
Conclusion

The Telugu phrases are classified under two criteria, viz., the formal criterion and the functional criterion.

Under formal label the phrases are divided into the following four types, viz., the head-modifier type, the coordinate type, the axis-relator type and the appositional or the item apposition type. Under functional label these phrases are divided again into four types, viz., the noun phrase, the adjective phrase, the verb phrase and the adverb phrase.

In the present study the functional labels are taken as chapter names and under each functional group an effort is made to identify different formal categories. Again under each one of these formal categories, various sub-categories both under formal and functional criteria taking even different semantic values into consideration are identified.

7.1. NOUN PHRASE

The noun phrase in Telugu consists of four functional types, viz., the head-modifier phrase, the coordinate phrase, the appositional or the item apposition phrase and the axis-relator phrase.

7.1.1 HEAD - MODIFIER NOUN PHRASE

The head-modifier phrase consists of a noun as head and one or more words as modifiers to the end. The head is always obligatory and the modifiers are optional. The modifiers always precede the head except in the case of some of the nonorific forms, limiters, emphasizees and the determiners. The modifiers of a head-modifier noun phrase include pronominal adjectives, simple quantifiers, definite quantifiers (cardinals, fractionals, multiplicatives, ordinals, enumeratives, specifiers, aggregatives, etc.), indefinite quantifiers, descriptive adjectives, participle adjectives, genitives, honorific words and titles, comparators, limiters, embedded clauses, emphasizees, determiners and reflexives.

7.1.2. COORDINATE NOUN PHRASE

The coordinate noun phrase which is a multiple head phrase has at least two obligatory

head slots filled by nouns, pronouns and noun phrases. The coordinate noun phrases in Telugu are additive or alternative including the mutually exclusive type. These phrases are formed by simple juxtaposition or by means of additive connectors or by lengthening the final vowel of each of the constituents. Besides these, there are also range, time span and arrangement indicators and also reduplicatives.

7.1.3 APPOSITIONAL OR ITEM - APPOSITION NOUN PHRASE

The appositional or the item - apposition noun phrase is also a multicentered phrase like the coordinate phrase, but unlike the latter the former has two and only two head slots filled by nouns and noun phrases having the same extra - linguistic referent. The first one of the two heads of an appositional noun phrase is the appositive and the second one is the item. The appositive slot is filled by nouns and noun phrases and the item slot is filled normally by proper nouns, sometimes a modified one. Structurally, in Telugu the appositional phrases fall into only one category, but they are put into certain groups taking the semantic criterion and their position of occurrence into consideration.

7.1.4 AXIS - RELATOR NOUN PHRASE

The axis-relator noun phrase is an exocentric phrase. It consists of two immediate constituents, the axis and the relator. The axis slot is normally filled by a noun or a pronoun or a noun phrase. The relator slot is filled by a postposition that indicates time, place, manner, benefaction, etc. The axis-relator phrase is an exocentric phrase since the phrase as a whole does not belong to the same form class as either of the constituents. In an axis-relator noun phrase both the axis and the relator tagmemes are obligatory.

Though there do not exist different structural classes, the axis-relator phrases are classified taking the criteria of the 'type of the relator' and the 'type of the axis' into consideration.

7.2. ADJECTIVE PHRASE

The adjective phrase is the modifier phrase of the noun head in a head - modifier phrase. The noun modifier may be a single word or a group of structurally linked words. This structurally linked word group is called the adjective phrase.

In Telugu there are three formal types of adjective phrases, viz., the head-modifier adjective phrase, the coordinate adjective phrase and the axis-relator adjective phrase.

7.2.1. HEAD - MODIFIER ADJECTIVE PHRASE

The head-modifier adjective phrase consists of an obligatory head slot filled by adjectives and an optional modifier slot filled by intensifiers, limiters, etc.

The modifiers of a head-modifier adjective phrase include descriptive adjectives, participle adjectives, intensifiers, comparators, enumeratives, pronominal adjectives, genitives/

possessives, simple quantifiers, definite quantifiers, approximate quantifiers, indefinite quantifiers and limiters.

7.2.2. COORDINATE ADJECTIVE PHRASE

Like the other coordinate phrases, the coordinate adjective phrase also consists of two or more head slots filled by adjectives. Since an adjective acts as a modifier to a noun, the coordinate adjective phrase also like a single adjective modifies the head noun of a head-modifier noun phrase.

The coordinate adjective phrases are classified into a few categories depending on the type of adjectives that are coordinated.

These categories which are already discussed as modifiers under the head-modifier noun phrase include demonstratives, genitives/possessives, descriptive adjectives, participle adjectives, simple quantifiers, definite quantifiers, indefinites, comparators, honorific words, etc.

