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of English and Tatar
verbs of motion in the
comparative aspect**



THE VALENCY STRUCTURE OF ENGLISH AND TATAR VERBS OF MOTION IN THE COMPARATIVE ASPECT

LA ESTRUCTURA DE VALENCIA DE LOS VERBOS DE MOVIMIENTO EN INGLÉS Y TÁRTARO EN EL ASPECTO COMPARATIVO

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Abstract

The theory of valency is one of the most important topics of modern linguistics. The valency analysis is directly related to the practice of teaching and learning languages in linguistics.

The given research is aimed at considering the valency structure of Tatar and English verbs of motion. The relevance of the topic is determined by its general theoretical significance. The comprehensive study of the valency structure of Tatar and English verbs makes a significant contribution to the study of the theory of semantic syntax of these languages. The choice of verbs of motion is also not accidental. The versatility of the semantic structure of this group of verbs takes the first place among other thematic groups.

The scientific novelty of the research is that it conducts the comparative study of valency properties and variants of Tatar and English verbs of motion. The work involves experiencing the comprehensive study of valency properties of the main lexico-semantic group of verbs: verbs of motion. Due to the fact that it is impossible to describe in detail all the lexical-semantic groups of verbs within the framework of one study, we limited ourselves to considering the main thematic group – the verbs of motion.

Keywords: linguistics; valency; structure; relevance; verbs of motion; semantics.

La teoría de la valencia es uno de los temas más importantes de la lingüística moderna. El análisis de valencia está directamente relacionado con la práctica de la enseñanza y el aprendizaje de idiomas en lingüística.

La investigación dada tiene como objetivo considerar la estructura de valencia de los verbos de movimiento tártaros e ingleses. La relevancia del tema está determinada por su significado teórico general. El estudio exhaustivo de la estructura de valencia de los verbos tártaros e ingleses hace una contribución significativa al estudio de la teoría de la sintaxis semántica de estos idiomas. La elección de los verbos de movimiento tampoco es accidental. La versatilidad de la estructura semántica de este grupo de verbos ocupa el primer lugar entre otros grupos temáticos.

La novedad científica de la investigación es que realiza el estudio comparativo de las propiedades de valencia y las variantes de los verbos de movimiento tártaros e ingleses. El trabajo consiste en experimentar el estudio exhaustivo de las propiedades de valencia del principal grupo de verbos lexico-semánticos: verbos de movimiento. Debido al hecho de que es imposible describir en detalle todos los grupos de verbos léxico-semánticos dentro del marco de un estudio, nos limitamos a considerar el grupo temático principal: los verbos de movimiento.

Palabras clave: lingüística; valencia; estructura; pertinencia; verbos de movimiento; semántica.



Introduction

The study of valence properties of the verb attracts the attention of many linguists as indicated by numerous research works in the field of linguistics. In recent years many domestic linguists, such as E.A. Krasilnikova, N.N. Stepanova, E.F. Kositsyna, E.V. Razova, T.N. Kolosova, devoted their work to the study of verbal valency.

The valency concept, which was formed on the basis of the integration of sections of classical linguistics, generalized and developed these conclusions and ideas, created an apparatus for the study of factual material, laid the foundation for a new period in the concept of compatibility (Apresyan, 2007; Heidari et al., 2019; Ahani & Pourmohammadi, 2019).

Most linguists are of the opinion that the study of the phenomenon of valency should be based on its semantic condition, and thus, two or three levels of valency are distinguished with a complex correspondence between them (Kubryakova, 1992). Controversial issues are the representation of the syntactic level and the method of displaying the selected levels.

When studying the valency properties of a verb, the basis is the consideration of its lexical semantics (both a single verb and the semantic type or categorical semantic class to which it refers). In its most general form, the valency of a verb depends on its belonging to these semantic classifications characterized by a field structure (Ouhpar et al., 2019; Queirós et al., 2017).

