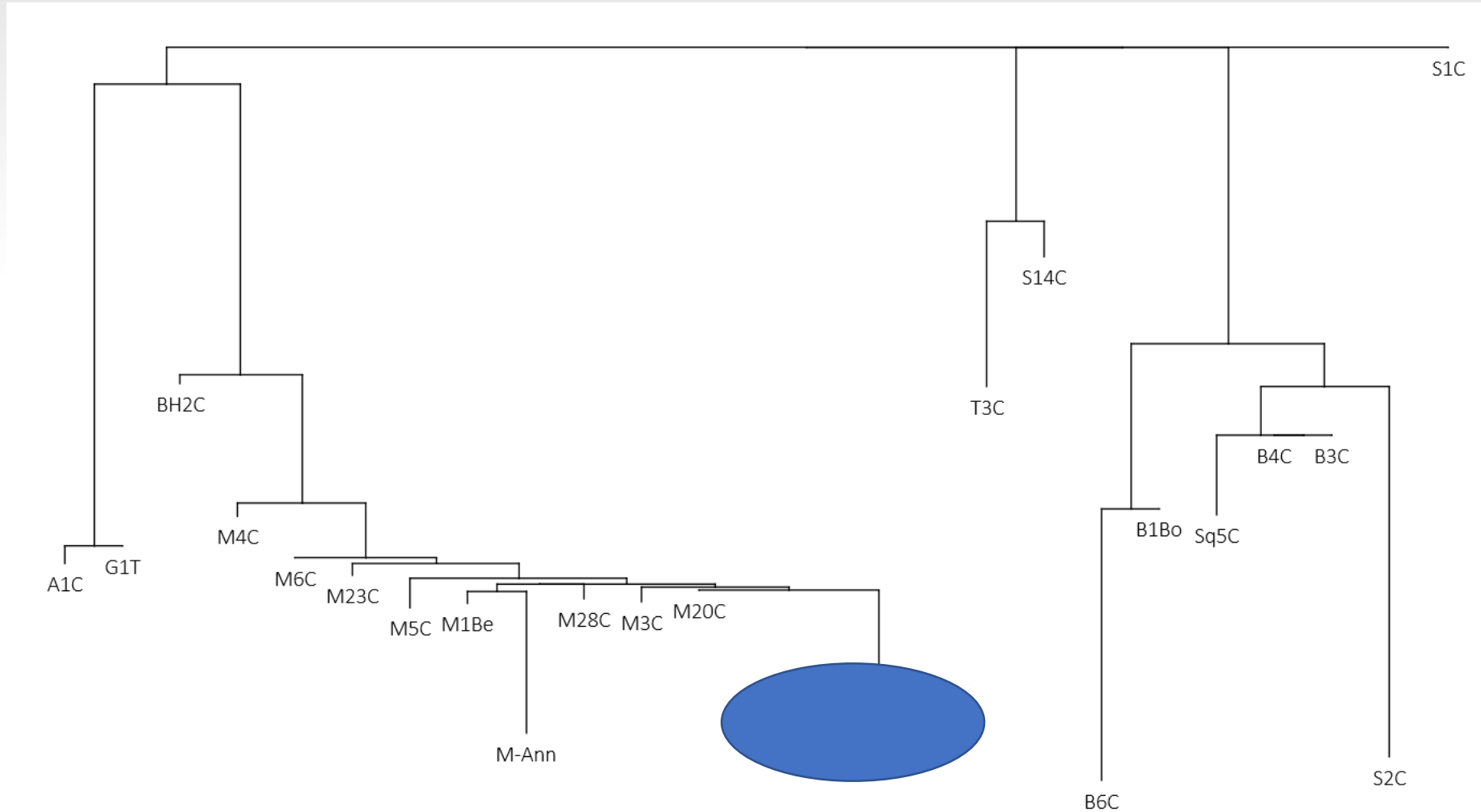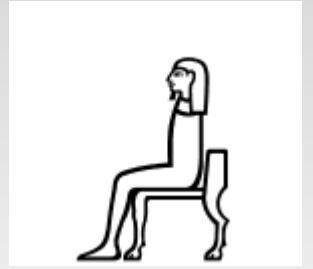# Spell 75
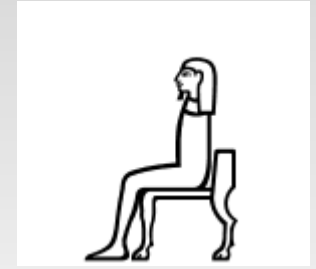

Damage to the witnesses
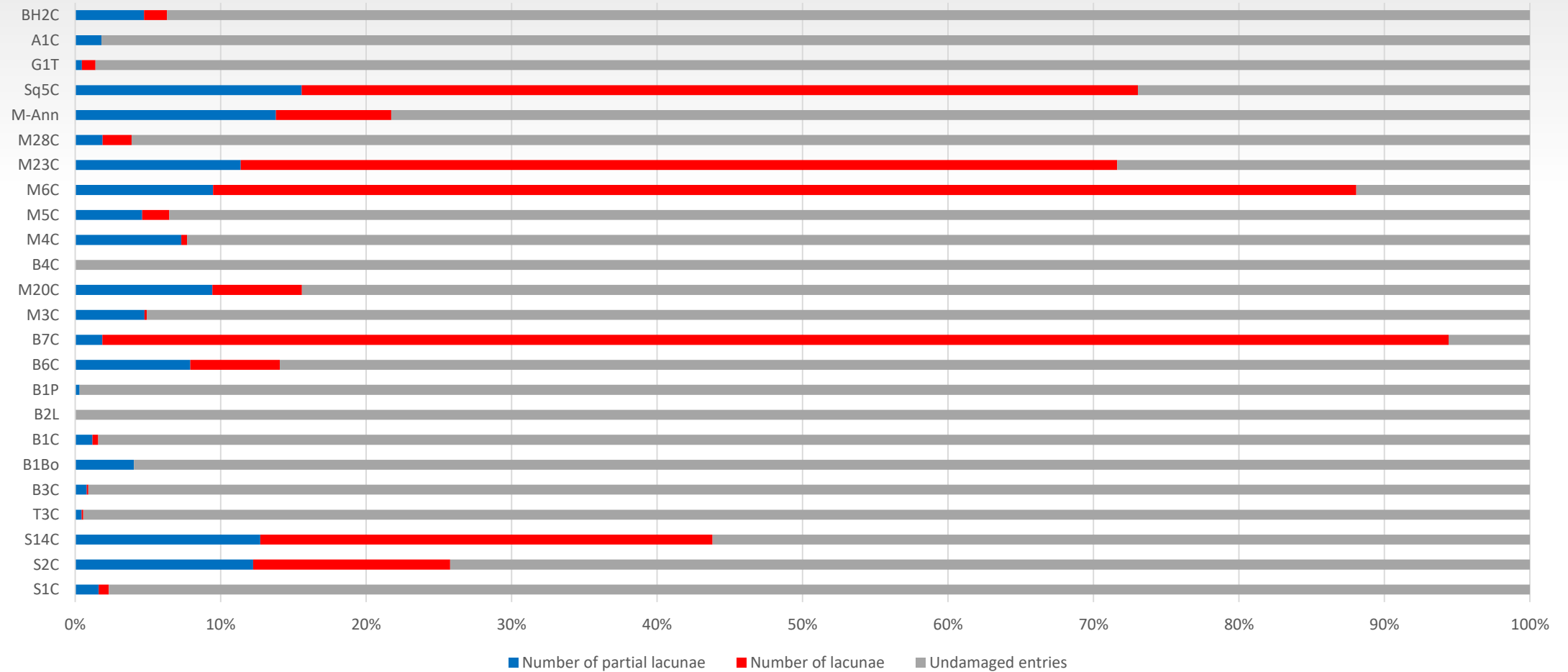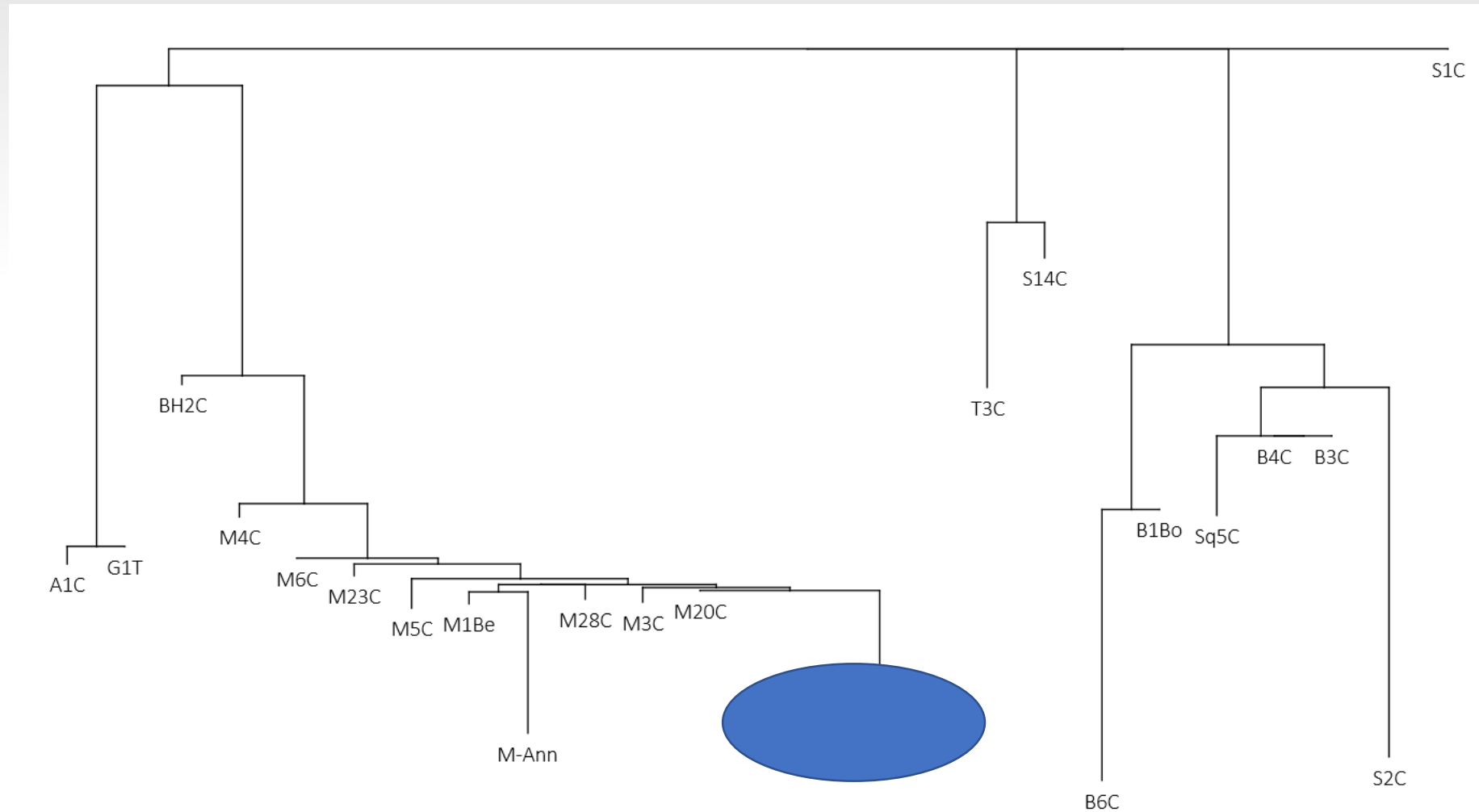
Results: sentence structure

