

Delving into the Syntactic and Semantic Aspects of Verb Phrases in a Comparative Context

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Abstract—This research paper aims to investigate and analyze the syntax and semantics of verb phrases in both English and Bangla, with a view of identifying their major similarities and differences. Though English and Bangla verb phrases have a lot of likenesses, they vary in their structure, function and meaning. The term ‘verb’ is often considered to be a most vital syntactic and semantic component of any language. It is, both in English and Bangla, defined as a linguistic unit expressing some ‘action’ or ‘state’. Syntactically, the verb appears as a part or constituent of a phrase and is usually modified or complemented in some way(s): the verb complemented by noun(s), adjective(s), adverb(s), adverb participle(s), infinitive(s) etc. and the main verb is the ‘head’ accompanies other verbs, generally the copula(s), verb(s) to have, modal(s) etc. The verb phrase also involves the so-called concept which is traditionally termed a ‘predicate’. Moreover, in order to examine the verb phrase semantically too, this research attempts to study the internal structure of the verb phrase consisting of the auxiliary verb and the main verb, where the role of main verbs is to convey the semantic content of the verb phrase and set up various relationships with all the other elements in the sentence. Here, the auxiliary verb often indicates aspect, tense, mood, voice, etc. So, this research is intended to provide readers and learners of both languages with necessary information about the similarities and differences in the verb phrases of English and Bangla.

Index Terms—verb phrase, head(word), operator, modification, (in)direct object, complementation

I. INTRODUCTION

Despite having the same origin—the Indo-European family of languages—the English and Bangla languages differ in various aspects and areas, most importantly and essentially in their verb patterns. In English, verbs play a more significant role than they do in Bangla—both syntactically and semantically. There is a saying that the English sentence is verb-oriented, whereas the Bangla sentence is affix-based. The term ‘verb’, both in English and Bangla, is defined as a linguistic unit having some meaning either expressing a ‘state’ or an ‘action’ (i.e. stative verbs and action verbs). The ‘verb phrase’ or the ‘VP’ could be defined as a distinct word group comprising of a verb root or stem and any of its dependents, such as complements, arguments, or certain kinds of adverbial modifiers, for example instrumental, locative, temporal, and aspectual modifiers. The verb determines the category or type of the phrase as its ‘head’. The well-known transformational division of the linguistic unit ‘sentence’ is into noun phrases (NPs) and verb phrases (VPs), which actually involves around the fundamental distinction to be the ‘subject’ and ‘predicate’, usually extends the idea of the VP to more than one phrase. The transformational grammarians (i.e. TG grammarians) principally promoted this approach to view the ‘verb phrase’ as a dissection of syntax—the verb and its complementation. This deals with the external relations of the verb, they also support that the VP can, in general, be subdivided into two more components, the verb (realised by a VP) and its complement (usually realized by a NP, an Adj. Phr. or an Adv. Phr.). Huddleston (1984) terms this as an extended *verb phrase*, while Allerton (1979) prefers the term to be a *predicate phrase*. They are external because these elements are not morphologically related to the structure they modify. Although some linguists not affiliated with TG grammar recognize this unit, they differentiate between the VP proper and the VP with its complements. A further analysis limits the term VP to just the verbal component of the sentence, ignoring any potential complements. Specifically, this term refers to what is known in other grammars as a verb or verbal group, consisting of two elements, such as the *main verb* and the *auxiliary system*. The first analysis favours a

syntactic approach, whereas the second takes a morphological perspective. The first focuses on the external relationships of the verb, while the second emphasizes its internal relationships. So far as our knowledge goes, the topic we have chosen would be very interesting and new.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

