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SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES OF TIME CLAUSES IN ENGLISH AND AZERBAIJANI LANGUAGES

The article is devoted to a comparative analysis of the structural, semantic, and functional characteristics of complex sentences with time clauses in modern English and Azerbaijani languages. The study explores the typological similarities and differences within the polypredicative constructions of the compared languages. It is established that the manifestation of the categories of tense, mood, and person, as well as the logico-semantic function of temporal relations, represent common features in both languages. The fundamental divergences stem from the internal grammatical structure of the analytical (English) and agglutinative (Azerbaijani) systems. While English time clauses strictly require lexical conjunctions and comply with the rules of the sequence of tenses, the Azerbaijani language actively utilizes morphological affixes and non-finite verbal phrases alongside conjunctions and intonation. Furthermore, the article provides an analysis of syntactic synonymy between finite time clauses and participial constructions, along with their transformational possibilities. The analysis of empirical materials shows that time-subordinate clauses, integrated into the main clause without any lexical-grammatical connecting means, only with subordinating intonation, are a very typical and widespread model for the syntactic system of the Azerbaijani language. In contrast, in modern English, which is structurally inclined to analyticity, time-subordinate clause constructions based only on subordinating intonation are not found; there, time relations necessarily require a lexical connecting element. It has been proven that in both languages, the following grammatical categories are necessarily present in the main and subordinate clauses of sentences built on temporal subordinate clauses: the temporal category (the temporal sequence or simultaneity of events); the category of form (the modality of the verb, the expression in the form of news or other forms); the category of person (indicating who is performing the action).

Keywords: time clause, complex sentence, comparative typology, conjunctions, subordinate intonation, morphological affixes.

Introduction. The relevance of the comparative study of time-subordinate clauses in English and Azerbaijani is that 1) it clarifies the classification of the subordinate complex sentence system, determines the general theoretical aspects of the problem of the subordinate clause and serves as a model for the analogous study of other types of subordinate clauses (scientific and theoretical significance). 2) It reveals the common and different aspects of polypredicative constructions in the compared languages, and also determines the issues of syntactic synonymy (expression of the same idea in different variants) in the communication process (the importance of the linguistic feature).

In the compared languages, the mechanisms of connecting time-subordinate clauses to the main sentence are realized from a syntactic point of view through four main means - conjunctions, connecting

words, subordinating intonation and suffixes (syntactic affixes).

Task statement. The main purpose of this study is to examine the similarities and differences between time clauses in languages of different systems.

Analysis of recent research and publications. Numerous works have been devoted to this topic. In our work, we cited research by Azerbaijani and foreign linguists such as Aghayeva F., Museyev O., Asadova R., Paterson K., Caygill C., Sewell R. and etcs. Analysis of empirical materials obtained from modern English and Azerbaijani literary works shows that the most widespread model in quantitative terms is precisely the structures built using conjunctions. However, the connective arsenal of both languages differs functionally: while in English the semantic shades of temporal relations are differentiated through a rich system of connectives (*when, while, till, until, as, as*



soon as, as long as, since, after, before, whenever), in Azerbaijani this function is mainly performed by the analytical element “ki” as a connective.

Results and discussion. The following examples demonstrate both the function of connectives and other means of connection based on selected materials from modern English and Azerbaijani literature.

1. Examples of connecting means with conjunctions in English:

When: She looked up when the door opened, expecting to see her father. (Qapı açılarda o, atasını görəcəyini ümid edərək başını qaldırdı.)

While: The phone rang while I was preparing dinner. (Mən şam yeməyi hazırlayarkən telefon zəng çaldı.)

As soon as: As soon as the rain stopped, the children ran out to play. (Yağış dayanan kimi uşaqlar oynamaq üçün çölə qaçdılar.)

Before / After: He had finished the report before the meeting started. (İclas başlamazdan əvvəl o, hesabatı bitirmişdi.)

2. Examples of conjunctions with the conjunction “ki” and other means in Azerbaijani:

With the conjunction “ki”: *Təzəcə yerimə uzanmışdım ki, qapının zəngi bərkdən çalındı.* (In this model, the main clause comes first and the time relation is established with “ki”).

