EPISTEMIC MODALITY OF THE MULTIPLE COMPOUND-COMPLEX SENTENCES

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The present paper focuses on the problem of distinguishing between the root and epistemic modal meanings expressed by the certain modal verbs in the multiple compound-complex sentences in Modern English Peculiarities of modal meanings are observed, details of implementation of modality singled out

It is widely acknowledged in the linguistic literature that in spite of the fact that the category of modality has been analyzed on the basis of the simple sentence and complex sentence, the problem of modality has not yet been profoundly investigated The necessity of a systematic approach to the description of the syntactic structures linked by paradigmatic relations is still of importance The syntactic study of the last decades demonstrates the analysis of all meanings and shades of modality expressed with the help of various language units within a single utterance

Our investigation of the modality of multiple compound-complex sentences has subsequently been employed in this article as an argument for the special position of the modality in a subject-verb unit This type of a composite sentence has been analyzed in the present paper on the basis of the examples taken from English and American literature of XIX-XX centuries Jerome K Jerome, S Lewis, A C Doyle

According to some linguists (J Lyons, M R Perkins, F R Palmer), there is some confusion about the proper usage of two related terms *mood* and *modality* J Lyons considers *modality* a "functional, or pragmatic, category" [Lyons 1983 94], and in some cases, a semantic one, and he treats *mood* as the morphological expression of *modality* Hence, we can define *modality* as a set of semantic categories, including necessity, obligation, probability, possibility, and desire, while *mood* can be defined as a morphological category, characterizing subjunctive, conditional, imperative, and optative clauses

Modality, expressing reality or unreality of action, that is the attitude of the utterance to the reality, is considered to be the basic modal characteristic of the sentence This is the so-called *objective* modality, the means of which include modal verbs, modal words and constructions and verbal forms of the category of mood The other kind of modality describes the speaker's attitude to the contents of the utterance in the meaning of reliability of the knowledge (*subjective* modality)

There are some more sub-types of modality *alethic* (denoting possibility and necessity from the point of view of the real physical conditions and states), *deontic* (reflecting the necessity and possibility from the social standards, and moral obligations), and *epistemic* modality, being "the speaker's assessment of probability

and predictability It is external to the content, being a part of the attitude taken up by the speaker his attitude, in this case, towards his own speech role as 'declarer'" [Halliday 1970 349]

The multiple compound-complex sentence, being the independent kind of the compound sentence, is characterized by a certain set of semantic and grammar properties and represents a sub-system of subject-verb units within the whole system of the multiple compound-complex sentences The formal structure of the sentence with parataxis and hypotaxis in modern English assumes the existence of two complexes – hypotactic and paratactic, which, in turn, consist of certain components In this paper we investigate the peculiarities of a general modal plan of the multiple compound-complex sentences comprising both mood and modality of the subject-verb unit Analyzing the compound-complex sentences we have observed a very complicated pattern of the modal plans connected with the considerable load of information in the multiple sentences Examination of the analyzed multiple compound-complex sentences showed that these sentences represent constructions which can be regarded as mono-modal and poly-modal [Iofic 1972 69] Chosen from the whole body of the analyzed examples the mono-modal sentences make up 43%, and the majority of them are characterized by the real modality

(1) *Holmes was silent, but his little darting glances showed me the interest which he took in our curious companion (Conan Doyle, 12)*

(2) In example №1 both the paratactic complex (*Holmes was silent,*), and the hypotactic complex (*but his little darting glances showed me the interest which he took in our curious companion*) are characterized by real modality, expressed by the indicative mood of the verbs *to be, to show, to take* in the Past Indefinite Tense This multiple compound-complex sentence is mono-modal and presents the event as real

Mono-modal sentences expressing unreal modality correspond to the solitary examples (less than 1% of the whole body of the examples)

(3) I always thought him sane enough until today, but you can take it from me that either he or I ought to be in a strait-jacket [Conan Doyle, 141]

In example №2 the paratactic complex (*I always thought him sane enough until today*) is characterized by *epistemic* modality expressed by the mental verb *to think*, and the hypotactic complex (*but you can take it from me that either he or I ought to be in a strait-jacket*) demonstrates the use of *deontic* modality with the modal verbs *can*, and *ought to* in their root meanings Taking into consideration that *epistemic* and *deontic* modalities are the sub-types of *unreal* modality, we can define this sentence as the mono-modal multiple compound-complex sentence expressing unreal modality It is widely acknowledged that *epistemic* modal meanings deal with the degree of the speaker's commitment to the truth of the proposition that forms the complement of the modal, and *deontic* modal meanings are concerned with the necessity or possibility of acts, performed by morally responsible agents, e g obligation and permission [Palmer 1990, Sweetser 1990]

Apart from *epistemic/deontic* distinction, a third main area of modal meaning is often recognized it is the so-called *dynamic* modality, which includes the notional categories of real-world ability, possibility and intention/willingness [Palmer, 1990]

(4) There is a grotto in the park which you can see for a fee, and which is supposed to be very wonderful, but I cannot see much in it myself (Jerome, 19)

In example №3 the paratactic complex (*but I cannot see much in it myself*) placed in post-position, is characterized by *dynamic* modality expressed by the negative form of the modal verb *can*, and the hypotactic complexes (*There is a grotto in the park which you can see for a fee, and which is supposed to be very wonderful*) demonstrate the use of *real-world* modality with the modal verb *can*, and the verb *to be*, and the *epistemic* modality with the verb *to suppose* in Present Indefinite Passive This multiple compound-complex is poly-modal It is widely known that the category of mood, that is the difference between real and unreal, expressed by the corresponding verb-forms, is one of the most contradictory problems of the English grammar Some scholars say it is "a blurred concept that centers around the notions of possibility and necessity [Kratzer 1981, Papafragou 2006, Werner 2006, and many others]

