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O. Antonova

FORM OF EXPRESSION OF PREPOSITIONAL WORD EQUIVALENTS OF PURPOSE SEMANTICS IN POLISH LANGUAGE

The article deals with the research of form of expression and inner organization of prepositional word equivalents of purpose semantics in Polish language. The structural models as well as system links of the investigated elements are also determined and described.

Keywords: prepositional word equivalents, purpose semantics, structural model.

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Nadiya Brazhnyk

WEBLOGS: A COMPARATIVE STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS (ON THE MATERIAL OF WEBLOGS WRITTEN IN ENGLISH AND UKRAINIAN)

The article summarizes views on the structural classification of simple and multiple sentences in English and Ukrainian, and compares the quantitative distribution of different sentence types. It also provides background information about weblogs as a type of the Internet discourse.

Keywords: constructive analysis, comparative analysis, simple sentences, multiple sentences, predication, non-finite verb forms.

Introduction. Researchers in the area of comparative constructive grammar have a wide scope of work ahead of them. Firstly, as far as we know, no one has yet compared the English and Ukrainian syntax from the structural point of view. Secondly, there are still considerable gaps in the theoretical studies of the Ukrainian grammar. In particular, it lacks a classification of the nuclear sentence types – “minimal sentence constructions” [8, p. 629] that, when elaborated or transformed, account for the variety of all possible sentences in a given language. Thus, comparing the sentence structure in English and Ukrainian, we must integrate the patchwork of the existing data – and, at times, supplement what is missing. Not always is there a direct correspondence between the aspects

of constructive grammar that have been researched in English and Ukrainian.

Thirdly, never before has there been such a wide choice of the research material. With the advance of technology the language acquires not only new lexemes, but also new types of discourse, the most prominent being the Internet discourse. It includes many subtypes, for instance, the discourse of email, of the Internet news – and, finally, the discourse of weblogs, which was chosen as the source of material for our research.

Weblogs (or blogs, for short) are journals published in the Internet and regularly updated, where the individual posts are located in the reversed-chronological order (the latest on top of the webpage). Before 1999 there had been less than 50 blogs in the

world [11]; however, with the increased availability of free blogging platforms the amount of blogs skyrocketed. In 2011 there were already over 156 million blogs in the open access [10]. Nowadays, we can't help seeing a strong tendency of commercialization and professionalization of blogging. In the leading rating of weblogs Technorati (<http://technorati.com>), out of Top-100, only about 7 blogs can be called "personal diaries" [12].

From the point of view of a linguist, this means that the discourse of weblogs is gradually becoming less informal and more similar to the discourse of mass media. Still, it retains a vivid presence of the author and his unique perspective on the message. So, when studying the syntax of blogs, we should rightfully expect similarities to the structure of mass media discourse [4, p. 10], but also keep in mind the potential differences.

Comparative constructive analysis of the language of weblogs – theoretical basis

The abovementioned gaps in the common ground for comparison can be explained by the fact that Ukrainian and foreign linguists focused on different aspects of the discourse or described them in different terms, depending on their general approach. Let us list and correlate the key terms of different linguistic paradigms of the syntactic analysis.

1) **The sentence nucleus** – a notion introduced by Z. Harris [8] and meaning a minimal syntactic composition of a sentence that cannot be obtained by combining or transforming other sentences. Z. Harris found 7 basic nuclear types of the English sentence ($N v V$; $N v V N$; $N v V P N$; $N is N$; $N is A$; $N is P N$; $N is D$, where N stands for a noun, V – a verb, v – verb affix of tense or auxiliary verb, P – a pronoun, A – an adjective, D – an adverb) [8, p. 628]. The quantitative distribution of nuclear sentence types is an important syntactic characteristic of any language.

2) **The proposition** is the semantic invariant of the message which is characterized by reference and predication [7, p. 155–156]. This idea has been long developed in logic and applied to linguistics, among others, by the representatives of the speech act theory. A proposition usually consists of a term (usually, an actant) and a predicate; thus, it structurally coincides with the predicative centre of a sentence.

3) **The predicative centre.** Predication is "the act of combining of independent objects of thoughts expressed by autonomous words (usually, the predicate and its actants) in order to reflect the state of events or a real-life situation" [9, p. 393]. Predication can be localized in the so-called predicative centre that usually consists of the subject and the predicate (sometimes, the predicate only).

4) **The speech act** is a minimal self-sufficient unit of speech which reflects all essential characteristics of speech as activity, its external and internal connections and dynamics [3, p. 7]. In structure and size, a speech act usually coincides with a simple sentence; thus, it has a *nucleus* and a *predicative centre*, and can be viewed as a *proposition*.

As we see, these key ideas are interwoven; so, as our theoretic basis, we made use of linguistic studies done by scholars of different approaches.

Simple sentences

Simple sentences have one nucleus and one predicative centre, and coincide with one proposition and a simple speech act. In the written discourse such sentences are always in minority (constituting from 10 to 30 % in the samples that we analyzed).

To classify simple sentences according to their structure, we used Z. Harris' approach and divided all our samples (1000 in total – 500 in English and Ukrainian, each) in 5 nuclear types. (Types 4, 5 and 6 according to Harris were grouped together, because of their small number and structural similarity – they all have a nominal predicate.)