Through suffixes (Synthesis with verb conjugation - a specific difference for the Azerbaijani language): *O, kəndi tərk edəndə (etdiyi zaman) hava hələ tam işıqlanmamışdı.*

With the words of conjunction: *Nə vaxt ki işlərini bitirərsən, onda mənə zəng et.* (Here, *nə vaxt ki* is a conjunction word).

With submissive intonation: *Gözümü açdım, otaqda heç kim yox idi.* (The temporal relationship is realized without any auxiliary means, only through intonation).

In English, pairs of the type *scarcely ... when, hardly ... when, no sooner ... than* also play an important role in the structural-semantic organization of complex sentences with a time-subordinate clause. These constructions, which are called by different terms in the linguistic literature, such as complex conjunctions [4], correlative (mutual) elements [5] or connecting adverbs [7], respectively, express that two events occur very quickly, almost immediately, one after the other. These patterns, in addition to increasing expressiveness in the artistic and scientific style, require specific grammatical rules (for example, inversion) at the syntactic level [6].

Correlative conjunctions of this type can be used in a sentence in two forms: with a standard word

order or with an inversion (change of place of the subject and the predicate) to increase the impact of the sentence.

1. «*Hardly ... when*» (Çətinliklə ... -mişdi ki). This conjunction indicates that one action ended immediately before another and is usually used with the Past Perfect.

Standard form: *She had hardly entered the room when the phone rang.* (O, otağa çətinliklə daxil olmuşdu ki (təzəcə girmişdi ki), telefon zəng çaldı.)

Inversion form (More academic/artistic): *Hardly had he arrived at the station when the train left.* (O, stansiyyaya təzəcə çatmışdı ki, qatar yola düşdü.)

2. «*Scarcely ... when*» (Çətinliklə ... -mişdi ki). It is synonymous with *Hardly* and occurs within the same grammatical structure.

Standard form: *The sun had scarcely risen when the fog began to clear.* (Günəş yenicə doğmuşdu ki, duman dağılmağa başladı.)

Inversion form: *Scarcely had the lecture begun when a student interrupted the professor.* (Mühazirə təzəcə başlamışdı ki, bir tələbə professorun sözünü kəsdi.)

3. «*No sooner ... than*» (Həmin anda ... -dı ki / -an kimi). Unlike the others, this structure uses the conjunction *than* instead of *when*, which is used in accordance with the comparative adverbial form (*sooner*).

Standard form: *They had no sooner sat down to dinner than someone knocked on the door.* (Onlar şam yeməyinə təzəcə oturmuşdular ki, kimsə qapını döydü.)

Inversion form: *No sooner had she finished her speech than the audience burst into applause.* (O, çıxışını bitirən kimi auditoriya alqış tufanına qərq oldu.)

When translating into Azerbaijani, these correlative elements are often compensated by the forms “*təzəcə... -mişdi ki*” or “*-an kimi*” as a syntactic unit as a whole. In the syntactic system of the Azerbaijani language, the analytical conjunction “*ki*” is one of the leading tools in the realization of subordinate complex sentences with a time-subordinate clause. When the conjunction “*ki*” is applied in this model, the correlative (template word) in the main clause functionally acts as a time adverb. Even in determinative cases where the template word does not participate in the surface structure within the structure, it exists in the deep structure and can be easily restored contextually. The direct expression or abbreviation (ellipsis) of such time adverbs formed in the main clause with demonstrative pronouns (*o zaman, o vaxt, həmin an, etc.*) in the text depends more on the author’s individual style and the functional characteristics of speech.

In addition, in our language, the complex forms “*elə ki*” and “*onda ki*” are widely used to enhance the artistic and philosophical nuances of time relations or the intensity of the sequence of action. When the combination “*elə ki*” is used, the subordinate clause comes before the main clause and compensates for the function “as soon as / when” in English. The “*onda ki*” model aims to actualize a specific moment in time, a condition.

Examples: 1. Cases where the preposition (demonstrative pronoun) is explicitly used in the main sentence: *Mən o zaman tamamilə sakitləşdim ki, qatar artıq doğma şəhərə yaxınlaşırdı. Mən o zaman sakitləşdim (baş cümlə) ki, qatar artıq... (budaq cümlə).* «*O zaman*» is an adverb of time.

