

Abstract

In this theoretical study, where I virtually study instinctive characteristics of grammar in terms of universal principles, what I try to put forth is the existence of a relation between the organisation of words and morphemes into larger units of a language and the human's most basic and primal instinct. The organisation of words and morphemes into larger units of a language may be assumed to be independent from the three aspects of the human mind: the id, ego, and super ego, theorized by Freud's psychoanalytic theories. The logical frame of the ideas suggested in the study is based on respected linguistic and psychoanalytic theories and approaches. Chomsky's ideas on grammar are interpreted by Freudian psychoanalysis in order to question psychoanalytic origins of grammar in mind. Accordingly, universal grammar modules as well as traditional ones are categorized according to three aspects of mind and their instinctive origins. Based on the assumption that the relation between the universal grammar principles and the lexical or functional categories emerging as a result of those principles, just like other conscious or unconscious behaviours, are in fact related to basic instincts and mental aspects, I tried to reinterpret and explain the psychoanalytic grounds of grammar principles and modules through psychoanalysis. As a consequence, I arrived at a conclusion that considering grammar as a product of mind, this inborn competence as a mental product shows similarities with the aspects of the human mind such as id, ego, super ego and basic instincts.

Keywords: psychoanalysis; grammar; instincts; syntax; representation

Özet

Asıl olarak evrensel ilkeler açısından dilbilgisinin içgüdüsel itkilerini incelediğim bu kuramsal çalışmada, ortaya koymaya çalıştığım şey, sözcüklerin ve biçimbirimlerin bir araya gelerek dilin daha büyük birimlerini oluştururken işletilen sözdizimsel mekanizmanın insanlığın en temel ve en ilkel içgüdüsel ile benzer yönlerinin olduğu ve zihinsel katmanların işleyişi ile ilişkili olduğudur. Bu nedenle, sözcüklerin ve biçimbirimlerin bir dilin daha büyük birimlerine dönüşmesi Freud'un psikanalitik kuramıyla açıklanan alt benlik, benlik ve üst benlik gibi insan zihninin katmanlarından bağımsız olmadığı varsayılabilir. Bu kuramsal çalışmada Chomsky'nin dilbilgisi hakkında öne sürdüğü görüşler dilbilgisinin zihindeki psikanalitik köklerini sorgulamak için Freud psikanalizi ile tekrar yorumlanmıştır. Buna göre, evrensel dilbilgisi ilkeleri ve geleneksel dilbilgisi konuları eşleştirilerek zihnin üç katmanına ve olası içgüdüsel kaynaklarına göre sınıflandırıldı. Evrensel dilbilgisi ilkeleri ile sözlü veya işlevsel kategoriler arasındaki ilişkinin aslında diğer bilinçli veya bilinçdışı davranışlar gibi temel içgüdüler ve zihinsel katmanlarla ilişkili olduğu varsayımına dayanarak, evrensel dilbilgisi ilkelerini psikanalizin temel kuramlarıyla farklı bir bakış açısıyla açıklamaya çalıştım. Sonuç olarak, dilbilgisinin bir zihinsel ürün olduğunu dikkate alarak, bu doğuştan beraberimizde getirdiğimiz zihinsel ürünün alt benlik, benlik, üst benlik ve içgüdüler gibi insan zihninin farklı işlev ve alanlarının işlevsel özellikleriyle benzerlik gösterdiği sonucuna vardım.

Anahtar Sözcükler: psikanaliz; dilbilgisi; içgüdüler; sözdizimi; gösterim

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Introduction

At your first glance at the first part of the title of the study, you may fall into a preconceived opinion about what the fetish word is substitute for in the article. However, when going on reading the lines describing grammar as “a system by which the words and morphemes of a language are organized into larger units, particularly into sentences, perceived as existing independently of any attempt at describing it,” you will justify me on how much proper the title is for the article (Trask, 1993: 121). The deeper you observe, the clearer you see that the organization appears as an instinct generative complementary relation between words. Therefore, in this theoretical study, what I try to put forth is the existence of a relation between this organization of words and morphemes into larger units of a language and the human’s most basic and primal instincts, due to which I ironically entitled this study as ‘Sex of the Words’, where I virtually study instinctive characteristics of grammar in terms of universal principles. Throughout the study, you will find different linguistic ideas on organization of words and morphemes ranging from the classical approaches to present date and an effort to establish a relation between this organization and basic instincts.

