**Seminar 3. Introduction to Syntax**

**Outline**

1. The Nature of Syntax. Syntax as the rules of sentence structure. Why do we need rules of syntax in language?

* Task: Provide 5 jumbled sentences for your groupmates to rearrange into correct English word order (SVO).

2. Phrases: Definition and Characteristics. Phrase vs sentence. General characteristics of phrases (non-communicative, dependent unit).

* Task: Classify as “phrase” or “sentence.” Explain why.
  + a big house →
  + He opened the door. →
  + to read a book →
  + They are playing football. →
  + without any doubt →
  + The sun is shining. →
  + in the morning →
  + She works at a bank. →
  + some old books →
  + We went to Paris last summer. →
  + very clever student →
  + I can see the stars. →
  + to speak loudly →
  + The train arrives at 9. →
  + beyond the horizon →

3. Types of Phrases. Traditional Classification (nounal, verbal, adjectival, adverbial). Prof. Blokh’s Classification. Bloomfield’s Classification. Internal Structure: Kernel vs Kernel-free.

* Task: Work in pairs to label phrases as endocentric or exocentric.
  + 1Traditional (nounal, verbal, adjectival, adverbial)
    - red flower → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - a very clever boy → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - to see a movie → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - very quickly → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - absolutely positive → \_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Prof. Blokh’s Classification
    - in a moment → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - without doubt → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - must be able → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - clever student → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - beautiful garden → \_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Bloomfield’s Examples
    - he gave → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - to the girl → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - flowers and chocolate → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - tall and slim → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - she runs → \_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Internal Structure (Kernel vs Kernel-free)
    - a nice place → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - well-known artist → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - more or less → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - red and green apples → \_\_\_\_\_\_
    - rather difficult → \_\_\_\_\_\_
* Task: Create 2 kernel and 2 kernel-free examples.

4. Syntactic Connections.

* Task: Classify phrases into 3 syntactic connection groups.
  + sense and sensibility
  + red flower
  + to give the boy an apple
  + black and white
  + some old lady
  + flowers and chocolate
  + problematic issues
  + to give an apple to the boy
  + clever student
  + big and strong
  + small house
  + more or less
  + happy and cheerful
  + beautiful garden
  + these important questions

5. Syntactic Relations.

* Task: Identify relation type.
  + that chair – those chairs
  + these books – this book
  + my friend – my friends
  + to rely on him
  + to be proud of her
  + listen to music
  + depend on us
  + to nod silently
  + to act cautiously
  + to speak loudly
  + walked slowly
  + she smiled happily
  + his car – their cars
  + trust in God
  + laugh loudly

**References**

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