2. Cases where the adverb is not used in the main sentence (but is easily imagined): *Evə yenicə çatmışdım ki, güclü leysan başladı.* Recovery form: *Evə yenicə [o vaxt] çatmışdım ki, güclü leysan başladı.*

3. Examples of the structure «*elə ki*» (The subordinate clause comes first). In this model, the direct tense *elə ki* comes at the beginning of the subordinate clause, linking the beginning of the action to the main clause: *Elə ki kəndin sərhədinə çatdıq, duman yavaş-yavaş çəkilməyə başladı. Elə ki kəndin sərhədinə çatdıq (subordinate clause), duman... çəkilməyə başladı (main clause).* It is the exact equivalent of the English construction “As soon as we reached...” or “When we reached...”.

Elə ki qaranlıq düşdü, şəhərin küçələri işıqlarla bəzəndi.

4. Examples of the *onda ki* structure: This model serves to emphasize the specific time period in which the event occurred from an emotional-expressive perspective: *Həyatın əsl dadını onda ki (o vaxt ki) çətinliklərlə üz-üzə qalırsan, bax o zaman anlayırsan.*

In these types of sentences, the conjunction “*onda ki*” breaks the subordinate clause into the main clause and makes the tense more specific. *İnsan onda ki ümidini itirir, hər şey mənasız görünür.*

While in English, time-related clauses (usually those beginning with *when, while, as soon as*) are free in terms of syntactic position and can come before or after the main clause, in Azerbaijani the order of their placement changes depending on the type of connective structures: in the case of the “*ki*” conjunction, the main clause comes first, and in the “*elə ki*” model, the subordinate clause necessarily comes first. Thus, in the languages being compared, there are special analytical patterns that indicate that the actions in the main and subordinate clauses occur one after the other, immediately and instantaneously. In English, this function is performed by the complex con-

junction “as soon as” with a purely temporal meaning, which directly connects the subordinate clause to the main clause [4, p.215]. In Azerbaijani, this function is realized not only synthetically (with the “-ar / -məz” form of the verb conjugation), but also analytically - through stereotyped connectives such as «*elə ki*», «*o saat ki*», «*dərhal ki*» [2, p. 22]. This time component serves to accelerate the dynamics of events in the text. For example: *As soon as he arrived, the meeting started. O saat ki (elə ki) o gəldi, iclas başladı* [1, p. 50].

As can be seen, although the principles of analyticity are preserved in both languages, while in English “as soon as” is a stable connective structure, in Azerbaijani the process of lexicalization of adverbs of time and adverbs with the connective “*ki*” is observed.

One of the non-analytical means ensuring the syntactic integrity of subordinate complex sentences with a time subordinate clause in the languages being compared is subordination intonation. Historical-syntactic approaches in linguistics prove that in the initial stages of the formation of a complex sentence structure, the mechanism of connection between components was realized precisely against the background of intonation [6, p.12]. According to the conclusion of another group of researchers, intonation plays a decisive marker in the differentiation of complex sentence types (subordination and non-subordination) from each other, especially in determining the structural boundaries of the subordinate clause within the syntactic integrity [1, p.50].

In Azerbaijani, tense-subordinate clauses connected only by intonation: These sentences do not contain any conjunctions (*ki, elə ki*) or verb-conjugation suffixes (-*anda, -ınca*). The syntactic connection is not equal (not independent), one of the components clarifies the tense of the other, and this is done with a special pause (intonation): *İclas bitdi, hamı sakitcə dağılışdı. İclas bitdi (zaman budaq cümləsi), hamı sakitcə dağılışdı (baş cümlə).* Meaning pattern: *İclas bitən zaman hamı dağılışdı.*

Hava qaraldı, quşlar yuvalarına çəkildi. Hava qaraldı (zaman budaq cümləsi - nə vaxt?), quşlar yuvalarına çəkildi (baş cümlə).

Yaz gəldi, təbiət yenidən canlanır means: *Yaz gələndə təbiət yenidən canlanır.* The connecting means is only the subordination intonation in the voice.

