

Complex Sentences Tense Agreement in Kurdish

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Abstract

The information inside sentences is conveyed from different perspectives. Tense, which becomes the primary source of information in sentences, is the different categories of verb inflection (Mahwi & Aziz, 2018). Sentence structures are the various and also specific components of the speakers' intended Syntax and Semantics situations (Gharib & Ismail, 2019). The information of time inside a simple sentence concerns the contents of time of a single verb. On the other hand, complex sentences require two sources of information about the tense of the verbs. Tense agreement in sentences depends on the structure and elements inside complex sentences. Thus, all of the (complex sentences, tense, tense agreement) will be the analysis source in this research paper. For this purpose, special attention is given to each of the three mentioned ones, and the nature of their sequences in the language is analyzed with examples in the Kurdish language.

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INTRODUCTION

The title of the paper is "Tense Agreement in Complex Sentences," which explains the nature of Tense in one of the syntactic structures of Kurdish sentences named complex sentences. Besides, the importance of this research paper is to show the difference in time in complex sentence components in which the Method Analysis is implemented completely. The paper's significance lies in highlighting the differences in time within the component elements of complex sentences. For this purpose, the Method Analysis is followed throughout the paper. In the beginning, several areas related to the contents of Tense and complex sentences are analyzed. Then, functional analysis is conducted in detail.

Along with the conclusion and list of references, the research paper consists of three sections, which are divided as followings:

The first section is dedicated to complex sentences, presenting the features, and identifying the syntactic structures of Kurdish speakers' expressions. The second section deals with the Tense agreement of the elements' structures in complex sentences. The third section deals with two types of Tenses in complex sentences, namely main and secondary tenses. It also investigates the natural sequences of the two mentioned types of Tense in sentences.

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THE STRUCTURE OF COMPLEX SENTENCES

The speakers' intentions are presented in several syntactic compositions and structures. Part of the intentions is seen in the structures of the verbs. As a result, the syntactic structures sometimes have different forms and performances. "Infinite sentences are generated from finite rules in each speaker's language. According to Chomsky, there are innumerable expected sentences in any language" (Hama Raheem, 2003: 84).

In this research paper, attempts have been made to identify the structure of complex sentences in Kurdish. The rules are determined by which all complex language sentences are generated. A simple or complex sentence cannot be formed without a verb phrase or a verb, or in its simplest way, any sentence consists of a verb phrase. "This main part of the sentence should be seen as a fixed and basic rule within the sentence frame." (Brzo, 2011: 63). This is to show that whatever structures any sentences have, it does not change this specialty.

So, the same rule applies to the complex sentences of a language. From a general point of view, "a complex sentence is the presence of two syntactically different sentences, one of which is the main sentence and the other is following the main clause, which is the subordinate clause. The relation between the two clauses is based on several syntactic reasons" (Mukriani, 1986: 76). The main sentence becomes part of the structure of the complex sentence and is characteristically independent. It also doesn't have any grammatical relation with its outside. As presented in example :(1)

1. *Ew kiçe xiwendkare, "That girl is a student".*

Sentence (1) acts as a main and independent sentence. A subordinate clause is the part of a complex structure that although it contains the requirements of forming a sentence, cannot act as a complete and independent clause. Additionally, it is grammatically and semantically dependent on the main sentence. (See: Hamad Amin, 2015: 15). The condition for the existence of the main sentence is obligatory, but the subordinate clause is optional and can be removed without causing any ungrammaticality. "Each subordinate clause clarifies and modifies a key sentence element, so all subordinate clauses are modifications (Rasul, 2005: 53). It is possible that a subordinate clause and a main clause can be joined with or without conjunctions and the way a speaker uses it carries specific purposes and desires to express them in the sentence composition. For example, the conjunctions that connect parts of complex sentences. These conjunctions inside each sentence indicate that the sentence itself alone is not meaningful and is semantically and grammatically related to the main sentence. Although the subordinate clause contains the necessary sentence requirements, it is meaningless. Thus, a subordinate clause follows and gives more information about the main sentence.

According to the semantic role and syntactic function the subordinate clauses have, they can be divided into several types:

- a. Nominal Subordinate Clause: a subordinate clause that functions as a noun that can be a subject or object of the active voice sentence.
- b. An Adjectival Subordinate clause is a subordinate clause that modifies a sentence element like a noun or pronoun.
- c. Adverbial Subordinate Clause: this is a subordinate clause described in main clauses in terms of time, cause & effect, and aim.

