

Syntax overview at units' level: Syntagma, sentence, phrase, and some correlations with the order of Greek-Albanian constituents in Th.Mitko's Phrase Book (1887-1888)

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Abstract:

In the article "Syntax overview at units' level: Syntagma, sentence, phrase, and some correlations with the order of their Greek-Albanian constituents in the tri-lingual Talking Dictionary of Th. Mitko", the author, **pedagogue of the Modern Greek Language in the University of Tirana**, dr. Elvis Bramo, brings the level of the language as the main topic of this research, that is the syntactical level, starting from the syntagma unit (as a building unit), different types of sentences, some phrases with predicative components, and some bilingual segments: Albanian-Greek, to identify several peculiarities of word order. This comparative study between the two languages (the Talking Dictionary has been compiled in three languages) aims at achieving some partial conclusions about the construction of the syntagma, their types as far as syntax connecting ways are concerned, and the valences that merge them into classes of words; It aims to identify the types of sentences with the grammatical elements of the question, with question words, with the denial grammatical tools, as well as the characteristics of the verbs as the heart of the syntactical organization in the communicated unit-phrase. Regarding the phrase (period), dr. Bramo has pointed out the relationship of the phrasal components merging, their functioning together with their thematic and rematic role, on the basis of the Prague School. The language research from this viewpoint of Th.Mitko's work, one of the most famous Albanian folklorists, has also brought in a comparable plan some models of syntactical phrasal and compound structures, to show that although the Greek and the Albanian languages are natural languages with a free word order (SVO), they do have parametric changes regarding the constituent parts of the sentence, particularly in the connoted constructions.

Keywords: Mitko, folklorist, tales, folk songs, collect, language, light, to lose, religion, tribe, brothers, albanian, greek, civilisation, glory, nationality

Introduction

Thimi Mitko has without doubt been among the first elaborators of the Albanian language, not simply because he joined the early collectors of folk oral creativity, otherwise known as a precious national treasury of the mother tongue, but above all, for being part of the heritage with his authentic lexicographic works, such as the Tri-lingual Talking Dictionary, prepared and published two years ago. ¹ For his contribution not only in folklore, but also in the Albanian language, particularly in the field of lexicography, the scholars have classified him in that group of writers called *the southern orthodox district*, ² who have used the Greek alphabet.

With the reprinting of his main work "The albanian bee" in 1924, in Vienna, by dr. Gjergj Pekmezi, Mitko's name became further known among the foreign Albanologists, who have also made him a subject of recognition and study. Suffice to mention here the high appreciation of the great renaissance man, Jeronim de Rada, who was among the first Arbëresh that got acquainted with his work, and published it in his newspaper, *Fiamuri i Arbërit*; (Arber's flag); saying that the collector of "The albanian bee" had realized that *un popolo non può uscire dalla barbaria se non coltivando la lingua a sè nativa...*³ A nation can not throw off the barbarian yoke, unless it cultivates the native tongue ... Albanian historians have asserted that the Italian-Greek-Albanian Tri-lingual Dictionary of Mitko has come to serve as an approaching, cooperation and friendship

¹ Sala, Shpëtim: **Italian-Albanian-Greek Dictionary** (Transliteration and Albanian Dictionary) II, West Print, Tiranë, 2013.

² The same author, the same book, p. 446.

³ Sala, Shpëtim: **Italian-Albanian-Greek Dictionary** (Transliteration and Albanian Dictionary) II, West Print, Tiranë, 2013, p. 65.

means between Albanians, Greeks and Italians, as an important means of cultural, commercial, scientific cooperation among the people.¹

We think that the second part of the summary we have selected, leaves room for an analysis or presentation of the syntactical viewpoint of the lexical inflows from the syntagmatic to the sentence and phrase structure level, as well as the conversational level, Mitko brought 130 years ago. The three-collecting-work-decades, just like bees collecting nectar, have focused mainly on the author's contacts with the Tosk and Geg emigrants who worked and lived in Egypt and elsewhere, relying not only on the lexicon of the spoken language of the common people, but also on the lexicon obtained from the written language.²

Folklore researchers and Albanian literary historians have come to the conclusion that Mitko's broad creativity, to this day, has been quite scattered, better say uncollected, because they can probably be found in the form of manuscripts at the descendants of his heirs in Egypt. On the other hand, since 1981 when Mitko's work was published, it has been claimed that this outstanding folklorist has also left an Albanian-Greek dictionary, a manuscript (with about a thousand words), which is not the subject of our article.

Description

A. The valence and syntax:

In this linguistic research on Mitko's Talking Dictionary, we are focusing simply on the syntactical viewpoint of the language used by the author almost a century and a half ago, to investigate several peculiarities of this discipline, especially in the syntactic unions of concrete units, such as the "syntax", a construction element for the sentence throughout the process of communication. Studying these units in spoken language through "sentences", will help us judge upon their structures, the ways of union according to their components, and the syntactical connecting means used here.

