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# Syntactic and Semantic Analysis of Word "Over" In Gabriel Garcia Marquez's Novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude"

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#### **Abstract**

The aim of this study is to analyze the meaning of word "over" through syntactic and semantic analysis based on its structure. Moreover, this study also evaluates the features of word "over" based on the structure whether they are used as an adverb, an adjective, a preposition, or a phrasal verb. This research employs qualitative descriptive research where the data are taken from novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude" by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. As result of data analysis, the researchers found that word over not only has function as pure preposition, but also as an adverb, an adjective, and a phrasal verb. It can be seen from the position and function of word "over" in a sentence. In semantic analysis, the particle "over" is analyzed as a pure preposition, an adverb, an adjective, and a phrasal verb based on definition of "over" from two well-known dictionaries. The result of study hopefully can be beneficial theoretically and practically for teachers or future researchers who was passion in analyzing particular word from syntactic and semantic point of view.

**Keywords:** syntactic analysis, semantics analysis,

#### Introduction

People interact with others to express their feelings, ideas, and emotions by using a language. This in line with Dickinson, et al (2017) Language is incredibly potent and can have a significant impact on both perceptions and behavior. It is at the heart of intergroup bias, attitude change, social perception, personal identity, and stereotyping. According to Huybrets (2016) Language is the building block of the human intellect. However, because language is sometimes ill-defined, there is still controversy about our knowledge of how the brain processes language. Furthermore, Boonraksa (2022) an internal processing system in the human mind

called language can be employed for communication, although it is not required. Language systems may or may not be effective in terms of computation or communication, in theory.

In English and many other languages, the arrangement of words is a vital factor in determining the meaning of an utterance. We learn the meaning itself in semantics. Those statements related with the theory proposed by Carreon et al (2018) who say that Semantic analysis is a key component of the NLP methodology. It identifies the context of a sentence or paragraph in the proper format. Semantics is the study of linguistic significance. Because of the relationships between linguistic classes, the vocabulary chosen reflects the subject's importance. In Flecken (2015), Politicians, salesmen, job applicants, product reviewers, or romantic interests frequently employ linguistic techniques to influence others, and a sizable body of study has examined the results of a variety of these techniques. Moreover, Lakkam (2016) states that words can be grouped into parts of speech or word classes. One of the word classes is preposition. This is in accordance with Marusic and Katavic (2017), that prepositions are an important and frequently used category in language. It is proved by the data in a book of corpus linguistics and the description of English of one million English words, Rush et al (2015) shows that one in five words is a preposition.

Furthermore, Withers and Brockman (1964) in Helmie (2021) state that most prepositions are short words, and they are almost always spoken with weak stress in the sentence. The listener has to be alert for them. Nevertheless, these little words carry important elements of meaning, as we have seen. Obviously, preposition over can has a different meaning if it is combined with other words in sentence. Bordes et al (2015) explains that an interesting characteristic of the preposition over is that it overlaps with other word classes to a significant extent.

Based on the phenomenon and explanation above, it is very interesting to observe English prepositions, especially preposition over in detail. This research is intended to response these following objectives: 1) to analyze the features of over based on the structure in a sentence through syntactic and semantic analysis in novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude" by Gabriel Garcia Marquez, and 2) to evaluate the meaning of over found in a sentence through syntactic and semantic analysis in "One Hundred Years of Solitude" by Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

Moreover, discussing about syntax Maneewan (2017) propose that people or reader can concentrate on the meaning of the sentences and how that sentence relates to the meaning of the words within that sentence. Traditionally, it refers to the branch of grammar dealing with the ways in which words, with or without appropriate inflections, are arranged to show connections of meaning within the sentence. According to Chaiwong et al (2018), syntax is the branch of linguistics which studies sentence structure. Syntax learns about the syntactic structure containing the syntactic units, syntactic functions and syntactic categories.