Results: sentence structure

Results: sentence structure

Results: sentence structure

Sesostris II – Sesostris III

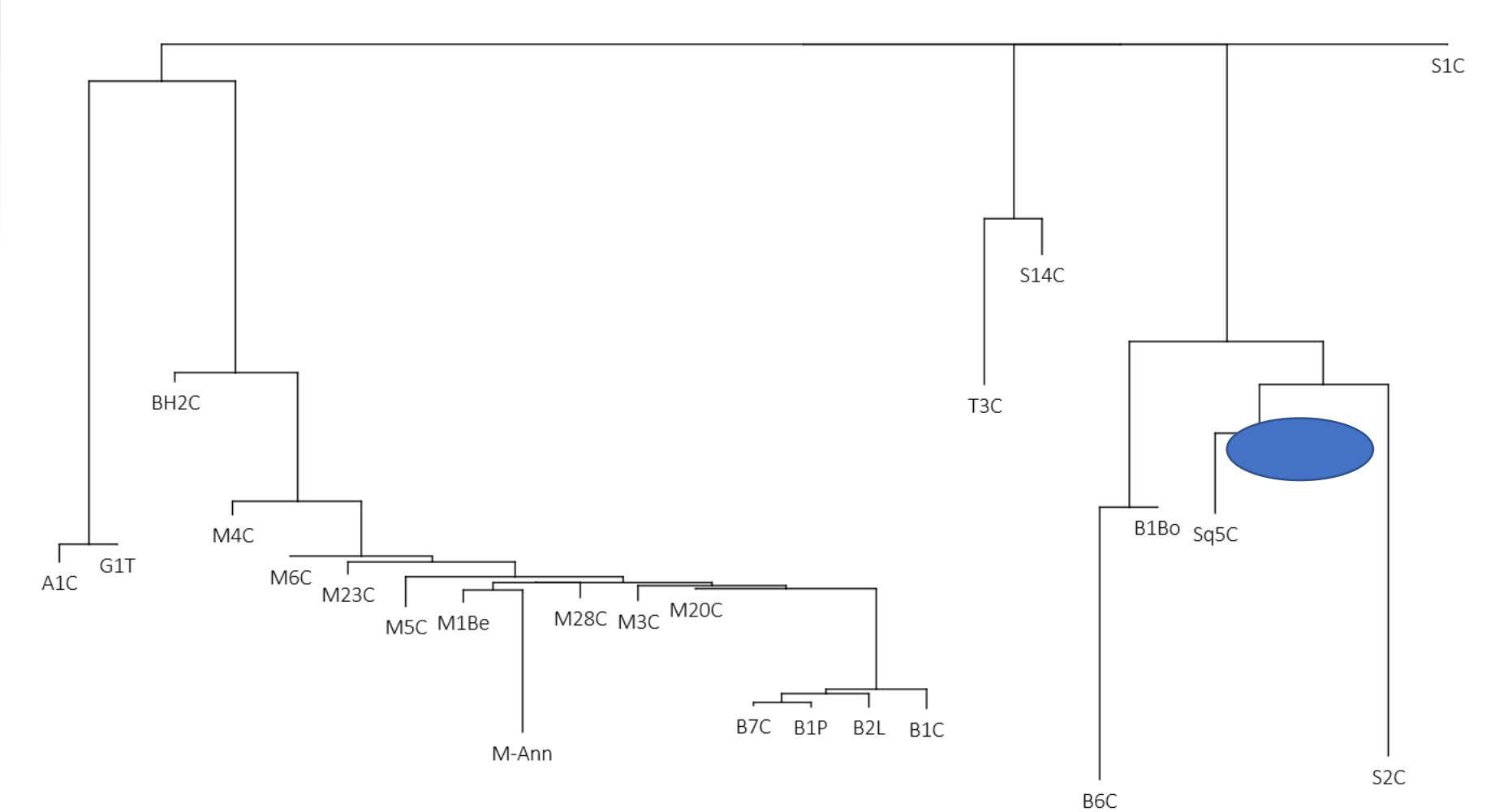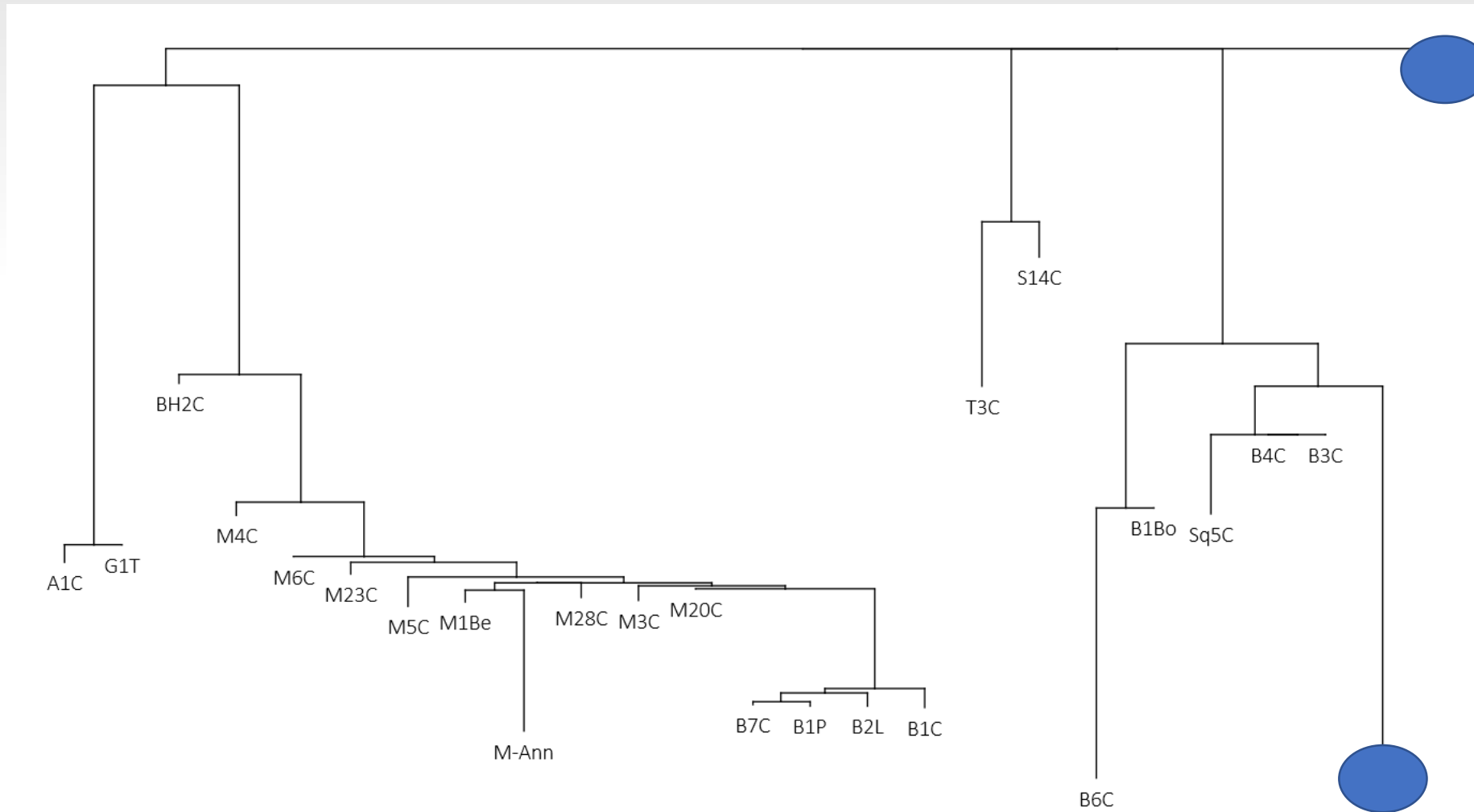# Results: sentence structure
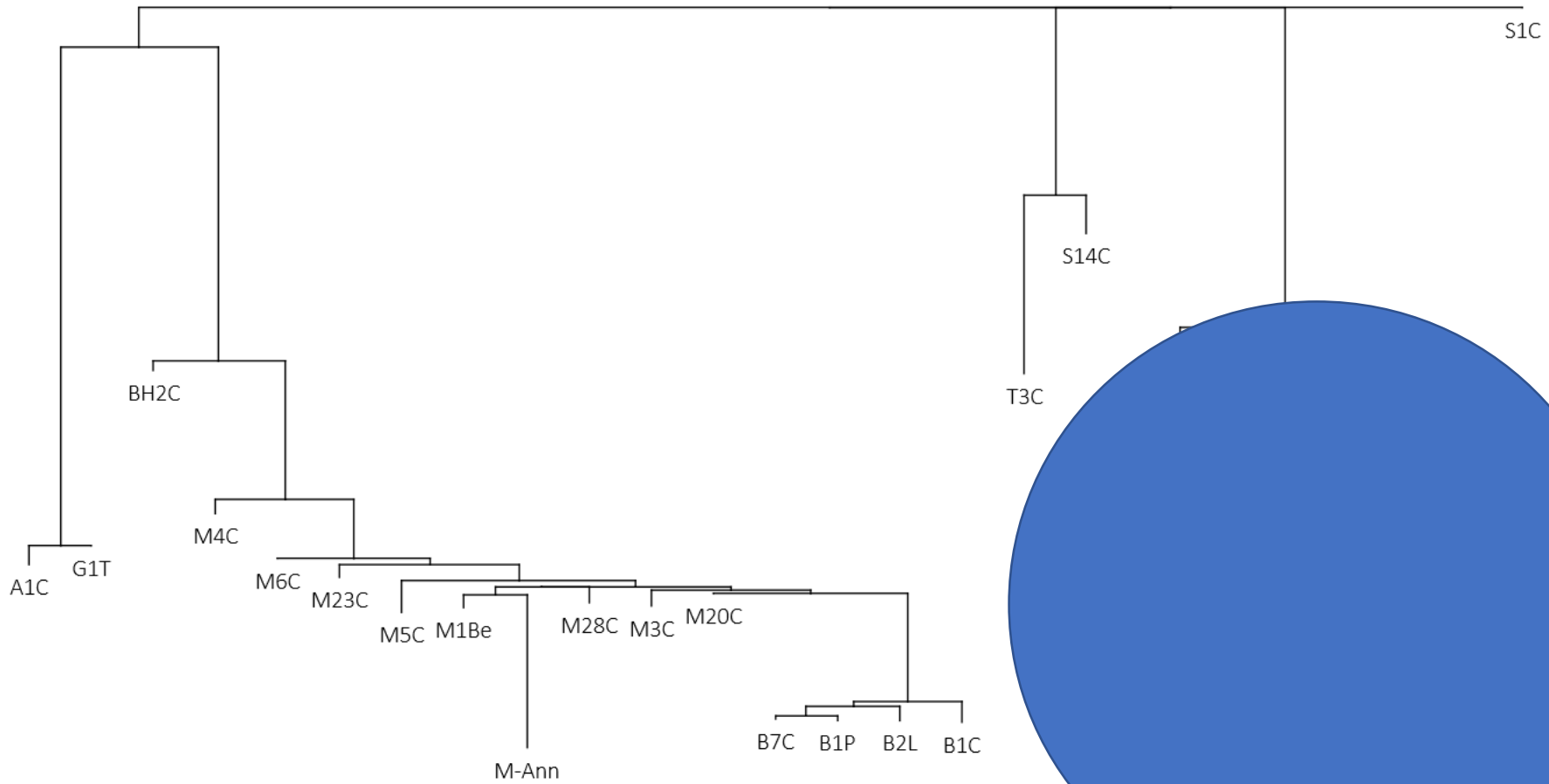