2. *Derkewit ke to lewan baştiryt, "It seemed (that) you're better than them."*

3. *Karwan ke biray mine, namekey geyanid, "Karwan, my brother delivered the letter."*

4. *Ke namekem nûsy, azad hat, "When I wrote the letter, Azad came."*

5. *Ew azad kira, çunke bê tawan derçw, "He was released because he was innocent."*

6. *Yekdegrîn, boye serdekewîn, "We succeed once we unite."*

7. *Rozhan dexwênêt, bo ewey serkewtûbêt, "rozhan studies to be successful."*

8. *Eger hatim, pêtelêm, "If I come, I'll tell you".*

9. *Naz ruy le to na, ta hawkaribikey, "Naz asked you to help her."*

According to Adjectival phrase rules, it is possible that Kurdish speakers can re-express a sentence into two sentences with the same meaning. For the speaker, it is to convey information. Still, for us, identifying those surface structures with only one deep structure as long as receiving the

information allows the double structures in a sentence to express a sentence with only one surface structure with several deep structures. In contrast, it is possible that we have several surface structures with only a deep structure to express a sentence. Further, for complex sentences in a language, sentences are expressed in different surface structures following having only one deep structure.

The reason behind this is:

I. The Verb Type

In Chomsky's theory regarding assigning the case to the syntactic categories, each category must be assigned to a case by a head. A lexeme is from lexicology which lies in the deep structure of the sentence. The verb is the grammatical head in the sentence in the deep structure. Then, the other sentence elements are assigned to cases and lie in the deep structure of the sentence whenever the verb type requires. Additionally, according to this theory, the Verb is a case assigner, and the other elements are case assignees (Mahwi & Aziz, 2018a, 1-26), (Mahwi&Aziz 2018b).

As in the structure of verbs, Tense governs the grammatical case of Noun Phrase and Subject, and the root of the verb governs the grammatical case of the object. The number of positions would be identified according to the verb's productivity, type, strength, and nature. Verb zero- strength > *winter is cold "zistan sarde"* < verb with one strength/fall "*kewtin*" / or two strengths productive verb, such as > catch "*girtin*," take "*birdin*," eat "*xwardin*" <, other types of productive three strengths verbs are > give "*pedan*," bring "*bo henan*" <, which assign accusative case to their direct objects and assign genitive case to their second direct objects of the verb. Therefore, the verb requires specific complements according to the tense (present, past, or future). The transitive verbs at the beginning of a complex sentence bring main and subordinate clauses because the transitive verbs, in their simplest forms, require subject and object categories. Several objects are internal in a sentence and phrases in structure, while others are external in sentence form.

The transitive verbs act differently in terms of requiring internal and external objects. Some transitive verbs require an internal object and a position that doesn't follow or exist after the verb. Thus, those verbs don't generate complex sentences and stay in morphosyntactic structure. This means that the object becomes clitic and is not expressed through a sentence.

10- *Min sêwekem xiwarid, "I ate the apple."* (*min*) *xwardimin*, (*pro*) *xwardimin*,

11- *Min ktêbekanim narid, "I sent the books",* (*min*) *nardimin*, (*pro*) *nardimin*,

The transitive verb "*gutin*" acts differently about the object's position. This is because the subordinate clause "*ew guti*" has a feature of {+narration} and the stated sentence comes after.

12- a- *Ew guti (ke) azad be yekem derçwe/ derçw/ derçwbû,* "He said that Azad has scored top one/scored/ had scored."

12- b- *Ew guti (ke) azad be yekem derdeçêt,* "He said that azad will score first."

Those underlined words in the examples are external objects of the verb "*guti*" which does not want to become an internal object. In the sentence *ew guti (ke) azad be yekem derçwe*, "*He said that Azad has scored top one*," the subordinate clause of "*guti*" has a hierarchical relationship with the sentence that is underlined. Thus, it takes the nearest position on the left. But according to tense and person, it doesn't direct the sentence. The reason is that the morpheme "*ke*" and the whole sentence don't allow case assignment. Otherwise, the pronoun in the second sentence is assigned as accusative or not in the nominative case.

