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SYNTACTIC CATEGORIES ANALYSIS OF "A SERVICE OF LOVE"

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1. ABSTRACT

This research article examines the basic, foundational and initial syntactic categories which are the lexical and phrasal categories. The descriptive research method was used only. The 20 sentences for analysis were taken from the short story *A Service of Love* written by William Sydney Porter better known by his pen name *O. Henry*. This study was done because the examination of lexical categories is the basic, core and compulsory foundation of English Syntax. The types of lexical categories of the sentence reveal the grammatical elements in a better way. The quantity and percentage of lexical and phrasal categories was visualized by constructing tables in a disciplined manner. The researcher studied the lexical categories which include the traditional English parts of speech and the construction of tree diagrams. The theories used for developing basic conceptual structure were the theories of syntax like "transformational generative grammar" and "syntactic structures". The short story constituted complex and difficult order of sentences. The findings and conclusions also addressed the solutions to these difficulties and improvements for syntactic categories analysis. The literature review considered productive English syntax articles, thesis and books and was strictly relevant.

Key Terms; English Syntax, Tree diagram, Syntactic categories, English parts of speech, Lexical category, Phrasal category, NP (Noun Phrase), VP (Verb Phrase), Adv.P (Adverb Phrase), AP (Adjective Phrase), DP (Determiner Phrase), PP (Prepositional Phrase).

Carnie, (2006) tells us that English Syntax is a subset of English Grammar. English Syntax is a tool used in writing proper grammatical sentences. English Syntax and English Grammar are two overlapping disciplines which deal with the construction of words, phrases and sentences in English language. English Syntax is the part of English Grammar dealing with the other types of English Grammatical units. English Grammar is traditionally subdivided into two different but inter-related areas of study; English Morphology and English Syntax. English Syntax includes sentence structure, word order (SVO) and syntactic rules. Noam Chomsky, during his visit to India stated that; *The First Generative Grammar in the Modern Sense was Panini's Grammar* (Carnie, 2006).

Brinton, (2000) fruitfully explicates that English Syntax is the branch of English Grammar which is concerned with word syntactic structure, phrase syntactic structure, clause syntactic structure, sentence syntactic structure. The basic and foundational concept is the lexical categories which includes parts of speech. Traditional grammar constitutes eight to twelve lexical categories e.g. Verb, Conjunction, Pronoun, Particle, Noun, Interjection, Determiner, Adverb, Preposition, Adjective etc. In phrase structure rules, phrasal categories can occur to the left of the arrow while lexical categories cannot. Dependency grammar does not acknowledge phrasal categories (Brinton, 2000).

Lester and Beason, (2005) tells us that he noun can be used for several purposes in a sentence e.g. subject, direct object, indirect object, subject complement, object complement, appositive, adjective, and adverb. A Noun can be used to refer to an idea, quality, substance, phenomenon, thing, place, animal, and person e.g. youth, poverty, friendship, The Holy Quran, Benazir Bhutto, Australia, fright, circulation, ways, kind, sins, night, Greece, philosopher, Plato, godliness, cleanliness, week, end, assignments, chair, cat. The name and the substantive are identical words for noun. The abstract noun introduces abstract concepts, qualities or ideas e.g. happiness, circulation, deny, justice, serenity, stingy, hatred, cruel, drawback, good, sad, fraction, happy, holdout, marry, truth, uptake, liberty, beautiful. A noun can occur together with an attributive adjective or with an article. Verbs and adjectives cannot. Noun is not a semantic category. Noun cannot be characterized in terms of its meaning. The places can be expressed by adverbs, qualities by adjectives, actions and states of existence by verbs. In English linguistics, Noun is an element of an open part of speech, whose members can occur as the main word in the object of a preposition, object of a verb, subject of a clause. The grammatical gender is masculine, feminine or neuter. Modern English retains no morphological agreement of words with grammatical gender. Gender is no longer an inflectional category in modern English. The third person singular personal pronouns are chosen according to the natural gender of their antecedent or referent. The proper noun tells us about unmatched entities e.g. Pakistan, Neptune, Iraq, Mars, Plato, Aristotle, Shakespeare. The common nouns portrays a class of entities e.g. university, school, planet, animal, human. Countable nouns can unite with numerals or counting quantifiers

e.g. every, most, several, one, and two. They are common nouns which can take a plural and indefinite article. Examples of countable nouns are chair, occasion. The uncountable or mass nouns cannot take plurals, cannot combine with number words or quantifiers e.g. transportation, traffic, money, mathematics, information, furniture, criticism, blood, advice, homework. Concrete nouns refer to things which you can sense e.g. apple, tree, universe. A material noun is used for material things e.g. ring, knife, gold, blood. A collective noun is used for group or collection of things e.g. crowd, team, class, army (Lester, Beason, 2005).

