

FUNCTIONAL GRAMMAR– CHAPTER SEVEN COMBINING CLAUSES INTO SENTENCES

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CHAPTER SEVEN OUTLINE

- Clause combining: the complex sentence
- Relationships of equivalence between clauses
- Relationships of non-equivalence between clauses
- Subordination and subordinators

CLAUSE COMBINING

- Independent and dependent clauses
- The complex sentence

Examples:

Sam bought the tickets.

Sam bought the tickets while Sue parked the car.

A boy of six saved the lives of his brother and two sisters yesterday (1) when fire broke out (2) while they were at home alone (3).

RELATIONSHIPS OF EQUIVALENCE BETWEEN CLAUSES

- Coordination and coordinators *and, or, but*

Examples:

*I don't like it **and** I don't want it.*

*You can keep it **or** you can give it away.*

*It's a fine piece of furniture, **but** (it is) too large for this room.*

- Correlative coordination

Examples:

*You should **either** accept his offer **or (else)** never see him again.*

***Either** we give the tickets back **or (else)** you drop everything and go.*

*You should **neither** ask him for money **nor** accept it if he offers.*

- Unlinked coordination

Examples:

It must be genuine; it has the hallmark.

He had been drinking very hard – onlky I knew how hard.

RELATIONSHIPS OF NON-EQUIVALENCE BETWEEN CLAUSES

- Sentence relative clauses

Examples:

They decided not to go, *which turned out to be a mistake.*

He'll probably forget I ever mentioned it. *Which suits me fine.*

- Non-finite supplementive clauses

Examples:

The mountains were invisible, *enveloped in a thick mist.*

The soldiers filled the couches, *the younger ones eating sandwiches and chocolate.*

- Contrastive dependency: *while, whereas, but for the fact that*

Examples:

Jamie already speaks two foreign languages, *whereas* her brother hasn't yet learned any.

It would have been a disaster, *but for the fact that* everyone helped to save the situation.

SUBORDINATION AND SUBORDINATORS

- Subordinators are of three types: simple (consisting of one word, e.g. *when, if*), conjunctive groups (two words, e.g. *as if, even though, etc.*), and complex (e.g. *provided that, supposing that, etc.*)
- Adverbial clauses of time, concession, reason, purpose, result, and manner
- Conditional clauses

THE INTERPLAY OF THEME-RHEME AND GIVEN-NEW

- Thematic progression:

Simple linear: T1 – R1

T2 – R2

Continuous: T1 – R1

T1 – R2

T1 – R3

Derived: Hypertheme: T1 – R1, T2 – R2, T3 – R3,

- Theme-Rheme = Given-New

THE INTERPLAY OF THEME-RHEME AND GIVEN-NEW (CONT'D)

Thematisation/thematic fronting

- Clefting: It-clefts and Wh-clefts

It's MONEY (that) they need (*it*-cleft)

What they need is MONEY (*wh*-cleft)

- Active - Passive alternative
- Extraposition of clauses

Clause as Subject

That the banks are closed on Saturday is a nuisance.

What they are proposing to do is horrifying.

To interfere would be unwise.

Extraposed clause

It's a nuisance that the banks are closed on Saturday.

It's horrifying what they are proposing to do.

It would be unwise to interfere.