COMPARATIVE SYNTACTIC ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH AND HINDI

Kirti[*]

ABSTRACT

English and Hindi are the most popularly used language of the world. In this research paper we will be discussing about their similarities and dissimilarities. By focusing on sentence formation and considering few grammatical tools we will throw light on the difference of sentence formation in English and Hindi. We will be showing the syntactic difference by following gender, number, time and voice change. We will also discover the change in language over past few centuries. With the help of few examples we will be discovering the above grammatical tools in the two languages. Hence, this research will reflect the syntactic difference between English and Hindi.

Keywords: *Syntactic Analysis, Grammatical Tools, Sentence Formation, Words, Phrases, Sentences.*

_____

Introduction

Semantics is the study of meaning in terms of words, phrases, sentences and larger units of discourse like texts or narratives. Word order plays an important role in understanding the meaning of the sentence. Word order depends on three aspects i.e. subject, verb and object. Further these three aspects play important role in distinguishing gender, number, time etc. Grammar is the root of a language. Though there is no similarity between alphabets of English and Hindi, the grammar of two languages has few similarities. Hence, syntax functions as the skeletal of anylanguage.

Word Order

Word order refers to positioning of subject (S), verb (V) and object (O) in a sentence. It basically defines the formation of the sentence. Before understanding word order, it is important to know little about subject, verb and object.

- Subject: It is generally referred to as noun or pronoun on which the whole sentence is based on or related to.
- Verb: It refers to any action taking place in a sentence.
- Object: it is a word or a phrase which is influenced by subject and verb.

For example: 1. English : He reads the book. (SVO)

Hindi : Usne pustak padhi.(SOV)

2. English : Five months are over. (SV)

Hindi : Panch mahine khatam ho gaye hai.(SV)

We can see in second sentence that there is no object in the sentence, hence the sentence structure for both English and Hindi remain same.

Affirmative Sentences

Word order is different in Hindi and English. Unlike English which has fixed word order; Hindi does not has fixed word order. However, the typical word order f most of the Hindi sentence is <S><O><V>. While the word order of English sentence is <S><V><O>. There are few examples based on it :

*   M.A. English II-Semester, Amity School of Liberal Arts, Faculty of Arts, Amity University, Haryana, India.

1.   English : Rita eats banana.(SVO)

        Hindi : Rita ne kela khaya.(SOV)

2.   English : He sat under a tree.(SVO)

        Hindi : Vo pedh ke neeche betha hai. (SOV)

3.   English : They sleep in the afternoon.(SVO)

        Hindi : Vo dupher mai soye. (SOV)

Interrogative Sentence

Now let's see few interrogative sentences and how their word order differs in English and Hindi.

1.   English : Where are you going?(OVSV)

        Hindi : Tum kaha ja rahe ho?(SOV)

Here "Where" is representing the position of object after going. While on the other hand "kaha" will itself be replaced by object. Let's understand this with few more examples.

2.   English : What did the students buy?(OVSV)

        Hindi : Vidhyartiyo ne kya khareeda? (SOV)

3.   English : What language do you speak?(OVSV)

        Hindi : Tum konsi bhasha bolte ho?

Inflections

Inflection is the form of grammar which is reflected by change in the form of word representing number, tense, gender, case, etc. Let's understand difference between inflection of English and Hindi on the basis of few examples.

- **Time Change / Verbal Inflection**

With the change of time, the structure of sentence changes with it, it is accompanied with change in verb. In present tense or vartaman kaal, the sentence structure of English and Hindi varies. In English, we adhere to specific rules based on sentence order. While in Hindi we have few indications based on which we can identify the tense used in the sentence. Present tense can be explained by using few examples.

	English	**Hindi**
Simple	$S + V_I + s/es + O$ He eats apple.	ता ह,ती ह,ते ह Vo seb khata hai.
Continuous	$S + is/am/are + V_i + ing + o$ He is eating apple.	रहा ह,रही ह,रह ह Vo seb kha raha hai.
Perfect	$S + has/have + V_{III} + O$ He has eaten apple.	चूका है, चुका है, चुके है Vo seb kha chukka hai.

