

Department of Art & Design
Assignment
Subject: Functional English

Total Marks: 30
April 17, 2020

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Plagiarized answers are not acceptable.

Q1. Write a paragraph which reflects the shades of traditional grammar and explain how traditional grammar classifies the words? How does each part of speech explain the words and how the words are used?

Ans. Traditional grammar:

It refers to the type of grammar study done prior to the beginnings of modern linguistics. Grammar, in this traditional sense, is the study of the structure and formation of words and sentences, usually without much reference to sound and meaning.

Paragraph:

When Christine (proper noun) was (helping verb) sent (action verb) to Canada (noun) to live with (preposition) her uncle everybody said she was the most (adverb) disagreeable-looking child ever seen. It was true, too. She (pronoun) had a little thin face and (co-ordinating conjunction) a little thin body, thin light hair and a sour (adjective) expression. Her (possessive pronoun/adjective) hair was yellow and (conjunction) her face was yellow (predicate adjective) because (subordinating conjunction) she had been born in (preposition) India (proper noun) and always been ill in one way or (coordinating conjunction) another.

Q2. Re-Construct the following passage, remove the errors and give new shape by transforming the tenses.

Fashion refer to anything that became a rage among the masses. Fashion is a popular aesthetic expression. Most Noteworthy, it is something that was in vogue. Fashion appeared in clothing, footwear, accessories, makeup, hairstyles, lifestyle, and body proportions. Furthermore, Fashion is an industry-supported expression. In the contemporary world, people took fashion very seriously. Fashion is something that has permeated every aspect of human culture.

History of Fashion. The origin of Fashion was from the year 1826. Probably everyone believed Charles Frederick to be the first fashion designer of the world. He also establishes the first Fashion house in Paris. Consequently, he begins the tradition

of Fashion houses. Furthermore, he given advice to customers on what clothing would suit them. He was prominent from 1826 to 1895. During this period, many design houses hired artists. Furthermore, the job of these artists were to developed innovative designs for garments. The clients would examine many different patterns. Then they would pick the one they like. Consequently, a tradition began of presented patterns to customers and then stitching them. At the beginning of the 20th century, new developments in Fashion takes place. These developments certainly began in Paris first. Then they spread in other parts of the world. Consequently, new designs first come into existence in France. From Paris, they gone to other parts of the world. Hence, Paris became the Fashion capital of the world. Also, Fashion in this era was 'haute couture'. This Fashion design was exclusively for individuals. In the mid-20th century, a change takes place. Now Fashion garments underwent mass production. There were a significant increase in the rate of production of Fashion garments. As a result, more and more people became involved with Fashion garments. By the end of the 20th century, a sense of Fashion awareness was very strong. Now people began to choose clothes base on their own style preference. Hence, people began to creating their own trends instead of relying on existing trends.

Ans: Re-constructed Passage:

Fashion refers to anything that becomes a rage amongst the masses. Fashion is a popular aesthetic expression. Most noteworthy, it is something that was in Vogue. Fashion appeared in clothing, footwear, accessories, makeup, hairstyles, lifestyle, and body proportions. Furthermore, Fashion is an industry-supported profession. In the contemporary world, people take fashion very seriously. Fashion is something that has permeated every aspect of human culture.

History of Fashion. The origin of Fashion is from the year 1826. Probably everyone believes Charles Fredrick to be the first fashion designer of the world. He also established the first Fashion house in Paris. Consequently, he began the tradition of Fashion houses. Furthermore, he gave advice to customers on what clothing would suit them. He was prominent from 1826 to 1895. During this

period, many design houses hired artists. Furthermore, the job of these artists was to develop innovative designs for garments. The clients would examine many different patterns. Then would pick the one they liked. Consequently, a tradition began of presenting patterns to customers and then stitching them. At the beginning of the 30th century, new des in fashion took place These developments certainly began in Paris first. Then they spread in other parts of the world. Consequently, new designs first came into existence in France. From Paris, they got to other parts of the world. Hence, Paris became the fashion capitol of the world. Also, Fashion in this era was 'Haute Couture'. This Fashion design was exclusively for individuals. In the mid-20th century, a change took place. Now fashion garments underwent mass production. There was a significant increase in rate of production of fashion garments. As a result, more and more people became involved with fashion garments. By the end of the 20th century, the sense of fashion awareness was very strong. Now people began to choose clothes based on their own style preference. Hence, people began to create their own trends instead of relying on existing trends.

