Vol. 3, No. 4 (2016), 9-15



UDC 81-115: 81'367.7:81'44: 811.161.2 + 811.133.1 doi: 10.15330/jpnu.3.4.9-15

# **Section:**

# GENERAL THEORETICAL ISSUES OF MODERN LINGUISTICS

# UKRAINIAN PARTICIPLE AND FRENCH GERUND AS THE SECOND PREDICATE OF NON-ELEMENTARY SIMPLE SENTENCE

M. I. KOVBANIUK

**Abstract.** The article in question deals with the comparative analysis of the semantico-syntactic structure of the non-elementary sentence with Ukrainian Participle and French Gerund from the standpoint of the second predicate functioning. It has been confirmed that the secondary predication in a simple non-elementary sentence structure is fulfilled while participation of three main components: primary predicate, subject and secondary predicate. The main second predicate semantic types as well as the factors and preconditions of the secondary predication realization have been distinguished and outlined.

Keywords: second predicate, main predicate, sentence, participle, gerund.

#### 1. Introduction

Today in linguistics a logical-semantic approach has consolidated a view about the realization and functioning of more than one situation within a simple non-elementary sentence structure. Such situations, firstly, reflect logical links between main and secondary predication and, secondly, represent a logical as well as a semantic environment of each situation [13, p. 133-136]. Contrastive analysis of a simple non-elementary sentence with an Ukrainian Participle (UkP) and a French Gerund (FrG) in the function of a second predicate motivates to provide some key notions: *main predicate* – the center of a non-elementary sentence; *subjective actant* – an actant which is usually common for both predicates; *second predicate* – a predicate that occurs only in the structure with a main one but may perform a function of a semantic center of a non-elementary sentence; *overpredicate* – a semantic component used in the sentence transformations to describe cognitive relations; *semantico-syntactic model* – a model that reflects a structural and semantic organization of a simple non-elementary sentence with the UkP and the FrG.

The objective of the article is to study the UkP and the FrG features in the function of a second predicate within a simple non-elementary sentence structure. To achieve the aim a number of problems have been solved: generalized theoretical-methodological basis, proposed some classifications and described peculiarities of secondary predication. The common and different features have been identified.

The formation of the UkP covers an Old Ukrainian stage in the language development  $(14^{th} - 17^{th}$  centuries) and the FrG – both an Old French  $(9^{th} - 13^{th}$  centuries) and Middle French one  $(14^{th} - 15^{th}$  centuries) as well as early and classical modern French periods  $(16^{th} - 18^{th}$  centuries). The systematic use of a gerund with 'en' began in the  $18^{th}$  century [12, p. 33–43; 14, p.191-192; 15, p. 165-166]. The problem of learning these categories as a second predicate still remains actual one at a current language stage and causes linguistic discussions.

In linguistics a changeover from formal to semantico-syntactic studies has changed views on the parts of speech development and functioning and has consolidated the idea about the existing of a transient phenomenon. The UkP has been regarded as "a hybrid part of speech" which does not show any signs of an independent unit; as "a non-matrix predicate" that may be placed in the hierarchy above or lower the matrix predicate; as "a determinant" that extends the semantico-syntactic structure of the sentence; as "a separated member of the sentence"; as "a non-factive predicate"; as "a semi-predicate structure" that makes a sentence become a polypredicated one; as "a predicate attribute" which is characterized by a semantic connection with a subject / object as well as a predicate of a sentence and by a capacity of being separated [17; 2; 21; 19; 1; 20].

The semantico-syntactic approach presents the FrG as "a non-finite form of a verb" that relates to the language periphery and has the features of a verb and also of other parts of speech; as "an adverbial verbal form"; as "a second predicate" by which a simple sentence is complicated by a secondary structure; as "a verbal form" that is not independent and functions only as a sentence secondary predication; as "a verbal anaphora or a co-verb"; as "an index of a secondary action as to main one within joint time frame (repère temporel)" where gerund describes an autonomous situation; as "a syntagme" that forms a minimal gerundial construction [6; 16; 3; 8; 11; 7].

Thus, modern linguistics regards the UkP and the FrG from the standpoint of the semantico-syntactic language level where they, being the second predicates, represent a rolled sentence that can be semantically more important than an initial one within the same sentence.

