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THE STUDY OF WORD COMBINABILITY, THE NECESSITY AND SIGNIFICANCE OF RESEARCHING SPECIFICALLY COMBINING COMBINATIONS

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Annotatsiya
Maqolada so'zlarning birikuvchanligi (sintagmatik valentligi) masalasining jahon, rus va o'zbek tilshunosligida o'rganilish tarixi tahlil qilinadi. Birikuvchanlik umumiy (keng) va xususiy (tor, cheklangan) turlarga ajratilib, xususiy birikuvchili birikmalarning lisoniy tabiati, ularni erkin birikmalar va frazeologik birliklardan farqlovchi belgilari asoslanadi. O'zbek tili materiali asosida xususiy birikuvchanlikning leksik-semantik, morfologik va pragmatik omillari ko'rsatiladi. Mazkur birikmalarni tadqiq qilishning nazariy grammatika, leksikografiya, tarjima, kompyuter lingvistikasi va til ta'limi uchun zarurati hamda amaliy ahamiyati yoritiladi. Maqola so'ngida xususiy birikuvchili birikmalarning lug'atini yaratish va ularni milliy korpus asosida o'rganish bo'yicha tavsiyalar beriladi.

Kalit so'zlar: birikuvchanlik, valentlik, sintagmatika, so'z birikmasi, xususiy birikuvchanlik, kollokatsiya, leksik-semantik moslik, semantik kelishuv, erkin birikma, frazeologik birlik, o'zbek tili.

Аннотация
В статье анализируется история изучения сочетаемости слов (синтагматической валентности) в мировом, русском и узбекском языкознании. Сочетаемость разграничивается на общую (широкую) и

частную (узкую, ограниченную); обосновываются признаки, отличающие сочетания с частной сочетаемостью от свободных словосочетаний и фразеологизмов. На материале узбекского языка показаны лексико-семантические, морфологические и прагматические факторы частной сочетаемости, раскрываются теоретическая и практическая значимость их изучения.

Ключевые слова: сочетаемость, валентность, синтагматика, словосочетание, частная сочетаемость, коллокация, узбекский язык.

Abstract
The article reviews how word combinability (syntagmatic valency) has been studied in world, Russian and Uzbek linguistics. Combinability is divided into general (broad) and specific (restricted) types, and the features distinguishing combinations with restricted combinability from free word combinations and phraseological units are substantiated. Using Uzbek data, the lexical-semantic, morphological and pragmatic factors of restricted combinability are described, and the theoretical and practical importance of studying such combinations is shown.

Keywords: combinability, valency, syntagmatics, word combination, restricted collocation, collocation, Uzbek language.



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Introduction

A word does not exist in isolation within a language; it lives in relation to other words and fully reveals its meaning precisely within these relationships. For this reason, which words a given word can combine with—that is, its combinability—provides the most reliable information about its lexical meaning, grammatical nature, and usage patterns in speech. In linguistics, this phenomenon has been studied from various perspectives using terms such as "valency", "syntagmatic relation", "lexical-semantic compatibility", and "collocation".

In Uzbek linguistics, significant work exists regarding word combinations, sentence parts, and valency issues. In the research of scholars such as A. G‘ulomov, M. Asqarova, Sh. Rahmatullayev, N. Mahmudov, A. Nurmonov, H. Ne’matov, R. Rasulov, B. Mengliyev, and others, combinability has been analyzed mostly from the perspective of grammatical (syntactic) valency, i.e., at the level of parts of speech. However, the phenomenon wherein certain words combine only with a very narrow range of words, or sometimes with only a single word—namely, **specific combinability**—has not been an object of separate, systematic investigation. For instance, the verb kishnamoq (to neigh) combines exclusively with the noun ot (horse), the intensifier lang combines only with ochiq (open / wide open), and jiqqa combines only with ho‘l (soaking wet). Such combinations cannot be fully explained either as free combinations or as phraseologisms.

The aim of the study is to analyze the history of research on word combinability, to theoretically substantiate the concept of specific combinability, and to reveal the necessity and significance of researching combinations with specific combinability.

Main Body. The Concepts of Combinability and Valency

The term **valency** entered linguistics from chemistry and denotes the ability of a word to combine a certain number of other words around itself. French linguist L. Tesnière introduced this concept into syntactic theory, interpreting the verb as the center of the sentence. In Russian linguistics, S.D. Katsnelson defined valency as a property inherent to the lexical meaning of a word that predetermines its possibilities of combining with other words.

In linguistics, the concepts of valency and combinability are often distinguished as follows: Valency — the word's potential combining ability within the system (linguistic potential);

Combinability — the realization of this potential in speech (text), i.e., the actual usage of the word in real combinations.

This distinction is also accepted in Uzbek linguistics. In particular, A. Nurmonov and N. Mahmudov interpret valency as a syntagmatic property inherent in the linguistic essence of a word, and combinability as its speech realization.

