

Universitatea Babeş-Bolyai
Facultatea de Litere
Şcoala doctorală de Studii Lingvistice şi Literare
Doctorand: Băilă Adelina-Patricia
Conducător ştiinţific: prof. univ. dr. Neamţ Gavrilă

The complement in Romanian language. A morphosyntactic classification

Abstract

Through this doctoral thesis entitled *The complement in Romanian language. A morphosyntactic classification*, we propose an exclusively grammatical classification of the complement, based on a morphosyntactic criterion, and a presentation of the semantic functions/thematic roles associated to every type of complement.

The motivation for our research lies in the fact that by analyzing the criteria that underlines the naming, the definition and the classification of the syntactic functions in the Romanian grammar, we observed that they are mostly semantic or pragmatic and only sometimes as syntactic/relational type. Moreover, these criteria, being them (?)of a semantic, pragmatic or syntactic nature, are not applied in an unitary manner neither in terms of the names given to the functions, nor in their classification. For example, in GALR, the attribute is defined and classified by a morphosyntactic point of view, and the adjunct is defined exclusively by a semantic point of view. In the GBLR, however, the old attribute is realized only on the basis of the semantic and pragmatic criteria, some syntactic criteria are being kept in the naming and in the definition of complements, while the classification of the adjunct ones is as well a semantic one.

Therefore, starting from the analysis of the criteria underlying the realization of all syntactic functions in the grammar of the Romanian language, we focused our attention on the differences between attribute and complement. Therefore we have come to the conclusion that these differences - in fact, this is about the distinction of the attribute - complement - are given by the inhomogeneous application of semantic and syntactic criteria and that, in fact, both the complement and the attribute have the semantic role of fulfilling and completing the meaning of

the word that determines it, and, from a syntactic point of view, they are subordinated by the same means: inflexion, preposition, adherence, agreement.

In this context, the purpose of this paper is to establish the morphosyntactic criterion as the only criterion for defining syntactic functions and, by applying it in a unitary way, we consider the achievement of a morphosyntactic classification of the complement, in which the syntactic function in question is to be named and defined exclusively on the basis of this criterion. At the same time, by distinguishing between the concepts of syntactic function and semantic function and being aware of the interdependence relation between them, we will analyze each type of complement also from a semantic point of view.

The title of our thesis, *The complement in Romanian language. A morphosyntactic classification*, refers to the classification criteria of the complement: the morphological one, where the morphological values/classes of words in which the complement is expressed are taken into consideration and the syntactic one, through which the means of subordination are taken into account to determine the name of each type of complement, and the semantic one, by which the thematic roles/semantic functions performed by the complement are established.

We propose the following structure of the paper: *Argument, Chapter I. The syntactic function vs. the semantic function in Romanian language. The complement, Chapter II. The complement of the verb, Chapter III. The complement of the noun, pronoun and numeral, Chapter IV. Complement of the adjective, adverb and interjection, Conclusions, Annex, Bibliography.*

In *Chapter I. The syntactic functions vs. the semantic functions. The Complement*, (?)we propose the clarification and the delimitation of the concepts of *syntactic relation, semantic relation, part of the sentence, syntactic position, syntactic structure, syntactic function, semantic function, semantic role, thematic role*, the most important aspect being the differentiation of the syntactic function from the semantic one. We proceed then with an inventory of the classification criteria for syntactic functions, both in the traditional grammar of the Romanian language and in the modern one. Establishing the morphosyntactic criterion as the only criterion for defining and classifying the complement in our work, we make some observations on the principle of uniqueness in the syntax of the Romanian language. We also propose the distinction of the complement of the verb, the complement of the noun, the complement of the pronoun, the complement of the numeral, the complement of the adverb, the complement of the interjection, the complement of the adjective.

By complement we understand all the syntactic functions from Romanian language, except the predicate and the subject.

Morphologically, the complement is classified into:

- the complement expressed by a noun;
- the complement expressed by a pronoun;
- the complement expressed by a numeral;
- the complement expressed by a non finite verb;
- the complement expressed by an adjective;
- the complement expressed by an adverb;
- the complement expressed by an interjection.

Syntactically, the complement is classified into:

- the complement subordinated by inflexion;
- the complement subordinated by uninflection;
- the complement subordinated by preposition;
- the complement subordinated by adherence;
- the complement subordinated by agreement;
- the complement subordinated by verbal suffix.

In *Chapter II. The complement of the verb*, we present a morphosyntactic and semantic classification of the verb complement. The consequences of these classifications are the restriction of the number of complements, the renaming of some, the elimination of the difference between complements and adjuncts, the consideration of the adjuncts from the traditional grammar as semantic functions and not as syntactic functions.

In *Chapter III. The complement of the noun, pronoun and numeral* we interpret the syntactic function of the attribute from the traditional grammar as a complement of the noun, pronoun and numeral. We propose a morphosyntactic and semantic classification of it and we argue the presence of semantic functions in the nominal group. Therefore, some of the syntactic functions that appear in GBLR in the nominal group are considered, in our paper, semantic functions.

Chapter IV. The complement of the adjective, andverb and interjection presents the other types of complements also from the morphosyntactic and the semantic point of view.

In the charter regarding concluziona we have determine 35 complements, defined exclusively by the gramatical point of view.

The *AAnnex* includes the definition of 46 semantic functions/ thematic roles associated to each and every type of complement: agent, patient, effect, theme, cause, instrument, experiencer, stimulus, possessor, beneficiary, recipient, goal, location, source, direction, manner, measure, determinant, quantifier, modifier, reflexive, mutual, partitiv, material/substance, focalization, possessed object, relation, time, iterative, durativ, limit, comparative, concessive, opposition, cumulation, sociative, purpose, conditional, exception, passive etc.

The bibliography includes authors and papers from the Romanian grammar field as well as the English, French and Spanish ones (structuralist, generative-transformational, functional) and semantics.

Keywords: syntactic function, semantic function, complement, attribute, morphosyntactic classification.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abbreviations

Argument

Chapter I. Syntactic functions vs. the semantic functions în Romanian grammar. The complement

Chapter II. The complement of the verb

Chapter III. The complement of the noun, pronoun and numeral

Chapter IV. The complement of the adjective, adverb and interjection

Conclusions

Annex. The complement – semantic functions

Bibliography