

# TRANSFORMATIONAL-DISTRIBUTIVE METHOD IN STUDYING THE SEMANTICS OF THREE-ACTANT VERBS

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## Abstract

The article considers the transformational-distributive method of studying semantic classes of transitive verbs in a comparative aspect using the material of the Russian and Uzbek languages. The study of semantic classes of transitive verbs, identified on the basis of valence differences, allows using the mechanism of encoding predicative phrases for the purposes of teaching the Russian language.

**Keywords:** distribution scheme, deep structure, surface structure, frame, actant, semantic class of verbs.

## Introduction

The study of verb classes and, above all, transitive verbs is of exceptional importance, also because through this part of speech it is possible to describe the meaning and functioning of other parts of speech that are correlative in meaning. According to the fair statement of D. Yu. Apresyan, «the most diverse semantics is possessed by the largest class of verbs in the Russian language — transitive verbs governing the accusative case» [1, 197]

The interpretation of semantics in our case of transitive verbs is based on the transformational-distributive method, the supporters of this direction were Chomsky N. [7], Fillmore Ch. [2, 369-395], Apresyan D. Yu [1] and many others, where the semantics of case is a deep structure, and the case or prepositional-case form is a superficial structure.

The case and prepositional-case form is a superficial structure - it is a unique combination of minimal meanings of the verb and its actants.

The semantic interpretation of the transformational feature, its deep structure as a whole allows us to talk about the semantic representation. The semantic representation of the entire sentence is derived from the syntactic deep structure using universal operations that combine the meanings of lexical units of the deep structure in accordance with the relevant syntactic relations.

Information about the deep syntactic-semantic relation follows from the interpretations of semantic classes of verbs by valence, which define the forms of the indirect case with prepositions.

The interpretation of the transformational feature as «the unity of the minimal meanings of the verb and its actants determines the semantic class of verbs» [3,73-75]



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Information about the deep syntactic-semantic relation follows from the interpretations of the semantic classes of verbs by valence, which define the forms of the accusative case with prepositions.

In accordance with the 32 identified syntactic-semantic classes of verbs by control of the accusative case with prepositions, transformational-distributive features are given, the schemes of which fix the surface structures of actants, which include the accusative case with a preposition.

Actants of syntactic forms of a phrase by valence are the result of the actualization of the subject components of the semantics of the verb.

Therefore, in order to identify the semantics of the case, it is necessary to bring the segment of interpretation into line with the surface structure of the actant. The semantic representation obtained as a result of the segmentation of the interpretation and corresponding to the actant is the case meaning (case frame) of the given surface structure [5], for example, in the transformation The painter smears the wall with paint/The painter smears paint on the wall - the interpretation of the transformational feature will be: «Coating the surface of an object with a substance or an object. In the right transform, the structure «on the wall» has the meaning «surface». This means that in this semantic class of verbs, the surface structure «accusative case with the preposition «na» has the semantics (case frame) p o v e r t e r s t. Of course, in another semantic class of verbs, the construction «accusative case with the preposition «na» will have a different meaning. Each semantic representation of the accusative case with a preposition (frame) has significance only as part of this interpretation. The frames of direct cases and verbs belong to the residual part of the interpretation and are not marked, and the frame of the accusative case with a preposition is marked. If we turn to the left transform of this transformation, it turns out that the frame «surface» goes to the residual part of the interpretation, since now it has the surface structure «accusative case without a preposition», and the frame of the instrumental case (paint) «a substance or object covering the surface of another object» becomes marked. A complete interpretation of the case frame always turns out to be a periphrase of the interpretation of the semantic class of verbs.

Case frames can have substances, qualities-properties, actions-states as their content, according to the semantics of the noun-actant. Thus, «goal», «means», «time» have quality-properties as their content, and the frame «tool» has substance. The main and formal attributes of verbs and actants of normal predicative phrases actualize the surface structures of the class of verbs according to the valency feature. This also includes transformations of the formal attributes of verbs and its actants.



Research proves the typological uniqueness of the relationship of the surface and deep structures of cases in the Russian language. Each of the constructions «accusative case with preposition» has a relationship with several frame combinations, and each of the relationships between the construction «accusative case with preposition» and the combination of frames is unique, inherent only to the Russian language.

Semantic classes of polyplace verbs that have the accusative case without a preposition in the position of a direct object, and the accusative case with a preposition in the position of an indirect object, cf.: The bright electric light was given by the lamp screwed into the ceiling lamp (= to screw the lamp into the lamp). The semantic class is determined by the position of the indirect object «accusative case with a preposition in an inanimate noun». The position determined by the indirect case of a noun in the accusative case with some preposition is found in 32 classes of verbs with very different volumes. Thus, verbs of the type «to dress» have 25 lexes, and verbs of the type «to prick» - 9 lexes, etc. Each of these classes is subject to interpretation. Analysis of the interpretation reveals the following frames in the Russian language: «whole» - «part». In this case, the frame «whole» has the selection distinguishers: «face» - «not a face», «animate» - «inanimate», «separateness», «integrity», «material», «product». The frame «part» has the selection distinguishers: «form» - «formlessness», «surface» - «environment». In this case, the «environment» has the selection distinguisher «hollow environment» - «absence of an internal cavity». Finally, there are frames of qualitative characteristics of the action, which nevertheless relate as selection distinguishers «inside» - «outside», as well as «goal» - «means», «place» - «time». In various combinations, these frames actualize the valency of the verb, acting as components of the semantics of cases. The following frames of the accusative case with a preposition in the Russian language have been identified: «sreda» with the selection distinguisher «hollow environment» - «absence of an internal cavity», the frame «sreda» corresponds to the surface structure  $BC_B^3$ , «sreda» can be combined with the frame «tool»

Similarly, comparisons are made in all 32 semantic classes by valency.

Legal notations:  $C_{одн}^1$  - subject expressed by an animate noun in the nominative case;  $\Gamma$  – verb;  $C_{B-}^2$  - accusative case complement without preposition;  $C_{TB}^2$  - the same noun in the position of complement with the instrumental case without preposition;  $C_B^3$  - the second complement in the accusative case without preposition;  $Bc_B^3$  - the same noun in the position of an object in the accusative case with the preposition «B».

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