Exploring the functionality of -sa/se affixes for conveying potential and unreal scenarios

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Abstract The article focuses on the grammatical and semantic potential of the -sa/-se affix in forming the conditional and desirable mood in the Turkish language. It allowed the authors to trace the gradual transitions from actual reality to a broader one through the sphere of potentiality toward unreality. It was found that the affix -sa/-se is involved in forming the hypothetical and unreal word modality, i.e., it directly affects the seme. The proposed scientific research systematizes the existing knowledge about the paradigm of meanings that the -sa/-se affix can realize. Using a comprehensive methodological approach, it determines the interrelation between its position and function in the Turkish language construction. This includes a continuous sampling method, a descriptive method, a method of contextual analysis to establish the specifics of the formation of different contexts by this morpheme, and a method of pragmatic analysis. The article shows that the affix -sa/-se can express both unreal and real conditions. The authors of this paper have investigated that the sequence of formants in the formation of an unreal condition semantics has the following form: a condition affix (in preposition), an affix that realizes the temporal value. While forming a semi-real condition, the formant does not have a temporal indicator since, in hypothetical constructions, there is a clear opposition between the real and the desired. In the case of verbal modeling of a real condition, the temporal marker is the one in the preposition to the condition affix. As a word-forming formant, the affix realizes a wide range of other modal meanings and can express a more grammatically formalized epistemic modality.

Keywords: functional-semantic category of modality, functional-semantic field of modality, Turkish language, affix -sa, unreal modality, potential modality, condition

1. Introduction

Modality belongs to linguistic universals, i.e., universal linguistic categories. They are closely related to the linguistic categories of predictivity, temporality, and subjectivity. Scientists distinguish several types of modalities: necessity, obligation, desirability, probability, possibility, motivation, and reality/unreality. In fact, modality permeates all our speech since speakers consciously or unconsciously always evaluate what they communicate. Therefore, modality is divided into explicit (consciously realized by the speaker) and implicit (unconscious one). For this reason, modality can be considered one of the central linguistic categories.

The issue of how human language reproduces life and a person’s attitude to the events that take place around them has been of interest to linguists for a long time. In modern linguistic sciences, it is believed that modality is present in every utterance since what speakers communicate is their own interpretation of events and facts surrounding them. In particular, a "broad approach" to understanding modality is quite common in Turkic studies. It includes both emotional and expressive evaluation, and the following types of modalities are distinguished: indicative, conditional, imperative, operative, binding, potential, permission, confidence, and warning (Kalegeri, 2019).

The expression of an unreal modality is the expression of situations that do not or cannot exist in real life. In other words, modal indicators seem to describe a certain "alternative" world in the speaker's mind when uttered (Taylan, E., Aksu-Koç, A., 2001). The semantics of unreal modality is mainly concentrated around the meaning of probability and the category of potentiality. Linguistics considers implicative (conditional) modality as a special type of unreal modality. The meaning of the desirable mood in Turkish is an intermediate link between the unreal and real spheres since it is connected with the meaning of intention (Benzer, 2023).

The analysis of derivation in the context of morphological processes has long been a subject of interest in morphology as a theorization and a generativist approach to the internal structure of the word in the Turkish language. In addition, the processes of reduplication in Turkish are discussed. However, the study of the functional and semantic potential of affixes while...
realizing grammatical potentiality and unreality still needs to be well studied in modern Turkology. This fact determines the relevance of our research (Çınar, 2022).

The article aims to study the grammatical and semantic potential of the -sa/se affix in the formation of the conditional and desirable mood in Turkish in the context of implementing grammemes of potentiality and unreality.

Research goals:
- to outline the peculiarities of implementing the functional and communicative modalities' subcategories of potentiality and unreality in Turkish;
- to systematize the existing knowledge about the paradigm of meanings that can be implemented by the -sa/-se affix;
- to describe the word-formation peculiarities of the conditional and desirable moods in Turkish;
- to investigate the role of the -sa/-se affix in the formation of the hypothetical and unreal modality of the word;
- to establish the sequence of formants in forming the semantics of real and unreal conditions.

