

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT PREPOSITIONS AND LEXICAL, SYNTACTIC AND SEMANTIC FEATURES OF VERBS

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Abstract: This article describes some basics in computational linguistics that are necessary to understand the thesis. This chapter introduces the concept of semantic roles of the English verbs. The article presents theoretical ideas in this regard and proves them with examples.

Keywords: Lexical units; grammatical form; theoretical aspects; syntactic-semantic; translation.

The use of prepositions in the English language is one of the influential parts in organizing the structure of the sentence. Lexical, syntactic-semantic meanings of the prepositions, especially preposition “on” are discussed in this following chapter in terms of theoretical aspects. Furthermore, standpoints rendered by famous linguists and scholars supplement the theoretical part of every subdivision. This chapter reviews some basics in computational linguistics that are necessary to understand the thesis. The first section introduces the concept of semantic roles of the English verbs. Prepositions typically appear together with a complement as part of a prepositional phrase. Prepositions describe the relationship between the complement and another element of the sentence, usually a verb or noun phrase. The complement can be a noun phrase (at the beach) or V-ing phrase (in public spending).

Prepositions are a relatively small class of words, but they are among the most frequently occurring words in English. Three out of the ten most frequent English words are prepositions. Because of their frequency and their importance in expressing relationships between constituents, prepositions are an important building block for English syntax and semantics. Prepositions are highly ambiguous. One preposition can have different meanings in different contexts. Different meanings express different relationships between the prepositional phrase and the attached verb or noun phrase.

English prepositions, though a very small number compared with the vast number of nouns, adjectives and verbs which English has, represent an important and frequently used category in English. By definition, they are words that express relationship between two entities in a sentence: They indicate a relationship in space between one object and another, and/or a relationship in time between events, and a more abstract relationships (e.g. Government). Previous studies of English prepositions have pointed out the difficulties of English prepositions use or usage for all non-native speakers, and such difficulty does not come to an end even when learners achieve a high level of proficiency. In other words, learning to use English prepositions seem to be an on-going process as Jeng remarks.

The standard semantic description of English in has been traditionally understood as a matter of geometric configuration of the participants in the spatial relation. The landmark is conceived of as an area or volume, or as a three-dimensional entity, the topological relation of inclusion being emphasized. The landmark may also be understood as a medium configuration, in opposition to the geometric conception based upon the idea of container. Other authors pose a meaning based on the relative function of the participants, i.e. the control of the container over the contained entity. Finally, dynamic uses are acknowledged, but the nature of the motion expressed has not been described.

Our notion of conceptual schema - a gestalt configuration where some elements maybe focused upon - refers to the central meaning from which other senses are derived. Our aim is to provide not just a list of uses, but a semantic structure that accounts for all the senses in terms of a radial network. The network extends through three conceptual regions that stand for topological, functional, and force-dynamic dimensions of the conceptualization of the relationship. Three main imaginative procedures are described for meaning extension: First, shifts of the conceptual schema (rotation, profiling, semantic bleaching), second, partial sanction, which focuses on one or more dimensions (specialization of meaning), and finally metaphorical mappings, which account for figurative meaning and idiomatic use.

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