

VOICE CONSTRUCTION IN ENGLISH AND SHAHMUKHI PUNJABI LANGUAGE: A CORPUS-DRIVEN COMPARATIVE STUDY

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Abstract

The present research proposes the corpus-driven study of voice construction in English and Shahmukhi Punjabi language. The main objective of the study was to analyze the voice structural (dis) similarities in English and Shahmukhi Punjabi language. The exploratory qualitative research design was used and the data were collected through purposeful sampling technique from the repository Rvel.org website that was translated by Punjabi native speakers of Pakistan. This study employed analytical framework of English passive voice construction that was derived from the 'Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English' by Douglas Bibber, 1998. The framework of Punjabi passive voice was developed on the basis of Punjabi corpus findings. For Analytical procedure, there were software and corpus tools MAT tagger and AntConc 3.5 (Laurence Anthony, 2019), Microsoft Excel & Syntax tree generator was used for the systematic tagging and saving the time for manually tagging & counting frequencies. The findings conclude that the similarities and differences were expressed in two languages on the basis of present, past and future auxiliaries, transitive verbs and morphemic aspects. There is no much contextual difference was found in both languages. This study will enhance the understanding of cross-linguistic and cultural variations in grammatical structures. The results contribute to a deeper comprehension of passive voice in Punjabi as well as in other regional languages of any speech community.

Keywords: Corpus, Active Voice, Grammar, Shahmukhi, Punjabi

Introduction

Language is a semiotic system encompassing norms and signs through which individuals interact, share ideas and build social and cultural identities (Crystal, 2018). English as global and dominant language has been extensively studied to uncover its linguistic features and their influence on the grammatical structures of other languages (McArthur, 2002; Graddol, 2006). As well as Voice construction, a fundamental grammatical feature plays a significant role in shaping syntactic and semantic structures in English language. The active voice highlights the doer of an action, often following a Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) order, while the passive voice shifts emphasis to the action or its recipient commonly employing an Object-Verb-Subject (OVS) structure (Pullum, 2002; Huddleston & Pullum, 2005). This distinction affects clarity, tone and focus in communication with passive voice frequently preferred in academic and scientific contexts due to its emphasis on processes and outcomes over agents (Yannuar et al., 2014; Ferreira, 2021). Punjabi is one of South Asia's most widely spoken and written language in two distinct scripts; Shahmukhi and Gurmukhi. Shahmukhi a Perso-Arabic script predominantly used in Pakistan that plays a crucial role in cultural and linguistic identity but remains underexplored in linguistic research, particularly in the realm of voice construction (Bhatia, 2013). This gap is understanding in significant given the historical and cultural importance of Shahmukhi, which represents over 60% of medieval Punjabi literature (Saini & Lehal, 2008). Despite the extensive research on English voice constructions, there is limited comparative analysis involving Shahmukhi Punjabi. Existing studies on voice constructions in English emphasize their

functional roles in academic writing and the nuanced interplay between syntactic structures and semantics (Huddleston & Geoffrey, 2002; Zhang et al., 2020). While the passive voice is often critiqued for verbosity and ambiguity, it's utilized in specific text genres, such as scientific reports, underscores its importance in achieving particular communicative goals (ElSherif, 2024; Christensen et al., 2009). However, no comparative analysis of voice construction in English and Shahmukhi Punjabi exists leaving a critical gap in cross-linguistic studies. Therefore, this research aims to investigate this gap by applying a corpus-driven methodology to explore voice construction in English and Shahmukhi Punjabi language using the Longman English Grammar framework by Douglas Bibber, 1998. It investigates syntactic and functional variations, including word order, verb usage, and morphemic shifts. By highlighting similarities and differences between the two languages, this research seeks to contribute to comparative linguistics which enhance understanding of cross-linguistic features and provide insights for language instructors, researchers, linguists and translators.

Research Questions

- What are the structures of Active/passive voice construction in English and Shahmukhi Punjabi language?
- What are (dis) similarities in the structure of active/passive voice construction in English and Shahmukhi Punjabi language?

Significance of the Study

The significance of the study 'Voice Construction in English and Shahmukhi Punjabi Language: A Corpus-Driven Comparative Study' lies to understand the importance of Punjabi voice constructions for native speakers of Shamukhi Punjabi language towards English as second language learning & teaching (ESLL&T) and help to explore natural language processing (NLP). Studying the voice construction assist for deeper understanding of linguistics and cultural diversity in both English and Punjabi speech communities. Additionally, Punjabi language considered as dying language it will be digitalize and active/passive voice structure may help to develop other dying languages voice structures and their functions play in SLA. In this way, it will develop the confidence in native speakers of Punjabi language to promote Punjabi as a first language in Pakistan. The results of the study will provide a deeper understanding of how voice is constructed and used in both languages, which has implications for both theoretical and practical linguistics applications.

Literature Review

Voice, as defined by Shibatani (1988, p. 3) is 'a mechanism that selects a grammatically prominent syntactic constituent (subject) from the underlying semantic function (case or thematic roles) of a clause'. As such, a sentence is in the active voice when the subject is the agent performing the action and it adopts a passive voice when the subject is the entity affected by the action (Baker, 1992, p. 102). The differentiation between active and passive voice lies primarily in the role of the subject referent in sentences describing an action. The active voice is often more direct and assertive. In contrast, the passive voice is employed when focusing on the

object or entity experiencing the action rather than the performer, a structure commonly used in scholarly and scientific writings. Huddleston (2005) underscores the syntactic nature of active and passive sentences, arguing that they are not necessarily defined by the subject's semantic function. For instance, sentences like '*everyone knows the answer*' or '*everyone knew the answer*' illustrate how active constructions are not solely about an agent acting on a patient. Instead, active and passive constructions exhibit syntactic distinctions, as shown in pairs like *John attacked Peter* and *Peter was attacked by John*. Svartvik (1966, p. 3) points out a lack of consensus among grammarians about what constitutes the passive voice in English. While the auxiliary BE with a past participle is commonly associated with passive sentences, other copular verbs such as GET, BECOME, and SEEM can also appear in passive clauses. Huddleston and Pullum (2002) identify a subset of passive forms, called 'bare passives' which do not rely on auxiliary verbs. In Pakistan's multilingual context, Shahmukhi Punjabi serves as a regional language with limited linguistic resources. This research addresses the gap by developing active and passive voice structures for Shahmukhi Punjabi, drawing inspiration from works such as Princeton University's English WordNet. Passive constructions in Shahmukhi Punjabi, often used in formal and academic contexts which are crucial for English as Second Language (ESL) learners, who find it challenging to acquire new languages while using Shahmukhi Punjabi as their native language.