2. Literature review

There has yet to be a consensus among linguists on the essence of the category and types of modalities in the modern Turkish language. They express a relative unanimity in opposing its two plans: reality and unreality. The real modality is described in the active voice, whereas the unreal modality is expressed in the conditional or imperative voice. On the extremes of the poles, the meanings become absolutized and create an opposition. It is manifested in the categorical organization of the functional-communicative category of modality, which includes the subcategories of reality, potentiality, and unreality (Nesterenko, 2011). The relation of the predicative feature to reality in terms of real/unreal is recognized as the leading aspect of modality. At one end of the scale is the value of "reality in the narrow sense" (factual), and at the other end is unreality (hypothetical). It allows us to trace gradual transitions from actual reality to a broad one through the sphere of potentiality toward unreality (Nesterenko, 2011).

Ukrainian Turkologist S. V. Sorokin, in his monograph "Turkish and Ukrainian in the System of Coordinates "TENSE - ASPECT - MODALITY," notes that, at the grammatical level, the main expression of deontic modality is the category of mood. This category fulfills the relation of action to reality. In the Turkish language, this means the gradation of meanings along the following diagonal:

- "reality-hypothetical-unreality" (indicative-conjunctive);
- "reality-prescriptive" (indicative-imperative);
- "reality-desire-intention" (indicative-desiderative);
- "reality-necessity-obligation" (indicative-obligative) (Sorokin, 2009, p. 35).

Since the mood occupies a central place among the means of expressing the unreal modality, the structural and semantic analysis of this morphological category deserves a particular attention. Such an analysis will help to determine the categorial invariants of the unreal modality.

The potentiality and hypothetical nature of an action in Turkish can be expressed by several means. The -so affix plays a leading role among them, which also realizes the meaning of order, desire, necessity, and some other additional meanings. At the same time, Turkologists, when describing this affix, adhere to the traditional view. They define the morpheme as a way of expressing the desirable subjunctive mood (Banguoğlu, 2011, p. 467; Hengirmen, 2006, p. 222; Ediskun, 2007, p. 184). As for the classical approach, it determines that in Turkish, the subjunctive mood is represented by real, semi-real, and unreal conditions.

The affix -so is used as early as in the texts of the first written monuments (Orkhon-Yenisey script) and is used during all periods of the historical development of Turkic languages either as di er-se or -disa as an affix of the subjunctive mood in combination with an auxiliary verb that implements temporal semantics (Kalegeri, 2019, p. 294). Among the researchers of Turkic morphology and syntax, there is no single viewpoint on the morpheme's origin. A. Von Gabain argues that there is a connection between the affix -sar, which implements the meaning of condition, and the future tense affix -isar during the Ancient Anatolian period of the Turkish language. In early texts, the morpheme appears in the form -sar. Such a form was used as a verb since it had neither verbal nor nominal endings and served as an adverb. Nevertheless, it is very actively related to the person-subject at very early stages of development. It became a finite morpheme during the evolution of the Old Turkic language. L. Karahan notes that the affix -sar, used to express a condition in the early period of language evolution (Göktürkçe), also realizes temporal semantics (Karahan, 1994, p. 192). Some scholars assume that this affix originates from the borrowed verb so- (to wish), which, after being grammaticalized, formed the affix -sar. Later, the sound -r at the end of the affix ceased to be used (G. J. Ramstedt, M. Ergin) (Korkmaz, 1995).

In addition, there has yet to be a consensus on its grammatical status. There is a belief that forms containing this morpheme are an adverbial participle, participle, infinitive, and gerund (Gülsevin, 1990). On the other hand, Esra Büyükerşelyılmaz notes that the suffix in Ancient Turkish times was used only as a subjunctive mood (Büyükerşelyılmaz, 2009). In this regard, H. Develi points out that while expressing the meaning of the desirable mood, the morpheme does not represent the meaning of the condition (Develi, 1995, p. 117). Ş. Bulak, while examining the functioning of the morpheme in the texts of
the XVI-XVII centuries, has found that it is used in many syntactic functions and has a broad semantic paradigm: real condition, unreal condition, opposition, comparison, cause-and-effect relationship, future tense, etc. (Bulak, 2011).

Consequently, there are different viewpoints on the origin of the affix, its semantic components, and the specifics of its functioning in texts dating back to different periods of the Turkish language development. In this study, we adhere to the view that in the Old Turkic language, as well as in Indo-European languages, the morpheme -sar as a conjunctive (unreal form) had optative features. This explains its use as both a conditional and a desirable mood. We rely on the results of European and Ukrainian researchers who have proved the change of the desirable function to the imperative function during the evolution of the Indo-European language and its disintegration during the formation of the Proto-Slavic language.

