

DERIVATIONAL AND SEMANTIC FEATURES OF COMPLEX SYNTACTIC CONSTRUCTIONS: THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS AND ANALYTICAL APPROACHES

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Article history:	Abstract:
Received: 7 th October 2025 Accepted: 6 th November 2025	<p><i>This article examines the nature of complex syntactic constructions, the interrelation between syntactic and semantic factors in their formation, and analyzes the main theoretical approaches in modern linguistics. The study examines various types of complex sentences—compound, complex, mixed, period, and prosaic stanza—considered as forms of complex syntactic constructions. Special attention is given to the interrelationship between language and speech, focusing on their structural, derivational, and communicative properties. The scientific views of Ch. Hockett, N. Chomsky, O. Jespersen, G. Paul, and J. Antoine are analyzed, highlighting both the shared and divergent aspects of their theories concerning syntactic derivation and deep structure. G. Paul's idea that "in two-component complex sentences, one component explains the other" is illustrated with examples and interpreted as an important feature revealing the semantic essence of complex syntactic constructions. The article also compares the perspectives of Turkish and Russian linguists, emphasizing that the issues of text syntax have not yet been fully resolved. In conclusion, the interconnection between speech and text in the analysis of complex syntactic constructions is scientifically substantiated, and the status of the text as a syntactic unit larger than the sentence is justified.</i></p>

Keywords: *Complex syntactic construction, derivation, semantics, complex sentence, text syntax, deep structure, intercomponent relation.*

Despite the considerable achievements reached in different stages of linguistic development, many theoretical issues remain unresolved or require reinterpretation from new perspectives. This is particularly evident in the study of syntactic units larger than the sentence, where traditional grammatical models prove insufficient. The relative incompleteness of earlier findings has led researchers to revisit established concepts and reassess them in light of new methodological approaches and empirical data (van Dijk, 2000).

One of the central problems in contemporary syntax concerns the analysis of units that arise in actual speech and exceed the boundaries of a simple sentence. Among these units, complex syntactic constructions occupy a special position. These constructions are formed in speech and represent syntactic units larger than a sentence but smaller than a paragraph, differing fundamentally from both in structure, meaning, and communicative function. Therefore, complex syntactic constructions cannot be fully explained by sentence-level syntax alone and require a broader analytical framework.

In linguistic literature, the term *complex syntactic construction* is often used interchangeably with *complex sentence*. However, in the present study, this term is understood in a broader sense, encompassing all syntactic units that contain more than one predicative center. This includes coordinated complex sentences, subordinate complex sentences, mixed constructions, periods, prosaic stanzas, and other supra-sentential syntactic units discussed under various terminological labels in different linguistic traditions (Paul, 1937; Karahan, 1999).

The derivation of complex syntactic constructions is inseparably connected with the notion of deep (underlying) structure. According to transformational-generative grammar, every syntactic construction has an abstract deep structure that reflects its semantic relations and a surface structure that represents its actual linguistic realization. The transformation from deep structure to surface structure constitutes the essence of syntactic derivation (Chomsky, 1968). From this perspective, complex sentences are derived as a result of syntactic operations applied to simpler structures.

The importance of deep structure is also emphasized in the works of other linguists. Hockett (1958) argues that grammatical analysis should not be limited to surface forms, as they often conceal essential semantic relations. Similarly, Jespersen (1985) views deep structure as a logical and semantic foundation that underlies syntactic expression. Although these scholars approach the concept from different theoretical angles, they share the view that syntactic derivation is motivated by meaning and conceptual relations rather than formal structure alone.

It should be noted that syntactic derivation is not governed exclusively by syntactic factors. Semantic relations play an equally important role in the formation of complex syntactic constructions. As van Dijk (2000) points out, not only sentences but also speech acts and propositions are interconnected within a text. Consequently, complex syntactic constructions embody both syntactic and semantic relations, reflecting the complexity of conceptual content in linguistic form.

This interaction between syntax and semantics is particularly evident in two-component complex constructions. According to Paul (1937), one of the defining features of such constructions is that one component explains or specifies the other. This idea reveals the semantic essence of complex syntactic constructions and demonstrates that syntactic coordination often involves implicit explanatory or causal relations rather than mere juxtaposition.

Example: *The sun had already set, and the sky was turning dark.*

In this example, the second component *the sky was turning dark* explains and semantically elaborates the first component *the sun had already set*. Although the clauses are formally coordinated, their semantic relationship is explanatory and resultative, which supports Paul's view that coordination does not exclude semantic dependency.

A similar relation can be observed in Uzbek:

Example: *Quyosh botdi va osmonni qorong'ulik qopladi.*

Here again, the second clause provides a semantic explanation of the situation introduced in the first clause. Thus, the components form a coherent semantic whole despite their structural independence.

Contrasting views can be found in Turkish linguistics, where coordinated complex sentences are often described as consisting of syntactically and semantically independent components linked solely by conjunctions (Karahan, 1999; Banguoğlu, 1998). However, such an interpretation overlooks the implicit semantic relations that motivate the combination of clauses. From a derivational and semantic perspective, complex syntactic constructions arise not merely due to formal linking devices but as a result of the need to express integrated conceptual content.

The issue of complex syntactic constructions is closely related to text linguistics. Text is considered the primary domain in which complex syntactic constructions function and acquire their communicative value. Hausenblas (1972) emphasizes that text is formed through the interaction of multiple linguistic levels, while Harweg (1974) points out that text syntax remains one of the least fully developed areas of linguistic theory. These observations highlight the necessity of analyzing complex syntactic constructions within the broader framework of text and discourse.

Furthermore, linguistic research has shown that text syntax cannot be analyzed using the same methods as sentence syntax. While sentence-level syntax focuses on relations between words and phrases, text-level syntax requires new approaches capable of capturing relations between larger syntactic units. As Turobov (2023) notes, the syntactic relations between sentences and supra-sentential units belong to a different level of grammatical organization and demand independent analytical tools.

The findings of the present study indicate that complex syntactic constructions represent one of the highest syntactic units in the language system. Their formation is based on the interaction of syntactic and semantic factors, and they emerge in speech as units larger than a sentence but smaller than a paragraph. The views of Chomsky (1968), Jespersen (1985), and Paul (1937) collectively demonstrate that syntactic derivation cannot be adequately explained without reference to deep structure and semantic relations.

In conclusion, the analysis of complex syntactic constructions requires an integrative approach that combines syntactic, semantic, and textual perspectives. Logical and linguistic factors must be examined together in order to reveal the true nature of derivational processes. The role of text as a unifying framework for complex syntactic constructions, as well as the functional and communicative significance of these units, remains a promising area for further research.

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