SYNTAX

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MAQOLA MALUMOTI	ANNOTATSIYA:
MAQOLA TARIXI: *Received:25.11.2025* *Revised: 26.11.2025* *Accepted:27.11.2025* **KALIT SO'ZLAR:** *Syntactic units, syntax, semantics, pragmatics,linguistic syntactic templates (LSQ)valency,syntagmatic relations, copulative relations, introductive relations, paradigmatic relations,equative, subordination, syntactic connective means*	*In this article, a scientific investigation is conducted in one of the most prominent branches of linguistics — syntax. The research focuses on syntactic theories and the main syntactic units, giving special emphasis to how these apply in the Uzbek language. It clarifies what linguistic syntactic templates (LSQ) are in Uzbek. In addition, the concept of valency is explored, discussing its nature and role in the language. The study is expected to be useful not only for linguists and specialists in the field of language science, but also for all those passionate about the Uzbek language and its structure.*

Introduction

In Uzbek linguistics, syntax holds a special importance — we can perceive its role each time we form a sentence. In communication, each word is linked in such a chain that a definite meaning is inevitably formed in the mind. In linguistics, the term syntax was

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actually introduced by Abdurauf Fitrat under the name nahf. Indeed, nahf refers to syntax: the Greek syntaxis means "arrangement, structure, composition, union." Thus, in this branch of linguistics, one considers how sentence parts connect and enter into relationships.For example, in the sentence "Men bordim" ("I went"), we see how the predicate ("bordim") agrees with the subject ("Men") — the possessive suffix -im serves to bind sentence parts and form meaning. From a scientific standpoint, scholars divide syntax analysis into two: the syntactic linkage of independent words, and the subject matter of syntax itself. That is why linguists, when investigating this part of language, often separate it into small syntax and large syntax. In small syntax, they analyze word combinations, sentences, the types of syntactic connection tools, etc. In large syntax, by contrast, they research texts more broadly.In linguistic history, we see scholars have done various studies on this topic. One of them is A. Prof. Nurmonov, who proposed his views on subject and predicate. According to his research, dividing syntax into three groups seemed beneficial. In simpler terms: some scholars consider the subject ("ega") as the governing part of a sentence, while others believe that the predicate ("kesim") is its center, its "ruler." In a third view — the two-peak theory — both subject and predicate are equally important. Regardless, in Uzbek linguistics, we cannot deny the crucial role of the predicate in a sentence: to express meaning, we use predicates like "bordim" ("I went"), "keldim" ("I came"), "o'qidim" ("I read"), which themselves can be full sentences. However, words like "men," "bilan," "chunki" when used alone frequently remain meaningless.If we continue our discussion of syntactic units in linguistics, they consist of word combinations, text, and sentences. For instance: "Maktabga bordim" ("I went to school") is a word combination; "Men o'qiyman" ("I study") is a sentence; and a collection of related sentences on a given topic is called a text. Besides that, syntactic units have three aspects: syntax, semantics, and pragmatics. Syntax studies the formal relationships among linguistic units, how linguistic signs relate to each other, and works with syntactic forms. Thus, the term "parts of a sentence" impacts the syntactic aspect: it specifically considers what kinds of tools connect words, which grammatical means are used, and how.When we analyze syntax, we cannot leave out pragmatics — because this system studies syntactic units in close interaction with the speech situation and context. That is why, in the process of communication, to express a proposition clearly and understandably, we sometimes need pragmatics, especially when the speech situation is important.As we study syntax, syntax itself, pragmatics, and equally semantics each have their own importance. Semantics investigates the elements of objective reality as

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represented in language, more precisely how propositions are expressed via syntactic structures. In other words, semantics focuses on the propositional (meaning) side of syntactic structures. Thus:

- Syntax = the linking (structure)
- Pragmatics = the application in use
- Semantics = the meaning of what is expressed

At this point, if we look at the main syntactic units, they consist of linguistic and speech units. Speech syntactic units are those sentences used in interpersonal communication, affecting our senses — reading, writing, speaking, listening. For example: the sentence "Men qizil olma yedim" ("I ate a red apple"). We can hear it, feel it through our senses, and even test it practically.

Linguistic syntactic units, on the other hand, are templates for forming word combinations and sentences. Since these belong to the linguistic level, they are often called linguistic syntactic templates (LST). The main types of LSTs are:

- derived words (e.g., kitobxon — "book-reader"),
- word combinations (e.g., yaxshi o'qimoq — "to study well"),
- sentences (e.g., "Yoshlikda olingan bilim toshga o'yilgan naqsh kabidir." — "The knowledge gained in youth is like a pattern carved on stone.")

LSTs are like cookie cutters: in speech, people use them to form combinations and make sentences. Even though LSTs are also called models, constructions, or structures, they refer to the same concept. For instance, we wouldn't call the combination "olmani olmoq" by many different names: it's the same structure, and renaming it doesn't change its essence.

Next, if we consider the concept of valency, originally a term from chemistry, in linguistics it refers to the potential of linguistic units to combine (i.e., their combinability). For example: Kim yozdi? ("Who wrote?"), Nimani yozdi? ("What did (they) write?"), Kimga yozdi? ("To whom (did they) write?") — these are dependent-element combinations. According to A. Nurmonov, valency can be divided into three types: semantic, syntactic, and lexical. In semantic valency, emphasis is on the meanings of words; in syntactic valency, the grammatical form of the head word is important. Lexical valency, unlike the first two, is about the free interchangeability of words with the same meaning — for example, using odam, kishi, inson (all meaning "person" in Uzbek) as synonyms. Through connotative meaning, we can also group words into positive or negative categories.

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We study syntactic relationships by distinguishing syntagmatic and paradigmatic relations. If a syntactic unit forms a linear (sequential) relation with another unit, that's a syntagmatic relation; paradigmatic relations, however, are associative and are not tied to time or place. According to dependence, we can classify connections between sentence parts or words into dual and single relations. In dual relations, linking can happen in both directions (left-to-right and right-to-left). For instance, in the phrase mening sakkiz ballik IELTSim ("my eight-point IELTS"), the suffixes -ning and -im form a dual relation. In single relations, the dependency system is one-directional; for example, sakkiz IELTS oldim ("I scored eight in IELTS") is considered a single relation.

Syntactic connective means include:

- suffixes (formal-grammatical),
- auxiliary words (lexico-grammatical tools),
- word order (positional means),
- and intonation (intonational means).

When we talk about grammatical suffixes, we mean the familiar case-, possessive-, person-number forms that serve to join units in a sentence.

Conclusion: The Uzbek language is very worthy of deep syntactic analysis. In this article, the main attention is given to syntactic theories and the structure of such units. I've tried to explain word combinations, sentences, and their interrelations with examples, and also discuss how the concept of "linguistic syntactic templates" works in Uzbek and their role in speech. Additionally, I described how the concept of "valency" — known by many as a chemical term — is used in language. In my opinion, this article can serve as a useful source for studying syntax and related topics.

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