Q3. People always remember kernel sentences and generate all the varieties of grammatical forms. How do the Principles of Voice transform kernel sentences and syntactic structure?

Ans: Kernel Sentences:

In transformational grammar, a *kernel sentence* is a simple declarative construction with only one verb. A kernel sentence is always active and affirmative. Also known as a *basic sentence* or a *kernel*.

The concept of the kernel sentence was introduced in 1957 by linguist Z.S. Harris and featured in the early work of linguist Noam Chomsky.

Examples and Observations

- According to writer Shefali Moitra, "A kernel sentence does not contain any optional expression and is simple in the sense that it is unmarked in mood, therefore, it is indicative. It is also unmarked in voice, therefore, it is active rather than passive. And, finally, it is unmarked in polarity, therefore, it is a positive rather than a negative sentence. An example of a kernel sentence is 'The man opened the door,' and an example of a non-kernel sentence is 'The man did not open the door.'"
- M.P. Sinha, PhD, scholar and writer, offers more examples: "Even a sentence with an adjective, gerund, or infinitive is not a kernel sentence.
 - (i) *This is a black cow* is made of two kernel sentences.
This is a cow and *The cow is black*.
 - (ii) *I saw them crossing the river* is made of *I saw them* and *They were crossing the river*.
 - (iii) *I want to go* is made of *I want* and *I go*."

Chomsky on Kernel Sentences

According to American linguist, Noam Chomsky, "[E]very sentence of the language will either belong to the kernel or will be derived from the strings underlying one or more kernel sentences by a sequence of one or more transformations.

"[I]n order to understand a sentence it is necessary to know the kernel sentences from which it originates (more precisely, the terminal strings underlying these kernel sentences) and the phrase structure of each of these elementary components, as well as the transformational history of development of the given sentence from those kernel sentences. The general problem of analyzing the process 'understanding' is thus reduced,

in a sense, to the problem of explaining how kernel sentences are understood, these being considered the basic 'content elements' from which the usual, more complex sentences of real life are formed by transformational development."

Transformations

British linguist P. H. Matthews says, "A kernel clause which is both a sentence and a simple sentence, like *His engine has stopped* or *the police have impounded his car*, is a kernel sentence. Within this model, the construction of any other sentence, or any other sentence that consists of clauses, will be reduced to that of kernel sentences wherever possible. Thus the following:

'The police have impounded the car which he left outside the stadium.'

is a kernel clause, with transforms *Have the police impounded the car which he left outside the stadium?* and so on. It is not a kernel sentence, as it is not simple. But the relative clause, *which he left outside the stadium*, is a transform of the kernel sentences *He left a car outside the stadium*, *He left the car outside the stadium*, *He left a bicycle outside the stadium*, and so on. When this modifying clause is set aside, the remainder of the main clause, *The police have impounded the car*, is itself a kernel sentence."

Syntactic Structure:

- a. The study of the rules whereby words or other elements of sentence **structure** are combined to form grammatical sentences.
- b. A publication, such as a book, that presents such rules.

In English grammar, sentence structure is the arrangement of words, phrases, and clauses in a sentence. The grammatical function or meaning of a sentence is dependent on this structural organization, which is also called syntax or syntactic structure.

In traditional grammar, the four basic types of sentence structures are the simple sentence, the compound sentence, the complex sentence, and the compound-complex sentence.

The most common word order in English sentences is Subject-Verb-Object (SVO). When reading a sentence, we generally expect the first noun to be the subject and the second noun to be the object. This expectation (which isn't always fulfilled) is known in linguistics as the "canonical sentence strategy."

