A Study on the Complex Sentence of 'Not only Not p, But q'

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Abstract: This paper takes the complex sentence of 'not only not p, but q' in modern Chinese as the research object, and studies the relationship between logical semantic structure and presupposition.

Keywords: 'Not only not p, but q'; Semantic structure; Presupposition

Introduction

There is a special kind of progressive sentence-anti-progressive sentence in Chinese complex sentence. Xing Fuyi's definition of 'anti-progressive sentence' is a complex sentence that represents a reverse progressive relationship. Supposing 'anti-progressive sentence' is a category, then 'not only not p, but q' is its prototype member. This paper studies the relationship between logical semantic structure and presupposition of the sentence of 'not only not p, but q'.

Summary of Research of The Complex Sentence

The study of Chinese complex sentence can be divided into following stages. 1. Germination stage. (1) Study of the complex sentence in ancient China. The research on the complex sentence in ancient China was carried out within the scope of Chinese literature. (2) Study of the complex sentence abroad. German scholar Jabrenzi mentioned the complex sentence in Chinese Jingwei (1881) and discussed the connection of clauses. He points out that independent sentences or predicates that can represent sentences can establish relationship with auxiliary words. Japanese scholar Tai Tianchenfu (1958) divided complex sentences into equal sentences and subordinate sentences. 2. Introduction stage. Wang Li believes that the "sentence reading theory" in "Ma Shi Wen Tong" involves some thoughts of complex sentences; "sentence" is roughly the same as "sentence ", "reading" is roughly the same as "clause", and the four types of "independent sentence" are the classification of complex sentences in "Wen Tong". The first person who proposed the compound sentence was Liu Fu, who called the compound sentence composed of two or more clauses as complex sentence. The pioneer of the study of Chinese complex sentence is Li Jinxi. He first proposed that complex sentences and clauses are opposite, and divided complex sentences into hypotactic complex sentences, equal complex sentences and embedded sentences. 3. Autonomous stage. This stage has achieved many groundbreaking results. (1) Definition of single/complex sentences. The first definition of complex sentences is to discuss the attribution of the embedded sentence. He Rong (1942) opposed to classify the embedded sentence as the complex sentence. Wang Li (1943) distinguished the embedded sentence and the compound sentence. The second is the distinction between single and complex sentences. Lv Shuxiang (1942) divided sentences into
simple sentences and complex sentences according to the number of knots of words. He divided the complex sentences into two categories. The combination of relations is called complex sentences, and the constructed combination-subject-predicate-phrases are sentence components, which are complex sentences in a narrow sense.

(2) Classification of complex sentences. The classification of complex sentences is mostly dichotomy. The first classification is to classify complex sentences according to logical semantics. Lv Shuxiang (1942) divided complex sentences into six categories and nineteen subcategories. Lv Shuxiang and Zhu Dexi (1952) divided complex sentences into parallel, cause and effect, gain and loss. The second classification is to classify complex sentences according to whether the semantics are equal. Gao Mingkai (1948) divides Chinese complex sentences into parallel and master-slave according to whether the semantic status is equal. The third classification is to classify complex sentences according to whether the clause structure has extensibility. Lin yuwen (1962) divided complex sentences into closed complex sentences and non-closed complex sentences according to whether the clause structure has extensibility. There are also many ways of division.

(3) Research on special sentence patterns. In the process of studying Chinese complex sentences, scholars have found special sentence patterns such as embedded sentences and condensed sentences, and studied their definitions and characteristics.

4. Developmental stage. The study of complex sentences in this stage can be divided into three groups: inheritance, cancellation and transformation. Succession works are mostly grammar textbooks, such as Huang Borong and Liao Xudong’s ‘Modern Chinese’ (1991). Cancellation believes that there are no single sentences in Chinese, represented by Sun Liangming, Chen Jianmin, Shen Kaimu and so on. The transferists introduced the latest theoretical achievements of the West to study Chinese complex sentences from a new perspective. Representative figures are Xing Fuyi, Wang Weixian, Shao Jingmin, etc. Xing Fuyi initiated modern research on complex sentences, and divided complex sentences into three types: cause and effect, parallel, and breakover.

