

THEORETICAL GRAMMAR OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

(A COURSE OF LECTURES)

MAIN NOTIONS OF GRAMMAR

LANGUAGE is a means of forming and storing ideas as reflections of reality and interchanging them in the process of human intercourse. It is an abstract system of signs (meaningful units).

SPEECH is the use of language in the process of communication.

Language functions in speech.

Speech is the manifestation of language.

ESSENTIAL VOCABULARY

MAIN NOTIONS OF GRAMMAR

Language pyramid

Syntax -the sentence

Vocabulary-----the word

Morphology----the morpheme

Phonetics-----the phoneme

Morphology + Syntax = Grammar

MAIN NOTIONS OF GRAMMAR

Morphology studies the structure, forms and classification of words.

Syntax studies the structure, types and classification of sentences.

Grammar may be defined as a system of word-changing and other means of expressing relations of words in the sentence.

Practical grammar describes the grammatical system of a given language.

Theoretical grammar gives a scientific explanation of the nature and peculiarities of the grammatical system of the language.

MAIN NOTIONS OF GRAMMAR

Syntagmatic (from the word syntagma – phrase)relations are immediate linear relations between units in a segmental sequence.

They can be observed in

- a) an utterance:
- b) He was admired by her unusual beauty.
- c) a phrase:
- d) by her beauty
- e) a word
- f) unusual
- g) a morpheme
- h) un-

MAIN NOTIONS OF GRAMMAR

The other type of relations opposite to syntagmatic is paradigmatic. This sort of relations exists between elements of the system outside the line where they co-occur. They exist within **a paradigm**.

A paradigm is a set of grammemes represented by all the words of a lexeme.

Paradigmatic relations coexist with syntagmatic relations in such a way that some sort of syntagmatic connection is necessary for the realization of any paradigmatic series.

MAIN NOTIONS OF GRAMMAR

The **grammatical meaning** is a general, abstract meaning, which embraces classes of words.

The **grammatical meaning** depends on the lexical meaning and is connected with the objective reality indirectly, through the lexical meaning.

The **grammatical meaning** is relative. It is revealed in relations of word-forms: *speak – speaks*.

The **grammatical meaning** is obligatory.

Woggles ugged diggles.

Глокая куздра штеко будланула бокра и курдячит бокренка.

MAIN NOTIONS OF GRAMMAR

The grammatical form

Synthetic

is built by:

affixation

boy – boys

sound change

man – men

suppletivity

go – went

Analytical

is considered as:

one semantic unit

is asked

one syntactic unit

They are reading

not the only form

is asked, asks

MAIN NOTIONS OF GRAMMAR

The grammatical category is the unity of the grammatical form and the grammatical meaning.

The grammatical category is revealed through the grammatical opposition.

To reveal a category one must find at least 2 forms which are contrasted on the principle of having or not having a certain distinctive feature.

TYPES OF OPPOSITION

BINARY

TERNARY

PRIVATE

EQUIPOLLENT

GRADUAL

BOY-BOYS

AM-ARE

GOOD-BETTER-BEST

REDUCTION OF THE OPPOSITION

- **neutralization**

- (the weak member acquires
- the meaning of the strong
- member)

- *We leave for London tomorrow.*

- **transposition**

(the strong member is used
in the context typical of the
weak member)

He is always losing his keys.

MAIN NOTIONS OF GRAMMAR

IN THE LANGUAGE SYSTEM THERE IS NO DIRECT CORRESPONDENCE
BETWEEN MEANING AND FORM

POLYSEMY

*I GET UP AT 8 O'CLOCK.
NOW I SEE YOUR POINT OF VIEW.
AS A RATIONAL BEING I HATE WAR.*

HOMONYMY

*JOHN TRUSTS HIS SISTER.
I HAVE NEW BOOKS.
IT'S THE TEACHER'S TABLE.*

SYNONYMY

WILL YOU COME TO THE PARTY?

TYPES OF MORPHEMES

FREE and BOUND (according to the degree of dependence)

READ-ER

BOOK-SHELF

LEXICAL, LEXICO-GRAMMATICAL and GRAMMATICAL (according to the meaning)

READ-ER-S

READ-ER-S

READ-ER-S

In *is doing* *is...ing* is a DISCONTINUOUS morpheme

In *evening* *-ing* is a PSEUDO morpheme

HOMONYMY OF MORPHEMES

In *GREATER* *-ER* is a form-building(grammatical) morpheme

In *READER* *-ER* is a word-building (lexico-grammatical) morpheme

In *DAUGHTER* *-ER* is a pseudo morpheme

PARTS OF SPEECH

THE TRADITIONAL CLASSIFICATION OF WORDS INTO PARTS OF SPEECH IS BASED ON THE 3 CRITERIA:

- 1) **SEMANTIC** (THE CATEGORIAL MEANING IS CONSIDERED)
- 2) **FORMAL** (THE WORD-BUILDING MORPHEMES AND PARADIGMS ARE CONSIDERED)
- 3) **SYNTACTIC** (THE FUNCTIONS AND COMBINABILITY ARE CONSIDERED)

