

**THE INFINITIVE AND SUBJUNCTIVE  
MOOD IN ENGLISH AND ALBANIAN  
LANGUAGE**



**Syntax**

**Keywords:** infinitive, subjunctive mood, imperative mood, admirative mood, connection.

**Semire Hasani**

**State University of Tetova. English Department. North Macedonia.**

**Abstract**

This study is focused on the detailed analysis of infinitive and subjunctive mood in English and Albanian language. This study is based on detailed review and analysis of the form and the use of the infinitive and the subjunctive mood in both languages. Especially, detailed analysis of the subjunctive mood in English and Albanian language and to certify its connection with other moods of verbs such as the imperative mood and admirative mood, as well as in English where the connection is done through the modal verbs. Furthermore, another purpose of this paper is to analyze the infinitive of the Albanian language and its old form of Gheg dialect that almost is disappearing every day more and more. The results of this study will be based on examples taken from books, novels and articles of various authors. This study will reveal some answers to the infinitive and the subjunctive mood of the Albanian language and English, always referring to the form, use and comparison.

**Introduction**

Both the English and Albanian are languages that belong to the same family, the Indo-European languages. English is an Indo-European language that belongs to the West-Germanic language that first was spoken in early medieval England and now is a global lingua franca.

English is official language almost in 60 sovereign states. While Albanian is a language which is spoken by over 6 million people primarily in Albanian, but also in several other states in the Balkans as well as by emigrants around the world. Albanian language is as well part of Indo-European languages, but Albanian makes up its own branch in the Indo-European languages.

Most Indo-European languages, in addition to verb tense (which demonstrates time), and verb aspect (which indicates completeness), have verb mood (which indicates a state of being or reality). For instance, the most common moods in English include the subjunctive, the indicative, the imperative, the interrogative, the exclamatory, and the conditional.

The main issues that will be treated in this paper are the *infinitive* and *subjunctive mood* in English and Albanian with all of the forms described with examples and compared with each other. As well another issue is to find out the differences and similarities in infinitive and subjunctive between English and Albanian language.

**Methods**

The important parts of this research are the methods and the techniques that were followed for better results. The descriptive, narrative and comparative methods are the one that were followed in this study. For better results this study was based on the methods mentioned above.

## Literature Review

The review of some authors according to the infinitive and subjunctive mood do not defer too much from each other because the infinitive in English is that and we cannot change.

So, according to The American heritage (2005) the infinitive is described as it follows:

The infinitive is a verb form that can function as a noun while retaining certain verbal characteristics, such as modification by adverbs or taking an object. It is called the infinitive because the verb is not limited or "made finite" to indicate person, number, tense, or mood. In English the infinitive may be preceded by *to*, as in *We want him to work harder*, *To cooperate means to be willing to compromise*, and *J decided to bake a cake*, or it may appear without *to*, usually following an auxiliary verb, as in *We may leave tomorrow* and *She had them read the letter*. The infinitive without *-to* is called the bare infinitive.<sup>1</sup>

According to Geoffrey Leech, Marianne Hundt, they claim that, "The subjunctive mood is closely related to the modal auxiliaries. Just like some modal auxiliaries, the subjunctive in English can be used to express obligation or necessity (*he demands that the evidence be/must be/should be demolished*). In *if*-clauses it can express 'irrealis', similar to the use of such modals as *could* and *might*."<sup>2</sup>

Whereas Seit Mansaku (1982) states that, "Paskajorja e tipit *me ba(m)* paraqitet e kristalizuar plotësisht në dialektin verior, që në librin eparë të shqipes, me të gjitha tiparet morfo-sintaksore që ka edhe sot kjo formë e pashtjelluar foljore në këtë dialekt."<sup>3</sup>

Moreover, Bahri Beci (2005) adds that, "Paskajorja ndërtohet duke vënë përpara pjesores së foljes: *për të: për të punuar*. Paskajorja përdoret kryesisht me funksion qëllimor, përcaktor dhe kallëzuesor."<sup>4</sup>

In Albanian language the infinitive have to forms the one that was used before and had a better form and understandable and formulated by one preposition and one verb, (*me ba, me punu, me shku*) and the new form which is formulated by two prepositions and the verb (*për të bërë, për të punuar*). For the building form of the infinitive in Albanian are expressed different opinions, especially depending on the interpretation of its component parts in mood or historical level.

<sup>1</sup> The American heritage, *Guide to contemporary usage and style*, Houghton Mifflin Company, 2005, pp. 254

<sup>2</sup> Geoffrey Leech, M, Hundt, *Change in Contemporary English*, Cambridge University Press, 2009, pp. 51

<sup>3</sup> Seit Mansaku, *Paskajorja e shqipes dhe kategoritë gramatikore të saj*, Studime Filologjike 1, 1982, f. 139.