Morenberg, (2010) tells us that the verb in syntax depicts an action (learn, run, walk, read, bring), an occurrence (become, happen), state of being (be, exist, stand). Particle cannot be inflected. Particle has no lexical definition e.g. adverbial particle (up, out), infinitival particle (to), negative particle (not), imperative particles (do, let). Verb agrees with the subject in person, number or gender. Non-finite verbs in English are infinitives, participles and gerunds. English personal pronouns still have three cases (nominative, accusative, genitive). Mood is the grammatical feature of verbs used for signaling modality (verbal inflections). Grammatical moods are all finite forms of verb only. Subjunctive mood expresses an anticipated or hypothetical action or state including wishes or commands and excluding actuality. Finite verb has a subject and can function as the root of an independent clause. Finite verbs are a centre of activity for grammatical information of voice, mood, aspect, tense, number, person, gender. Nonfinite verbs cannot complete a clause such as going or to live. Apart from to be, English agreements are in the third person singular (present tense form of verbs) which are marked by adding -s. Copular verb links a subject to a complement, that refers to the subject e.g. sounds, smell, was. Copula is a word used to link the subject of a sentence with a predicate; commonly a subject complement or an adverbial e.g. be, seem, become, appear, look, remain. Copular verbs precede nouns or adjectives in a sentence. Copulas connect the adjective or noun to the subject. The copular verb "be" is manifested in eight forms: be, is, am, are, was, were, been and being in English. Intransitive verb does not have a direct object and transitive verb is followed by a noun or noun phrase (Morenberg, 2010).

Huddleston and Pullum, (2005) states that the adjectives can be attributive, predicative or substantive. The types of adjective are prepositive, postpositive and nominalized. Adjectives modify noun or noun phrase or describe its referent. Adverbs modify verb, adjective, determiner, clause, preposition, or sentence. Adverbs express manner, place, time, frequency, degree and level of certainty (Huddleston, Pullum, 2005).

Matthews, (2014) explicates that the determiners are always followed by nouns or noun phrases. The theoreticians unify determiners and pronouns into a single class. "The" is the definite article. "A" and "An" are the indefinite articles. The demonstrative determiners are this, that, these, those, that one, this one, my one, yonder. The possessive determiners are my, your, her, its, his, our, their. The cardinal numbers 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, three hundred, forty two are all determiners. The quantifier determiners are all, some, many, few, a lot, every, most of, number. The distributive

determiners are each, either, any, and neither. The interrogative determiners are whose, what and which (Matthews, 2014).

Simon and Wiese, (2002) states that the examples of pronouns are who, it, them, he, something, me, that, you, I. Pronouns are one of the parts of speech. Modern theorists argue that pronouns do not form a single class. The pronoun "their" is both singular and plural. The adjective associated with "pronoun" is "pronominal". Pronouns are substitutable for nouns and marked for a person. The possessive pronoun "ours" act as a determiner (our freedom). The demonstrative pronoun "this" will act as a determiner (this gentleman). The indefinite pronoun "some" act as a determiner (some frogs). The negative pronoun "none" act as a determiner (no information). The interrogative pronoun will act as a determiner (which option). Some linguists do not classify pronouns in a single category and some do not agree that pronouns substitute nouns or noun categories. Paul Postal regard pronouns as determiners with noun or NP deleted. The "we" and "you" might be considered as determiners (We Brits, You tennis players). Some linguists unite pronouns and determiners into a single class. It is called as sub categorization or valency. Determiners take a noun phrase complement like transitive verbs but the pronouns cannot. The meaning of pronoun is dependent on another referential element. The use of pronoun involves anaphora. The study of binding focuses upon the grammatical behavior of pronouns and their relationship with antecedents. In the context of binding, English reflexive and reciprocal pronouns (himself, each other) are called as anaphors and not as pronominal elements. There are five kinds of pronouns. The personal pronouns indicate the person speaking (first person as I, we, my, us, me, our), the person spoken to (second person as you, your), the person spoken of (third person as he, she, they, his, him, her, them, their). The demonstrative pronoun points to some noun in a sentence. The examples of demonstrative pronouns are such, none, one, those, these, that, this. The relative pronoun points to the noun going before and connects two sentences together e.g. who, that, which, whose, whom. The interrogative pronoun (which, whom, whose, who) ask questions. The examples of reflexive pronouns are; yourself, myself, himself, ourselves, yourselves, themselves. The positive degree of adjective tells us about quality only. The comparative degree tells us about comparison of the two objects. The superlative degree tells us about comparison of one object with all other objects of the same class. The principles of binding theory could be applied to different sets of pronouns. In English, reflexive and reciprocal pronouns are attached to the principle A of binding theory. An anaphor (reciprocal or reflexive e.g. each other) must be bound in its governing category (the clause). In syntactic structure it must have an antecedent and have a direct relationship with its referent (C-command relationship). Personal pronouns (him, them) are attached to principle **B** of binding theory. A pronoun must be free in its governing category (clause). Anaphora is the use of an expression whose interpretation depends upon another expression in context. An Antecedent is an expression that gives its meaning to a pro-form in grammar. Binding is the distribution of anaphoric elements (Simon, Wiese, 2002).