Moreover, Sukhbaatar et al (2015) elaborates that word is a linguistic unit typically larger than morpheme but smaller than a phrase. Furthermore, O'Grady and Archibald (2016), explain that words are the smallest free forms found in language. In English the different kinds of word, such us noun, verb, and preposition, are called word class or sometimes called as part of speech. Word classes divided into two, there are lexical group and function group. According to Sricai (2016), prepositions are words used with nouns, noun phrases, pronouns or gerunds to express a relationship between one person, thing, event, etc. and they state that most prepositions are polysemantic, comprising a variety of meanings. So, prepositions indicate various relationships between words or phrases, the most usual being those of time, space (position) and mental or emotional attitudes.

As a branch of linguistics, semantics is defined as the study of the meaning. Tungyai (2019) states that semantics is the study of the meaning of words, phrases, and sentences. In semantics analysis, there is always an attempt to focus on what the words conventionally mean on a particular occasion. O'Grady and Archibald (2016) define that semantics is the component of the grammar that is concerned with meaning and interpretation. From those statement, the researchers can conclude that semantics deals with the study of meaning of words, phrases, and sentences. In Trinant and Yodkamlue (2019), semantic relationships are the associations that there exist between the meanings of words (semantic relationships at word level), between the meaning of phrases, or between the meanings of sentences (semantic relationships at phrase or sentence level).

## **Research Methodology**

The researchers employed qualitative descriptive research by using data collection method through read-identify-write. According to Creswell (Kim, et al.,

2017), qualitative descriptive research generates data that describe the who, what, and where of events or experience' from perspectives. Qualitative descriptive research is useful because it can provide important information and deeply explore the phenomenon. Furthermore, Sumit et al., (2016) states that descriptive research can be used to identify and classify the elements or characteristics of the subject. By using descriptive method the researchers are allowed to describe the investigation on syntactic and semantic analysis of word "over" in this study deeply.

The researchers sought the data from novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude" by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. The novel consisted of twelve chapters with approximately 383 pages. The information was presented as sentences that used the term over. The researchers next examined the selected data, grouped it based on categories, identified different types of features and meaning based on specific theories, evaluated the data, and then interpreted the data.

# **Findings**

The researchers discuss the findings from an examination of the word "over" in Gabriel Garcia Marquez's book "One Hundred Years of Solitude" in this chapter. Both syntactic and semantic analysis were performed on the data. It was discovered that word over generally serves a variety of purposes as a simple preposition. The researchers focused on the characteristics of over as a preposition, an adverb, an adjective, and a phrasal verb in this chapter. The researchers then discussed the discovery in more detail in the discussion chapter after describing the general explanation here.

The researchers discovered 25 pieces of information that were divided into categories including preposition, adverb, adjective, and phrasal verb. There were seven examples of the preposition over, six for the adverb over, six for the adjective over, and six for the phrasal verb over. The following examples show how the word "over" is used in a variety of sentences to serve as a preposition, an adverb, an adjective, and a phrasal verb, and they illustrate the researcher's conclusions.

## a. Hang Over

"Aureliano Segundo sent a messenger to him in order to warn him, thinking that he might not know about the threat that hung **over** him" (Chapter 12, page 225, line 42)

Based on Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2016), verb hang means "attach something or be attached at the top so that the lower part is free or loose".

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Moreover, preposition over means "in or to a position higher than but not touching somebody/something". Thus, the combination of verb hang and over would create another meaning. Based on Wiktionary the Free Dictionary Online (2018), the meaning of phrasal verb hang over is "to be threatening; to be imminent".

## b. Mull Over

"That certainty, mulled **over** for several months in the small room he used as his laboratory ..." (Chapter 1, page 21, line 38)

Based on Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2016), verb *mull* means "think about something carefully". Furthermore, the preposition over means "more than a particular time; amount". Thus, the combination of verb *mull* and over would generate a new meaning. Based on Wiktionary the Free Dictionary Online (2018), the meaning of phrasal verb *mull* over is "to think deeply about something; to ponder, deliberate, or ruminate".

