

The Syntactic Structures of Korean

A Construction Grammar Perspective

Covering both core and peripheral phenomena, *The Syntactic Structures of Korean* is a concrete and precise grammar of the language. Based on the framework of Sign-based Construction Grammar, it provides a grammar of Korean which is computationally implementable and cognitively viable. Remarkably broad yet in-depth, it is an outstanding analysis of Korean syntax and semantics which will be welcomed by those working in linguistics and the Korean language.

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Acknowledgments

This book develops a construction-based grammar of Korean couched upon the framework of HPSG (Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar). In doing so, I have two agendas: to develop an empirically feasible grammar that can cover not only core but also peripheral phenomena, and to offer a concrete and simple Korean grammar that can be computationally implementable and cognitively viable.

The book starts with an overview of its theoretical foundations, offering a brief comparison between constraint-based and derivational views of Korean grammar. Chapter 1 reviews the key grammatical architecture of the constraint-based view of Korean grammar. It further explains why grammatical constructions play a fundamental role in the theory of Korean syntax. The rest of the chapters in the book discuss major syntactic constructions in Korean whose intriguing properties have challenged Korean linguistics. Most of the discussion in these chapters is based on my previous work published in various domestic as well as international journals for the last twenty years, but each part is thoroughly revised and more fully developed. The constructions discussed in the book include NP structures, the case assignment system, complex predicate constructions (auxiliary, light verb, negative auxiliary, serial verb), verbal and nominal coordination, long distance dependency constructions (passive, topic and focus, wh-question, relative clause), and honorification. In each chapter, I try to show that a construction-based perspective can offer a streamlined analysis of the phenomena in question, while allowing tight interactions between lexicon and constructional constraints.

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Abbreviations

AC auxiliary construction

ACC accusative AGT agentive AGR agreement

ARC Argument Realization Constraint

ARG argument

ARG-ST argument-structure

ASP aspect AUX auxiliary

AVM attribute-value matrix

BAKGR background CAUS causative

C-CONT constructional content

CL classifier

CNPC Complex Noun Phrase Constraint

CONTRA contrastive **COMIT** comitative **COMP** complementizer **COMPS** complements **CONJ** conjunctive **CONN** connective COORD coordination COP copula

CSC Coordination Structure Constraint

CxG Construction Grammar

CXT context
DAT dative
DECL declarative
DEL delimiter

DPC Direct perception construction EHRC externally headed relative clause

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> xii Abbreviations

FIN finitive FOC focus FUT future

GCASE grammatical case

GEN genitive

GP gerundive phrase HFP Head Feature Principle

HON honorific

Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar **HPSG**

IHRC internally headed relative clause

IMP imperative IND index **INST** instrument

Korean Phrase Structure Grammar **KPSG**

LEX lexical

LFG Lexical Functional Grammar

LFN long form negation

LOC locative

Light Verb construction **LVC**

MNC Multiple Nominative construction

MOD modified

NCC noun complement clause

nominalizer **NMLZ NOM** nominative **NONFIN** nonfinite

NPI negative polarity item

PASS passive PF phonetic form **PHON** phonology PL plural

PNE prenominal ending POS parts of speech

present PRED predicate **PROP** propositive **PST** past OUE question RC relative clause

RELS relations

PRES

Sign-Based Construction Grammar **SBCG**

SCASE semantic case SEM semantics



Abbreviations xiii

SFN short form negation

SG singular SIT situation SPR specifier SRC source **SUBJ** subject SUG suggestive SYN syntax topic TOP VAL valence

VALP Valence Principle

VGP verbal gerundive phrases

VN verbal noun

XARG external argument