The previous studies review highlights various studies on active and passive voice usage across multiple languages, emphasizing their syntactic, semantic, and pedagogical implications. Indonesian students' preference for active voice aligning their writing style with native English norms that was observed (Yannuar et al., 2014), while syntactic differences between Punjabi and English were revealed using REST generative theory (Hussain & Mehdi, 2023). Research on errors in passive constructions focused on student challenges and corrective strategies (Princess et al., 2018; Baseerat et al., 2022). English influence on Arabic passive structures in scientific and translation contexts was examined (Algahtani, 2022; ElSherif, 2024), while pragmatic factors in word order across Sindhi, Punjabi, Pashto and Saraiki were analyzed (Ahmad & Raza, 2022). Voice construction's cultural and creative dimensions were explored (Zhao, 2019; Iida, 2017) and pedagogical approaches to teaching voice were compared (Bielak et al., 2013). Contributions to Punjabi language studies include case markers (Iqbal et al., 2016), transliteration systems (Lehal et al., 2012), and Urdu passive constructions (Ahmad & Ahmad, 2024). Cross-linguistic investigations offered insights into phonetic features and historical syntactic evolution (Cho et al., 2019; Fitriana et al., 2024). Further, numerous studies have been explored at how voices are produced in different languages. Translating Passive Structures from Arabic into English (Rhazi, A. et al., 2017), translation of English passive and un accusative verbs into Persian (Abbasi & Arjenan, 2014), investigation of English to German language passive construction that was closely related to each other (Treptow, 2012), investigation of the passive voice in both English and Czech (Plecháková, 2007). English syntax's effect on Modern Greek translations' usage of the passive (Malamatidou, 2013). Moreover, Xiao and Dai (2014) reported that the English language was passively translated into Chinese. The usage of the passive voice has reportedly increased in various Catalan registers as a result of the effect of the English language. The impact of the West on the passive form in Japanese (Griera, 2014). Musacchio (2003) found that passive voice and impersonal formulations were often rephrased in

the active voice, (Sulaiman, E., 2022) in research that examined translations from English to Italian & Norwegian using a corpus-based approach. Nonetheless, a clear gap exists in the body of research on the comparison of voice construction in Shahmukhi Punjabi and English. By conducting a thorough comparative analysis, this study aims to fill this gap by clarifying the similarities, differences and unique qualities that are present in voice construction in English and Shahmukhi Punjabi language. This research objectives in doing this comparative study are to further theoretical understanding of linguistic structures while also offering insightful information that has application in the fields of language learning, translation and cross-cultural communication.

Methodology

The present research aims to investigate the passive voice structure their similarities and differences in English and Shamukhi Punjabi language in depth by using exploratory qualitative research design. The corpus-driven approach is used in this study. It allows for a comparative study between English and Shahmukhi Punjabi language on empirical bases. By using purposeful Sampling 12 million corpus data of Punjabi columns, magazines and short stories translated by native speakers of Punjabi is collected for this study. The data obtained from the Rvel.org website, serving as the primary source of data for the research. The analytical framework employed for the study of English passive voice construction is derived from the Longman Grammar of Spoken and Written English by Douglas Bibber, 1998. By following the selected model of English Punjabi voice structure model is developed on the bases of founded examples from natural Punjabi corpora. The development of Punjabi passive voice framework, the analytical procedure involves; finding equivalents of passive constructions in Punjabi, creating lists of these equivalents, comparing them with the established framework of English and identify the similarities and differences of both voice construction. There are two main corpus tools MAT tagger (Multi - dimensional Analysis) and AntConc (Laurence Anthony, 2019) used for the systematic tagging and saving the time for manually tagging and counting frequencies. MS Excel is used to generate and compare frequency lists for Punjabi and English from the selected corpus. At last, Syntax Tree Generator is an online tool which is used to make tree diagrams and patterns to analyze syntactic structures of English and Punjabi instances particularly for identifying passive voice features.

Analysis and Discussion

Punjabi is on the 10th position are ranked on the basis of the number of speakers in the world, according to the census of 2013 there are 125 million Punjabi speaking populations. Thus, when it comes to analyzing the Punjabi language, it is seen that issues related to lexical and syntactic aspects are not trivial but extraordinary. Among the various communities of Pakistan Shahmukhi Punjabi is the largest spoken language in Punjab which constitutes about 38 percent of the total Punjabi population of Pakistan. Education system has been identified to have enrolled 78% of the whole population within the country (The Government of Pakistan, 2017).

Define Verb/Auxiliaries &Aspect

رہندا اے			
اوہ پیندے نے	پین	دے	نے

Passive structure

- مریض نوں لے آندا گیا اے
- کھانڑاں کھادا جاندا اے
- انقلاب تے آزادی دی اک وچ سٹ دتا جاندا اے

In passive structure, when object came on the start of a sentence (on the place of subject) and the verb followed by the object is compound, conjunct or serial verb then it may fall into passive. دا لے آندا گیا, سٹ دتا, کھادا in present indefinite tense changes and bring the aspect "دا" and "یا" with them and the verb changes into conjunctive form of verb and serial verbs that means the root verb also changes with new "aspect" and the new verb joined the main verb to make a conjunctive verb. اے to indicate the present auxiliary in given examples.