7.2.3. AXIS - RELATOR ADJECTIVE PHRASE

There are a very few adjective phrases in Telugu which can be termed as axis-relator phrases. More frequently the descriptive adjectives and less frequently the participle adjectives fill the axis slot. The relator slot is generally filled by the case and the adverbial markers, and sometimes by the remote locative pronoun *appudu*.

The axis-relator adjective phrases in Telugu are divided into two groups based on the type of the axis constituent, viz., those with descriptive adjectives as axes and those with participle adjectives as axes.

7.3 VERB PHRASE

Like the noun phrase, the verb phrase is also more important in view of its complicated structure and vital role in the syntax of Telugu. In a broader sense, it is a head-modifier phrase, the head being the verb itself, and the modifiers being adverbials and verbal participles. The verb that fills the head slot for this head-modifier phrase is itself a close-knit phrase, the verbal base system linked with the mood, aspect and tense system, and this in turn with the gender, number and person system.

Though the verb phrase on the whole is a head-modifier phrase, three more types of verb phrases, a head modifier verb phrase, a coordinate verb phrase and a close-knit verb phrase can be visualized from its internal structure. In the present analysis, the verb phrase as a whole or the overall verb phrase is termed as Head-Modifier Verb Phrase 1 (H-MVP1) and the phrases visualized from the internal structure of this phrase are called Head - Modifier Verb Phrase 2 (H-MVP2), Coordinate Verb Phrase and Close - knit Verb Phrase. The head-modifier verb phrase 2 and the coordinate verb phrase together form the

modifier part of the overall verb phrase (H-MVP1) and the close-knit verb phrase is its head part.

7.3.1. HEAD - MODIFIER VERB PHRASE 1

The head-modifier verb phrase 1 is the verb phrase as a whole. The head slot is filled by a finite verb and the modifier slot is filled either by adverbial words or by verbal participles or by both together. The adverbial words include intensifiers, manner adverbials, quantifiers, temporals, locatives, object nouns and pronouns, quantifiers and interrogatives. The verbal participles include the past, non-past, negative, conditional and concessive forms. When both the adverbial words and the verbal participles occur together in the modifier slot of the head-modifier verb phrase 1, they are classified as intensifiers, manner adverbials, qualitatives, temporals, locatives, quantifiers and interrogatives.

7.3.2. HEAD - MODIFIER VERB PHRASE 2

The head-modifier verb phrase 2 is a modifier phrase in the sense, that it fills the modifier slot of the head-modifier verb phrase 1. The head slot of this phrase is filled by any one of the five verbal participles, namely, past, non-past, negative, conditional and concessive; and the modifier slot is filled by adverbial words or verbal participles or by both together as in the case of head-modifier verb phrase 1.

The modifiers of this phrase include all those categories that occur as modifier slot fillers of the head-modifier verb phrase 1.

7.3.3. COORDINATE VERB PHRASE

The coordinate verb phrase is a participle phrase and has at least two head slots filled by verbal participles. The constituent verbal participles put in coordination must belong to the same type such as both past, both non-past, etc., but of different verbs. These coordinate verb phrases in addition to filling the modifier slot of the head-modifier verb phrase 1 also fill the predicate slots at clause level constructions.

The coordinate verb phrases are classified into two groups, viz., the phrases that are derived by coordinating the positive participle and the negative participle of the same verb (*tsu:si tsu:daka* ‘without seeing properly’) and the phrases that are derived by coordinating the same participle, say, past, non-past, etc., of different verbs (*a:dutu: pa:dutu:* ‘playing and singing’).

7.3.4. CLOSE - KNIT VERB PHRASE

The close-knit verb phrase is the head-part of the head-modifier verb phrase 1 and fills the head slot of that phrase. It consists of three interrelated systems, viz., the verbal base system, the mood-aspect-tense system and the person-number-gender system.

1. Base System

The verbal base gives the lexical meaning of the verb phrase. Structurally, it can be either a simple verb or a compound verb, or sometimes even a combination of a noun and a verb or an adjective and a verb. Semantically, it can be an intransitive or a transitive or a stative or a causative. When the base consists of a compound verb, the verbal idea is either singular, i.e., one verb modifying the other, or double, i.e., the meanings of both the verbs in the compound getting prominence.

2. Mood - Aspect - Tense System**(i) Mood**

Moods indicate the attitudes of the mind of the speaker towards the contents of the sentence. A comprehensive list of the moods in Telugu is as follows:

indicative (unmarked), obligative (-a:li), prohibitive (-ku:dadu), dubitative (-vatstsu), imperative (-u/-i), permissive (is(c)-), negative (vaddu/ra:du/ka:du/le:du), oblitative (gala-/galugu-), continuative (sa:gu-), optative (ga:ka/ga:ta), desiderative (ko:ru-), effortative (tsu:s-), hortative (-da:m), needlessness indicative (akkarale:du), double imperative (Imp. + po:-, i.e., tinu + po:- = tinubo:) and habitative (marugu-).

