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ОСВІТА, НАУКА ТА ВИРОБНИЦТВО: РОЗВИТОК І ПЕРСПЕКТИВИ

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THE PREDICATIVE CONSTRUCTION

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Aim of investigation. The aim of the study is to investigate, to learn and improve the state of the studied problem of the Predicative construction.

Object of investigation. The object of study is the Predicative construction itself.

Methods of investigation. For implementation of the tasks during the investigation of the given subject such methods are used: the analysis and systematization of the material and sources, the content analysis of the literary texts, generalization and comparison of the given theoretical material.

It is necessary to distinguish the difference between the notions “construction” and “complex” as far as they are both used to denote the phenomenon of the predicative construction.

The construction itself means any linguistic pattern, as some aspect of its form or function is not strictly predictable from its component part. But the patterns that are predictable are recognized as constructions as long as they occur with sufficient frequency.[1], [2]

The architecture of a construction is showed in Figure 1.

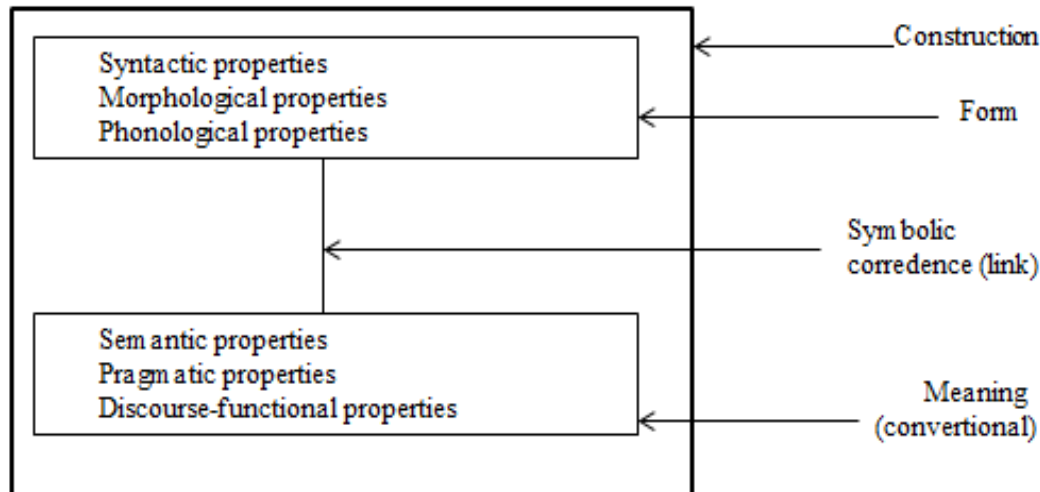


Figure1–The symbolic structure of a construction.[2]

This Figure shows that the form of the construction can be associated with different kinds of linguistic information (as syntactic, morphological, or phonological information). The form is connected with its meaning through a symbolic correspondence link. The term “meaning” includes construction’s functions.

As earlier mentioned, some scholars use the notion “complex”. So, it is necessary to define its meaning. There is no definite explanation of the complex from the linguistic point of view. Taking into a count all the mentioned definitions, given in the dictionaries, and the linguistic point of view, we propose the next definition of the complex:

Complex is learned pairings of form with semantic or discourse function, including morphemes or words, idioms, partially filled and fully lexical patterns, having interrelated and interdependent components or parts linked through many interconnections between form and meaning.

The Predicative Constructions or Complexes are structures that have a form of something between a phrase and a clause. Usually they contain of two words that have subject-predicate

relations. One word denotes the doer or the bearer of the state, and the other word is verbal or non-verbal. But both words neither real subject, nor real predicate. This syntactic phenomenon is called "secondary predication".

In a usual two-member sentence the predication takes place between the subject and the predicate. However, there are some sentences containing one more predication, which is not between the subject and the predicate of the sentence. This kind of predication is called secondary predication.[4]

There are the following types of the Predicative Constructions: [3]

1) the subjective construction with an infinitive. Functions as the complex subject; e.g. They are reported to have run away;

2) the objective predicative construction.; e.g. My friend noticed him to take your book; They heard her knocking the door; I thought him sly;

3) the objective predicative with participle I construction. Functions as the complex object; e.g. She felt tears running down her cheeks; Jane didn't want him staying alone; He caught them stealing the money.;

4) the objective predicative with participle II construction. Functions as the complex object; e.g. We heard the door shut; I thought him slept; Nobody wanted it solved;

5) the objective predicative with non-verbals; e.g. They figured him for a nice chap; I thought it easy to do;

6) the absolute nominative constructions. Functions as the complex adverbial modifier of attendant circumstances; She sat on the floor, Mary playing with her doll;

7) the absolute non-personal constructions; It being late, he left for home; The gathering over, everybody rose;

8) prepositional absolute constructions; e.g. She hugged her daughter with her eyes red;

9) the for-to-finitive constructions. Functions as the complex attribute or the complex adverbial modifier; e.g. it was impossible for him to give them the presents; That is not for me to judge; I rang for you to find Tom;

10) the gerundial predicative construction. Functions as the complex prepositional object; e.g. Your doing nothing won't change anything; After his being away for two weeks the project failed.

In the sentences the Predicative Constructions usually function as the complex subject, the complex predicative, the complex object, the complex attribute, or the complex adverbial modifier.

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