The approaches to the syntactic relations between the words and morphemes so far have covered several methods such as taxonomic, descriptive, prescriptive or structuralist grammars as well as the Universal Grammar (UG) in the twentieth century. While the prescriptive grammar lays out rules about the structure of a language, descriptive grammar, on the other hand, is described as “an approach to grammar, in which linguists study, observe or explain how a particular language exists and is used. “Its primary object is to identify the forms and usages which are considered by the analyst to be ‘correct’ and ‘proscribe’ the forms and usages felt to be incorrect” (Trask, 1993: 215). For this approach, linguistic facts are described as they are observed (Trask, 1993: 80). Chomsky (1986) criticizes this approach to grammar in that “descriptive linguistics held the idea that each language must be studied in its own terms”, which contrasts with the notion of universality of grammatical properties” as suggested by Chomskian UG (Chomsky, 1986: p. 19). As for Saussure’s structuralism, linguistic system introduces systematic relationships between a signifier, a sign and a signified form the meaning. It holds the theory that language can be analyzed as “a formal system of differential elements, apart from the messy dialectics of real-time production and comprehension” (Saussure, 1983: 121). According to Saussure, “the sign is the organizing concept for the linguistic structure and it is used to express the conventional nature of language” (Halliday, 1977: 113). Bloomfield's behaviorist approach to linguistics, however, is based on behaviorism for the analysis of linguistic data. Bloomfield grounded his ideas as to the principles of behaviorism (i.e. stimuli and reaction) (Bloomfield, 1965: 32). Structural grammar in its broader sense as a traditional approach is criticized by Chomsky (1986) in that structural and descriptive linguistics, behavioral psychology, and other contemporary approaches tend to view the language as a collection of actions, or utterances, or linguistic forms (words, sentences) paired with meanings rather than a cognitive system. Views on grammar also introduce the taxonomic approach classifying different types of syntactic structures found in a language into classes. Accordingly, “the purpose of syntactic analysis is to identify the syntactic units in a sentence and specify their grammatical categories (e.g. noun, verb, adjective etc.) as well as grammatical functions (e.g. subject, predicate, complement etc.)” (Radford, 2004: 1). Classified as representational linguistics, ‘dependency grammar’ of Tesnière (1959) involves syntactic theories based on dependency relations and introducing the verb as the center of the clause. This approach to organization of words and morphemes into larger units proposes a sophisticated formalization of syntactic structures, involving one-to-one correspondence between lexical or morphological constituents and syntactical units. For every

constituent (e.g. lexeme or morpheme) in the sentence, there is only one node in the syntactical order, corresponding to that constituent (Kiran ve Kiran, 2010: 142-146). It should be noted that the approaches outlined above regard the grammar of any language as separated properties which must be studied in their own terms. Chomsky (1986) comments on this common approach and criticizes it by stating “It is important to bear in mind that the study of one language may provide crucial evidence concerning the structure of some other language” (p.38). However, the ideas on the relations between the words in the syntactic structures cited so far cannot be claimed to provide this universal evidence which is also true for other languages. Rather, they layout language particular relations between syntactical or morphological constituents. That is why I separated Chomskian grammar from the introduction part laying out overall grammar approaches up-to-date and describe it in a new separated paragraph. When Chomsky’s ideas on grammar are explained by human basic instincts as suggested by Freudian psychoanalysis, a new approach to the relations between words and morphemes in the syntactical structures occurs. This approach to grammar, as a conclusion, may be described as simple as an instinct and as natural as a human.

1.1. Chomskian Grammar

Although the grammar approaches outlined above are criticized and rejected, they are in a certain sense regarded as complementary (Chomsky, 1986). In fact, as stated in Chomsky’s words, “however valuable as they obviously are, traditional grammars are deficient in that they leave unexpressed many of the basic regularities of the language with which they are concerned” (Chomsky, 2014:5). According to him, “although such grammars may contain full and explicit lists of exceptions and irregularities, they provide only examples and hints concerning the regular and productive syntactic processes” (Chomsky, 2014: 5). Having these concerns, he came up with “the Generative Grammar which attempts to specify what the speaker actually knows, not what he may report about his knowledge” (Chomsky, 2014: 9). The theory of UG is a general concept involving Chomsky’s overall developmental ideas on language beginning from 1950s to the present date. Beginning with the Generative Grammar, the development of the ideas arrived at maturity with the Minimalist Program, through which Chomsky (1992-1995) made another major revision of the Principles and Parameters Theory. The notion of UG suggests that “every speaker of a language has an internalized grammar that expresses his knowledge of language” (Chomsky, 2014:9). Unlike the traditional grammar, the UG applies a cognitive approach to the study of grammar. That is, it tries to find out “what native speakers know about their native language enabling them to speak and understand the language” (Chomsky, 2014:9). Therefore, it can be said that while traditional grammar identifies and describes what exists in the surface of the language, UG questions the underlying knowledge which makes up that surface structure.

By the early 1980s, the ‘Extended Standard Theory’ developed into the Government and Binding model through which the concepts of principles and parameters were first introduced. “This theory was later substituted by ‘Principles and Parameters Theory’ by Chomsky (1981) who finds the former label misleading since ‘government’ and ‘binding’ were only the two of the new concepts which entered into the theoretical discussion under the UG” (Şeker, 2015: 30). Principles known as the common universal properties for human languages are made up of the sub-theories of the UG such as X-bar, movement, move α , α -Criterion, government, c-command, case adjacency, case filter, binding, projection, extended projection, subject-head agreement, proper government, empty category, control, subjacency, head movement constraint and barriers which also constitute the modules of UG (Şeker, 2015: 55). Parameters, on the other hand, are the cross lingual syntactic variations between languages, varying from one language to another and imposing binary choices, only one of which is appropriate for any human

language (e.g. head parameter imposing any language to have head first or head last phrasal structure) (Radford, 2004:16). In brief, “if any grammatical operation is observed in a particular human language but not in the other, then this operation is regarded as a parametric variation”. In other words, “the particular variations found in the grammars of different natural languages are called parametric variations (Radford, 2004:17).