II. The Subordinate Clause Types

The subordinate clause has the same structure as the main clause and lies in the positions of the three obligatory syntactic categories of SOV. We can make a difference between subordinate and main clauses 1) they don't appear in the same syntactic positions, and 2) subordinate clauses opposed to main clauses, are not used freely. For this, subordinate clauses are not independent because they don't have tense or their tense is not active. They reflected in

other sentences so as to activate their tense. These kinds of subordinate clauses generate complex sentences without particles.

a. The Desired Subordinate Clause

Although the desired subordinate clause has a person, it cannot come alone because their tense is not active. The acts of the transitive verbs form sentences to follow them. For this, they reflect on other sentences and make them their attachment which activates their tense.

13- **Min nan bixom.* (If I eat)

14- *Valan bixewêt, (pro) başe.* "it is good if Valan sleeps."

The sentence "(pro) başe" is an attachment of the first subordinate clause because its pro is the repetition of the verb of the first subordinate clause, and it is in the structure of the verb.

b. Passive Subordinate Clause:

It is another type of subordinate clause in several gerends such as *kirdin*, "doing," *tiwanin* "being able," *zanin*, and "knowing," which are formed in such a way that they reflect in other sentences. The sentence has the structure of past continuous tense and presents a passive sentence, which comes initially and can't appear alone or acts freely. (Mustafa & Aziz, 2021).

15- *Dekrêt/ dekra (ême) em kare be zûy tewaw bkeyn/ bkrêt,* "it is possible/ it was possible we finished this job/ finished the job.

16- *Detiwanra/ detwanrêt em rêgaye be pe bbrdrêt.*

Example (15) illustrates that, although the passive, subordinate clauses in (16) have the same structure, they don't act the same with the second syntactic category of the sentence and reflect in a different structure.

c. The Verb (Hypothetical)

The verb produces a type of hypothetical clause that is not used alone. This category requires another position resulting in complex sentences. Like the others, it comes from the beginning, which means it is the subordinate initiative clause.

17- **Ême giriman* "We assume".

This example shows that the hypothetical clause has an agreement of "person." The person of this sentence only reflects the first person plural. Additionally, it doesn't have a tense because the position of the verb "*krid*" which has tense is zero. The tense of the second position modifies its tense. With its modification alone, it doesn't give us any tense.

18- *Giriman min ew karem krdwe/ kird/ kirdbû/dekird*

19. *Giriman valan em nexoş bwe,* "Suppose that valan emro nexoŞbu"

III. Category Types

They are noun phrases and modifications along with the nouns (*Paş, diwayi, peş,*) and enter the structure of other sentences and other subordinate clauses and precede them. In addition to these nouns, the words */heşta*, "still," *xozige*, "hope," *hemîşe*, "always" .../ are other types of Adverbs that can be attached to all the other elements of the sentence and generate different syntax.

20. *Dway ewey roşitim, valan xewt,* "After I went, Valan fell asleep."

In addition, adverbs/*katêk ke*, "when," *ke*, "when," *heşta*, "until"...*ta*, "until"/ produce a sentence with main and subordinate clauses.

21. *Heta min hatmewe, valan xewtbu,* "Until I came back, Valan has slept."

IV. Pronominal sentence

A pronominal sentence is an inflectional non-independent sentence in another sentence which can be in the positions of the subject or object. It is possible that the morphemes /y, "i"/, and /ke, "when"/ may play the role of accusation case in this type of sentence. The structures are:

22. a. Ew kçey binit, (pro) xwşkme, "The girl you saw is my sister."
 22. b. Ew kçey, ke to binit, xuşkme, "The girl you saw is my sister."

TENSE AGREEMENT IN COMPLEX SENTENCES

When we discuss complex sentences, we mean two or more sentences discussed in the previous pages. In linguistics, it has been proven that a verb is the main component of a sentence, meaning that no sentence is created without a verb.

In modern linguistics, the verb is called a head just like the determiners, because they rule grammatically. That is, in a language, anything that rules is called a head. In Kurdish phonology, the vowels make up the syllables, so the vowel is called the head. It is related to the grammar of the verb because the verb rules the head in the structure of the sentence, and in Kurdish, it rules from left to right and gives thematic roles to the arguments. (Abdullah, et al., 2020).

