

# COMPONENTIAL ANALYSIS OF SEMANTIC FIELD OF WORDS RELATED TO SPORT

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## Abstract

Componential analysis utilizes a systematic way to describe similarities and differences between words. This way is performed by breaking down the meaning of a word or words into different species called semantic components. Meanings are related to different function of language. To comprehend how the meanings of a word are multifarious, conducting componential analysis is crucial to do. A word can share similar features to their synonymous words. To reach the previous goal, componential analysis enables us to find out how words are utilized in their contexts and what features those words are made up.

## Introduction

In order to investigate the research, we start describing Componential Theory. The most important assumption suggests that the semantic components are language – independent or in other words, universal components. In many cases, it has been claimed that the vocabularies of all human languages can be analyzed partially or totally in terms of a limited set of semantic components and these components, themselves are independent of the particular semantic structure of any given language. According to this point of view, the semantic components might be identified as the same components in analyzing the vocabularies of all languages.

In order to comprehend the concept of semantic fields, it should be reviewed semantic field theory. The semantic field theory starts from the idea that the vocabulary of a language consists of not only a list of words, but rather of many associated networks of lexical relations between words. This type of word – association falls under a title of semantic fields such as sport terms, color terms, political parties, branches of government, species of birds. When words are of the same aspects of meaning, they are considered to belong to the semantic field. The basic assumption underlying the theory of semantic field is that words do not exist in isolation rather, they form multifarious semantic fields, such as a sport field which contains all kinds of words that related to sport.

Componential analysis uses a systematic way to describe similarities and differences between words. This way is performed by breaking down the meaning of a word or words into different species called semantic components. Nida categorizes the types of components into two mains types: common components and diagnostic component.

According to Leech, there is a very simple example to explain those two types by providing the words man, woman, boy, girl and other related words in English. Those all words belong to the semantic field of “the relations” may be represented by the following table.

## Components

	<b>Man</b>	<b>Woman</b>	<b>Boy</b>	<b>Girl</b>
<b>[human]</b>	+	+	+	+
<b>[adult]</b>	+	+	-	-
<b>[male]</b>	+	-	+	-

In the semantic domain of man, woman, boy and girl, [human] is the common component, and they are distinguished by [adult], [male], [female] as the diagnostic components.

## Methodology

The primary research methods for this study are Componential analysis and conceptual modelling. Componential analysis is a method that looks at each word as a bundle of different features or components. The focus of componential analysis is to find the features that are necessary and sufficient for a given item to be an example of a given word. To determine the meaning of any form, contrast must be found, for there is no meaning apart from significant differences.

This paper will observe the componential analysis of the word sport. Sport is one of the foundations of a positive physical and mental development throughout their lives. There are several types of sports, usually divided by four main categories according to the types of skills required: physical sports (gymnastics), motorised sports, mind sports (like chess, which needs critical thinking skills), and sports with animals (horseback riding). Some of these activities can be individual, and others may be performed on couples or even teams. There are componential analysis of main sports.

In componential analysis, contrasts of features are usually made in terms of ( + ) or ( -- ) and often drawn in a matrix . In many instances, the componential analysis becomes interesting, as the lexemes become more complex. The example below, is a possible matrix for some types of sports

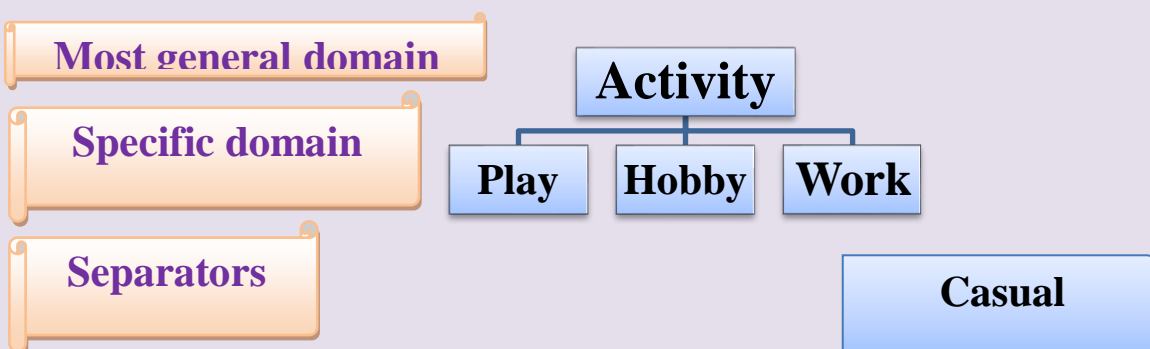
## Conceptual modelling

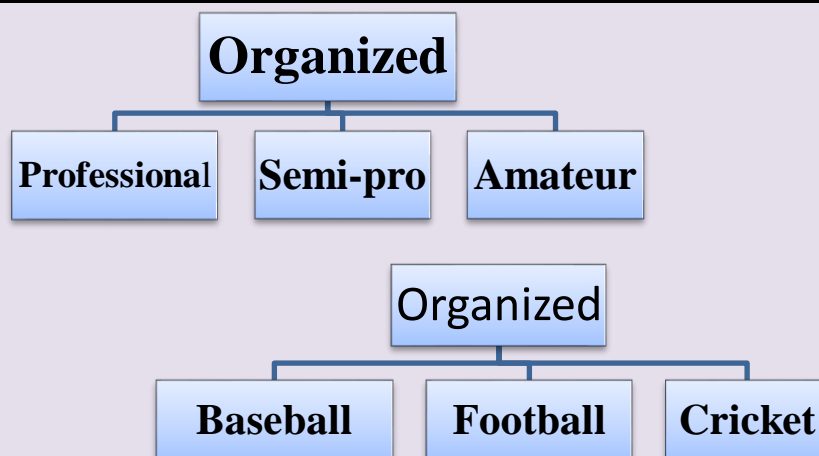
	Adventure	Aquatic	Ball	Extreme	Motorised	Mind
kayaking	+	-	-	-	-	-
lacrosse	+	-	+	+	-	-
snorkeling	-	+	-	+	-	-
archery	-	-	-	+	-	+

In componential analysis, our initial goal is to describe and isolate the minimum components that are necessary to describe the game of baseball. The diagrams and steps that follow are illustrative, but not in any sense definitive to all that is involved.

Figure 1 clarifies some of the semantic territory inherent in the contrastive features that underlie any definition or explanation of baseball. The game of baseball can be placed within general sports activities which are played by professionals as follows: Outlining baseball in this way forces us to ask several questions. Are the terms "professional", "organized", and "play" in some sense redundant? That is, does the category of a "professional activity" imply or entail that it is also "organized" and for "play"?

Figure I. The Setting of Baseball as a Cultural Activity





## Conclusion

It is concluded that the use of componential analysis is valuable, and that it can be related to the larger function of language in society. A further way to the study of meaning is done by the process of the componential analysis, which is breaking down the meaning of a word into its components which can be contrasted with other components .

The CA has multifarious benefits and that is why it has become essential for the linguist to use such approach in dealing with different problems of semantics. Since, the idea of componential analysis does not introduce a new type of relation , but presents a theoretical frame work for dealing with such relations. The article analyzes, this componential analysis is also beneficial in defining what lexical gaps are there in a given language, as well as it is good in handling not only the atomic constituents of meaning but the complex ones also.

Scientific novelty of the research consist in componential analysis of support lexicon in foreign language in order to determine the degree of English penetration. Furthermore in this research, the choice of words makes the language of sport lexicons a specialized field of study. The research is focused on the linguistic views in English sport lexemes by semantic perspective.

## References

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