English and Bangla are from two dominant branches of the Indo-European family of languages. As stated by Rahman (2008), they belong to two different subgroups, Indo-Germanic and Indo-Aryan, of the same language family. Akan et al. (2023, p. 2376) state, “Usually, maximum languages emerging from or a member of the same origin or family function in a similar way”. However, they don't follow the same syntactic and semantic patterns at all times. Some structuralists like Wells (1947), view every sentence as a construction where the relationship of words with one another is not arbitrary. So, every word or even every phrase or clause in a sentence is a constituent of that structure or of that sentence. But to compare and contrast between the characteristics and properties of the grammatical term *verb*—the vital part of language—is the most challenging job for the expert. Akan (2018, p. 78) says, “The sentence is broadly divided into subjects and predicates or noun phrases (NPs) and verb phrases (VPs)”. The VPs of English and Bangla have a lot of changes both in functions and meanings. The major differences are found, such as in auxiliaries, tenses and aspects. Ahmed (2022, p. 16) says, “There is no direct use of auxiliary verbs in Bangla sentences”. As much as we know, enough research in this field of comparative study seems to be insufficient till now.

III. METHODOLOGY

The method that is followed here is the comparative analysis through applying the theories of Immediate Constituent Analysis (ICA), Phrase Structure Grammar (PSG) and Minimalist Theory of Syntax (MTS) etc. The historical backgrounds of the two languages are also considered, specially for Bangla to establish the link of the VPs of the two languages. As we need the help of a number of primary and secondary sources, various books, journals, periodicals, newspaper articles, and interviews with different people etc. are part of our resources. We believe we have been able to work with the available material to finish our work. We have read some works on the syntax as well as semantics of the English and Bangla languages and have some material on the production. We had close contact with teachers and researchers of English and Bangla, and while working on the project, we received full support from them. Throughout this research paper, the VP will be taken as a multiple word, not as a single unit.

IV. DISCUSSION

The term ‘syntax’ came originally from Greek and literally meant an ‘arrangement’. In our study, this arrangement or the basic syntactic models for analyzing the VP are the Immediate Constituent Analysis and the Phrase Structure Grammar. The Immediate Constituent Analysis can help resolve ambiguity in the sentence by using Structuralism Bracketing. As stated in Phrase Structure Grammar (Morley, 2000, p. 53), “The phrase is regarded as a grouping of one or more words which focus around a headword element and which together perform the grammatical role which in other circumstances could be expressed by a single word”. So, a phrase very often involves the expansion around a headword or head element. A phrase consists of multiple words, with the phrasal head serving as the central element that drives the entire structure of the word group. That is to say, phrases are classified according to the kind of word that functions as the head. For instance, a nominal phrase has a nominal head, while a verbal phrase has a verbal head, and so on. The English VP is placed after the subject while the Bangla VP is placed at the end of the sentence. But in some cases, the VP in Bangla is redundant or implied, specially with linking verbs in present simple tenses. Akan (2018) says that we have English verbs as a mandatory component for the sentence but in Bangla, the verb is not always necessary to be present for the construction of a correct sentence. There have been a large number of researches on some aspects of the English verb phrase though in Bangla, the quantity of research is not adequate. This study will show the functions and meanings of the VP and their components to understand these two languages both syntactically and semantically.

V. RESEARCH FINDINGS

It is widely accepted that the sentence of any language revolves around its verbs, indicating that the verb is the central part of a sentence. As an obligatory element in a sentence, the main verb predominantly determines the structure of the rest of the sentence. This suggests that a sentence functions as a verbal expansion, with the verb phrase (VP) serving as its central element, while all other phrases are considered subordinate to it. Downing and Locke (2006) state that the verb phrase is the syntactic unit through which we most characteristically convey our perception of events where the term ‘event’ is used in the representation of all types of process, including ‘states’ and ‘activities’. The VP may have more than one dependent. Here, the two most vital dependents are the ‘subject’ and the ‘complement’ which are normally realised by noun phrases. In addition to their different syntactic functions and semantic roles, subjects and complements differ in their positions. Subjects usually complement the VP in prior positions, whereas complements usually appear in post-positions. In their relationship to the VP, subjects but not complements control the forms of the VP, whereas in Bangla, there is no change in subject-verb concord. e.g.