COMPARE THE SEMANTIC PROPERTIES:

DARK WALK EYE

COMPARE THE FORMAL FEATURES:

DOCTOR POSITION DAILY

PARTS OF SPEECH
HENRY SWEET

**THE FOUNDER OF ENGLISH SCIENTIFIC GRAMMAR
FINDS 4 CLASSES OF WORDS ON THE BASIS OF
FORMAL FEATURES**

NOUN-WORDS (INCLUDING *PRONOUNS* **HE, SHE,**
NUMERALS **ONE, TWO**)

ADJECTIVE-WORDS (INCLUDING *PRONOUNS* **HIS, HER,**
NUMERALS **FIRST, SECOND**)

VERBS
PARTICLES

PARTS OF SPEECH

CHARLES FRIES

THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE AMERICAN DISTRIBUTIONAL
GRAMMAR

FINDS 4 CLASSES OF MAIN WORDS ON THE BASIS OF THEIR
DISTRIBUTION

GIVES THEM NUMBERS

A NICE (3) APPLE (1) LIES (2) THERE (4)

FINDS 15 FUNCTIONAL WORDS

PARTS OF SPEECH

NOTIONAL

**HAVE STRONG LEXICAL MEANING OF INDIVIDUAL UNITS
COMPRISE VARIABLE UNITS
ELEMENTS CAN BE CONNECTED BY DERIVATIONAL
RELATIONS
NEW MEMBERS CAN BE EASILY ADDED TO THE EXISTING
ONES**

PARTS OF SPEECH

Functional

Have very general and weak lexical meaning

Members are mostly invariable

Require obligatory combinability

Perform the function of linking and specifying elements

PARTS OF SPEECH

LEXICO-GRAMMATICAL HOMONYMS

(A) DOCTOR
DOCTOR
DOCTORS
DOCTOR'S
DOCTORS'

(TO) DOCTOR
DOCTOR
DOCTORES
DOCTORED
IS DOCTORING...

*THE WAY OF FORMING NEW LEXEMES FROM ALREADY EXISTING ONES BY MEANS OF CHANGING LEXICO-GRAMMATICAL MEANING, PARADIGM, COMBINABILITY AND FUNCTION IS CALLED **CONVERSION**.*

*WORDS WHICH ARE FORMED ON THE BASIS OF CONVERSION ARE CALLED **LEXICO-GRAMMATICAL HOMONYMS** (A WALK – TO WALK, ROUND – A ROUND)*

*THE CASES OF CONVERSION WITHIN ONE CLASS OF WORDS ARE UNDERSTOOD AS **INTERNAL CONVERSION** (BEAUTY – A BEAUTY, TO RUN – TO RUN SMTH)*

THE NOUN. GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS

- 1) NOUNS DENOTE **SUBSTANCE** IN THE WIDEST MEANING OF THE WORD
 - 2) THE GENERAL ACCEPTED CATEGORY IS NUMBER. SOME SCIENTISTS THINK OF CASE.
 - 3) THE TYPICAL NOUNAL WORD-BUILDING MORPHEMES ARE: -**TION**, -**ER**, -**MENT**, -**SHIP**, -**IST**, -**ISM**, ETC.
 - 4) NOUNS COMBINE WITH **OTHER NOUNS** IN THE COMMON OR POSSESSIVE CASE, **ADJECTIVES, PRONOUNS, ARTICLES**.
 - 5) THE MOST USUAL FUNCTIONS ARE **SUBJECT, PREDICATIVE, OBJECT**.
 - 6) NOUNS ARE RELATED BY CONVERSION WITH **VERBS** AND **ADJECTIVES**.
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THE NOUN

STONE-WALL CONSTRUCTION

The arguments in favour of the adjective

The first component is not used in the plural form - cf: ***a rose***
(adj) ***garden*** and ***a garden of roses*** (n)

Nouns are used as attributes only in the possessive case or with prepositions – ***Ann's hat***, ***the roof of the house***

THE NOUN

STONE-WALL CONSTRUCTION

THE ARGUMENTS IN FAVOUR OF THE NOUN

THE FIRST COMPONENTS *DO* OCCUR IN THE PLURAL FORM – ***THE UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION, HUMAN RIGHTS WATCH***

THE FIRST COMPONENTS MAY HAVE LEFT-HAND CONNECTIONS WITH ADJECTIVES, POSSESSIVE NOUNS AND PRONOUNS – ***A NEW FILM EXCHANGE, A COW'S SKIN DRUM***

PRACTICALLY EVERY NOUN MAY BE USED AS THE FIRST COMPONENT OF SUCH COMBINATIONS

THE NOUN

N + N A STONE-WALL CONSTRUCTION
SPEECH SOUND, SILVER SPOON, MOSCOW STREETS

N + N + N + N A MULTICOMPONENTAL STRUCTURE
AMBULANCE STAFF PAY DISPUTE, SPEED TRAIN WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT

THE COMBINATIONS OF SEVERAL NOUNS ARE CALLED
SUBSTANTIVE ATTRIBUTIVE COMBINATIONS

THE VERB

TIME IS AN OBJECTIVE CATEGORY. IT IS AN UNLIMITED DURATION IN WHICH THINGS ARE CONSIDERED AS HAPPENING IN THE **PAST**, **PRESENT** OR **FUTURE**.

