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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUPPORT OF MODERN SCIENCE AND INNOVATION: a collection scientific works of the International scientific conference – Madrid, Spain, 2026, Issue 6.

Languages of publication: Uzbek, English, Russian, German, Italian, Spanish,

The collection consists of scientific research of scientists, graduate students and students who took part in the International Scientific online conference «**INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SUPPORT OF MODERN SCIENCE AND INNOVATION**». Which took place in Spain, 2026.

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THE FORMATION OF SYNTACTIC RELATIONS IN THE STRUCTURE OF SIMPLE SENTENCES

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Abstract. This article examines the formation of syntactic relations in the structure of simple sentences. It analyzes the interaction of sentence components and the grammatical, semantic, and structural mechanisms through which syntactic relations are expressed. Particular attention is given to coordination, subordination, predication, agreement, government, and adjacency as fundamental means of establishing relationships between sentence elements.

Keywords: simple sentence, syntactic relation, syntactic structure, predication, coordination, subordination, agreement, government, adjacency, sentence components.

Syntax occupies a central position in linguistic research because it investigates the principles governing the combination of linguistic units into larger structural formations. Among syntactic constructions, the simple sentence represents one of the most important objects of analysis. A simple sentence is not merely a collection of words arranged in a particular order; it is an organized syntactic unit in which words and word combinations enter into specific structural and semantic relationships. These relationships ensure the grammatical integrity of the sentence and contribute to the expression of a complete thought.

The formation of syntactic relations within a simple sentence is closely connected with the interaction of its constituent parts. The subject, predicate, object, attribute, adverbial modifier, and other sentence elements do not occur independently. Their grammatical and semantic functions are realized through various syntactic relations. Consequently, the study of syntactic relations makes it possible to explain how sentence components are connected, how their meanings interact, and how the overall structure of a sentence is formed. Syntactic relations arise when two or more linguistic units enter into a structural connection within a phrase or sentence. Such relations demonstrate the dependence, equality, or mutual connection of sentence elements. Therefore, syntactic relations should be distinguished from syntactic connections, although the two concepts are closely related. A syntactic connection refers primarily to the formal mechanism through which units are linked, whereas a syntactic relation reflects the grammatical and semantic relationship established between those units. For example, in the sentence The student reads a book, the relationship between student and reads represents a predicative relation because the predicate expresses an action attributed to the subject. At the same time, the relationship between reads and a book is an objective relation because the noun phrase functions as the object of the verbal action.



Thus, syntactic relations provide the internal organizational basis of the sentence. Without them, individual words would remain isolated lexical units and could not form a coherent syntactic construction. The formation of syntactic relations depends on several interconnected factors. First, grammatical categories play an important role. Number, person, case, tense, and other grammatical meanings may indicate the relationship between sentence components. Second, word order contributes significantly to the identification of syntactic functions, especially in languages with relatively fixed word order. Third, semantic compatibility influences the possibility of combining particular lexical units. Finally, intonation and functional words may also contribute to the formation and interpretation of syntactic relations.

Predication is one of the fundamental features of the sentence. A predicative relation is established primarily between the subject and the predicate and forms the grammatical and communicative center of the simple sentence. Through predication, the content of the sentence is connected with reality and is characterized in terms of tense, modality, person, and other grammatical categories. In the sentence The researcher analyzes the data, the subject the researcher is connected with the predicate analyzes. The predicate assigns an action to the subject, thereby creating a predicative relationship. The sentence becomes a complete communicative unit because the relationship between the subject and predicate presents information about an event or situation. Predicative relations may be expressed differently across languages. In English, the relationship between the subject and predicate is often indicated through word order and verbal agreement. English generally follows a subject–verb–object pattern, and deviations from this order are comparatively limited. For example, The child plays outside follows the regular syntactic sequence in which the subject precedes the predicate.

In Uzbek, the formation of predicative relations is more closely associated with morphological markers and the relatively flexible arrangement of sentence components. The predicate commonly occurs in the final position, while person and number may be expressed through verbal affixes. Therefore, Uzbek relies more extensively on morphological means than English in expressing certain syntactic relationships. Predication is not limited to the formal connection between the subject and predicate. It also includes the semantic relationship through which a particular feature, state, action, or quality is attributed to the subject. For this reason, predicative relations represent both grammatical and semantic unity within the simple sentence.