English: *Fariha likes Namira. vs. People like Namira.*

Bangla: ফারিহা নামিরাকে পছন্দ করে। vs. লোকেরা নামিরাকে পছন্দ করে।

|| fariha namirake pɔʃʰondo kɔre || vs. || lokera namirake pɔʃʰondo kɔre ||

Again, we have,

English: *Fariha likes Namira. vs. Fariha likes people.*

Bangla: ফারিহা নামিরাকে পছন্দ করে। vs. ফারিহা লোকদের পছন্দ করে।

|| fariha namirake pɔʃʰondo kɔre || vs. || fariha lokder pɔʃʰondo kɔre ||

We can apply the concept of Downing and Locke (2006) that the structure of the VP can be simple consisting of only one or a single word acting as the phrasal headword, or the ‘extended’ VP consisting of more than one word which focuses on a headword element. An extended verbal phrase structure in English includes a lexical verb as the head, which can be preceded by up to four auxiliaries, or five if we count the lexical passive auxiliaries, whereas the Bangla VP has up to four components including the passive structure. The function of the auxiliary verbs in English is to modify the main verb. But Bangla has no such auxiliary verbs. Unlike Bangla in English, the primary verbs *be, have* and *do* can serve as both auxiliary and lexical components of the verb phrase (VP) as shown in the following table:

Functioning as Auxiliary Verbs	Functioning as Lexical (Main) Verbs
The election <i>is</i> approaching.	The election <i>is</i> imminent.
Fariha <i>didn't</i> do anything about it.	Fariha <i>did</i> nothing about it.
Namira <i>has</i> had nothing to eat.	Namira <i>has</i> nothing to eat.

Apart from its function as a main verb, *be* therefore has three auxiliary functions. It is used as an aspect auxiliary in the progressive: *is taking*; as a passive auxiliary: *is taken* and as the basis of the lexical auxiliaries that take *be* i.e. any of its forms like *am, is, are, was* and *were* as the main or only verb in a sentence.

Every language has its own fixed structures. English and Bangla have much in common regarding the structures of the VP. However, they vary in some areas, such as the structure of the verb, position of the verb in a phrase, modal, participle, infinitive, operator etc. Downing and Locke (2006) explain that the internal structure of the verb phrase incorporates a lexical verb (e.g. *play*) or a primary verb (a form of *be, have* or *do*) which is regarded as the main verb (V) and which either functions alone, whether in finite or non-finite form, or more grammatical elements—the auxiliaries (Aux). The first auxiliary has a special status and is usually called the ‘operator’ (Opr). As per Downing and Locke (2006), the constituent elements of the English and Bangla VPs can, therefore, be shown and exemplified here as:

English vs. Bangla VPs: (Opr) (Aux₁) (Aux₂) (Aux₃) (V)

V: *plays*

He *plays*. vs. সে খেলে। || fe k^hæle ||

Opr, V: *is playing*

He *is playing*. vs. সে খেলছে। || fe k^helʃ^he ||

Opr, Aux₁, V: *has been playing*

He *has been playing* for an hour. vs. সে এক ঘন্টা ধরে খেলছে। || fe æk g^hɔnta d^hɔre k^helʃ^he ||

Opr, Aux₁, Aux₂, V: *will have been playing*

He *will have been playing* for an hour. vs. সে এক ঘন্টা ধরে খেলতে থাকবে। || fe æk g^hɔnta d^hɔre k^he^lte t^hakbe ||

Opr, Aux₁, Aux₂, Aux₃, V: *will have been being played*

Football *will have been being played* by him for an hour. vs. তার দ্বারা এক ঘন্টা ধরে ফুটবল খেলা হয়ে যেতে থাকবে।

|| t̪ar d̪ara æk g^hɔnta d^hɔre futbɔl k^hæla hoe d̪ɔɔte t̪akbe ||

Here, the Bangla verb phrase does not show any differences regarding tense (i.e. progressive and perfect progressive), aspect, modality, voice etc. but it can be made clear only by looking at the adverbials, for example, এক ঘন্টা ধরে /æk g^hɔnta d^hɔre/ which has the English equivalent ‘for an hour’.