TIME CAN BE ***ABSOLUTE*** AND ***RELATIVE***.

ABSOLUTE TIME/ EVENT/ACTION IS CORRELATED WITH THE MOMENT OF SPEAKING.

RELATIVE TIME/ EVENT/ACTION IS CORRELATED WITH ANOTHER MOMENT OR EVENT.

TENSE IS A GRAMMATICAL CATEGORY WHICH REFLECTS THE OBJECTIVE PHENOMENON OF TIME.

THE VERB

TIME IS INDEPENDENT OF LANGUAGE.
LANGUAGES DIFFER AS FOR THE *GRAMMATICAL EXPRESSION* OF
TIME.

ОН РАБОТАЕТ НА ЗАВОДЕ. (1)
ОН СКАЗАЛ, ЧТО РАБОТАЕТ НА ЗАВОДЕ. (2)
HE *WORKS* AT THE PLANT. (3)
HE SAID THAT HE *WORKED* AT THE PLANT. (4)

IN ENGLISH WE FIND A COMPLEX SYSTEM OF SEVERAL
GRAMMATICAL CATEGORIES (*TENSE, ORDER, POSTERIORITY,*
ASPECT) FOR EXPRESSING *RELATIVE EVENTS. ABSOLUTE EVENTS*
ARE EXPRESSED WITH THE HELP OF THE CATEGORY OF TENSE.

THE VERB

1. I *SHALL MISS* MY TRAM.

2. HE WHO DOES NOT WORK NEITHER *SHALL HE EAT*.

3. COME, YOU *SHALL HAVE* YOUR CUP OF TEA.

4. *WILL* YOU *STEP* IN, SIR?

5. YOU *WILL FORGET* ALL ABOUT IT IN A FEW MINUTES, I'M SURE.

6. I AM SORRY, BUT I *SHALL HAVE* TO GO BACK TO THE HOTEL.

7. I DON'T THINK *HE'LL COME* SOON.

THE VERB

THE CATEGORY OF POSTERIORITY, OR PROSPECT MAY
DENOTE:

ABSOLUTE FUTURITY REFERRING TO THE MOMENT OF
SPEAKING

(COMES – WILL COME)

OR *RELATIVE FUTURITY* REFERRING TO SOME MOMENT IN
THE PAST

(CAME – WOULD COME).

THE VERB

THE CATEGORY OF ASPECT IS A LINGUISTIC REPRESENTATION OF THE OBJECTIVE CATEGORY OF MANNER OF ACTION. IT IS REALIZED THROUGH THE OPPOSITION

CONTINUOUS - NON-CONTINUOUS (COMES – IS COMING).
TENSE AND *ASPECT* ARE DIFFERENT CATEGORIES SINCE THEY ARE REVEALED THROUGH DIFFERENT OPPOSITIONS:
IN *COMES- CAME* TENSE IS REVEALED,
IN *COMES – IS COMING* – ASPECT.

THE VERB

AS THE RESULT OF NEUTRALIZATION OF OPPOSITION
VERBS OF **DURATIVE** MEANING CAN BE USED IN A NON-
CONTINUOUS FORM:

WHEN I ENTERED THE ROOM, HE SAT AT THE TABLE.

AS THE RESULT OF INTERNAL TRANSPOSITION VERBS OF
NON-PROGRESSIVE NATURE CAN BE FOUND IN THE
CONTINUOUS FORM:

NOW I'M KNOWING YOU.

THE VERB

VOICE IS A GRAMMATICAL CATEGORY WHICH REFLECTS THE OBJECTIVE RELATIONS BETWEEN *THE ACTION* ITSELF AND *THE SUBJECT* OR *OBJECT OF THE ACTION*.

THE CATEGORY OF VOICE IS THE SYSTEM OF TWO-MEMBER OPPOSITIONS (*ASKS – IS ASKED, LOVED – WAS LOVED*) WHICH SHOW WHETHER THE ACTION IS REPRESENTED AS ISSUING FROM ITS SUBJECT (**THE ACTIVE VOICE**) OR AS EXPERIENCED BY ITS OBJECT (**THE PASSIVE VOICE**).

IN THE OPPOSITION *ASK – AM ASKED* THE ACTIVE MEMBER HAS A ZERO GRAMMATICAL MORPHEME AND THE PASSIVE MEMBER HAS A COMPLICATED POSITIVE MORPHEME /-AM... -T/.

IN *ASKS – IS ASKED* BOTH MEMBERS HAVE POSITIVE GRAMMATICAL MORPHEMES /-S/ AND /-IZ ... -T/.

In *asks – is asked* both members have positive grammatical morphemes /-s/ and /-iz ... -t/.

