

## THE ADDRESSEE AS A SEMANTIC ACTANT OF THE PASSIVE DIATHESES

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*Presented by the Institute of Foreign Languages at the Tskhum-Abkhazian Academy of Sciences*

**Abstract.** The theoretical basis of the study is the theory of diatheses which is founded on the so – called conceptual – situational scheme and is considered as a semantic or a deep syntactic level. In the present article the passive diatheses in which the subject of the sentence is in correlation with the semantic actant – the addressee is analysed. The singled out 11 types of passive diatheses differ from one another by existence /non-existence of additional semantic-syntactic correlations. The purpose of the study is to detect the additional semantic-syntactic correlations by which different diatheses in which the subject is in correlation with the addressee differ. In the article there is given a list of the singled out types of diatheses with a relative frequency of each of them, i.e. its share in the general volume of the selection. Each diathesis is provided with examples from the plays and the dialogic extracts of modern British and American authors. The variants of the passive diatheses are presented as schemes of correspondence of the participants of the situation to the members of the sentence.

**Keywords:** *Passive diatheses, semantic actant, correlation, the addressee.*

A. A. Kholodovich, the founder of the theory of diatheses, describes the category of diatheses as a scheme of correspondence between the units of the syntactic level and the units of the semantic level, i.e. the situation of coercion, and the category of voice as a regular reflection of this correspondence in a verb, in other words, the voice is defined as a diathesis grammatically marked in a verb. (1,2) In our present research the following components of the semantic level (the situation of coercion) are singled out, which, as the investigated material shows, are relevant for the study of the passive in English:

1. Predicate (the central component).
2. Actants (relevant participants): an agent, an experiencer, a patient, an addressee, a resultative and an instrumental [2, 89-92; 3].

3. The attributes of the participants and the predicate. They are components of the situation of coercion supplementing and amplifying, elucidating the secondary semantic actants.
4. Circumstances (conditions in which the predicate is realized) [2, 89-92; 3; 4; 5,86-93].

The predicates (action, psychophysiological activity and relation) predetermine both the choice of the participants and the variants of the diatheses [6; 7,226; 8, 6; 9, 78].

The agent is a primary actant, a person or a non-person, carrying out some action (physical or psychophysiological) over the object (a person or a non-person). E.g.:1) Joseph was shot dead by Mullin's accomplice. 2) The door was opened for them by the girl.

The experiencer is a person experiencing some inner psychic state, perception or attitude. E.g., He is regarded by a son or by a daughter as he himself once regarded them.

The patient is a secondary actant, a person or a non-person to which the coercion is directed. E.g.: We weren't wanted by our families.

The addressee is a secondary semantic actant to which the coercion of the predicate is addressed. E.g., I sent my friend a present.

The resultative is a secondary actant, the result arising from the causative predicate of an action. The resultative is not an object of an action. It is the result of this action. E.g., "...twenty years ago two synthetic beings had been made."

The instrumental is a secondary actant with the help of which or with the participation of which the action of the agent is carried. E.g., He was fed with a spoon.

In the investigated material there were singled out passive diatheses in which the addressee correlates with the subject of the sentence. The addressee is defined by some authors as a beneficiary [10,171; 11, 15; 12, 30; 13, 67].

U. L. Chafe gives the following examples to illustrate the role of a beneficiary (=an addressee):

1. Tom has (or Tom's got) the tickets.
2. Tom owns a convertible.
3. Tom lost the tickets.
4. Tom found the tickets.
5. Mary bought Tom a convertible.
6. Mary sold Tom a convertible.
7. Mary gave Tom the ticket and so on.

U. L. Chafe remarks that the beneficiary may combine with a state, an action and a process. (10, 170–175). As it is seen in the aforecited examples, a beneficiary is a person deriving benefit or damage from what is reported in the sentence.

M. A. K. Halliday correlates the role of a beneficiary with an object or a person, deriving benefit or damage from the process, described in the sentence. This role is fulfilled by the arguments expressed by the syntactical elements John, to John, for John, that door in the sentences: He gave John a book. He gave the book to John. John was given the book. Give that door another coat of paint [1453].

L. P. Chakhoyan defines the beneficiary as a functional – semantic component of the sentence denoting a person for whose benefit or detriment (damage) an action is carried [10, 15].