Grammatical (syntactic) combinability — combination at the level of parts of speech: an adjective combines with a noun, an adverb with a verb.

General and Specific Combinability.

The range of combination for words is not uniform. In this respect, combinability can be divided into the following levels:

1. General (broad) combinability — a word can freely combine with many words belonging to its part-of-speech category. For example, the adjective katta (large / big) combines with hundreds of nouns such as uy (house), bola (child), daraxt (tree), shahar (city), muammo (problem), quvonch (joy). Such combinations are considered free combinations and fully conform to grammatical rules.

2. Specific (narrow, restricted) combinability — a word combines only with certain, countable words, and this restriction does not stem entirely from its meaning, but is tied to language convention. For example, the verb qismoq combines broadly in the sense of "to squeeze", but in the context of gestures, it combines only with the words ko‘z (eye) and yelka (shoulder): ko‘z qismoq (to wink), yelka qismoq (to shrug). The verb chimirmoq is used mainly with qosh (eyebrow: qosh chimirmoq — to frown), and irg‘amoq (in the sense of gesture) is used mainly with bosh (head: bosh irg‘amoq — to nod).

Distinction of Combinations with Specific Combinability from Free Combinations and Phraseologisms

Feature	**Free Combination**	**Combination with Specific Combinability**	**Phraseological Unit**
Substitution of Components	Freely substitutable (katta uy, katta bog‘)	Restricted, determined by convention (ko‘z qismoq, but not qo‘l qismoq in a gestural sense)	Inflexible / Non-substitutable (tarvuzi qo‘ltig‘idan tushdi)
Meaning Formation	Sum of component meanings	Component meanings preserved, one in a specialized sense	Integrated figurative meaning
Figurative Meaning	Usually absent	Usually absent or weak	Primary characteristic
Creation in Speech	Freely constructed in the process of speech	Used as ready-made units	Used as ready-made units
Record in Dictionaries	Not necessary	Necessary (within the word's dictionary entry)	In phraseological dictionaries

Feature	Free Combination	Combination with Specific Combinability	Phraseological Unit
Example	yangi kitob (new book), tez yurmoq (to walk fast)	ot kishnadi (horse neighed), qosh chimirmoq (to frown), lang ochiq (wide open)	ko‘ngli joyiga tushdi (he/she felt relieved)

Literature Review of the Most Important Works on the Subject

The problem of word combinability has been studied in three main directions: valency theory, lexical-semantic combinability theory, and corpus-based study of collocations.

In World Linguistics

L. Tesnière's work Elements of Structural Syntax (1959) serves as the foundation of valency theory. Considering the verb as the central element of the sentence, the scholar enumerated its actants. Later, German linguists G. Helbig and W. Schenkel (1969) compiled a valency dictionary of verbs, distinguishing between mandatory and optional valency.

In Uzbek Linguistics. In Uzbek linguistics, word combinations were first systematically described in the textbook Modern Uzbek Literary Language. Syntax by A. G‘ulomov and M. Asqarova. In it, combinations were classified according to subordinate and dominant parts of speech, but combinability restrictions were not investigated separately.

The widespread application of valency theory in Uzbek linguistics is linked to the substantialist direction. In Semantic Syntax of the Uzbek Language (1992) by A. Nurmonov, N. Mahmudov, A. Ahmedov, and S. Solixo‘jayeva, the connection between sentence meaning and verb valency was illuminated. In Theoretical Grammar of the Uzbek Language. Syntax (1995) by N. Mahmudov and A.

Nurmonov, valency was interpreted as a syntagmatic potential of a word at the linguistic level.

In recent years, with the development of corpus linguistics and computational linguistics in Uzbek linguistics, interest in statistical and automated analysis of combinations has grown. However, even in these works, combinations with specific combinability have rarely been studied as a distinct object of classification.

Recommendations

Compilation of a Dictionary of Combinations with Specific Combinability for the Uzbek Language: Each word entry should include its typical and unique combinations, semantic explanations, and textual examples.

1. Identification and Classification via Corpus Data: Identify and classify combinations with specific combinability statistically based on the National Corpus of the Uzbek Language using association measures (such as Mutual Information — MI, t-score).
2. Explicit Labeling in Explanatory Dictionaries: Mark the combinability restrictions of words distinctly in future editions of explanatory dictionaries.
3. Curriculum Integration: Include combinability as a dedicated topic in the "Modern Uzbek Literary Language" and "Lexicography/Lexicology" courses at higher education institutions.

Conclusions

Word combinability is a fundamental syntagmatic property that determines a word's lexical meaning, grammatical nature, and speech application. A clear distinction must be maintained between valency as a linguistic potential and combinability as its realization in speech.

Combinability operates at general (broad), specific (narrow), and unique (singular) levels. Combinations with specific combinability occupy an intermediate status between free combinations and phraseological units, functioning as ready-made units determined by language convention.

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