

## The Contrastive Analysis of the Verb in Reference to Syntax and Morphology

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**Abstract.** A knowledge of syntax and morphology appeared to be very important in the typological characterization of languages and the division between syntax and morphology has become the central aspect considering the structural description of a language. It is considered that some facts of syntax and morphology partly coincide i.e. they are important as morphosyntactic phenomena.

Furthermore, the expression of the verb, based on the verb forms (auxiliary verbs, word-morphemes, flexions, etc.), has also morphological and syntactic specificities that are influenced by the morphology of the verb. The characterization of the internal division and the structure of the verb are quite challenging. Morphological differences in verb forms are grammatically relevant and may refer to different syntactic constructions. The investigation of the verb concerning the syntactic structure is related to the category of the verb. Although the lexical structure of the verb can influence the syntactic peculiarity too.

Accordingly, the problem is based on the expression of the verb i.e. the grammatical predicate, through translation whereas the analytic English uses syntax to convey information that is encoded via morphemes and flexions in synthetic Lithuanian.

The present paper discusses the character of relationship between syntax and morphology in the contrastive analysis of the verb which highlights the peculiarity of morphological and syntactic characteristics determined by the language type.

**Key words:** *syntax and morphology, verb forms, the expression of the verb i.e. the grammatical predicate, analytic and synthetic language types.*

### Introduction

The morphosyntactic expression of the verb as the grammatical predicate which constitutes the basis of a clause structure and content has been researched at length and in depth in the works of English grammars (Huddleston, Pullum, 2002; Biber et al., 2007) and in current Lithuanian academic works (Holvoet, 2004(a); Holvoet, Čižik, 2004(b); Holvoet, Judžentis, 2004(c); Holvoet, Pajėdienė, 2004(d); Holvoet, Semėnienė, 2004(e)). The recent investigations on “The changing verb phrase in present-day British English” (Aarts, Close, Bowie, 2011) have also been carried out covering the structure of the verb phrase, the aspectual, mood, tense and voice systems, especially involving auxiliary verbs that are an important aspect of grammar systems.

Generally the verb is considered “morphologically and syntactically a distinct lexical word class” and thus one of the traditional parts of speech (McArthur, 1998, p.636). Furthermore, the theory of the verb is related to the grammatical category of the verb which is the foundation of the syntactic (clause) structure. It is argued that the “distinction of the verb form between the levels of grammar arise on the criterion of grammar and the grammatical level of verb analysis” (Robins, 1975, p.178). Moreover the grammar is considered as the systematic study of contrasting languages in terms of both syntax and morphology in regard to semantics, etc. In linguistic science the term morphology introduced in 1859, dealt with the phenomena of accident and word-formation. In English morphology was defined as “the science of form”, and “the general laws of its grammatical structure” (Salmon,

2000, pp.15–16). Viewing historically, there were Greeks who treated “morphology as a part of etymology concerning the creation of the structure of words, inflexion, and derivation” (Campbell, 1995, p.1136). Considering the nature of language the emphasis is put on the argument that “language is viewed as an organism characterized by systems sensitive to different analysis” (Salmon, 2000, p.15). One way or another the term ‘morphology’ has been borrowed from the biological science and thus brought into linguistics. Disagreements have been raised among linguists concerning the boundaries within grammar in reference to syntax which makes an important part of grammar. It is maintained (Salmon, 2000, p.20) that the boundary between morphology and syntax is constantly changing.

Furthermore, it is acknowledged that “languages differ more in morphology than in syntax, and it is syntax that distinguishes classes of languages as analytic or synthetic” (Salmon, 2000, p.20). Thus the analytic English and synthetic Lithuanian are the two contrasting languages that employ the grammatical differences in word forms to mark and distinguish syntactic relations. The term ‘analytic’ for a language type as English refers to each basic grammatical unit i.e. the morpheme, to form a separate word (e.g. *have been doing*), whereas the term ‘synthetic’ for a language type as Lithuanian which is highly inflected for verbs has a tendency to be composed out of two or more grammatical units as bound morphemes to indicate, e.g. tense, aspect, reflexivity, iterativity, person, number, and gender.

**The problem** is related to the analytical verb structures considering compound tenses in English that are interpreted

and analysed on different levels of grammar in contrast to the synthetic verb structures of the grammatical predicate in Lithuanian. Thus some mismatch regarding to the boundaries of verb form occurs when translating the English analytical verb structures into the synthetic Lithuanian.

The **focus** of the paper is the verb in reference to syntax and morphology.

The **aim** of the paper is to explore the specificity of both morphological and syntactic characteristics of the verb (i.e. grammatical predicate).

The study will address this aim by seeking the **tasks** of the paper:

- to present a brief overview of the character of relationship between syntax and morphology in reference to the verb;
- to generalize the contrastive specificities of the verb referring to the structure and expression;
- to substantiate the specificity of compositional content and the expression of the verb forms i.e. the relationship with the categories of tense, aspect, person, voice, mood, and reflexivity.

The contrastive analysis is based on the approach from function to structure and meaning. Such an approach helps to reveal the differences of the expression of the verb forms in the contrasting languages.

The following research **methods** are applied in the study: the method of syntactic typology, and contrastive analysis.

