

Table 5(12) The principal categories of 'relational' clause

| | (i) attributive 'a is an attribute of x' | (ii) identifying 'a is the identity of x' |
|--------------------------------|---|--|
| (1) intensive 'x is a' | Sarah is wise | Sarah is the leader; the leader is Sarah |
| (2) possessive 'x has a' | Peter has a piano | the piano is Peter's; Peter's is the piano |
| (3) circumstantial 'x is at a' | the fair is on a Tuesday | tomorrow is the 10th; the 10th is tomorrow |

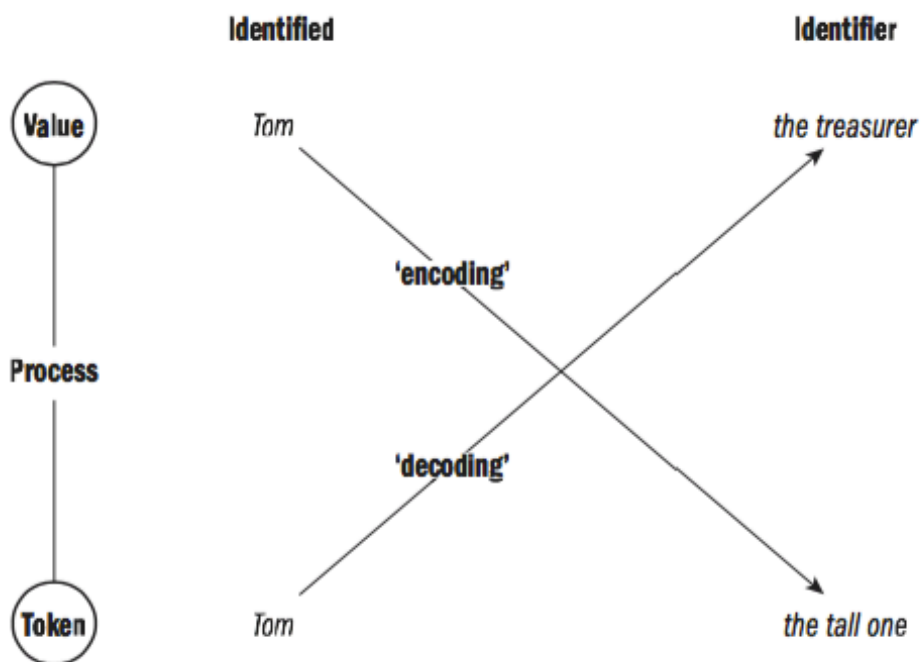


Fig. 5-22 'Identifying' clauses: direction of coding

Table 5-42 Transitive and ergative in identifying relational clauses⁵⁰

| | | | | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------|----------|-------------------|-------------------|--------------|---------------|
| decoding (which is Tom?) | Tom | is/plays | the leader | the leader | is/is played | by Tom |
| transitive: | Id/Tk | Process | Ir/VI | Ir/VI | Process | Id/Tk |
| ergative | Medium | | Range | Range | | Medium |
| encoding (who's the leader) | Tom | is/plays | the leader | the leader | is/is played | by Tom |
| transitive: | Ir/Tk | Process | Id/VI | Id/VI | Process | Ir/Tk |
| ergative | Agent | | Medium | Medium | | Agent |

⁵⁰ Note: Those in the top row are **decoding** clauses; the receptive is a medio-receptive and hence rare. Those below are **encoding**; the receptive is a 'true' receptive.

□ □ □ Relational clauses: processes of being & having

(which are you? – which part do you play?)

| | | |
|----------------------|----|----------------------|
| Which | am | I |
| Identified/ Value | | Identifier/ Token |
| Complement/ Wh- | | Subject |

| | | |
|----------------------|-------------|----------------------|
| I | am (= play) | the villain |
| Identified/ Token | | Identifier/ Value |
| Subject | | Complement |

| | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| the villain | is (= is played by) | me |
| Identifier/ Value | | Identified/ Token |
| Subject | | Complement |

(which is you? – which picture shows you?)

