

The Causative Function of the Verb to Make

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ABSTRACT

The study material in this work was examples of functional styles such as conversational speech, newspaper and journalistic style and scientific style, therefore it is necessary to dwell on their characteristics in more detail. It is known that the problem of delimiting linguistic styles is very difficult, since the signs of the same language style are partially repeated not only in other or other language styles, but are characteristics of the literary language itself in general.

KEYWORDS: *causative, newspaper-journalistic style, colloquial speech, scientific style, verbal causative, grammatical function, verbal, semantic structure*

In colloquial speech and in newspaper-journalistic style, the causative function of the verb to make is undoubtedly leading: 34.8% of the sample - in colloquial speech, 31.5% - in newspaper-journalistic style. In a scientific style, this function of the verb to make is presented in 18.2% of the sample and comes in second in terms of frequency of use. Analyzing the linguistic literature on the issue of causation, we found two approaches to the problem - "broad" and "narrow" understanding of causation. The first approach is demonstrated by the researcher L.G. Kovalskaya. The author draws attention to the referential significance of the object when characterizing the verb and argues that between the causative meaning of the verb and the referential attribution of the object, there is a fairly clearly traceable relationship, which makes it possible to distinguish two distinct and opposed types of causation in the system of verbal causative meanings:

causation of sign;

1) *He made her happy* and the causation of being;

2) *She made hats*

In the first case, a causative situation is presented with its own specific way of indicating the causative event and the degree of concretization of the verbal action. The object argument performs the function of an object of influence and is interpreted by case grammars as a patient. Expanding the proposition of the causable event in this example, we get approximately the following sentence: *She was/became happy*.

In the second case, the verb to make performs the function of a creative tool, which presupposes the presence of an object introduced into existence, interpreted as an object of the result [1]. In the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, the second use of the verb to make is not included in the category of causative, but is analyzed as a case of the realization of the meaning of "to produce" in the verb to make. This point of view seems to us more convincing. Based on a narrower approach to the concept of causation, we define its following structural and semantic composition: the subject of causation, the verb to make in the role of the causator, the object of influence and the caused action. When analyzing the factual material, the following types of causation were identified, expressed through the verb *to make*:

Causation of action

Colloquial Speech:

1. *Lord Goring: Well, I'll make her stand by her husband. (O. Wilde, "An Ideal Husband", p.234)*
2. *Lady Plymdale: It always makes people think he beats her when they are alone. (O. Wilde, "Lady Windermere's Fan", p.45)*
3. *Cecil Ghaham: That woman can make one do anything she wants. (O. Wilde, "Lady Windermere's Fan", p. 48)*

Newspaper-journalistic style:

1. *We have a start, then toward understanding how to make corporate values work. (The Fortune, June 10, 1996, p. 138)*
2. *The shops of Marks & Spencer are enough to make you despair for the future banks. (The Economist, April 30, 1994, p. 31)*
3. *But the IIF warned against efforts by the International Monetary Fund to make private sector lenders share the burden of reviving economies in crisis by lending those more even if they were still in arrears on their private debts. (The Financial Times, January 28, 1999, p. 4)*

In the scientific style, this type of causation is represented by a few examples. This can be explained by the fact that in scientific speech, authors rarely resort to influencing readers, and even more so to using such means of language that would force the reader to perform this or that action. It can also be assumed that the frequency of the use of the causation of action in a scientific style may depend on the field and subject of the text. We can conclude that this type of causation is not typical for philological texts. Nevertheless, when analyzing the scientific style, we found the following examples:

Scientific style:

1. *An acquaintance with these larger works will not only make the student aware of what kind of information about words is available in them, but it will leave him much better prepared to make efficient use of desk-size dictionary with which he has some familiarity. (Readings in Modern English Lexicology, p. 193)*
2. *If we make the main clause represent , the event acting as a 'stimulus', we can express the reaction by the preposition 'to' followed by an abstract noun of emotion. (University Grammar of English, p. 153)*

So, we see that in these sentences the causation of the action is found, expressed by the infinitive to the object term in the verb to make. The meaning of the verb to make is implemented here as to induce smb to do smth. Thus, the collocation of the verb to make in this function is implemented in the following model:

N-/Prn-make-N/Prn-Vbare infinitive

The second kind of causation, expressed using the verb to make, can be defined as the causation of a sign, because the object of influence here does not perform an action, but acquires a certain psychophysical state as a result of the received influence. In the Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, this meaning of the verb is described as to put into a certain state, but the semantic structure of the sentence and its distributive model indicate the legitimacy of analyzing these cases as a certain type of causation:

Colloquial speech:

1. Mrs Erlinne: If you do, I'll make my name so infamous, that it will mar every moment of her life. (Wilde, "An Ideal Husband", p. 84)
2. Gerald: At least it makes the future better, better for you, mother. (O. Wilde, "A Woman of No Importance", p. 157)
3. Lord Caversham: At present I make your mother's life miserable on your account. (O. Wilde, "An Ideal Husband", p. 236)

Newspaper-journalistic style:

1. The team work that is such a unique part of our culture makes each of us stronger, smarter, more successful than we could be alone. (The Financial Times, January 28, 1999, p. 5)
2. General Motors' phenomenal success made the company complacent. (The Forbes, October 11, 1993, p. 26)
3. Their decisions can make your old applications incompatible with your fancy new machine. (The Fortune, June 10, 1996, p. 100)

In the scientific style, there were significantly more examples of verbs to make with a causation of a trait than cases of causation of an action (16.8% versus 1.4% of the sample):

Scientific style:

1. Even the weakened locative meaning of the preceding types seems to have made the particle undesirable for verbal composition. (D. Crystal Investigating English Style, p. 57)
2. The interrelations make it convenient, however, to bring them together. (Readings in Modern English Lexicology, p. 39)
3. The noun modified by the -s genitive may be omitted if the context makes its identity clear. (University Grammar of English, p. 95)

Thus, the causative function of the verb to make in this case is implemented in the following model:

N/Prn-make-N/prn-adj

The second grammatical function of the verb to make is the function of the connective verb. In our material, this use of the verb to make is characterized by low frequency: in the Colloquial speech to make in the ligamentous function it is 1.2% of the studied material, in the newspaper-journalistic style - 0.75% of the sample, and in the scientific style these cases are not represented at all. Here are examples of the use of the verb to make in a connective function:

Colloquial speech: Carrie: Perhaps you are going to make too good a wife. (T.A.P. "The Autumn Garden", p. 140)

Newspaper-journalistic style: «I think Havel's a wonderful man...I hope he makes a wonderful president, but I still think the boal is still out». (World Monitor, November, 1990, p.28)

This meaning of the verb to make is characterized by the following pattern:

N/Prn-make-Nprofessional,

Where the noun denotes the acquisition by a person of certain qualities, properties, most often professional.

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