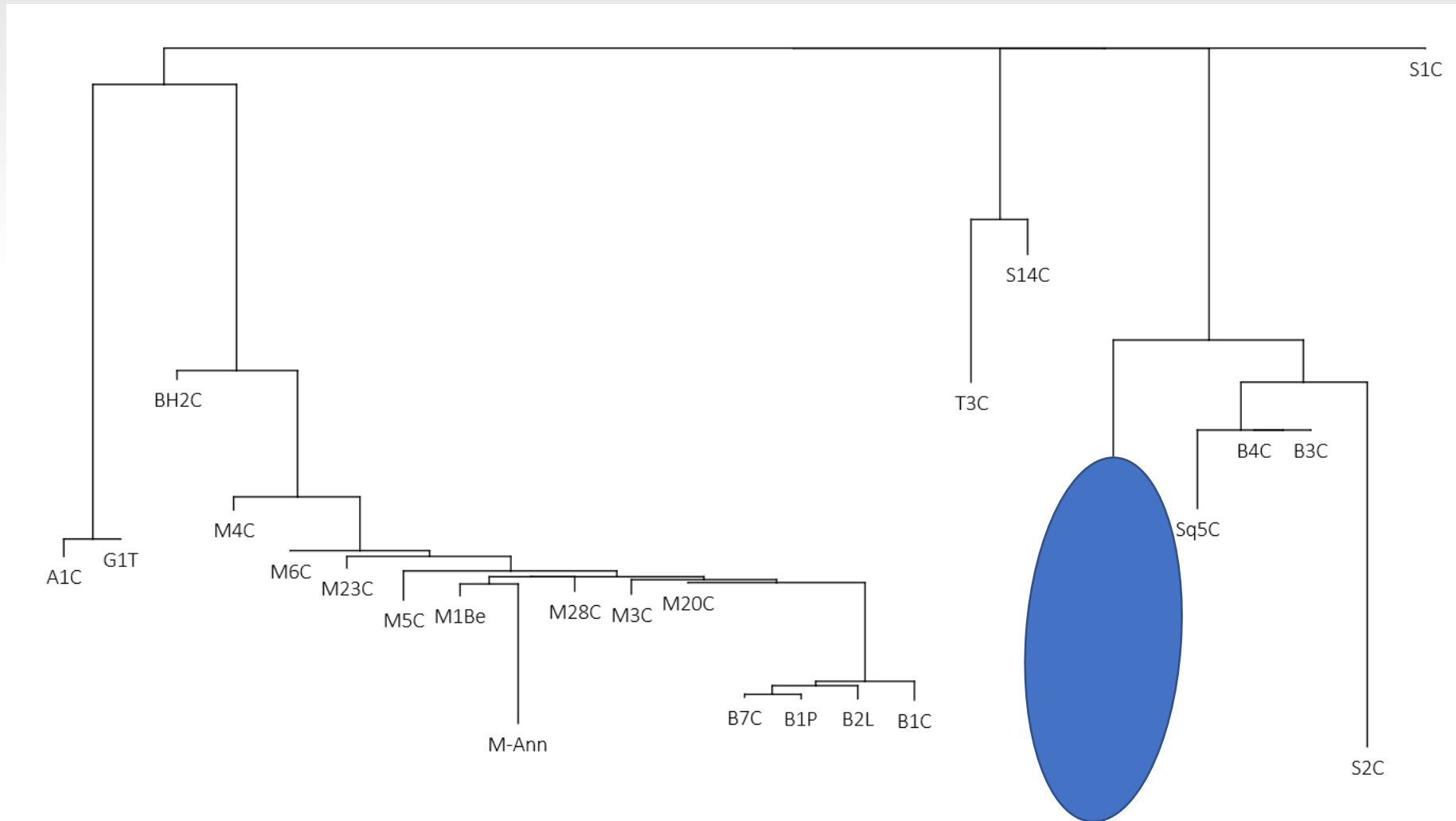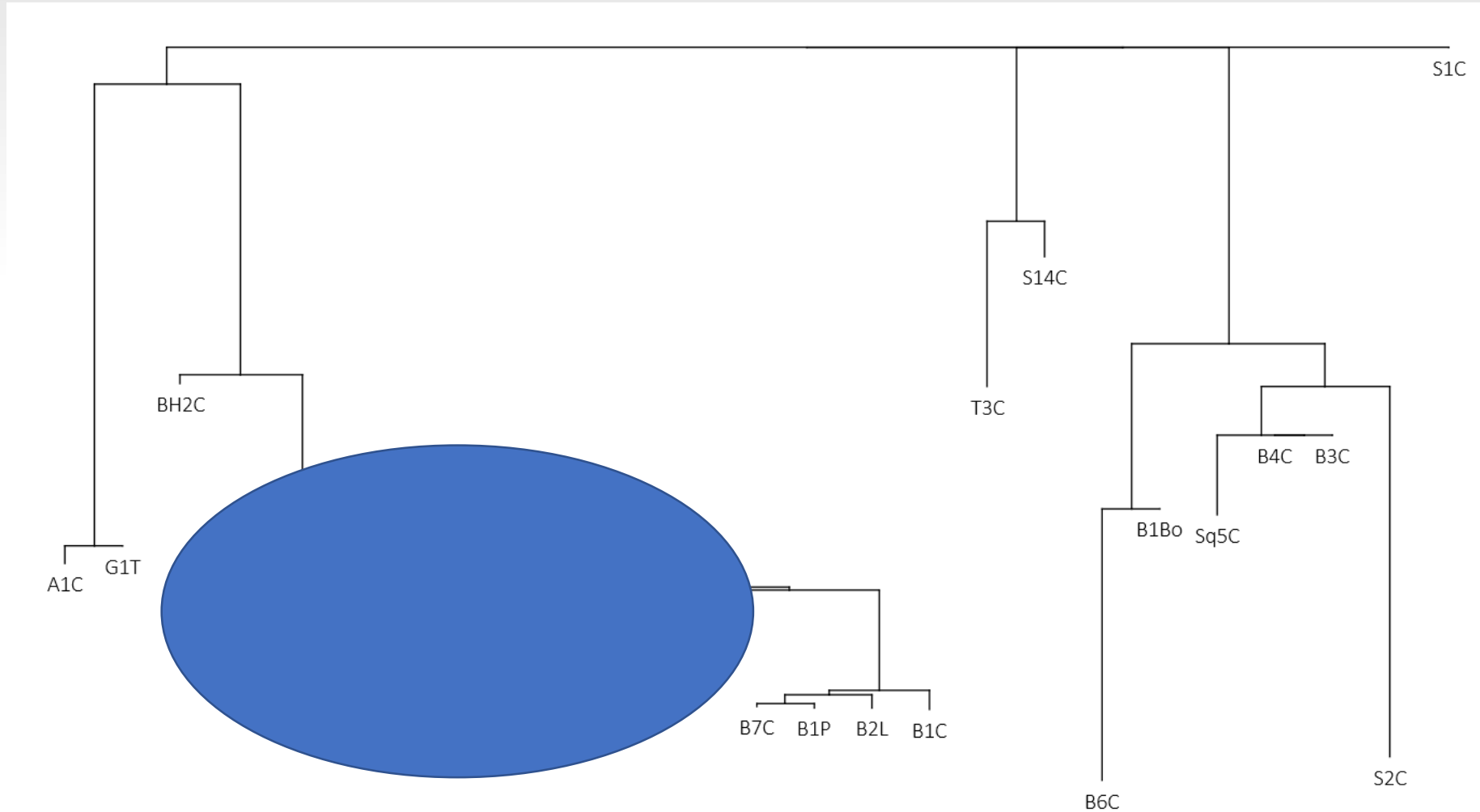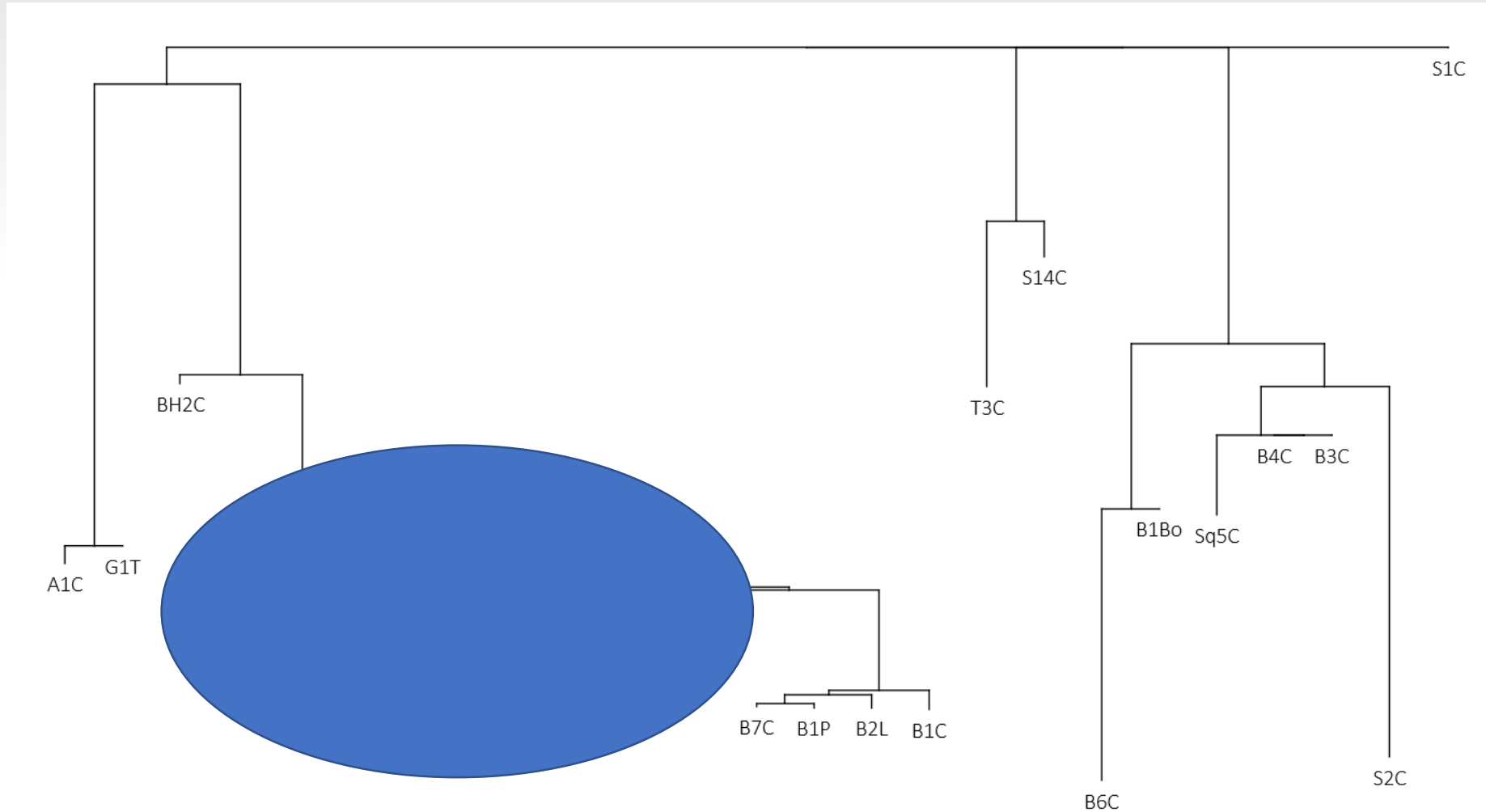