

論文の英文要旨

論文題目

A study on non verbal
sentences in French

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Koichiro KAWASHIMA

Modern French has independent sentences without verb as follows:

- (1) - C'est moins dur. - *L'aube, maintenant.*
- (2) J'ai envie de me coucher tôt ce soir. *Charmante, ta soirée, Becket!*

I call the structure used in Examples (1) and (2) "non verbal sentences."

The status of verbal sentence is determined by characteristics of verbs. I analyzed factors which give an independent status to non verbal sentences, especially from a syntactical point of view, to describe in detail this type of sentences which have been rarely studied.

A sentence can be defined as an utterance which is independent from the other parts of discourse. We should

study a posteriori types of sentences in languages with this definition, and refrain from saying a priori "A sentence consists of a topic and a focus."

In Chapter 1, I reconsidered the concepts of "endocentric construction" and "exocentric construction," used by structuralists in the U. S. The former is a syntagm which functions syntactically as a whole in a sentence. On the other hand, the latter can be defined as a syntagm which lacks the characteristics of the former. For example, "cette jolie fille" is constructed endocentrically, because this can function as a verb object. "Je marche," which is the core of a sentence, does not have any precise syntactic function, and is based on the exocentric construction. These two phrases correspond to dependent syntagm and to independent syntagm respectively. In general presence and absence of syntactic function imply dependency and independency respectively.

From Chapters 2 to 11, I described and classified non verbal sentences by their semiological criteria. The analysis of the relation between independency and endo (exo-) centric construction shows the frame work of nonverbal sentences. While verbal elements are independent, many non verbal elements are dependent. The latter has low independency as a sentence without any precise background (e.g. context, lexical property). But my observation shows that the exocentric utterance tends to be independent, compared to the endocentric one.

An interjection such as "merci" and an utterance such as "oui" imply independency in characteristics of these phrases.

It is the exocentric construction that gives independency

to Examples (1) and (2) : "ta soirée charmante" could be defined as endocentric construction, but the word order of (2) does not have a syntactic function as a whole. As a result, (2) has the status the core of a sentence without a precise syntactic function.

(3) *Rien de cassé..?*

(4) *L'idée que les épreuves nourrissent, quelle belle blague!*

Examples (3) and (4) show independency because of their lexical property, in spite of their endocentric construction.

(5) *Une mère reconnaît toujours la voix de ses enfants. Moi aussi, mais [...].*

Example (5) also contains an endocentric construction, but the meaning of "aussi" and its context assure independency of the utterance "moi aussi."

(6) *Sale temps pour mourir!*

The independency of Example (6) is related with the absence of an article. In general, noun phrases without an article have an exocentric property. They frequently appear as predicate, part of a predicate, or a prepositional phrase. These syntactic roles deprive noun phrases of a precise syntactic function.

(7) 38. *C'est pas grave. Une aspirine et ça passera.*

(8) *Vous avez bien dormi? Et toi, mon tout petit?*

The coordination promotes "une aspirine" to the status as a sentence (in general, the coordination can connect phrases which are syntactically heterogeneous as though they are homogeneous). At the same time, this noun phrase, only a part of coordination, has an exocentric structure which does not have a syntactic function such as "et toi" in (8).

(9) Ce n'est rien. *Pas de panique...!*

The syntagm "pas de N," which tends to be connected with colorless verb phrases such as "il y a," shows a high independency because of its meaning. Additionally, this syntagm has an exocentric structure as illustrated in Example (10).

(10) - Qu'est-ce qui a créé la musique?
- *Probablement pas les mathématiques.*

When the predicate does not consist of nouns, negations such as "pas" and "plus" frequently determine verbs and adjectives. Consequently, noun phrases with these determinants do not have a syntactic function.

These observations clarify the relation between independency of non verbal sentences and exocentric structures. A sentence without a verb obtains an independency through its "negative" characteristic, i.e. absence of syntactic function.

From Chapters 12 to 20, I discussed various issues of non verbal sentences, including the contrast between verbs and nouns, similarity between non verbal sentences and ergativity, etc. The results of this study also shows that these issues are related with endo (exo-)centric construction.

In Chapter 12, I analyzed non verbal sentences whose predicate is an infinitive. The contrast of independent verbs / dependent infinitives reflects one of the issues on non verbal sentences.

I call the phenomenon in which an imperative corresponds to conditional or concessive clause "fictive imperative." In Chapter 13, I defined this phenomenon as a diminution of independency of a verbal sentence.

(11) avec des amies, nous sommes allees voir [...]

Predicates sometimes repeat the content of the phrase with "avec." In Example (11), "nous" means "I" and "friends" which are already mentioned("avec des amies"). This can be defined as a phenomenon in which a part of exocentric construction (subject - predicate) functions as a dependent element, which makes an endocentric construction ("avec N") (Chapter 14).

In Chapter 15, I analyzed non verbal sentences such as Example (6).

In Chapter 16, I described the type of sentences as shown in Example (7), by relating them to coordination of non verbal elements to verbal sentences.

(12) *Il y eut un zig-zag, une explosion, des flammes.*

In Chapter 17, I compared the ergativity to the construction of "IL Y A" which shows a process, to discuss similarities between them.

(13) À 6 heures, il partit. Le lendemain, il arriva à 4 heures et s'en alla à 6 heures. *Le surlendemain, arrivée a 4 heures, depart à 6 heures.*

In Chapter 18, I described non verbal sentences which express a process as illustrated in Example (13), to refer to the contrast between verbs and nouns.

Non verbal sentences are considered to be an affective utterance. In Chapter 19, I refer to the relation of linguistic structures and affective utterances, by analyzing emphatic expressions such as "mais oui" and "mais non."

In Chapter 20, I described constructions as shown in (9), and discussed the process of their development.