

MORPHOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF VERBS IN FRENCH

Nargiza Khalillaeva

Student of Uzbekistan State World Languages University.

Dostonjon Khurramov

The tutor of the faculty of English philology of UzDJTU.

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Abstract. In this article special characteristics of verbs in French will be expressed.

Key words: verbs, transitive verbs, intransitive verbs, person, movement, item, forms of verbs.

МОРФОЛОГИЧЕСКАЯ ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКА ГЛАГОЛОВ ВО ФРАНЦУЗСКОМ ЯЗЫКЕ

Аннотация. В данной статье будут выражены особенности глаголов французского языка.

Ключевые слова: глаголы, переходные глаголы, непереходные глаголы, лицо, движение, предмет, формы глаголов.

Khalillayeva Nargiza Ravshanbek's daughter was born in Khorezm, Uzbekistan in September 16, 2003. Currently she is the student of French philology faculty of Uzbekistan State World Languages University. She is the official member of international "Iqra foundation", "Asih Sasami Indonesia Global Writes", "Juntos por las Letras" of Argentina, "Creativity Forum for Culture, Arts an Peace" of Rome. Also she is the graduate of "Shine" girls academy.

Grammatical categories like transitivity, intransitivity, positive-negative forms, voice, person, number, moods, tenses are considered special characteristics of verbs. Person (la personne) shows the attitude of the doer of the action to the speaker. The number (le nombre) category indicates whether the possessor is singular or plural through verb forms.

Singular	Plural	Singular	Plural
1 st person Je parle	Nous parlons	J'aime	Nous aimons
2 nd person Tu parles	Vous parlez	Tu aimes	Vous aimez
3 rd person Il (elle)parle	Ils(elles) parlent	Il(elle)aime	Ils (elles)aiment

Mood (le mode) means the relation of the action understood from the verb to reality, and it expresses that the action is actually being performed and is forced to be performed:

The indicative mood (Indicatif)	The imperative m. (impératif)	The Conditional m. (conditionnel)	The subjunctive mood (Subjonctif)
He is walking.	Walk !	He would walk.	He should walk.
Il marche.	Marchez!	Il marcherait	Qu'il marche

Tense (le temps) indicates the relation of the action to the time of speech. Action indicates that it is performed before, at the same time, or after the time being spoken.

Présent de l'indicatif	Passé composé	Futur simple	Imparfait
Il joue	Il a joué	Il jouera	Il jouait
He is playing.	He played.	He is going to play.	He was playing.
Elle chante	Elle a chanté	Elle chantera	Elle chantait
She is singing.	She sang.	She is going to sing.	She was singing.

The voice (*la voix*) shows the relationship between the doer of the action and the object.
Le professeur a puni cet élève hier Cet élève a été puni par le professeur hier
The teacher punished this pupil yesterday. This pupil was punished by the teacher
yesterday.

La fillette mange des pommes
A girl ate the apples.

Des pommes sont mangées par la fille
Apples was eaten by a girl.

Personal and impersonal forms of verbs (Les formes personnelles et non personnelles)

Not all forms of verbs have a personal category, therefore there are personal and impersonal forms of verbs. Personal forms of verbs change depending on the person and the act as a linking verb (verbe copule) in a sentence or a noun clause.

Il travaille à l'usine
Elle parle bien anglais
Elle est devenue
professeur

He works in a factory She speaks English very well She grew up as a teacher

Je vais à l'école	Je parle vite français	J'ai besoin d'un stylo
I am going to school	I speak fast in French	I need a pen

Impersonal forms of verbs (l'infinitif), adjectives (le participe présent, le participe passé, le participe passé composé) and adverbs (gérondif)

The impersonal forms of verbs do not change according to the person, they can act as a different parts of the sentence:

Il pense partir Il aime visiter Il adore lire (infinitive objectless complement)

Je répète les règles étudiées C'est mon film préféré (adjective determiner)

Nous marchons en causant Il marche en chantant (relative adverb)

Transitive and intransitive verbs (Les verbes transitifs et intransitif)

Prendre, lire , écrire – transitive verbs Aller, venir, écrire- intransitive verbs
Verbs that indicate the action affects of the object are called transitive verbs (verbes intrasitifs)

J'ouvre la porte – I opened the door (Action affects the item)

Il reprit son livre – He took his book (Action affects the item)

Verbs that indicate action do not affect the object are called intransitive verbs (verbes intransitifs)

J'ai déjà mangé – I have already eaten (Action does not affect the object)

Il a neigé pendant des jours – It snowed for days (Action does not affect the object)

Transitive verbs are of two types depending on the object they require.

1) Transitive verbs with correct objects:

J'étudie le français. Je l'étudie (Qu'est-ce que j'étudie?)

2) Transitive verbs with an infinitive complement used with a preposition:

Elle refuse de partir. Elle le refuse (Qu'est-ce qu'elle refuse ?)

Compliments that follow intransitive verbs always come with a preposition:

Je pense à mes examens. Il se sert du dictionnaire.

A transitive verb can require both an objectless and with object:

Il donne le stylo à son ami.

The transitive or intransitive nature of the verb is understood from the sentence:

Sortir (vi)de la classe Sortir (vt)un crayon Descendre (vi)du train Descendre (vt)la valise

To go out of the classroom To take out the pen To get off the tram To unload

In the dictionary, transitive verbs are represented by vt, intransitive verbs vi. Some intransitive verbs change their meaning when they become transitive verbs:

Get on	Je monte au autobus	get off	Elle a déjà descendue
monter	I am getting on the bus	descendre	She has already got off

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