Types Of Negation In English Language

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Abstract— *The English language differs in some peculiarities of the use of no-words. Negation in English can be combined with verbs, pronouns, nouns. They can also often be seen in a group of particles or adverbs. In this article, you will learn how to use negation correctly and can see examples of denial that will help you better understand the rules in practice. This article presents what negation means, how it is understood and its types. It attempts to analyze negation scoops in the semantic features in the English language.*

Keywords— Semantic negation, lexical negation, clausal negation, phrasal negation, predication negation not-negation, no-negation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Negation is found in all known languages. Every language has its own syntactic, semantic and morphological devices expressing negation. Negation is a universal linguistic notion. Indeed, it is one of the most basic elements in human mind that makes it an essential part of natural languages that are the tools for human considerations. In this chapter the definition of negation and its division into several individual types are given. Different viewpoints about negation will be analyzed with detailed examples.

2. MAIN PART

For many years, negation has been one of the most widely debated topics in English grammar, and the subject of a great deal of a great deal of significant work. Negation is a fundamental linguistic phenomenon for the whole language system. It appears at different semantic and syntactic levels and has different purposes or meanings. (Abdullah Nawash Abdallah Alnawaisheh, International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications, Volume 5, Issue 9, September 2015 p.1).

2. Types of negation

In this chapter, I will define negation and divide the negation into individual types. I will concentrate on the distinction between clausal and constituent negation and the difference between the two negators not and never that occur in various environments.

If two units of grammar have opposite meaning, which means they cannot be true in the same situation, then one is the negation of the other. The negative element of the pair is the one which is intuitively missing a property, as in the second of each pair in (1) and (2):

(1) a) Anvar has a good personality.
b) Anvar doesn't have a good personality.
(2) a) He is happy.
b) He is unhappy.

There are several types of negation. Veselovská (2009, 54-55) differentiates semantic, lexical, phrasal and clausal negation. **Semantic negation** covers antonymy - relations with opposite meanings. In English, as well as in other languages, they have mostly different stems. Example (3) demonstrates opposites alive and dead in three languages. Since they all have different stems, no negative affixes are needed in order to create a semantic negation:

(3) a) alive - dead (English)
b) tirik – o'lik (Uzbek)
c) lebendig - tot (German)
Example (3) shows that dead is negative because it lacks the property of life.
This concept of opposites is applied to **lexical negation**, which is created by adding.

Negative prefixes and suffixes such as im-, in-, non- and -less or -free to a positive word. The affixes make opposites to a positive word and they create positive-negative pairs of words. One positive word can thus have two negative counterparts, words that belong to semantic or lexical negation. Example (4) indicates the lexical negation untrue and the semantic negation false of their positive counterpart true:

(4) True - untrue/false

Phrasal negation contains a negative phrase that consists of a negative element (not, no) and at least one lexical word. However, phrasal negation does not apply to a whole clause, but only to a part of one. Otherwise, it would be clausal negation that will be discussed below.

(5) I want to read novels, not to study vocabulary.

Example (5) clearly demonstrates that only the VP not to study vocabulary is negative, there is seen the special use of not that is semantically and syntactically different from other uses.

The last type of negation is the **clausal negation** that is attached to a full clause. This is the only type of negation which changes the truth value of the whole proposition, and it also changes some of its formal properties. Truth-value of a clause is either 1 (true) or 0 (false) under a given set of real world conditions. Consider:

(6) a) The bag weighs a lot.

b) The bag doesn't weigh a lot.

The sentence (6) b) reverses the truth value of the sentence (6) a) because there is a particle not that follows the first auxiliary. The table in the sentence (6) b) lacks the property of weighing a lot. It means that there is no situation in which (6) a) and b) can both be true. Clausal negation is fixed with the negative preverbal particle not or other negative words such as never, nothing, nobody or nowhere. The clausal negators not and never are part of the predicate, whereas the negators nobody and nowhere represent other sentence members such as subject, object or adverbial, so the grammatical function of the phrases with negation can vary:

(7) a) Sarvar cannot come to work.

b) I have never been to Khiva.

(8) a) Nowhere in the world can I feel more safe than here.

b) Nobody is at home.

Sentences (7) a) and b) contain negative items in a predicate, whereas sentences (8) a) and b) have them in an adverbial and subject. Quirk et al. (1985, 775) distinguish between only three types of negation: **clause negation**, **local negation** and **predication negation**. In **clause negation**, the whole sentence has negative polarity, which means that it contains negative clausal elements; it is syntactically negative and positive polarity tags can then be created. **Local negation** means the same as phrasal or constituent negation, it is just another term. They define predication negation as follows: 'Very rarely, predication negation occurs in the context of denials and permission. In **predication negation**, a modal auxiliary is used with a different scope of negation than is normal for that auxiliary. With a special emphatic pause before not (...)' (Quirk et al. 1985, 797). Example (9) represents clause, local and predication negation respectively:

(9) a) She does not work very hard. (Quirk et al. 1985, 776)

b) She is a not unattractive woman. (Quirk et al. 1985, 791)

c) They may 'not go swimming'. ['They are allowed not to go swimming'.]

(Quirk et al. 1985, 797) Biber et al. (2002, 239) divide clause negation into **'not-negation'** and **'no-negation'.**

Not-negation includes the negative particle not and its contracted form n't. No-negation includes negative words such as no, nothing, none or never. Biber et al. (2002, 239) also state that according to Longman Spoken and Written English Corpus (LSWE corpus), not-negation is more common than no-negation.

3. CONCLUSION

This article has been an overview of negation where almost all negation types were demonstrated with examples. It deals with sentence and partial English negation in verbal phrases, which contain the negatives of notes and never. The main goal is to examine whether these two types of negation different from each other. The second chapter compares different types of negations. It is theoretically focused and researched the properties of sentence and partial negation, as well as the differences between the negatives of notes and never.

4. REFERENCES

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