Thus, in terms of the syntactic functionality of intonation in the expression of time relations, the Azerbaijani language, compared to the English language, gives the impression of a language that is more flexible and based on internal grammatical

possibilities (intonation semantics). English, on the other hand, definitely needs formal lexical indicators in this area. In addition to analytical and intonation means that ensure the integration of time-subordinate clause into the main clause, specific affixes also actively participate in the morphological-syntactic level in the Azerbaijani language. In this regard, the suffix *-sa²* (*-sə*) of the conditional form and the functionalized morphological form of the interrogative *-mı⁴* (*-mı*, *-mi*, *-mu*, *-mü*) should be specially noted. These suffixes, moving away from their initial grammatical meanings (condition and question), serve to form shades of direct time relations within the syntactic structure, especially the immediate replacement of actions (intensity of sequence). In English, however, it is typologically impossible to construct a temporal clause using such morphological affixes. In English, however, these functions are expressed not morphologically, but only by lexical-syntactic means - by means of temporal conjunctions such as “*The moment...*”, “*As soon as...*”, “*When...*”.

1. Establishing a time relationship through the suffix “*-sa²*”. In this model, the suffix of the conditional form does not give the sentence a conditional meaning, but the time period in which the event occurred (mainly the meaning of “*-an kimi*”, “*-anda*”): *Mən içəri girdimsə, hamı ayağa qalxdı*. This sentence does not express a condition. Meaning pattern: *Mən içəri girən zaman (girəndə) hamı ayağa qalxdı*. English equivalent: “*As soon as I entered...*”.

Hava qaraldısa, kənddə həyat donur. Meaning pattern: *Hava qaralan kimi / qaralanda kənddə həyat donur*.

In English, the contrast/conciliation tone within tense clauses is formed analytically, that is, through the lexical combination of the conjunction “*when*” with the preposition “*even*” (“*even when*” - *hətta o zaman ki...*) or “*although*”. In Azerbaijani, this function is realized synthetically-morphologically, by adding the unconditional-conciliation tone “*-sa² + da/də*” particle to verb forms showing action within tense, and this demonstrates the intersection of tense relations with other semantic categories in both languages [2, p.18].

Even when the lights went out, he kept reading the book. Hərçənd ki (baxmayaraq ki) işıqlar sönmüşdü, o, kitab oxumağa davam edirdi.

Even when it rained, he kept running. Yağış yağsa da (yağan zaman), o, qaçmağa davam edirdi [3, p.5]. It indicates both the time when it rains and the contradiction that may hinder the process. In Azerbaijani language, the unconditional-concessive suffix *-sa²* in complex sentences with a temporal meaning also

indicates the contradiction occurring within time: it expresses both the time and the nuance of concession at the same time.

2. The construction of a temporal relation through the suffix “*-mı⁴*”. The interrogative case loses its question function in the constructions in question, creating an unbreakable and rapid temporal connection between two events: *Zəng çaldımı, tələbələr auditoriyaya tələsirlər*. There is no question here. The sentence “*Zəng çalan kimi tələbələr auditoriyaya tələsirlər*” expresses the meaning of time. The English equivalent: “*The moment the bell rings...*”.

Bahar gəldimi, dağların qarı əriyir. Meaning pattern: *Bahar gələn zaman dağların qarı əriyir*.

In English (inflectional-analytic) and Azerbaijani (agglutinative-synthetic) languages, subordinate complex sentences with a time-subordinate clause demonstrate, along with important typological differences arising from the features of grammatical structure, structural and semantic *similarities* at the level of logical thinking.

In both languages, time-subordinate clauses perform a logical-semantic function: in both languages, time-subordinate clauses answer the question *nə vaxt?* (eng. when?) and indicate that events occur simultaneously, occur before, or occur later in relation to the action expressed in the main clause.

Positional freedom of time-subordinate clauses in both languages: In both languages, a time-subordinate clause can be used before (in preposition) or after (in postposition) the main clause. Therefore, the ordering of the components of a complex sentence is somewhat free. In both languages, the change in the order of main and subordinate clauses, which is characteristic of the literary language, is determined by structural and communicative factors, stylistic goals, as well as the semantic properties of connectives.