THE VERB

THE CLASSIFICATION OF VERBS TURNS OUT TO BE MORE COMPLEX AND COMPRISES 6 GROUPS:

1. VERBS USED ONLY TRANSITIVELY: *TO MARK, TO RAISE;*
2. VERBS WITH THE MAIN TRANSITIVE MEANING: *TO SEE, TO MAKE, TO BUILD;*
3. VERBS OF INTRANSITIVE MEANING AND SECONDARY TRANSITIVE MEANING. A LOT OF INTRANSITIVE VERBS MAY DEVELOP A SECONDARY TRANSITIVE MEANING: *THEY LAUGHED ME INTO AGREEMENT. HE DANCED THE GIRL OUT OF THE ROOM;*
4. VERBS OF DOUBLE NATURE, NEITHER OF THE MEANINGS ARE THE LEADING ONE, THE VERBS CAN BE USED BOTH TRANSITIVELY AND INTRANSITIVELY: *TO DRIVE HOME - TO DRIVE A CAR;*
5. VERBS THAT ARE NEVER USED IN THE PASSIVE VOICE: *TO SEEM, TO BECOME;*
6. VERBS THAT REALIZE THEIR PASSIVE MEANING ONLY IN SPECIAL CONTEXTS: *TO LIVE, TO SLEEP, TO SIT, TO WALK, TO JUMP.*

THE VERB

BESIDES THE TWO VOICES MENTIONED ABOVE, **B.A.ILYISH**

FINDS THREE MORE VOICES IN MODERN ENGLISH –

THE REFLEXIVE VOICE AS IN **HE CUT HIMSELF WHILE SHAVING.**

THE RECIPROCAL VOICE AS IN **THEY GREETED EACH OTHER** AND

THE NEUTER (MIDDLE) VOICE AS SEEN IN **THE DOOR OPENED, THE NUMBERS WOULD NOT ADD ETC.**

THE VERB

THESE THEORIES DO NOT CARRY MUCH CONVICTION AS:

1) IN CASES LIKE *HE WASHED HIMSELF* IT IS NOT THE VERB THAT IS REFLEXIVE BUT THE PRONOUN *HIMSELF* USED AS A DIRECT OBJECT. *WASHED* AND *HIMSELF* ARE WORDS BELONGING TO DIFFERENT LEXEMES. THEY HAVE DIFFERENT LEXICAL AND GRAMMATICAL MEANINGS. (IF WE REGARD *WASHED HIMSELF* AS AN ANALYTICAL FORM, IT IS NECESSARY TO ADMIT THAT THE VERB HAS THE CATEGORIES OF GENDER (*WASHED HIMSELF – WASHED HERSELF*), PERSON – NON-PERSON (*WASHED HIMSELF – WASHED ITSELF*), THAT THE CATEGORIES OF NUMBER AND PERSON ARE EXPRESSED TWICE IN THE WORD *WASHES HIMSELF*.

THE VERB

2) SIMILAR OBJECTIONS CAN BE RAISED AGAINST REGARDING *WASHED EACH OTHER, WASHED ONE ANOTHER* AS ANALYTICAL FORMS OF THE RECIPROCAL VOICE. A NUMBER OF VERBS EXPRESS THE *REFLEXIVE* AND *RECIPROCAL* MEANINGS WITHOUT THE CORRESPONDING PRONOUNS: *HE ALWAYS WASHES IN COLD WATER. KISS AND BE FRIENDS.*

3) IN CASES WITH *THE MIDDLE VOICE* WE MAY SEE THAT VERBS PRIMARILY TRANSITIVE DEVELOP AN INTRANSITIVE MIDDLE MEANING WHICH IS THE MATTER OF SEMANTICS.

SO, WE CANNOT, HOWEVER, SPEAK OF DIFFERENT VOICES, BECAUSE ALL THESE MEANINGS ARE NOT EXPRESSED MORPHOLOGICALLY.

MODELS OF SENTENCE ANALYSIS

- 1. THE MODEL OF PARTS OF THE SENTENCE**
 - 2. THE DISTRIBUTIONAL MODEL**
 - 3. THE MODEL OF IMMEDIATE CONSTITUENTS (IC-MODEL)**
 - 4. THE TRANSFORMATIONAL MODEL (TM)**
 - 5. THE THEORY OF SEMANTIC CASES**
 - 6. FUNCTIONAL SENTENCE PERSPECTIVE (FSP)**
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THE DISTRIBUTIONAL MODEL

POSITION or **ENVIRONMENT** is the immediate neighbourhood of the element

CO-OCCURRENCE means that words of one class permit or require the occurrence of words of another class

DISTRIBUTION is the total set of environments of a certain element

THE DISTRIBUTIONAL MODEL

Elements may be in:

1. **non-contrastive distribution** (the same position, no difference in meaning)

hoofs – hooves

2. **contrastive distribution** (the same position, different meaning)

She is charming – She is charmed

3. **complementary distribution** (the same meaning, different positions)

cows - oxen

THE DISTRIBUTIONAL MODEL

The model was worked out by CHARLES FRIES
It shows linear order of sentence constituents

The old man saw a black dog there
 D_1 A_1 N_1 V D_2 A_2 N_2 Adv

Showing the linear classes of words the model does not
show the syntactic relations of sentence constituents

THE MODEL OF IMMEDIATE CONSTITUENTS

The IC-model is based on the Distributional model and it shows syntactic relations of sentence constituents.