Rules: *O + s + verb com/conj + aspect + auxiliary*

Table 1.3

Let's break down these examples with sentence structure given below:

Object	Verb	Aspect	Aux
مریض نوں لے آندا گیا اے	لے آندا	آندا	گیا اے
Present	Continuous		Tense

Active structure: In the identification of present continuous tense, the morphemic word (called aspect) comes between main verb and present auxiliary used to determine the present continuous.

Rules: *subject + obj+ verb + aspect + auxiliary*

Table 1.4

Let's break down these examples with sentence structure given below:

Sentence	Verb	Aspect	Auxiliary
او کھا رہیا اے۔	کھا	رہیا	اے
میں جاندا پیا واں	جاندا	پیا	واں
تو کھاندا پیا ایں	کھاندا	پیا	
تسی جارئے او	جا	رئے	او

Here in the above examples the aspects "پیا", "رہیا" and "ڈیا" came between the verb and present auxiliary. In simple words the present auxiliaries followed by the "پیا", "رہیا" and "ڈیا" used to identify the present continuous tense.

Passive Voice Structure: Object is compulsory in present continuous tense passive voice. Verb becomes conjunctive "لانا سے" "لانا" as shown in below example. And the main verb adds the morpheme, یا Or the main verb adds the morpheme "تے", "تی" another verb added in the root verb to make the simple verb into conjunctive verb is "جا". "رہا" it indicate the continuous aspect. "اے" auxiliary that donates the present tense.

Rules: *sub+ pre-pos+ verb+ vector+ Aux*

Table 1.5

Let's explain it through the examples.

	Subject	Pre-position	Conjunct verb+ vector	Present continuous Aux	
	اک زخمی	نوں	لیاندا جا	رہا اے	

Morphemic *Based*
Changes in Present Continuous Passive Voice

First Condition

Example

اک زخمی نوں لیاندا جا رہا اے

In the given example, morphemic based changes occur in present continuous passive voice when pre-position نوں comes before the main verb لیاندا. And the main verb adds the vector "دا"

Second Condition

1. دا جا رہا اے
2. تی جا رہی اے
3. یا جا رہا
4. تا جا رہا

By applying these tags there are exception found while searching continuous passive as well as active voice also founded but there is no object founded in those type of examples that's why those instances fall in active voice.

Past Indefinite Tense

Active structure: In the active structure of past tense past auxiliaries followed by the morpheme "دا" used to make past indefinite tense. And one other way, for its that a sentence ends with any verb that ends on "ے" "ی" "یا" does not follow any auxiliary is the indication of past indefinite tense. The aspects "چکیا" "ہویا" "لیا" "گیا" does not fall in the category of past indefinite.

Rule 1: *subject + root verb + aspect + auxil*

Table 1.6

Let's breakdown these examples with auxiliaries:

Sentences	Verbs	Aspects	Auxiliaries
منڈے نال بھارت چ کرنا چاہندی سی۔	چاہنا	دی	سی
جیجا! "شاید میرا ڈیڈی گل سمجھدا سی"	سمجھنا	دا	سی
ایس دھرتی دے واسی نہیں لگدے سن	لگنا	دے	سن

First condition: When the verb ends with **دا سی** and precedes by another verb then it may fall into infinitives. For example; **منڈے نال بھارت چ کرنا چاہندی سی**, in this example the verb ends with **دا سی** and this verb also proceeds by another verb **کرنا** so it may fall into infinitives.

Second condition: When the only verb here that ends with **دا سی** and does not precede by the any other verb then it may fall into past indefinite tense. For Example; **جیجا! "شاید میرا ڈیڈی گل سمجھدا سی"**, when the verb ends with **دا سی** and contain verb tense that used infinitive form of verb and those tense that contains single verb falls in past indefinite without infinitive form.

Rule 2: subject + root verb+ aspect

Table 1.7

these
without

Sentences	Verbs	Aspects
ٹکڑی دا ناں آشو رکھیا۔	رکھنا	یا bound morpheme
اوس نوں لسنسی فلی' ناں دی بیماری دسیا۔	دس	یا
میں شیشے وچوں بی اس نوں جی بھر کے تکیا۔	تک	یا
میںوں آشو دا چہرہ پسینے نال بھجا لگیا۔	لگ	یا

Let's
breakdown
examples
auxiliaries:

Passive structure: When we convert simple past without infinitive form of verb it used the tag **دا گیا سی**

- میں سیب کھادا سی
- سیب کھادا گیا سی
- Above examples show there are the passive of finite form of verb.

Past continuous Tense

Active structure: When the aspects "رہیا" "پیا" "ڈیا" come between the verbs and past auxiliaries "سی" "سن" then it used to indicate the past continuous.

For example:

- 'کسے کولوں قرضہ واپس کرن لئی ترلے کردا ہویا کجھ ہور مہلت منگ رہیا سی۔
- جشن تے بی جی غصے چ بھڑکے اجے وی بہت کجھ بولی جا رہے سی پتا نہیں کیہ چکڑ میرے تے سٹیا جا رہیا سی۔
- وشیشٹھ دا دھڑ لکواسا پیا سی۔
- اوہ اک واپو پرانی ادھکھڑ جہی موٹرسائیکل چلاندا پیا سی۔
- کجھ دنن توں باقیل بیٹھک وچ سون لگ پیا سی۔

Passive Structure: Follow the same structure in past continuous passive voice as mentioned above in present continuous tense expect past auxiliary سی.

Present perfect Tense

Active structure: When the present auxiliary followed by the aspect + verb, except "رہیا" "پیا" "یا" and "ہو" falls in present perfect tense. Any aspect and verb that ends with "ی" "ے" "ا" except "رہیا" "پیا" and "ہو" used to identify the present perfect. When any sentence ends with "گیا" "گیا" "گیا" also used to indicate the present perfect tense. This category may fall in without perfective operator. The aspect came after from verb. Look below for this pattern with auxiliaries.