In English, the primary auxiliary verb carries grammatical features (e.g. tense, aspect, person, number, voice, mood etc.), and modal auxiliary verbs convey modal meanings (i.e. as possibility, ability, obligation, probability, necessity, etc.) rather than lexical or grammatical meanings. In contrast, the lexical component of the VP reflects both lexical and grammatical meanings. The primary verbs i.e. *be, have, and do* can function both as auxiliary and as lexical components of the VP. But Bangla has no such verbs like *be, have, do* or modal auxiliary verbs, such as *shall, may, can* etc. Morley (2000) claims that the further elements which can occur in the verbal phrase are the following: (a) the ‘particle’, which is used in preference to the ‘extension of the verb’ or ‘qualifier’ (e.g. *flying*) since none of these point to any sense of similarity between a verbal particle and a preposition; (b) the ‘infinitive’ (e.g. (to) *fly*), and (c) the ‘negative’ (e.g. *not/n't*). Now the comparison of English and Bangla VPs can be illustrated in the following way:

English: NP₁ + VP + NP₂: The boy *is flying* a kite.



Bangla: NP₁ + NP₂ + VP: ছেলোটো একটা মুড়ি উড়াচ্ছে। || ʃ^heleta ækta g^huɽi uɽaʃʃ^he ||

Tenses and the VP: The tense denotes the correspondence between the time and the form of the verb. Although English has only two major tenses, Bangla has three. English two tenses are—the *present tense* (*play/plays*) and the *past tense* (*played*), whereas Bangla three tenses are—the *present tense* (খেলে), the *past tense* (খেললো) and the *future tense*

(খেলবে). These are all about simple present, simple past and simple future tenses in English and Bangla. There are other classifications of tenses, such as perfective, progressive and perfective progressive tenses. Both in English and Bangla, the VP can be viewed as finite and non-finite verbs but not in the same way:

Finite verb forms: A verb, in both languages, that changes its form according to the number, person, tense etc. and must have a subject is called a finite verb form. It is also termed a tensed verb as it denotes the time of the action. e.g.

- plays vs.* খেলে/k^hæle/ (present indicative) – He *plays* tennis every day. *vs.* সে প্রতিদিন টেনিস খেলে। || Je protid̪in tenis k^hæle ||
- play vs.* খেলে/k^hæle/ (present indicative) – They *play* tennis in the evening. *vs.* তারা সন্ধ্যায় টেনিস খেলে। || tara ŋɔŋd̪hæ tennis k^hæle ||
- played vs.* খেললো/k^hello/ (past indicative) – He *played* in the garage. *vs.* সে গ্যারেজের ভিতরে খেললো। || Je gæredʒer b̪iʒore k^hello ||

Non-finite verb forms: A verb, in both the languages, that does not change its form in accordance with the number, person, tense etc. and has no subject is called a non-finite verb form. It is called a non-tensed verb too as it does not indicate the time of the action. e.g.

- to play vs.* খেলতে/k^hel̪te/ (to-infinitive) – He went *to play* with friends. *vs.* সে বন্ধুদের সাথে খেলতে গেলো। || Je bond̪huder jat̪he k^hel̪te gælo ||
- play vs.* খেলতে/k^hel̪te/ (bare infinitive) – They won't let you *play* all the time. *vs.* তারা তোমাকে সর্বদা খেলতে দেবে না। || tara tomake ŋorboda k^hel̪te debe na ||
- playing vs.* খেলে/k^he/ (present participle) – *Playing* this morning, I got tired. *vs.* সকালে খেলে আমি ক্লান্ত হলাম। || ŋokale k^he ami klant̪o holam ||
- played vs.* খেলে/k^he/ (past participle) – *Played* a lot at night, he was more tired. *vs.* রাতে প্রচুর খেলেসে অধিক ক্লান্ত হলো। || rate prof̪ur k^he je od̪ik klant̪o holo ||