In addition to the character of the connections and relations of the syntagmatic components, a special significance is attached to the valence indicator,³ belonging not only to the verbal syntax (VS), but also to those with heads or components of other classes of words, such as nouns, adjectives, numerals, pronouns and adverbs.⁴ During this analysis we have tried to see: structure, order, the distinction between the topic (old information) and the comment (new information), the tools of syntactical connection, etc., according to the structural school data, which can be integrated into the theory and practice of the Albanian language. And this is the **verbs' valency**, a very important achievement of the Prague School, which has been raised in theory by the French linguist of this trend in linguistics, Lucien Tesnière since 1959.⁵ The author is also called the *father of modern dependency grammar*.⁶ The models of this theory, which see the verb as the syntax center of the phrase (here: the sentence), were born in the European structuralist circle, more precisely in the French one, thanks to the achievements of the linguist L. Tesnière (1893-1954): a student of the well-known linguist Charles Bally and member of Prague linguistic circle. The act of this model eruption since its first steps to its formulation, seems to be fixed at the same time as the publication day of the work "**Éléments de Syntaxe structurale**" (**Structural Syntax Elements**). It has been determined for some time in theoretical linguistics that besides the verbs, for valency there should be talked about other classes and other denominations.⁷ The famous Italian generativist, G. Graffi, stresses out that nouns as well as verbs, show valency but with some changes, not strange enough, because many nouns derive from verbs (and consequently they

¹ Sala, Shpëtim: **Italian-Albanian-Greek Dictionary** (Transliteration and Albanian Dictionary) II, West Print, Tiranë, 2013, p. 64.

² Dhima, Thoma: **Albanian Language Grammar-Syntax**, Gjirokastra, 2010.

³ Dhima, Thoma: **Albanian Language Grammar-Syntax**, Gjirokastra, 2010.

⁴ Dhima, Thoma: **Albanian Language Grammar-Syntax**, Gjirokastra, 2010.

⁵ Dhima, Thoma: **Albanian Language Grammar-Syntax**, Gjirokastra, 2010.

⁶ Dhima, Thoma: **Albanian Language Grammar-Syntax**, Gjirokastra, 2010.

⁷ Herein, p. 73. (Furthermore the Italian generativist, continues: ". The interplay between names and verbs is so systematic that in many cases class nouns noun classes can be given the corresponding verbal classes, so it is possible to speak about transitive and intransitive nouns, etc.

are called "verbal nouns"), for example, (ndriçim) lightening derives from verb ndriçoj(light), *lexim* (reading) from the verb lexoj (read) etj.¹ etc.

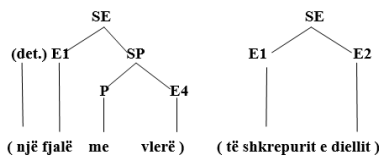
It must be pointed out here that the main aim and the linguistic situations which the communication units of the folklorist's Talking Dictionary are based on, are quite diverse, such as: begging or request, thanking, home conversation, before bedtime, dressing, conversation between the lecturer and the maid, discussions on age, life and death, lunches, dinners, invitations, walks, weather forecast, time indicators, weather, times of year, school, visits, rites of baptism, wedding, talking with the sick, the doctor, conversations among craftsmen, the contents of the letter, conversation at the bookstore, orientation questions, exchanges, fishing, hunting talks, meetings, and other linguistic situations.

The making of such dictionaries in the Albanian language has been a very rich tradition, starting from the XVIIIth century most notably to the present day. We can select the following syntactical order from Mitkos's conversational vocabulary on this theoretical basis, with:

Noun valency – një boce me verë (pot of wine), verë të kuqe(red wine), urdhërë tuaj(your order), njeri i ndermë(honoured man), punëra të vogla (small works), motërës suajë (your sister), të huajatë e Romasit (Roma's foreigners), gjuhën Italishte(Italian language), tim-vëlla(my brother), të bukuritë udhëtim(nice trip), rrobën e shtëpisë (the clothes of the house), këpucët shyte

(shoes), çorape të linjta (linen socks), qerreja përpara derës(oxen ploughing), të ardhurit tuaj(your arrival), pagëzim në kishë (baptism in the church), lirëjën për të ikur (allowed to leave), dy orë (two hours), të dhemburë kreje(head ache), vaporri i Trieshtës (Trieste ship), etc.

The schematic structure model would be:



Valency of adjectives – i bukurë shumë(very beautiful), të dashurat pemët (nice trees), më i madh se atë (bigger than), të bukuritë udhëtimi(nice trip) etc.

Valency of numbers– dy pashë(two-fold), tri llojë (three sorts of), tri pasdreke(3 p.m), dy a tri javësh (two or three week), pesë vëllezër (five brothers), më katër në mëngjes (at 4 in the morning), dhietë mijë dërhëmë(10.000 dirham), tre kute cohë(three meters fabric), etc.