Ginting, (2009) explains that the transitive verbs have direct objects (*no prepositions required to connect verb and object*). Intransitive verbs do not have a direct object. The regular verbs end in –ed or –d. The irregular verbs change forms, such as write- wrote. The linking verbs express a state of being, such as shows and appear (Ginting ,2009).

3. ENGLISH SYNTAX

Finegan, (2008) tells us that English syntax is the English word order. English syntax is the study of rules which govern the formation of English sentence. Syntax studies "generative grammar". Syntax studies the structure of the whole clause, projection of phrases from a head and diversity in visualizations of verb phrases. Modals and auxiliaries seem to be types of verbs. The complement of modals and auxiliaries is also a verb phrase. Modals only have finite forms; we don't find infinitive forms of modals. There is no infinitive form of "can". Similarly, there is no past participle form of "can" or "will". Modals require that the verbs that follow them; be non-finite. Modals can't take another phrase headed by modal as its complement. Modals are closed class functional categories. "Inflection" covers "agreement" and "tense". Modals always precede the negation. Main verbs cannot occur before the negation. Modals can precede the adverbs, when the adverbs occur in the middle of the sentence. English Syntax is the part of English Grammar. The study of English sentence structure is also called English Syntax. The most crucial element in a sentence is "verb". In analyzing sentences, the "structural units" are called "constituents". The linear and hierarchical order of constituents can be constructed. In English, Subject is defined as the NP; that is immediately dominated by the sentence. Direct object is defined as an NP that is immediately dominated by VP. Every sentence does not constitute a direct object. The verb lacking a direct object contains an intransitive verb. In Syntactic terms, a referring expression is an NP (Noun Phrase) and a predication expression a VP (Verb Phrase). A sentence and a clause consist of a verb with the necessary set of NP's. Syntactic rules are of two types; "Phrase structure rules" and "syntactic operations". The latter may be called "transformations". Phrase structure rules generate underlying constituent structure (Finegan, 2008).

Middleton, (2019) tells us about rules of Subject-Verb agreement. The rule of "and"; When two subjects are attached with the word "and", then plural verb is used E.g. He and I *were* friends. You and he *are* rich. When two nouns are attached with the word "and" and represents the same thing, then singular verb is used, because subject remains singular E.g. the teacher and author is entering the classroom. If one article come before two nouns, and two different things or concepts are talked about. E.g. the director and producer *have* come. The teacher and student *have* come. When some singular nouns are attached with "and" and are used in pairs; When this condition occurs, singular verbs are used with subjects because they represent the same thing, concept, or dish E.g. Bread and Butter *is* my favorite dish. Rice and Curry *is* a tasty food. A horse and carriage *is* coming here. When two singular subjects are attached with the word "and"