# 2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 2.1. SECOND PREDICATE WITHIN NON-ELEMENTARY SENTENCE

Traditionally, the functioning of the UkP and the FrG in a non-elementary sentence is considered to be controversial. These language categories are distinguished by their hybridity, their relation with personal forms, some general principals of selections, their classification and functioning. Today linguists, according to the UkP and the FrG, have defined their semantico-syntactic functions such as a function of a separate second predicate, a function of an adverbial modifier, a function of a verbal modifier, a function of a predicate factor, a function of a parenthetical statement and some more. The main function is the function of the second predicate. In addition, any second predicate can be transformed into main (matrix) one [21, p. 218-220; 8, p. 143].

In the structure of a non-elementary sentence the UkP and the FrG can keep a pre- or postposition according to the main predicate, e.g.:

- (1) Слухаючи срібний дзвін аль-ута, він забув про перстень, про свої невдалі розмови з капітаном, навіть про мандри (Yu. Logvin)  $\rightarrow$  Слухаючи, він забув. (Listening to a silver bell, he forgot about a ring, about his unsuccessful conversations with a captain, even about the trips  $\rightarrow$  Listening, he forgot).
- (2) Кілька хвилин товариші стояли мовчки, **поринувши** в мовчазну молитву (M. Starytsky)  $\rightarrow$  Вони стояли, поринувши. (A few minutes pals were standing in silence, praying silently  $\rightarrow$  they were standing, praying).
- (3) En arrivant ce matin, elle n'avait pas du tout pensé à un enlèvement (M. Levy)  $\rightarrow$  En arrivant, elle n'avait pas du tout pensé. (Arriving this morning, she didn't think of a kidnapping  $\rightarrow$  Arriving, she didn't think).
- (4) Le soir, ils avaient fêté cela en dînant dans un restaurant luxueux du quartier Las Palmas (T. Hesse)  $\rightarrow$  Ils avaient fêté, en dînant. (In the evening they celebrated this, dining in a luxurious restaurant Las Palmas  $\rightarrow$  they celebrated by dining).

The preposition of French gerund (see, for example, sentence 3) is not normal for this language but the analysis of the factual material showed that a gerund may be in preposition only when it has state or quality of priority, so it may reflect logical order,

- (5) En sortant de la douche, elle enroula une serviette autour de sa taille (M. Levy)  $\rightarrow$  En sortant de la douche (semantically first action), elle enroula une serviette autour de sa taille (semantically second **action**). (After having a shower, she wrapped a towel around her waist  $\rightarrow$  after having a shower (semantically first action), she wrapped a towel (semantically second action)).
- (6) En les apercevant par les carreaux, elle se rappela sa lessive (G. Flaubert)  $\rightarrow$  En les apercevant par les carreaux (semantically first action), elle se rappela sa lessive (semantically second action). (By seeing them through the tiles, she remembered her laundry  $\rightarrow$  seeing (semantically first action), she remembered (semantically second action)).

A non-elementary sentence with the UkP and the FrG represents a polypredicated construction. Such one happens while at least two simple patterns are semantically interacting to make an only separate version exist [20, p. 256]. Polypredication represents structures where one of the predicates retains the original form and meaning and the other loses independent predicative values, but can be expanded into a full predicative construction keeping the previous logical attitude of reason, purpose, time, etc. Today polypredication is classified into three types: the first occurs at the semantic level and actually depends on lexical sentence structure; the second is implemented within the lexical-syntactic level; the third one is associated with the secondary predication functioning in the sentence structure. It means that simple sentence structure can represent more than one situation and express primary and secondary action / condition according to the subject [20, p. 257].

The universal semantic model of a sentence with a second predicate involves a main (P1) and second predicate (P2), a subjective actant (S) which is a joint one for both predicates and an overpredicate that helps to demonstrate logical relations between sentence predicates (Fig. 1.).

# Overpredicate

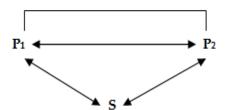


Fig. 1. Semantic model of a non-elementary sentence with a second predicate.

