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Three kinds of clause junctors

Lars Johanson

The paper deals with clause junctors, i.e. connective devices combining neighbouring predications within or beyond the sentence, and proposes a classification in three dimensions. In the dimension of integration, three kinds of clause junctors are distinguished: subjunctors (incorporating devices), conjunctors (coordinative devices) and adjunctors (adverbial junctors). Criteria for this classification are provided. A fourth option is asyndetic juxtaposition without the use of clause junctors. In the dimension of semantic accuracy, higher and lower degrees of accuracy are distinguished. A third option is openness, in which case the semantic concept is not signalled explicitly. In the dimension of elaborateness, complex clause junctors and simple clause junctors are distinguished. The analysis is illustrated with examples of English, French, German and Turkish clause junctors.

1. Introduction

The following brief notes concern a specific model of classification of clause junctors intended for cross-linguistic and typological purposes. It was first presented and applied to Turkic data in Johanson (1993, 1996); cf. Şenlik (2006). Detailed discussions, e.g. at the Workshop “Typology of Co- and Subordination in Languages” (Gumpoldskirchen, 26–29 May 2008), suggest that it can be applied to languages of various types, including different African languages. In what follows, some main points of the classification will be recapitulated and illustrated with simple examples of English, French, German and Turkish clause junctors.

2. Clause junctors

Clause junctors are defined as connective devices, products of various grammaticalization processes, combining neighbouring predications within or beyond the sentence and establishing the relations between them more or less explicitly. Clause junctors may be classified in three dimensions: integration, accuracy, elaborateness.

The classification will be exemplified here with causal junctors. They allow the addressee to interpret the content of one predication, C = Cause, as the ground of the content of another predication, E = Effect.

Causal concepts can be (1) reasons or (2) motives. (1) The state of affairs C can be presented as the reason for the state of affairs E. (2) The state of affairs C can be presented as a relevant motive for the state of affairs E. Reasons may be external or internal, direct or indirect, agentive or not, sufficient or not, compelling or not, real, imagined or alleged. Also motives may be external or internal, real, imagined or alleged.

3. Integration

The dimension of integration concerns the syntagmatic structure, the degree of intimacy of the two predications. The relation between them may be indicated by junctors, i.e. subjunctors, conjunctors and adjunctors.

3.1. Subjunctors

Subjunctors, e.g. subordinative conjunctions, incorporate one predication as part of the other within a sentence, e.g.

John cannot come since he is working.
Jean ne peut pas venir parce qu'il travaille.
Johann kann nicht kommen, weil er arbeitet.

Turkic languages use leftbranching infinitization constructions and bound subjunctors that carry one of the clauses syntactically and express its semantic relation to the superordinate clause, e.g. Turkish:

Ali	çalış-tığ-ın-dan	gel-em-iyor
Ali	work-VN-POSS3SG-ABL	come-IMPOSS-PRES3SG
'Ali cannot come since he is working'		

Two criteria for subjunctors: Clauses expressing the two predications can be incorporated together as part of a superordinate clause, e.g.

I know [that John cannot come since he is working].
Je sais [que Jean ne peut pas venir parce qu'il travaille].
Ich weiß [dass Johann nicht kommen kann, weil er arbeitet].

[Ali çalış-tığ-ın-dan	gel-eme-diğ-in-i]
Ali work-VN-POSS3SG-ABL	come-IMPOSS-VN-POSS3SG-ACC
bil-iyor-um	
know-PRES-1SG	
'I know that Ali cannot come since he is working'	

Clauses expressing the two predications can be coordinated with each other by means of conjunctors such as 'and' and 'or', e.g.

John cannot come [since he is working or since he is sleeping].
Jean ne peut pas venir [parce qu'il travaille ou parce qu'il dort].
Johann kann nicht kommen [weil er arbeitet oder weil er schläft].

In Turkish, the incorporated clauses can be coordinated with each other by means of **ve** 'and', **veya, ya da** 'or', etc., e.g.

Ali	[çalış-tığ-ın-dan	ya da	uyu-duğ-un-dan]
Ali	work-VN-POSS3SG-ABL	or	sleep-VN-POSS3SG-ABL
gel-em-iyor			
come-IMPOSS-PRES3SG			
'Ali cannot come since he is working or since he is sleeping'			

3.2. Conjunctors

Conjunctors, e.g. coordinative conjunctions, link the predications within a sentence without incorporating one of them into the other, e.g.

John cannot come for he is working.
Jean ne peut pas venir car il travaille.
Johann kann nicht kommen, denn er arbeitet.

Turkish uses free conjunctors, e.g. Turkish **çünkü** 'for', e.g.

Ali **gel-em-iyor**, **çünkü** **çalış-ıyor**
 Ali come-IMPOSS-PRES for work-PRES3SG
 'Ali cannot come, for he is working'

The criteria valid for subjunctors do not apply. Clauses expressing the two predications cannot be incorporated together as part of a superordinate clause. *I know [that ... for ... and for ...], *Je sais [que ... car ... et car ...], *ich weiß [dass ... denn ... und denn ...]. *... bil-iyor-um [çünkü ... ve çünkü ...].