The analysed translation data have been compared typologically to determine the usage of the correspondent expressions of the simple verb form and the analytical structure of the verb that are implemented within the clause in the sources (Bubulis, A., 2002) of the scientific texts of the contrasting languages.

## Theoretical Background

### 1. The relationship of syntax and morphology in reference to the verb

Generally the structure of words is investigated in morphology and thus it is opposed to syntax, whereas syntax explores the arrangement of words and phrases that are referred to syntactic structures. It is not denied that syntax is relevant to morphology making the basic parts of grammar, although it is argued that “grammar is strictly synonymous with syntax and excludes morphology” (McArthur, 1998, p.595). However, the opinion is developed that the term morphology “is not precise as it borders on both syntax and typology” (Salmon, 2000, p.20). The modern English works on grammar dealing with grammatical categories, highlight morphology in the analysis of syntax. Especially comparative studies in syntactic typology (Zaefferer, 1995, pp.1109–1115; Bayer 1995, pp. 1484–1509; Spencer 2000, pp. 312–331) have made attempts to integrate morphology into syntax. American linguist L. Bloomfield, the father of structural syntax, anyhow included morphology into syntax (cf. Bloomfield, 1934. In: Lehmann, 1995, p.1117), however

the representatives of this field did not approve such decision. Morphology, concerning some of the English language structural works in this field (Jacobs, 1995; Van Valin, LaPolla, 1997), melts into syntax as if it separately has never been analysed before. At present, most of the English grammarians (Koefoed, Van Marle, 2000, pp.301–310; Bynan, 2004, pp.1221–1229; Heiman, 2004, pp.1231–1234; Helmbrecht, 2004, pp.1247–1253; Spencer, 2004, pp.1255–1266) have started treating morphology as a separate part of grammar.

The differentiation of morphology from syntax is not denied in the analysis of grammar of Lithuanian. Though these two parts of the grammar are often regarded as having their own boundaries and they are explained independently of one another. Accordingly, morphology and syntax as a science make different parts of grammar. On one hand, morphology and syntax as parts of grammar are hardly possible to differentiate, as for the most of the cases

*the syntactic form can be adequate to the morphological composition and vice versa: the forms of the both types can express the same content (Paulauskienė, 1994, pp.7–10; 2002, pp.23–25).*

Comparing the types of the synthetic and analytical languages, in the analytical language type categorical characteristics of the word is reflected in its morphemic structure and, thus the word order is not so strict. Every syntactic position requires consistent morphological expression (i.e. the subject position, the simple predicate, the compound predicate, etc.). Hence the position of morphology in the science of linguistics depends on the researched language type (Paulauskienė, 1982, pp.37–38). On the other hand, syntax and morphology are related parts of grammar because of the one and the same researched object i.e. word forms. In syntax sentences and word constructions are the focus of the research, whereas morphology is important only for expressing the parts of speech (Jablonskis, 1957, pp.441–442). Moreover the boundaries of these parts of grammar are determined from the point of view of what is analysed taking into consideration the methodology, etc. (Labutis, 2002, pp.9–10). Considering different opinions it must be acknowledged that the relations between the two parts of the grammar i.e. morphology and syntax, “were never made clear in traditional grammar, which needed careful consideration” (Robins, 1975, p.181).

Nevertheless, one ambivalent argument is to consider morphology as a separate part of grammar, another one is to involve it into syntax (Švenčionienė, 2009, pp.28). Morphology and syntax are related parts of grammar governed by the same principles as they both deal with words: syntax organizes words into sentences and morphology determines the structure of words (Spencer, 2000, p.313). Generally some syntactic and morphological data coincide functionally and they become important as morphosyntactic phenomena (Van Valin, LaPolla, 1997, p.2). Particularly the dual relationship is important as the morphological rules and principles influence syntactic structures and, conversely, the syntactic rules and principles may change the morphological composition. In syntax verbs comprise the structure of the general constituents,

basic complements and modifier-heads, which characterize the basis of the construction.

The interaction of syntax and morphology through the system of flexions performs the relationship between syntactic units, i.e. syntactic relations of agreement and government. In the theory of grammar the morphological forms refer to syntactic constructions. The grammatical flexion is a part of morphology and can be relevant to syntax too (Booij, 2000, p.367). Thus the specificity of word forms and flexions is determined by the context of syntax. Grammatical number and person are the categories only related, but they are maintained as different categories. However not all flexions are influenced by syntax, e.g. the number of a noun in the position of the grammatical subject is indicated by a speaker him/ her and not by the context whereas the grammatical tense or aspect, etc. are influenced by the internal indicators (Booij, 2000, p.365). Thus an inflexion is considered as a grammatical form of a word. In English there are few inflexions and verbs are inflected through suffixation, e.g. '-s', '-ing', '-ed', but some irregular verbs have past forms that depart from the norm, e.g. 'see', 'saw', 'seen' (McArthur, 1998, p.297). The morpheme is characterized as an affix indicating the features of categories related to a word root. Morphemes are analysed according to some particular characteristics. Though they are determined in reference to lexical and grammatical meanings and differentiated according to ranks, their semantic characteristics, and correlation that are analysed dealing with the grammatical categories of formal and semantic morphemes (Croft, 2000, p.257).