The model solves the problem of syntactic ambiguity:

I saw a man with a telescope

I saw a man with a telescope

By providing **IC analysis** we can make the two meanings clear :

OLD MEN AND WOMEN

OLD MEN AND WOMEN

THE MODEL OF IMMEDIATE CONSTITUENTS

The sentence is built by two immediate constituents (**IC**)
NP + VP
each of which may have constituents of its own.

Constituents which cannot be further divided are called
ultimate constituents (**UC**)

The IC analysis exists in two versions: **the analytical model**
and **the derivational tree.**

THE MODEL OF IMMEDIATE CONSTITUENTS

The analytical model is based on the laws of reduction - word groups are reduced to head words and the sentence is reduced to the basic structure:

$NP > N$

poor John > John

The old man saw a black dog > man + saw

The derivational tree is based on the laws of extension

$S < NP + VP$

$NP < A + N$

$VP < V + Adv$

THE TRANSFORMATIONAL MODEL

The Transformational Model (TM) is the part of generative grammatical theory worked out by an American scholar **Noam Chomsky**. It shows derivational relations of sentences. The TM is based on the IC- Model and it goes further showing semantic and syntactic relations of different sentence types.

Sentences in which all constituents are obligatory are called **basic structures** or **elementary sentences** or **kernel sentences** or **deep structures**

Three main types of basic structures :

N V - *JOHN WALKS*, **N IS A** - *JOHN IS CLEVER*, **N IS N** - *JOHN IS A DRIVER*.

However, if we take into account the obligatory valency of the verb the group will become larger:

N1 V N2 - *I SEE A HOUSE* **N1 V N2 N3** - *JOHN GAVE ANN THE BOOK*.

Sentences which are received by transformational processes are called **derived types** or **transforms** or **surface structures**.

THE TRANSFORMATIONAL MODEL

THE KERNEL SENTENCES FORM THE BASIS FOR SYNTACTIC DERIVATION.
SYNTACTIC DERIVATION LIES IN PRODUCING MORE COMPLEX SENTENCES.

SYNTACTIC PROCESSES MAY BE **INTERNAL** AND **EXTERNAL**.

INTERNAL SYNTACTIC PROCESSES INVOLVE NO CHANGES IN THE STRUCTURE OF THE PARTS OF THE SENTENCE. **INTERNAL** SYNTACTIC PROCESSES ARE:

EXPANSION: *THE PHONE WAS RINGING AND RINGING;*

COMPLICATION: *I HAVE SEEN IT – I COULD HAVE SEEN IT;*

CONTAMINATION: *THE MOON ROSE RED;*

REPLACEMENT : *I'D LIKE TO TAKE THIS ONE;*

REPRESENTATION: *WOULD YOU LIKE TO COME ALONG? I'D LOVE TO;.*

ELLIPSIS: - *WHERE ARE YOU GOING?- TO THE MOVIES.*

THE TRANSFORMATIONAL MODEL

EXTERNAL SYNTACTIC PROCESSES ARE THOSE THAT CAUSE NEW RELATIONS WITHIN A SYNTACTIC UNIT AND LEAD TO APPEARANCE OF A NEW PART OF THE SENTENCE.

EXTERNAL SYNTACTIC PROCESSES ARE:

EXTENSION: *A NICE DRESS – A NICE COTTON DRESS;*

ADJOINMENT: *HE DID IT – ONLY HE DID IT;*

ENCLOSURE: *AFTER ALL, ANYWAY, NATURALLY, ETC.*

THE TRANSFORMATIONAL MODEL

The TM shows that sentences with different surface structures may derive from the same deep structure:

his arrival > *for him to arrive* > *his arriving* > *he arrives* (NV)

On the other hand TM can show that some sentences are ambiguous because they derive from different deep structures:

Flying planes can be dangerous > 1. *Planes are dangerous*
> 2. *Flying is dangerous*

THE THEORY OF SEMANTIC CASES

MODELS OF SEMANTIC ANALYSIS WERE WORKED OUT BY THE REPRESENTATIVES OF GENERATIVE SEMANTICS. ONE OF THESE MODELS IS **THE THEORY OF SEMANTIC CASES**, OR **CASE GRAMMAR** SUGGESTED BY THE AMERICAN SCHOLAR **CHARLES FILLMORE**.

THE SEMANTIC STRUCTURE OF THE SENTENCE IS A REFLECTION OF A CERTAIN SITUATION OR EVENT WHICH INCLUDES

A PROCESS AS ITS DYNAMIC CENTER,
A DOER AND *AN OBJECT* OF THE PROCESS AND CERTAIN
CIRCUMSTANCES AND *CONDITIONS* FOR ITS REALIZATION.

THE THEORY OF SEMANTIC CASES

A SEMANTIC CASE IS THE UNDERLYING (DEEP)RELATIONSHIP THAT A NOMINAL ELEMENT (PARTICIPANT)HAS WITH THE VERB.