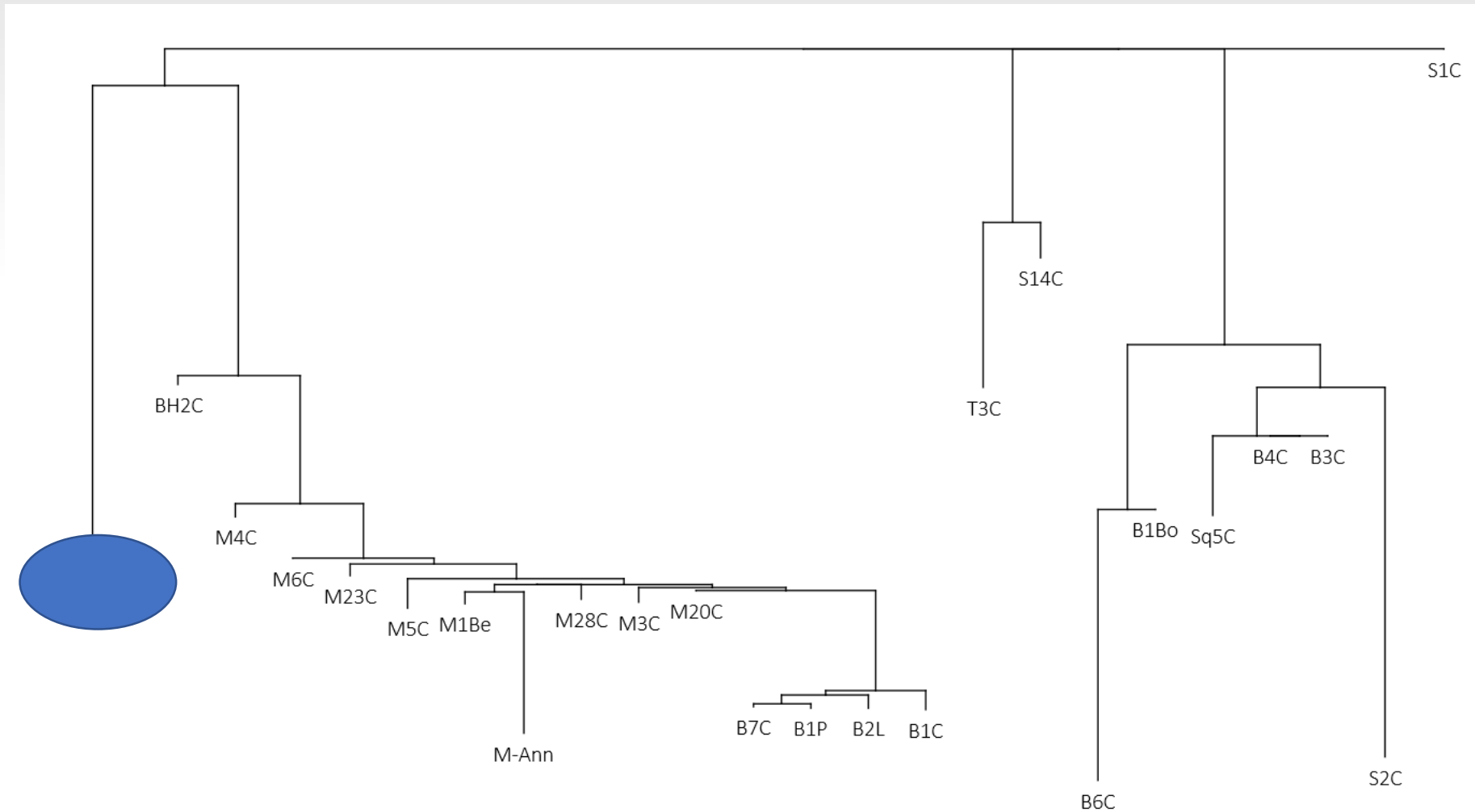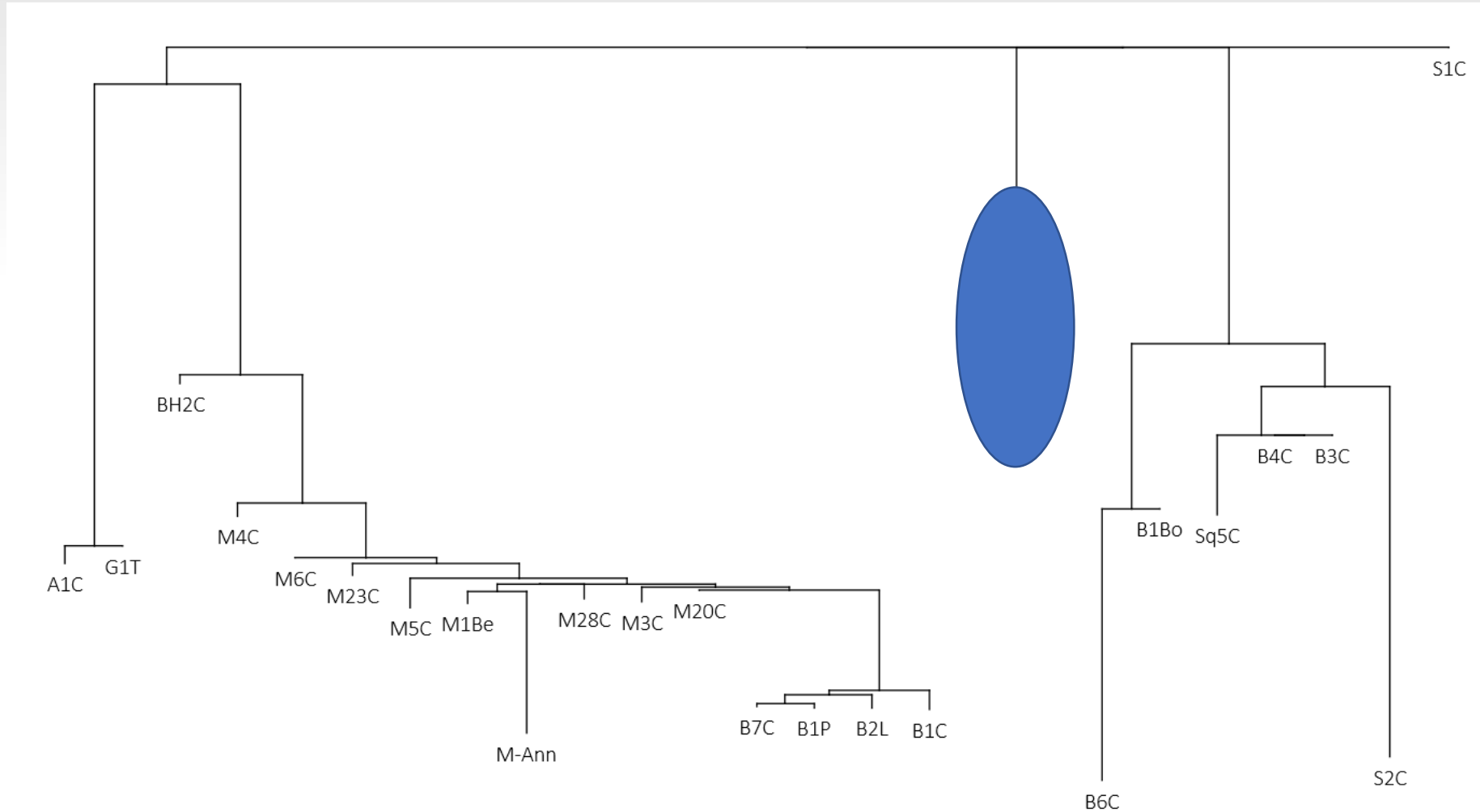
Results: sentence structure