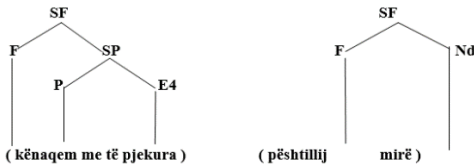
Valency of adverbs – fort mirë(very good), fort më rrallë (very rarely), shumë mirë (very good), tepër fellë (very deep), mjaft i njohur (quite well known), keq shumë(very bad), kaqë vonë(too late), etc.

Valency of verbs – hëngra mejaft(I ate too much), u pieksim me të mirë (see you), vemë të baresim (loitering about), ulodha fort (very tired), epni të falurat e mia (give my regards to), kuvendojmë për – së- gjati (hold talks), e keni liriën me pashë(you are free to...), të flë aq shumë, (heavy sleep)këndoni përpara meje (sing in front of me), të parëdrekiq sod me mua (serve lunch to),² afërohij në zjarri(come closer to the fire place), duhet të ngrihem mbë të zbardhëlyerit e ditës (waking up at dawn), thirrisoni mbë nesërë (call me a day after tomorrow), e pashë në mëngjestë (I saw her in the morning), ta shihni mbë meshë (wrapped), ju lypën ndjesë (forgive me), gaboni shumë (you're wrong), e dini mirë(you know well), ejani këtu(come here), vinj të drekem ndër ju (I'll have lunch with you), jam në parrais (living in paradise), i han me sheqer (eat it sweet), mësoni mësimen(learn the lesson), lojtim me kartëra(play cards), shkruajta gjerë mbë mesnatë (write till

¹ It's quite interesting the verbal formation from the adverb "before lunch", a term that reminds us of "sillë-a"- vakt të ngrëni(serve the meal). The Dictionary of the Albanian Language of 1954 explains it as: "buka e mëngjesit që i shpiket bujkut në arë paradreke, më nja ora 10; koha kur hahet silla. (Breakfast brought to the farmer in the field early, about 10 o'clock; the right time to have breakfast. It must have been used at the time of the Authors' Dictionary as a verb).

² ASHSH, IGJL, *Albanian Language Grammar II*, Tirana, 1997.

midnight), dëftoni mbë gjuhën (what is your language), do t'a paguani shtrenjtë (pay dearly), mbeti me shëndet(safe and sound), kënaqem me të pjekura (I enjoy them raped), pësthillij mirë(wrapped up) etc.



The possibility of grammatical connection in the linguistic plan, is conditional on the valence of the parts of speech, a fact that draws attention to what is called dichotomy "language-utterance", the noun should be related to the nouns of different cases, with adjectives, with some pronouns, numbers, etc; while the verbs should be joined by nouns, adverbs, infinitives , etc. In all the studied cases, the syntactic connecting means between the building units, called the syntagma, in Mitko's Talking Dictionary, are firstly the prepositions, the suffixes, syntactical order, which rarely comes according to the nature of the Albanian language, due to the influence of the foreign languages the author was obliged to use during the long years of emigration; So there are many building models "adjective + noun" (beautiful woman, another time, first job, very hot, etc.)

The same goes even for the mediated construction of predicates with analytical verbs, such as: ...*nuk do të rrinja, sepse kishnja pra dhënë fjalën tim-kuneti...*(I would not stay, **since I gave the word to my brother in law**). As for the level of the syntagmatic combinations, the frequent usage of the dative case without preposition, such as meeting friends, prepositions of the accusative case: " mbë" -on" and " ndë -in": do ta shihni mbë kishë(You will see him at church) ndë meshë(at the Mass/liturgical ritual), e pashë ndë treg(I saw her in the bazaar), ndala mbë këtë(I stopped a while on it), takuash mbë dialëthin(I met the boy)etc.

In the talking recordings of Mitko's Dictionary, we can notice all sorts of syntaxes, both from the simple to the extended structures: *dëftoni më të mirën*(show the best), *kjo fytyrë*(this face), **të përkas ndë dellt**(touch the forehead), *të dalët e gjakut*(it's bleeding), *do t'i çanaj pas zakonit* (I will send it, it's a tradition), *ve të reja* (fresh eggs), *lëng zogut*(boiled chicken juice), *shkruanjë themën*(write the topic), *kishnja punë*(I was busy); *vivlin tënde të uratës* (blessing book), *ngrehem pa shkrepur dielli*(waking up at dawn), *ju pres në vend të gjyqit*(waiting you in court), *nuk vëreni dorën e cohës*(fabric's origine), *kthehej ndë shtëpinë time*(come back home), *give,* , *epëni ndë krahun tuajë të djathtin*(your right arm), *pagëzoni këtë dialë* (baptize this guy); as well as according to the head that leads the components :*vjelën tekdo*(harvest), *largohet zjarrit* (away from the fire), *t'ju thom të drejtën* (telling the truth), *i hamë me sheqer*(we eat it sweet), *do të priremi sakaqë* (have a tendency), *zotërë të dashurë*(dear sir), *të madhe bollësirë* (abundance of), *manushaqë të bukura*(beautiful violets), *ndë shtëpitë*(around the houses), *për shëndet tuajë* (to your health), *mbi shtrat*(on the bed), *fort mirë* (quite well), *teprë lart* (too high), *keq shumë* (too bad) etc.