Most of the linguists (Aronoff, 2000, pp.345–346) argue that the morphosyntactic forms are necessary to distinguish as these forms composing the expression, determine the important data to syntax. Consequently, the expression in reference to the content reveals the essential characteristics of the indicator of the form (Lieber, Mugdan, 2000, p.405).

Semantically words are differentiated into the class having the meaning, and the class performing the function. The post-positional morpheme particles (e.g. *down* [sit down], *of* [start of], *up* [stand up], etc.) are characteristic to the verb in English that often correspond to the prefixes and other morphemes, or syntactic expression and constructions of the verb in the Lithuanian language (e.g. Lith. *sėstis*, *išvykti*, *atsistoti*, etc.). Naturally, the prepositions perform a great part in syntax of the analytical English language. According to grammar studies in Lithuanian, as a type of the synthetic language, such particles play the grammatical functions and indicate grammatical categories in the structure of the verb. Generally such particles are very few and their role is essentially different. The particles can be expressed by the verbal affixes without dependent binding element. However sometimes it is difficult to determine the boundaries of the so-called particles in regard to meaning and function performed in the language system.

Considering another point, it is important to highlight at what stage morphology interferes with syntax (Švenčionienė, 2009, p.29). It is maintained that syntax and morphology influence the formal and semantic arrangement of identical units and/ or distribution of relations of propositions.

Syntactically words are organized into phrases and therefore morphemes build words. English auxiliary verbs as functional words may lose word status and become phonologically dependent on the head-word. A word structure is considered to be as a combination of morphemes, thus syntax is defined as concatenation of words (Spencer, 2000, p.313).

Hence it must be noted that the same principles are characteristic to morphology and syntax. The emphasis is put on lexical (i.e. compositional) and grammatical (i.e. inflexional) morphemes to highlight the levels of grammaticalization (DeLancey, 2004, p.1590). Grammaticalization is determined by the grammaticality of lexical morphemes or language structures (syntactic constructions, discourse structures, etc.). Syntactic constructions cause changes in linguistic data referring to the basic structures (semantic, pragmatic, morphologic, and syntactic) (Koefoed, Van Marle, 2000, pp.1582, 1584). Though, in the theory of grammar stating the generality of some constructions the morphosyntactic expression is not always regarded.

Summing up, morphology cannot be ignored in the linguistic studies of English and Lithuanian syntax. On the contrary, syntax cannot function or be understood without morphology.

## **2. The verb in reference to its grammatical structure and expression**

In general the verb is ascribed to different categories in reference to grammar when analysing the verb in terms of the function it performs, its structure, and the units of its expression. The performed function is that of the grammatical predicate which is restricted to the main verb in a clause. The inflexional forms i.e. person, number, gender or reflexivity within the verb, are morphologically marked categories hence they are more central to the grammatical system of a language and to the marking of syntactic relations within a clause. Furthermore, the specific grammatical categories such as tense, aspect, mood, or voice within the verb highlight the syntactic property of the English language. Referring to grammar studies (Matthews, 1993, pp.108, 113), the verb provides the sense of the meaning directly to the clause. The verb can be differentiated into full words, content, and major, having the meaning and performing the function whereas 'functional' words indicate grammatical categories (Sasse, 1993, pp.652–653; Matthews 1993, p. 110). Composing the grammatical predicate functional words such as auxiliary can be inserted into the morphology of some verbs (e.g. *have been done*). The peculiarity of the auxiliary is differentiated on the basis of paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations with other verbs whereas paradigmatic relations outline morphosyntactic features of the English auxiliary (e.g. *is advised*) (Anderson, 2000, p.810). Accordingly, the English auxiliary verbs can determine all morphological and/ or grammatical functions, i.e. voice, tense, and aspect etc. The auxiliary verbs differ from lexical verbs in reference to morphological indicators (some modal verbs do not indicate the 3rd person, singular) (Bybee, 2000, p.806). The English auxiliary verbs 'be' and 'have' with the participle (present or past) forming the constructions of

continuous and perfect tense or the passive voice can be explained on the basis of morphology, syntax, and semantics (McCawley, 1995, p.1328; Comrie, 1995, p.1244; Dahl, 2004, p.1180–1181). The current grammar works of English consider the auxiliary verbs to be the ‘head’ words and therefore, their analysis differs from traditional grammar works presented as ‘dependent’ words, whereas the auxiliary verbs as ‘operators’ are much considered as they indicate tense, mood, aspect, and voice (Huddleston, Pullum, 2002, pp.51, 215). Hence every auxiliary verb is the focus foundation within the verb phrase containing the non-finite verb (*infinitive, participle*). The auxiliary verbs differ from semantic predicates and their arguments. In functional grammar works, the English verb (i.e. the verb phrase) is maintained being the core and the fundamental unit in the syntactic structure that may indicate action or state and thus it is related by meaning with other units in a clause (Biber et al., 2007, pp.47–48).

Thus the following notions of the compositional hierarchy of the content of the verb in English (the grammatical predicate) referring to the simple and compound tense forms are presented below (see Table 1).