IT IS ALSO KNOWN AS **A SEMANTIC ROLE, OR A DEEP CASE.**

SEMANTIC ROLES ARE JUDGMENTS ABOUT THE EVENT, SUCH AS:
WHO DID IT? WHO DID IT HAPPEN TO? WHAT GOT CHANGED?

THE CHOICE OF SEMANTIC ROLES DEPENDS ON THE NATURE OF THE PREDICATE.

THE THEORY OF SEMANTIC CASES

THE MOST GENERAL ROLES ARE **AGENT** (DOER OF THE ACTION) AND **PATIENT** (AFFECTED BY THE ACTION OR STATE):

SHE BROKE THE DISH

THE ORIGINAL SET OF DEEP CASES INCLUDES 6 CASES:

AGENTIVE, OBJECTIVE, BENEFICIARY, INSTRUMENT, LOCATIVE, FACTITIVE

JOHN HIT HARRY.

JOHN GOT A GOOD MARK.

THE KEY OPENED THE DOOR.

THE BUILDING HOUSES SEVERAL ORGANIZATIONS.

MOTHER BAKED A PIE.

THE THEORY OF SEMANTIC CASES

THIS ANALYSIS CAN SHOW THAT SENTENCES WITH THE SAME SURFACE STRUCTURE MAY HAVE DIFFERENT DEEP STRUCTURES:

HE DIG THE GROUND (OBJECTIVE CASE)

HE DIG A HOLE (FACTITIVE CASE)

ON THE OTHER HAND DIFFERENT SYNTACTIC STRUCTURES MAY REFER TO THE SAME DEEP STRUCTURE:

JOHN OPENED THE DOOR WITH THE KEY

THE DOOR WAS OPENED BY JOHN

JOHN USED THE KEY TO OPEN THE DOOR

THE KEY OPENED THE DOOR

FUNCTIONAL SENTENCE PERSPECTIVE

THE COMMUNICATIVE STRUCTURE OF THE SENTENCE REFLECTS THE WAY THE SPEAKER STRUCTURES THE INFORMATION, GIVES COMMUNICATIVE SIGNIFICANCE TO THIS OR THAT PART OF THE UTTERANCE.

THE MODEL OF COMMUNICATIVE ANALYSIS IS CALLED THE ACTUAL DIVISION OF THE SENTENCE, KNOWN ALSO AS FUNCTIONAL SENTENCE PERSPECTIVE.

FUNCTIONAL SENTENCE PERSPECTIVE

THE SENTENCE CAN BE DIVIDED INTO TWO SECTIONS –
THE THEME AND ***THE RHEME***.

THE THEME IS THE PART OF THE PROPOSITION THAT IS BEING TALKED ABOUT (PREDICATED).

THE THEME EXPRESSES THE STARTING POINT OF COMMUNICATION; IT MEANS THAT IT DENOTES AN OBJECT OR A PHENOMENON ABOUT WHICH SOMETHING IS REPORTED. ONCE STATED, THE THEME IS THEREFORE "OLD NEWS", I.E. THE THINGS ALREADY MENTIONED AND UNDERSTOOD.

THE PREDICATE THAT GIVES INFORMATION ON THE TOPIC IS CALLED **THE RHEME**. **THE RHEME** EXPRESSES THE BASIC INFORMATIVE PART OF THE COMMUNICATION, EMPHASIZING ITS CONTEXTUALLY RELEVANT CENTRE.

FUNCTIONAL SENTENCE PERSPECTIVE

THEMATIC ELEMENTS – THE DEFINITE ARTICLE, LOOSE PARENTHESIS (*AS FOR ME...*), DETACHED PARTS OF THE SENTENCE.

RHEMATIC ELEMENTS – THE INDEFINITE ARTICLE, PARTICLES (*EVEN, ONLY*), NEGATIONS, EMPHATIC CONSTRUCTIONS (*IT IS HE WHO...*)

FUNCTIONAL SENTENCE PERSPECTIVE

SOME MEANS OF PRESERVING THE PROGRESSIVE INFORMATION STRUCTURE:

- 1. PASSIVE TRANSFORMATIONS – *UNESCO TOOK THE FIRST STEPS. > THE FIRST STEPS WERE TAKEN BY UNESCO.***
- 2. THE USE OF CONVERSIVES - *20 PEOPLE DIED IN A CRASH. > THE CRASH KILLED 20 PEOPLE.***
- 3. THE USE OF THE PERSONAL SUBJECT AND THE NOMINAL PREDICATE – *IT WAS SILENT IN THE ROOM. > THE ROOM TURNED SILENT.***

MEANS OF MAKING THE SUBJECT RHEMATIC – *THE CONSTRUCTIONS THERE IS, THERE ARE, IT IS NECESSARY, INVERSION.*

THE PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF THE SENTENCE

THE STUDY OF THE COMMUNICATIVE FUNCTIONS OF UTTERANCES IN PARTICULAR CONTEXTS OF USE IS THE SPHERE OF **PRAGMATICS**.

SEMANTICS IS CONNECTED WITH SENTENCE MEANING, PRAGMATICS – WITH SENTENCE INTERPRETATION.