<sup>4</sup> Bahri Beci, *Gramatika e gjuhës shqipe*, Logos-A, Shkup, 2005, pp. 146

Furthermore, Bahri Beci (2005) indicates that, “Mënyra lidhore ka katër kohë: të tashmen, të pakryerën, të kryerën dhe më se të kryerën. Foljet në mënyrën lidhore kanë përpara gjithmonë pjesëzën *-të*”.<sup>5</sup>

In Albanian language the subjunctive mood is formed by the particle *-të* and the form of the verb. In subjunctive mood the verb takes four forms including here the present simple (*koha etashme*), past continuous (*koha e pakryer*), present perfect (*koha e kryer*) past perfect (*koha më se e kryer*).

## Conclusion

From this paper I came to conclusion the infinitive in English have four forms: the perfect infinitive, the perfect continuous infinitive, the continuous infinitive and the passive infinitive.

As well the two most known infinitive English forms are: the to-infinitive and the zero infinitive. There are other cases where the infinitive of English language is found like: when it expresses purposes, the form *in order to* or *in order not to*; the form *so as to* or *so as not to*, after certain verbs of thinking and feeling. The infinitive is expressed with verbs of saying, verbs that are followed by a direct object and the infinitive, after several adjectives.

In Albanian language it is interesting that the subjunctive mood sometimes is expressed with adjuncts and as well with the optative mood and imperative mood. The subjunctive mood it is used frequently with these kinds of adjuncts: adjunct of time, adjunct of place, manner, conditional, purpose.

When we translate and adopt the subjunctive mood sentences in Albanian, that are expressed with adjuncts, most of the time we receive adverbial clauses of time and place and *if* clauses in English language.

By this paper we saw the differences and similarities in infinitive and subjunctive mood in both languages, the forms, the use, the translation and adaptation of them in English language, and to whom they fit more when translated and adopted into English.

For me this paper was very useful, since I've treated in details the infinitive and subjunctive mood in Albanian and English language. I have explained the form, the realization with other moods like admirative mood and optative mood, as well the connection with the adjuncts in Albanian language.

---

<sup>5</sup> Ibid. pp. 133-134

## References

- Bahri Beci, *Gramatika e gjuhës shqipe (për mësimdhënësit e gjuhës shqipe)*, Libri shkollor, Prishtinë, 1998
- Bahri Beci, *Gramatika e gjuhës shqipe*, Logos-A, Shkup, 200
- Epika legjendare, (Cikli I kreshnikëve)*, Vëllimi i pare, Tiranë, 1966
- Fatmir Agalliu, E. Angoni, Sh. Demiraj, A. Dhrimo, *Gramatika e gjuhës shqipe – Morfologjia*, Tiranë, 2002
- Fjalë të urta e thënie popullore*, Prishtinë, 1975
- Geoffrey Leech, M. Hundt, *Change in Contemporary English*, Cambridge University Press, 2009
- John Eastwood, *Oxford guide to English grammar*, Oxford University Press, 2002
- Justin Rrota, *Sintaksi I shqipes për klasën II, III, IV, K. U. të shkollave të mesme*, Shkodër, 1942
- Këngë popullore historike*, Tiranë, 1956
- Këngë popullore lirike*, Prishtinë, 1972
- Latif Mulaku, Ahmet Kelmendi, *Gramatika e gjuhës shqipe (Fonetika dhe Morfologjia)*, Enti i teksteve dhe i mjeteve mësimore i krahinës socialiste autonome të Kosovës, Prishtinë, 1983.
- Proza popullore, Vëllimi I dytë*, Tiranë, 1966
- Proza popullore, Vëllimi I pare*, Tiranë, 1963
- Proza popullore nga Drenica II*, Prishtinë, 1972
- Proza popullore nga Drenica I*, Prishtinë, 1972
- Seit Mansaku, *Paskajorja e shqipes dhe kategoritë gramatikore të saj*, Studime Filologjike 1, 1982
- Shaban Demiraj, *Gramatika e gjuhës shqipe (Fonetika, Morfologjia)*, Enti i teksteve dhe i mjeteve mësimore i krahinës socialiste autonome të Kosovës, Prishtinë
- Tafil Kelmendi, *Funksionet sintaksore të ndërtimeve me paskajore në gjuhën popullore (sipas folklorit)*, Biblioteka Kombëtare dhe Univerzitare e Kosovës, Prishtinë, 2010
- The American heritage, *Guide to contemporary usage and style*, Houghton Mifflin Company, 2005

## Web pages

- <http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/infinitive>
- <https://web.cn.edu/kwheeler/documents/Subjunctive.pdf>
- <http://www.grammarling.com/the-infinitive-of-purpose>
- <https://www.thoughtco.com/zero-or-bare-infinitive-1692621>
- <https://www.thoughtco.com/passive-infinitive-grammar-1691488>
- <https://www.thoughtco.com/infinitive-clause-grammar-1691062>
- <https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/grammar/when-to-use-the-subjunctive>