

DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO THE COMPOSITE SENTENCES IN MODERN LINGUISTICS

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Annotation

This article describes the semantic and structural types of composite sentences and taxemic approach to the "composite sentences" offered by G.M.Hoshimov¹, who has accordingly worked out a string of universal metaterms and metanotions for syntactical phenomenon.

Keywords: composite, compound, complex, taxeme, politaxeme, collotaxeme, hypotaxeme, ultrataxeme, architaxeme, supertaxeme, hypertaxeme.

There are different approaches to composite sentences, for example, N.A.Kobrina, E.A.Korneyeva distinguish the following composite sentences types:

1. The Compound Sentences.
2. Linked Independent Sentences.
3. The Complex Sentence.
 - a) The Complex Sentence with Substantive Clauses.
 - b) The Complex Sentence with a Subject Clause.
 - c) The Complex Sentence with a Predicative Clause.
 - d) The Complex Sentence with an Object Clause (The Complex Sentence with a Complement Clause).
 - e) The Complex Sentence with an Attribute Clause.
 - f) The Complex Sentence with an Adverbial Clause.
 - g) Cases of Structural Arrangements Intermediate between Coordination and Subordination
4. Inserted Clauses Modelled on the Pattern of Subordinate Clauses.

II. R.Quirk, S.Creendbaum, J.Svartvik distinguish the following complex sentences types:

1. Coordinate clauses
2. Subordinate clauses.

As we see the authors treat the abovementioned sentences under the term "complex sentence" and not "composite sentence". H.Sweet. speaks of the Composite Sentence, that fall into the Compound and Complex Sentences. And he considers that simple sentences can be of two types:²

¹ G.M. Hoshimov. Типология сложных предложений разносистемных языков. Т., «Фан», 1991, 38

² H.Sweet. A New English Grammar, Part I, p. 160-168

1. independent

2. dependent

For example: When I came back, I found no one at home. Here "When I came back", is dependent, "I found no one at home" – independent.

H.Sweet thinks that two or more sentences may be joined together to form a single complex sentence, or c o m p l e x, as it may be called for the sake of brevity. When simple sentences are joined together in this way they may be called "c l a u s e s"³

In every complex there is one independent clause, called the principal clause, together with at least one dependent clause, which stands in the relation of adjunct to the principal clause. The dependent clause may be either coordinate or subordinate. We call a coordinate clause a c o - c l a u s e, a subordinate clause a sub- clause. Thus in "You shall walk, and I will ride", the first clause is the principal clause, and the second is a co - c l a u s e. In you are the man I want, the second clause - I want - is a sub - clause. So also in "you shall walk while I ride".

A complex in which the principal clause is modified by a co-clause is called, for the sake of brevity, a co - c o m p l e x, and one in which it is modified by a sub clause is called a sub-complex. Thus the first complex is co-complexes, the other two are sub-complexes. In a complex the clauses must be joined together by conjunctions, or else the adjunct-clauses must be dependent, as in "You are the man I want". When two or more independent sentences are associated together logically in the same way as in complex, the combination is called a s e q u e n c e. thus we have an adversative sequence in "am I right, am I wrong? which is logically equivalent to the complex am I right, or am I wrong?" Such a sequence is therefore equivalent to a co-complex. Such a causal sequence as "I am sure of it": I saw it myself" if, on the other hand, equivalent to the sub complex I am of it, because I saw it myself. In both of these examples the adjunct sentence is unprepared. We call such sequences u n p r e p a r e d s e q u e n c e s .

A word-group containing a verbal often differs only grammatically from the same group with the verbal made into a finite verb, that is, from a sentence. Hence such a simple sentence as "I heard of his coming home" can be expanded into complex. "I heard that he had come home". So also "I wish him to come back "may be expanded into" I wish he would come back". Such sentences as "I heard of his coming home", "I wish him to come back", which contain in themselves the germs of dependent sentences, are called extended s e n t e n c e s .

Another way in which complexes are shortened is by making sentence connecting into word-connecting conjunctions, as when the complex "he is tall, but he is not strong" is made into a simple sentence with a group predicate - he is tall, but not strong. Such sentences may be regarded as a kind of extended sentences, but it is better to distinguish them from the

³ H.Sweet. A New English Grammar, Part I, p. 160-161.

extended sentences we have just been considering by calling them *contracted sentences*.

In the chapter devoted to the Composite sentence we must speak of also sentences like “Spring that has been long awaited.” “Spring that has been long awaited!”, “Spring that has been long awaited?” which are really nominative(elliptical) declarative, exclamatory, interrogative complex sentences accordingly, because some parts of the sentence are missing here and the missing parts (that is the subject(It) and the link verb(is)) can be easily restored.

In treating the composite sentences N.E.Kobrina and N.I. Korneeva classify them into the compound sentence and the complex sentence. The complex sentences in their turn fall under the following functional subtypes:

1) The complex sentence with nominal clauses (subjective, predicative, objective and appositive(content) clauses.

2) The complex sentences with adverbial clauses of place, time, manner, comparison, condition, concession, purpose, cause, result. (consequence)

3) Pseudo -complex sentences:

a) Emphatic (or cleft) sentences: It is John who did it

b) appended clauses: She is a clever girl, is your friend. He never told me anything, did your brother.

c) absolute (or emancipated) subordinate clauses (if only I knew his address! As though you didn't know!)

d) parenthetical clauses (parentheses) often called comment clauses

There is, as it were, a transparent barrier between myself and strong emotions.

He waited (which was his normal occupation) and thought, like other citizens.

In modern syntactical theory there's also a taxemic approach to the so called "composite sentences" offered by G`M.Hoshimov⁴, who has accordingly worked out a string of universal metaterms and metanotions for the above mentioned syntactical phenomenon. So he offers the following:

taxeme - It means "sentence" with one subject-predicate structure, homogeneous parts being excluded here (We have some time; They read novels, etc/).

polytaxeme - It is a composite sentence (Jack is a student, and his friend is a worker; When David came home, nobody was in, etc.)

collotaxeme - It is an asyndetic composite sentence (I am a teacher, he is a doctor; I know he is working now, etc.);

parataxeme - It is a syndetic compound sentence (The people are friendly here, but it's different there); —

⁴ G.M. Hoshimov. Типология сложных предложений разносистемных языков. Т., «Фан», 1991, 38

hypotaxeme - It is a syndetic complex sentence (They are working hard although they are extremely tired, etc.)

parentaxeme – It is a syndetic/asyndetic composite sentence (As you know, we are foreigners, My friend (he is a student) is an American guy.

hypertaxeme - It is a mixed (compound and complex) (When David came home, nobody was in, but the dog was barking, etc.)

supertaxeme composite sentence with four components (It was a high snowy mountain and it dominated the valley, but it was so far away that it did not make a shadow (E. Hemingway. A Farewell to Arms, 254)

architaxeme - It is a composite sentence with five components (It was a daybreak, the wind was blowing, some people were coming out of their houses which looked so modern and beautiful that you would like to live here no matter how costly they might be (Newspaper).

ultrataxeme - It is a composite sentence with six or more components (They would not let us go out together when I was off crutches because it was unseemly for a nurse to be seen unchaperoned with a patient who did not look as though he needed attendance, so we were not together much in the afternoon /E.Hemingway. A Farewell to Arms, 117/;)

As to B.A. Ilyish, there appears to be no reason to deny that a parenthetical clause of this kind is a subordinate clause. If this view is endorsed there is every reason to suppose that a sentence consisting of a main and a parenthetical clause is a usual kind of complex sentence⁵.

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⁵ B.A. Ilyish. The Structure of Modern English, L.,1965, 318