

CONDITIONAL RELATIONSHIPS AS OBJECT OF LINGUISTICS

Jasmina Kamol kizi Egamova

Student of Chirchik State Pedagogical University

Supervisor: **Saida Turgunovna Gazieva**, Teacher of Chirchik State Pedagogical University

ABSTRACT

In this article, we tried to analyze relationships of conditional sentences as an object of linguistics and noted different notions. Conditional Sentences are also known as Conditional Clauses or If Clauses. They are used to express that the action in the main clause, without if, can only take place if a certain condition is fulfilled. Conditional sentence is used to express something expected or unexpected which may or may not be possible. It consists of two clauses, a dependent clause that beginning with If- clause and the main clause.

Keywords: conditional sentences, connectors, clauses, conjunctions, hypothetical condition, open condition, direct condition, indirect condition, subordinator.

АННОТАЦИЯ

В данной статье мы попытались проанализировать связи условных предложений как объект лингвистики и отметили различные понятия. Условные предложения также известны как условные предложения или предложения If. Они используются для выражения того, что действие в главном предложении, без If, может произойти только в том случае, если выполнено определенное условие. Условное предложение используется для выражения чего-то ожидаемого или неожиданного, что может быть или не быть возможным. Оно состоит из двух причин: зависимого предложения, начинающегося с предложения *If*, и главного предложения.

Ключевые слова: условные предложения, соединители, предложения, союзы, гипотетическое условие, открытое условие, прямое условие, косвенное условие, субординатор.

INTRODUCTION

In general, a conditional clause expresses a condition linguistically. These clauses, categorized as adverbial clauses,



encompass various meanings such as time, place, contrast, exception, reason, purpose, result, similarity, comparison, proportion, preference, comment, concession, and contrast. The relationships between adverbial clauses of concession and contrast are closely tied to clauses of the same nature, employing specific subordinators. For example, *if* introduces all three types, while *whereas* is used for contrast and concessive clauses. Typically, these clauses are positioned at the beginning of the main clause. Moving forward, this discussion will focus solely on conditional clauses, distinguishing them based on the contingency of the main clause on the conditional clause.

THEORETICAL BASIS

Greenbaum classifies conditions into two main types: 1) a direct condition, and 2) an indirect condition. The majority of conditional clauses fall under the direct condition category, indicating that the situation in the main clause is directly reliant on the situation in the conditional clause. Essentially, the fulfillment of the condition in the conditional clause determines the truth of the proposition in the main clause, as seen in the example: "If you put the baby down, she'll scream." However, this implication can be negated by hedging, as demonstrated in: "If you put the baby down, she'll scream, but she may scream anyway." Within direct conditions, there are two primary types: an open condition (termed "real" by Greenbaum) and a hypothetical condition (referred to as "unreal" by Greenbaum). This discussion will adhere to Greenbaum's terminology, using "open" and "hypothetical" conditions.

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS

In the context of open conditions, Greenbaum notes their neutrality, as the resolution of whether the condition is fulfilled or not remains uncertain, and the truth of the proposition in the main clause is also unclear. For instance:

- "If Ed comes tomorrow, we can play bridge."

Open conditions typically feature present tenses in both clauses or a future tense in the main clause and present tense in the *if*-clause, as illustrated in these examples:

- "If Colin is in London, he is undoubtedly staying at the Hilton."

- "I'll feel much happier if he doesn't come with us."

On the contrary, a hypothetical condition reflects the speaker's belief regarding the fulfillment or non-fulfillment of

the condition. This belief may pertain to future, present, or past conditions:

- "If he changed his opinions, he'd be a more likable person."
- "They would be here with us if they had the time."
- "If you had listened to me, you wouldn't have made so many mistakes."

Greenbaum distinguishes between open and hypothetical conditions grammatically, emphasizing that verbs in hypothetical conditions are in the second part, as seen in examples like:

- "If I were younger, I would study Classical Greek."

- "If I had seen you, I would have invited your home." Various subordinators play a role in conditional clauses, with *if* and *unless* being the most common, denoting positive and negative conditions, respectively. Additionally, formal subordinators like *given (that)*, informal ones like *just so (that)*, and neutral ones such as *long as*, *so long as*, *assuming (that)*, *in case*, *in the event that*, *on condition (that)*, *provided (that)*, *providing (that)*, *supposing (that)* are utilized. Time subordinators like *once*, *when*, *whenever*, and place subordinators like *where* and *wherever* are also employed.

While these subordinators can be used with finite clauses (e.g., "If you want some money, you should ask me"), only *if* and *unless*, specifically conditional subordinators, are used in nonfinite clauses and verbless clauses:

- "The grass will grow more quickly if watered regularly."
- "If wet, the pipe won't give you a good smoke."

So far, the discussion has approached conditions and conditional clauses from a linguistic perspective, covering both direct and indirect conditions, as well as distinguishing between hypothetical and open conditions within direct conditions.

CONCLUSION

Conditional sentences, named for expressing dependencies between events, illustrate that one occurrence relies on another. For example, "If it rains, the picnic will be canceled." The term "conditional" originates from the fact that the outcome in the main clause depends on the conditional clause. A complete conditional sentence consists of two clauses: a dependent antecedent (or protasis or *if*-clause) stating the condition and a main consequent (or apodosis or *then*-clause) expressing the result. Languages employ diverse grammatical forms and structures in conditional sentences. The verb forms in the antecedent and consequent often adhere to specific rules regarding tense,

aspect, and mood. Many languages incorporate a specialized verb form known as the conditional mood – roughly equivalent to the English "would (do something)" – for certain types of conditional sentences.

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