Research Methodology

The tasks and the general direction of the study determine the application of appropriate methods: component analysis of the lexical meaning of the verb, quantitative analysis in order to determine the valency variants of the verb. Along with these methods, the contextual method (actant, valence), the method of comparison are also used in the work.

As the material of the study there were taken examples obtained by sampling from Tatar national corpus and British national corpora.

Methodological basis of the research contains works of L. Tenier, S.D. Katznelson, V. Bondzio, G. Helbig, Yu.D. Apresyan, J. Lyons, K.E. Sommerfeldt, R.S. Hambartsumyan, C. Fillmore, S.M. Kibardina, A.B. Abramov, M.D. Stepanova, V.V. Gurevich, V.V. Bogdanov.

Study Results And Their Discussion

The subgroup of verbs of motion with a common meaning includes those verbs that do not have any indication of the direction of movement. For example, walk (Eng. "to go", Tat. "yori"), move (Eng. "to move", Tat. "hereketlenu"), go through (Engl. "to pass", Tat. utu / uzu »), etc.

These verbs do not indicate either the direction or the way of movement, they simply indicate movement (Ishtanova, 2002).

In the considered subgroup, the verb "walk" (English "to go", Tat. "yori") is of common interest. The linguist E.S. Kubryakova writes that the general meaning of the verb "walk" consists in movement, which is the opposite of a state of rest. Meanwhile, the main



meaning of this verb acts as a designation of movement in the absence of a specific direction as well as an indication of the location of an object during movement (Sakaeva et al., 2017; Kimasi et al., 2019).

The structure of the valency of the verb walk (English “to go”, Tat. “yori”) consists of five valency variations. In the absolute sense, this verb is monovalent, which characterizes the first valency version. For example: *Vakhtalar yori. Sam has already gone.*

In these sentences, the verbs “yori” and “has gone” are monovalent.

In the Tatar language, the studied verb is often combined with actants which realize the place of action, as a result of which the valency version is transmitted by the divalent verb indicating the place of action (Katznelson, 2004). This valency is called the local (Loc.): *Galia checheklar arasynda joru. Sin monda nishlep yorissen? Beznen teatronda ber mezek yori ide.*

In these sentences, the verbs of the movement yori, yorisse ide, and yori ide form a local valency, which is transmitted through the phrases chechekler arasynda, monda and beznen teatrda, respectively. In English the equivalent of this verb goes with a similar valency, which is extremely rare: *He goes among strangers.*

Verbs of motion with a common meaning are often combined with actants, which indicate a route of movement:

Ul anisse belen bu yuldan yori ide. - She walked with her mom along this road.

90 yashlek babai artymnan yori. - For example, a 90-year-old man follows me.

The first group of tourists went over the bridge.

The universe went through a series of transitions.

In all these examples, the verbs “yorange” and “to go” also have two obligatory arguments, namely subject valency (ul / babay yori and group of tourists / the universe went) and valency of the route (bu yuldan / artymnan yori and went over the bridge / through a series of transitions).

The following valency version is transmitted using the divalent verb, which implements two mandatory actants, namely the subject (Subj.) and instrumental (Instr):

Onyn machinasi yuri. - My grandson drives a car.

He goes by bus.

The fourth valency version is represented by a verb that implements the valency of the end point of movement (Ad) or target Dest:

Olken ulym teatr tugeregene de yori. - My eldest son goes to the theater club.

He goes to evening classes.

My wife goes to Vigo, he is a good dentist.

In the first two examples, the verbs “yori” and “go” form the valency of the final point of movement Ad (teatr tugeregene yori and goes to evening classes). In the last two examples, the same verbs realize the valency of the Dest goal (tabibege yori and goes to Vigo).



Next, we analyze the following sentences:

Mostafa belen Sherif kon saen seher yanyndaga elgaga balykka yoriler. - Mustafa and Sharif go fishing every day to a river located near the city.