“The theory of Principles and Parameters took a new route with Chomsky’s works in 1992, 1995 and onwards. In these publications, “Chomsky came out with the notion of economy in derivations and representations, which, in turn, led to the Minimalist Program” (Şeker, 2015: 63). In linguistic terms, it proposed to abolish superfluous elements in order to represent languages more universally but simpler (Chomsky, 1992; 1995). “The majority of the innovations in the MP do not depart from the basic concept of GB, but a particular version of those proposed by Chomsky (1981) and its subsequent development, which can be described as a progression rather than a complete U-turn” (Cook & Newson, 1996: 312). It is based on the assumption that Universal Grammar constitutes “a perfect design in the sense that it contains only what is necessary to meet the logical and phonological needs” (Boeckx, 2006: 8-12). Through this new program, most of the basic ideas of the Extended Standard Theory that were listed as universal principles above were discarded as conceptually unnecessary and empirically inadequate derivations or representations (Chomsky, 1995: 375). They were substituted by simpler and more economical minimalist suggestions such as numeration, select, merge, spell out, copy, delete, feature matching, feature checking, as well as the representation of tense as an independent node in the syntactical structure.

Language may be regarded as behaviour which could only be understood in terms of general learning ways such as exposure, correction, and reinforcement. However, Chomsky (1959) argued that this cannot explain the creative aspect of language. There must be something recursive caused by as natural as the human himself. “Newton’s confidence that nature must be ‘very simple’ reflects the same intuition” (Chomsky, 2006: 180). Then, like the nature, say, language must be very simple, as suggested by the minimalist ideas. There must be “some internal system that enables the noises that I make to get into your auditory system” (Chomsky, 2012: 69). This internal system may be assumed to have originated from such a source that generates thought and feelings, as is expressed by the notion that “there is a language of thought” (Chomsky, 2012: 71). Considering the language as a behavioural product, I can suggest that we generate it because we feel, as in the case of the one stated for behaviours by Chomsky (2012); “We do certain things because we feel” (p.140). Besides the idea that a language is internal, individual and intensional, it may also be suggested that it is also instinct, that is, it is not caused by something else outside but intrinsic properties” (Chomsky, 2012: 155). This is, from the biolinguistic perspective, explained as the faculty of language, or an I-language in technical jargon, where I stands for “individual, internal, intensional, innate, and instinct” (Chomsky, 2012: 154). This approach, or an I-language approach, is “a study of language that is in the mind/brain” (Chomsky, 2012: 154). It assumes that “the target of the science of language is a system in a person’s head, which is a state of mental faculty” (Chomsky, 2012: 154). Indeed, it is regarded as “a grown developed biological organ in a person’s mind/brain,” where a developed biophysically fixed state of an initial, universal state called Universal Grammar” is hypothesized to have located (Chomsky, 2012: 154). These partly biolinguistic, partly psycholinguistic or behaviourist approaches to language and grammar as well as Chomsky’s mentalist and minimalist ideas on grammar made me to correlate them to humane basic instincts, thus indirectly to Freudian Psychoanalysis, where I hope to find answers to my questions about the relation between grammar and basic instincts. At first sight, it may me thought that “since the most powerful component of the grammar is by definition meaning free, it is difficult to

relate theories of sentence construction to theories of thought, logic, perception, feeling, or social function.” However, it should be kept in mind that “psychologists using Chomsky’s model sought to establish the psychological reality of syntactic deep structures (e.g., phrase structure constituents such as subject and object NP) and transformations (e.g., interrogative, negative, passive, inversion)” (Bates, 1996:5).

1.2. Freudian Psychoanalysis

Freud claims that man has two basic instincts that are described as *sexual instinct (libido)* and *aggressive, or death, destruction instinct (destrudo)* (Freud, 2015: 200). While libido basically drives the desire for sexual intercourse, destrudo drives the unconscious desire for death, or self-destruction and destruction of others during the conflict with nature’s ruthlessness (see also Gay, 1995). Freud believed that the mind is responsible for both conscious and unconscious decisions based on drives and forces which, according to this study, may also be responsible for the need to communicate. Unconscious desires motivate persons to act, or say, to generate combination of sounds for meaningful communication. The *id*, *ego*, and *super ego* are three aspects of the mind, making up personality and behaviour. Accordingly, while the mental layer which judges the demands from the id relying on reality and resolves the conflict accordingly is assumed to form the middle layer of the mind which is regarded as ego, the mental layer that contains critical morality and tries to control and even to suppress the id regarded as superego. (Freud, 2015: 18). For this assumption, the id is the unconscious state of mind that seeks pleasure and survival and holds basic human instincts. It is pleasure focused, insistent, pragmatist, rebellious, economic and primitive and makes up the original source of desires without any accordance to what is right or wrong (Freud, 2015: 95). Logical laws of thought are not valid for the id (Freud, 1998: 95). The superego which represents the critical, restrictive and conflicting desires suppresses, restrains, or permits the uncontrolled desires from the id as much as the logical laws allow (Freud, 1998: 90). The superego is the mental layer where traditions, taboos, customs, rules, laws, restrictions and limitations are identified and internalized as the control criteria. It is aggressive and corrector against the desires from the id and it fights against them.