Clauses expressing the two predications cannot be coordinated with each other by conjunctors such as 'and' and 'or', e.g. *for ... and/or for ..., *car ... et/ou car ..., *denn ... und/oder denn, *çünkü ... ve/ya da çünkü ...

3.3. Adjunctors

Adjunctors or adverbial junctors, e.g. conjunctive adverbs, connect two predications across sentence boundaries. They are neither coordinative nor subordinative, e.g.

John is working; therefore he cannot come.
Jean travaille; pour ça il ne peut pas venir.
Johann arbeitet; deshalb kann er nicht kommen.

Ali **çalış-ıyor**; **onun için** **gel-em-iyor**
 Ali work-PRES2SG therefore come-IMPOSS-PRES3SG
 'Ali is working; therefore he cannot come'

3.4. Asyndetic juxtaposition

Two related predications can be formally unconnected, i.e. juxtaposed asyndetically, with nothing more than a connection of pragmatic inference between them, e.g.

John is working; he cannot come.
Jean travaille; il ne peut pas venir.
Johann arbeitet; er kann nicht kommen.

Ali **çalış-ıyor**; **gel-em-iyor**
 Ali work-PRES3SG come-IMPOSS-PRES3SG
 'Ali is working; he cannot come'

4. Accuracy

The second parameter concerns the degree of accuracy with respect to the expression of the semantic relationship.

In the case of relatively high semantic accuracy, the causal relationship is expressed in a precise way by means of language-specific grammatical categories, e.g. **because**, **therefore**, **parce que**, **car**, **weil**, **da**, **çünkü**.

In the case of relatively low semantic accuracy, the interpretation is derivable from a similar concept, as a non-semanticized pragmatic inference, e.g. English **thus**, **accordingly**, **in this way**, **that being so**, **inasmuch as**, French **alors**, German **insofern (als)**, **demgemäß**, Turkish **böylece**.

In the case of openness, the semantic concept is not signalled explicitly.

5. Elaborateness

The third parameter concerns the degree of morphological elaborateness of the junctors. Most junctors cited above have a relatively simple shape. They often represent late stages of grammaticalization, their lexical sources being less easily recognizable. There are, however, also relatively complex subjunctors and adjunctors that represent earlier stages of grammaticalization at which the involvement of source lexemes is still recognizable. Complex junctors develop into simpler junctors through reduction of their material shapes. On the other hand, simple junctors are in turn replaced by new, more complex ones.

Complex junctors are less typical of informal speech, where semantic relations, such as causal ones, are often less explicit and juxtaposition may be preferred.

The lexical cores of complex junctors are often nouns expressing 'reason', 'effect', 'result', 'ground', 'basis', 'consequence', 'connection', 'consideration', 'accordance', etc., e.g. English **as a result of**, **as a consequence of**, **for the reason of**, **on account of**, **in accordance with**, French **à cause de**, **en raison de**, **suite à**, **compte tenu de**, **à la suite de**, **pour cause de**, German **infolge**, **aus dem Grund dass**, **als Folge davon dass**, Turkish **sebebi-yle** <reason-POSS3SG-with> 'for the reason of'.

There are semantically less accurate causal junctors meaning 'in connection with', 'on the occasion of', 'with regard to', 'in consideration of', 'with reference to'. In general, however, more complex junctors allow rich semantic differentiation and can thus be used to achieve higher degrees of semantic accuracy. These possibilities are often realized by means of elements copied from prestigious culture languages.

Abbreviations

ABL	ablative
IMPOSS	impossibility
POSS	possessive
PRES	present tense
SG	singular
VN	verbal noun

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Co- and subordination expressing causality in Slavonic languages

Juliane Besters-Dilger

The Slavonic languages exhibit some typical Indo-European and European features concerning the development of co- and subordination and the composition of the corresponding linguistic means. These features will be illustrated by a detailed description of the causal subordination. One can also find traces of language contact, grammaticalization and reanalysis. Such phenomena might be interesting for a comparison with African languages and reveal some typological similarities.

1. Introduction

The following presentation of the Slavonic languages, a typical Indo-European language group with around 18 members, aims to show possible differences or similarities in relation to African languages. The Slavonic languages are spoken over most of Eastern and much of Central Europe, and also in Northern and – still – in Central Asia.

The Slavonic languages form a genetic unit, that is, they are all descendants of a single ancestor language. We assume that there has been a Proto-Slavonic until the 6th century AD, before a migration and linguistic differentiation process took place. The oldest written documents have been produced in the second half of the 9th century and exist today in copies from the 11th century on. They are written in a language which is of great importance for our understanding of the early history of Slavonic languages: the so called Old Church Slavonic. So, at first glance, the conditions to reconstruct the original state and the development of co- and subordination seem quite good.

But the name 'Old Church Slavonic' indicates also the main problem we have with this language. One has to take into account that the production of the oldest Slavonic texts has been motivated by christianization. That means, they served as a tool for missionary work among the Slavs, initiated by the East Roman church in Byzantium. Therefore, they were translated from Greek, and the Greek language with its elaborated system of