Examples and Observations

One of the first lessons learned by the student of language or linguistics is that there is more to language than a simple vocabulary list. To learn a language, we must also learn its principles of sentence structure, and a linguist who is studying a language will generally be more interested in the structural principles than in the vocabulary per se."—Margaret J. Speas

"Sentence structure may ultimately be composed of many parts, but remember that the foundation of each sentence is the subject and the predicate. The subject is a word or a group of words that functions as a noun; the predicate is at least a verb and possibly includes objects and modifiers of the verb."

—Lara Robbins

Meaning and Sentence Structure

"People are probably not as aware of sentence structure as they are of sounds and words, because sentence structure is abstract in a way that sounds and words are not . . . At the same time, sentence structure is a central aspect of every sentence . . . We can appreciate the importance of sentence structure by looking at examples within a single language. For instance, in English, the same set of words can convey different meanings if they are arranged in different ways. Consider the following:

- The senators objected to the plans proposed by the generals.
- The senators proposed the plans objected to by the generals.

The meaning of [first] the sentence is quite different from that of [the second], even though the only difference is the position of the words *objected to* and *proposed*. Although both sentences contain exactly the same words, the words are structurally related to each other differently; it is those differences in structure that account for the difference in meaning."

Information Structure: The Given-Before-New Principle

"It has been known since the Prague School of Linguistics that sentences can be divided into a part that anchors them in the preceding discourse ('old information') and a part that conveys new information to the listener. This communicative principle may be put to good use in the analysis of **sentence structure** by taking the boundary between old and new information as a clue to identifying a syntactic boundary. In fact, a typical SVO sentence such as *Sue has a boyfriend* can be broken down into the subject, which codes the given information, and the remainder of the sentence, which provides the new information. The old-new distinction

thus serves to identify the VP [verb phrase] constituent in SVO sentences."

—Thomas Berg

Producing and Interpreting Sentence Structures in Speech

"The grammatical structure of a sentence is a route followed with a purpose, a phonetic goal for a speaker, and a semantic goal for a hearer. Humans have a unique capacity to go very rapidly through the complex hierarchically organized processes involved in speech production and perception. When syntacticians draw structure on sentences they are adopting a convenient and appropriate shorthand for these processes. A linguist's account of the structure of a sentence is an abstract summary of a series of overlapping snapshots of what is common to the processes of producing and interpreting the sentence."—James R. Hurford

The Most Important Thing to Know About Sentence Structure

"Linguists investigate sentence structure by inventing sentences, making small changes to them, and watching what happens. This means that the study of language belongs to the scientific tradition of using experiments to understand some part of our world. For example, if we make up a sentence (1) and then make a small change to it to get (2), we find that the second sentence is ungrammatical.

(1) I saw the white house. (Grammatically correct)

(2) I saw the house white. (Grammatically incorrect)

"Why? One possibility is that it relates to the words themselves; perhaps the word *white* and the word *house* must always come in this order. But if we were to explain in this way we would need separate explanations for a very large number

of words, including the words in the sentences (3)-(6), which show the same pattern.

(3) He read the new book. (Grammatically correct)

(4) He read the book new. (Grammatically incorrect)

(5) We fed some hungry dogs. (Grammatically correct)

(6) We fed some dogs hungry. (Grammatically incorrect)

"These sentences show us that whatever principle gives us the order of words, it must be based on the class of word, not on a specific word. The words *white*, *new*, and *hungry* are all a class of word called an adjective; the words *house*, *book*, and *dogs* are all a class of word called a noun. We could formulate a generalization, which holds true for the sentences in (1)-(6):

(7) An adjective cannot immediately follow a noun.

"A generalization [as with sentence 7] is an attempt to explain the principles by which a sentence is put together. One of the useful consequences of a generalization is to make a prediction which can then be tested, and if this prediction turns out to be wrong, then the generalization can be improved . . . The generalization in (7) makes a prediction which turns out to be wrong when we look at sentence (8).

(8) I painted the house white. (Grammatically correct)

"Why is (8) grammatical while (2) is not, given that both end on the same sequence of *house white*? The answer is the most important thing to know about sentence structure: The grammaticality of a sentence depends not on the sequence of words but how the words are combined into phrases."—Nigel Fabb