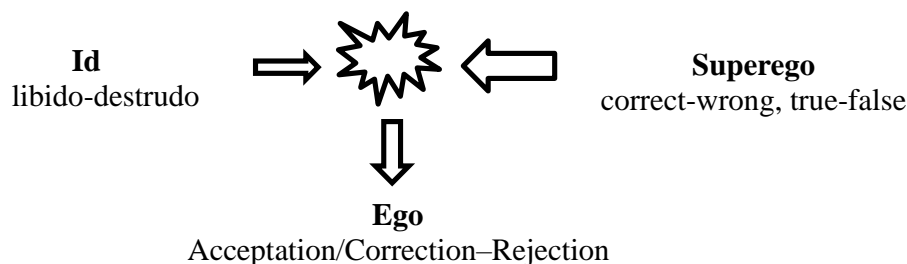


Figure 1. Aspects of Mind

The chaotic, unorganized, irregular, and unlimited desires and demands from the id are repressed, as a result of which symptoms of neurotic problems occur (Freud 2013: 79). To illustrate, the most common cause of anxiety neurosis is resulted from unsatisfied desires or impulses (Freud, 1998: 103). Symptoms serve to restore the patient’s sexual desires and are substitute for a satisfaction that he cannot achieve in real life (Freud 2013: 85). In fact, often the originally desired sexual object has been displaced by another object (fetishism) (Freud, 2013: 94). A large part of the obsessions are nothing more than the disguised repetitions of masturbation (Freud 2013: 100).

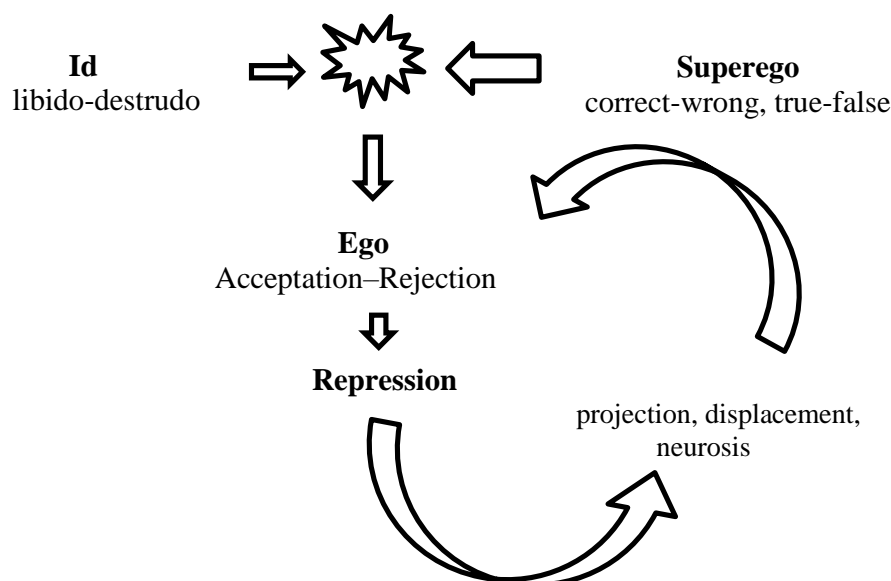


Figure 2. Psychoanalytic Relations between Mental Layers

In terms of language and linguistics, Freud (2014) also states that language emerging as speech, gestures, mimicry, and writing are manifestations of thoughts, and so they need to be investigated. In fact, these linguistic signs regarded as surface manifestations of feelings and thoughts cannot, of course, be considered independent from the formal and semantic traces of the origin from which they are generated. Considering civilization as a consequence of the clash between two basic instincts (sex and destruction) that arise in the mind of the individual as suggested by Freud (2015), I cannot keep myself thinking the relation between language, civilisation, and the basic instincts. Remembering Chomsky's (2012) statement "Merge is a kind of recursive system," bringing grammar a generative characteristics, I got illuminated and thrilled by Freud's psychoanalytic ideas on basic instincts and mind (p. 108). At that time, I found myself thinking that merge did not mean to me more than the thing I enthusiastically perform with the opposite sex when my sexual desires drive me. The fact that we instinctively (or say unconsciously as for Chomsky) put the words together to generate larger units was not very different from what we instinctively do to generate a new baby. That is, we merge because we feel merging. That is our internal desire or feeling. It is triggered by our basic instincts, which may be explained by the idea of mind regarding this situation as "a causal mechanism that is driven by some sort of belief-desire psychology" (Chomsky, 2012: 138). However, according to Chomsky (2012), it is more than that, driven by something like a language organ, or language faculty storing our innate grammatical knowledge, which, in this study, I assume it locating in the upper layer of mind: Superego. It may be assumed to involve our grammatical knowledge able to distinguish ungrammatical utterances from the grammatical ones, which is also suggested to involve our ethical, moral, critical, restrictive reactions suppress the chaotic and limitless desires insisted by the id. In terms of economy principle, for another example, which is the fundamental characteristic of not only the nature but also the language, Freud describes many situations that arise in behaviour and mind through economy principle which also constitutes the basis of the minimalist movement. According to one, instinct is never destroyed but is projected (Gay, 1995). This projection can take the form of enthusiasm in different forms, such as

fantasy, art, fetishism, or substance abuse such as alcohol, drug or cigarette addiction (Gay, 1995). In later stages of repression, the desires rejected by the Ego upon the intervention of the Superego return in displaced or neurotic forms such as anxiety states, phobias, obsessions, or hysteria. Linguistically, however, it may be suggested that this projection can be observed occurring as negative, interrogative, and inverted syntactical structures as well as slip of tongues since these structures are generated through negation, displacement or inversion, all of which are irregular forms of normal syntactical structure. Considering the economy principle, our instinctive drives are not expected to allow us to prefer more complex ones to the simpler ones unless there is a compelling or interest providing excuse. For the linguistic concepts such as Logical Form (LF), Phonetic Form (PF) and the Spell-Out principles suggested by the UG as universal principles of human languages, I take the Ego out of my readings which suggest that this layer of mind judges the demands from the id relying on reality and resolves the conflict between the id and the Superego accordingly. That means for me that Ego is the aspect of mind where phrasal structures generated by the id are combined into larger maximal projections or clauses and non-recursive specifiers and adjuncts are assigned to phrases or clauses.