and the words "each", and "every" are used before one of them; then singular verb is used with it E.g. Each boy and each girl is invited. Every man, woman and child was given food. No man and no woman were present there. When the names of two numbers are attached with the word "and" then singular verb is used E.g. Two and two is four. When "or" or "nor" is present between two subjects; then verb will be according to nearest subject E.g. You or he is guilty. Are you or he guilty? Either he or we have to do this work. Neither Rowena nor her friends were present at the party. Was neither Rowena nor her friends present at the party? The "Error of proximity" is also a rule in Subject-Verb agreement e.g. the behavior of the students was not proper. "Behavior" is an abstract, uncountable noun. The legs of the dog of my friend *are* broken. When two subjects are attached with the words like "as well as", with, along with, together with, and not, like, unlike, including, excluding, but, except, besides etc. Then verbs will be used according to the first main subject which was stressed mostly E.g. You as well as he are guilty. He as well as you is guilty. Rowena together with her friends was present at the party. The Robber with all his gang members was arrested. My father unlike my sister is very strict. If subjects are attached with the words like "not only" and "but also" then verb will be according to the final subject E.g. Not only David but also his brothers are very arrogant. Not only the students but also the teacher is good. When subjects are like each, every, either, neither, one, everyone, anyone, no one, someone, nobody, somebody etc. then singular verb will be used E.g. Each of them has a pen. Everyone was present there. Somebody has stolen my book. Either of them has stolen your book. Neither of the two boys is guilty. The words like both, many, some, and few are plural; and if they are used as subject then plural verb is used E.g. Both of them are good in studies. Many of them were absent. Some have been arrested. Few leaders are honest. Some nouns look like plurals because of "s" or "es" addition but only singular verb is used for them. Cities/Countries; the United States, Wales, Athens etc. Games; Billiards, Darts, Draughts, etc. Diseases; Measles, Mumps, Rickets, etc. Subjects; Language, Literature, Linguistics etc. E.g. The United States is a great country. Billiards is an interesting game. Linguistics is the scientific study of language. The news is true. Some noun looks like singular because there is no "s" or "es" with them but originally they are plural E.g. People, Folk, Gentry, Cattle, Police, and Children etc. Some nouns consists of two pieces E.g. Scissors, Tongs, Pliers, Spectacles, Glasses, Trousers, Shoes etc. Plural verb is always used E.g. My Scissors are sharp. Your trousers are very tight. The shoes are very dirty. Where are my Spectacles? If the phrase "a pair of" is used before all these words then a singular verb are used e.g. a Pair of Scissors has been purchased. A Pair of Shoes was presented to him. When a plural noun denotes some specific quantity/amount considered as "one whole" the verb is singular E.g. Fifty miles is a long distance to cover. Ten hours is enough time for this work. Ten thousand rupees *is* a good amount. Ten thousand rupees *have* been distributed among the poor people. We commonly use singular verb with uncountable things and plural verb for countable things. In optative sentences which includes wish, hope, and choice. Plural verb is used for the singular subject E.g. God save the king. God bless you. Long live the king! *After the phrases like "I wish", "as if", "as though", "If"; Plural verb is used with the singular subject E.g. I wish I were a king (Middleton, 2019).

4. RESEARCH PROBLEM

The problem of analysis in this research article is to study the appropriate and beneficial method of constructing lexical and phrasal categories. The problem of analysis is also to calculate the quantity and percentage of the types of lexical and phrasal categories found in the short story of *"A Service of love"*, and visualization of the lexical and phrasal categories and their types through tree diagram.

5. RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

- 1. To examine the quantity and percentage of lexical and phrasal categories and also their types of the selected sample of sentences.
- 2. To find out the dominant types of lexical and phrasal categories and also construct tree diagrams.

6. RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- 1. What is the accurate quantity and percentage of lexical and phrasal categories in the selected sample of sentences?
- 2. What are the dominant types of lexical and phrasal categories and which is the appropriate method to construct tree diagrams?

7. SIGNIFICANCE OF RESEARCH

This research article is greatly helpful and educational for the English syntax students and teachers who are learning or teaching English syntax as a subset of English grammar. The lexical categories included every part of speech which is commonly and frequently used by teachers and students. This study may improve the English language grammatical syntactical skills and possibly beneficial for the upcoming researchers because it portrays types of lexical categories.

8. THEORATICAL FRAMEWORK

The traditional analysis is also known as word class rules. The transformational generative grammar theory was put forward by Noam Chomsky in 1957. In **TGG**, the structure of a sentence is represented by phrase structure trees, which are also known as tree diagrams. In the fourth chapter titled "Phrase Structure", Chomsky discusses phrase structure grammar, a model based on Immediate Constituent Analysis. Noam Chomsky stated three features of **TGG** in his book; "Syntactic Structures" (Chomsky, 1957).