#### c. Roll Over

"... José Arcadio Buendía found himself rolling **over** in bed, unable to fall asleep." (Chapter 3, page 50, line 27)

Based on Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2018) verb *roll* means "move along by turning over and over or rolling movement". Furthermore, adverb over means "from one side to another side". Thus, the combination of verb *roll* and over would create another meaning. Based on Wiktionary the Free Dictionary Online (2018), the meaning of phrasal verb *roll* over is "to make a rolling motion or turn".

#### d. Knock Over

"She had to hold on to the doorjamb so that the stench would not knock her **over** ..." (Chapter 17, page 309, line 28)

Based on Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2018) verb *knock* means "hit a door, etc., or firmly to attract attention". Furthermore, preposition over means "resting on the surface of and partly or completely covering somebody/something". Thus, the combination of verb *knock* and preposition over would create another meaning. Based on Wiktionary the Free Dictionary Online (2018), the meaning of phrasal verb *knock* over is "to bump or strike something in such a way as to tip it".

#### e. Take Over

"Ursula would bring them coffee and milk and biscuits and would take

**over** the children so that they would not bother them" (Chapter 17, page 309, line 28)

Based on Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2018), verb take means "carry something/somebody or cause somebody to go from one place to another". Whereas preposition over means "used to show that somebody has control or authority". Thus, the combination of verb knock and preposition over would create another meaning. Based on Wiktionary the Free Dictionary Online (2018), the meaning of phrasal verb take over is "to adopt a further responsibility or duty".

#### f. Run Over

"... attested to by consuls and foreign ministers which bore witness that on June ninth last he had been run **over** by a fire engine in Chicago." (chapter 15, page 279, line 40)

Based on Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2018), verb run means move using your legs; act of running on foot; control or manage a business". Moreover, preposition over means "during something". Thus, the combination of verb run and preposition over would create another meaning. Based on Wiktionary the Free Dictionary Online (2018), the meaning of phrasal verb run over is "to drive over, causing injury or death".

## **Discussion**

This chapter addresses the analysis's results with reference to the relevant theory, focusing on how the word "over" was utilized based on the sentence structure in the novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude" and how it served as a preposition, adverb, adjective, and phrasal verb.

# 1. Word "over" as a Preposition

To response the first objectives on analyzing about the features of over based on the structure in a sentence in novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude", the researchers used syntactic analysis. Syntactically, over as a preposition came in front of noun or pronoun and referred to noun or pronoun. It seemed that the data

proved the statement from Hayato et al (2015) that preposition is a word which typically comes in front of a noun phrase.

The second research objectives were to analyze the meaning of over found in a sentence in novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude". To response this objective, the researchers used semantic analysis. Semantically, based on lexical meaning in The Merriam-Webster Dictionary Application (2022), preposition over means "above in position, authority and scope; more than; on, upon; through the medium of; all through; on or to the other side or beyond; during; on account of; along the length of". However, only when we look at how the word is used as a part of the whole and not simply by itself can we accurately evaluate and interpret what it means. This agrees with O'Grady and Archibald's (2016) definition of semantics as the grammar-related element that deals with meaning and interpretation.

Furthermore, based on lexical meaning in Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2018), lexically preposition "over" can mean "resting on the surface of and partly or completely covering something; in or to a position higher than but not touching something; from one side of something to the other; so as to cross something and be on the other side; in or on all or most parts of something; more than a particular time; used to show that somebody has control or authority. These results allow us to deduce that the preposition "over" has a variety of lexical meanings. Prepositions, according to Sricai (2016), express a variety of relationships between words, between phrases, the most prevalent of which are those relating to time, place (position), and mental or emotional dispositions.

