VP Hypostasis Meets Facebook

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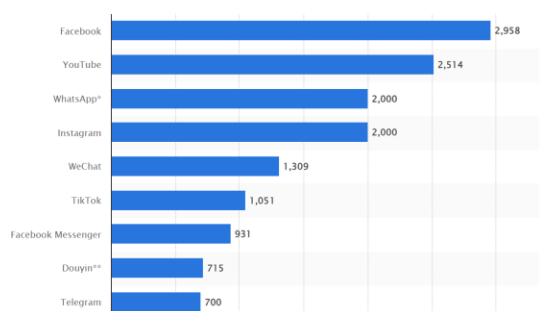
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words that surround us every day influence the words we use. Simpson (2014) [1]

ABSTRACT

The internet, as a new and exponentially growing medium of language production, creates the frames of critical revision of previous ideas about written and spoken language and social contexts of their use. The regularities of spontaneous speech in the communicative types of social media can be empirically collected on a significant scale and in a representative manner.

Keywords: Internet, VP hypostasis, medium of language production, communicative types

The content produced on the internet and for the internet is mainly divided between the social media, in which Facebook takes the leading role and English is in the unchallenged first position among the most frequently used languages. (Chat 1.)

Chat 1. Internet languages and platforms (2023)[2]

Most popular social networks worldwide as of January 2023, ranked by number of monthly active users(in millions)
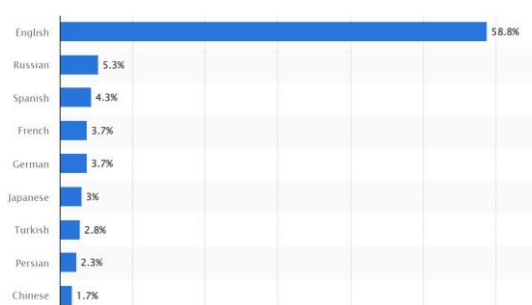
Languages most frequently used for web content as of January 2023, by share of websites

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[1] Simpson, J. (2014). Oxford Dictionary. Oxford University Press. Retrieved from http://blog.oxforddictionaries.com/2014/06/social-mediachanging-language/

[2] https://www.statista.com/, (8.08.2023, 7:20).

It has been observed that in social media not only other forms and dynamics of communication are created, but also new linguistic structures are transcribed.
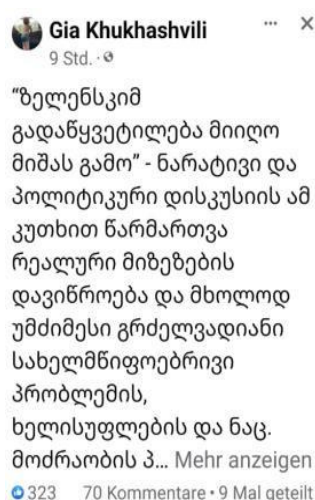
> „*One oft he results oft he rise of sites such as Facebook ist hat they have transformed the ways in which people can interact. They do not simply offer an alternative way of engaging in the same forms of communiacative interaction that were available prior to their emergence; they also provide a number of notably different communicative dynamics and structures.*"[3]

The amount of VP hypostasis found in Georgian-language Facebook provides evidence for the assumption that the social media language is a favourable environment for generating and using such structures. The question of the pragmatic aspects of the use of VP hypostasis designs the problem of interactive context as well as the media of communication. Can spontaneous, unplanned and written language, such as social media language, account for the initial creation, use and usualisation of VP-hypostasis? What role does the actual morphosyntactic structure of standard language play in this?

VP hypostasis is defined as a finite clausal construction that can occupy either of two possible structural positions in the noun phrase. It can occur in the syntactic roles of the head noun or the subordinate member of the head noun. Its internal syntactic structure is not what it represents externally. The VP hypostasis represents the morphosyntactic operationalisation of the finite clause for the syntactic positions within the noun phrase.

(Geo)   Source: facebook

1.1   1.2

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[3] Seargeant, P. C. Tagg (Ed.) (2014) The Language of Social Media: Identity and Community on the Internet. Palgrave Macmilan. New York. P. 2.

zelenskim gadacqveṭileba miiġo mišas gamo - naraṭivi šendauka xalxia ra

zelenskim	gadacqveṭileba	miiġo	šen	dauka	xalxi-a	ra
*Zelenskji*Erg	*desision*Nom	*made*Past.3Sg	*you*ERG	*play*Imp2Sg	People-CopPres	Part

mišas	gamo -	naraṭivi	Adhortativ
*Misha*Dat	about	*Narrative*Nom	(They) are come-on-(and)-play people.

„Zelenskji made the decision about Misha" - Narrative.

(In sense of) Thay are funny, frivolous people.

