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THE CONJUNCTION *IT* AS A FORMAL SUBJECT

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This article is dedicated to the conjunction *it* as a formal subject in the Composite Complex Sentences with the Subject Clause of the English language. It deals with the meanings, functions and the significant importance of the conjunction *it* for the English language Composite Complex Sentences with the Subject Clause. The author of the article also compares the connective ways of the Principal and Subject Clauses both of the Azerbaijani and English languages. Some parallels have been made with the Russian language too. The author notes that the Composite Complex Sentences with the Subject Clause occupy a specific place in the English language and have got interesting features. These interesting features, their specification vividly appear while researching and analyzing the sentences which are mentioned above. The author claims that during the study of the types of the Subject Clauses in both languages and defining their meanings and forms of the connective words in the sentences they express he has found out the significant importance of the connective words in such kind of sentences.

This article also provides the reader with the examples from English literature and compares the compound sentences in English and Azerbaijani languages.

After comparing complex sentences with subordinate subject in English and Azerbaijani languages, it appears that the conjunction *it* is necessary in complex sentences with subordinate subject in English, while he, as a formal subject, can not be translated into Azerbaijani and Russian language.

Key words: conjunction, complex sentence, Russian, English, Azerbaijan language.

The Composite Complex Sentences with the Subject Clause occupy a specific place in the English language and have got interesting features. These interesting features, their specification vividly appear while researching and analyzing the above mentioned sentences. Thus, it is scientifically interesting that the first part of such sentences, i.e. the Principal Clause, preceded by the Subordinate one, starts with such pronouns as *It*, *This*, *That*. The formal pronoun *It* is used more widely than the other ones.

The pronoun *It* has become grammatically more abstracted in the English language. Therefore, it can be used as the subject in the following sentences. The pronoun *It* is the subject of the sentence in the following situations:

This is an English book. *It* is a new textbook.

Thus, these pronouns, especially the pronoun *It* forms impersonal or formal sentences.

Examples:

It is spring.

It is morning.

It was 3 o'clock.

It is hot in summer.

It is a long way to the station.

It was too far to walk.

All the above mentioned sentences are impersonal as well as simple. So, being grammatically the subject of the sentence, the pronoun *It* doesn't have the original meaning of the same personal pronoun. This is proved by Azerbaijan equivalents of these sentences too. Unlike the sentence structure of the Azerbaijan and Russian languages the impersonal sentences in the English language always contain both the Subject and the Predicative.

<u>It</u>	<u>is hot now.</u>
Subject	Predicative
<u>İndi</u>	<u>istidir.</u>
No Subject	Predicative
<u>Сейчас</u>	<u>жарко.</u>
No Subject	Predicative

As it can be seen from the examples the formal subject *It* is translated neither into Azerbaijan nor into Russian.

The pronoun *It* substitutes the nouns of the neuter gender, i.e. the lifeless things, and becomes the definite personal subject of the sentence. In this case it is both lexically and grammatically used as the full member – the subject of the sentence.

Example:

1. *It* is black coffee and very strong.
2. *It* is not my property, Henry (O. Wilde].
3. Is *it* the pavilion? – I asked.

While the time, distance or states of the natural phenomena are mentioned, the pronoun *It* is used as the subject of the sentence. *It* is used with some verbs (to rain, to snow, to hail) in order to express the weather.

Example:

1. *It* often rains in autumn.
- Payızda tez-tez yağış yağır.
(Осенью часто идут дожди.)
2. *It* was foggy that day.
- O gün hava dumanlı idi.
(В тот день погода была туманная.)
3. *It* hailed in December.
- Dekabrda dolu yağdı.
(В декабре выпал град.)

The above mentioned such sentences like “It rains”, “It snows”, “It hails” are translated into Azeri as “Yağış yağır” (Идет дождь), “Qar yağır” (Идет снег), “Dolu yağır” (Идет град]. We can use the both meanings – the raining and the snowing – using the only one verb “yağır” and without using the words “rain” and “snow” themselves. The referring of the meaning of the word “yağır” either to the rain or to the snow depends on

the time and place. These verbs are used in the III person singular form both in English and Azeri.