| | | |
|----------------------|----|----------------------|
| Which | is | me |
| Identified/ Token | | Identifier/ Value |
| Subject/Wh- | | Complement |

| | | |
|----------------------|--------------|----------------------|
| the ugly one | is (= shows) | me |
| Identifier/ Token | | Identified/ Value |
| Subject | | Complement |

| | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| I | am (= am shown by) | the ugly one |
| Identified/ Value | | Identifier/ Token |
| Subject | | Complement |

Fig. 5-23 Subject-Complement, Identified-Identifier, and Token-Value

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|-------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| Henry | is | the villain | is to | the villain | is | Henry |
| Token/ Subject | Process | Value/ Complement | | Value/ Subject | Process | Token/ Complement |
| Henry | plays [active] | the villain | is to | the villain | is played [passive] | by Henry |

Fig. 5-24 ‘Operative’ and ‘receptive’ in ‘identifying’ clauses

The form that would be impossible is *which is I?*, with its clash between nominative case and Complement function (cf. the impossible *which represents I?*). Equally anomalous, for exactly the same reason, is *it is I*, which was constructed on a false analogy with Latin (and used to be insisted on by English teachers, though they seldom used it themselves). The clause *it is I* is simply ‘bad grammar’, in the sense that it conflicts with the general principles that apply to such a clause. The corresponding ‘correct’ forms – that is, those that are

Table 5-40 Ergative and transitive functions in 'material' clauses

| | | Initiator | Actor | Goal |
|-----------|----------------|--|---|-------------------------------------|
| effective | Agent + Medium | Agent/Initiator 'Ag/In makes ... | Medium/Actor ... Me/Ac do sth' | |
| | | The <u>police</u> exploded <u>the bomb</u> The <u>sergeant</u> marched <u>the prisoners</u> | | |
| middle | Medium | | Medium/Actor | |
| | | | The <u>bomb</u> exploded The <u>prisoners</u> marched | |
| middle | Medium | | Medium/Actor | |
| | | | (The <u>cake</u> cut easily) The <u>tourist</u> ran | |
| effective | Agent + Medium | | Agent/Actor 'Ag/Ac does sth ... | Medium/Goal ... to Me/Go' |
| | | | Alice <u>cut</u> the <u>cake</u> The <u>lion</u> chased <u>the tourist</u> | |

(a) attributive

| | | | | |
|------------|------------|---------|---------|-----------|
| | the news | made | Bill | happy |
| | the result | proves | you | right |
| transitive | Attributor | Process | Carrier | Attribute |
| ergative | Agent | | Medium | Range |

(b) identifying

| | | | | |
|------------|------------|---------|------------------|------------------|
| | the mother | called | the baby | Amanda |
| | the team | voted | Tom | captain |
| transitive | Assigner | Process | Identified/Token | Identifier/Value |
| ergative | Agent | | Medium | Range |

Fig. 5-43 Transitive and ergative analyses of relational clauses

| | | |
|-------|-------------------|----------------------|
| he | set out | poor |
| Actor | Process: material | Attribute: depictive |

| | | |
|-------|-------------------|-------------|
| he | set out | as a pauper |
| Actor | Process: material | Role: guise |

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|------------------------|
| bend | that rod | straight |
| Process: material | Goal | Attribute: resultative |

| | | |
|-------------------|----------|----------------------|
| bend | that rod | into a straight line |
| Process: material | Goal | Role: product |

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|-------|-----------|--------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| middle | Limestone | can | form | | | in many ways |
| effective: receptive | Limestone | is | presently | being formed | by chemical precipitation | on the shallow Bahama banks |
| | Medium | Pro- | | -cess | Agent | (circumstance) |
| | Theme | Rheme | | | | |

Fig. 5-36 Analysis of 'middle' and 'effective' clauses with Process = 'form'

