



ADLINKS AS CATEGORY OF STATE

B.R.Sapayeva

EFL teacher of Urgench State University

ABSTRACT

This article reveals the essence of adlinks and their influencing factors on word structure and meaning. The view point is explained with the part-of-speech based samples and sentences, implying many-sided categorial estimation.

KEY WORDS: *Adlinks, adverb, statives, adjective, quality, category of state, part-of-speech, lexico-grammatical.*

Russian “category of state”, the English qualifying a-words were subjected to a lexico-grammatical analysis and given the part-of-speech heading “category of state”.

This analysis was first conducted by B.A.Ilyish and later continued by other linguists. The term “words of the category of state” was later changed into “stative words”, or “statives”.

The Part-of-speech interpretation of the statives is not shared by all linguists working in the domain of English, and has found both its proponents and opponents.

Probably the most consistent and explicit exposition of the part-of-speech interpretation of statives has been given by [1].

According to their view, first, the statives, called by the quoted authors “adlinks” (by virtue of their connection with link verbs and on the analogy of the term “adverbs”), are allegedly opposed to adjectives on a purely semantic basis, since adjectives denote “qualities”, and statives-adlinks denote “states”.

Secondly, main characterization of statives-adlinks is a specific prefix -a.

Next, it is impossible to have the category of the degrees of comparison for adlinks.

Another basic reason that statives-adlinks have many-sided categorial estimation are undoubtedly serious and worthy of note.

The first scholar who undertook this kind of reconsideration of the lexeme status of English statives was L.S.Barkhudarov, and in our estimation of them we

essentially follow his principles printing out some additional criteria of argument.

Considering the basic meaning expressed by the stative, we formulate it as “stative property”, a kind of property of a noun referent. As we know, the adjective as a whole signifies not “quality” in the narrow sense, but “property”, which is categorially divided into “substantive quality as such” and substantive relation”.

In this respect, statives don’t fundamentally differ from classical adjectives. Moreover, common adjectives and participles in adjective-type functions can express the same properties (or “qualities” in a broader sense) as are expressed by statives.

Indeed, the main meaning types conveyed by statives are the psychic state of a person (afraid, ashamed, aware, ahistorical), the physical state of a person (astir, afoot); the state of an object in space (aslant, afloat, awash, aslope, around, afar, asquint, apart).

While investigating further meaning types, we may add **time**, **place**, **state** and **amount**. For instance:

Time: awhile, afresh

Place: ashore, afield, abed, aboard

Amount: plenty, apiece

State/Process: alight, adrift, apace, anew, aright, ablaze

So, in Modern English, adlinks can be identified as following:

1. The lexico-grammatical meaning of “state”.

2. The productive prefix a-;

3. Peculiar combinability: words of this class are associated almost exclusively with link-verbs;



4. The main syntactic function of a predicative complement.

Therefore, in the sentence they are used in the function of the predicative member of the compound nominal predicate, the objective predicative member, as well as a postpositive attribute. These words are never used as pre-positive attributes.

B. A. Ilyish thinks that adlinks possess the category of tense x. But this category (as well as the categories of mood, person, number, etc.) is expressed by the link-verb (is afraid, was afraid, were afraid, etc.), not by the adlink. As shown in § 26, the combination was afraid is not an analytical word. Cf. also fell asleep, dropped asleep, lay asleep.

The combinability of adjectives and adlinks differs greatly and the most typical combinative model of adjectives is its right-hand connection with nouns (an ardent lover). Now this model is alien to adlinks. It is the more striking since not only adjectives but almost any part of speech, many combinations of words, clauses or combinations of clauses can have right-hand connections with nouns in Modern English. As a matter of fact, statives are not used in attributive preposition and they are distinguished by the left-hand categorial combinability both with nouns and link-verbs.

On a synchronic basis this peculiarity of adlinks shows that they are not adjectives, but a different part of speech.

As an adverb

<i>Awhile</i>	<i>Afloat</i>
<i>Ashore</i>	<i>Adrift</i>
<i>Aslant</i>	<i>Abed</i>
<i>Afresh</i>	<i>Aboard</i>
<i>Afoot</i>	<i>Apiece</i>
<i>Aloud</i>	<i>Apart</i>
<i>Alike</i>	<i>Ahead</i>
<i>Afar</i>	<i>Aright</i>
<i>Apace</i>	<i>Anew</i>
<i>Aplenty</i>	

As a verb

<i>Await</i>	<i>Aswim</i>
<i>Abet</i>	<i>Asleep</i>
<i>Abide</i>	<i>Awake</i>
<i>Aright</i>	<i>Alight</i>

As an adjective

<i>Ablaze</i>	<i>Amoral</i>
<i>Akin</i>	<i>Amiss</i>
<i>Adrift</i>	<i>Ahistorical</i>
<i>Alike</i>	<i>Alight</i>
<i>Aplenty</i>	<i>Afloat</i>

The syntactical functions of adjectives and adlinks do not coincide. Adjectives are mainly employed as attributes, and adlinks as predicative complements. This is why adlinks are often called predicative adjectives and adverbs (see The Oxford Dictionary) to suggest that the difference between these classes of words is purely syntactical. But adlinks form connections not only with

finite link-verbs, parts of predications, but with verbid link-verbs as well, employed in various functions.

For instance:

The twins were **alike**. (*adjective*)

We are all **alike** concerned in religion. (*adverb*).

A cigarette set the dry grass **alight**. (*adjective*).

A suspect **alighted** from the train and proceeded on his way. (*verb*)



*Da Silva plays a bright, lonely student from New York, **adrift** in small-town Arizona. (adjective)*

*The team are now just six points **adrift** of the leaders. (adverb).*

Summing up, we can say that adlinks are different classes of words, that are productive and many-sided from syntactical, lexical and grammatical point of view. On a synchronic basis the development of adlinks show that they belong to different part-of-speech and is categorized in both form and structure-based features.

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