B. Sentence level:

First of all, we have to point out that in the Mitko's Talking Dictionary; almost all types of predicate units defined by the Albanian syntax are generated¹from the declarative sentences to the exclamatory, imperative, and interrogative-dialogic ones, as called in such cases.

For instance: *Më bëtë me këtë shumë detyarë* (Grateful to you), *Jeni shumë i fismë*(You are noble). *Ju dua me gjithë zemërë*(I love you with all my heart). *Epni më bukë*(Give me sth to eat). *Siellëni më një boce me verë të kuqe*(Bring me a pot of red wine) *Le të lëmë kajdet* (Let the bagpipes play). *Mos harroni të më vini nga herë ndë shtëpi*(Don't forget to see me sometimes). *Lini më të bënj unë* (Let me do it).. *Thoni të fala nga unë zotit atit tuajë* (My regards to your father). *Kopsitnim!*...(button my blouse). *Pastroni krëhënjët tuajë* (Clean the combs). *Shëndet paç zot.* (Bless you). *U gdhifsi shëndoshë*(Have a good night sleep). *Mirë paçi* (All the best to you). *Mirë qofsi*(Wishing you all the best) *Fort mirë, ju paça.*(Wishing you well!)

¹ ASHSH,IGJL, ASHAK, **Albanian lexicography**-Heritage and perspective, Tiran, 2005, p. 167-168. (Hajri Shehu: Issues of syntagma in the Albanian Dictionaries).

We have also come to the conclusion that these types of sentences emerge according to the nature of the Albanian language, without a subject, as a single sentence, and according to a certain order depending on the statement or intonation of the phrase, mainly with verbs at the beginning of the sentence. The interrogative sentences turn out to be the richest in construction and corresponding grammatical tools, since their function during utterance is the most important. Thus, we find in the Dictionary first of all the so-called interrogative sentences having a parallel structure with the declarative sentences, defined as such only through interrogative intonation, not through interrogative grammatical tools, such as pronouns, particles or interrogative adverbs, for instance:

*Keni ndonjë urdhërim për mua?(Any duty assigned for me?) Nukë do të ish më mirë të...? (It would be better to...)*Kërkoni të më bëni t'a mbesoni?(You make me believe..) Ndëgjuat gjë?(Did you hear anything?) E njihni së afërmi?(Do you know him from close?) Më ndjeni, jeni Zonja K...?(Pardon, Are you Mrs. K..?) Matij të veni në valle? Dini gjuhën Anglishte?(Do you speak English?) Jeni ende ndë shtrat?(Are you still in bed?) Vërteta ndërdyshij? Nuk doni t'a porositni? Nuk m'ishnit zotuarë për sod? Nuk mund t'a marr nesërë?(I can't take it tomorrow.) I doni të lidhura me lëkurë keci, mëshqere? Nuk mundëni të rini të drekij me ne? Jeni frëng, zot? (Are you french?)S'ju k'anda portokallet?(Do you like oranges?) Keni gjylypërë të mirë?(Is that a needle?) Doni qengj a shqerë?(Do you want a lamb or a heire?) Ky mish është i mirë? Ju ka ënda të provoni këtë verë?(Try this wine?) Merrni veshit italishtet?(Do you understand italian?) Ay që ju thot të vërtetën, çëthur gojë? But the majority of the interrogative sentences in the Talking Dictionary of Mitko emerge through interrogative grammatical tools, such as:

Interrogative particles: **A** mund të bëhet?(Can it be done?) **A** e kuptoni?(Do you catch it?) **A** më njihni mua?(Do you know me?) **Zoti B. a** i kujtohij atij të bukurit udhëtim, që bëm bashkë, që këtu e gjer ndë Smirinë?(Did he remember the nice trip we had together to Smirna?) Përisni pakëz, ju lutem, kaç herëta? (Just a minute, please?Why so early?) **A** prutë eshkëtoren? **A** ju k'anda djathin?(Do you like cheese?) Fleni edhe a? Pas dreke **a** pini kafe?(Do you have coffee after lunch?) Mëndesha edhe absurda **a** erdhën? They are almost interrogative tools of the popular talk level.