3. Methods

The following methods were employed during the study:

- Analysis and synthesis methods were used during a critical review of scientific literature, examining the categorial organization of the functional-communicative category of modality.
- The method of complete selection was applied in selecting illustrative linguistic material.
- The descriptive method was utilized to systematize knowledge about the set of semantic nuances and the relationship between the position and meaning of constructions with the affix -sa/-se.
- Contextual analysis method was employed to determine the specifics of forming different contexts with this morpheme.
- The pragmatic analysis method was used in describing the components of the conceptual microfield of the affix -sa.
- The historical method was applied in researching the historical aspect of word formation in the Turkish language, particularly in the usage of the affix -sa in the texts of the earliest written records and its subsequent functioning throughout all periods of the historical development of Turkic languages.
- The generalization method was employed to form scientific-theoretical conclusions for the study.

4. Results

In modern Turkish, a broad semantic paradigm of the affix is preserved. It signifies an action that has not yet been completed but realizes the intention or desire to perform it. In Turkic languages of the Oghuz group, the affix has meanings related to conditions and simultaneity of action, synonymous with the construction “-inca, -diği zaman.” In Turkmen, it denotes the execution of a secondary action expressed by an adverbial participle as the main action unfolds. Additionally, it can express a cause and act as a synonym for constructions like “-diği için, -diğinden dolayı” (cause-and-effect relationship), embodying the semantics of opposition while having similar meanings to the construction “diği hâlde.” It can also indicate the action execution sequence, resembling the temporal construction “-diktan sonra.”

Another question, to which contemporary Turkology has yet to provide a definitive answer, arises regarding whether this affix indeed does not express aspect and time in certain types of sentences. Specifically, in their article “Are There Aspectless Tensed Clauses in Turkish?” Ö. Demirok and Y. Sağ emphasize the need to investigate aspectless verb forms. As an example, they cite sentences like: “Aylin bu sabah saat 10 ile 11 arasında koş-sana söyle-r-di” (If Aylin were running this morning between 10 and 11, she would tell you about it). The researchers assume that there is a clear correlation between the inter-determined moment of reference and the moment of event occurrence.

Since morphological means of expressing modal meanings occupy a central place in Turkic languages, an affix often realizes not only modal meanings but also temporal or aspektual ones. In certain cases, a morpheme may combine the meanings of these three categories simultaneously. Therefore, some Turkic studies scholars, such as F. Karademir, propose using a single term -prospective/aspektual modal-temporality (tazorlama/torz kipliği zaman) (Karademir, 2012, p. 2102). It should be noted that there is a clear dependence between the meaning expressed by the affix and the positions in which it is used, with the final position accumulating the maximum semantic “load” (aspectuality+temporality+modality).

Thus, during the research, we will systematize knowledge about the set of semantic nuances and attempt to explain the relationship between the position and the meaning of the construction with the -sa affix. We will also analyze whether the affix can indeed express a temporal shade in certain contexts.

In modern Turkish, the unreal, semi-real, and real conditions are classically defined using the affix -sa. The form used to denote an unrealistic condition was formed as a result of the grammaticalization of a two-component construction in which the first component in the non-finite predicative form -sar is combined with the grammaticalized auxiliary verb ermek (to be) in the past tense form erti. The formation of complex meaning suggests that the condition could have been realized before the reference moment in the past: sar + erti → sa + erti → sa + idi → sa+ydi → saydi. In this process, there was a functional and semantic redistribution of components between verbs. Also, the foregrounding of the semantic components of the condition morpheme, coupled with the loss of the ability to realize the temporal component, led to the necessity of adding a marker of temporal semantics. The form implies that there was a probability of action realization within a time span between two conditional reference points. The temporal marker indicates that this time span is related to the past with respect to the
moment of speech. The main clause reproduces an alternative course of events that could have occurred in the speaker's mind: 

Uyuyakaldıktan biraz sonra başının otobüsün sarsıtıyla yanındaki yolcunun omzuna, sonra da göğsünü düşüşünün bilseydi çok utanırdı (Orhan Pamuk, 9) – If he had known that after he fell asleep, his head, as the bus swayed, first rested on the shoulder of the traveler sitting next to him and then on his chest, he would have been very embarrassed. The first part of the sentence containing the condition typically anticipates a logical continuation by explaining what could have changed if the condition had been realized.

![Figure 1: The order of semantic components.](https://www.malque.pub/ojs/index.php/msj)

A(x)A(y) → B(t)B(y), where

A – an action that serves as an emphasis (condition)
B – an action that serves as a consequent (consequence)
X – condition formant
Y – an indicator of expiration (a time limit between two conditional moments in time)
T – a time indicator used to mark the localization of the temporal interval after the accentual action is performed (in the future regarding the action).