- (7) Марія важко зітхала, встаючи перед півнями, коли сон найкрихкіший (O. Zabuzhko)  $\rightarrow$  Марія (subject) βαжκο зітхає (main predicate), тому що (бо) (overpredicate of causal semantics) встає перед півнями (second predicate), коли сон найкрихкіший. (Maria was sighing hard, getting up at dawn when the sleep is the deepest → Maria (subject) was sighing hard (main predicate) because (overpredicate of causal **semantics**) *she is getting up at dawn* (**second predicate**) *when the sleep is the deepest*).
- (8) En passant place de la Madeleine, il hésita s'il rentrerait chez lui se coucher où s'il irait faire un tour au cercle (H. Malot) → Quand (overpredicate of time semantics) il passait (second predicate) place place de la Madeleine, il (subject) hésita (main predicate). (While passing the Place of Madeleine, he hesitated about going home to go to bed or about going the rounds  $\rightarrow$  while (overpredicate of time semantics) passing (second predicate) the Place of Madeleine, he (subject) hesitated (main predicate) about going home to go to bed or about going the rounds).

As a result of mentioned model, it may be affirmed that the full realization of the second predicate functioning in a non-elementary sentence is possible only on conditions that primary predication is presented.

#### 2.2. ATTEMPT TO CLASSIFY

After analyzing a great number (approximately 32 000 examples) of non-elementary sentence with the Ukp and the FrG in the function of the second predicate the most productive semantic types have been outlined. They are the following ones.

# 1. The second predicate of physical action denoting concrete activities:

(9) Ясноголовий обшарпаний пастушок сидів на траві поміж корів, **стругаючи** палицю (V. Shevchyk). (A fair-haired, ragged shepherd was sitting on the grass among a lot of cows, shaping a stick). (10) Elle se retira **en fermant la fenêtre** (J. Fiévée). (She stretched out, closing the window).

# 2. The second predicate describing physiological life:

- a) the second predicate of speech activity denoting the process of perception, producing and understanding:
- (11) Отоє ж було наші дівчата тільки охають, **розказуючи** (Marco Vovchok). (So our girls only love by telling).
- (12) Il entrait sa montre à la main, en racontant une histoire ridicule ou je ne sais quelle folie qui faisait rire tout le monde (Madame de Duras). (He entered with his watch in a hand, telling a ridiculous story);
  - **b)** the second predicate of visual perception:
- (13) Запримітивши князя, верхівці стримали коней і збилися оддалік у тісну рухливу купу (P. Zahrebelny). (After having noticed the prince, the riders kept back their horses).
- (14) Tu as raison, dit Adam en regardant à son tour le ciel (M. Levy). (You are right, said Adam, loking at the sky);
  - c) the second predicate of auditory perception:
- (15) *Наслухавшись* новин з радіоприймача на кухні, вона починає таке щось вигукувати (L. Kostenko). (After hearing the news on the radio in the kitchen, she begins crying out something strange).
- (16) Elles tombérent à genoux, elles se crurent mortes, en entendant une pierre, une seule (E. Zola). (They fell on their knees, they thought they were dead, hearing a stone, just one);
  - **d)** the second predicate of intellectual and mental perception:
- (17) Вона паленіла, з**гадавши** погляд сестри, тої сестри, котра досі в ню вірила (О. Kobylyanska) (She was glowing, remembering her sister's look, just that one that was only who believe in her).
- (18) Je me sentis tout ému en pensant que j'allais rester tête à tête avec Mme de Nevers (Madame de Duras). (I felt anxious, thinking about staying face to face with Mme de Nevers);
  - e) the second predicate denoting willingness / unwillingness to act:
- (19) Буркнув старий гвардієць і відвернувся, не бажаючи продовжувати розмову з таким безсовісним брехуном (P. Zahrebelny). (An old guardsman growled out and turned away without wishing to continue the conversation with such a disgraceful liar).
- (20) Avait-il influencé sa nature en l'empêchant d'être ce qu'il serait normalement devenu (G. de Maupassant). (Did he have an influence on his nature, by preventing himself from being what he had become).

#### 3. The second predicate of movement:

- **(21)** Ось дві машини доїхали до перехрестя і теж стишили хід, **повертаючи** у ліс (M. Stelmakh). (Here two cars drove up to the crossroads and slowed down, turning to the forest).
- (22) En arrivant à Contessi, nous vîmes un homme qui chassait hors du village à demi écroulé cinq ou six mulets (A. Dumas). (Arriving in Contessi, we saw a man who was hunting out of the village).

# 4. The second predicate of psychological, physiological state and behavior:

- (23) Все ще почуваючись прекрасно, Банзай почав розглядати центральне коло, намальоване ядучо-червоною фарбою (L. Deresh). (Filling still well, Banzai began staring a central circle drawn with darkred paint).
  - (24) Les chiens se couchèrent à ses pieds en tremblant (G. Sand). (The dogs lay on their feet, trembling).