# 2. Word "over" as an Adverb

To response the first research objectives about the features of over based on the structure in a sentence in novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude", the researchers used syntactic analysis. It was discovered that in some sentences, the term "over" served as an adverb. Syntactically, particle over as an adverb usually followed and modified verb, adjective, or another adverb. However, in other instances the adverb "over" did not immediately follow the verb but rather was placed after the object. The findings seem to support Phuyathip's (2019) theory that adverbs are a significant word class that mostly consists of words that modify verbs, adjectives, and other adverbs.

The second research objective was to evaluate is the meaning of over found in a sentence in novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude". To response the objectives the researchers used semantic analysis. Semantically, in Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2018: 311), adverb over means "outwards and downwards from an upright position; from one side to another side; across a road; above; more; remaining; ended; so as to cover something completely". When used as an adverb, the term over serves to qualify the activities that are described, the details that are noted, and the assertion that is made (Hussain, 2014). Additionally, Hussain (2014) notes that adverbs are flexible and moveable, often being shifted inside a sentence or within a specific time frame.

## 3. Word "over" as an Adjective

To response the first research objectives about the features of over based on the structure in a sentence in novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude", the researchers used syntactic analysis. Syntactically, over as an adjective came before noun and after verb or auxiliary verb. The function of over as an adjective was as a modifier in a noun phrase and as a complement in a verb phrase. It seemed that data proved the theory from Kherbach and Mocan (2015), that there are two main positions for adjectives, (1) as a modifier in a noun phrase (She is wearing a red dress) and (2) as a complement in a verb phrase (Her new dress is red).

The second research objective was analyzing the meaning of over found in a sentence in novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude". To response this objective, the researchers used semantic analysis. Semantically, based on lexical meaning in Wiktionary the Free Dictionary Online (2018), adj over is "discontinued, ended, and concluded". Readers can understand and infer the meaning of word over in the "One Hundred Years of Solitude" book by applying semantic analysis of words. By examining the grammatical structure of sentences, paragraphs, and entire texts, as well as the relationships between individual words within a given context, semantic analysis enables readers to comprehend and analyze entire texts. Additionally, semantic analysis helps readers connect the syntactic structures of phrases, clauses, sentences, and paragraphs to the level of the writing as a whole and to their meanings regardless of the language used to express them (Ejabena, 2014).

## 4. Over as Particle in a Phrasal Verb

To response the first research objective about the features of over based on the structure in a sentence in novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude", the researchers used syntactic analysis. Syntactically, over as particle in a phrasal verb usually combined with verb and it would change the meaning. Phrasal verbs are multi-word verbs that, like single-word verbs, convey action of the body or mind (Heid, 2015). The phrasal verb consists Phrasal verbs consist of a basic verb + another word or words, usually a preposition or adverb. According to Heid (2015) Phrasal verbs can often have different meanings from the basic verbs that they use. The usage of the phrase over also reveals the varied meaning of the phrasal verb. We can see in the book "One Hundred Years of Solitude" that a different fundamental verb will have a different meaning when coupled with the word "over".

The second research objective was analyzing the meaning of over found in a sentence in novel "One Hundred Years of Solitude". Semantic analysis is used to answer this question. Semantically, particle over and verb have their own meaning. The combination of over as particle with verb into a phrasal verb would generate a new meaning. There was the meaning changed of over and verb when they were combined.

## Conclusion

From the finding and discussions the researchers can sum up that to differentiate the features and meaning of over as a pure preposition, an adverb, an adjective, and as particle in a phrasal verb, it can be seen by its position and function in a sentence. Particle over as a preposition comes in front of noun or pronoun and refers to noun or pronoun. Particle over as an adverb usually follows and modifies verb, adjective, or another adverb. But in some cases, over as an adverb not directly follows the verb but they are separated by object. Particle over as an adjective can occur before noun and also occur after verb or auxiliary verb. The function of over as an adjective is as a modifier in a noun phrase and as a complement in a verb phrase. Over can perform as particle in a phrasal verb usually combines with verb and it will generate different meaning. The combination of verb and particle over become a phrasal verb will generate a new meaning.

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