In example 1.1, there is a noun phrase to which a finite clausal construction is subordinated:

Attr   N
Zelenkji made the decision about Misha   Narrative
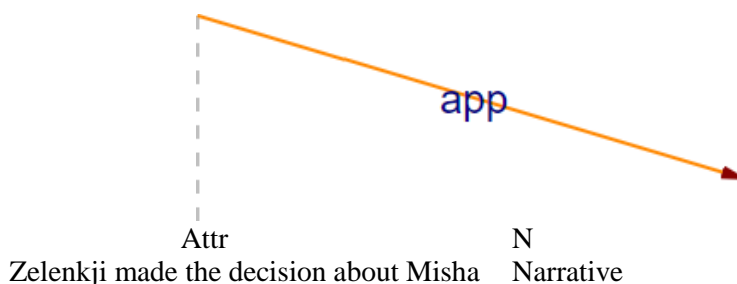
The head noun "Narrative" in 1.1. governs a sentence construction within the framework of the noun morphology of Georgian (nominative, singular) and is itself built into a higher-level sentence construction as the subject of the sentence. Below and above the head noun in the syntactic hierarchy are morphologically identical constructions which have syntactically different statuses (Chat 2.).
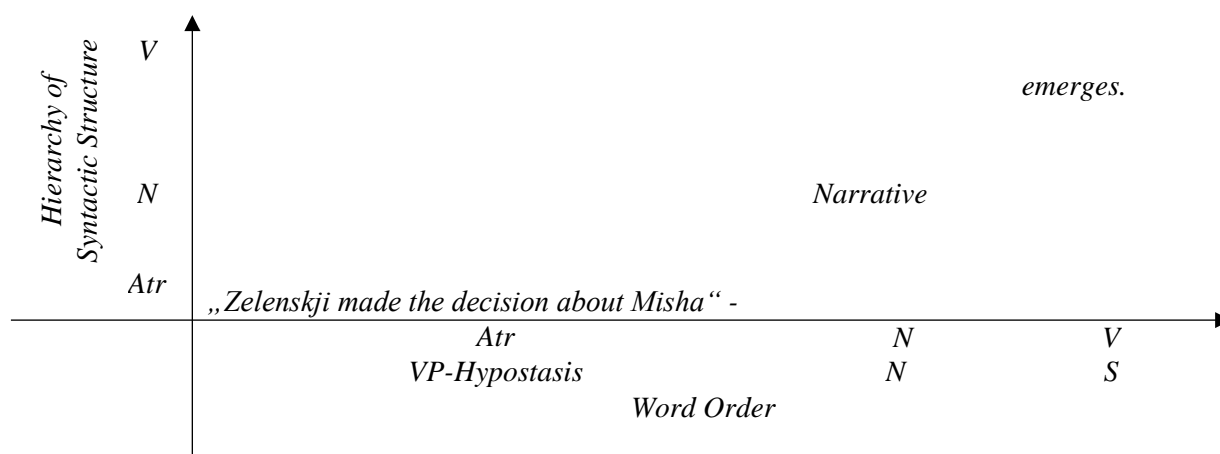
Chat 2. Linear and hierarchical dimensions of construction with VP hypostasis.

However, the syntactically subordinate member can be analysed context-free with a higher syntactic status than NP:
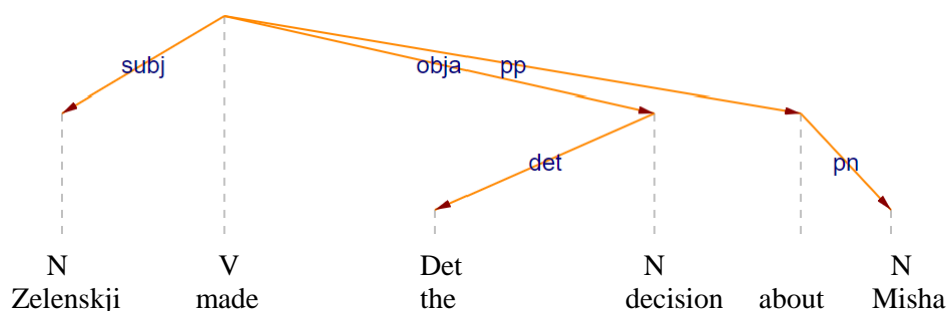
In example 1.2. the analysis for 1.1. can be adopted identically. However, two important characteristics of VP hypostasis are added here: a. The cultural background of the phrase in the imperative is necessary for the interpretation.

VP hypostasis can be considered on two levels. At the morphosyntactic level, VP hypostasis represent remarkable structures that organise the overlapping of syntactic and morphological rules differently depending on the particular language. In Georgian, VP hypostasis can occur both as subordinate members of the NP and the head noun itself. The latter is especially the case when VP-hypostasis is a rendering of foreign speech or an ellipsis. In such cases, extra-linguistic information is necessary for coherent semantic interpretation. This property of VP-hypostasis creates the second -application- oriented, pragmatic- dimension of consideration. Especially in the context of social media language, VP hypostasis appear as triggers and indicators of certain social discourses. The discourse-linguistic function of VP-hypostasis, which is the least studied, makes the usage aspect clear: VP-hypostasis are particularly well suited to encode the semantic focus of discourses or to make discourses accessible. Without the knowledge of discourse, VP hypostasis remain semantically difficult to interpret. In the social media, VP hypostasis can also mark a part of the network (the bubble) and only function in the discourses within the network part.