CONSIDER THE SENTENCE: ***I HAVE NO CIGARETTES.***

THE SENTENCE MAY BE INTERPRETED DIFFERENTLY DEPENDING ON THE CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND KNOWLEDGE OF THE INTERLOCUTORS:

1. ***COULD YOU SPARE ME A CIGARETTE?***
 2. ***I CAN'T GIVE YOU A CIGARETTE.***
 3. ***YOU PROMISED TO BUY CIGARETTES.***
-

THE PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF THE SENTENCE

THE THEORY OF COOPERATIVE BEHAVIOUR WAS PROPOSED BY THE AMERICAN LINGUIST **H. GRICE**, WHO OUTLINED THE FOLLOWING MAXIMS:

- 1. MAXIM OF QUALITY** – BE SINCERE, DO NOT SAY WHAT YOU BELIEVE TO BE FALSE OR THAT FOR WHAT YOU LACK ADEQUATE EVIDENCE;
 - 2. MAXIM OF QUANTITY** – BE AS INFORMATIVE AS IS REQUIRED BY THE SITUATION, NO MORE;
 - 3. MAXIM OF RELEVANCE** – BE RELEVANT;
 - 4. MAXIM OF MANNER** – BE BRIEF, ORDERLY AND CLEAR, AVOID OBSCURITY AND AMBIGUITY.
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THE ADJECTIVE

The Adjective is a notional part of speech characterized by the following typical features:

- a) the categorical meaning of *property of substances*, represented as their size (*large, small*), colour (*red, blue*), position in space (*upper, inner*), material (*wooden, woollen*), psychic state (*happy, furious*), etc.
- b) the category of degrees of comparison which is marked morphologically;
- c) adjectival word-building affixes like *-ful, -less, -ish, -ous, -ive, -ic, un-, pre-, in-*, etc;
- d) combinability with nouns (*a beautiful girl*), link-verbs (*...is clever*), adverbs, mostly those of degree (*a very clever boy*);
- e) synthetic functions of attribute and predicative complement.

THE ADJECTIVE

The category of the degrees of comparison of adjectives is the system of oppositions (*long — longer — longest*) showing quantitative distinctions of qualities. More exactly, it shows whether the adjective denotes the property of some substance absolutely, or relatively as a higher or the highest amount of the property in comparison with that of some (or all) other substances.

Accordingly we speak of the positive (*long, good, beautiful*), comparative (*longer, better, more beautiful*) and superlative (*longest, best, most beautiful*) degrees.

THE ADJECTIVE

The 'positive' degree is not marked. We may speak of a zero morpheme. The 'comparative' and 'superlative' degrees are built up either synthetically (by affixation or suppletivity) or analytically, which in the main depends on the phonetic structure of the stem, not on its meaning *bright — brighter — brightest*.

In all other cases the comparative and superlative degrees are formed analytically with the help of the word-morphemes *more* and *most* - *cheerful — more cheerful — most cheerful*.

THE ADJECTIVE

So, with regard to the category of the degrees of comparison adjectives fall under two lexico-grammatical subclasses: *comparables* and *non-comparables*.

Accordingly adjectives fall into *relative* and *qualitative*. Most qualitative adjectives build up opposeemes of comparison, but some do not, the category of the comparison is neutralized with them: *supreme, extreme, reddish, deaf, dead, etc.* Naturally, all the adjectives which have no comparative and superlative opposites are outside the category of comparison, but they are united by the oblique meaning of the positive degree.

THE ADVERB

The adverb is a notional part of speech which can be described on the bases of three criteria – semantic, morphological and syntactic.

The meaning of the adverb as a part of speech is hard to define. Indeed, some adverbs indicate time or place of an action (*yesterday, here*), while others indicate its property (*quickly*) and others again the degree of property (*very*).

THE ADVERB

Generally speaking, the categorical meaning of adverbs is *property of action or property of property*.

Morphologically adverbs are invariable, however, some of them have degrees of comparison (*fast, faster, fastest*).

An adverb combines with a verb (*run quickly*), with an adjective (*very long*), occasionally with a noun (*the then president*), sometimes it may follow a preposition (*from there*).

VERBALS

Verb forms make up two distinct classes: finites and non-finites, also called verbals, or verbids. Finites serve to express primary predication, i.e. they reflect the situation of the objective world in the utterance directly.

Non-finites serve to express secondary predication. The non-finite forms of the verb combine the characteristics of the verb with the characteristics of other parts of speech. Their mixed features are revealed in their semantics, morphemic structural marking, combinability, and syntactic functions.

VERBALS

The strict division of functions clearly shows that the opposition between the finite and non-finite forms of the verb creates a special grammatical category. The differential feature of the opposition is constituted by the expression of verbal time and mood: the non-finite forms have no immediate means of expressing time and mood categorial semantics and therefore present the weak member of the opposition. The category expressed by this opposition is called the *category of finitude*.

VERBALS

The syntactic content of the category of finitude is the expression of predication (more precisely, the expression of verbal predication). In other words, the opposition of the finite verbs and the verbals is based on the expression of the functions of primary predication and secondary predication. While the finite verbs express predication in its genuine and complete form, the function of the verbals is to express secondary predication, building up semi-predicative complexes within different sentence constructions.