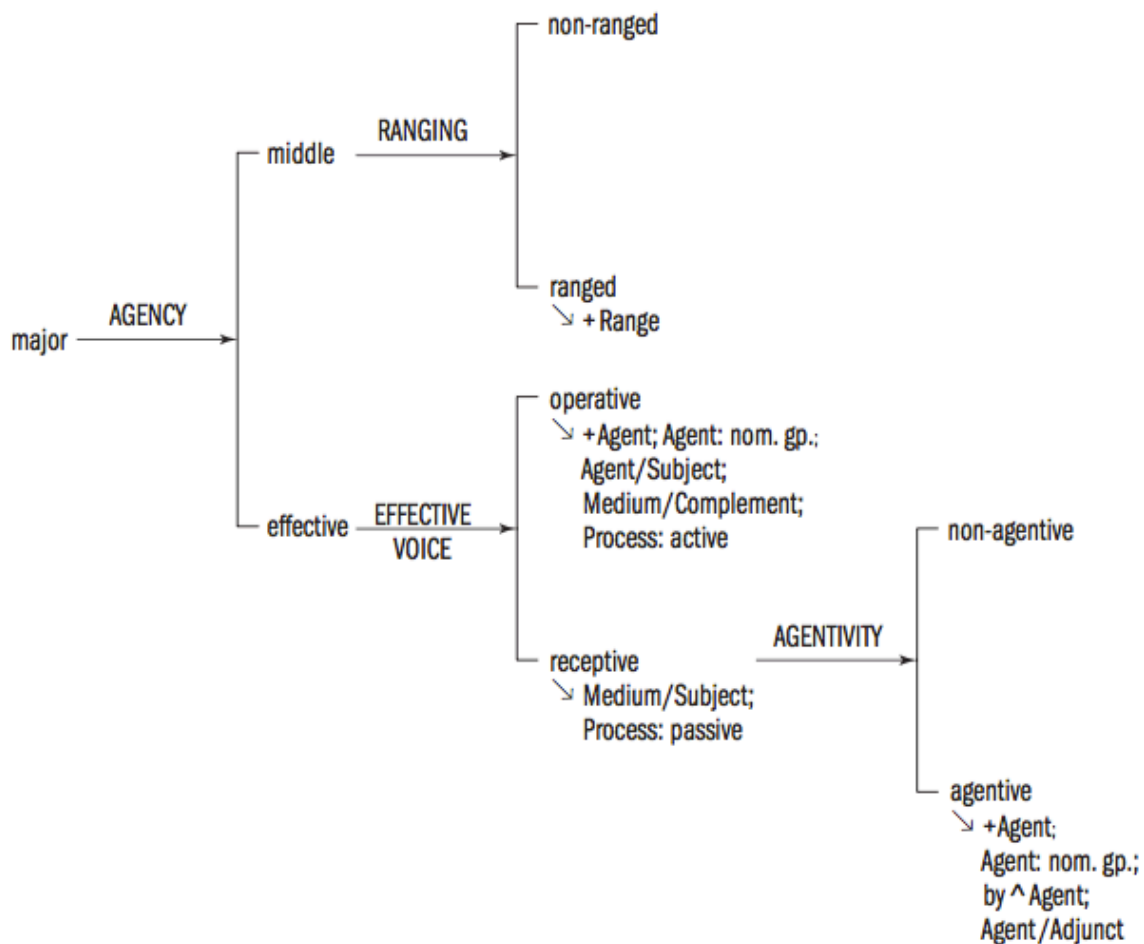


Fig. 5-39 The systems of AGENCY, RANGING and VOICE

Table 5(27) Process types, their meanings and characteristic participants

| PROCESS TYPE | category meaning | participants, directly involved | participants, obliquely involved |
|---|---|--|---|
| material: action event | 'doing' 'doing' 'happening' | Actor, Goal | Recipient, Client; Scope; Initiator; Attribute |
| behavioural | 'behaving' | Behaver | Behaviour |
| mental: perception cognition desideration emotion | 'sensing' 'seeing' 'thinking' 'wanting' 'feeling' | Senser, Phenomenon | |
| verbal | 'saying' | Sayer, Target | Receiver; Verbiage |
| relational: attribution identification | 'being' 'attributing' 'identifying' | Carrier, Attribute Identified, Identifier; Token, Value | Attributor, Beneficiary Assigner |
| existential | 'existing' | Existent | |

Table 5(36) Participant functions realized by prepositional phrases

| preposition | examples | general function |
|--------------------|--|-------------------------|
| by | the bridge was built by the army (material: Actor) the children were frightened by a ghost (mental: Phenomenon) the calm was followed by a storm (relational: Token) | Agent |
| to | I sent a letter to my love (material: Recipient) don't tell these secrets to anybody (verbal: Receiver) | Beneficiary |
| for | she baked a pie for the children (material: Client) | |
| on, in, &c. | he plays well on all three instruments (material: Scope) I spoke to him in fluent Russian (verbal: Verbiage) | Range |
| as | she acted magnificently as St Joan (relational: Attribute) | |

