

A cross-linguistic study of exclamatives

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1. General examples

What a day I had!
 I'm amazed at how much time it took!
 Are you in for it!
 He's so cooperative!
 It's pretty remarkable the people they get there!
 I have passed the exam!

2. Questions

- How to classify exclamative constructions?
- What is the unified account for them?
- What are syntax, semantics & pragmatics of them?

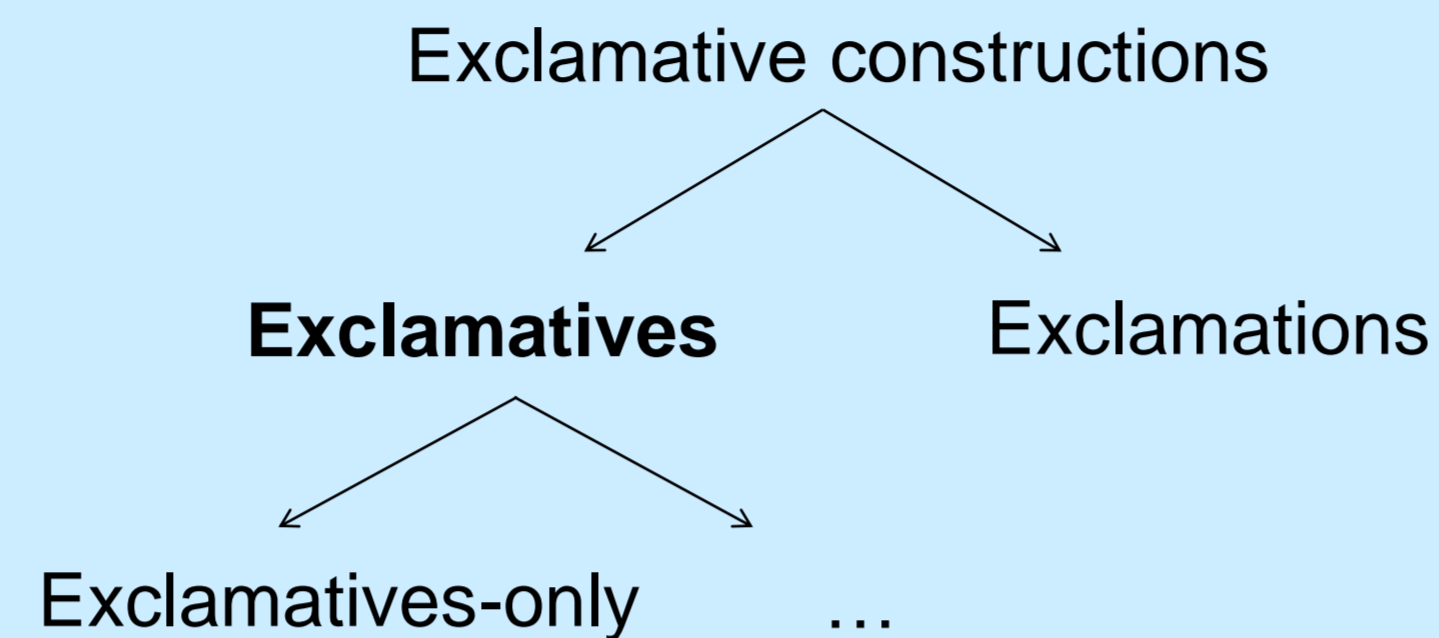
3. Languages

large "sample" -- 67 languages (15 language families);
small "sample" – Classical Arabic, Basque, Bulgarian, Estonian, Georgian, Modern Hebrew, Hindi, Korean, Lithuanian, Ossetic, Russian, Turkish.

4. Data collecting

- questionnaire;
- field work;
- grammars & papers;
- corpus of Russian (www.ruscorpora.ru)

5. Typology of exclamative constructions



6. Pragmatics & semantics

- Emotionality
- 1st egocentricity
- Perlocution
- Presupposed expectedness/prototypicality
- Asserted scalar extent unexpected/non-prototypical
- Scalarity
- Weak informativity
- Referentiality
- Factivity

7. Syntactic strategies of exclamatives

- **Subject-verb inversion:**
Polar inversion Degree inversion
- **Embedded clauses:**
Infinitives Complementizers
- **Wh-words**
- **Anaphoric pronouns**
- **NPs**
NPs +/- RelPs Nominalisations

8. *wh*-exclamatives

- syntactic structures of *wh*-exclamatives;
- *wh*-words in *wh*-exclamatives;
- *wh*-exclamatives + Grad Adj/Adv

8.1. Syntactic structures of *wh*-exclamatives

wh-movement and subject-verb inversion

- *wh*-exclamatives ~ embedded *wh*-exclamatives ~ embedded *wh*-interrogatives

8.2. *wh*-words in *wh*-exclamatives

wh-words of the meanings 'what' (N), 'who', 'how many/much', 'where' (loc.), 'when', 'why'

embedded

+ Grad Adj/ Adv

all the *wh*-words

✓ *wh*-words 'why'

primary contexts

1st egocentricity (vs. embedded questions)

non-embedded

language-diversified

✗ *wh*-words 'why'

secondary contexts

8.3. *wh*-exclamatives + Grad Adj/Adv

- *wh*-word+NP+Adj (lit. 'what'/'how many/much' + *beautiful picture...!*);
- *wh*-word+NP (lit. 'what' + *picture...!*);
- *wh*-word+Pred Adj (lit. 'how'/'how many/much' + *beautiful...!*);
- *wh*-word+Adv+VP (lit. 'how'/'how many/much' + *quickly he runs!*);
- *wh*-word+VP (lit. 'how' + *you paint!*).