Rules: *subject + object + verb+ aspect+ auxiliary*

Table 1.8

Let's breakdown these examples;

Sentences	Verb	Aspect	Auxiliary
توں بلکل ٹھیک آکھیا اے	آکھ	یا	اے
اسلم مریض نوں لے لیا اے	لانا	ایا	اے
او کھانڈاں کھا چکیا اے	کھا	چکا	اے
بتھیرا پڑھ لیا اے۔	پڑھ	یا	اے

Look below for this pattern without auxiliaries

Rules: *subject + verb+ aspect*

Table 1.9

Let's breakdown these examples without perfective operator

Sentences	Verb	Aspects
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کم چھٹ گیا۔	چھٹ	گیا
ڈسٹریبٹ لگ گئی	لگ	گئی
دو مہینیاں وچ ہی میں کار دا لائسنس لے لیا۔	لے	لیا
کارڈ اپر 'گروپر' موٹے شبدان وچ لکھیا ہویا۔	لکھیا	ہویا

Passive Structure

- (The patient has been brought) مر یض نوں لے آیا گیا اے۔
- (The Government buses have been burnet here yesterday) کل ایتھے سرکاری بساں نوں ساڑیا گیا اے۔

Rules: *Obj+ mv (conj+ compound) + aspect +pre-Aux*

Look passive voice in example (1) subject comes at the place of object and object come at the place of subject. O + S + V (nonfinite categories) object (مر یض) become compulsory in the passive voice. After the subject and object, the verb "لے آیا" simple finite but when it became the passive the verb changed into non- finite verb "لے آیا گیا اے". In the above sentence "نوں" indicate the *post-position* that indicates the recipient or target of the action. It is often used to express the direction of an action or to show for whom an action is intended. Here, "نوں" suggests that the action of bringing or bringing in is directed towards the "مریض". It is additional work (نوں - کو) that added in Punjabi or Urdu passive. Moreover, in English passive just add single noun "patient" that refer to an object.

Past perfect Tense

Active Structure: When past auxiliary followed by the verb + aspect except "رہا" "پیا" "ڈیا" and "دا" used to indicate the past perfect.

Rules: *subject + verb+ aspect + past Aux*

Table 4.9.1

Let's breakdown these examples

Sentences	Verbs	Aspects	Auxiliaries
بلڈ دان کرن بارے دس چکيا سی۔	دس	چکيا	سی
پہلی واری ویکھیا سی۔	ویکھ	یا	سی
کیوں جے ایہ کیہڑا پہلی واری ہویا سی۔	ہو	یا	سی
راجکماری وانگ رکھیا سی۔	رکھ	یا	سی

Passive structure

Tags:

- یا گیا سی
- تا گیا سی

The tag for past perfect tense passive voice is used , یا گیا سی, But the similar tag with past indefinite tense passive and past perfect tense that tag is , دا گیا سی, as in past indefinite tense the verb ends with سی in passive case the morpheme added "گیا" and it become "دا گیا سی" Similar to past perfect passive case only the morpheme "گیا" add in active tag سی to become "یا گیا سی" So these are the initial tags for passive voice

Rules: *Obj+ mv (conj+ compound) + aspect +Aux*

- میرے ولوں کو اتر لے لیا گیا سی
- کافی دسیا گیا سی

Syntactic Formation of Active/passive Voice in Shahmukhi Punjabi

Two main aspects of voice construction in Shahmukhi Punjabi language are discussed in shed lights of tense; syntactic structures and their similarities & differences, distinct the active sentences, passive structures in Punjabi language most frequently don't include agents. In passive construction, the sentence's action formulates from the subject and transformed to the object, it does not address the agent directly, meaning that the "doer" of the action is not phonologically identified with the newly derived subject, and direct object must follow the transitive verb, it may be compound, conjunct or serial verb in passive formation.

For example:

- 1) کھانا کھادا جاندا اے (food is eaten) (agentless)

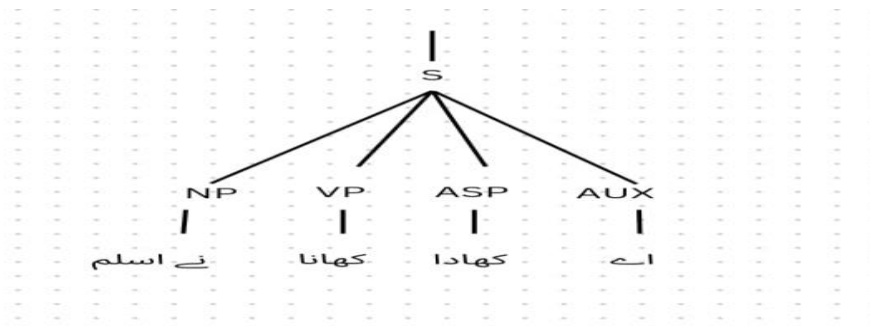
However, the active sentence of above example as below;

- 1) اسلم نے کھانا کھادا اے (Aslam eats food)

More detailed syntactic description of active and passive formation, the researcher explores in an active sentence, have the combination as follows:

Structure (1) NP1 + VP + ASP + AUX

Figure 1.3

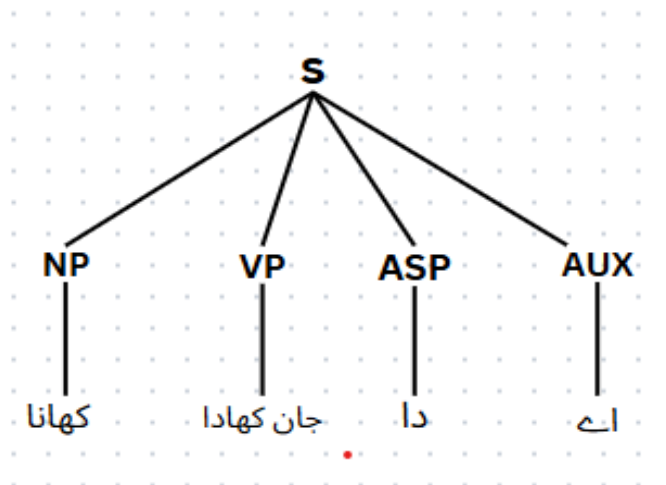


- NP1: Noun phrase one indicates the grammatical subject.
- VP: Verb phrase indicate the action or state.
- ASP: Aspects are used to indicate the verb following morpheme.
- AUX: Auxiliary verb used to indicate the form of tense.