Different aspects:

1. The means of expression and grammatical rules of tense clauses are different in both languages. In English (as a language with an analytical structure), tense clauses are mainly constructed using conjunctions and connecting words such as *when, while, as, before, after, until, since*. The subject of a clause is always used in the personal form and requires strict adherence to grammatical rules regarding the agreement of tense forms. Although the morphological formation of the subject of a clause in English is limited to certain patterns, analogous constructions in Azerbaijani have more free expression possibilities. While in English these forms of expression are limited by certain strict tense agreement and grammatical restrictions, in Azerbaijani the morphological

freedom and diversity are more pronounced due to the richness of the inflected and intransitive forms of the verb (for example, verb conjugation, verb-adjective compounds).

In the languages being compared, the realization of temporal relations at the level of the main and subordinate clauses is based on the regularities of simultaneity and non-simultaneity of actions. While in English the sequence of tenses is of a definite and formal nature, in Azerbaijani these relations are regulated by the integrity of conceptual meaning [2, p.16-18]:

Simultaneity (parallel time): In English, both components are expressed in past continuous or simple tense forms (with the conjunctions *while / as*) [4, p. 218], while in Azerbaijani, the news is expressed in the past or present tense forms (synonymous function with verb compounds) [3, p. 4-6].

Heterotemporality (Priority/Postposition): In English, when the action in the subordinate clause occurs before the action in the main clause, *Past Perfect* (or structures with *after* conjunction) is definitely required, while in Azerbaijani this sequence is freely compensated by various types of past tense or verb conjugation forms.

In Azerbaijani (as a language with an agglutinative structure), time relations are expressed mostly through impersonal forms of the verb. For this purpose, verb conjugation forms with the suffixes *-anda/-əndə*, *-dıqda/-dikdə*, *-arkən/-ərkən* are widely used, as well as the use of verb nouns with affixes such as *zaman*, *vaxt*. In such constructions, the verb often has a semi-predicative character, fulfilling the function of a subordinate clause. *When I come, I will call you. Gələndə sənə zəng edəcəyəm.*

2. Rules for using tenses (*Future in Time Clauses*). In English, the future tense is not used in time clauses. Even if the action expressed in the clause is related to the future, the news is usually used in the present tense (*Present Simple or Present Perfect*). This feature is considered one of the grammatical norms of the English language and plays an important role in the construction of time clauses. For example, although the main clause expresses the future tense, the verb in the clause retains the present tense: *I will call you when I arrive* (incorrect: *when I will arrive*).

In Azerbaijani, the tenses used in the stem part are, as a rule, selected in accordance with the real-time plan of the action. For this purpose, verb adjectives with the suffix *-acaq/-əcək* are often used, as well as various future and past tense forms. Therefore, the construction of tense-subordinate clauses in Azerbaijani is not limited to the principle of mandatory use of the present tense, as in English.

3. Conjunctions and suffixes. In English, the expression of time relations is mainly carried out through a system of independent conjunctions. *While, since, until, before, after* and other conjunctions act as the main means of ensuring the semantic and syntactic connection between the main and subordinate clauses. In Azerbaijani, in addition to conjunctions, various suffixes and impersonal verb forms play an important role in the expression of these relations, which stems from the agglutinative nature of the language. The subordination relationship between the main and subordinate clauses in English is formed mainly through conjunctions and subordination intonation. In Azerbaijani, the conjunction *ki*, intonation, connecting words and grammatical suffixes play an important role in the expression of this relationship.

In the Azerbaijani language, synthetic means play a large role in the expression of temporal relations. In particular, as a result of the combination of the accusative case suffix (*-da/-də*) and the verb conjugation suffixes, compact and structurally condensed temporal subordinate clauses are formed. This feature reflects the principle of morphological savings characteristic of agglutinative languages.

4. Syntactic structures (verb-binding constructions). In Azerbaijani, tense clauses often have the same subject as the main clause, and verb-binding constructions are widely used in such cases. When translating these types of constructions into English, they are not always expressed in the form of tense clauses, but are often expressed in *participial phrases* (containing verb-binding/adjectives) or *gerundial constructions* (containing gerunds). Thus, syntactically compact constructions in Azerbaijani can be expressed in English as both tense clauses and non-finite verb forms: *Kitab oxuyarkən yatıb qaldım. While reading a book, I fell asleep.*