Each verb is identified according to the complement the verb requires. For example, a verb chooses a noun phrase and becomes its direct object. The verb phrase is formed through this object, and the verb becomes the head of the sentence. Some verbs require two noun phrases to complement. Additionally, there is another type of verb that requires a sentence as an external complement that falls outside that sentence's structure, which is the grammatical head of the verbs. The verbs that require internal complements become the grammatical head of the sentence containing the complement. Thus the complement would be under the control of the verb, and the verb governs it and assigns the case to it. If the verb requires a sentence, that sentence becomes a compound one.

Among verbs is the inflection of categories in which there are four main ones (tense, surface, aspect, and person). Among them, two are main, which are giving (tense and person), and complex sentences are two or more. Those sentences are formed by a verb which is the grammatical head of the sentence.

The verb has entered syntax and generated several sentences, so it is inflected into both person and tense. Researchers go beyond the assumption that subordinate clauses are independent and have tense and person verbs, and they also own internal and external arguments.

23- *Aya êsta/ beyani broin, baştir nye, "Wouldn't it be better to leave now/tomorrow?"*

The explanations offer two possibilities: the form, such as *biroyn*, "(let's) go," is tense-neutral, or the prefix expresses the future tense, meaning *dway êsta*, "after now ." Example 23 supports the latter assumption because a sentence without tense and person is ungrammatical and is not allowed, and the sentence is completely acceptable and has a future meaning.

24- **Min emro wystem, eme dwene broyn, "I want today, we left yesterday."*

25. *Min emro demewet, (pro) dwene brom. "I want today (pro) to go yesterday."*

Sentences such as 24-25 create a conflict between the past and the future, and they are ungrammatical. In such sentences, the verb *bron*, "(you) go," with the future root, expresses the future tense. This is to prove the hypothesis better

The tense morpheme of /_b/ together with the future root of the verb, expresses the future tense. So, it is not possible to say that the verb *biroyn*, "(let's) go" is a neutral tense. If the tense is neutral, there will be no tense conflict in the above sentences.

26. *Eger sbeynê hatm, ktêbeket bo dehênim, "If I come tomorrow, I will bring you the book." (Past _ present)*

27. *Dwênê ke min hatim, ferhad xewtibû, "Yesterday, when I came, Farhad had slept." (past _ past)*

28. *Eger binit, slawy lêbke, "If you see him, greet him." (Past _ present)*

29. *Ferhadim bini, namey denûwsiy, "I saw Farhad, (he is) writing letters". (Past _ present)*

30. *Ke ferhadm bini, nemekey nusybû, "When I saw Farhad, he had written the letter." (past _ past)*

Related to the tense in a sentence with some subordinate clauses, the verb and ergative agreements at the level of sentences are implemented and reflected freely in each sentence. The verb tense of the main sentence can express the subordinate clause tense as past or future at the level of all sentences together, which means at a higher syntactic level.

According to time, both verbs in example 26 are in the present tense, but in terms of tense *hatim*, "(I) came" is the past, *dehenim*, and "(I will) bring" is the present tense. In the future, *eger sbey hatim*, *to ktebeket werdegryt*, "if I come tomorrow, you will receive your book," none of which has happened yet, but the tense of *hatim*, "(I) came" is past because it happened before the other. That is, it is the past compared to *henany ktebeke*, "(he) brought the book." The tense in sentence (27) is past, *ke xewtibu*, "when he had slept" is the past perfect tense which does not mean the past of time which has happened a long time ago because the agreement of tense in Kurdish requires that there will be another tense before that happens.

In example 27, *xewtibû*, "(he) had slept" is a past perfect in comparison to "*hatny minda*," so here, the agreement of tense tells us that another tense has been made as the basic.

31. *Palkewtbû*, *xoy dexwrand*, "He lied down, (he) scratched himself."

32. *Ke eme geştin*, *ewan roştun*, "When we arrived, they had left."

In these examples, the morphemes of the tense are past where each verb contains a tense morpheme, which is a combination of verbs, and each verb includes its own morpheme, where the morphemes of both verbs (examples 31-32) are past tense.

The complex structure of verb forms suggests that we must deal with the sequences of verbs rather than with the combination of tense morphemes and signs.

Thus, it is more appropriate to consider the appropriate sequences as verb tense stem combinations rather than tense combinations, although the term verb sequence is still used. So, their structure basis is the rule of complementary distribution:

(a) Complementary distribution between past and future tense

Verb root + past tense + person or subject clitic > *girtim*, "(I) caught"<

tense + verb root + person or subject clitic > *degrim*, "(I) catch"<

(b) The distribution of the past tense for both the certainty rate and the doubt rate.