A significant part of the internal structure of the simple sentence is based on subordinate relations. Subordination occurs when one syntactic element is grammatically or semantically dependent on another. The dependent element usually modifies, specifies, complements, or develops the meaning of the governing element.



Several major types of subordinate relations can be identified in the structure of simple sentences. These include attributive, objective, and adverbial relations.

Coordination represents another important type of syntactic relation. Unlike subordination, coordination is characterized by the relative equality of the connected elements. Coordinated components generally perform the same syntactic function and are connected through conjunctions, punctuation, or intonation. For example, in the sentence The teacher and the students discussed the problem, the nouns teacher and students are coordinated subjects. Neither element is dependent on the other; instead, both are equally related to the predicate discussed. Coordination may also occur between predicates, objects, attributes, and adverbial modifiers. In the sentence The students read and analyzed the text, the verbs read and analyzed are coordinated predicates. Similarly, He bought books, notebooks, and pens contains coordinated objects. The formation of coordinating relations depends largely on the syntactic equality of the connected units. Coordinated elements usually belong to the same grammatical category or perform the same syntactic function. However, semantic similarity is also important because coordinated units generally participate in the same conceptual or communicative domain. In both English and Uzbek, conjunctions and intonation play an essential role in expressing coordination. English frequently uses conjunctions such as and, or, and but, while Uzbek uses corresponding conjunctions and connective elements according to the grammatical and semantic characteristics of the construction.

Syntactic relations in simple sentences are expressed through a variety of grammatical mechanisms. One of the most important is agreement. Agreement occurs when the grammatical form of one word corresponds to the grammatical features of another. In English, subject–verb agreement provides a clear example: The student works, whereas The students work. The form of the verb reflects the grammatical number of the subject. Government is another important means of expressing syntactic relations. In government, the governing word requires a particular grammatical form from the dependent element. This mechanism is especially significant in languages with developed case systems. Uzbek, for instance, uses case affixes to indicate the relationship between verbs and their dependent nouns. These morphological markers help identify objective and other semantic-syntactic relations. Adjacency, or positional connection, is also important. In this type of connection, syntactic relations are established primarily through the placement of words next to each other and through their fixed or relatively stable order. English relies extensively on adjacency because it has a comparatively limited system of nominal inflections. For example, in a new book, the adjective precedes the noun, and its position signals its attributive function. Word order therefore has a particularly important role in the formation of syntactic relations in analytical languages. In contrast, languages with richer inflectional systems can rely more



heavily on morphological indicators. Nevertheless, both word order and grammatical morphology may interact in the same sentence. Functional words also contribute to syntactic organization. Prepositions in English, for example, establish relationships between verbs, nouns, and other elements. In She spoke about the project, the preposition about helps express the relationship between the action and its object of discussion. Intonation serves as an additional means of expressing syntactic relationships, particularly in spoken language. It can indicate the boundaries between sentence components, distinguish coordinated structures, and emphasize particular syntactic units.

The structure of a simple sentence cannot be fully understood without considering the relationship between syntax and semantics. A syntactic relation has a formal aspect and a semantic aspect. The formal aspect concerns the grammatical means through which sentence elements are connected, while the semantic aspect concerns the meaning produced by their interaction. For instance, the relationship between a verb and a noun may formally be an objective relation, but semantically the noun may represent an object, recipient, result, instrument, or other participant in the situation described by the verb. Therefore, syntactic analysis should not be restricted to grammatical forms alone. The sentence The scientist opened the laboratory door illustrates this interaction. The noun phrase the scientist is related to the predicate as the performer of the action. The phrase the laboratory door functions syntactically as an object, while semantically it represents the entity affected by the action. Within the noun phrase itself, laboratory forms an attributive relation with door. Consequently, a single simple sentence may contain several syntactic relations simultaneously. These relations form a hierarchical system in which the predicative core is expanded by subordinate and coordinated elements.

The formation of syntactic relations is realized through various grammatical and semantic means, including agreement, government, adjacency, word order, functional words, morphological markers, and intonation. The relative importance of these mechanisms may differ from one language to another. English relies extensively on word order and functional words, whereas Uzbek makes broader use of morphological markers and grammatical affixes.

Therefore, the analysis of syntactic relations provides important insights into the structural and semantic organization of simple sentences. A comprehensive investigation of these relations contributes to a deeper understanding of how linguistic units combine to form coherent communicative structures and offers valuable perspectives for comparative syntax, linguistic theory, and the teaching of grammar.



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