However, in passive sentence, the focus is on the object and its change into the subject, with a tendency to omit explicit agents, this omission is characteristic of most passive sentences in Punjabi and root verb become compound by following the morphemic aspect “دا” “اے”.

Passive Structure: NP + VC + ASP + AUX

Figure: 1.4



Explanation

In the above example, tree diagram – کھانا کھادا اے اسلم نے (Aslam eats food), the structure provides emphasis on the actor of the action i. e. Aslam in the object of the action i. e. food. The action verb is ‘کھانا’ (khaana) for the action and the aspectual marker ‘کھادا’ (khaaya)

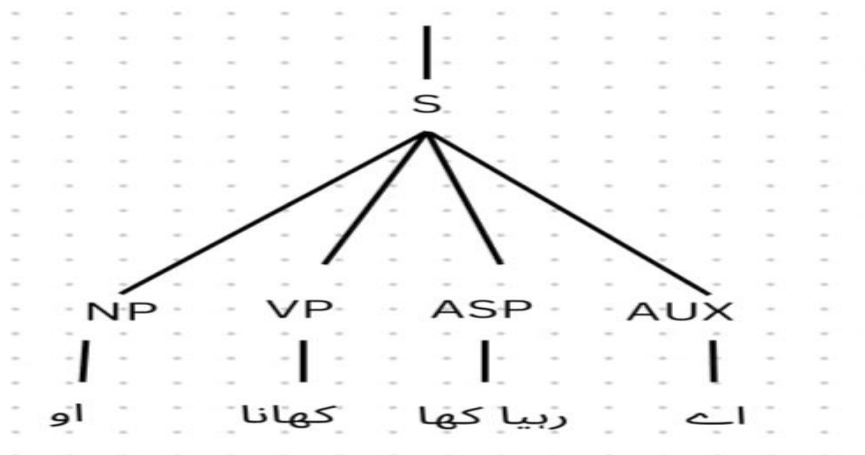
added at the end to show that it was completed. Indeed, in Passive sentence like “کھانا کھادا اے” (The food is eaten) the object of the action that is food is highlighted and becomes the subject of the sentence. Adding the compound and the aspectual marker جاندا (jaanda) as well as the auxiliary verb اے (ay) turns the active voice into the passive voice while presenting the action being done to the subject as well as the lack of the doer of the action. It is a case of the broad tendency in Punjabi to relocate the focus from the agent to the thing, onto which the processes may be performed and the doer, in many cases, may be removed. In addition to the passivity in the language and the compound verb form, the morphemic aspect “دا” (da) is signification in the passive construction.

Present Continuous Tense

Active structure: NP1 + VC + ASP + AUX

Examples: او کھا رہیا اے۔

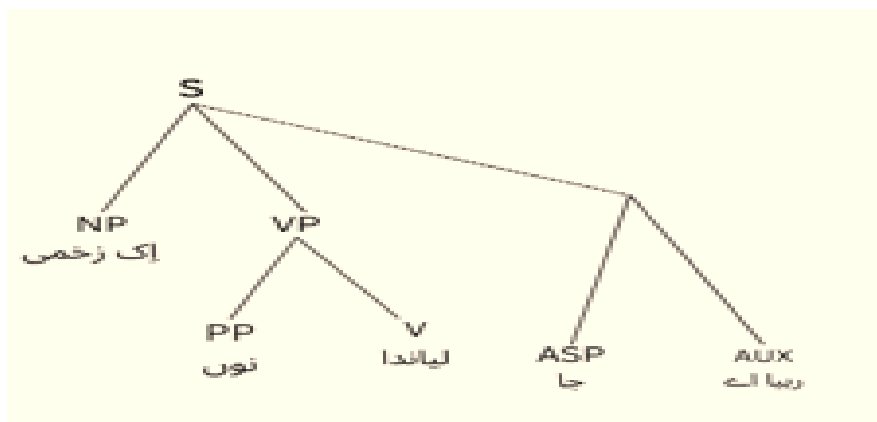
Figure: 1.5



Passive Structure: NP1 + PP + VP + ASP + AUX

Example: اک زخمی نوں لیاندا جا رہیا اے

Figure: 1.6



Explanation:

Active structure of the Present Continuous Tense pattern of the sentence is: NP1 + VC + ASP + AUX. Here NP1 means the noun phrase which is a subject of the given sentence. VC (verb compound) is the action being done and it is a form of the verb marked by 'ing'. ASP (aspect) places the progressive aspect which indicates that an action is in the process of being carried out. Last of all, AUX to show the tense and in the current instance the present tense is shown. For example, in the sentence **ایک زخمی نوں لیاندا جا رہیا اے** the NP1 is **ایک زخمی**, VC is **لیاندا**, Progressive aspect is **جا رہیا**, and Auxiliary for present continuous tense is **اے**. In the passive structure the position of the Present Continuous Tense changes to NP1 + PP + VP + ASP + AUX. Here, NP1 continues to be the entity under discussion in the sentence, but now, it is in the role of the object receiving the action. In this context, the post-position PP is employed to indicate the kind of action being done to the subject. VP usually contains a pro-form of the verb "to be" to express the continuous action and brings out the progressive tense through ASP and the present tense is marked through AUX. In the above sentence " **ایک زخمی نوں لیاندا جا رہیا اے** " (an injured person is being taken)" NP1 is **ایک زخمی** pos-position, the Verb phrase is **لیاندا** (being taken) which is further modified by the progressive aspect (ASP) **جا رہیا** and the auxiliary (AUX) **اے** (is) indicating Present tense.