- 1. The linear order of words from left to right.
- 2. The categorization of words into parts of speech.
- 3. The grouping of words.

9. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

These twenty sentences were taken because they were convenient. The tree diagrams for the first time regarding any research in Syntax visualized not only the lexical categories but also their types.



"One" is a gender-neutral third person singular pronoun which can act as a determiner or as a pronoun.



"That" is a demonstrative pronoun used for the noun "Art".



"Middle West" is the North Central Region of U.S.A.



	<u>4. Mr.</u>	and	Mrs. Larrabee	began	housekeeping	in	а	flat.
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When the cardinal number "six" is followed by a noun, then it is an adjective.



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* This sentence lacks a verb which is grammatically and syntactically problematic.



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"Ear" is a singular common concrete noun.





TABLE 1; ACCURATE QUANTITY OF LEXICAL CATEGORIES.

Sr.	LEXICAL		Sr.	LEXICAL	
No.	CATEGORY	QUANTITY	No.	CATEGORY	QUANTITY
		(NO.)			(NO.)
1.	Definite Article.	15	16.	Preposition.	33
2.	Indefinite Article.	8	17.	Possessive	3
				Determiner.	
3.	Personal Pronoun.	17	18.	Abstract Noun.	10
4.	Regular Verb.	14	19.	Coordinating	10
				Conjunction.	
5.	Irregular Verb.	11	20.	Common Noun.	25
6.	Proper Noun.	11	21.	Adjective.	14
7.	Countable Noun.	1	22.	Copular Verb.	3
8.	Mass/Uncountable	4	23.	Auxiliary Verb.	12
	Noun.				
9.	Adverb of Place.	3	24.	Adverb of Manner.	4
10.	Adverb of degree.	4	25.	Demonstrative	3
				Pronoun.	
11.	Indefinite Pronoun.	2	26.	Correlative	1
				Conjunction.	
12.	Interjection.	1	27.	Material Noun.	2
13.	Adverb of negation.	1	28.	Adverb of Time.	1
14.	Possessive Pronoun.	1	29.	Demonstrative	2
				Determiner.	
15.	Determiner.	1	30.	Distributive	1
				Determiner.	
	Total	94		Total	124

Sr. No.	PHRASAL CAREGORIES	QUANTITY (NO.)	Sr. No.	PHRASAL CATEGORIES	QUANTITY (NO.)
1.	NOUN PHRASE	58	4.	ADVERB PHRASE	2
2.	VERB PHRASE	30	5.	DETERMINER PHRASE	1
3.	ADJECTIVE PHRASE	3	6.	PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE	28
	Total	91		Total	31

TABLE 2; ACCURATE QUANTITY OF PHRASAL CATEGORIES.

- Total no. of words or lexical categories = 218.
- Total no. of phrases or phrasal categories = 122.

TABLE 3; ACCURATE PERCENTAGE OF LEXICAL CATEGORIES.

Sr.	LEXICAL	%	Sr.	LEXICAL	%
No.	CATEGORY	70	No.	CATEGORY	70
1.	Definite Article.	6.88%	16.	Preposition.	15.14%
2.	Indefinite Article.	3.66%	17.	Possessive Determiner.	1.38%
3.	Personal Pronoun.	7.80%	18.	Abstract Noun.	4.59%
4.	Regular Verb.	6.42%	19.	Coordinating Conjunction.	4.59%
5.	Irregular Verb.	5.04%	20.	Common Noun.	11.47%
6.	Proper Noun.	5.04%	21.	Adjective.	6.42%
7.	Countable Noun.	0.46%	22.	Copular Verb.	1.38%
8.	Mass/Uncountable Noun.	1.83%	23.	Auxiliary Verb.	5.50%
9.	Adverb of Place.	1.38%	24.	Adverb of Manner.	1.83%
10.	Adverb of degree.	1.83%	25.	Demonstrative Pronoun.	1.38%
11.	Indefinite Pronoun.	0.92%	26.	Correlative Conjunction.	0.46%
12.	Interjection.	0.46%	27.	Material Noun.	0.92%
13.	Adverb of negation.	0.46%	28.	Adverb of Time.	0.46%
14.	Possessive Pronoun.	0.46%	29.	Demonstrative Determiner.	0.92%
15.	Determiner.	0.46%	30.	Distributive Determiner.	0.46%
	Total	43.10%	1	Total	56.90%

