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Types of syntactic relations in a sentence

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Annotation

The article analyses the syntactic relationship in traditional and structural linguistics. The syntactic relationship serves to express syntactic attitudes and show the great importance in sentence analysis. The relationship is statistic in traditional linguistics; however, it becomes dynamic in structural linguistics. The syntactical relationship is in a linear order in traditional linguistics, but the relationship in structural linguistics is developed in a hierarchical order.

Keywords: syntax, generative grammar, Construction Grammar, grammatical relations, argument structure constructions.

In English as in other nominative-accusative languages, grammatical relations are such familiar syntactic functions as subject—verb, verb—direct object, verb—indirect object, modifier—noun, verb—adverbial and so on, defined by coding and behavioural properties. Sentences are made up of the grammatical and semantic combinations of various words and make up our spoken language. Words are joined together in sentences through syntactic linkages and morphological modifications.

Even for similar constructions in different languages, the domains of application for each type of construction vary. The identification of grammatical elements that are universal across languages is more significant (William C., 1990, 15). Words are thought of as the smallest meaningful unit of a language, serving as the building blocks of sentences. When words are put together to form a sentence, they should have some kind of connection to one another. Generally speaking, there are two types of relationships between words: 1) internal, or meaning relations, and 2) external, or formal, or grammatical (syntactical) relations.

The internal relations between the words are the objective relations which exist in the nature. These relations reflect the objective connection between subjects or subjects and occasions. Since the connections between objects or occasions are different, the meaning relation among words is various and distinguished. Different relations such as, featured, quantitative, time, place, directional, reason, purpose, result, fully, gender-typed and other type of meaning relations exist between subjects and occasions. As these meaning relations are expressed by words, they appear between the words which are the names of subjects and occasions as well. The objective meaning relations among subjects and occasions are distinguished into two types:

1) predicate relations and 2) non-predicate relations. As the same meaning of connection is expressed by words, they appeared in the names of objects and events, too. Such objective meaning of connection between words erupted are distinguished into two types: 1) predictive relationship, and 2) non-predictive relationship.

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- 1) The predicate relation in language is the relation between the subject and the predicate. The predicate relation appears in place, tense and personal categories of the verb, and predicate, person and number categories of nouns.
- 2) In non-predicate relation the predicative connection between words does not exist. There are three types of non-predicate relations between the words:
- a) The objective relation sometimes it is called object connection. In the objective relation the defining word is the object and it expresses the object of the word which defines.
- b) The attributive relation. The defining member in this connection is an attribute. The defining word determines all the members except the verb. Among all world languages an attributive relations appear between the parts of word combinations with different gender categories: in most languages, usually the first part of word combination defines the second part, but in some languages, (e.g., Persian and French) the second part defines the first part (bəradəre "brother" bozorg "elder").
- c) The relative relation: In this relation, the defining member primarily points to the quality of the member (word) that the verb is expressing. For this reason, this relationship is known as the adverbial modifier relation in some linguistics literature. Multilateral approaches to syntagmatic events exist in traditional linguistics, and as a result of these approaches, the syntactical relation is regarded as a multifaceted, intricate process. Regarding the traits of the relations, the following parameters are pertinent:

Specifically, it belongs to the relation or defines a characteristic of the relation; it is realized; it has a unilateral or bilateral relationship; it combines two or more elements; it is realized; it serves as a paradigmatic or syntagmatic; and it is assigned as formal meaning (Sova).

Understanding static or dynamic relations is essential to providing answers to all of these questions. These relations are static in traditional linguistics, but it's crucial to demonstrate the dynamic description of static characteristics in structural linguistics.

In conclusion

It should be highlighted as a result that: 1. The perspectives differ from syntactical relations in conventional and structural linguistics. While concordance, control, and adjoining relations are predominant in traditional linguistics, control relations predominate in structural linguistics, where all words are dependent on the verb in this type of relation. In this sentence, the verb is the most crucial element.

2. In our doctoral thesis, we thoroughly examined "Syntactical relations in structural linguistics."

Absolutely! Delving into the intricate web of syntactic relations in a sentence feels like peering into the elegant dance of words as they come together. Let's unfold this captivating subject!

- 1. Subject-Verb Relation: This fundamental relation involves the subject of a sentence, usually a noun or pronoun, and the verb. It dictates the core assertion in a sentence, conveying who or what performs the action or is in a certain state. For instance, in the sentence "She sings beautifully," "She" is the subject and "sings" is the verb.
- 2. Subject-Object Relation: Here, we observe how the subject of a sentence relates to the object, typically a direct object (the thing or person directly affected by the action of the verb). For example, in the sentence "I love pizza," "I" is the subject, "love" is the verb, and "pizza" is the object.
- 3. Modifier-Head Relation: This relation captures how modifiers, describing words or phrases, relate to the words they modify (often the head of a phrase). Adjectives modify nouns ("beautiful day"), adverbs modify verbs ("run quickly"), and so on.

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- 4. Complement-Head Relation: Complements are elements required to complete the meaning of a verb, adjective, or preposition. For instance, in "She is a doctor," "doctor" is the complement of the linking verb "is."
- 5. Coordination Relation: When two or more elements are linked to the same part of the sentence, they are in a coordination relation. For instance, "I like tea and coffee," where "tea" and "coffee" are coordinated.
- 6. Subordination Relation: This relation captures the hierarchical relationship between clauses, with one clause serving a higher (main) role and another a lower (subordinate) role. An example is "I will go if you come," where "if you come" is subordinate to "I will go."

Understanding these syntactic relations is vital for grasping the structure and meaning behind sentences in natural language.

Syntactic relations are like the elegant steps in a linguistic dance, each playing a crucial role in conveying our thoughts and expressions. If you have more specific queries or want to explore further aspects of sentence structure, feel free to dive deeper with me!

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