Present Perfect Tense

Active structure:

1. NP1 + VP + ASP + AUX
2. NP1 + VP + ASP

Examples:

- **توں بلکل ٹھیک آکھیا اے**

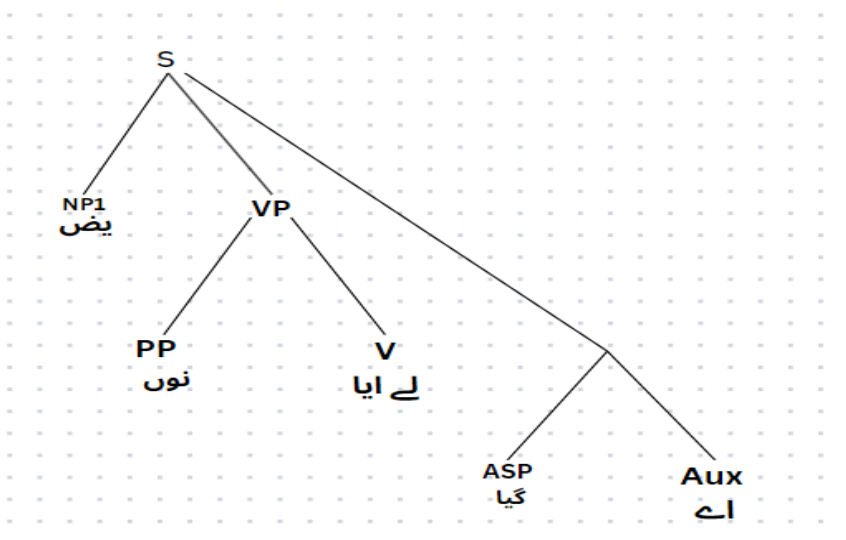
- دو مہینیاں وچ ہی میں کار دا لائسنس لے لیا۔

Passive structure:

1. NP1 + PP+ VP + ASP + AUX

- (The patient has been brought) مر یض نوں لے ایا گیا اے۔
- کل ایتھے سرکاری بساں نوں ساڑیا گیا اے۔
- (The Government buses have been burnet here yesterday)

Figure: 1.7



Explanation

In the active structure of the Present Perfect Tense, there are two possible patterns: NP1 + VP + ASP + AUX and NP1 + VP + ASP both of which are full relative clauses. In both the structures, NP1 signifies the noun phrase which is the subject of the sentence. In the first structure, VP, the verb phrase refers to the action, which is done by the subject of the sentence, ASP is used to provide extra information regarding the action or the completion of it and finally the word AUX which shows that the tense of the sentence is present perfect, which means that the action, which is spoken of, has taken place at some time in the past and is relevant in the present. In above example, نوں (You) is an NP1, آکھیا (said) is VP, ٹھیک (perfectly) acts as ASP and اے (have) is AUX that indicates present perfect tense. Thus, in the second active structure, NP1 + VP + ASP, the auxiliary may be inferred as a part of the structure and not necessarily mentioned overtly as in لے لیا (I got the car license within two months). Here, میں (I) is the NP1, لے لیا (got) is the VP, and دو مہینیاں وچ ہی (within two months) is the ASP, which shows the time limit in which the action was done. Thus, the pattern of Present Perfect Tense in the passive construction is NP1 + PP + VP + ASP + AUX. Therefore, NP1 is the object that undergoes the action, PP conveys the action performed on the object, and VP is the core verb

that shows the action and to be ASP adds extra information to the action and AUX shows perfect tense. For instance, referring to the sentence above, *بض مر* is the subject (NP1), *لے آیا* (PP), *ہاں* has been brought is the past participle (PP), *گیا* is part of the verb phrase and perfect auxiliary (VP), and *ہے* has is the auxiliary (AUX) that shows the perfect aspect of the action.

Past indefinite Tense

Active structure

2. NP1 + VP + ASP + AUX
3. NP1 + VP + ASP

Examples:

جیجا! "شاید میرا ڈیڈی گل سمجھدا سی۔
ٹکڑی دا نان آشو رکھیا۔

Passive structure:

1. NP1 + VP + ASP + AUX

Examples:

سیب کھادا گیا سی

Explanation

Now in Past Indefinite Tense, two patterns can be observed: NP1 + VP + ASP + AUX and NP1 + VP + ASP. As for the labels used in both structures, NP1 stands for the noun phrase, which is the subject of the analyzed sentence. VP represents the key activity of the subject, while ASP can provide additional characteristics or focus to the action. In the first structure the presence of AUX (auxiliary) is used to mark past tense. In this example *جیجا!* Hence, if the structural analysis of the same sentence is considered then NP1 is *ڈیڈی میرا* (My brother-in-law), VP is *سمجھدا* (understood), ASP is *شاید* (might have) and AUX is *سی* (was). Second active structure is NP1 + VP + ASP In this construction, the auxiliary can be dropped especially when the situation described is not so complex or roundabout. For example, in the sentence, *ٹکڑی دا نان آشو رکھیا* (The girl was named Ashu), the NP1 is *نان دا ٹکڑی* (The piece) and the rest of the structure comprises the VP *رکھیا* (was named) and the ASP *یا* (Ya) which provides the information regarding the part of the naming.

After that, the structure of that kind of passive can be defined as NP1 + VP + ASP + AUX. NP1 is the patient that is being affected in the action of performing an assay, utilizing reagents, and/or supplies. The VP (verb phrase) mostly includes the form of the verb which can be in past participle form which indicates that the action has been done on the subject. ASP (aspect) is used to represent any other description or stress and the sign AUX highlights

past tense. In this example سی گیا کھادا سیب (The apple was eaten), کھادا سیب (The apple was eaten) is VP while سی گیا (was) is an auxiliary or Dummy operator of past tense (AUX).