**Table 1.** The Compositional Hierarchy of the Content of the Verb Expression in English.

Verb, i.e. the grammatical predicate – the syntactic function.
The level (grammatical).
The structure: simple verb; analytical (compound tenses).
The category: Verb.
The expression: verb, participle, infinitive.
The components within the phrase: Verb, auxiliary, participle, infinitive.
The composition (morphological) of the verb form: Verb-morphemes, flexions, prefixes, suffixes.

Traditionally, the verb is also treated as the lexical-grammatical class of words related to meaning and function. Semantically verbs outline events, actions and states and organise the primary focus of a clause, determine the roles and relations with the noun (or the noun phrase). Many of the modern grammar specialists declare that syntax cannot be separated from semantics (Vendler, 1996, p.1725). However sometimes semantics of a clause is related only to the verb (Bybee, 2000, p.795). At present the universal functional relationship of lexical semantics is highlighted with grammar and especially with syntax (Löbner, 2002; Kroeger, 2004). This relationship is also emphasised in the linguistic works of the Lithuanian language (Slizienė, 1986, pp.69–90; Jakaitienė, 2006, pp.59–63; Labutis, 2002, p.10). In Lithuanian the grammatical categories such as person, number, gender, tense, aspect, reflexivity, and voice can be indicated morphologically within the structure of the grammatical predicate. Therefore the Lithuanian verb preserves the peculiarities of the synthetic language type (e.g. reflexivity: Lith. *atsistumti*), though it has the structure of the analytic formation too (e.g. voice: Lith. *yra montuojama, esu buvęs*). In Lithuanian, the verbs can contain the prepositional prefixes however in a clause these prepositional prefixes

have their formal and functional equivalents (e.g. Lith. *i-; iš-; iš-, už-; už* etc.) (Morkūnas, 1999, p.503). The verbs can be formed with prefixes i.e. particles that can highlight the duration of time, deny the action, or provide with extra modal shade of meaning. However these prefixes do not play an important role in grammar. In Lithuanian the verbs are differentiated into several semantic groups (Paulauskienė, 1994, pp.272–273). Modals and other auxiliary verbs referring to meaning and function are considered to be as content modifiers and indicators of the relationship with the subject particularly (Labutis, 1981, p.56; 2002, pp.233–236). Analytical structures of the verb forms are defined as combinations of verbs paradigmatically related to synthetic forms that generally organise the system of the grammatical tenses.

Thus Lithuanian linguists use different criteria to determine the simple type of the grammatical predicate i.e. according to expression, structure, and content. Some linguists differentiate the simple predicate according to its morphological structure (Sirtautas, Grenda, 1988, p.61; Labutis, 2002, p.229).

The following notions of the compositional hierarchy and the content of the grammatical predicate relevant to the simple and analytical structure of the verb in Lithuanian are represented below (see Table 2).

**Table 2.** The Compositional Hierarchy of the Content of the Grammatical Predicate in Lithuanian.

Grammatical predicate, i.e. the verb: the syntactic function.
The level (syntactic).
The type: the simple predicate.
The structure: simple, analytical.
The category: Verb.
The components within the construction: verb, participle.
The expression: verb, participle.
The composition (morphological): Flexions, endings, morphemes, prefixes, suffixes.

Modern English and Lithuanian works on grammar present the structural patterns of verb that correspond to the grammatical predicate whose structure is expressed either by the conjugated verb forms or it is linked to other word forms.

To sum up, the verb i.e. the grammatical predicate refers to the grammatical categories of tense, aspect, voice, person, number, gender, and reflexivity highlighting the general aspects of the grammatical structure of the verb that is investigated on the level of the contrasting language systems. Above all, the morphological characteristics and lexical semantics of the verb are relevant to the grammatical categories of the verb.

## Analysis

### The verb in reference to the grammatical categories

The realization of the verb of the concrete analysis generally requires the reference to the grammatical categories, such

as tense, aspect, voice, mood, reflexivity, person, number, and gender.

The grammatical ‘tense’ as a morphosyntactic category which is expressed by the conjugated verb forms refers to the grammatical predicate. The syntactic temporality causes the appearance of the morphological form of a purely temporal character. The realization of different time with the different verb forms that indicate the grammatical tense distinctions of present, past and future vary in both languages. The category of *person* refers to the verb form and its relation to the noun.

English has two tense systems: past vs. present whereas Lithuanian counts a four tense system. The expression indicating the grammatical simple present tense in English is considered differently when compared to the expression of the grammatical present tense form in Lithuanian. There is no special inflexion on verbs indicating the simple present tense in English except for ‘-s’ the 3rd person, singular, e.g. 1(a):

1(a) Any RTS scheme **consists** of the two sets — components and links between them ...

1(b) Bet kurią RTS sistemą **sudaro** dvi aibės – komponentų ir ryšių tarp jų ...

The grammatical indicators of person and number used on the English verb are limited. In contrast to English, in the Lithuanian example 1(b), the verb is inflected not only for the present tense but also for the person and number.

In the English example 2(a), the verb expressed by the non-resultative verb form in the present can be used with the adverb ‘repeatedly’ to indicate the repeated action syntactically.

2(a) Due to this, cams repeatedly **press** elastic pipe causing the motion of a fluid inside it.