Interrogative pronouns: **Çë** urdhëroni?(What do you want?) **Çë**' më këshilloni të bënj?(What do you advise me to do) **Qysh** do'e ndenjëm? **Qysh** mentohij për këtë?(What do you think of it?) **Kush** do ta thoshte?(Who would say that?) **Çë** farë marrëdhënëshash keni ndë Trieshtë?(What are your relations with **Trishta**?) **Cilën** frikë kujtoni?(What are you afraid of?) Die mbrëmanet mbë ç'orë dual? **Me cilin** flisni? **Mbë** ç'orë keni zakon të ngrëhij? **Sa** rëndë ju vien të ngrëhij? Sa vjetësh është vëllai juaj? **Ç'orë** keni zakon të paradrekij?(When do you have lunch?) **Kush** vien atie përpara nesh?(Who goes there before us?) **E kujt** është këjo vivli?(Whose this book?) Për **çë** nuk më duani?(Why don't you love me?) The pronouns brought here emerge not only in the direct case but also in the indirect ones: possessive, objective and dative.

Interrogative adverbs: **Kur** dotë përsëshihemi?(When will I see you again?) **Ku** vete ay?(Where's he going?) **Kur** do të shkoni për vatan? **Kaha** vjen ay?(Where's he coming from?) **Përse** më quani kështu?(Why do you call me like that?) **Ku** është gërshëra juaj?(Where are your sissors?) **Për se** më flisni anglisht?(Why do you speak me in English?) Fort mirë, **për se** nuk hani spinaq?(Well, why don't you eat spinach?) **Ngaha** vini? **Ku** nisnjëm?(When will we leave?) **Mbë** ç'orë u ngrëjtit?(When did you get up?)

We also notice here and there the use of interrogative grammatical tools, not at the beginning, as it usually happens in these types of sentences, but also in the end of it several times using particles, but also carrying an expressive value when these tools emerge in the middle of the sentence, creating a middle pause in the sentence intonation, to attract the attention of the listener, such as: *Kushëriri juajë a u kthye nga Parisi? (Did your cousin return from Paris?)* In this presentation we also encounter phrase structures that include indirect interrogative sentences, which are present in the paradigmatic group model **p.g.m** but in such constructions they have lost the corresponding intonation of the question, such as:

Pa më thoni, a dini ndë erth vapor'i Trieshtës. (Could you tell me, whether the Trieste ship come or not), Ju merni veshit fort mirë se ç'ju flas unë. (You know quite well what I am talking about), S'marr veshit aspak ç'thot ay. (I can't understand what he is talking about). Nukë dini se ç'orë është. (You don't know what time is it).

In our lexical studies it is emphasized that *the lexicographic treatment of word attachments should profoundly apply the theory of utterance activity in order to be appropriate, in line with the linguistic requirements.* ¹ The linguist H.Shehu points out that for issues such as these dictionaries there are well-known criteria, ie a). density of speech; B) thematic and situation

¹ The same author, the same material, p. 168.

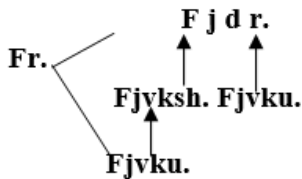
values of speech; C) the breadth of the lexical-syntagmatic links of the word with other words of the language, taking into consideration the extra-linguistical factors, the object-logic and the inter-linguistic factors, including even the structure of the language itself ...¹. Through these we can make out the mergers according to the features of our language, not only in the syntax, but also in the whole sentence structure, to reach the required level of communication.

Phrase construction

Even if we don't have the text structures for the linguistic heritage of Mitko, we are able to describe the constructions in phrases with two or more predicate elements, and we can speak about their nature, as it is usually said about a language, in terms of this level which has become the topic of our writing. In the formal and functional analysis of the phrases, first of all, a building method on the base of the components has been ascertained: the direct structure and the indirect structure.

The following model, from the Talking Dictionary, *Jo, unë nukë pasëdrekem kurrë, përse drekem mesëditet;* (*No, I never have snack, because I have lunch*); comes with a direct construction, since the phrase begins with a leading prediction unit and is followed by a subordinate. But the structure, *Tek është mjeshhtëri i valles, ecni e kërcëni;* (*Come and dance where the master of dance is*), is a phrase that comes from an indirect construction,² used in a given context, has two SOC-s (syntax organization centers), placed behind a subordinate predicate unit; or:

Ndë doni t'a shihëni, e jani nesërë mbë dy, kur ne do t'a kemi për drekë; (*If you want, come tomorrow at two, when we have lunch*), where the leading unit lies between two sub-units. In today's syntactic studies, the functional syntax analysis should be treated up to the schematic presentation of the components, because, according to psycholinguists, the thought patterns turn out to be embodied in the language schemes.³ If we look for the coupling according to the principle of hierarchical linkage "main clause / subordinate clause", we sketch the following sentence as follows: *Të dinja se ishit për të ardhurë, do të kisha porositur të gatuanin gjegjë më tepërë.* (*Had I known you were coming, I would have ordered more food*).



Still staying at the level of the phrase (period), we first affirm here that, in the Mitko's Talking Dictionary, sentence-units do predominate - as basis for conversational discourse in human activity, but there are several cases when the utterance-phrases structures come as a combination with parataxis (in a few types, according to connectors), and with hypotaxis, focusing on some functional relationships, such as the determinative, time, conditional, consecutive and few others.