Similarly in past and future also in English we can differentiate the tense of the sentence by looking at the verb or helping verb. However, in Hindi, there are indications used at the end of the sentence. Past tense can be explained by using few examples:

	English	**Hindi**
Simple	$S + V_{II} + O$ He ate apple	ता था,ती थी,ते थे Vo seb khata tha.
Continuous	$S + was/were + V_I + O$ He was eating apple.	रहा था, रही थी, रह थे Vo seb kha raha tha.
Perfect	$S + had + V_{III} + O$ He had eaten apple.	चुका था, चुका थी, चुके थे Vo seb kha chuka tha.

- **Future Tense can be Explained as**

	English	**Hindi**
Simple	S + will/shall + V$_I$ + O He will eat apple.	गा,गी,गे Vo seb khayega
Continuous	S + will/shall be + V$_I$ + ing + O He will be eating apple	रहाहोगा,रहीहोगी,रहेहोगेो े Vo seb kha raha hoga
Perfect	S + will/shall have + V$_{III}$ + O He will have eaten apple	चूकाहोगा, चुकीहोगी, चुके होगोो े Vo seb kha chuka hoga.

Gender

Gender plays the key role in the formation of sentence. It represents the sex of the subject on which the whole sentence is based. Difference of gender representation is different in English and Hindi.

In English, we have pronouns like he, she to differentiate between masculine and feminine. However, in Hindi matra is added to differentiate between two genders

Here are few examples,

1.   English   : He isplaying.
        Hindi   : Vo khel rahahai.
2.   English   : She isplaying.
        Hindi   : Vo khel rahihai.
3.   English   : They areplaying.
        Hindi   : Vo khel rahee hai.

Active and Passive Sentence

In active voice, we see subject of the sentence performing actions. However in passive voice subject is given lesser importance than that of object and verb. Here are few examples

1.   English-Active   : He writes letter.
        Passive   : Letter is written by him.
        Hindi- Active   : Usne khat likha.
        Passive   : Khat uske dwara likha gaya.
2.   English-Active   : Rani killed aSnake.
        Passive   : A snake was killed by Rani.
        Hindi-Active   : Rani ne saap mara.
        Passive   : Saap Rani ke dwara mara gaya.
3.   English-Active   : The dog has bitten him.
        Passive   : He has been bitten by the dog.
        Hindi-Active   : Kutte ne usse kata.
        Passive   : Vo kutte ke dwara kata gaya.

Transformation of Sentences

Language has changed over a period of time. With the increasing industrialization, people have found easier way for everything, for speaking and writing as well. Colonialization has played a major in this change. Due to language chauvinism, people were forced to adapt language of superior power, thereby sacrificing their own language. This effect was also seen in sentence formation. Complexity was changed into simplicity.

For example:

1.   20 century: About what are youtalking?
        21 century: What are you talking about?
2.   20 century: For which flights can I use mobile - check in?
        21 century: Which flights can I use mobile-check in for?

From the above example, it is clear that 20th century was more formal in approach than 21 century. During 20th century prepositions were mostly used in the beginning of the sentence, however, in 21 century they are used in the end.

Same transformation can be seen in Hindi. However, there is no major difference in sentence formation in Hindi, though words have been changed. Persian and Sanskrit words are now used in an easier way. For example:

- Yoga (aa), which was originally yog
- Pr, which was originally parantu

Conclusion

Meeting the objectives of the study, we can conclude that despite having dissimilarity in Sentence structure of English and Hindi, they have many things in common too. Sentence formations of the two languages have subject, verb and object; however, their positioning is different in both the languages. In Hindi Matra plays an important role in formation of sentence as seen in time (tenses), gender, change in number, active –passive, etc. While in English verbs, pronouns and helping verbs play a major role. Hence here we conclude that Semantics form an essential branch of linguistics, helping in figuring out the meaning of the word, phrase and sentence.

References

~   Jha, S.K. & Jha, B.K. (2019). A Linguistic Insight into English-Hindi Human and Machine Translation, Veda Publications, India

~   H. Martin and P.C. Wren (1935). High school English Grammar and Composition.

❖◆❖