In our research we discovered 11 passive diatheses with the correlation of the addressee of the semantic level with the subject of the syntactic level. Below we are giving a list of these diatheses with a relative frequency of each of them, i.e. its share in the general volume of the selection. The diatheses are illustrated by the examples from the plays by modern British and American authors. The examples are explained and analysed. The members singled out in the examples signify the correlations peculiar for the given diatheses. The passive diatheses are presented as schemes of correspondence of the participants of the situation to the members of the sentence. The predicate in our schemes is not represented as it is present everywhere.

1) D 1 (32,7 %) addressee

Subject

It is a one-member diathesis and is represented by the greatest number of examples out of all the diatheses of that group. It reflects a correlation of the addressee with the subject of the sentence. E.g., 1) “Can’t you stop when you’re spoken to? “2) “I’m a professional. I got paid. “The italicized members in these examples are subjects of the sentences and addressees of the situations of coercion.

2) D 2 (2,6 %) addressee -----agent

Subject ----- prepositional object

Here, besides the main correlation of the addressee to the subject, there is a correlation of the agent of the situation of coercion to the prepositional object of the sentence. E.g., “I only get paid by King Ferdinand.” In this sentence “I” is the subject of the sentence and at the same time it is the addressee of the corresponding conceptual scheme. “By King Ferdinand “is a prepositional object and in the conceptual scheme it is an agent.

3) D 3 (23,4 %) addressee ----- patient

Subject ----- direct object

The given diathesis represents a correlation of the addressee with the subject and of the patient with the direct object. E.g., “Do you think you’re allowed a drink?”, where “you” is the subject correlating with the addressee and “a drink” is a direct object correlating with a patient.

4) D 4 (0,06 %) addressee ----- instrumental

Subject ----- prepositional object

The given diathesis besides the main correlation introduces the correspondence of the instrumental with the prepositional object. This type of diatheses was registered in our selection in a limited number. E.g. “He says that only 200 families will be provided for by that project.” “200 families” is the subject of the syntactical structure which in the semantic level is represented by an addressee and “by that project” is a prepositional object representing the semantic actant --- an instrumental.

5) D 5(0,8 %) addressee ----- patient ----- agent

Subject -----direct object ----- prepositional object

It is a three-member diathesis. In it correspondences of the addressee with the subject, of the patient with the direct object, of the agent with the prepositional object are observed. E.g., “You’d be asked the same sort of price by some backstreet merchant in Paddington.” Here “you” is the subject representing the addressee of the situation, “the same sort of price” is a direct object, a correlate of the patient, and “by some backstreet merchant” is a prepositional object denoting the agent of the situation.

6) D 6 (0,06 %) addressee ----- resultative

Subject ----- direct object

In the given scheme there figures a resultative correlating with the direct object on the syntactical level. E. g., “I’d been done a real injustice”. “I” and “a real injustice” in the surface –syntactic structure represent a subject and a direct object respectively and in the deep - semantic level -- an addressee and a resultative.

7) D 7 (2,06 %) addressee ----- attribute

Subject ----- prepositional object

The attribute in the given diathesis discloses the content of the predicate and is designated by the prepositional object. E.g., “You’ve been told about it, have you?” Here “you” represents a correlation of the addressee with the subject and “about it” --- of the attribute with the prepositional object.

8) D 8 (24, 1 %) addressee ----- attribute

Complex subject

In the given diathesis two semantic actants are denoted by one syntactic member, namely, the addressee and the attribute are rendered in the surface structure by a complex subject, as in

the example : “ Standbys are advised to be at Gate Twenty-seven with their numbered boarding passes .” Here the addressee “ Standbys “ and the attribute “ to be at Gate Twenty-seven with their numbered boarding passes “ are correlates of a complex subject .

9) D 9 (0,6 %) addressee ----- attribute ----- agent

Complex subject ----- prepositional object

In the given diathesis, as different from the previous one, there figures an agent in the conceptual situation which correlates with the prepositional object. E.g., “I was told by Uncle Constantine to show you this.” The construction “ Complex Subject “ “ I ... to show you this “ signifies an addressee and an attribute and the prepositional object “ by uncle Constantine “ --- - the agent of the situation .

10) D 10 (13,02 %) addressee ----- attribute

Subject ----- object subordinate clause

As different from the previous two diatheses (D8 and D9), the addressee in the given scheme is represented by the subject and the attribute of the predicate is expressed by the object subordinate clause. E.g., “Have you been told why I am peculiar? “In the given sentence “you” is the subject of the syntactic level and the addressee of the semantic one, whereas “why I am peculiar “is an object subordinate clause correlating with the attribute of the predicate.