Secondly, the means of linking the predicate elements in the phrase are mostly those of the conversational prose and popular discourse. Thirdly, phrases and compound combinations with zero linking means are present as well, such as the one without syntactic connectivity tools known in syntax. For example, in the sentence: ***Ju lutem, mos ndërejhtëroni fjalët tuaja, të sillemi si miq, e pa kajde, e pa pajka***

We notice missing links or conjunctions or correlates, but such a role is played by the pauses and the order of the components. It happens that in Mitko's Talking Dictionary, we find a wider structure than two predicate constituent units, but with 3 or more, where different functions appear, as in the following example: "*Ndë është kështu, do të ha me të madhe shije, përse m'a k'anda shumë mishin e kaut të piekurë.*" "*If it's true, I will take great pleasure in eating roast beef as I like it.*" Here, the syntactic relations, in addition to meaning, have also the visual grammar indicator, the conditional link "ndë"

¹ This is how we call the phrase structure, with two or more predicative components, which does not begin with a leading sentence.

² Ferretti, Francesco, *Alle origini del linguaggio umano – Il puno di vista evoluzionistico*, GLF Editori Laterza, Roma-Bari, 2017, p. 37.

³ The compound term is used here, in the meaning that American linguist Leonard Blumfield has given for the first time in the generative linguist.

(if), which also marks the type of the phrase having an indirect construction, while the functions are: conditional, leading and causative.

It must be underlined that the generation of the predicative components in succession or with a dependency hierarchy in the indirect structures is more possible. These constructions are quite dense in the Dictionary we are considering and we find double-phrase constructions, linked with subordinating connectives, depending on the determination of the relations such as:

Vë shart //se kështu është;(I bet, // it's like this) Ju zotohem unë// se është e vërtetë;(I swear, //it's true) Kur unë s'di gjë, // çë doni të ju përgjigjem?(Since I don't know anything about it, //what answer do you expect?) Vemi// sepse më pëlqen shumë këjo melodramë;(Let's go, // for I like this melodrama.) Po ju thom //se nukë mund të ju gjegjem për tashi;(I'm saying, //I can't speak now) Për sod nukë dotë kem ngeh//të ju gjegjem;(Today I don't have time, // to answer to you) Nem më çorapet të linjta, //pse është nxehtë;(Give me linen socks, // it's hot) Bët shumë mirë// që m'a kujtuat;(It's very kind of you, //to remind me) Thuaj i //të hynj;(Tell him, //to come in) Ndë mos arçi, // dotë ju kanos;(If you don't come, // will threaten you) Le të kthehem i ndë shtëpit, //pse shoh motin//që po vrëhet. (Let's go home, // 'cause I see //it's cloudy) Kushdo që ka për të ngrehurë orlojin e vet, // duhet të vini ndaj mua. (Everyone who has to repair the watch, // is wellcomed) Sometimes, particularly in constructions with more than two predicate components, ¹functional versus relations arise, as in the following examples:

<i>Jo, më pëlqen më fort, //</i>	<i>Erçë //vetëm sa të mësonj//se qysh jeni //</i>
<i>të rri ndë tryesët//</i>	<i>edhe të gëzohem //se jeni mirë.</i>
<i>përse jam shumë i urtë.</i>	<i>(I simply came here //to see you //</i>
	<i>and become happy you are doing well.)</i>

(No, would rather //

stay at the table //

because I'm very silent.)

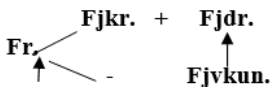


There are cases in Mitko's Talking Dictionary when subordinating and coordinating clauses are merged, as in the following two constructions, which can be presented in the following scheme:

O dialë, shpjerë letrën e zotit ndë postët, //edhe mos harronjësh //t'i paguanjësh harxhin.

(Hey you guy, post the letter, //and don't forget //to pay for it.)

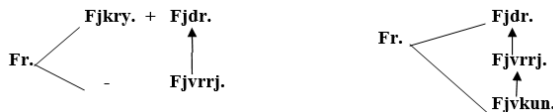
Ej, më foli për atë, // po më tha // se s'vijen gjë. (Hey, he told me about him, //but said, // that he's not coming.)



¹ De Mauro, Tullio: *Lezioni di linguistica teorica*, GLF Editori Laterza, Roma-Bari, 2008, p. 130.

Sometimes the phrase becomes complicated with more than 2-3 predicate elements, united in syndetic and asyndetic way, as in the examples we have found in different linguistic situations, selected by the author..