2(b) Dėl to kumšteliai **suspauđinėja** elastinį vamzdelį, priversdami jame esantį skystį judėti.

In Lithuanian the meaning of the repetitive action corresponds to the affix expressed by the bound morpheme which is inserted into the verb comprising the synthetic verb structure (see Example 2(b)). The prefix ‘*su-*’ and the suffix ‘*-inė-*’ composing the verb form indicate the twofold aspect, i.e. the event and the repetitive action within the clause. Though, the repetitive meaning of the suffix ‘*-inė-*’ is used as the secondary means to indicate the durative action of the verb form ‘*suspauđinėja*’.

It is considered that such grammatical categories as ‘tense’, ‘aspect’ and ‘mood’ have a noticeable effect on each other i.e. the expression of present and past time cannot be considered separately from aspect (Quirk et al., 1982, p.40). Both English and Lithuanian encode aspectual predication syntactically and locate it at the interface of inflexional morphology and lexical semantics. When dealing with aspect it is important to differentiate between grammatical and lexical expressions of the internal time concept of a situation. The analytical structure of the verb is determined as the combination of the verb forms paradigmatically related to the synthetic forms that generally organize the system of grammatical tenses.

The next example 3(a) in English presents the analytical structure of the verb composed of the auxiliary ‘*are*’ to indicate the grammatical meaning of the present tense, the 3rd person, plural and stands for a separate word-morpheme used with the present participle to mean the continuous aspect in the active. Such verb expression refers to the morphological level, e.g.:

3(a) Web sites **are becoming** increasingly sophisticated but also more user-friendly.

3(b) Internetiniai puslapiai **tampa** ne tik įmantresni, bet ir patogūs vartotojams.

In Lithuanian aspect as the semantic and syntactic property of the verb is not morphologized as in English. In Lithuanian aspectual meaning of the verb form is expressed by prefixes and adverbs of time. Some verbs have dual class membership and a verb may denote an action and a process in different contexts. Prefixes change the aspectual character of a verb by modifying the verbal meaning in a variety of ways (Ambrazas, 1997, p.221).

Comparing to English, in the Lithuanian example 3(b) the simple verb ‘*tampa*’ denotes an action and a process in the clause.

The following example illustrates the analytical structure of the verb comprising the auxiliary ‘*has*’ in the present tense, the 3rd person, singular which also stands for a separate word-morpheme. It is used with the past participle to indicate the grammatical meaning of the perfect aspect in the active in English (see Example 4(a)):

4(a) At the same time, the nature of the task **has evolved**.

4(b) Tuo pačiu metu **pasikeitė** pačios užduoties pobūdis.

In Lithuanian, the example 4(b) provides with the simple predicate ‘*pasikeitė*’ expressed by the synthetic structure of inflective verb form with the prefix ‘*pa-*’, which indicates the perfect aspect of the past in the active voice with the reflexive affix inserted between the prefix and the root, and it bears the inflections of the 3rd person, singular.

In English the structure of the past perfect of the active verb ‘*had increased*’ indicates the events in the past whereas in Lithuanian, it can correspond to the synthetic verb form which contains the prefix ‘*iš-*’ expressing the perfect aspect in the active, e.g.:

5(a) General popularity of architecture **had increased** in postmodernism.

5(b) Bendras architektūros populiarumas **išaugo** postmodernizmo laikotarpiu.

In English and Lithuanian the concrete verb forms, morphemes, suffixes, and/ or endings of the contrasting past tense systems can be determinant in the expression of the past tense form. In English the verb expression of the past time can be indicated by the morpheme ‘*-ed*’ added to the verb (see Example 6(a)):

6(a) The Ministry of Environment protection **approved** them.

6(b) Jas **patvirtino** Aplinkos ministerija.

The verb expression of the past time can be indicated by some irregular verb forms too (i.e. Eng. *took, did, was,*

were, etc.). Thus the systemic correlation between the grammaticalized oppositions of the past tense depends on the lexis and on the morphological expression of the verb forms (see Example 7(a)):

7(a) *We **found** it important to define the system of streets...*

7(b) *Mes **supratome**, kad yra svarbu nustatyti gatvių sistemą...*

The analytical structure of the continuous verb form composed of the auxiliary 'were' in the past with the present participle expresses the events in the past at the speaking moment used with the 1st person in the plural in English, e.g.:

8(a) *Nevertheless we **were planning** a gross floor area of 100,000 square metres in this location.*

8(b) *Vis dėlto šioje vietoje mes **planavome** 100 000 m<sup>2</sup> plotą statinį.*

In the Lithuanian example 8(b), it can correspond to the simple verb form used in the past simple with the grammatical indicators of the 1st person, plural.

In English the meaning of *past 'iterativity'* can be indicated syntactically by lexical semantic means (e.g. *often, frequently, seldom, twice, etc.*) along with the expression of the verb form in the past tense. However some English verbs (e.g. *knock, jump, etc.*) have an inherent semantic meaning for iterativity (Huddleston, Pullum, 2002, p.123). In the English example 9(a), the expression of the verb form in the past does not have morphological indicators for iterativity, e.g.:

9(a) *They frequently **faced** restrictions on hours of operation, especially on Sundays.*

9(b) *Jie dažnai **susidurdavo** su tam tikrais darbo valandų apribojimais ir sekmadieniais.*

In Lithuanian the expression of the past iterative tense differs from the simple past only by the character of the action as it is an aspectual variant of the past tense. However some Lithuanian linguists regard it as a tense.