Finite verb phrases: A finite verb phrase is usually a group of words—a verb accompanied by other verbs or complements where the finite form of verb is limited by the person, number or tense etc. in a sentence and may often act as a main verb. There are three kinds of finite verbs in English as in Bangla. e.g.

- is playing vs.* খেলছে/k^hel̪t̪he/ – He *is playing* tennis. *vs.* সে টেনিস খেলছে। || Je tenis k^hel̪t̪he ||
- was playing vs.* খেলছিলো/k^hel̪t̪hilo/ – He *was playing* tennis. *vs.* সে টেনিস খেলছিলো। || Je tenis k^hel̪t̪hilo ||
- will be playing vs.* খেলতে থাকবে/k^hel̪te t̪hakbe/ – He *will be playing* tennis. *vs.* সে টেনিস খেলতে থাকবে। || Je tenis k^hel̪te t̪hakbe ||

The comparison between English and Bangla finite verb phrases illustrates that the first verb in the phrase is finite, whereas in non-finite verb phrases, no verb is finite.

Non-finite verb phrases: A non-finite verb phrase is usually a group of words—a verb accompanied by other verbs or complements where the non-finite form of verb is not limited by the person, number or tense etc. in a sentence and cannot act as a main verb. Non-finite verb phrases lack the complete range of sequences present in finite verb phrases because they do not convey the grammatical meanings of tense, mood, or modality. Lexical auxiliaries can also be included in non-finite structures, resulting in even longer combinations that can be formed spontaneously as needed. There are three kinds of non-finite verb phrases in English along with Bangla. e.g. infinitive phrases, gerund phrases, present and past participle phrases

Infinitive phrases: An infinitive phrase is a non-finite verb that is made up of 'to' and the base form of a verb or only the verb base and sometimes accompanied by other words. e.g.

to sleep a lot. vs. অধিক ঘুমাতে/od̪ik g̪humate/

However, there are certain verbs, such as bid, let, make, need, dare, see, help, hear etc. which follow other verbs without 'to' and those forms are called bare infinitives. e.g.

Let him *go* alone. *vs.* তাকে একা যেতে দাও। || take æka d̪ete dao ||

Gerundial phrases: A gerund phrase is a form of non-finite verb that is made up of by adding '-ing' at the end of the base form of a verb and sometimes accompanied by other words. e.g.

going alone vs. একা যেতে/æka d̪ete/

Participial phrases: A participle phrase is a verbal and works as an adjective. Participles can be of the following types as such,

Present participle phrases: Present participle phrases are made up of by adding '-ing' to the base form of a verb and sometimes accompanied by other words. e.g.

flying bird vs. উড়ন্ত পাখি/ur̪ont̪o pak̪hi/

Here, both gerunds and present participles are made up of by adding '-ing' to the base form. But the difference between them is gerunds function as a noun and present participles function as an adjective. e.g.

Running is good for health. (Here, *running* is a noun)

I saw a *running* train. (Here, *running* is an adjective)

Past participle phrases: Past participle phrases are made up of by adding '-ed', '-d' or '-t' to the base form of a regular verb, and by changing vowels in the middle of irregular verbs, such as trained, looked, slept, broken etc. e.g.

faded flower vs. শুকনো ফুল/ʃukno p̪ul/

It is to be noted here that to express the perfect aspect as well as the passive voice, the past participle can be preceded by have, has and had.

Perfect participle phrases: Perfect participle phrases are the non-finite VPs which are constructed with ‘-ing’ form of ‘have’ and ‘past participle’ of the ‘main verb’. e.g.