Nuku kënaqem aspak me të piekura kaqë të shkurtëra, ju shoh fort mbë të rrallë, pa përëndaj duhet të më zgjatni kënaqien që ndienj nga të ardhurit tuaj. (I am sad, to see you so seldom, that's why it gives me great pleasure if you come.) In Mitko's Talking Dictionary we can also find substructural constructions: *Ej zot, e mësonj, //po këjo gjuhë, //sado e vëjëçjime që është, //nuk'është pas modës. (Oh My God, I do study/although interesting/ this language is archaic//.) Të kënduarit e Anglishtes është kaqë të fështrë, //sa nukë mund të nxini //të këndonit mirë as mbë dhietë viete. (Reading English is so difficult/that you can't assimilate it //read well even after 10 years.)*

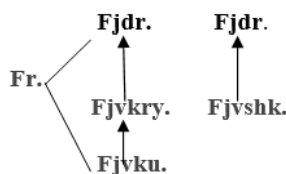


The following phrases as well, have a structure according to the nature of our language, with ordinary tools of the folk syntax, despite the indirect constructions:

Mbë kotë mbrohij, //unë jam bindurë //se ju këndonit shumë mirë, //edhe se keni zë të bukurë. (It's not even worth discussing//I am convinced you sing very well// and you have a beautiful voice.) *Ju s'keni kaqë nevojë, //tek gjendej ndë Elladë, //e përherë gjeni voli //të flisni Grëqisht, //meqënë unë nuku gjenj kurrë. (You don't need to study Greek, since you live in Greece// and you practice it//but I have never had the opportunity.)* *Meqënë ju, shudhasni Italishten, // që të merrij me tregëtiën, // thoni më // se qysh thohet ay // që heq një kambiallë? (Since you learned Italian//to trade//tell me //how do you say// to extract a tooth?)*

In Mitko's talks we notice that the means of connection used between the predicate components are the same from the phonetic viewpoint, but the units that follow them are functionally different, as in the following construction:

Nuk rri afërë ziarrit, //se kam frikë //se mos nxehem shumë. (I can't stay close to the fire//I'm afraid// am too hot.) Symetric constructions of the components can be found in Mitko's talking phrases, such as: *M'u duk/ se e pash //të shkonjë parëdie, // po nukë munda t'e mbesonj, //pasij s'më kishnit thënë gjë për këtë. (I guess//I saw him leaving a day before yesterday//but I couldn't believe// since I was not told about that.)*



You can also find although rarely, conversational vocabulary phrases, arising as complicated constructions, may be due to the influence of the foreign languages, as in the following period, with 3 centers of syntactical organization, with 3 SOC-s (syntax organization centers).

Nuk mungojnë, në të rrallë, edhe fraza të fjalorit bisedor, të cilat dalin me ndërtime të rënduara, mbase edhe nga ndikimi i gjuhëve të huaja, si në periudhën e mëposhtme, me 3 QOS: (po) (sepse)

"Dotë më vinte shumë keq// të ish //që të ju rëndohesha, //të mirët tuajë e quanj për më të shtrenjtë sesa kënaqiën teme, //prandaj e keni lirën me pashë, //po kujtohej //se të piekurit tuajë qe pesë së imëtash të orës, // edhe se dotë ju përes një tietërë ditë të javës //që vien." ("I would feel sorry//if I harmed you//I greatly appreciate your goodness rather than my enjoyment// that's why it's up to you to settle, // I wanted to see you only 5 minutes, // and will meet you another time in the coming week. ")

D. The correlation with the order of Greek-Albanian components.

This issue could be fully treated in this article, if only we had bilingual texts: Albanian-Greek or vice-versa, in order to achieve a correlative visual representation between the components. For this, as well as for the patterns brought to the review of phrase units, we should focus on the anastatic text of the Talking Dictionary, which is similar to today's bilingual guides, likewise to compare selected segments of the clauses' order. It is important to also bring here today's linguistic theory data, where several terms of characteristic features are used on the basis of **potency** in special languages.

In the translation process, language is used in a variety of situations, always allowing a formulation passing from- the source language - to the target language, of course, provided that the specific phonetic and rhythmic phenomena or the source semantic and syntactic peculiarities are abandoned.¹ Furthermore, we get to know that whoever is familiar with several languages or with the theory of translation, is aware of the fact that it is often not easy to find the equivalent of a formulation from the source language to the target language. It is highly suggestive to look for the equivalent in the target language and it is so fascinating to notice some common traces found by the speakers of different languages separately which help expand their semantic heritage, but this suggestion and enchantment depend precisely on the fact that in every language, the speakers proceed in their own way (*suo iure*) to expand, build and rebuild their semantic heritage, and this constantly leads to the lexicon distance among themselves. "And it is precisely this - writes De Mauro - in the history of languages that we focus on important borrowings from one language to another, which prove to be a short the way, in terms of the translation."²

P P C

125. Nuk ju marr vesht, duhet të m'a thoni më këthiellëtë këtë.

Δεν σας εννοώ, αρέσει να εξηγηθήτε κάλλιον σε ρε τούτο.

(I can't understand you, you should explain it better.)

P P C S

126. Vërtet vemi, sepse më pëlqen shumë këjo melodramë.

Αληθώς, θα πηγαίνουμε λοιπόν, διότι μου αρέσει πολύ αυτό το μελόδραμα.