As we can see, the sequence of semantic components in the structure of an unreal condition is, in fact, a linguistic invariant of the production model of knowledge representation. It allows for the presentation of knowledge in the form of an “if, then...” model with a direct inference from the “premise” to the “consequence,” limited by the time interval of the condition and consequence realization until the moment of speech. Since the possibility of fulfilling the condition is localized between reference points in the past, the change, in reality, resulting from its fulfillment, also occurs between these two points. Therefore, the predicate of the main sentence with an unreal condition is always used in tense forms like -irdi or -acak. For the unreal condition (the sphere of the unreal modality), the construction form is similar to the Ukrainian "...би...би" ("...by....by"), in which the condition particle is a grammaticalized verb "to be."

In their studies on the history of language development, Ukrainian linguists have demonstrated that in evolution, banality and conventionality, which are universal linguistic categories, are integrated into a single verbal mode - the conditional one. This allows us to assume that a similar process of transforming the borrowed verb "sar" has occurred in the Turkish language through the following stages: functioning as a full-fledged verb to express desire → the beginning of the grammaticalization process → expansion of the semantics of desire/transformation into a modal verb → addition of conditional semantics/transformation from a modal verb into an affix → final fixation of the meaning of condition/desire/completion of the affix transformation process → expansion of the paradigm of modal nuances based on the meaning of desire/condition.

As we know, conditional mood can express various shades of modality. This includes the component of unreality, which is typical for many languages, including Ukrainian.

A semi-real condition is formed by adding an affix to the root of the verb, and it does not contain a temporal component. This allows for creating the meaning of assumption, through which the speaker expresses their prediction about the future, not a fact that has already occurred or is in the process of realization: "İstedikleri en olmadık şeyleri yapşak bile verdikleri sözü tutmaz bunlar," dedi Lacivert (Orhan Pamuk, 320). – "Even if we do all the impossible things they want, they will not keep their word," said Lacivert. In such sentences, the time of action is determined by the main predicate: gelse söyledim (if he came, I would say) – gelse söyleyelim (if he comes, I will say). Sentences of this type are used to model hypotheses about the results of an action. Sentences of this type are used to model a hypothesis about the results of an action, to model the probability that the action can still be performed. In other words, it is a grammeme of unreality (hypotheticality). For example: "Bak aklima geldi: diyolar ki, bir kişişi, mesela eğitim enstitüsü müdürünü tuhaf bulup hemen assak, bunu canlı yayına televizyon'dan versek, bundan sonra bütün Kars mum gibi olur." (Kar, 78) – "Listen, what just came to my mind: they say that if we could find one person, for example, who killed the director of an educational institute, and hang him immediately, and if we could show it on live TV, then the whole of Kars would behave quietly and decently." This pole of the modality category describes events that cannot happen in the real world. Instead, they are described as alternatives that exist only in the speaker’s imagination. In other words, sentences with -so are used to model the speaker’s hypothetical interpretation of an alternative reality. At the same time, there is a possibility of its occurrence. Furthermore, sentences with a semi-real condition implement the grammeme of potentiality (possibility, necessity, desirability): "Burada ölm mi, Ipek’e ilani aşk mı etsem, pencereden dışarı mı baksam?" (Orhan Pamuk, 421) – “Should I die

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here, or declare my love to İpek, or look out of the window?" Hence, the possibility is linguistically modeled by this affix in a predicate without aspectual or temporal semantics since this meaning refers to the wish to act.

A variety of unreal modalities is an implicational one with a component of probability and likelihood of action execution. A subordinate clause, the predicate containing the affix -sa, complements the main clause, which realizes the meaning of assumption or conjecture. Often in such cases, the form "yaspa yaspa" is used (if someone does): "Ona bu teklif yaspa yaspa onun yaşarında biri yapabilirildi." (Emanet, 156) — "If there is anyone who could make her such an offer, it would be someone of her age." An assumption shows the speaker’s subjective assessment of what is being said. In other words, it determines how much information the speaker has. Schematically, we can represent such an order as follows:

\[ A(x) \rightarrow B(\text{if}(Y), \text{or} A(x) \rightarrow B(t) \]

At the same time, it should be noted that the temporal-aspectual form of the main clause predicate depends on the speaker’s communicative goal or the speaker’s confidence/doubt in the probability of the action being performed.