In contrast to English, in the Lithuanian example 8(b) the adverb 'dažnai' determines the composition of the synthetic verb form 'susidurdavo' as it emphasises the past tense and the repetitive perfect aspect.

'Futurity' is expressed specifically in ways that do not allow for grammatical comparison in English and Lithuanian. In the English and Lithuanian grammar studies, the future is explained not as a tense but as a mood (Comrie, 1995, p.1245; Holvoet, Pajėdienė, 2004(d), p.124). Systemic correlation between the grammaticalised opposition of futurity is encoded in verb forms lexically and morphologically in the both languages. The problem is that no verb form in English is associated with future time as the future tense in English is not based on simple distinctions in time (Onions, 1971, p.99; Quirk, et al., 1982, p.47; Collins Cobuild, 1990, p.255; Lewis, 1991, p.50; Yule, 1998, p.58; Jacobs, 1995, p.190; Dahl, 2004, p.1184). The analytical verb structure composed of the auxiliary 'will' can be used with the infinitive to refer to future time, e.g.:

10(a) *This **will promote** exchange of experience between the countries ...*

10(b) *Tai **pagerins** patirties mainus tarp šalių ...*

The structure of the English verb comprising the auxiliary 'will' with the bare infinitive can be translated into Lithuanian by means of the morphological form of the future tense with certain time adjustments of meaning. Morphological indicators of flexions, syntactic characteristics, and lexical semantics determine the predication in the Lithuanian language.

'Voice' is a semantic, functional and morphosyntactic category; it refers to subject — object relations inside the syntactic clause structure and changes the grammatical function of the same element. The active forms of the verb involve a direct and/ or indirect object, and every direct object can take the subject position of the passive construction in a clause. Such semantic categories as *agent, patient* or *affected object* are relevant to the voice and can reveal the meaning of a clause. The specific word order or hierarchy determines the relations between the agent and the patient. The relationship between the active and passive in the syntactic structure refers to lexical valency. The passive voice assists in revealing and determining the nature of objectivity and personality in the language of science.

In English the analytical structure of the passive construction is composed of the auxiliary 'is' in the present, the 1st person, singular and used with the past participle whereas in Lithuanian it corresponds also to the analytical verb structure in the passive, e.g.:

11(a) *The treatment and storage of waste **is defined** in the Permit for Nature Resources.*

11(b) *Atliekų tvarkymas ir sandėliavimas (**yra**) **nustatyti** Gamtos išteklių leidime.*

In contrast to English, in Lithuanian the verb 'yra' composing a part of the analytical verb structure in the present can be omitted. In Lithuanian, the past participle in the passive is inflected for the 3rd person, plural, and (masculine) gender.

In the English example 12(a), the analytical structure of the verb expressed by the present verb form in the passive 'is being used' is relevant to the continuous aspect, e.g.:

12(a) *Fresh potable water **is being used** only for the needs of people.*

12(b) *Geriamas vanduo technologinėms reikmėms (**yra**) **tebenaudojamas** dirbančiųjų buitiniams poreikiams tenkinti.*

In the Lithuanian example 12(b) the analytical verb construction (*yra*) in the present (which also is omitted) used with the present participle 'tebenaudojamas' bears the prefix 'tebe-' which changes the character of the continuous aspect and modifies the meaning of the verb.

'Mood' expressed by the verb refers to the category of predicativity in English and Lithuanian. Mood as the morphological category which covers the grammatical variety of a "large semantic area" expresses modality (Kengeveld, 2004, p.1190; Ambrazas, 1997, pp.254–258)

i.e. the speaker's attitude towards the content of the utterance. Mood is dependent upon the situation and intonation of the utterance. In the English example 13(a) the analytical verb structure is composed of the auxiliary verb 'does' with the verb 'indicate' to form the interrogative clause, e.g.:

13(a) *Does the law indicate the specific legal mechanisms?*

13(b) *Ar įstatymas nurodo būtent konkrečius teisinius mechanizmus?*

In the Lithuanian example 13(b) the corresponding verb form has the absolute meaning of the present tense expressed by the simple verb bearing the inflexions to indicate the 3rd person, singular.

In the English example 14(a) the analytical structure of the verb form 'does not regulate' expressed in the present tense contains the negation 'not' with the auxiliary 'does' which indicates the 3rd person singular, e.g.:

14(a) *However, the law does not regulate by what means these requirements are met.*

14(b) *Tačiau įstatymas nereglamentuoja, kaip bus laikomasi šių reikalavimų.*

In contrast to English, in the Lithuanian example 14(b) the prefix of negation 'ne-' is added to the verb composing the synthetic structure of the simple verb 'nereglamentuoja' in the present, the 3rd person, singular without any auxiliary.