(ii) Aspect

Aspect is a semantic oriented system and indicates the temporal distribution of an event. In other words, it indicates the occurrence of an event at different points of time.

The aspectual meaning is achieved either by inflecting the main verb, or by suffixing the auxiliary to it.

In Telugu there are two types of aspects, viz., aspects with single markers and aspects with double markers.

The aspects with single markers have two sub-categories, viz., inflexional and derivative.

(a) Inflexional Aspects

The inflexional aspects are achieved by inflecting the verbal base, and since they are already temporal they are not marked for the tense. This group includes the aspects of habitual, suspensive, incessant habitual, perfect-stative, perfect-predicative, incessant and durative.

(b) Derivative Aspects

The derivative aspects are derived by suffixation, i.e., they are derived by suffixing auxiliaries to the main verb. Unlike the inflexional aspects these are marked for the tense.

The derivative aspects include the aspects of completive, self-benefactive,

accelerative, future utilitative, malevolent and inceptive.

Aspects with double markers are derived in three ways, viz., by adding a derivative suffix and an inflexional suffix to the verb base, by adding two derivative suffixes one after the other to the verb base and by adding two inflexional suffixes one after the other to the verb base.

(iii) Tense

In Telugu, the verbal base either directly connects into the tense system or connects either through the model system or through both the model and the tense systems.

The Telugu verb uniformly shows a two way tense system, i.e., the past and the future-habitual except in the case of the verb *und-* 'be'. *und-* shows a different tense system with future and non-future forms. However, in the Rayalseema dialect of Telugu this shows a three way contrast, viz., the past, the present and the future.

3. Person - Number - Gender System

The person-number-gender system terminates the final verb in the sense that the verb cannot be expanded further. The verb base either directly connects into the person-number-gender system, or connects either through the model system, or through the model and the aspectual systems or through the model, the aspectual and the tense systems. The person-number-gender system indicates the person, the number and the gender of the subject or the performer of the action of the main verb.

7.4 ADVERB PHRASE

The Telugu adverb phrase modify a verb or another adverb or an adverb phrase. They fill the modifier slots of verb and adverb phrases, and also fill the complement slot at clause level.

The Telugu adverbials may be simple adverbials or phrases of head-modifier, coordinate and axis-relator types.

7.4.1. SIMPLE ADVERBIALS

The simple adverbial words include intensifiers, qualitatives, quantitatives, temporals, manner adverbials, locatives, directionals, purpose adverbials, reason denoters, associatives, exchange words, topical words, additives, instrumentals, inferentials and comparators.

7.4.2. HEAD - MODIFIER ADVERB PHRASE

The head slot of a head-modifier adverb phrase is filled by most of the adverbials mentioned above, and the modifier slot is filled by intensifiers, quantifiers, additives, temporals, manner adverbs, verbal participles, participle adjectives, locative and temporal postpositions,

numerals, manne adjectives (*ila:nti* ‘this type of’) and pronominal adjectives.

7.4.3. COORDINATE ADVERB PHRASE

The coordinate adverb phrase is derived by coordinating two or more adverbial words. These phrases are divided into two groups, viz., additives and alternatives. The additive phrases are formed either by simple juxtaposition of the constituents or by suffixing the additive marker *-:/-nu*, i.e., by adding to either of the constituents length when the constituents end in short vowels and *-nu* when they end in long vowels. The alternative phrases are derived rarely by employing the alternative connector *le:ka* ‘or’ and mostly by mutual exclusion either by adding the indefinite marker *-o:* or by adding *-ga:ni* to either of the constituents. Under both of these categories occur qualitatives, quantitatives, temporals, manner words, locatives, directionals, etc., and sometimes the combination of adverbials belonging to two or more of such categories.

In Telugu the coordinate adverb phrase can also be of open ended type, i.e., the phrase can have more than two head constituents.

7.4.4. AXIS - RELATOR ADVERB PHRASE

The axis slot of an axis-relator adverb phrase is filled by either a single adverb or an adverb phrase. The relator slot is normally filled by a postposition (*lo:-* ‘in’, *nunci* ‘from’, etc.) or a noun in special use (*pakka* ‘side’) or a bound particle (*-ki/-ku* ‘to’).

The axis-relator adverb phrases in Telugu include temporals, manner indicators, locationals, quantifiers, qualitatives, directionals, purpose indicators, reason indicators, topical phrases, instrumentals, associatives, inferentials, benefactives and exchange adverbials; but the first three categories are most predominant.