

**DIFFERENCES AND RELATIONS BETWEEN MORPHOLOGY AND SYNTAX IN
RUSSIAN**

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Annotation: This article examines the intricate relationship between morphology and syntax in the Russian language, highlighting their distinct characteristics while emphasizing their interconnected roles in creating meaning. It explores how morphological features influence syntactic structures and vice versa, shedding light on the dynamic interplay between these two levels of linguistic analysis.

Key words: Morphology, Syntax, Russian Language, Inflection, Word Order, Phrases, Clauses, Dependency Relations, Interrelation.

Introduction

The Russian language, known for its complex grammatical structure, offers a rich field for studying the interplay between morphology and syntax. While these two aspects of language are often presented as separate entities, they are deeply intertwined in creating meaning and understanding. This article explores the differences between morphology and syntax in Russian, emphasizing their individual characteristics while highlighting their intricate relationship. We will analyze how morphological features influence syntactic structures and vice versa, demonstrating the dynamic interplay that shapes the grammatical system of Russian.

Main part

Morphology (Greek “morphē” - form, “logos” - science, word) is a section of grammar in which words are studied as parts of speech. This means that morphology studies the general meanings and variations of words. Words can change by gender, case, number, person, etc. Morphology deals with the internal structure of words, examining how they are formed and how their meanings are constructed. In Russian, morphology is particularly complex, featuring a high degree of inflection and a diverse range of word formation processes.

Morphology includes: the study of inflection in language, paradigms, inflectional types. This is an essential component of morphology, and it was with the compilation of paradigms (declension and conjugation tables) that linguistics in general historically began.

Morphology is a branch of the science of language that studies the word as a part of speech. There are 12 parts of speech in the Russian language: nouns, adjectives, numerals, pronouns, verbs, participles, gerunds, adverbs, prepositions, conjunctions, particles, interjections. They are divided into independent, dependent and interjection. A part of speech is characterized by: 1) general meaning, 2) morphological feature (or grammatical meaning) and 3) syntactic role.

Russian verbs and nouns are heavily inflected, meaning their endings change to convey grammatical relationships. This includes:

Case: Six cases (nominative, genitive, dative, accusative, instrumental, prepositional) mark a word's function in a sentence, like subject, object, or possessor. For example, the word “дом” (house) can take different endings: “дома” (at home), “дому” (to the house), “домом” (by the house).

Gender: Three genders - masculine, feminine, neuter determine how words agree with each other.

Number: Singular and plural forms indicate quantity.

Tense: Verbs have distinct forms for present, past, and future tenses, as well as a complex system of aspect and mood.

Russian utilizes several methods to create new words.

1. Suffixation: Adding suffixes to existing words, like "-чик" (little one), "-тель" (agent), "-ство" (state), "-ик" (diminutive), etc. For example, "учитель" (teacher) + "-ство" = "учительст-во" (teaching).
2. Prefixation: Adding prefixes to change the meaning or aspect of a word, like "по-", "про-", "пере-". For example, "читать" (to read) + "пере-" = "перечитывать" (to reread).
3. Compounding: Joining two or more words to create a new one, like "голубоглазый" (blue-eyed) or "многоэтажный" (multi-story).

Syntax of the Russian language is a part of the grammar of the Russian language, indicating the rules for combining words in phrases and sentences. One of the main rules of this connection is coordination. The dependent word must be in the same number, grammatical gender and case as the main word. Syntax is a branch of the science of language that studies phrases and sentences.

Syntax focuses on the arrangement of words in sentences and how these arrangements create meaning. While Russian primarily follows a subject-verb-object (SVO) structure, the flexibility afforded by inflection allows for variations in word order.

Word order.

Basic SVO: "Девочка читает книгу" (The girl reads the book)

Variations for Emphasis: "Книгу читает девочка" (The book the girl reads) - emphasis on the book.

Phrases and Clauses.

Noun Phrases: "Красная машина" (The red car), "Большой красивый дом" (The big beautiful house)

Verb Phrases: "Смотреть фильм" (To watch a movie), "Петь песню" (To sing a song)

Clauses: Russian employs complex clauses to create intricate sentence structures.

Subordinate Clauses: Introduce additional information or context, often marked by conjunctions like "что", "который", "когда".

Coordinate Clauses: Connect two or more independent clauses, often marked by conjunctions like "и", "но", "а".

Dependency relations: Words are linked to each other through grammatical relationships, forming a hierarchical structure:

Subject-Verb: "Девочка" (subject) "читает" (verb)

Verb-Object: "Читает" (verb) "книгу" (object)

Adjective-Noun: "Красивый" (adjective) "дом" (noun)

Interrelation between Morphology and Syntax

The interplay between morphology and syntax in Russian is crucial for understanding the language's structure and its capacity for expressing nuanced meanings.

Inflection and Word Order: Inflection allows for variations in word order without sacrificing meaning, as grammatical relationships are encoded in endings rather than strict positions.

Morphology Shaping Syntax: Morphological features, like case marking, influence the structure of sentences. For example, the accusative case on the object noun "книгу" in "Девочка читает книгу" clearly indicates its function as the direct object of the verb "читает".

Syntax Guiding Morphology: The syntactic context determines the form of words. For example, a verb in the past tense will take a specific ending depending on its subject's gender and number, reflecting the agreement rules of the language.

Conclusion

Morphology and syntax, while distinct aspects of language, are intricately woven together in Russian. Morphology provides the building blocks of meaning through word formation and inflection, while syntax governs the arrangement of these words to create meaningful sentences. Their interconnectedness is crucial for understanding the nuances of the Russian language and its ability to express a wide range of meaning through variations in word order, clause structures, and dependency relations.

By examining the differences and relations between morphology and syntax, we gain a deeper appreciation for the dynamic and multifaceted nature of the Russian language.

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