5. Synonymy of verb-adjective clauses (syntactic constructions) with tense-subordinate clauses: one of the most important typological differences is related to the internal transformation and synonymy of tense-subordinate clauses. In the Azerbaijani language, tense-subordinate clauses (for example, analytical types with the conjunction *ki*) are stylistically easily replaced by verb-adjective clauses or verb-adjective clauses, creating syntactic synonymy [3, pp. 4-6]. For example: *O otağa girdi ki, işıqlar söndü* → *O otağa girəndə işıqlar söndü*. In English, the transformation of a complete clause (Finite Clause) into an incomplete clause (Non-finite/Participial Clause) is possible only in determinative cases where the subject of both components is the same (common). For example: *When he heard the news, he*

smiled → *Hearing the news, he smiled*. When the contexts are different, English only resorts to the *Absolute Participle* model, while Azerbaijani freely preserves the verb inflectional structure despite the difference in context.

Another important difference in the comparative analysis of time-subordinate clauses is related to the structures that indicate the continuation of actions in the same time period, in parallel. In English, this process has an aspectual feature and is regulated by the conjunctions “while” and “as” in the subordinate clause in combination with the continuous tense forms. In Azerbaijani, however, there is no separate “*davamedici zaman bağlayıcısı / continuous tense conjunction*”. This parallel temporal context is compensated at the syntactic level by the agreement of the tense forms in the main and subordinate clauses, and at the lexical-semantic level by the forms “*eyni zamanda*”, “*o vaxt ki*” or morphologically by the verb

ending suffix “-arkən”. For example: *While I was reading, he was writing*. *Mən oxuduğum vaxtda (oxuyarkən), o yazırdı*.

Conclusions. The conducted comparative-typological analysis proves that tense-subordinate clause subordinate complex sentences in modern English and Azerbaijani languages have both universal logical-semantic properties and serious structural differences within the system. In general, the mechanism of controlling tense-subordinate clauses in the compared languages is based on the synthesis of lexical-analytical factors in English, and morphological-syntactic and intonation factors in Azerbaijani. This structural difference shows that while English emphasizes parallel actions with the semantics of the conjunction and the tense form (Continuous), Azerbaijani refers to a synthetic morphological form or intratextual tense agreement.

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Гусейнова Ф. ПОДІБНІСТЬ ТА ВІДМІННОСТІ ЧАСОВИХ РЕЧЕНЬ В АНГЛІЙСЬКІЙ ТА АЗЕРБАЙДЖАНСЬКІЙ МОВАХ

Стаття присвячена порівняльному аналізу структурних, семантичних та функціональних характеристик складних речень з часовими реченнями в сучасних англійській та азербайджанській мовах. У дослідженні досліджуються типологічні подібності та відмінності в поліпредикативних конструкціях порівнюваних мов. Встановлено, що прояв категорій часу, способу та особи, а також логіко-семантична функція часових відношень є спільними рисами в обох мовах. Фундаментальні розбіжності впливають з внутрішньої граматичної структури аналітичної (англійської) та аглютинативної (азербайджанської) систем. У той час як англійські часові речення суворо вимагають лексичних сполучників та відповідають правилам послідовності часів, азербайджанська мова активно використовує морфологічні афікси та нелінійні дієслівні фрази поряд зі сполучниками та інтонацією. Крім того, у статті наведено аналіз синтаксичної синонімії між часовими реченнями та дієприкметниковими конструкціями, а також їхні трансформаційні можливості. Аналіз емпіричних матеріалів показує, що речення з часовими розгалуженнями, інтегровані в головне речення без будь-яких лексико-граматичних засобів зв'язку, лише з підрядною інтонацією, є дуже типовою та поширеною моделлю для синтаксичної системи азербайджанської мови. Натомість у сучасній англійській мові, яка структурно схильна до аналітичності, конструкції речень з часовими розгалуженнями, засновані лише на підрядній інтонації, не зустрічаються; там часові відношення обов'язково вимагають лексичного зв'язкового елемента. Було доведено, що в обох мовах у головному та підрядних реченнях речень, побудованих на часових розгалуженнях, обов'язково присутні такі граматичні категорії: часова категорія (часова послідовність або одночасність подій); категорія форми (модальність дієслова, вираз у формі новини чи інших форм); категорія особи (що вказує на те, хто виконує дію).

Ключові слова: часове речення, складнопідрядне речення, порівняльна типологія, сполучники, підрядна інтонація, морфологічні афікси.

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