Sr. No.	PHRASAL CAREGORIES	%	Sr. No.	PHRASAL CATEGORIES	%
1.	NOUN PHRASE	47.54%	4.	ADVERB PHRASE	1.64%
2.	VERB PHRASE	24.59%	5.	DETERMINER PHRASE	0.82%
3.	ADJECTIVE PHRASE	2.46%	6.	PREPOSITIONAL PHRASE	22.95%
	Total	74.59%		Total	25.41%

TABLE 4; ACCURATE QUANTITY OF PHRASAL CATEGORIES.

TOTAL = 74.59% + 25.41 % = 100%

10. LITERATURE REVIEW

Payne, (1963) tells us about the prototypical nouns which constitute concrete and bounded entities. The plural marking, articles and possession are the morpho-syntactic properties. John Milton and Canada are Proper Nouns. The amorphous quantities (water, sand) and abstract concepts (sincerity, beauty) cannot be counted. Mass nouns commonly take the articles and do not normally take plural marking. The personal pronouns can be nominative, non-nominative and genitive. The English demonstrative pronouns/adjectives are distinguished from the personal and non-personal pronouns. A regular verb conjugation follows the typical pattern. An irregular verb conjugation follows a different pattern. The verb preceded by the particle *to* is an infinitive. The verbal and nominal properties most commonly do not exist in adjectives. The English adjectives can function as descriptive modifiers and attributive predicates. English Adverbs lack morphological properties (Payne, 1963). This current research study started a new and fruitful trend of depicting the types of lexical categories, which are the types of English parts of speech also, and those types are essential for understanding the grammatical and syntactical structures.

Brown and Miller, (1996) tells us that the concepts about syntax which constitute the formal language theory and formal linguistics. Syntax is cognitive reality. The humans are able to learn languages quickly but not all languages. Universal Grammar is biological. The goals in syntactic study are to find the universal principles and language specific parameters. The key ideas in syntax are constituency, sub-categorization, grammatical relations and dependency (Brown, Miller, 1996). This research study considers only the ideas of grammar relevant to English syntax only.

Kim and Sells, (2008) explains that the study of rules which generate an infinite number of grammatical sentences is known as English syntax. The construction of English grammatical

sentences starts from words or English parts of speech which are lexical categories. These lexical categories develop phrasal categories which in result constitute syntactic categories, and sentences. Words can be classified into lexical categories according to meaning, morphological form and syntactic function. The words assassination and construction refer to action but they are always noun. The words remain, bother, appear, and exist are verbs excluding any action. Adjectives can develop comparative and superlative endings. A tensed clause is known as a *finite* clause, as opposed to an infinitive. The constituents are the grouping of words into larger phrasal units. Proper noun cannot occur with a determiner and they do not normally take a plural form. The Subject-Verb agreement is the most important phenomena in English syntax. The subject and the verb need to have an identical number value, and the person value is also involved in agreement relations. A verb lexically specifies the information about the number as well as person values of the subject that it selects for. There are similarities between noun-determiner agreement and subject-verb agreement (Kim, Sells, 2008). While in this research project, the researcher conclude to the fact that, for doing better grammatical and syntactical analysis, one must also analyze the subject-verb agreement of all sentences, in addition to the lexical and phrasal categories.

11. FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The appropriate method to construct lexical categories is to visualize the "types" of lexical categories which include the types of parts of speech. The syntactical structure can be studied by focusing on the lexical, phrasal and syntactical categories. The specific constituent elements elaborate the comprehension of the grammatical and syntactical structures. The sentences of the short story *A Service of Love* were a bit difficult for analysis and were complex as compared to other literary works. The specific types of the lexical categories which occurred mostly during the analysis were prepositions, articles and common nouns. They were least occurrences of interjections, countable nouns and interrogative adverbs. The English used by William Sydney Porter better known by his pen name O. Henry was not easier or simple. The initial words of sentences were not commonly used starting words in ordinary sentences. The short stories are better for conducting syntactic constituent or syntactic categories analysis at a short level. English syntax is a component of English grammar so research and analysis must be done in relation to the study of English grammatical features and characteristics.

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