("*bimgirtaye*, *helimbigirtaye*") The structure of the verb does not change in the future tense. Even the prefixes of doubt (prefix of *nekirdin*, "not doing it" and *guman*, "doubt") are replaced by the future prefix /_ *de* (which means *will* in English)/ and the structure is remained the same, *degrim*, *nagrim*, *bigrim*, *heLnagirim*

Therefore, a tense agreement is the sequence of several tenses in their verbs and the structure of the compound and especially complex sentences.

MAIN AND SECONDARY TENSES IN COMPLEX SENTENCES

As we have already mentioned, a complex sentence includes more than one sentence, which means that more than one tense exists in complex sentences, one of which becomes the main tense, and the other, or the other, is the secondary tense. Just like the distribution of tense, the position of the main tense plays an important role in this structure.

Types of transitive verbs play a role in bringing main and subordinate clauses at the beginning of complex sentences because the transitive verb in the simplest form has a subject and object categories. The main tense identifies object clitic in complex sentences. Furthermore, the secondary tense follows the main tense. In creating a complex sentence in which the verb includes more than one morpheme, the object clitic is associated with the main tense morpheme.

33- > *Bimgir + yit + ye* < ~ * > *Bimgir+it+ ye* < ~ * *Bimgir + yit + e* <

Example 26, *sbeynê ke hatim*, *ktêbeket bo dehênim*, "Tomorrow, when I come, I will bring you the book." Because the sentence has a lexeme *sbeynê*, "tomorrow," and the tense of the verbs of the whole sentence is determined, the verbs in the sentences do not rule each other. But in the sentence *ke hatim*, *ktebekt bo dehênim*, "when I come, I will bring you the book" *dehênim*, "I bring" contains the main tense and *hatim*, "(I) came" the secondary tense, which follows the main tense.

Auxiliary verbs in sentences can also be treated as the main sentence of a complex sentence if we make the verb "bûn" an auxiliary verb / *Debêt, pêwyste, dest*.

34. *Debêt brom*, "I have to go"
 35. *Pêwyste brom*, "I have to go"
 36. *I can go*, "*Dekrêt brom*"

Auxiliary Verbs	Present Tense	Past Tense
37. <i>Debêt</i> , "should."	<i>Debêt brom</i> , "I should (have to) go."	<i>Debêt broştmaye</i> , "I should have gone."
38. <i>Pêwyste</i> (it is necessary)	<i>Pêwyste brom</i> it is necessary I should go	* I should have left
39. <i>Dekrêt</i> , "it is possible."	<i>Dekrêt birom</i> , "it is possible	* <i>Dekrêt biroştmaye</i>
40. <i>Dekra</i> , "could have"	<i>Dekra brom</i> , "I could have gone.	" <i>Dekra biroştmaye</i> , "I could have gone."

Because the object in a complex sentence is connected to the main tense morpheme in (33-34-39-40), the auxiliary verbs become the main tense in the complex sentence in which they decide whether the object comes. Here the main tense rules the secondary verb but in English modal verbs become auxiliary verbs (-can - must- shall - will). For example, *ferhadim bini namey denusy*, "I saw farhad, he was writing letters" the tense of *bini*, "(I) saw" is the main and rules *denusy*, "was writing" which is the secondary tense. These analyses are applied to examples 26-27-28-29-30.

41. *Ew bo yari kirdin çûbû*, "He had gone to play".

The underlined words in 41 are direct objects but indirect objects, meaning they are direct objects and, in sentence form, not subordinate. This means they are controlled by the syntactic process in the sentence by the first verb, which is the main tense.

CONCLUSION

Tense is a category of the inflection of verbs; giving tense and person causes complete inflection. Tense as a category of the inflection of the verb "tense" has a complementary distribution which is past and present. In Kurdish, tense morphemes are grammatical allomorphs. These allomorphs are not free, so we cannot place them. In a complex sentence, there must be more than one sentence in which the main sentence may express a direct or indirect object, and the following sentence may describe an object and explain one of its aspects. A complex sentence has a sequence of verbs, and each verb has its own tense. Thus, there is also an agreement between the tenses. The main tense rules the secondary tense in complex sentences and falls into the main sentence according to the data.

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