The speaker's attitude of volition, expressed by the imperative mood, refers to an action, which is possible or desirable. The imperative mood is not inflected for tenses in English. The verb in the imperative mood can be used without the reflexive pronoun however such spontaneous action becomes not clear. The function of reflexivity, which can be performed by the reflexive pronoun, can be omitted after the verb 'wash' in the clause, e.g.:

15(a) *Avoid contact with eyes, skin and clothing. Wash thoroughly after handling.*

15(b) *Saugotis, kad nepatektų į akis, ant odos ir drabužių. Po darbo nusiprausti.*

15(c) *Saugokitės ... nusiprauskite ...*

The reflexive element is a semantic component in the grammatical structure of a verb whereas the lexical and grammatical part of the reflexive element is related to the verb form.

Comparing to English, in the Lithuanian example 15(b), the verb in the imperative bears the infinitive verb form 'Saugotis' with the reflexive indicator '-s' at the end, and '-si-' inserted between the suffix 'nu-' and the root in the verb form 'nusiprausti'. Though, the Lithuanian example 15(c) is also possible. The verb forms 'Saugokitės', 'nusiprauskite' are expressed in the imperative mood and used with the indicators of the future tense, the 2nd person, plural, and reflexive affixes as bound morphemes.

The expression of the grammatical 'gender' in English and Lithuanian also has specificity. In English, the category of gender is highlighted in nouns and pronouns whereas in Lithuanian the category of the grammatical gender is indicated morphologically not only on nouns, adjectives,

pronouns, but also on participles. The interpretation of the passive form and grammatical gender (also reflexivity) can be caused by characteristics of the semantics of the participle.

'Reflexivity' indicates the object of an action, which is the same performer of an action in a clause. In English the verb can contain reflexive meanings indicated syntactically. The realisation of reflexivity is based on the internal semantic characteristics of a transitive verb in English. In modern English the function of reflexivity is performed by the personal pronouns formed by a reflexive affix (e.g. sg. -self, pl. -selves). These pronouns indicate the category of voice, person, number, and gender merely by being included in the analytical constructions, e.g.:

16(a) *This debate is itself relevant to the establishment in Europe of an area of security, peace ...*

16(b) *Ši diskusija yra tiesiogiai susijusi su apsaugos, taikos ir gerovės siekimu Europoje.*

In the Lithuanian example 16(b) the analytical structure of the predicate is expressed by the verb 'yra' in present with the past participle 'susijusi' in the active, indicates the 3rd person, singular, the feminine gender, however it does not mean reflexivity.

In summary, the contrastive analysis of the verb has proved the fact that the grammaticality of the verb forms and the degree of analyticity of the verb are specific to the compound tenses in English and therefore they can correspond to the expression and the different structures of the verb forms composing the grammatical predicate in Lithuanian. The illustrated examples show that the compositional elements indicated on the verb (e.g. verb-morphemes, flexions, endings, and suffixes) can be associated with two or three meanings in English and in Lithuanian. The analytic verb structures in English can correspond to the synthetic verb expression in the Lithuanian constructions.

## The Findings and Results

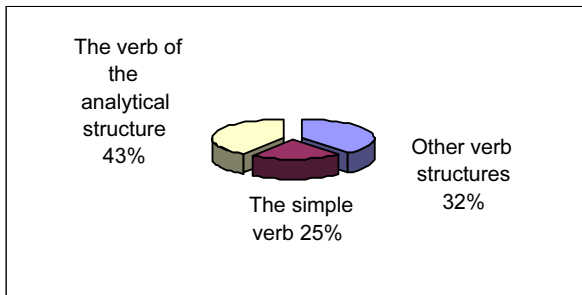
The quantitative research of the data of the simple and analytical structures of the verb i.e. the grammatical predicate has been performed viewing the grammatical expression of the verb forms that are used in the English and Lithuanian sources (Farret, Simoes, 2006; Kytra, 2006). The research is supported by the data, investigating the oppositions of the simple verb forms and the analytical verb structures. The evaluation of the findings and results is based on the theory of the verb i.e. the grammatical predicate, analysing the scientific texts in English and Lithuanian. The analysed data have been compared typologically to determine the frequency of the usage of the correspondent expressions of the simple verb and the verb of the analytical structure that are implemented within the clause.

The research has comprised 1685 units of the found data related to the verb i.e. the oppositions of the simple and the analytical structures in the both languages.

In English the findings of the data of the simple verb that stand for the one verb form (v<sub>f</sub>), compose about 25 % of the analysed data. The findings of the data of the analytical

verb structure i.e. passive voice (*be + past participle*), continuous tense (*be + present participle*), perfect tense (*have + past participle*), future tense (*aux + infinitive*), make about 43 % of the analysed data. The data of the other verb structures i.e. the types of the verbal and nominal constructions, comprise about 32 % of the data, are used to illustrate the frequency of the analytical verb structure that exist in the analysed texts.