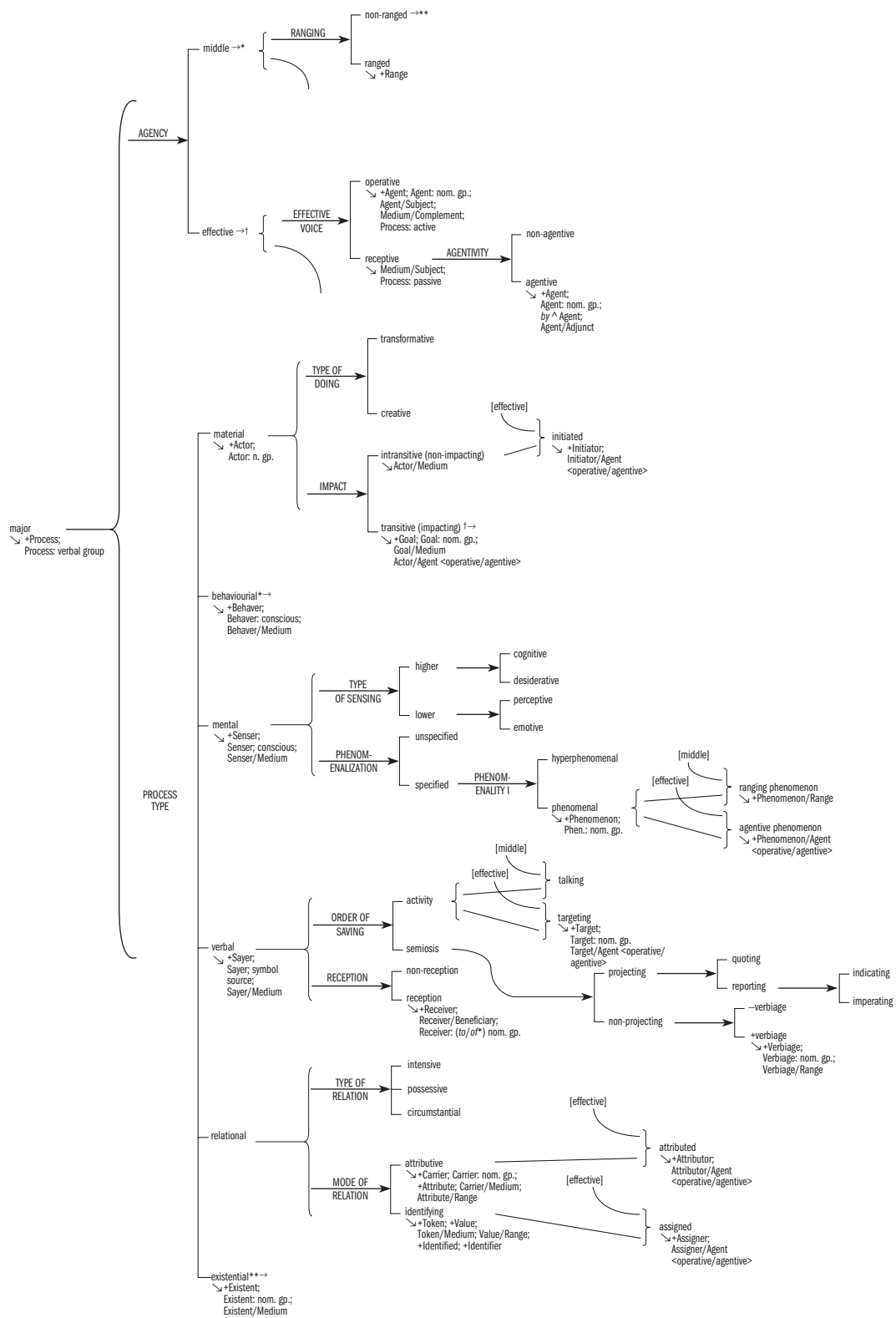


Fig. 5-44 System network of TRANSITIVITY (AGENCY and PROCESS TYPE)