5. The current study of Chinese complex sentences. The grammaticalization of Chinese complex sentences focuses on the grammaticalization of conjunctions, such as Qu Xiaorong and Zhou Weihua (2018) analyzed the grammaticalization of conjunction ‘helpless’ from cross-layer structure to verb to conjunction from the perspective of grammaticalization.

(2) Study of complex sentence markers. Wang Chunhui (2010) proposed that the marker of conditionals in Chinese is independent connectives, including connectives, adverbs with connective function and modal auxiliaries.

(3) Comparative study of complex sentences. Liu Danqing (2008) points out that in western linguistics, parallel sentences are called compound sentences, and partial sentences are classified as complex sentences. The sentences containing adverbial clauses are equivalent to the partial compound sentences in Chinese linguistics. The sentences containing complement clauses and attributive clauses are regarded as single sentences in Chinese. The classification of complex sentences in Chinese must rely on meaning because of the language types.

(4) Complex sentences and textual research. Liu Yun (2015) believes that the study of complex sentences should focus on the influence of different types of discourse and specific discourse environment on the use of complex sentences, the textual status of complex sentences, the analysis of textual function and the analysis of the formal characteristics of complex sentences. The current grammar research pays less attention to the study of complex sentences and needs to be improved to solve many urgent problems.

Based on the presupposition theory, this paper takes the complex sentence of ‘not only not p, but q’ as an example to study the relationship between logical semantic structure and presupposition, hoping to provide
some enlightenment for the semantic and pragmatic research of complex sentences.

**Transitional Complex Sentence of 'Not only not p, but q' of Modern Chinese**

The sentence of 'not only not p, but q' is considered to belong to the progressive sentence. Xing Fuyi believes that the sentence of 'not only not p, but q' is the reverse progressive sentence in the progressive sentence. Reverse progressive sentence involves progressive relationship and reverse relationship. There is a progressive relationship and a turning relationship between 'not p' and 'q'; the relationship between 'p' and 'q' is a turning point, but there is a passing distance between them. 'Not only not p, but q' is a construction composed of two phases, which can convey some anti-expected information. From the perspective of participants' expectation, the information conveyed by language can be divided into 'expected information', 'counter-expected information' and 'neutral information'. 'Not only not p, but q' conveys anti-expected information.

**A Study on the Semantics and Resupposition of Transitional Complex Sentence of 'Not only not p, but q' in Modern Chinese**

'Not only not p, but q' involves four elements: 1. The speaker's expected result of an event or a situation p; 2. Anti-expectation result ¬p; 3. Actual result q; 4. Anti-expectation marker 'instead'. The semantic relationship among ¬p, p and q is as follows: p is opposite to ¬p, q is negatively progressive with ¬p, q is opposite to ¬p, the semantic scale of the sentence is 0 → -1 → -2, and the semantic logic is reverse before and then progressive. For example: (1) In such a case, a child uses pet name for a child to call his father does not give rise to his father's reprimand but rather is a warmhearted expression. (2) It is believed that trade unions are an integral part of employment organizations, which will not cause conflicts, but can balance the interests and power of employees and the management layer. (3) Eating fruits immediately after meal will not help digest, but cause burbulence and constipation. In (1), a child uses pet name for a child to call his father gives rise to his father's reprimand but rather is a warmhearted expression. Its semantic logic should be 0 (father reproaches) → -1 (father will not reproach) → -2 (father feels warm). In (2), believing trade unions are part of the employment organization will cause conflicts is anticipation, but the actual situation is opposite, believing trade unions are part of the employment organization will cause conflicts not only does not cause conflicts, but also can balance the interests and power of employees and management layer. Its semantic logic is 0 (causes conflicts) → -1 (does not cause conflicts) → -2 (balances the interests and power of employees and the management layer). In (3), eating fruits immediately after meal will help digest is generally the expected result, but the actual situation is the opposite, eating fruits immediately after meal will cause burbulence and constipation. Its semantic logic is 0 (will help digest) → -1 (will not help digest) → -2 (causes burbulence and constipation).