Past Continuous Tense

Active structure:

NP1 + VC + ASP + AUX

Examples: او کھا رہیا سی۔

Passive Structure:

NP1 + PP + VP + ASP + AUX

Example: اک زخمی نوں لیاندا جا رہیا سی۔

Explanation

In the active structure of the Past Continuous Tense, the pattern worked out is NP1 + VC + ASP + AUX. Here NP1 is the whole phrase which is a noun phrase and refers to the subject of the particular sentence. VC (verb compound) is the main verb in the continuous tense which indicate that the past action is still continuing. ASP (aspect) demonstrates the progressive aspect which means that the action occurred at a particular time in the past continually. AUX (auxiliary) is used in present tense but in the case of past tense, it inflects. . For example in the sentence او , سی رہیا کھا (He/She) is the subject (NP1), کھا (eat) is the verb compound (VC), رہیا (continuing) provides the progressive aspect (ASP) and سی (was) is the auxiliary (AUX) to denote the action in past.

In the passive structure of the Past Continuous Tense, the pattern is NP1, PP, VP, ASP, & AUX. Here, we have NP1 that is the receiver of an action, or in other words, the thematic object. Post-Position demonstrates who is doing what to whom, and this is evidenced by PP. VP (verb phrase) may contain a form of the verb “to be” in order to specify its progressive nature. ASP (aspect) has the progressive aspect suggesting that the action was ongoing. Last of all, AUX is employed to indicate the past participle of a verb, or more specifically, the past tense. For instance, in the given sentence: اک زخمی نوں لیاندا جا رہیا سی “An injured person was being taken” Here, اک زخمی (An injured person) is the NP1. whereas the PP (post-position) نوں shows the action being done on the subject. PP is identified to be ڈالنا or linea (being taken), VP is رہیا جا (being taken) which is a combination of جا (the progressive aspect) and رہیا (taken), and the AUX is سی (was).

Past Perfect Tense

Active structure: NP1 + VP + ASP + P-AUX

Example:

- پہلی واری ویکھیا سی۔
- کیوں جے ایہ کیہڑا پہلی واری ہویا سی۔

Passive structure:

1. NP1 + VC + ASP + P-AUX

Example:

- میرے ولوں کواٹر لے لیا گیا سی
- کافی دسیا گیا سی

Explanation

The Past Perfect Tense used the formation which is NP1 + VP + ASP + P-AUX. Here, the function NP1 refers to the noun phrase, which is the subject of the given stereotyped sentence. VP (verb phrase) specifies the action done before another action or time in the past. Although it can be sometimes implied, ASP (aspect) provides extra information or modification on the action. P-AUX (past auxiliary) carries info of perfect aspect where the action is completely done to point out time in the past. . For instance, in the above sentence, پہلی واری ویکھیا سی (Had seen for the first time), پہلی واری (for the first time) define the time, (ASP) یا (seen) is the verb phrase (VP), and سی (had) works as the past auxiliary (P-AUX) illustrating the action finished. The pattern that is followed by the passive structure of the Past Perfect Tense is NP1 + VC + ASP + P-AUX. In this structure, NP1 is the patient which is being affected by the action. VC (verb compound) depicts the action done on the subject and is developed by the past tense participle of the verb. ASP (aspect) may provide emphasis or further description to the action and P-AUX (past auxiliary) specifies that it was done before another event in the past. For example, in the sentence میرے ولوں کواٹر لے لیا گیا سی (The quarter had been taken by me), میرے ولوں (by me) is the subject NP1 related to noun, کواٹر لے لیا گیا (had been taken) is the Verb compound or VP and سی (had been) is the past auxiliary marking the completion

Future Indefinite Tense

Active structure:

NP1 + VP + AUX

Example:

- میں لکھاں گا
- کل پنج وجے سرکار ادارے بند کر دے گی

Passive structure:

1. NP1 + VP + ASP + AUX

Example:

- میرے کولوں لکھیا جائے گا
- کل پنج وجے ادارے بند کر دیتے جان گے

Explanation

The active structure of the Future Indefinite Tense in given above example a, میں لکھاں گا (I will write), the subject (NP1) is here میں (I) the Verb Phrase (VP) is لکھاں (write) and the auxiliary (AUX) is گا (will) signifying the action in the future. As in example b, the full NP construction is کل پنج وجے سرکاری ادارے (The offices at 5 PM tomorrow,) where سرکاری ادارے (The government) is the NP1, بند کر دے (will close) is the VP and گی (will) shows the tense. In the passive structure of the Future Indefinite Tense, the structure formed is NP1 + VP + ASP + AUX. In this case, NP1 will be the receiver which cause it to undergo the action of the verb. VP (verb phrase) is produced with the verb which is in its passive voice, thus showing what is to be done to the subject. ASP (aspect) can be added to provide more information or stress, but, often, it is not mentioned or left between the lines. AUX (auxiliary) helps in marking the future tense. For example, میرے کولوں لکھیا جائے گا (It will be written by me), میرے کولوں (by me) is the subject (NP1), لکھیا (written) is the verb phrase (VP) and جائے گا (will be) is the auxiliary (AUX) to indicate future tense. In the Future Indefinite Tense the passive structure highlights the fact that the action will be done to the object at some time in the future. This structure is used when emphasizing the result rather than the person doing the action, the action is on what will happen to the subject rather than who will be performing the action. It is mostly employed when the doer is unknown, unnecessary, or of less significance as compared to the action being performed.