The form of the real condition, as well as the form of the unreal one, was formed as a result of grammaticalization of a complex construction, the first component of which is the participle, the second — the Old Turkic existential verb "to be" (ermek), which has been grammaticalized to the level of clitics: /+er-/ 2-ser+/ > /+ir-/ 3-ser+/ > /+iø-/ 4-seø+/ > /+i-se+/ > /+a-sA+/ <= > /+y-sA+/ (TÜRKÇEDE EK FİİL (I-) ÜZERİNE DÜŞÜNCELER Erol TOPAL, 651-652).

A real condition expresses the dependence of one action on another. At the same time, such an action is considered in perspective as one of the options for the evolution of events in the future: Gözlerini kaçırmamasına alındımsı ve dizi sona erince babasınaサンリ, "Gitmeyin istemiyorsanız, başkaları için yeterince acı çektiniz," dedemeden de alınmadı." (Orhan Pamuk, 241). — "He didn’t take it personally when she turned her eyes away, and he didn’t really think much of her father’s words, 'Don’t go if you don’t want to. You have already suffered enough for others,’ which he said as he hugged him when the show ended." (Orhan Pamuk, 241). As we can see, the affix takes second place in real-condition constructions.

It is natural to use the studied affix in constructions denoting a request/appeal/order. Therefore, during the study, we have recorded the usage of the morpheme for the fulfillment of numerous recursive communicative intentions. We can explain this by the presence of the desired semantic component and the logic of the subjunctive mood evolution. In particular, in modern Turkish, the affix can express the following meanings:

1) **Request.** When using this affix, the semantics of a request (with a shade of command) is realized. This form occupies an intermediate position on the politeness scale. In some cases, the morpheme is used to model the semantics of a command, which is perceived as quite rough: Ödesene Borcunu — Come on, pay your debt!

2) **Demand.** Depending on the context, such a demand can be softened by the desire component or, conversely, be perceived quite strictly: Yani o borcunu ödesen diyorum artık abartın!!!! — I’m telling you to pay your debt now because you’re completely screwed!!!!

3) **Proposal.** This is an address to the addressee oriented towards mutually beneficial cooperation that should benefit all participants: Bu akşam hep birlikte sinemaya gitsek — Maybe we could all go to the movies together tonight.

4) **Persuasion.** This is an address to the addressee in cases where argumentation is necessary to obtain benefits (mutual benefit), as the addressee does not accept the information communicated at face value. "Gelsene hadi korkma!" diye ona cesaret verdi. — “Come on, don’t be afraid!” he encouraged him.

5) **Justification.** It is used to clarify the innocence or conviction of a person’s rightness. Dudakları, saçları boyalı, başı açık, moda dérgilerindeki gibi çok şık, ama nasıl söylesem, asılnda çok da sadeydi. — With lipstick on her lips, dyed hair, and uncovered, she was very sophisticated, but how can I put it, very simple at the same time.

6) **Threat.** It is aimed at urging the performance of an action against one’s will. Hele bir yapsa — Let him just do it.

7) **Repentance.** A linguistic act aimed at acknowledging a person’s guilt and seeking forgiveness. "Evet ama oraya gitmeyeceksen bir ilke yüzünden gitmemeliyim, korktuğum için değil," dedi Turgut Bey. — “Yes, but if I’m not going there, I shouldn’t go because of a principle, not because I’m scared," said Turgut Bey.

8) **Advice.** The person who has to act is influenced by strong internal convictions or the influence of an external authority. The strength that drives the process is indicated nearby and can be substantivized and used as a subject: yapsa fena olmaz — It wouldn’t be wrong if he did this.

9) **Hint.** It encourages the addressee to think further. "Babaciğim bu şurada abla kardeş iki dakika konuṣsak." (Orhan Pamuk, 385) — "Dad, let us have a private conversation here as sisters."

5. **Discussions.**

Linguistic studies advocate the idea that grammatical indicators of modality are grammaticalized during the evolution from the unreal to the evaluative. Meanwhile, the grammeme of the unreal modality is developing towards an internal to an external one. The polysemy of modal predicates, which combines the meanings of unreal m and epistemic modalities, is observed worldwide in many structurally diverse languages. For example, in Turkish, as a result of evolutionary processes and partial grammaticalization, grammatical forms expressing the semantics of the likelihood of an action’s execution have formed the forms like -sa gerek and -miş olsa gerek: "Sözün bittiği yer de bu olsa gerek." — “Probably, this is the moment when there are no more words."
As we can see, the affix -sa, combined with an auxiliary verb, forms constructions where the semantics of desire and condition are lost. Instead, these forms express assumptions and their syntactic function changes. In addition, verbs in the subjunctive (a grammatical category of the verb that combines all grammatical forms and constructions to indicate "conditionality") have a range of additional meanings besides the actual meanings of unreal, hypothetical, and real conditions.

