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THE GRAMMATICAL STRUCTURE AND SYNTACTIC FUNCTION OF ADVERBS IN THE FRENCH LANGUAGE

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Abstract. This article discusses the adverb as a part of speech in the French language, its formation, position and functions in a sentence, as well as its specific characteristics.

Keywords: adverb, independent, lexical, syntactic, grammatical, morphological, lexical means, category, manner.

Introduction. The adverb is one of the independent parts of speech and expresses the characteristic of an action or state. Adverbs are classified into several semantic categories: adverbs of manner (quickly, slowly, on foot), adverbs of place (far away, nearby, below), adverbs of time (now, yesterday, today), adverbs of degree and quantity (rather, slightly, little), adverbs of purpose (intentionally, deliberately), and adverbs of cause (helplessly, inevitably, out of necessity).

Except for adverbs of time, place, and purpose, all adverbs share common features and are generally classified as adverbs of manner. As an independent part of speech, the adverb possesses the following morphological characteristics:

1. It has a category of degree: fast – faster – the fastest; much – more – the most.
2. It is invariable and is usually associated with verbs.

For example: Several velvet quilts were spread one upon another on the platform.

3. It does not describe the characteristic of an object but rather the quality of an action or state expressed by a verb, adjective, or noun.

For example: Yesterday the weather was cold. He is now incomparably and unimaginably happy.

4. It has specific derivational suffixes such as -cha, -ona, -larcha, -lab, etc.
5. Adverbs are not declined or conjugated (except in cases of substantivization).

Adverbs are formed through morphological and syntactic methods: do‘stona (friendly), qahramonlarcha (heroically), o‘ylab (thoughtfully) by morphological means; har zamon (every time), shu on (at this moment), bir dam (for a moment) by syntactic means.

According to their structure, adverbs can be simple, compound, paired, or reduplicated. Examples include: kamtarona (modestly), vijdonan (conscientiously), butunlay (completely), har dam (constantly), bir yo‘la (at once), kecha-kunduz (day and night), qishin-yozin (all year round), tez-tez (frequently), oz-oz (little by little).

Forms such as anchagina (considerably), juda (very), kam (little), and kam-kam (rarely) are considered modal forms. Adverbs function as adverbial modifiers, attributes, and predicates in a sentence. An adverb is an independent and invariable part of speech that denotes the characteristic of an action or state. Sometimes it may also be connected with nouns.

Adverbs in French. As in many other languages, French adverbs are classified into simple, compound, primary, and derived adverbs.

Simple adverbs originate from Latin adverbs:

- bien (Latin bene) – well
- mal (Latin male) – badly

Compound adverbs developed within the French language through various processes:

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1. By combining adjectives and nouns:
    - beaucoup (beau + coup) – much, many
    - longtemps (long + temps) – for a long time
2. By combining prepositions, nouns, or pronouns:
    - enfin (en + fin) – finally
    - partout (par + tout) – everywhere
3. By combining different elements:
    - dedans – inside
    - aujourd'hui – today
    - quelque part – somewhere
    - d'ailleurs – moreover, besides

Derived adverbs are generally formed by adding suffixes to adjectives. To form adverbs from adjectives, the suffix -ment is usually added to the feminine form of the adjective.

1. If the masculine adjective ends in a vowel, -ment is added directly:
    - poli → poliment
    - facile → facilement
    - vrai → vraiment
    - absolu → absolument
2. If adjectives end in -ent or -ant, adverbs are formed with -emment or -amment:
    - récent → récemment
    - violent → violemment
    - constant → constamment
    - courant → couramment
3. Some adjectives form adverbs irregularly:
    - gai → gaiement
    - bref → brièvement
    - commode → commodément
    - aveugle → aveuglément
    - profond → profondément
    - précis → précisément
    - gentil → gentiment
    - grave → gravement

Functions and Position of Adverbs in French Sentences. Adverbs function as adverbial modifiers (of place, time, and manner), attributes, and nominal predicates. The position of an adverb depends on the word it modifies.

1. Adverbs of manner. When functioning as adverbials of manner, they are generally placed after the verb: Christophe se taisait obstinément.

If the verb is in a simple tense, the adverb usually follows the verb:

Le vieux leva la tête et regarda attentivement.

If the verb is in a compound tense, the adverb usually follows the past participle:

Natalie était entrée silencieusement dans la pièce.

Examples: Elles s'amusent aussi. Tu travailles trop.

The adverb y expressing place usually precedes the verb, except in the imperative:

J'y travaille. Je n'y travaille pas. Travaillez-y !

2. Adverbs of place and time. These may appear at the beginning, middle, or end of the sentence: J'aime mieux rester ici. Aujourd'hui nous avons cinq leçons.

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Nous avons cinq leçons aujourd'hui. Nous avons aujourd'hui cinq leçons.

3. Adverbs modifying adjectives or nouns. Such adverbs are placed before the adjective or noun: Ce que vous faites est si intéressant. Il travaille très bien.

4. Adverbs as attributes. They may appear before or after the word they modify:

Le journal d'aujourd'hui est très intéressant.

Dans cette salle il y a beaucoup d'étudiants.

Donnez-moi le journal d'aujourd'hui.

5. Adverbs as predicates. When functioning as nominal predicates, they follow the linking verb.Quantity adverbs require the preposition de:

Nous faisons beaucoup de traductions pendant la leçon de français.

Il a peu d'amour-propre.

The adverb beaucoup cannot be intensified by another adverb:

Il a fait beaucoup attention.

The adverb très never modifies a verb; it modifies only adjectives and adverbs:

Elle habite très loin.

The adverb aussi is used only in affirmative sentences:

Il a vu ce film. Moi aussi, je l'ai vu.

In negative sentences, it is replaced by non plus:

Il n'a pas été à Paris, moi non plus.

The adverb tout means "completely" or "entirely" and precedes the adjective or adverb: L'enfant était tout pâle. La rue était tout étroite.

Before feminine adjectives beginning with a consonant, tout agrees in gender and number: La neige était toute blanche. Les fillettes étaient toutes joyeuses.

The adverb oui is used as an affirmative answer:

Avez-vous une montre ? Oui, j'en ai une.

The adverb si is used to contradict a negative statement:

Vous n'avez pas préparé votre leçon ? Si, je l'ai préparée.

The restrictive construction ne... que corresponds to the adverb seulement (only):

Il ne parle que français. Il parle seulement français.

Conclusion. In conclusion, the grammatical use of adverbs in French differs considerably from that in Uzbek. French distinguishes approximately seventeen types of adverbs, whereas Uzbek traditionally recognizes six categories. Lexically, French employs a wide range of words, expressions, and other lexical means to express adverbial meanings. In Uzbek, adverbial meanings are mainly conveyed through words and phrases.

Furthermore, intonation and phonetic variation play a more significant role in expressing adverbial nuances in French than in Uzbek. French also distinguishes between formal and informal language registers, which influence the use of adverbs more prominently. In addition, French places greater emphasis on stylistic usage and textual organization. Overall, the differences between French and Uzbek adverbs can be observed at grammatical, lexical, intonational, stylistic, and pragmatic levels.

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