

NP/Clause parallels: functional categories - JAN RIJKHOFF (AARHUS UNIVERSITY)

1. In cross-linguistic research (typology, grammatical theory) categories should basically be defined in functional terms (FUNCTIONAL SAMENESS). Within these functional categories, formal and semantic criteria may then be used to define categories containing members that are similar enough to be compared across-languages (FORMAL / SEMANTIC SIMILARITY):

FUNCTIONAL CATEGORY: ADNOMINAL QUALIFYING MODIFIER				
SEMANTIC SUBCATEGORIES:	FORMAL SUBCATEGORIES:			
	• ADJECTIVE	• PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE	• REL. CLAUSE	• ...
• SIZE	<i>short N</i>	<i>N of short stature</i>	<i>N that was rather small</i>	
• VALUE / QUALITY	<i>expensive N</i>	<i>N of great value</i>	...	
• AGE	<i>young N</i>	<i>N under age 16</i>	...	
• COLOR	<i>red N</i>	<i>N of incredible redness</i>	...	
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2. NPs and clauses can be analyzed in terms of the same functional modifier categories (up to a point):

MODIFIERS IN THE NOUN PHRASE

- 4. DISCOURSE-REFERENTIAL MODIFIERS
- 3. LOCALIZING MODIFIERS
- 2. QUANTIFYING MODIFIERS
- 1. QUALIFYING MODIFIERS
- 0. CLASSIFYING MODIFIERS

MODIFIERS IN THE SENTENCE

- 6. ILLOCUTIONARY MODIFIERS
- 5. PROPOSITION MODIFIERS
- 4. DISCOURSE-REFERENTIAL MODIFIERS
- 3. LOCALIZING MODIFIERS
- 2. QUANTIFYING MODIFIERS
- 1. QUALIFYING MODIFIERS
- 0. CLASSIFYING MODIFIERS



3. Functional categories make it possible to capture

- grammatical *differences* between members of the *same* form class (e.g. Dutch Prepositional Phrases with *van* 'of')
- grammatical *similarities* between members of *different* form classes (e.g. Dutch Adj & PPs with *van* 'of'):

FUNCTIONAL CATEGORY / FORMAL CATEG.	MODIFICATION	PREDICATION	REFERENCE
LOCALIZING MODIFIER / PP <i>de fiets van mijn vader</i> 'the bike of my father'	+	+	+ (reference to an entity)
QUALIFYING MODIFIER / PP <i>beelden van grote kwaliteit</i> 'statues of great quality'	++	+	+ (reference to a property)
QUALIFYING MODIFIER / PP&ADJ <i>een kroon van goud</i> 'a crown of gold' <i>de dure kroon</i> 'an expensive crown'	+	+	—
CLASSIFYING MODIFIER / PP <i>een man van gezag</i> 'a man of authority' <i>een man van vele gezichten</i> 'a man of many faces'	++	—	—
CLASSIFYING MODIFIER / PP&ADJ <i>een presidentiële verkiezing</i> 'a presidential election' <i>een man van de wereld</i> 'a man of the world'	—	—	—

(++ = internal modifier obligatory, as in: *een oudere man van geringe lengte* 'an elderly man of short stature')

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