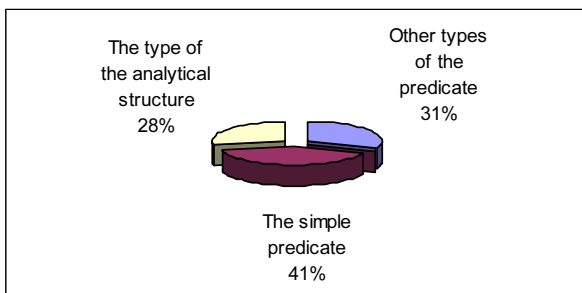
The following data of the findings in regard to the frequency of the composition and expression of the verb forms of the simple and compound tenses in English are presented below (see Figure 1):



**Figure 1.** The Compositional Structure of the Verb in English.

In Lithuanian the findings of the data of the grammatical predicate comprise the simple verb composed of the one verb form (*vf*) making about 14 % of the analysed data. Whereas the obtained data containing the synthetic verb structure (i.e. the bound morphemes) comprise about 27 % of the found data, and therefore such type i.e. the simple verb makes about 41 % of all the found data. The findings of the data of the grammatical predicate of the analytical structure i.e. the passive (*būti + passive participle*), the verb forms of the inceptive and perfect tenses (*būti + active participle*), make about 28 % of the analysed data. However the findings of the data of other verb structures i.e. the verbal and nominal constructions, are numerous and comprise about 32 % of the analysed data, and therefore they are used to illustrate the results in opposition only to the frequency of the quantitative and qualitative data obtained.

The following data of the findings in regard to the frequency of the structural types of the grammatical predicate in Lithuanian are illustrated below (see Figure 2):



**Figure 2.** The Structural Types of the Grammatical Predicate in Lithuanian.

Comparing the findings of the data in the both languages highlight the results that the type of the simple (including the synthetic) verb structure comprising 41 % of the analysed data are therefore frequent in Lithuanian. The

type of the analytical verb structure making about 43 % of the found data is more frequent in English than in Lithuanian. However this type of the verb is the dominant structure found in the both languages.

Thus the performed investigation highlights the structural specificity of the compositional content of the verb i.e. the grammatical predicate, its relationship with the grammatical categories of tense, aspect, voice, mood, reflexivity, person, number, and gender.

## Conclusion

Typologically, grammatical verb forms determine the patterns of word relations treating the structure of the verb in English and Lithuanian. The specificity of compositional content and the expression of the verb forms indicate the relationship with the grammatical categories of tense, aspect, voice, mood, reflexivity, person, number, and gender. The analysed data in the both languages prove that the verbs of the analytical structure are frequent in English, when translating into Lithuanian they correspond to the simple verb mostly bearing the synthetic expression of the verb form.

Finally, the study of the grammatical structure of the English and Lithuanian languages is hardly possible without syntactic data whereas syntax is relevant to morphology. When this dependency is expressed by word-morphemes and flexions in the one language, and in the other language this dependency may satisfy lexical and semantic means, i.e. periphrasis, word order, reflexivity, etc.

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Dana Švenčionienė

## **Gretinamoji anglų ir lietuvių kalbų veiksmažodžio analizė sintaksės ir morfologijos santykių požiūriu**

Santrauka

Straipsnyje apžvelgiami anglų ir lietuvių kalbų veiksmažodžio, t. y. gramatinio predikato, tyrinėjimai struktūros, raiškos ir reikšmės požiūriu. Šių kalbų veiksmažodžio gramatinimo laipsnis grindžiamas morfologiniu, sintaksiniu ir semantiniu kriterijais. Labai svarbus veiksmažodžio struktūrinės sandaros vertinimas, lemiantis sintaksinės struktūros specifiką, kai veiksmažodis skaidomas iš vidaus. Kiekvieno veiksmažodinio elemento vieta ir vaidmuo priklauso nuo jo santykių ir funkcijų su kitais elementais veiksmažodžio frazėje. Veiksmažodžio sandara taip pat turi ir morfologinių, ir sintaksinių aspektų, kuriuos gali lemti veiksmažodžio morfologija. Susiduriama su leksinės ir gramatinės reikšmės opozicija. Veiksmažodžio leksinė struktūra taip pat gali nulemti sintaksinius ypatumus.

Gretinant abiejų kalbų veiksmažodį, jo formų ryšius išryškina tų veiksmažodžių morfosintaksinių formų santykinė reikšmė (pagalbiniai veiksmažodžiai, žodžiai morfemos, afiksai, fleksijos ir kt.). Analitinio tipo anglų kalbos veiksmažodis pasižymi analitinėmis (dūriniais, sudėtinėmis) veiksmažodžio laikų formomis su pagalbiniais veiksmažodžiais. Sintetinio tipo lietuvių kalbos tarinys išlaiko sintetinio tipo ypatumus, nors taip pat turi ir analitinės sandaros struktūrų.

Dabartiniuose anglų kalbos gramatikos darbuose, ypač gretinamuosiuose, morfologinės kategorijos įkomponuojamos į sintaksę. Kai kurių struktūrinių krypčių anglų kalbos darbuose morfologija tarsi ištirpsta sintaksėje ir atskirai ji buvo beveik nenagrinėjama. Dabartinė lingvistika, tirdama kalbų struktūrą (gramatiką) ir reikšmę (semantiką), į gramatiką įtraukia morfologiją ir sintaksę. Šiuo metu daugelis anglistų morfologiją ima laikyti atskira gramatikos dalimi. Funkciniu požiūriu pripažįstama, kad tam tikri sintaksės ir morfologijos dalykai iš dalies sutampa – jie yra svarbūs kaip morfosintaksiniai reiškiniai.

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