Independent of what modal expression is used, a modal sentence expresses that the propositional content of the sentence possibly or necessarily holds with respect to some contextual restrictions [Klabunde, 2011] The main theoretical difficulty is that modal verbs are polysemous, and there are both synthetic and analytical forms of the verbs with the similar meaning of unreality Besides, "the set of English modal verbs is widely recognized to communicate two broad clusters of meanings epistemic and root modal meanings" [Papafragou, 1998] Although one can find some variation in the definitions offered by the scholars, there is general agreement that epistemic modality "indicates the degree of commitment by the speaker to what he says" [Palmer 1986 51]

There is an opinion in the linguistic literature that an epistemic use of the modal verbs *must, can,* and *may* in Modern English is not so widely spread [Palmer 1986 58, Perkins 1983 49] Our analysis provides a new evidence to this phenomenon demonstrating the use of epistemic modality expressed by the modal verbs *may, can, must* in the multiple compound-complex sentences The modal verb *must* in the epistemic meaning corresponds to 1% of the analyzed examples

(5) I have since been induced to come to the opinion that it must have been there all the time, and must have been beating, but I cannot account for it (Jerome, 12)

In example №4 the hypotactic complex *(I have since been induced to come to the opinion that it must have been there all the time, and must have been beating)* is characterized by the use of epistemic *must* with the Perfect Infinitive, it says something about the speaker's commitment to the content of the sentence Instead, the use of epistemic *can* introduces an element of subjectivity

(6) Your first impression is that the end of the world has come, and then you think that this cannot be, and that it is thieves or murderers, or else fire, and this opinion you express in the usual method (Jerome, 31)

In example №5 the epistemic *cannot* is used in the hypotactic complex *(and then you think that this cannot be, and that it is thieves or murderers)*, in which the speaker has no certitude that the situation really obtained, but he presents it as compatible with or suggested by his knowledge We can define this as '*epistemic possibility*', which must be distinguished from '*epistemic probability*' The crucial difference between them lies in the fact that epistemic possibility presents a proposition as compatible with our knowledge of the world, and epistemic probability also includes an estimation of the chances that the proposition is true, as example №4 shows

Epistemic possibility is to be distinguished from 'root possibility', expressed by the modal verb *can* *Can* in the root meaning of possibility could be found in 5% of the examples of the multiple compound-complex sentences

(7) It *did look a lot, and Harris and I began to feel rather ashamed of it, though why we should be, I can't see (Jerome, 71)*

In example №6 the hypotactic complex (*why we should be, I can't see*) is characterized by the use of the modal verb *can* in the root meaning of possibility The most important difference between root possibility and epistemic possibility is that epistemic possibility includes the speaker's commitment to the content of the proposition, and root possibility states what is allowed to happen by conditions of the world The use of *can* to express epistemic possibility in affirmative sentences is considered to be rather limited in Modern English, as it has been replaced by *may* in most contexts The multiple compound-complex sentences demonstrate the use of epistemic *may* in 0,7% of the examples

(7) What they were seeing may be hard to believe when you read it in print but it was almost as hard to believe when you saw it happening (Lewis, 9) In example №7 the hypotactic complex (*what they were seeing may be hard to believe*) with the help of epistemic *may* presents the structural situation and involves potentiality

To conclude we must admit that multiple compound-complex sentences representing the combination of different types of modality are rather typical in Modern English It must be emphasized that epistemic modality is not the most common meaning of the modal verbs *can, may, must* in multiple compound-complex sentences in Modern English It is also close to other modal meanings and is not always easy to distinguish Being a very complicated phenomenon the modality of the multiple compound-complex sentences is subject to further more detailed investigation

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MULTIPLE COMPOUND-COMPLEX SENTENCE
AS THE SYNTACTIC AND UTTERANCE UNIT
(BASED ON AMERICAN MOVIE SCRIPTS)

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The article deals with peculiarities of multiple compound-complex sentences in Modern English functioning in movie scripts dialogues The authors study the multiple compound-complex sentence as syntactic and communicative units The main purpose of the article is to define the peculiarities of multiple compound complex sentences in text scripts This problem needs further consideration as it's necessary to see the problem from different angles including syntactic and communicative organization of multiple compound complex sentences

This problem was studied by many Russian eminent scholars as I A Vasilenko, N N Kholodov, G F Kalashnikova, B A Belova, L D Bednarskaia, T S Riadnova, G F Gavrilova, O F Uspenskaia Based on the works mainly focused on literary texts of XIX-XXI centuries American and English Fiction in our opinion it's necessary to look into functioning *dialogic texts* because script texts are very close to the colloquial speech

Syntactically, multiple compound complex sentences can be regarded as a structure, consisting of two parts hypotactic and paratactic complexes Paratactic complex can be minimal, consisting of a subject-verb unit, and extended one, uniting more than two units Hypotactic complex represents the minimal model (a three-parted construction, consisting of the three noun-verb units) and extended one, which is formed by means of one or a combination of two and more types of syntactic links

Multiple compound-complex sentences fall into seven patterns On the basis of a number of components, types of syntactic ties, interrelation of noun-verb units, the author allocates the following patterns a model with minimal hypotactic and paratactic units of a closed type, a pattern with extended hypotactic complex and minimal paratactic complex, a model with an extended paratactic and minimal hypotactic complex of closed type, a pattern with extended hypotactic and paratactic complexes, a model with several hypotactic complexes united by coordination tie, a pattern with minimal paratactic complex and several hypotactic