Syntactic Similarities and Differences

Analyzing the syntactic compatibility between English and Shahmukhi Punjabi, it is seen that the extent of similarity and differences in the construction of sentences, active and passive voice, and tenses. Both languages use the active voice with Subject-Verb-Object (SVO) structure in most of the sentences proving a basic similarity. For instance, in the Present Continuous tense, English provides the formation of a sentence such as 'He', which in this context is functioning as the subject, 'is eating', which is the verb phrase and the action being done. Likewise, in Shahmukhi Punjabi also, structure of او کھا رہیا اے is found having the same structure with او (He) as a subject, کھا رہیا (is eating) as a verb phrase and اے (is) as the auxiliary verb. Both languages also deploy auxiliary verbs in order to express tense and aspect so that the temporal reference of the action concerned is well indicated. Also speaking, both languages employ the past participle form in making passive constructions in the language. For instance, the English equivalent to the Shahmukhi Punjabi 'has been eaten' phrase is کھادا گیا where کھادا گیا means 'has been eaten' and just as English does, Shahmukhi Punjabi also employs the same way to indicate the action that has been performed on the subject.

However, there are differences in the use of word order and verb compounding in passive voice in these two languages English use passive voice mainly in a pattern [Subject + Auxiliary + Past Participle] In the sentence: *The apple was eaten* ‘The apple’ is the subject ‘was’ is the auxiliary and ‘eaten’ is the past participle. In contrast to the english language, the Shahmukhi Punjabi sentences involve the use of the object auxiliary which sometimes is placed at the end of the sentence this leads to shift in the position of the words and the emphasis. An example of this can be observed in سبب کھادا گیا سی (The apple was eaten) where سبب (The apple) is the subject, کھادا گیا (was eaten) the form the verb compound and سی (was) auxiliary is placed at the end of the sentence which is also another syntactic characteristic of Punjabi language. Secondly the Shahmukhi Punjabi has more differentiated verbs and morphemic aspect than the other two scripts suggesting that Shahmukhi Punjabi has a more complex morphological structure than the other two. For example, the marker لے لیا in لیا (taken) may contribute a sense of completeness of an action to the resulting meaning, where the marker itself or its equivalent may be less separable, or may not exist in English. These differences expand the syntactic differences that are already present in respective languages most especially in formation of tenses and manner of describing actions. This indicates that in translation and while comparing languages the semantics of the language and the emphasis of the language should be accorded the most consideration since this will slightly alter the meaning as well as emphasis when moving between the two languages.

Contextual Similarities and Differences

Such a comparison of the contextual aspects of the English and Shahmukhi Punjabi languages makes it quite easy to understand that both of these languages use the same syntactic tools in order to focus on or masked some aspects of a sentence. In both languages the active voice continues to be interested on the action done to the subject which therefore becomes the point of reference of the entire sentence. For instance, the English sentence ‘She is writing a letter. In this the focus was on the action or ‘verb’ or ‘actor’. Likewise, Shahmukhi Punjabi او خط لکھ رہی اے (She is writing a letter) similar to the latter put focus on the act of writing. Also, the passive voice has been employed in the two languages so as to shift focus from the doer to the deed or its result. For instance, the English passive ‘The book was read’ places stress on the action of reading over the doer the action was performed by, the Punjabi sentence کتاب پڑھی گئی (The book was read) stresses the book and the action done on it.

Furthermore (maroof, et.,al ; 2023) describe transformational rule and variations across English, Urdu and Punjabi the differences of the contexts are described in the manner of these languages inflect the fine differences and the cultural implications. Many socio cultural factors, pre and post positions and verb compounds of social status and politeness level of Shahmukhi Punjabi are not entirely translatable into English. For instance, the Punjabi phrase کم مکمل کر لیا literally translates to ‘The work has been done’ where کر لیا indicates the action is fully over, so completely. This specific shade of meaning is somewhat lost in English, so that even the statement such as the work has been completed does not sound as final unless the circumstances demand it to be so. Similarly, in those cases, where the language under discussion is Punjabi, the passive construction can express such components of culture as, for example, communal

decision-making or authority, which seems to be less manifested in English. For example, ‘فیصلہ’ ‘گیا کر لیا’ in Punjabi means the decision was made but it also carries the sense of it being made by a group or an authority which is not very clearly expressed in ‘The decision was made’. This also shows the ways in which extralinguistic factors influence the utilization of language and how meaning is constructed in both languages enhancing the current linguistic models and theories and also contributes data from both the languages English and Shahmukhi Punjabi

Conclusion

The corpus-driven comparative analysis of voice construction in English and Shahmukhi Punjabi language reveals notable structural and functional similarities alongside distinctive differences. Both languages share the SVO structure in active voice and utilize auxiliary verbs and aspect to represent tense. For instance, the focus on action continuity is similarly emphasized in the Present Continuous tense: In English ‘*He is eating*’ and Shahmukhi Punjabi structure is ‘او کھا رہیا اے’. This similarity highlights sameness in the mechanics of active voice structure across the two languages. However, passive voice structure differs significantly between both languages. While English employs Subject + Auxiliary + Past Participle structure ‘*The apple was eaten*’ and in Shahmukhi Punjabi places the auxiliary at the end of the sentence, as ‘سیب کھادا گیا سی’ which depicts a different syntactic picture. Additionally, Shahmukhi Punjabi introduces unique verb compounds and aspectual markers that reflect cultural nuances and degrees of respect, aspects often absent or untranslatable in English. These distinctions underscore the cultural and contextual dimensions of linguistic patterns, emphasizing the need to consider such elements in comparative linguistic studies. The study employs corpus tools such as AntConc and Matt Tagger supplemented by manual analysis to provide a comprehensive examination of voice construction. This approach not only contributes to understanding syntactic and cultural particularities in English and Shahmukhi Punjabi but also holds implications for translation studies, second language acquisition and English language teaching and learning (ELT&ESL). By addressing the dynamic of action representation and contextual meaning, the research contributes cross-linguistic and pedagogical insights. While acknowledging the limitations of a specialized Punjabi corpus data and the partial exploration of future tense voice constructions, this study highlights the unexplored potential of Shahmukhi Punjabi linguistics. The findings pave the way for further exploration of voice structures in other regional languages and dialects promising substantial contributions to linguistic theory, Punjabi language digitization and educational practice

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