11) D 11 (0,6 %) addressee ----- attribute ----- agent

Subject ----- object subordinate clause ----- prepositional object

As it is characteristic of all the above – analysed diatheses, the given scheme reflects a correlation of the addressee (a semantic actant) with the subject (a member of the sentence). Besides, the attribute correlates with the object subordinate clause and the agent ---- with the prepositional object. E.g., “..... On arrival here he was informed by the maid – servant that Miss Marple was not at home “.

The lowest quota of agents and experiencers falls on the diatheses in which the subject correlates with the addressee; 95, 1% falls on the diatheses with an unexpressed agent or experiencer.

The instrumental in the given diatheses is expressed only in 0, 1 % cases.

The greatest number of examples is registered with one – member diatheses D1 representing only a correlation of the addressee and the subject. Then come diatheses D8 in which two semantic actants (an addressee and an attribute) correspond to one syntactic actant (complex subject), D3, where besides the main correlation there is a correlation of the patient with the direct object, D10 where besides the main correlation, there is a correlation of an attribute with an object subordinate clause.

As the result of the analysis of the extensive factual material conducted above it can be maintained with confidence that the shares of the passive diatheses given in the present article are characteristic of the English dialogic speech.

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## ადრესატი, როგორც პასიური დიათეზების სემანტიკური აქტანტი

ემა კილანავა

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*წარმოადგინა ცხუმ-აფხაზეთის მეცნიერებათა აკადემიის უცხო ენების  
ინსტიტუტმა*

**აბსტრაქტი.** მოცემულ კვლევას თეორიულ საფუძვლად უდევს დიათეზების თეორია, რომელიც ეფუძნება ე.წ. აზრობრივ-სიტუაციურ სქემას და განიხილება, როგორც სემანტიკური ან სიღრმისეულ-სინტაქსური დონე. დიათეზა წარმოადგენს კორელაციას აზრობრივ-სემანტიკური (სიღრმისეულ-სინტაქსური) და ზედაპირულ-სინტაქსური დონეების კომპონენტებს შორის.

მოცემულ ნაშრომში გამოვყოფთ გვარის პრობლემისათვის რელევანტურ შემდეგ კომპონენტებს: პრედიკატი, აქტანტები --- ზემოქმედების სიტუაციის რელევანტური პარტიციპანტები (აგენსი, ექსპერიენცერი, პაციენსი, ადრესატი, რეზულტატივი, ინსტრუმენტალი), ატრიბუტები --- ზემოქმედების სიტუაციის კომპონენტები, რომლებიც თან ახლავს მეორად სემანტიკურ აქტანტებსა და პრედიკატს, ხსნის და ავსებს მათ; ცირკუმსტანტები --- ზემოქმედების ან აღქმის აქტის მიმდინარეობის პირობები.

ნაშრომში განიხილება პასიური დიათეზები, რომლებშიც წინადადების ქვემდებარე კორელაციაშია სემანტიკურ აქტანტ ადრესატთან. გამოყოფილი ჯგუფები შეიცავს დიათეზებს, რომლებიც განსხვავდება ერთმანეთისაგან დამატებითი სემანტიკურ-სინტაქსური კორელაციების არსებობა-არარსებობით. კვლევის მიზანია დადგინდეს დამატებითი სემანტიკურ-სინტაქსური კორელაციები, რომლებითაც განსხვავდება სხვადასხვა დიათეზები, რომლებშიც ქვემდებარე კორელაციაშია ადრესატთან. ფაქტობრივი მასალის კვლევის დროს ჩვენ აღმოვაჩინეთ 11 ტიპის პასიური დიათეზა, სადაც მთავარი კორელაცია არის ქვემდებარე - ადრესატი, და დავადგინეთ ყოველი მათგანის ხვედრითი წონა.

გამოკვლევისათვის გამოვიყენეთ წინადადებები, რომლებიც შეიცავს ზმნებს პასივის პირიან ფორმებში. მაგალითები შეირჩა თანამედროვე ამერიკელი და ბრიტანელი მწერლების პიესებისა და პროზაული ნაწარმოებების დიალოგებიდან.

ექსტენსიური ფაქტობრივი მასალის კვლევის შედეგად დადგინდა, რომ სტატიაში მოცემული პასიური დიათეზები და მათი ხვედრითი წონა დამახასიათებელია ინგლისური დიალოგური მეტყველებისათვის.

*საკვანძო სიტყვები: პასიური დიათეზები, სემანტიკური აქტანტი, კორელაცია, ადრესატი.*