The results of our classification are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Nuclear sentence types in the English- and Ukrainian-language blogs

Nuclear structure, according to Z. Harris	Structural variations observed in Ukrainian	% of the analyzed samples from blogs in English	% of the analyzed samples from blogs in Ukrainian
$N v V$	$N v V$ (N) v V	12 %	18 %
$N v V N$	$N v V N$ (N) v V N	52 %	47 %
$N v V P N$	$N v V P N$ (N) v V P N	22 %	20 %
$N is N$; $N is P N$; $N is A$	$N is N$; $N is P N$; $N is A$ $N (is) N$; $N (is) P N$; $N (is) A$	12 %	11 %
$N is D$	$N is D$ $N (is) D$	2 %	4 %

As we made the first attempt to apply Harris' classification to the Ukrainian language [1], we noticed some specific features of its structural build which are different from the English language. It makes much wider use of impersonal sentences (e.g. *Тут залежить від того, як усталилося в місцевому вжитку*), whereas English uses a formal subject in respective structures (e.g. *It depends on your viewpoint*). Also, there is a tendency in Ukrainian to omit the verb "to be" in nominal predicates (e.g. *Україна – 45 мільйонів чоловік*). The most common nuclear type in both languages is N v V N, with the predicate

perspective of comparative analysis: in the Ukrainian translation, the English sentences with participial and verbless clauses are mostly rendered as complex sentences [6, p. 252–291] (e.g. *The responsibility is on people taking photographs and creating the images afterwards. Буде краще, якщо ті, хто знімає й обробляє знімки, усвідомлять свою відповідальність*).

Our classification of complex sentences (extracted from the English- and Ukrainian-language weblogs, in the amount of 300 samples in each language) are reflected in Table 2.

Table 2. Type of multiple sentences in weblogs

		% of the analyzed samples from the English-language blogs	% of the analyzed samples from the Ukrainian-language blogs
1.	Compound sentences	11 %	15 %
2.	Complex sentences	89 %	85 %
3.	Sentences with non-finite verbal or verbless clauses (included in № 2)	5 %	–
4.	Sentences with both complex and compound relations (incl. in № 1, 2)	9 %	12 %
	– compound-complex	7,8 %	10,4 %
	– complex-compound	1,2 %	1,6 %

expressed by a transitive verb (e.g. *City officials commemorated the digitized collection of documents Wednesday at City Hall. Але це означає нунізацію України*) In general, the data obtained from both languages is quite similar; the differences can be explained by higher occurrence of impersonal sentences in Ukrainian, as well as the wider use of adverbs as complements of the copula verb "to be".

Multiple sentences

Multiple sentences, in their turn, have more than one nucleus, more than one predicative centre, and coincide with several propositions and a complex speech act. In practice, however, it is not always simple to differentiate simple and multiple sentences. The main difficulty is presented by English sentences with non-finite verbal forms and verbless clauses (e.g. *Not having had breakfast, he was hungry now. Albeit happy, Gina tried not to show it.*)

Some grammarians – mostly, the Russian scholars of the English grammar [2, p. 235; 5, p. 306] classify such sentences as simple, and the participial or verbless clauses – as adverbial modifiers. However, the English-language grammarians [13, p. 992] treat such structures as clauses, i.e. predicative elements. Consequently, the sentences become polypredicative and should be treated as multiple (more specifically, complex) sentences. We also adhered to this approach, which seems fair not only for intralinguistic logic, but also from the

Conclusions

Similar syntactic means are employed to construct sentences in the English- and Ukrainian-language blogs. Short simple sentences are in minority in both languages (no more than 30 %, depending on the author's style); due to their brevity they often express key ideas of the author and carry stylistic functions. Ukrainian, as opposed to English, often employs impersonal sentences, as well as nominal predicates with the omission of the verb "to be".

The message is mainly conveyed through multiple sentences, of which complex ones constitute an overwhelming majority. Two thirds of compound sentences are additionally elaborated by dependent clauses.

The most prominent structural difference between the English and the Ukrainian languages is the use of verbals in the former; they form clauses which make sentence polypredicative and thus complex. So, two sentences (one English and one Ukrainian) that are semantically identical can have a different structure.

The results of this study can be used for the future comprehensive description of the structure of the Internet discourse; also, they can stimulate a deeper look into the grammatical means of the Ukrainian language, as many of the English language studies that we relied upon do not have equivalents in the Ukrainian linguistics to this day.

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Бражник Н. В.

БЛОГИ: КОМПАРАТИВНИЙ СТРУКТУРНИЙ АНАЛІЗ (НА МАТЕРІАЛІ АНГЛОМОВНИХ ТА УКРАЇНОМОВНИХ БЛОГІВ)

У статті узагальнено погляди на структурну класифікацію простих і складних речень в англійській та українській мовах і проведено зіставне дослідження частотності різних типів речень в інтернет-блогах цими мовами. Подано фонову інформацію про блоги як різновид інтернет-дискурсу.

Ключові слова: конструктивно-зіставний аналіз, блоги, прості речення, складні речення, предикація, безособові форми дієслова.

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