(Really, we will go, because I like this melodrama very much.)

P P C

127. Po ju thom se nukë mund të ju gjegjem tani.

Ακούσατέ με, σας λέγω ότι δεν δυνάμαι να σας ακροασθώ.

¹ The same author, the same material, p. 130.
² **noetike: noesi** – greek phylosophy term, that carries the meaning of intuitive recognition; In Husserl's phenomenology is any act through which the subject perceives or recognizes or desires the object of experience. From Greek "Nōēsis" - perception, intelligence; Comes from "noein" - thinking, perceiving.

(Listen to me, I can't respond to you now.)

128. Më prishni punë shumë, përse është fjala për një kafshë fort të madhe.

Με αποθαρρύνετε πολύ, επειδή πρόκειται περί υποθέσεως πολύ σπουδαίας.

(You disappointed me so much, because it is a very important report.)

132. Ky, zot, duket, se e kupton shumë mirë gjuhën italishte.

Ο κύριος, φέρεται ότι εννοή πολύ καλά ιταλικήν γλώσσαν.

(This gentleman seems to understand italian very well.)

136. Unë s'thom gjë përveçe se, dot'ju bënj të më njihni paraqë, tuke ju thënë arrësyen.

Εγώ δεν λέγω άλλο παρ ότι θέλω σας κάμη να με γνωρίσητε παρώπους, λέγων σας τον λόγον.

(I am asking nothing else but simply to meet me, giving you the reason why.)

139. Thoni ju atë që dëgjuat.

Είπατε σης ό,τι ηκούσατε.

(Tell me what you heard.)

141. Ecëni të blini një okë peshk, po shukoni të jetë i njomë.

Πηγένετε ν'αγοράσητε με ον οκάν ψάρια, αλλά να προσέξητε να'ναι νωπά.

(Go and buy some fish, but make sure it's fresh.)

146. Unë s'harronj kaqë kollai miqët.

Εγώ δεν λησμονώ τόσο εύκολα τους φίλους.

(I don't forget my friends so easily.)

146. Edhe unë e njoha par viet ndë Vienë.

Εγώ τον ε γνώρισα υπό ενός έτους εις την Βιένναν.

(I met him in Viena two years ago.)

* * *

What we notice from these functional clauses correlations and their topicality within the parallel structures, in the introduced units for the characterization of the languages used here, we need to use the adjectives **potent** and **impotent** in all their uses, but even with an implication, using their special meaning.

Then, we come to the definition that *the semantic potency of a code is the number of markers it can distinguish within its noesis (perception) field.* ¹ Based on this notion, some theoretical approaches call this relevance of the languages we have spoken about, as **semantic omnipotence or semiotic**. It is worth focusing on the explanation of the term **potency**. De Mauro gives the following explanations:

- A language, that is able to welcome all the meanings of the phrases of another language, is **equipotent** (equivalent); it is precisely, in their diversity, that the languages may be equipotent among them, through the enrichment, the extension of the lexicon or the definition of meanings, etc. -----

- If a language is able not only to contain the meanings of another one, but to describe the syntax and structures, it is more than **equipotent**, it is more **potent**.

- A language that is able to be more potent than another one is **metalinguaggio** ² and the other language is an **objective language**. ³

Naturally, among the researches of linguistic theories, one may ask: Regarding these few correlations, which of these two languages we approached is more potent, Greek or Albanian, or are they both equipotent? The answer would require an in-depth research, because we can not rely neither only the archaic approaches, nor on the written documentary tradition, nor on the lexical wealth, nor on the syntactic structures, since this particular relevance, is a natural quality of every human

¹**Metagjuhë** metalanguage:

in logic and in the theory of formal languages, the term "metalinguaggio" means a formally defined language that is intended to define other artificial languages, which are referred to as objective language or object language (in the SGML districts of XML - the term "application" is also used). As for the SGML character symbols, we provide information technology: Standardized Generalized Markup Language – it is a metalanguage, defined as the ISO standard (ISO 8879: 1986 SGML), and intends to determine the languages used in draft of the texts intended for transmission and archiving with information instruments - in computer readable form. But the Middle Ages wise men show that they have perceived something more, that is, that in spontaneous - informal uses - a language can also perform even its own metalinguistic function. Thus, the metalinguistic communication is one that has the object of language in itself.

² De Mauro, Tullio: **Lezioni di linguistica teorica**, GLF Editori Laterza, Roma-Bari, 2008, p. 132.

³ **. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

language. A partial indicator would be the semantic synonymy, or even grammar formal reduction. Through our simple examples, as they come from the literary legacy of Mitko, we have only shown some differences regarding the order and placement of the functional clauses of the Albanian and Greek phrases - as a language used for centuries, but with no filiation report, as the only European language **in the old continent**.

This simple analysis of the syntax level of Th.Mitkos's Dictionary, can become an object of research and study even at other levels of language to bring to light the Albanian writing of his time, otherwise called the variant of the South.

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