VERBALS

The English verbals include four forms: infinitive, gerund, participle I and participle II. Participle II is morphologically invariable, infinitive has *aspect*, *order* and *voice* distinctions, gerund and participle I are characterized by *order* and *voice*. Each morphological category is proved by binary opposition: *to come-to be coming, to have asked-to have been asking* - *aspect*; *to ask -to have asked, doing-having done* - *order*; *to love-to be loved, sending-being sent* - *voice*.

VERBALS

Syntactic properties of non-finite forms are revealed through their combinability and numerous functions in the sentence. Verbals can perform any syntactic role but for predicate.

But of special interest is the participation of verbals in different predicative constructions, i.e. in secondary predication.

VERBALS

Secondary predication resembles a subject-predicate group structurally and semantically: it consists of two components – nominal and verbal – and names an event or situation. It is not correlated with the reality directly as verbals have no categories of mood, tense and person.

Secondary predication is related to the situation of speech indirectly, through primary predication. In the sentence predicative constructions perform different complex functions.

VERBALS

Predicative constructions are structures intermediate between a phrase and a clause. Unlike phrases they contain two words which semantically are in subject-predicate relations to one another, as one (the nominal part) denotes the doer of the action or the bearer of the state or quality, while the other (the predicated part) may be either verbal (infinitive, participle, gerund) or non-verbal (adjective, stative, adverb, noun).

But unlike clauses the subject-predicate relations in complexes are not grammatically explicit, that is there is no finite verb-form in them, functioning as the verbal predicate or as a link-verb of a nominal predicate. Therefore complexes have neither real subject, nor real predicate.

VERBALS

The infinitive constructions are:

the objective infinitive construction

the subjective infinitive construction

the for-to-infinitive construction

the absolute nominative infinitive construction.

VERBALS

The objective-with-the-infinitive construction.

We saw **planes zoom into the air.**

I hate **you to go away.**

I suppose **him to marry in a year.**

The construction performs the function of **complex object.**

VERBALS

The subjective infinitive construction.

My sister is said **to resemble me**.

The doctor was ordered **to change his shift**.

The boy was found **to be sleeping at home**.

Opinions differ as for the function of this construction. Some linguists consider it to be one member of the sentence – that is **complex subject**, others refer it to different functions: one of its components function as **subject**, the other forms part of **compound verbal predicate**.

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VERBALS

The for-to-infinitive construction.

It can perform different syntactical function in the sentence:

1) **Complex subject**

For one to spend a summer with them was a wonderful experience.

2) **Complex predicative**

That is not **for me to decide**.

3) **Complex object**

Everybody was impatient **for the experiment to begin**.

VERBALS

4) Complex attribute

There was nothing **for him to say**.

5) Complex adverbial modifier

a) of purpose

I rang **for you to show the lady out**.

b) of consequence

The chance was too good **for Jack to miss it**.

VERBALS

The absolute nominative infinitive construction.

The sellers offered 5,000 tons of oil, **delivery to be made in October.**

The construction performs the function of **adverbial modifier of attendant circumstance.**

VERBALS

The participial constructions are:

the objective participial construction

the subjective participial construction

the nominative absolute participial construction

absolute constructions.

VERBALS

The objective participial construction.

I felt **tears running down my cheeks.**

Nobody wanted **him going there alone.**

I heard **my name pronounced.**

The construction performs the function of **complex object.**

VERBALS

The subjective participial construction.

The horse was seen **descending** the hill.

They were heard **talking together**.

The construction functions either as one complex member or as separate parts of the sentence.

VERBALS

The nominative absolute participial construction.

The construction can function as complex adverbial modifiers of:

a) time

She sat on the porch, **Mary playing with her doll.**

Dinner being over, everybody rose.

b) cause

It being late, he went home.

Clare went out to answer, **there being nobody else in the room.**

VERBALS

The nominative absolute participial construction.

c) condition

Weather permitting, we shall start tomorrow.

Force failing, no further hope of conciliation is left.

d) attendant circumstances

He turned and went, **we following him**.

He stood in front of the tank, his nose almost pressed to the glass

VERBALS

The gerundial constructions.

The construction includes gerund as the obligatory component and can function as different complex parts of the sentence.

1) Complex subject

Your doing nothing won't help anybody.

Is it strange enough **your being a foreigner**?

2) Complex predicative

The only way out will be **his taking the job**.

The reason for my anger is **your being late again**.

VERBALS

The gerundial constructions.

3) Complex attribute

The prospect of someone else getting a job moved them to strong indignation.

Don't miss the opportunity of **your family hearing this pianist.**

4) Complex object

I insist on **both of them coming in time.**

Would you mind **my smoking here?**

VERBALS

The gerundial constructions.

5) Complex adverbial modifier of

a) time

On his coming back he noticed no change.

b) concession

In spite of it being cold the bushes swarmed with insect.

c) attendant circumstances

The car slid away **without my having to say anything**.