Daniel who has fallen in love with the band goes to Brussel to see them play. In these examples, the verbs *yoriler* and *goes* are combined with two obligatory (Sub - *Mostafa belen Sherif*, *Daniel*, and Ad - *elgaga*, to *Brussel*) and with one optional argument (Dest - *balykka*, to see). Therefore, the next, fifth valency version is transmitted using the verbs 'yoriler' and 'goes', which implement two required arguments (Sub, Ad) and one optional (Dest).

We give examples of other verbs that also belong to this subgroup: *uzarga*, to pass (pass), *kicherge*, to cross (go).

The first valency version, like the previous case, is transmitted through the use of monovalent verbs:

Aylar, ellar uzdy, Gabdulla ata-anasynyn nazly karashy astynda uste. - Months and years passed, Gabdulla grew up near his parents.

They could have passed.

The next couple of days passed without incident.

Alarnin barysy and bik avyrlyk belen gene hereketlende, eytersen alar yler derezege zytep arygannar.

Two other figures moved, blue and white, not haymakers.

In some contexts the equivalents of the verb "uterge" and "to pass" acquire figurative meaning. It can be argued that in the absolute sense, and if used figuratively, these verbs will be monovalent.

The second variant of valency as in the case of the verb to walk is often combined with words that convey the route or place of action (Katznelson, 2004):

Shushi zirde anyn yazheleg uzdi. - His youth passed here.

Rex's happiest moments have passed in breweries.

Its shadow passes across the glass.

The third valency structure is formed using the divalent verb, which forms the valency of the target or the final point of movement (Kuliev, 1992):

Avyrular belen isnleshep, Zinnurov karavaty yanyna uzdy.

Balalar tavysh-tyñ chygarmaska tyryshyp kyna uz bulmelerene uzdylar.

Legislation was passed to allow freed slaves to marry.

By 1896 leadership had passed to London.

In contrast to the verbs 'yorerge' and 'to go', one rarely encounters instrumental valency here.

In the group of motion verbs with a common meaning, we can especially distinguish the verbs 'kicherge' and 'to cross', which involve overcoming any obstacle during



movement. We believe that these verbs do not indicate either the direction or the way of movement (Lavrentiev, 2001).

This verb is noteworthy in that it correlates with substantial structures of subjective verbs, but has an actant with spatial semantics in the form of an accusative or nominative case:

Ikenche Ukrain front gaskerler Prut elgasyn kichteler, yrshelere Tarnopolne aldy. - The troops of the 2nd Ukrainian Front crossed the Prut River, the neighbors took Tarnopol. Cross the river.

I'm prepared to cross this world.

He crossed Africa on his own to find relatives in the south. - He himself went around Africa to find relatives in the south.

So, the following constructions are characteristic of motion verbs with a common meaning:

1. Sub + V - *Vakhtalar yori. I'm glad he's gone.*

2. Itin + Sub + V - *Uram buylap kizlar bar.*

Sub + V + Itin - *We went through Thom's mail.*

3. Sub + V + Instr - *He goes by bus.*

4. Sub + Dest + V - *Mostafa belen Sherif kon saen balykka yoriler.*

Sub + V + Dest - *Alain goes to claim.*

Sub + Ad + V - *Onygym teatr tugeregene yori.*

Sub + V + Ad - *She goes to her mother's house.*

5. Sub + Loc + V - *Gaskerler Prut elgasyn kichteler.*

Sub + V + Loc - *He crossed Africa.*

Sub + V + Loc - *Rex's happiest moments have passed in breweries.*

Thus, we can come to the following conclusions:

1) In the absolute sense and in the case of use in the figurative sense, the verbs of motion with a common meaning are monovalent.

2) In the Tatar language the valency of a place is formed by combining a noun and a word (eschende, tiresende, astynda, ostende, etc.), in English - by combining a preposition (in, near, under, over, etc.) with a noun. The valency of the route in the Tatar language is conveyed by means of a postposition or a postposition word (buencha, arkyly, aldynnan, artynnan), which follows a noun in the nominative case, in English - by combining a suitable preposition (across, through, etc.) and a noun. Less commonly observed is the valency of the endpoint of the movement or goal.