Examples:

It is raining now.

- İndi yağış yağır.

(Сейчас идет дождь.)

It is getting dark.

- Hava qaralır.

(Темнеет.)

But the formal subject *It* should be certainly used in such kinds of the English language sentences unlike Azeri. The interrogative and negative forms of this kind of English sentences are the same with normal verbal predicative.

1. Does it rain in autumn in Baku?

- Payızda Bakıda yağış yağır mı?

(Идет ли дождь осенью в Баку?)

2. Is it raining now?

- İndi yağış yağır mı?

(Идет ли дождь сейчас?)

3. Did it snow yesterday?

- Dünən qar yağır mı?

(Шел ли снег вчера?)

4. It didn't snow yesterday.

- Dünən qar yağmadı.

(Вчера не шел снег.)

The formal subject *It* is also used with the verb in Present Simple in the subordinate clauses, expressing "eternal truth".

1. *It* is necessary that all should be present.

2. *It* is strange that he has not come at all.

3. *It* doesn't matter whether we start now or later.

4. *It* is a mystery how the burglars go into the house.

The Principal Clause, that precedes the Subject one, also starts with the pronoun as a rule. Let's run over some this-type of the Composite Complex Sentences with Subject Clause. The Sentence begins with the formal *It* if the Subject Clause follows the Predicative.

Examples:

1. *It* is doubtful whether he will be able to come.

2. Is *it* possible that he misunderstood what I said?

3. *It* is likely that there will be rain before evening.

4. *It* was unfortunate that the weather was so wet.

5. *It* is strange that he should have said that.

6. *It* is splendid news that you have won the scholarship.

7. *It* was curious how often one saw them together.

8. *It* will be a great day when you are promoted to be a managing director.

9. Is *it* a fact that you are going to get married?

While studying the types of the Subject Clauses in both languages and defining the meanings and forms of the connective words in the sentences they express, each time we find out the significant importance of the connective words in such kind of sentences.

Examples:

1. In Sacramento it was reported that cattle rustling is on the increase in California, with the blame being put on the scarcity of beef and rising food prices.

2. It was pointed out repeatedly during the session Thursday that applying for the student grants takes at least several months.

In about 60 per cent of the Subordinate Clauses the formal subject *It* is used with the Predicate in the Past Perfect.

Examples:

1. It was revealed that the conference had adopted a resolution calling for action against the proposal legislation.

2. It was confirmed that the Labour candidate had polled a majority of votes.

3. It was reported that the workers had demonstrated outside the employers' offices yesterday.

4. It was stressed that the cooperation between the socialist countries had made it possible to find the most expedient solutions for economic problems.

5. Yesterday the Prime Minister launched another tirade against miners. At the same time it was announced that he had invited the entire National Union of Mineworkers' Executive to Downing Street on Wednesday morning (Earnest Hemingway. "To Have and Have Not", Moscow, International Relations, 1979, p. 75].

The researches show that in about 90% of the studied examples the verb used with the formal subject *It* is in the Future in the Past Tense Form.

Example:

1. *It* was invisible that he would be asked those questions.

2. *It* was hoped that Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen and Dundee would indicate their refusal to implement the rent increases by the end of the next week.

3. *It* was arranged that he would select the diamonds, that we would send them to our Paris office, that there they would be cut and polished. After they were cut and polished, delivery would be made to Mr. Baxter.

The formal *It* is also very often used in the sentences with the subject, expressed by the gerund.

Examples:

1. *It* is no use your *trying* to do that.

2. *It* wasn't much use my *pretending* that I didn't know the rules.

3. *It* was pleasant *sitting* in the café.

The formal subject *It* is used with verbs in the Passive Voice.

Example:

1. *It* was agreed that the clause *was to be dropped*.

2. *It* was his opinion that he *was hospitalized* for several weeks.