Results: sentence structure
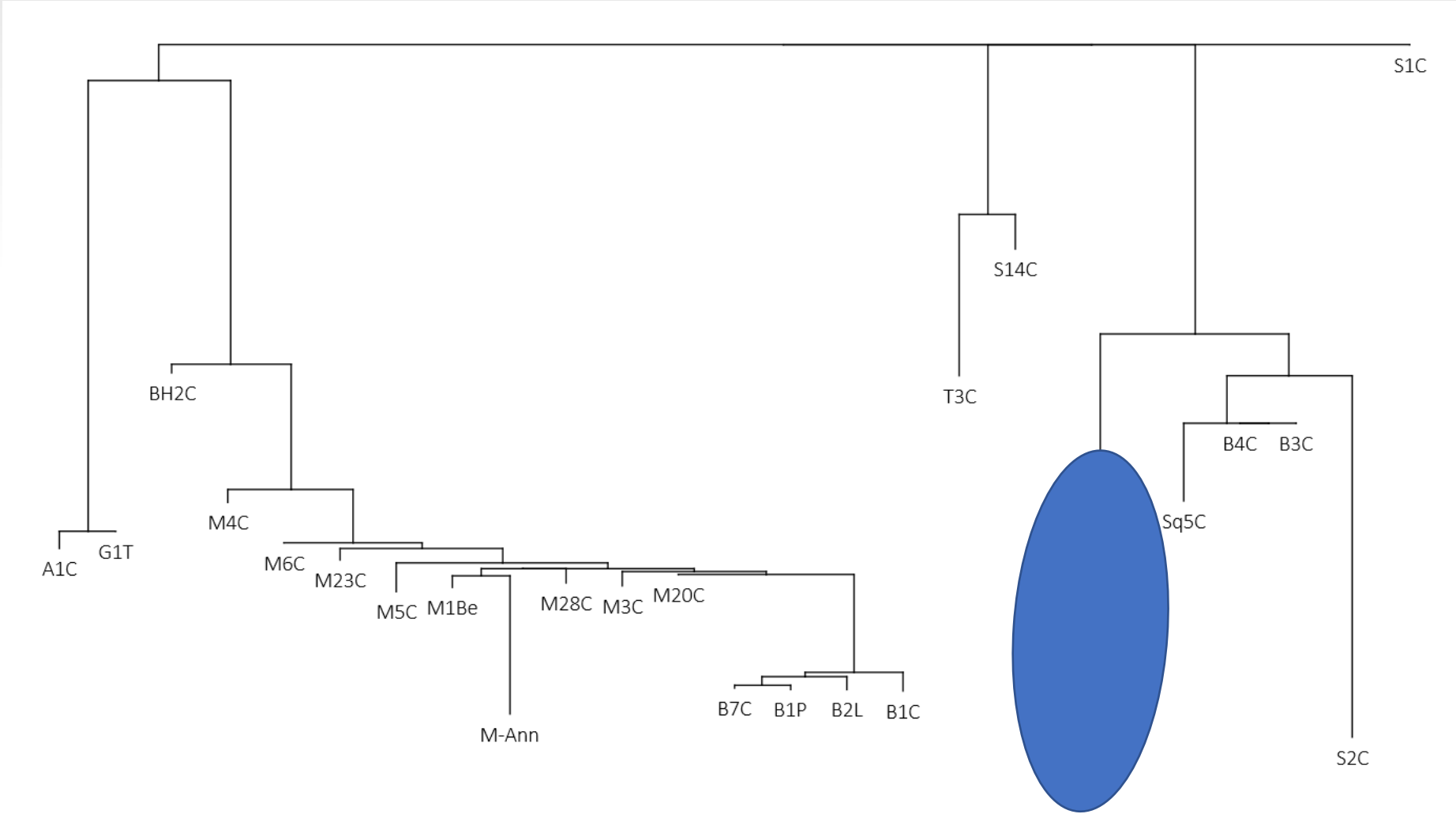
Results: sentence structure
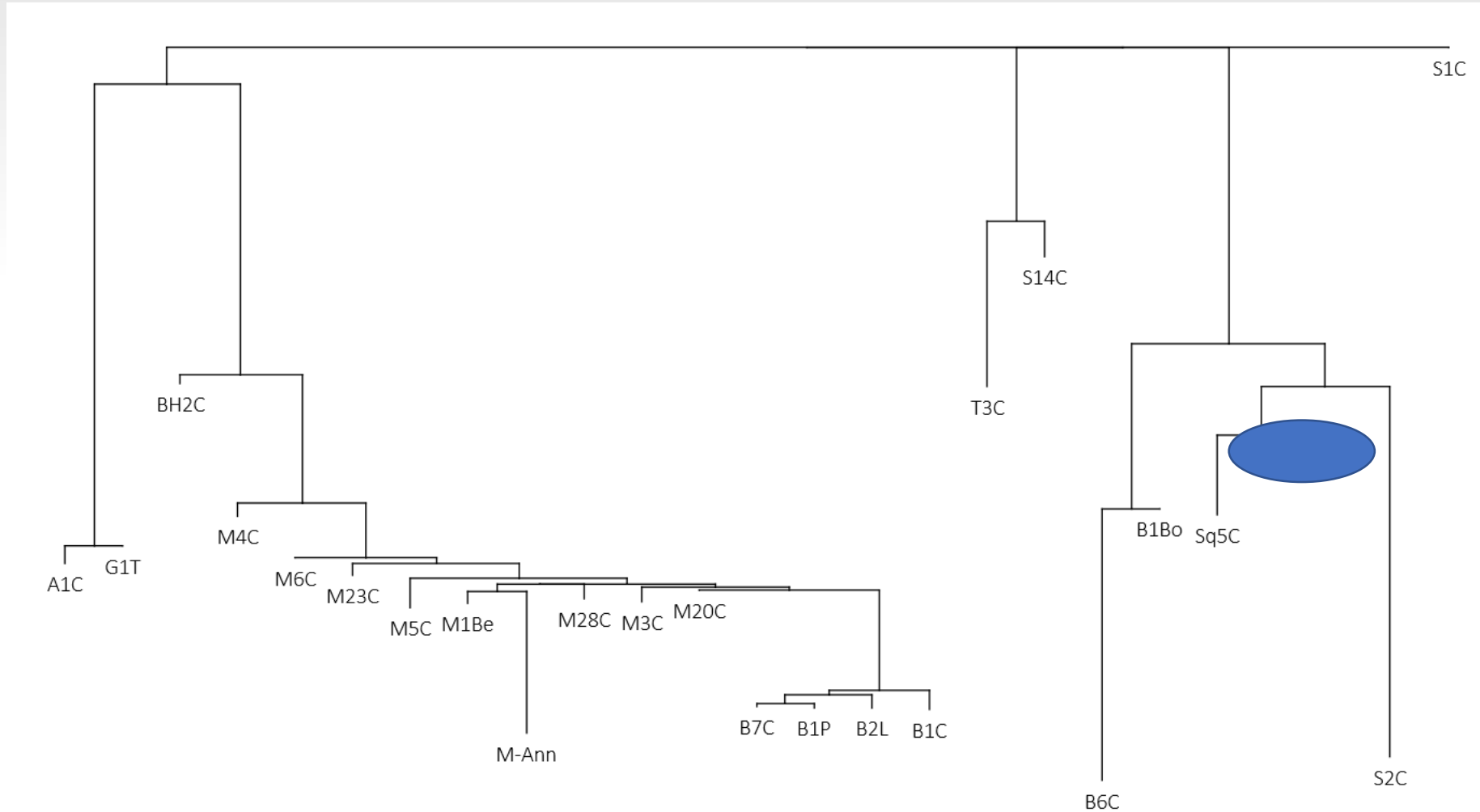
Results: sentence structure