As a consequence, in this part of the study, I introduce the purpose of the study, previous approaches to grammar as well as Chomsky's syntactical ideas on grammar and Freudian Psychoanalysis, on which our study is established. Then, in section two, we describe the methodology, explaining our psychoanalytic approach to grammar in this particular study and how and why we try to interpret grammar through psychoanalysis. In this part of the study, Chomsky's ideas on grammar are interpreted by Freudian psychoanalysis in order to question psychoanalytic origins of grammar in mind. Then, in the third section, universal grammar modules as well as traditional ones are categorized according to three aspects of mind, their instinctive origins and genders, i.e. sexes. In section 4, the relation between syntactical principles, mental functions and basic instincts as well as the resemblance between syntactical operations and sexual intercourse are laid out, exemplified and illustrated through verbal samples and syntactical representations. The last section is the conclusion part where I introduce the hypothesis of the study established throughout the sections where I explain and try to support my assumption that syntactical relations between words, or the organisation of words and morphemes into larger units of a language, resembles somehow to the sexual intercourse between male and female organisms in terms of not only physical properties but also mental roots and fundamental instincts. Moreover, in the last section of the study, some pedagogical implementations are concluded based on the hypothesis established in the study.

Methodology

What I try to suggest in this study is that grammar, i.e. syntactical relations, or the organisation of words and morphemes into larger units of a language, resembles somehow to the sexual intercourse between male and female organisms in terms of not only physical properties but also mental roots and fundamental instincts which are theorized as the three aspects of the human mind: the id, ego, and super ego by Freud's psychoanalysis. Considering the language use as a mental activity generated in the deep layers of mind, I could not keep myself from thinking the linguistic knowledge triggered by human's most basic and primal instincts. In order to arrive at such a conclusion, I am, of course, supposed to ground my assumptions on a logical frame based on Chomsky's Universal Grammar and Freudian psychoanalytic theories or approaches. Accordingly, Freud's theories and hypotheses about mind and psychoanalysis mentioned previously may be referred for considerable assumptions on grammatical principles related to syntactical operations since they introduce convincing explanations for the mind and its functions in the production of emotion, thought and behaviour and contain

very basic observations about the relationship between the instincts and behaviour. For that reason, I suggest that grammar as an unconscious generative process of communicative behaviour be revised on basis of these observations and assumptions, so that interesting and challenging results can be obtained about the role of basic instincts in language production. As a result, based on Freudian psychoanalytic views, I suggest that universal linguistic principles and phrase generating merging operations are id-driven. It is the layer where desire for communication stimulates libidinal drives to merge. These unorganized drives are checked, criticized and restrained grammatically to generate logical forms by the Superego where our grammatical knowledge is saved. Then, Ego, the mental layer, which judges the demands from the id relying on reality and resolves the conflict between the id and the Superego accordingly, is the aspect of mind where phrases are assumed to be combined into clauses, qualified and modified through specifiers or adjuncts. It should also be the layer where PF produced and spelled out, as shown in Table 1:

Table 1. Psychoanalytic Classification of UG Principles

Id basic instincts	Ego decision, correction	Superego judgement
Libido Selection, Merge, Checking, Attraction, Movement, Binary Phrase, Feature Checking, Feature Matching	Destrudo Copy, Delete	Acceptation Pleasure, LF, PF, Spell-Out
		Repression Error Correction, Interrogation, Negation, Inversion, Slip of Tongue
		grammatical- ungrammatical

In this theoretical study, based on the assumption that the relation between the universal grammar principles, just like other conscious or unconscious behaviours, are, in fact, related to basic instincts and mental aspects, I try to interpret and explain the psychoanalytic grounds of grammar principles and modules. Similar assumptions were also claimed by Fromkin (1973), suggesting that “speech provides a window into the cerebral life” (p. 187). Based on these psychoanalytic classifications of UG principles, I initially describe traditional grammar modules in terms of UG principles and then these principles are described in terms of basic instincts from which they are assumed to be triggered, or originated. After assigning gender to the functional and lexical categories, I try to show the resemblance between syntactical operations and sexual activities, both of which I regard as mental operations originated from instinctive drives. In doing so, I introduce some original representative symbols, through which I analyse syntactical structure of some linguistic samples.

Psychoanalytic Categorization of Grammar Modules

In this section of the study, grammar modules are categorized as per their mental layers and basic instincts in terms of psychoanalytic criteria. This idea of categorization lies on the assumption that the organization of words and morphemes into larger units of a language resembles somehow to the sexual intercourse between male and female organisms in terms of not only physical properties but also three aspects of the human mind (e.g., the id, ego, and super ego) as well as related basic mental activities (e.g. instincts, or desires). That is the reason why I assume that merger is not an ordinary coincidence but an instinctive activity of intercourse between words, which made me approach grammar in such an odd way. So as to categorize the grammatical functions and properties into the groups formed according to the psychoanalytic criteria, I initially

started with the identification of grammar modules described as universal principles, parameters and language particular grammatical features by the UG. On doing so, I referred to the grammar modules suggested by recent minimalist syntactical studies. Below are the universal grammar modules as suggested by Radford (2004) and Şeker (2015), as well as their traditional corresponding modules:

Table 2. Grammar Modules

Universal Grammar Modules	Traditional Grammar Modules
Lexicon, Selection, Numeration	Vocabulary, Taxonomy
Select & Merge/ Binary Phrase	Word order
Copy & Delete & Move	Word Order, Interrogative, Inversion, Question
Feature Checking, Feature Matching	Agreement, Person, Gender, Number
Nouns	Plural, singular, countable and uncountable nouns
Pronouns	Subjectives, objectives, possessives, reflexives
Verbs	Transitive, intransitive verbs, auxiliaries, perfective and progressive, or continuous, aspects, passive voice
Adpositions	Prepositions, Cases, Phrasal Words
Adjectives, Adverbs	Adjectives, Adverbs, Adverbs of Degree, Comparisons, Comparatives, Superlatives
Determiners	Articles, Demonstrative Adjectives, Possessive Adjectives, Quantifiers
Negation	Negative Sentences
Complementiser	Relative pronouns, Demonstrative pronouns, Noun Clause, Adjective Clauses, Interrogative Clause, Adverb Clause, Conditional Clause
Nominalizer	Gerund, Participle
Tense	Present/Past/Modal/Infinitive

3.1. Describing Universal Grammar Modules In Terms Of Basic Instincts

The grammar modules listed above, then, were categorized according to the basic instincts from which they are assumed to originate. For this categorization, I considered the relations between the functions of the grammar modules and the basic desires, or drives. While one drives reproductive, generative, or relational functions, the other drives destructive, irregular, controlling, descriptive, economic, and safe functions. Indeed, these libidinal and destrudinal functions attributed to the basic sexual and aggressive instincts may be assumed to be reciprocal two-way functions leading to grammar principles and parameters, as categorized in Table 2.

Table 3. Grammar and Basic Instincts

Id	Instinctive Functions	
Basic Instincts	Libido	Drives
	Destrudo	
Selection & Merge, Binary Phrase	Copy& Delete	Intercourse vs. Destruction
Head First/Head-Last	Free Adjunction	Intercourse vs. Destruction
Attraction& Movement	Interrogative/Question, Inversion	Intercourse vs. Aggression
Feature Matching	Feature Checking	Intercourse vs. Aggression
Nouns	Pronouns	Commodity and Economy
Transitive Verb	Intransitive Verb	Reproduction
Adposition	Cases	Intercourse and Economy
Adjective, Adverb	Specifier, Determiner,	Intercourse vs. Aggression
Complementiser	Negation	Intercourse vs. Destruction
Finite Tense	Nominalizer	Reproduction
Affixation	Infinite Tense	Intercourse vs. Destruction and
	Inflection	Reproduction

3.2. Assigning Genders to the Syntactical Categories

Following the categorization of grammar modules according to their possible instinctive origins, it then occurred to me that if a binary intercourse between words had been possible to be assumed, it would then also be possible to assume that these syntactical constituents have genders leading to *attraction*, *move* or *merge*. The syntactical categories, in view of our psychoanalytic approach, may be assumed to have genders demonstrating *masculine* (δ), *feminine* (φ), *neutral* (o), and *androgynous* (\varnothing) properties, which allows grammar to be generative and reproduce unlimited number of recursive statements. It is observed from the syntactical merger operations observed in minimalist syntactical analyses illustrated by Radford (2004) and Şeker (2015) that merger operations are executed by a head and a complement constituent to generate a new phrasal structure, which made us regard host reproductive head constituents as *feminine* (φ) (e.g. functional categories such as tense, modal, aspect, passivisation, complementiser, nominalizer and adposition), and the moving or attracted complements as *masculine* (δ) (e.g. nouns and pronouns). It is also observed from the syntactical relations that some categories demonstrate *androgynous* (\varnothing) properties, which means that they not only merge with, or complete, heads but also are merged, or completed, by complements. As for another observation, it may also be assumed that some categories do not demonstrate merger operations with other constituents, but they are adjuncts to others, which led us regard them as *neutral* (o) in terms of their gender (e.g. adjectives, adverbs, determiners, and negation). Finally, one can easily observe that all binary phrasal structures are also able to be complements of other host constituents, which shows that all phrasal structures are eventually masculine (δ). Below are grammar modules introduced in terms of their gender roles and merger tendency, which allows generative grammar reproducing unlimited number of recursive statements.

Table 3. Gender of the Syntactical Categories

Syntactical Categories	Gender
Nouns	δ
Pronouns	δ
Adpositions	+
Complementiser	+
Nominalizer	+
Tense	+
Verbs	φ
Adjectives, Adverbs	o
Determiners	o
Negation	o

4. A Psychoanalytic Approach To Syntactic Representation

The syntactical representation of grammar, if approached psychoanalytically, will, of course, not be more than a complementary chain of constituents, merging with each other eventually to form a bigger chain which represents a clause, as represented by brackets or tree diagrams under the terms of X-bar, or Bare Phrase Structure principles. However, in our *building blocks* representation model, clausal and phrasal structures are represented by a relatively longer string of building blocks, each of which has a peculiar shape representing particular features of syntactical categories. These building blocks are joined together to form phrases; phrases are joined together in order to form clauses, so

are clauses to form dependent or independent clauses. The suggestion for the representation of the syntactical categories as well as their genders and sexual identities are listed as the following:

Table 4. Representation of Syntactical Categories

Representation	Gender	Category	Function
◼	♂	Nouns	Complement
□	0	Adjectives/Adverbs	Adjunct
◁	♀	Functional Categories: Tense, Mod, Asp, PASS, Nom	Host
◀	♀	Transitive Verbs	Complement/Host
◄	♂	Intransitive Verbs	Complement
◁◁	♀	Adpositions/ Cases/Thematic Roles	Host
◁◁◁	♀	Complementiser	Host

Accordingly, nouns (i.e. ◼) are *masculine* in terms of gender, due to which they are not completed by any complement but modified by an adjunct which is a qualitative or a quantitative adjective, or a determiner (i.e. □), demonstrating a *neutral* gender feature (e.g. *a big table*). On the other hand, transitive verbs as well as auxiliaries are (i.e. ◀) are *androgynous* in terms of gender, due to which they require not only a complement or complements but also a *feminine* host constituent belonging to such functional categories as tense, aspect, passivisation, nominalization (i.e. ◁◁) (e.g. *had been broken*). Intransitive verbs (i.e. ◄), however, are *masculine* in terms of gender, due to which they are not completed by a complement but merged with functional categories such as tense, aspect, passivisation etc., (e.g. *slept well*). Verbs, in general, may also be modified by adverbial adjuncts (i.e. *slept well*), demonstrating neutral gender features. Furthermore, the other functional categories such as adpositions (i.e. ◁◁) and complementisers (i.e. ◁◁◁) are also *feminine*, because of which they are completed by phrasal structures having adjuncts as a subject specifier or a determiner (e.g. *that I know* or *with the man*).

The syntactical relations between the categories may also be explained according to their gender roles. Then, each lexical or functional category represented by a building block, may be assumed to have *a-merger*, *bi-merger*, or *hetero-merger* identities, determining syntactical relations between words. Accordingly, the syntactical relations between the categories may be assumed as the following:

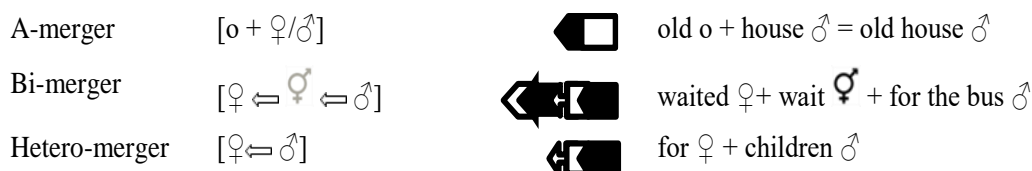


Figure 3. Merger Identities in the Syntax

In addition, there are also *polygamous* verbs requiring two or three homogenous complements to merge simultaneously (e.g. give ♀ me ♂ a book ♂). In this case, the polygamous illustration will be as the following:

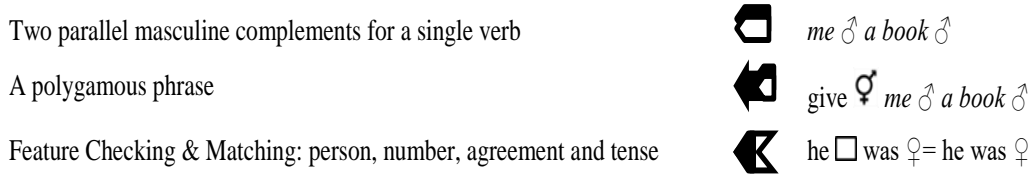
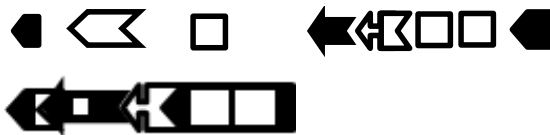


































Figure 4. Psychoanalytical Approach to Some Syntactical Operations

Principles such as movements, feature checking, feature matching can also be explained on this representation, which, I think, it will be better to illustrate them in a further applied study including a detailed representation of syntactical operations supported by a satisfactory range of examples. Below are there examples for the syntactical analyses, one of which is compared with a minimalist analysis on a three diagram representation:

(1) *You should immediately go to the new doctor*



Accordingly, the masculine complement *doctor* (i.e. ) is modified by two adjuncts neutral in gender, one of which is the adjective *new* (i.e. ) and the other of which is the definite article *the* (i.e. ) to form the masculine noun phrase *the new doctor* (i.e. ). The resulting masculine complement structure is then merged with the feminine host constituent *to* (i.e. ) which functions as a preposition, forming the masculine adpositional phrase *to the new doctor* (i.e.   ). This recently generated phrase having masculine drives then merges with his host partner *go*, which is an androgynous verb (i.e. ) expecting to merge with a higher feminine host constituent finally to form a tense phrase. The resulting masculine verb phrase *go to the new doctor* (i.e.    ), however, before merging with his feminine hosting partner *tense*, is modified by an adverbial adjunct *immediately* (i.e. ) forming the verb phrase *immediately go to the new doctor* (i.e.      ). Then, driven by his strong merger desire, the masculine androgynous verb phrase is immediately attracted by a feminine host, a tense constituent, the modal *should* (i.e. ) in order to form the tense phrase *should immediately go to the new doctor* (i.e.     ). The resulting tense phrase requiring a specifier adjunct is specified by the pronoun *you* (i.e. ) eventually forming the masculine tense phrase *You should immediately go to the new doctor* (i.e.     ).