Adjuncts are units that fill the active syntactic valency, but which at the same time do not correspond to any semantic valency (Yahin et al., 2017; Rasooli & Abedini, 2017). The synchronist indicates external circumstances or conditions of the situation. It can convey the meaning of the place, time, various conditions and mode of action. The characteristic



feature of adjuncts is their facultative nature: they can be omitted or added without violating the grammatical integrity of the sentence, that is, they are not caused by the obligatory valency of the verb (Bazarova & Gilyazeva, 2017; Silnitsky, 1990; Fasihi et al., 2019).

Among the distributors of verbs of motion with a common meaning, the mode of action, time, condition, concession are noted.

The most typical for motion verbs with a common meaning are distributors with the semantics of the mode of action:

Bygenge ton tynichsyz utte. - Today's night went uneasily.

Mene shulay kuz acyp yomganchi utte ul. - So in the blink of an eye our youth passed.

The rest of the day passed in pleasant haze.

He goes immediately to Helen.

Distributors are also used indicating the time:

Shunnan son un kon utte. - After that, ten days have passed.

And day after that incident he went to the tiny village police station.

Verbs of motion with a common meaning can simultaneously be combined both with distributors of the mode of action, and with distributors with the semantics of concession (Bazarova & Gilyazeva, 2018):

Ele son bulmauga karamastan, uramda halyk ez yori ide.

Despite the rain, we went for a walk with great pleasure.

There is also interaction in the proposal of the following two distributors: time and mode of action (Yulikova, 1994):

Razvedchiklar kuaklykka kergech, shuyshyp front syzygyna utteler.

Thus, we can come to the following conclusions:

1) For verbs of motion with a common meaning, the most typical are adjuncts with the semantics of the mode of action.

2) Among the distributors there is also an indication of the time.

3) The simultaneous use of adjuncts of both the condition and mode of action, and time with the mode of action are noted.

Results

In the Tatar and English languages there are cases of the use of two actants in one sentence, for example, the interaction of mandatory (end point of movement Ad) and optional (goal of movement Desto) distributors. Institutional instrumental valency also occurs in verbs of motion with a common meaning.

The valency of the route of motion verbs with a common meaning in the Tatar language is transmitted using a noun in the source case or a combination of a noun with a pronoun (buylap, arkyly, buencha, aldynnan, artynnan, etc.), the local valency is



implemented either according to the same scheme - a combination of a noun with a plural word (echende, astynda, ostende, tiresende, etc.), or through a noun in a local-temporal case. In English, the valency of a route is expressed by using a preposition (across, along, through, round, etc.) and a noun, local - using a preposition (in, between, among, at, outside, etc.) and a noun.

Conclusions

1. Verbs of motion act as subject verbs. Both in absolute and figurative sense, the verbs of motion with a common meaning are monovalent. They are characterized by active interaction with words that convey the meaning of the place of action (Loc) and route (Itin). Less common is the combination of the verb of this subgroup with the actants of the final point of movement or goal.

Valence acts as a syntactic phenomenon, which is localized at the level of the sentence members and which is widely motivated semantically. The valency model, in contrast to management, includes the subject and subordinate clauses.

2. Dominant verbs are found in impersonal sentences or in two-term sentences that express holistic events.

3. Among motion verbs, only verbs of motion with a common meaning are monovalent. The remaining subgroups of verbs of motion can be monovalent only at the superficial level, with the exception of rare use in a figurative sense.

4. In the group of movement verbs with a common meaning, the verb 'go' (kichu, to cross) with shifted forms of actants can be especially distinguished. This verb is noteworthy in that it correlates with the informative structures of subjective verbs, but has an actant with spatial semantics.

Verbs of motion have no place constants: the circumstances of the place are conveyed by spatial actants. This again proves the discrepancy of the sentence members in the syntax to the actants, adjuncts in the theory of valency.

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