Results: sentence structure

Results: sentence structure
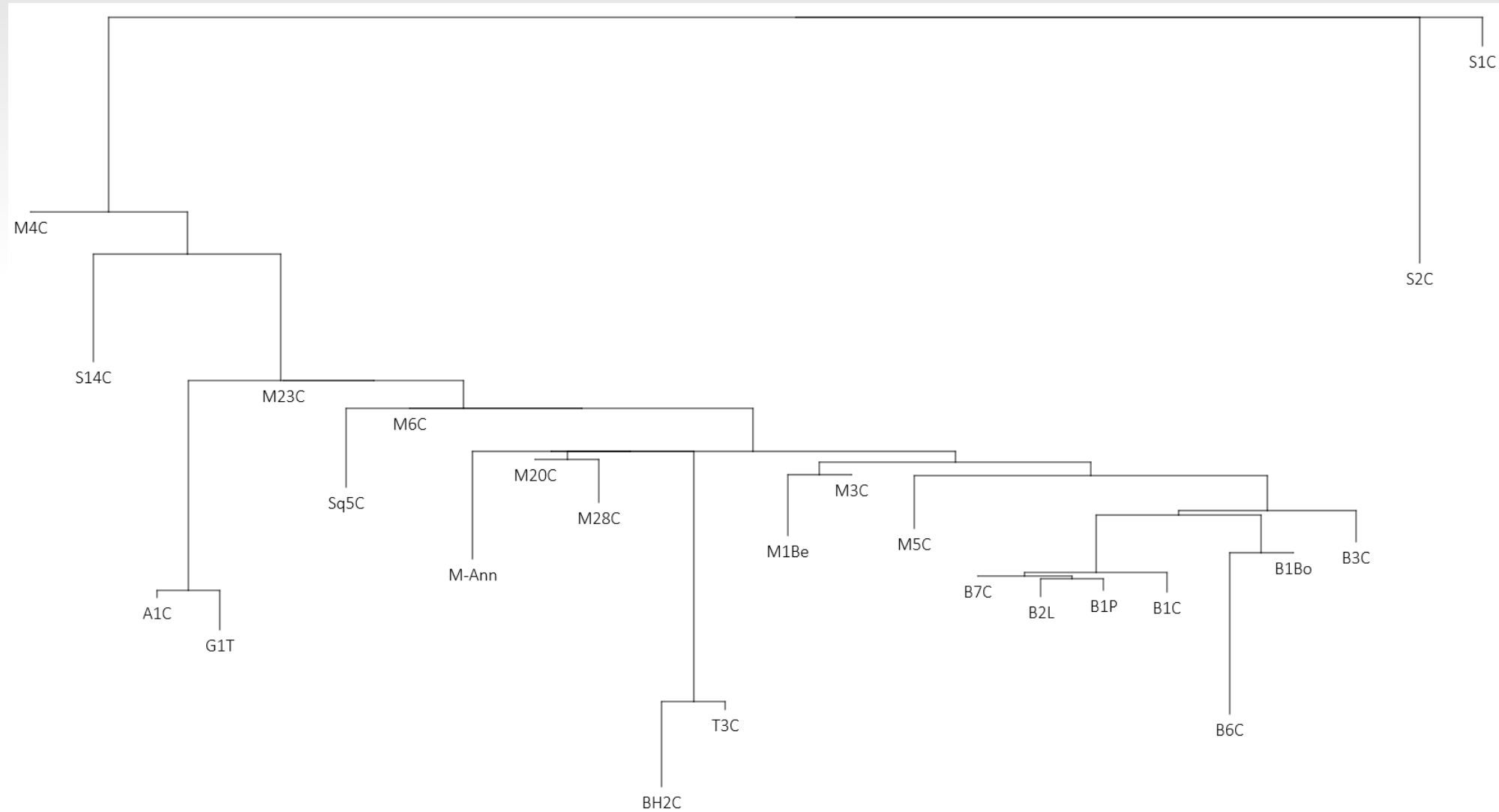
Results: sentence structure
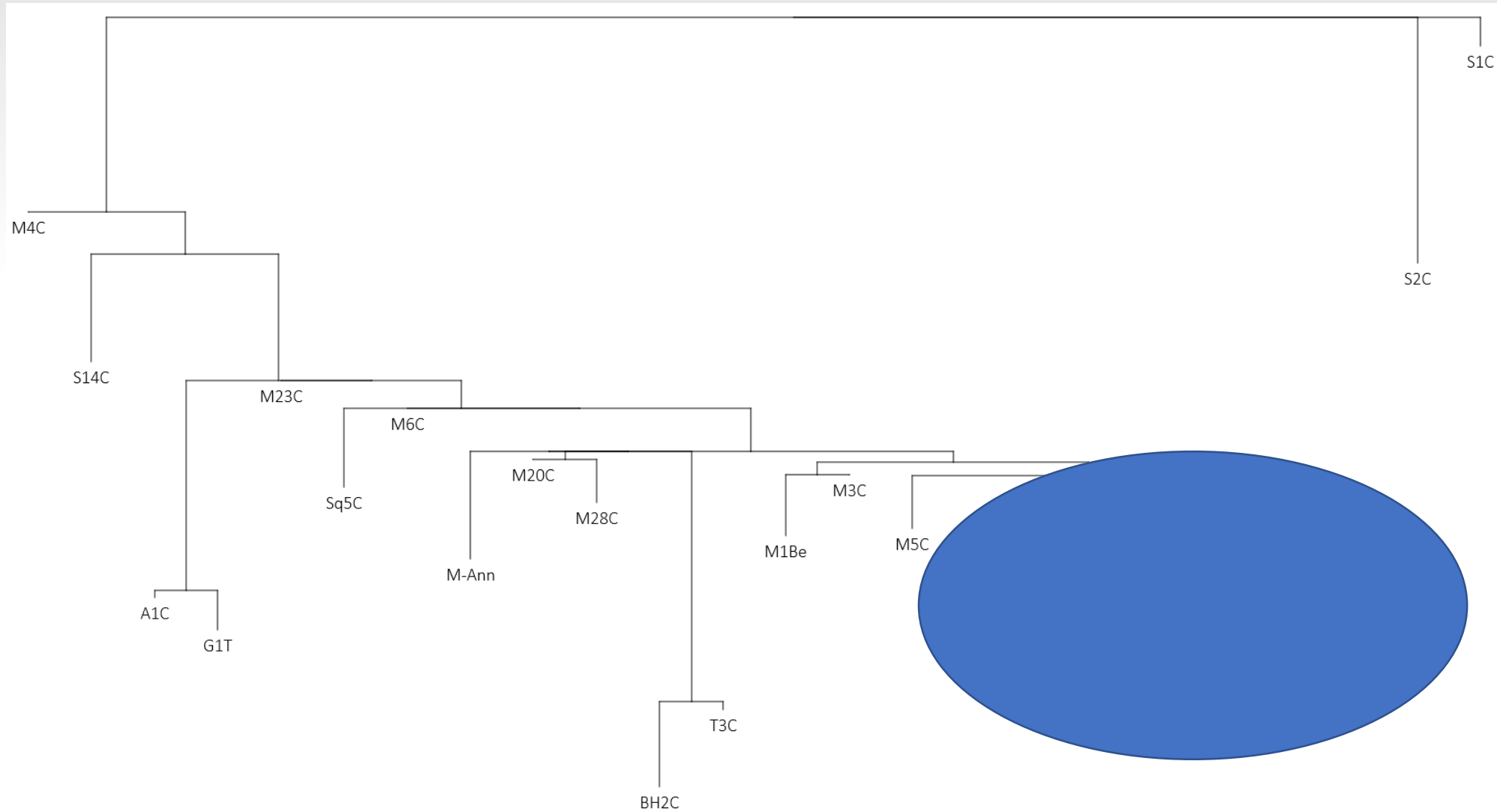
Results: sentence structure
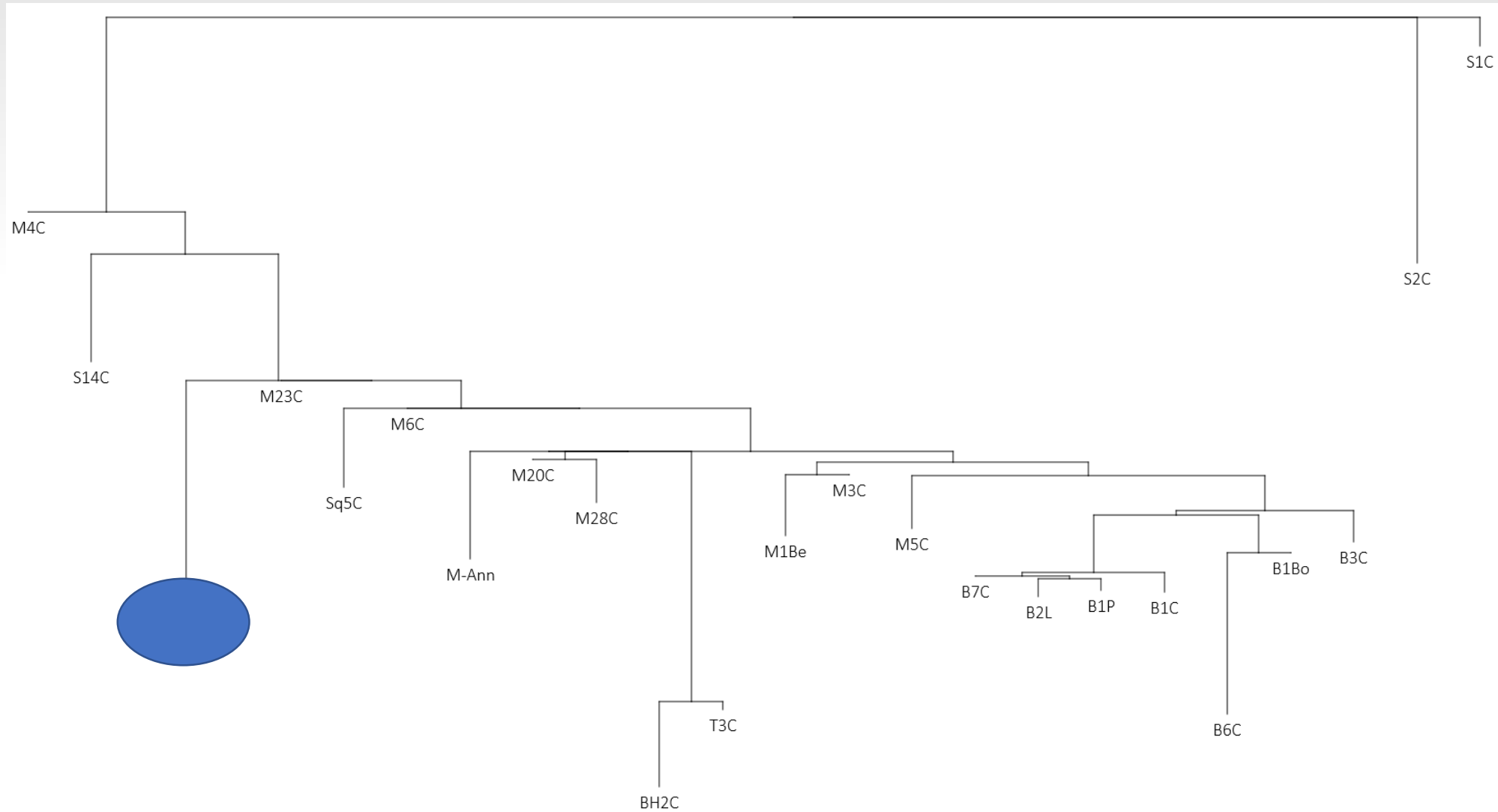
Results: sentence structure
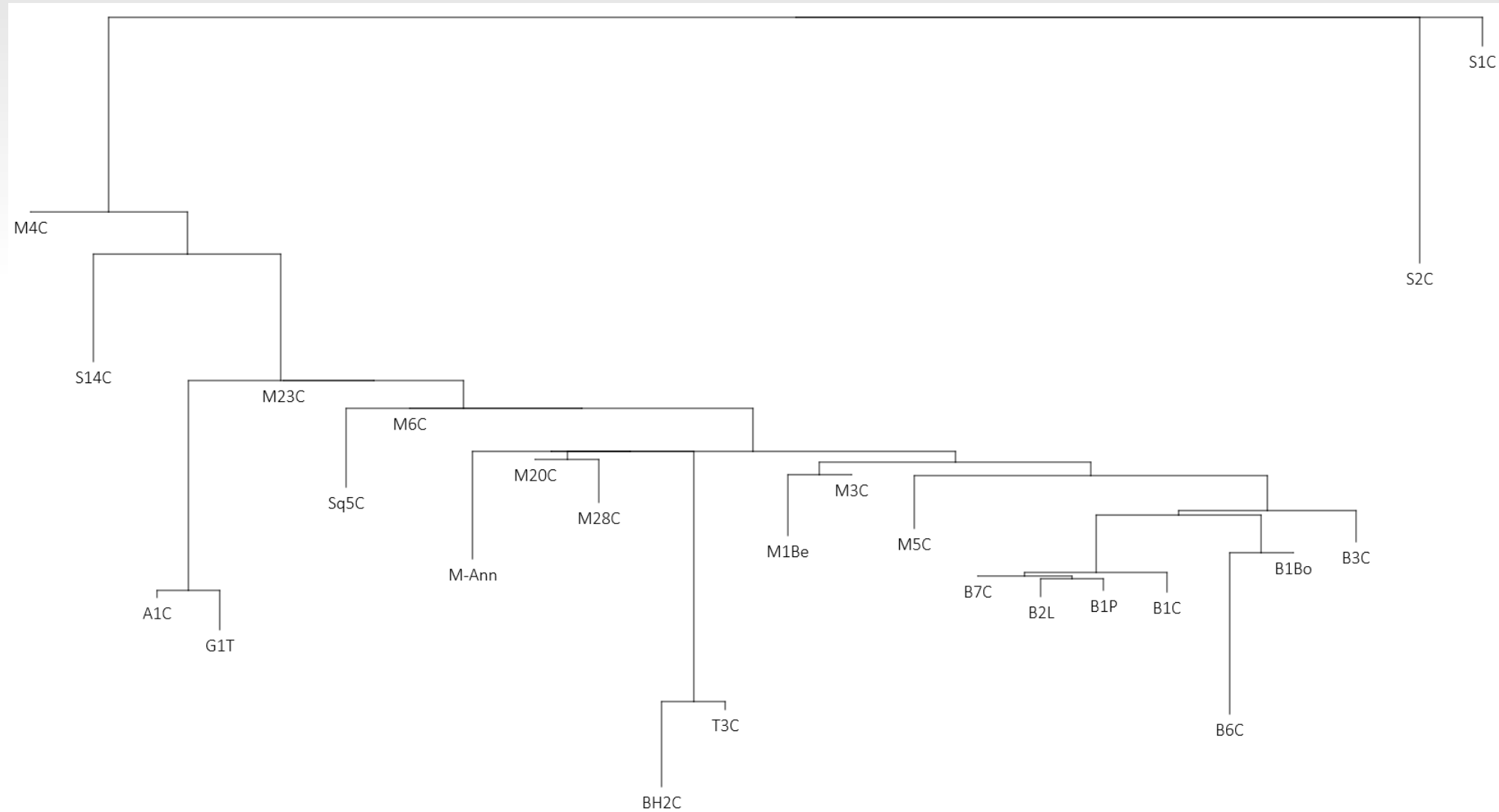
Results: verbal structure

Results: verbal structure

Results: verbal structure

Results: verbal structure

Results

- There are many fuzzy borders
- Bersheh shows signs of a local tradition that is distinct from the other regions in Egypt, although there seem to have been at least two workshop traditions within Bersheh itself
- The coffins from Aswan and Gebelein seem to share a common origin
- Meir has a common ground between the witnesses

Future

- Analyzing more spells using the same method, and comparing the results

- Analysis of the spelling and use of verbal forms