

**THE PROBLEM OF BOUNDARIES BETWEEN SIMPLE, COMPLEX, AND
COMPLEX SENTENCES IN MODERN RUSSIAN**

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Annotation. This paper examines the distinction between simple, complex, and compound sentences in modern Russian. Particular attention is paid to the criteria for this distinction, controversial syntactic constructions, and trends in the development of the syntactic system. The features that lead to the confusion of the boundaries between the three types of constructions are identified.

Key words: simple sentence, complicated sentence, complex sentence, syntax, construction boundaries.

Abstract

This paper addresses the issue of distinguishing between simple, compound, and complex sentences in modern Russian. Special attention is given to the criteria for differentiation, controversial syntactic constructions, and trends in the development of the syntactic system. Signs that lead to the blurring of boundaries between the three types of constructions are identified.

Introduction.

Traditional Russian grammar distinguishes three main types of syntactic constructions: simple, complex, and compound sentences. However, in modern linguistics, the boundaries between these constructions continue to be debated, as many constructions possess mixed properties. The presence of clarifying, connecting, introductory, and explanatory components complicates classification and requires detailed analysis [1, p. 45].

The relevance of research into the distinction between simple, complex, and compound sentences in modern Russian stems from several factors. First, with the rapid development of the language and its adaptation to new realities arising from globalization and technological change, there is an increase in the number of new syntactic constructions and their variability. This requires a revision of traditional approaches to sentence classification.

Secondly, understanding the boundaries between different sentence types is essential for teaching Russian as a native and foreign language. Teachers and students face difficulties in identifying sentence structure, which can lead to errors in oral and written communication. A clear understanding of these boundaries facilitates more effective learning and communication.

Thirdly, the study of syntactic structures is relevant for lexicography, stylistics, and literary studies, as different sentence types can significantly influence the expressiveness of a text and its perception by the reader. Thus, analyzing the boundaries between simple, complex, and compound sentences not only enriches theoretical knowledge of language but also has practical applications in various fields of linguistics and education.

1. Simple sentence and its boundaries

A simple sentence is characterized by one grammatical center [1, p. 89]. However, difficulties arise when the sentence contains:

homogeneity of predicates: He came in and sat down. - formally one sentence, but with elements of "double predication".

Introductory constructions: He, frankly speaking, is tired.

Refinements and isolated clauses: in spring, at the end of April, nature blossoms. Such structures tend toward the complex type, although they remain simple at their core.

2. Complicated sentence: selection criteria

A complicated sentence remains simple, but contains additional layers of meaning:

1. Isolated members: The children, tired by the evening, went to bed.

2. Introductory words and sentences: He seems to agree.

3. Clarifying phrases: We will leave tomorrow, at about ten o'clock.

4. Connecting structures: I did everything, and most importantly, on time.

The main criterion: one grammatical center is preserved, but the structure becomes multi-layered [2, p. 19].

3. Complex sentence: main features

A complex sentence includes two or more predicative centers:

Compound: The sun rose and the birds began to sing.

Complex subordinates: when night fell, the city was plunged into silence.

Unionless: evening came - the city lit up.

However, in practice, structures emerge on the border between simple, complicated, and complex [3, p. 65]

4. Problematic cases of classification

4.1. Border: complicated or complex?

Example: He went home without saying a word.

— Some researchers believe that the adverbial participial turnover carries a “hidden predication”, others — that it does not form a second center.

4.2. Boundary: simple with homogeneous predicates or compound?

He came up and knocked.

Formally, it is simple, but the semantic relationships between actions tend to be SSP.

4.3. Non-union complicated constructions

If you go right, you will find the road.

Such constructions have a complex structure, but are often interpreted as formally simple [5, p. 117] (during training).

5. Trends in modern Russian grammar [6, p. 77]

1. Strengthening the signs of complication in simple sentences: development of clarifications, additions, and introductions.

2. Expansion of non-union forms of complex sentences: active use in colloquial speech.

3. Mixing structural models:

the emergence of hybrid forms: He looked at me - tired, but confident.

4. Pragmatization of syntax: intonation becomes the key criterion of distinction.

Conclusion

The problem of distinguishing between simple, complex, and compound sentences in modern Russian is multifaceted and requires a systematic approach. It encompasses several key aspects:

1. The structural aspect is the need to clearly define the boundaries between different types of sentences, which contributes to a better understanding of the syntactic structure of the language.

2. Functional aspect – the study of how the complexity of sentences affects the expressiveness and semantic load of the text.

3. Educational aspect – the importance of correct classification for teaching Russian as a native and foreign language, which helps to avoid common mistakes.

4. Cultural aspect – analysis of syntactic constructions as a reflection of changes in language caused by modern realities and technological progress.

Modern Russian syntax exhibits a tendency toward increasing complexity and the interaction of various constructions, making the problem of classification particularly relevant to philology. This underscores the need for further research in this area. Addressing this topic not only enriches theoretical knowledge about the language but also opens new horizons for practical application in teaching and communication. Prospects for future research may include a comparative analysis of syntactic constructions in different languages and an examination of the influence of new media on the development of syntax.

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