(2) *that the world is round*²



² The sample CP “that the world is round” is cited from Şeker (2015; 327).

In example 2, the androgynous complement verb phrase *be round* (i.e. ◀◻) merges with an attracting host present tense (i.e. ◀◻), forming the tense phrase *is round* (i.e. ◀◻◻). The resulting tense phrase requiring a specifier adjunct is specified by the noun phrase *the world* (i.e. ◻◻), eventually forming the masculine tense phrase *the world is round* (i.e. ◻◻◻). The resulting masculine complement structure is then merged with the feminine host constituent *that* (i.e. ◻◻) which functions as a complementiser, forming the masculine complementiser phrase *that the world is round* (i.e. ◻◻◻◻). Now, the same structure, if illustrated through a tree diagram, will be like the one illustrated in the example 3. The syntactical analysis below is cited from Şeker (2015) in order to compare the tree diagram illustration model with the *building blocks model* (BBM).

(3) *that the world is round*

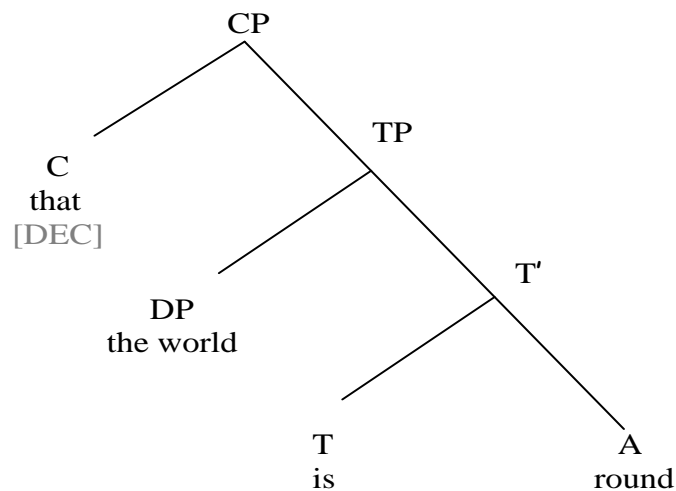


Figure 4. A Bare Phrase Structure Analysis of a Complementiser Phrase (CP)³

For the illustration above, A is for adjective, T is for tense, T' is for tense phrase without a specifier, DP is for determiner phrase, TP is for tense phrase with a specifier, C is for complementiser, CP is for complementiser phrase, and DEC is for a declarative clause.

From the illustrations above, it may be concluded that BBM is more economic, simple and minimalist representation of grammar than the one illustrated in (1). It is also not unreasonable to regard such slips of tongues in syntax as 'to window the break' instead of 'to break the window' as returns of the suppressed basic instincts, which demonstrate censored perverted desires for homosexual or transsexual relations since those speech errors force inappropriate constituents to merge illegitimately. This suggestion is not a new one and is in parallel to Freud's (1996) claim that slips of tongue often reveal suppressed thoughts which have involuntarily pushed their way to the surface. "By carefully studying speech errors, we can get a view of the discrete elements of language" and signs about the speaker's mental state (Fromkin, 1973: 187). Furthermore, these psychoanalytic suggestions on syntactical operations also have some pedagogical implications. Accordingly, based on these ideas, early first or second language acquisition as well as natural order of vocabulary acquisition may be suggested to be

³ The CP "the world is round" analysis on a tree diagram is cited from Şeker (2015; 327).

developed in parallel to the instinctive needs, which may result in a highly organized and planned language acquisition process to be led by formal or informal environment.

Conclusion

In this theoretical study, what I try to put forth is the existence of a relation between this organization of words and morphemes into larger units of a language and the human's most basic and primal instincts. For this purpose, I initially introduced ideas on grammar ranging from the classical approaches to present date. Next, Chomsky's syntactical ideas on grammar, including principles and parameters as well as minimalist opinions were introduced. Then, Chomsky's ideas on grammar were interpreted by Freudian psychoanalysis in order to question psychoanalytic origins of grammar in mind. Based on this psychoanalytic approach, universal grammar modules as well as traditional ones were categorized according to the aspects of mind and their instinctive origins. In order to categorize the grammatical functions and properties into the groups formed according to the psychoanalytic criteria, I determined the grammar modules to be referred in the study. The grammar modules listed, then, were categorized according to the basic instincts from which they are assumed to originate. Following the categorization of grammar modules according to their possible instinctive origins, the syntactical categories were assumed to have genders demonstrating masculine, feminine, neutral, and androgynous properties, which, I assume, allows grammar to be generative and reproduce unlimited number of recursive statements. Finally, I suggested a new representation for syntactical constituents and operations. Some basic Universal Grammar principles and parameters were reinterpreted in light of psychoanalytic theories. Through the discussions in the study, I identified similar suggestions and intersecting ideas between Universal Grammar and psychoanalytic theories. Based on the assumption that the relation between the universal grammar principles and the lexical or functional categories emerging as a result of those principles, just like other conscious or unconscious behaviors, are in fact related to basic instincts and mental aspects, I tried to reinterpret and explain the psychoanalytic grounds of grammar principles and modules. Furthermore, some pedagogical aspects of these psychoanalytic suggestions should also be considered. These ideas may be helpful to explain early first or second language acquisition as well as natural order of vocabulary acquisition developed in parallel to instinctive needs. As a consequence, I conclude that since grammar is a product of mind, it is not independent from the aspects of the human mind: the id, ego, super ego and basic instincts.

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