

“Verb Ellipsis” within the Cognitive Linguistics Framework¹

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Abstract

The present article attempts to explore the process of “Verb Ellipsis” within the Cognitive Linguistics framework as the primary objective and to scrutinize verb ellipsis process by comparing this process with the analyses of traditional syntax especially in Persian language as the secondary one. For this purpose, this study is to establish credibility by a representational-denotational approach as well as through understanding” Meaning”. The data under exploration in this study constitutes a population of sentence-based Persian norm written-language and their spoken equivalents which have been analyzed within the theoretical framework of Cognitive Linguistics with respect to “Frame Semantics” theory and the concept of “Semantic Frame”. To do so, the ellipses of “verb” lexical unit in coordinate sentences also the ellipsis of verb in a usual sentence have been analyzed. Finding show that according to the theoretical framework of the

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study, verb ellipsis in the coordinate sentences occurs due to the activation of similar frames and similar element frames. This claim is verified by introducing two concepts: “Role Assignment Principles” and “Principle of Surface Proximity”. Also, concerning the verb ellipsis in coordinate sentences, the ellipsis of non-verbal units of the complex predicates is dealt with, and due to the presence of another element frame having the same role it seems unnecessary. By the same token, the writer beholds it significant to leave out the verb in single sentences like proverbs and cliché sayings with regard to the activated background knowledge.

Keywords: *frame semantics, semantic frame, lexical unit, background*