

Abstract
Graduation Level of Proficiency Paper
(Specialist degree)

Title: Verb valence as the instrument of sentence structure organization

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Topical Importance: There have been a number of studies of English verb valence properties and their influence on the other sentence elements, but there is still much scope for research that puts the valence aspects in the context of both classic and contemporary grammatical theories. This work takes a corpus-based systemic approach, putting forward the correlation between syntactic and semantic levels of verb valence.

Goals: This paper aims to specify the procedures of English sentence structures organization and to find out their dependency on the valence properties of the verb.

Tasks: to describe basic English sentence structures on the ground of studying different levels of verb valence and to find out the influence of the verb properties on the number and character of sentence complements.

Theoretical value and practical applicability: Based on the large bulk of real data this research represents complex analysis of verb valence characteristics which are seen as the key factor for binding a number of certain other elements in a grammatical and semantic construction. Complex analysis of syntactic, logical and semantic levels of verb valence helps to describe the combinatory aspects of sentence elements.

Results: Verb valence is the crucial factor in building a grammatical sentence of English. It is the verb that largely determines the overall structure of the sentence. Syntactic valence defines the requirements for the morphosyntactic realization of arguments. All English verbs can be classed as monovalent, divalent or trivalent. The most common English sentence syntactic structure is the one with three arguments. Logical valence refers to the logical predicates that formalize the verb's semantic content. The concept of semantic valence restricts the predicate's arguments to the elements with certain semantic properties.

Implementation advice: The theoretical material of the thesis can be applied in studying or teaching different courses in linguistics, especially the ones in semantic syntax and utterance semantics.