

Gorkun M. G.

## INVERSION IN DECLARATIVE SENTENCES IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

*Explanation of the cause of inversion in declarative sentences in Modern English by rhythm, psychological motives, formal grammatical regulations, stylistic, emotional effects has appeared to be mechanistic and it does not cover all cases of inversion. The analysis given in the article shows that inversion is necessitated by communication intention and characteristics of inner connections of the parts of the sentence. All cases of investigation of inversion by this approach given in this work support the correctness of the chosen path.*

Modern English has lost almost all case inflections and has developed a fixed and rigid word order to discriminate the syntactic function of the common case of the noun. Therefore in a declarative sentence the subject precedes the predicate. This is the so called **direct word order**, which is known to be the main «guard» of stability in the English language. This word order is observed in the majority of declarative sentences.

But sometimes the direct order is changed, i.e. the subject follows the predicate. Such word order is called **inversion**. When the whole predicate is put before the subject, it is the **full inversion**.

*Came Saturday and its hollow victory at three o'clock. (J.L.)*

When only the part of the predicate is put before the subject, but the rest of the predicate follows the subject, it is the **partial inversion**.

*Not a hint, however, did, she droy about sending me to school. (Ch. B.)*

*Starved and tired enough she was...(Ch. B.)*

The inverted order in declarative sentences is a controversial point among the linguists. Most of them assume that it is a **deviation** of usual direct word order necessitated by **rhythm** (A. Dahlstedt, A. Western), **psychological motives** of speaker (Paul, Gabelenz), **formal grammatical regulations** (H. Poutsma, O. Jespersen, B. Jacobsson, etc), **stylistic, emotional effects** (T. Kobents, A. Bulgakova, etc).

This work is an attempt to look at the inversion from the inner characteristics of it, to see inversion as a part of the other language means revealing communicative function of the language. Any sentence is first of all an information group. «Word is not a sparrow». Sentence is a programme, a body, interacting with the other ones alike. In our opinion, the phenomenon of the inversion must be explained proceeding from the communicative nature of the language. This is, of course, a **holistic approach**. Language is a complex system, all parts in it work to-

gether, being ruled by general communicative necessity.

Inversion is dependent on the relations, connections of the parts of sentence, which are ruled by communication intention. Inversion is used under specific relations of the parts of sentence.

O. Smirnitsky claims that there are two groups of adverbial modifiers in English: the first one are those that equally define the subject and the predicate; the second group are the adverbial modifiers that are related only with the predicate. This classification of the adverbial modifiers is confirmed by the **full inversion** with the precedence of the adverbial modifier of the **first group**, and the **partial inversion** with the precedence of the adverbial modifiers of the **second group**.

*Amid this sordid scene sat a man with his clenched hands... (J.L.)*

In the above sentence inversion is conditioned by the adverbial modifier of the first group, and by the predicate that is a **single verb**, and the subject which is not a **single personal pronoun**. The inversion in this case provides balancing sentence groups — «adverbial modifier + predicate» and «adverbial modifier + subject». The relations of this kind correspond to communication intention. If the predicate be placed after the subject, its meaning, its role would be completely changed, the relations between the parts of the sentence be ruined, so would be the communication intention.

The following examples should prove that inversion is a delicate matter of a subtle character, when even one word makes inversion impossible.

*To the right, beneath us twenty feet down the crumbling bank, the Yukon summed lazily. To the left on the roseleafrim of the low-lying hills, smouldered the sleepy sun, which saw no sleep that night nor was destined to sleep for many nights to come. (J.L.)*

In the first sentence, which seems to be alike the second one, the connected with the predicate adverb

«lazily» is completely changing the relation of the members of the sentence. It eliminates the prevalence of the subject over a predicate, and this makes inversion impossible. In the second sentence the weaker predicate and the adverbial modifier of the first group provide inversion, which balances the connections of the parts of the sentence. All this is subjugated to the communication intention, which is different in two sentences.

The second group of adverbial modifiers is followed by the **partial inversion**.

*Never in all his life until this trip had Couperwood been farther west than Pittsburg. (T.D.)*

Many linguists explain this inversion by the negative or restrictive meaning of the adverbial modifier. This appears to be a mechanistic approach. Though the negative adverbial modifier is used in the majority of sentences with inversion, there are also many cases when the adverbial modifier is neither negative nor restrictive.

*And tenderly did she treat him, and fondly did she serve him...(E. G.)*

*Very suddenly did his countenance lower when he saw himself abandoned. (Ch. B.)*

These sentences prove that it is not the negativity of adverb that provides inversion here. First comes intention of communication, which rules the choice of means, inversion including. Inversion in its turn depends on relations between members of the sentence and their ability to meet the communication intention.

The negative adverb verb is always strong because it is negativity that makes it. That's why the connection with the predicate is also strong which provides partial inversion of the predicate. The meaning of the adverbs in the last examples is also very important for communication intention though they are not negative, and it provides the partial inversion here for the same reason as in the case with negative adverbs: for strong connection of the adverbial modifier and the predicate.

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2. *Western A.* On Sentence-Rhythm and Word-Order in Modern English.— Christiania, 1908.

3. *Paul.* Principen der Sprachgeschichte, 4-те вид., 1909.

4. *Gabelentz.* Die Sprachwissenschaft.— Leipzig, 1891.

5. *Poutsma H.* A Grammar of Late Modern English.— Groningen, 1928-1929.

6. *Jespersen O.* Essentials of English Grammar.— Oxford, 1903.

The dependence of inversion on communication intention and relations, connections of parts of the sentence is proved not only by the cases of inversion preceded by adverbial modifiers but also by those ones preceded by other parts of the sentence:

> Direct object — *Not another line would he ever write (J. L.)*

> Prepositional object — *...to none but you would I impart the vision (Ch. B.)*

> The first part of the compound conjunction — *Not only was he released from prison in reward for his deed, but he was granted an income for life (J. L.)*

*So flustered was she by two such grand people asking for her lodger that she forgot to invite them to sit down in a little parlour. (J. L.)*

Inversion with precedence is more often used in English than inversion without any precedence. B. Jacobsson explains inversion of this kind by special semantics of the predicate and by the influence of the Old English.

*Came a day when for forty hours he had not tasted food (J. L.)*

*Followed a complete and deathlike science... (K. M.)*

*Hate him she did not quite...(T. H.)*

*Speak I must... (Ch. B.)*

Analysis of the above examples would support the explanation that inversion is necessitated here by the communicative intention and relations of the members of the sentence too, and even the relations between the sentences — the, so called, relation of «beginning» (зачину — Ukr.). But this is quite another problem - function characteristics of inversion. The investigation of inversion in this work has shown that any case of inversion in English is necessitated by the communication intention and inner relations between the parts of the sentence. The character, the function of inversion in varied cases is different, because different are the members of the sentence and relations between them. Functional characteristics of inversion are another topic of investigation that must be dealt with in the other work.

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*Горкун М. Г.*

## ІНВЕРСІЯ В РОЗПОВІДНОМУ РЕЧЕННІ В АНГЛІЙСЬКІЙ МОВІ

Стаття є спробою дослідити інверсію через комунікативну інтенцію та особливості внутрішніх зв'язків членів речення.

Дослідження природи інверсії в розповідному реченні в англійській мові за допомогою ритму, психологічних мотивів, формально-граматичних особливостей, стилістичного, емоційного впливу виявилось механістичним і не охоплює всіх випадків вживання інверсії.