Additional semantic components of the affix that emerged during its grammaticalization include comparison and juxtaposition. They are formed by conjunctive forms of the tense stem (-yorsam, -diyarsam, -mişsam, etc.) with interrogative words (Sorokin, 2009, p. 152): "Demirkol gibiler hâlâ ona bir şey söylememişse hiçbir zaman da farklı etmeyecekti" (Orhan Pamuk, 360) - "Even if people like Demirkol had not told him anything yet, he would never have noticed it."

In the diachronic plane, there is a greater number of such constructions and expressions denoting comparison, for example:

- Construction **olursa olsun** (whatever it may be): "Biz asında hikâyede anlat该县dan da yakınız birbirimiz ve birbirimizden ne kadar uzak olursak alalım o andı diğerinin ne yaptığını söyleyebiliriz!" (Orhan Pamuk, 109) - "In fact, we are closer to each other than I have described in this novel, and no matter how far we are from each other, we can understand what the other one is doing at this moment!"
- Forms of **-sa da/-se de**, denoting "even if/when, no matter how much:" "Ne kadar prova yapsak da her şey sahnede o an hissettiklerimizle belirlienecek" (Orhan Pamuk, 117) - "No matter how much we rehearse, everything will become clear on stage thanks to what we feel at that moment."
- Constructions such as **ne -sa**, denoting "no matter how much/whatever you do": O ne yapsa iyi yapanlardandır - Whatever he does, he is always on top.
- Forms like ne -se ....-sin, which means "whatever person does, it doesn’t matter..." (her ne kadar konușsa) - no matter what anyone says.

Besides the condition, a component of the affix's conceptual microfield includes the semantic zone of the wish. It combines the unreal condition and the subjective modality of evaluation. Usually, the wish is expressed by incomplete sentences where the -sa/se affix expresses significance, aspiration, and expectations: "Yüzümü azıcık renk gelse hiç fena olmaz" (Güven Bana, 377) - "If only the blush returned to my face it would be good."

It should be noted that incomplete sentences usually express the same meaning. In addition, incomplete sentences can be used to express overall wishes to prevent anything bad from happening: "Çok gülük, başımıza bir iş gelmese bari - we laughed too much, I wish nothing wrong would happen to us."

6. Conclusions

Consequently, in light of all the above, we can summarize that modality is a universal linguistic category that belongs to the basic categories of speech activity. It is present in every sentence since it is intended to express various types of speaker’s attitudes to the real world. In modern Turkish, the classical definition of the unreal, semi-real, and real condition is formed by the affix -sa. It often simultaneously realizes not only the modal meaning but also the temporal or the aspectual one. The sequence of semantic components in the construction of the unreal condition is a linguistic invariant of the productive knowledge representation model. This model allows the expression of knowledge in the form of the "if...then" model with a direct conclusion in the direction of "premise" - "consequence."

Meanwhile, the semi-real condition is formed by adding an affix to the verb root. At the same time, it does not contain a temporal component, which allows the meaning of assumption to be formed, through which speakers express their forecasts about the future. The real conditional form expresses the dependence of one action on another in perspective in the same way as the unreal conditional form. It was formed as a result of the grammaticalization of a complex construction. Its first component is the participle, and the second is the Old Turkic existential verb "to be" (ermek), which has been grammaticalized to the level of clitics.

The sequence of formants in the construction of the semantics of an unreal condition is as follows: the condition affix (in the preposition), and the affix that expresses the temporal meaning. During the formation of a semi-real condition, the formant does not have a temporal indicator since, in hypothetical constructions, there is an evident opposition between the real and the desired one. At the same time, in the verbal modeling of a real condition, the temporal marker is placed in the preposition to the condition affix.

The -sa affix is used in Turkish to express numerous recursive communicative intentions. It can also express such meanings in a lexeme as request, demand, offer, persuasion, and justification. They are used to explain the innocence or conviction of a person’s rightness, a threat aimed at inducing an action to be performed against one’s will, repentance, advice, or a hint.

Ethical considerations

Not applicable.

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