In fact, ¬p, p, q are not linear structure, they are hierarchical structure. The opposite relationship between expectation and non-expectation is the first layer. Comparing with expectation, the unexpected results are
opposite, including ¬p and q, ¬p and p is absolutely opposite, ¬p and q is relatively opposite. The second layer is the progressive relationship between ¬p and q. For example: (4) The town government not only does not cancel, but also collected heavier than previous years. (5) But love, her first love, her passionate youth dream not only can not be cut off with him, but more stronger to prove that all is her own fantasy. (6) Some cheap lip balm on the market contains a large number of wax substance, which not only cannot moisten the lips, but also affects the metabolism of the skin of lips, making the lips dry or even more dry. In (4), 'The town government does not cancel' and 'collected heavier than previous years' is opposite to 'the town government cancel', collected heavier than previous years' is a progressive step of 'the town government does not cancel'. In (5), 'her passionate youth dream can not be cut off with him' and 'more stronger to prove that all is her own fantasy' is opposite to 'cut off from him', 'more stronger to prove that all is her own fantasy' is a progressive 'not be cut off from him', showing her obsession with this fantasy. In (6), 'cannot moisten the lips' and 'affects the metabolism of the lip skin, making the lips more dry, and even more dry' is opposite to 'moistening the lips', 'affects the metabolism of the skin of lip, making the lips dry or even more dry' is a progressive 'cannot moisten the lips'.

In the practical language application, due to the economic principle of language, 'not only, but also' and 'instead' is together, retaining 'not only' emphasizes the progressiveness of the reverse sentence, retaining 'instead' strengthens the opposite relationship between the unexpected result and the expected result. In general, p is omitted in the text and can be derived directly from ¬p. Occasionally, it can also be seen that the two words 'but also' and 'instead' are used together, but such examples are usually less. Such as: (7) In the case of popular gathering, empty suppression is not only very laborious, but also easy to be emptied. (8) During the Great Depression of the 1920s and 1930s, instead of all closing, the theater developed. (9) Education is not only a ladder of social mobility but also an obstacle.

When 'not only not p, but q' needs to express more progressive meaning, that is when multiple progression is needed, 'and-sentence' needs to be added behind the 'but', and 'and-sentence' need to be positively progressive on the basis of 'instead q'. Such as: (10) This river not only does not have the opportunity to restore its straight direction, but also makes the offset more and more big to become a curved curve, and the curvature is more and more big, the centrifugal force is also increasing. (11) Since the beginning of whaling, the total number of whales captured by Japan has not decreased, but increased by nearly 10 times, and most whale species have increased. In (10), 'and the curvature is getting larger and larger, and the centrifugal force is also increasing', which is positively progressive based on 'the offset is becoming larger and larger into a curved curve'. In (11), 'most species of whales are increasing without decreasing', which is positively progressive based on 'the summary of whales increases by nearly 10 times'.

P, q and ¬p are essential. The presupposition of 'not only not p, but q' should be: should / maybe p, but not p; q is not likely, but q. Such as: (12) This not only can't teach the child well, but will make things rigid, imperceptibly gives the child adverse effects. (13) In fact, eating these food at this time is not only not conducive to relieving fatigue, but has adverse effects on the body. The presupposition of (12) is that this will teach children well. The presupposition of (13) is that eating these food is conducive to relieving fatigue.

Conclusion
This paper analyzes the relationship among expected p, counter-expected ¬ p and the actual result q in the deep semantic structure of ‘Not only not p, but also q’. Counter-expected ¬ p and actual result q is negatively progressive relationship, actual result q and counter-expected ¬ p is opposite relationship, expected result p and counter-expected result ¬ p is opposite relationship. The three is from positive to negative, and then based on the negative anti-expectation ¬ p. From positive expectation to negative anti-expectation, it lays the turning point of the reverse sentence ‘not only not p, but q’.

References


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