3. In Brussels, *it was announced* that a Belgian delegation will travel to Reykjavik on Sunday to seek special conditions for Belgian fishermen.

4. *It was disclosed* that the President will attend the festival as a guest of honour.

5. *It was announced* on Saturday that a basis for ending the dispute had been reached.
6. *It was agreed* by all that it would be unwise.

In the English language the passive constructions can be both the Principal and the Subordinate Clauses of the Composite Complex Sentence with the Subject Clause. Let's look through the following sentences:

1. *It is believed* that he is a good doctor.
2. *It was expected* that he would do it.
3. *It is repeated* that he is a genius.
4. *It was claimed* that they had such a right.

The sentence construction system of this kind is specific for the English language. They can be related to the wide paradigms. The passive form of the demonstrative pronoun *It* is used in the sentences of all the Simple and Perfect Tense Forms, it can also be related to the modal verbs as well. (*It must* be assumed that...)

The predicate of the Subject Clause is expressed by all the forms of the English verbs express, the number of which is more than 150. The verbs of this kind have got specific features, referred to the Passive Voice. As a rule, they are not used in negative forms and do not require the special questions. They form different shades of meaning in the Simple and Complex Sentences.

Examples:

1. *It is clear (evident) that...* or *It was well understood and quite clear that...*
2. *It was believed* that he was genius.
3. *It was expected* that he would come.
4. *It is intended* that the treaties will be signed.
5. *It is most important* that you should be good.

If the subordinate clause (Passive) follows the Principal one, its Predicate is in the Future in the Past.

Example:

1. *It is strange* that we should meet here.
2. *It is necessary* that the workers should oil the bearing.
3. *It was suggested* that he should do it.
4. *It is strange* that he has made a mistake.
5. *It is not known* yet whether or not they will come today.
6. *It is uncertain* when we shall start (When we shall start is uncertain).

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Маммадли В. Союз *it* как формальное подлежащее / В. Маммадли // Ученые записки Таврического национального университета имени В. И. Вернадского. Серия «Филология. Социальные коммуникации». – 2013. – Т. 26 (65), № 2. – С. 362–367.

Данная статья посвящена союзу *it* в английском языке и употреблению его в качестве формального подлежащего в сложноподчиненных предложениях с придаточным подлежащим. Статья повествует о значениях, функциях, а также о необходимости употребления союза *it* в сложноподчиненных предложениях с придаточным подлежащим. В статье также приведены примеры из художественной литературы английского языка и сопоставляются сложноподчиненные предложения английского и азербайджанского языков. При сопоставлении сложноподчиненных предложений с придаточным подлежащим английского и азербайджанского языков, выясняется, что союз *it* является значимо необходимым в сложноподчиненных предложениях с придаточным подлежащим английского языка, в то время как он, будучи формальным подлежащим, не переводится ни на азербайджанский, ни даже на русский языки.

Ключевые слова: союз, сложное предложение, русский язык, азербайджанский язык, английский язык

Маммадлі В. Сполучник *it* як формальне підмет / В. Маммадлі // Вчені записки Таврійського національного університету імені В. І. Вернадського. Серія «Філологія. Соціальні комунікації». – 2013. – Т. 26 (65), № 2. – С. 362–367.

Дана стаття присвячена сполучнику *it* в англійській мові і його вживанню в якості формального підмета в складнопідрядних реченнях з підрядним підметом. Стаття оповідає про значення, функції, а також про важливість вживання сполучника *it* в складнопідрядних реченнях з підрядним підметом. У статті наведено приклади з художньої літератури англійської мови, зіставляються складнопідрядні речення в англійській та азербайджанській мовах. При зіставленні складнопідрядних речень з підрядним підметом в англійській та азербайджанській мовах, з'ясовується, що сполучник *it* є значимо необхідним у складнопідрядних реченнях з підрядним підметом в англійській мові, в той час як він, будучи формальним підметом, не перекладається ні на азербайджанську, ні навіть на російську мови.

Ключові слова: сполучник, складне речення, російська мова, азербайджанська мова, англійська мова

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