#### 5. The second predicate of process:

- (25) Ми швиденько зімпровізували Глінтвейн, додавши до вина гвоздики й кориці і мандаринових шкуринок (L. Kostenko). (We quickly improvised some mulled wine, adding to it some carnations, cinnamon and dried mandarin peel).
- (26) En achevant cette lettre, je tombai à genoux (Madame de Duras). (After finishing this letter, I fell on my kneees).

# 6. The second predicate of relationship:

- (27) Вартові вхопили Цимбалюка, але, поважаючи його старість, не били, а тільки відвели геть від брами (A. Kashchenko). (The guards laid hold of Tsymbaluk but respecting his age, didn't beat him but only took him out of the gate).
- (28) J'y bénirai mon roi toute ma vie, et j'y mourrai en aimant Dieu, qui m'a fait un jour de bonheur (A. Dumas). (I will bless my king all my life and I will die, loving God who made a day of happiness for me).
- So, it has been found out six semantic types of the second predicate in Ukrainian and French according to participle and gerund.

#### 2.3. SECOND PREDICATE SEMANTIC PECULIARITIES

The semantics of the UkP is wider than gerundial one; evidently it can be explained by its perfective and non-perfective aspect. An incomplete process is opposed to an accomplished one and describes a situation which remains constant during a particular period of time, while an accomplished situation is determined by a sequence of actions on the time axis. The accomplished process is limited and dynamic at the same time; it also denotes state of completeness and it is linked with some internal changes.

The semantics of the second predicate expressed by the UkP and the FrG have been classified. For the UkP in the function of the second predicate it has been determined the following semantic actions:

- 1) an accomplished one (limited, aimed at ending, dynamic, active) and it should be divided into a) a limited action (the process of completion) and b) an extended action (the process of attainment), e.g.:
- (29) I сам місяць, **звернувши на захід**, дотліває червоною купою за містечком (O. Honchar)  $\rightarrow$ звернувши на захід (accomplished, limited action); (And the moon, turning to the west, is glowing out of the town)  $\rightarrow$  turning to the west (accomplished, limited action);
- (30) Я ледве врятувався від нього, **пострибавши**, як олень, гігантськими стрибками (V. Shevchyk)  $\rightarrow$  nocmpubasuu (accomplished, extended action); (I had a narrow escape from him, jumping as a deer by giant leaps  $\rightarrow$  jumping (accomplished, extended action)).
- 2) an incomplete one (unlimited, incomplete, durable) and it should be divided into a) a state action and b) a dynamic one, e.g.:
- (31) Слухаючи таке, командир аж звівся на лікоть (U. Samchyk)  $\rightarrow$  Командир слухав (incomplete state); (Listening to this, the commander turned himself up on his elbow  $\rightarrow$  the commander was listening (incomplete state));
- (32) Ніби вперше розглядаючи її, він відчув раптом хлоп'яцьке зухвале бажання погрозити їй кулаком (O. Honchar)  $\rightarrow$  розглядаючи (**incomplete dynamics**). (Like staring her at the first time, suddenly *he felt a boy's impudent desire to shake his fist at her*  $\rightarrow$  *staring* (**incomplete dynamics**)).

For the FrG in the function of the second predicate it has been outlined the following semantic actions: 1) an action of long duration and 2) an instantaneous action (completed, background action), e.g.:

- (33) Le soir, ils avaient fêté cela en dînant dans un restaurant luxueux du quarter Las Palmas (T. Hesse)  $\rightarrow$  en dînant (an action of long duration). (In the evening they celebrated this, dining in a luxurious restaurant Las Palmas  $\rightarrow$  dining (an action of long duration));
- (34) C'est le moins qu'on puisse dire, répondit Julia en reniflant (M. Levy)  $\rightarrow$  en reniflant (an instantaneous and background action). (This is the least he can do, replied Julia, sniffing  $\rightarrow$  sniffing (an instantaneous and background action)).

Such classification reflects semantic nuances of taxis itself. Here taxis is treated as a relation between the main and second predicates.

#### 3. CONCLUSIONS

Thus, the secondary predication is a kind of semantic-syntactic relationships and occurs against a background of linguistic elements reduction. The second predicate depends on a verbal core that consists of two components – a main predicate and a subject. There is no explicit expression between the second predicate and the subject; moreover it is usually set by the content. Ukrainian participle and French gerund realize their semantic-syntactic meaning under the universal modal of secondary predication  $P1 \leftrightarrow S \leftrightarrow P2$ . The factual material gave points to say that the UkP is more independent of a verbal core than the FrG which is quicker more dependent one.

