

SPECIFIC ADJUNCTS ACCORDING TO THEIR GRAMMATICAL FUNCTION IN ENGLISH AND ALBANIAN LANGUAGE



Syntax

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Abstract

As far as the great variety of adjuncts is concerned, the factual situation in a language is not an easy task to explain. There are many syntactic units similar to typical adjuncts which again differ from typical ones by acting somewhat different in the sentence, having got somehow more complicated role, i.e., while the typical adjuncts function as a modifier of the verb, the specific ones can be related to the whole sentence. This study is focused toward these untypical adjuncts according to their grammatical and semantic function, by analyzing the differences and similarities that appear between English and Albanian language. The study is directed toward these untypical adjuncts and the way how it is explained in both languages. A discussion will be made by explaining the differences and commonalities that appear as far as the semantic properties are concerned. The main method used in this research paper is the comparative method because the research itself is in comparison between Albanian and English language, thus it is the best way to stress out the similarities as well as the differences that might come out of this research. In order to describe the syntactical properties of English and Albanian language the descriptive method is also used that suits the aim. The survey method is of great help to analyse and clarify the material.

Introduction

The adjunct is a secondary constituent of the sentence which is put in circumstantial relationship with the constituent of which depends, and it is linked through Subordination or without. The adjunct mainly presents place, time, reason, purpose, manner, quantity and grade, but even other relationship (Çeliku, 2002: 269).

Exactly “but even other relationship” is the domain of this research paper, where another interesting point of view of some specific adjuncts is that not all adjuncts function as verb modifiers, but some of them modify the whole clause or they are semantically linked with the Subject of the clause.

Quirk (1985: 501) pays special attention to them, separating them from typical adjuncts. Thus, besides the term adjunct, he also adds groups named as subjunct, disjunct and conjunct.

According to him (1985: 566), the term subjunct refers to those adverbials that have, to a greater or lesser degree, a subordinate function in comparison with other clause constituents. The "subordinate function" can be applied to the whole sentence in which the subjunct functions, and it can be about the subordination of a certain constituent of the sentence (mostly the subject). Examining them in detail, he groups them as follows:

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- *Wide orientation subjunct:*
 - *View point*
 - *Courtesy*
- *Narrow orientation subjunct:*
 - *Item:*
 - *Subject orientation*
 - *Verb phrase*
 - *Predication:*
 - ◆ *Time relationship*
 - ◆ *Time frequency*
 - *Emphasizers*
 - *Intensifiers:*
 - *Amplifiers:*
 - ◆ *Maximizers*
 - ◆ *Boosters*

 - *Downtoners:*
 - ◆ *Approximators*
 - ◆ *Compromisers*
 - ◆ *Diminishers*
 - ◆ *Minimizers*
 - *Focusing:*
 - *Restrictive:*
 - ◆ *Exclusives*
 - ◆ *Particularizers*
 - *Additive*

Adjuncts named sentence adverbials tend to qualify, through their meaning, a clause or a part of a clause rather than just one constituent of the clause, such as a predicate. As such, R. Quirk (1985: 612) divides them into disjuncts and conjuncts.

Discourse adjuncts (disjuncts) have a superior function in relation to other clause constituents; they are syntactically more separate and in a specific sense "superior" in that they have a scope that extends to the sentence as a whole. They are further divided into:

- *Style disjuncts;*
- *Content disjuncts.*

Conjuncts, taking under the consideration that they are very different from closely related constituents such as subject, complement and object, are often similar in meaning to conjunctions.

These adjuncts function more like connecting independent clauses than to convey information in an integrated sentence. Quirk (1985: 613) divides these adjuncts into seven groups and several subgroups:

- *Listing*:
 - *Enumerative*.
 - *Additive*:
 - *Equative*;
 - *Reinforcing*.
 - *Summative*.
 - *Appositional*.
 - *Resultive*.
 - *Inferential*.
 - *Contrastive*:
 - *Reformulatory*.
 - *Replacive*.
 - *Antithetic*.
 - *Concessive*.
 - *Transitional*:
 - *Discoursal*.
 - *Temporal*.

It is an interesting fact that Huddleston and Pullum (who are considered contemporary and one of the most serious researchers of English grammar) do not separate these specific adjuncts from other typical adjuncts, where they group them under different terms and, of course, explain their syntactic and semantic properties in detail. For adjuncts named subjuncts by Quirk, in accordance to their semantic function, they use the terms like: act related adjuncts / polarity-sensitive aspectual adjuncts / domain adjuncts / modal adjuncts. The disjuncts they name as: evaluative adjuncts / speech act related adjuncts, and for adjuncts known as conjuncts they use the term connective adjuncts. Such detailed divisions of these specific adjuncts in English normally go beyond the research of these units in Albanian language. Yet, Çeliku. (2002: 366) tries to explain such similar semantic units which are not treated as adjuncts. Namely, in Albanian language, apart from the primary and secondary clause constituents, there seem to be other clause constituents called inserted words or inserted group of words that are mainly characterized by a special intonation and are separated by a pause. These units appear without any grammatical connection to other clause constituents, yet they are semantically connected to the whole sentence in which they appear. Various grammarians also name them as accompanying constituents, /independent words etc., but in general, they are not treated as clause constituents. According to Çeliku (2002: 366), inserted words/group of words express the attitude of the speaker towards what is said, express evaluation, modal characterization or relations of one sentence with another. The author produces at least seven subgroups of these specific units – inserted words or group of words, with which express:

- Degree of truthfulness of the statement:
 - *Sigurisht, vërtetë, mbase, kushedi, për besë* etc.
- Emotional evaluation of the statement:
 - *Fatmirësisht, lumturisht, çuditërisht, përhabietc.*
- Degree of the importance of a fact:
 - *Mbitë gjitha, aq më tepër, në mënyrë të veçantë, kryesisht* etc.
- Logical connection:
 - *Përveç kësaj, ndër të tjera, anasjelltas, kështu* etc.
- Source of the statement:
 - *Sipas tij, sipas njoftimeve* etc.
- The attitude of the speaker on the manner of formulating the statement:
 - *Me një fjalë, shkurt, më sakt* etc.
- Attracting the interlocutor's attention:
 - *Të lutem, ama, që thua zotrote, do ti etc.*

Conclusion

In order to fully understand the syntactic elements and their characteristics, and especially those elements that appear to be very diverse according to their expressive forms, as well as according to the different semantic nuances, it is necessary to invest a lot of effort for their clarification from all aspects. The specific adjuncts in English are interpreted as clause constituents and analyzed same like other typical adjuncts, while only a small part of their equivalents in Albanian language are analyzed within the framework of existing typical adjuncts, and the rest are treated as inserted words or group words (not as clause constituents) or they are not mentioned at all. Among these syntactic structures in the Albanian language, a clearly defined role of the grammatical properties (especially the grammatical connection) in the determination of the syntactic function can be observed, while the role of the meaning is partially neglected. These syntactic units, whether we call them specific adjuncts, adverbials of the sentence or inserting words/groups of words, they should be treated in detail within the framework of adjuncts due to their great mutual semantic and syntactic connection.

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