The factors of both internal and external context take part in the semantic organization of Ukrainian and French secondary predication expressed by participle and gerund. The number of possible links with the sentence core is primarily determined by the semantics of the second predicate.

#### REFERENCES

- [1] Arutyunova N.D. *The Sentence and its Meaning: Logical-Semantic Problems*. Editorial URSS, Moscow, 2003. (in Russian)
- [2] Bogdanov V.V. Semantico-Syntactical Organization of Sentence. University Press, Leningrad, 1977. (in Russian)
- [3] Combettes B. L'évolution de la forme en –ant: aspects syntaxiques et textuels. *Langages*, **149** (2003), 6–24. (in French)
- [4] Combettes B. Les constructions détachées en français. Ophrys, Paris, 1998. (in French)
- [5] Gak V.G. Comparative Typology of French and Russian. Education, Moscow, 1983. (in Russian)
- [6] Gak. V.G. Theoretical Grammar of the French Language. Dobrosvet, Moscow, 2000. (in Russian)
- [7] Gettrup H. Le gérondif, le participe présent et la notion du repère temporal. *Revue romane*, **12** (1977), 210–271. (in French)
- [8] Halmøy O. Le gérondif en français. Ophrys, Paris, 2003. (in French)
- [9] Halmøy O. Le gérondif: une originalité du français? In: *La syntaxe raisonnée*, 2003, 267–279. (in French)
- [10] Herslund M. Le gérondif une anaphore verbale. In: Leuven: Peeters, 2006, 379–390. (in French)
- [11] Herslund M. Le participe présent comme co-verbe. *Langue française. La prédication seconde*, **127** (2000), 86–94. (in French)
- [12] Kolomiets L.I. Syntactic Functioning of Participle and Adverbial-Participle Constructions in Ukrainian Poetry by T. Shevchenko. *Scientific Journal of Odessa I. I. Mechnikov National University*, **15** (1962), 33–43. (in Ukrainian)
- [13] Kononenko V.I. Language. Culture. Style. Plai, Kiev, Ivano-Frankivsk, 2002. (in Ukrainian)
- [14] Medvedev F.P. Historical Ukrainian Grammar. Short essay. Kharkiv University Press, Kharkiv, 1955. (in Ukrainian)

- [15] Shishmarev V.F. Historical French Morphology. Publishing House of the USSR Academy of Sciences, Moscow – Leningrad, 1952. (in Russian)
- [16] Tesnière L. Fundamentals of Structural Syntax. Progress, Moscow, 1988. (in Russian)
- [17] Vinogradov V.V. Research on Russian Grammar. Nauka, Moscow, 1975. (in Russian)
- [18] Vykhovanyts I.R. Category of Semi-predication. Scientific Journal of Kirovograd University, 23 (2000), 126-130. (in Ukrainian)
- [19] Vykhovanyts I.R. Parts of Speech in Semantic and Grammatical Aspect. Science Opinion, Kiev, 1988. (in Ukrainian)
- [20] Zolotova G.A. Communicative Grammar of the Russian Language. Russian Academy of Sciences. Institute of Russian Language by Vinogradov, Moscow State University by M. V. Lomonosov, Moscow, 1998. (in
- [21] Ivanitska N.L. Two-part Sentence in Ukrainian. High School, Kiev, 1986. (in Ukrainian)

Address: M.I. Kovbaniuk, Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University, 57, Shevchenko Str., Ivano-Frankivsk, 76000, Ukraine.

E-mail: mariannakovbanyuk@gmail.com. Received: 12.10.2016; revised: 04.12.2016.

Ковбанюк М.І. Український дієприслівник і французький герундій як вторинний предиката простого неелементарного речення. Журнал Прикарпатського університету імені Василя Стефаника, 3 (4) (2016), 9–15.

У статті здійснено компаративний аналіз семантико-синтаксичної структури простого неелементарного речення з українським дієприслівником і французьким герундієм у функції вторинного предиката. Підтверджено, що вторинна предикація у межах простого неелементарного речення реалізується за участю трьох компонентів: первинного предиката, суб'єкта й вторинного предиката. Виокремлено семантичні типи, фактори й передумови реалізації вторинної предикації.

Ключові слова: вторинний предикат, первинний предикат, речення, дієприслівник, герундій.