Having been done the work vs. কাজটি শেষ করে || kadzti sef kore ||

There is a term for all non-finite verb forms, commonly called a *verbal*, which includes any verb forms functioning as modifiers, objects, or complements. So, we have three types of verbal phrases: participial, gerundial and infinitive.

In terms of the tense and aspect, English and Bangla VPs have the differences that are shown in the following tables:

TABLE 1

English VP (Present Tense)		Bangla VP	
Simple Present	play/s football	Simple Present	ফুটবল খেলে /futbɔl kʰæle/
Present Perfect	have/has played football	Present Perfect	ফুটবল খেলেছে /futbɔl kʰelɔʰe/
Present Continuous	am/is/are playing football	Present Continuous	ফুটবল খেলছে /futbɔl kʰelɔʰe/
Present Perfect Continuous	have/has been playing football	Present Perfect Continuous	ফুটবল খেলেছে /futbɔl kʰelɔʰe/

TABLE 2

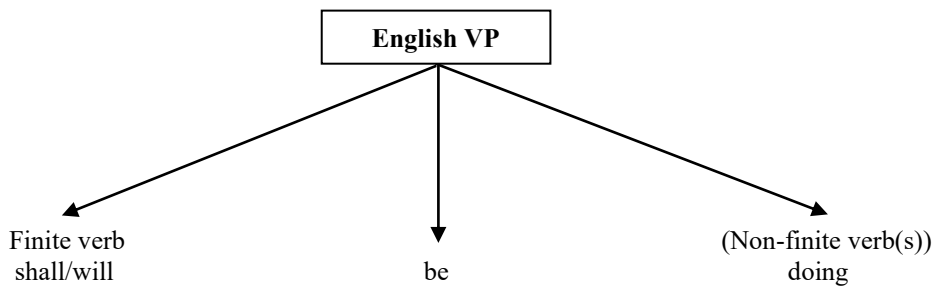
English VP (Past Tense)		Bangla VP	
Simple Past	played football	Simple Past	ফুটবল খেললো /futbɔl kʰello/
Past Perfect	had played football	Past Perfect	ফুটবল খেললো /futbɔl kʰello/
Past Continuous	was/were playing football	Past Continuous	ফুটবল খেলছিলো /futbɔl kʰelɔʰilo/
Past Perfect Continuous	had been playing football	Past Perfect Continuous	ফুটবল খেলছিলো /futbɔl kʰelɔʰilo/

TABLE 3

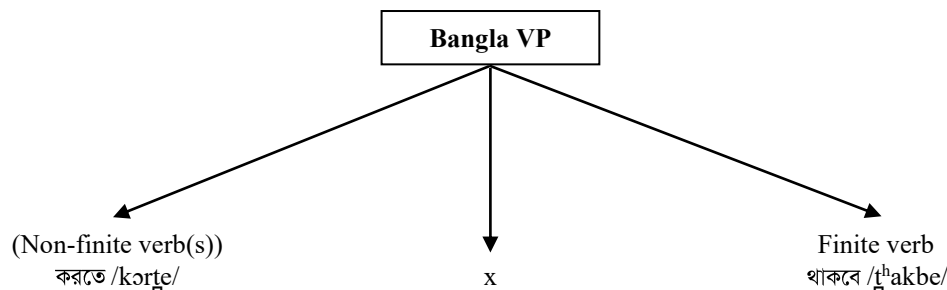
English VP (Future Tense)		Bangla VP	
Simple Future	shall/will play football	Simple Present	ফুটবল খেলবে /futbɔl kʰelbe/
Future Perfect	shall/will have played football	Present Perfect	ফুটবল খেলে থাকবে /futbɔl kʰele tʰakbe/
Future Continuous	shall/will be playing football	Present Continuous	ফুটবল খেলতে থাকবে /futbɔl kʰelte tʰakbe/
Future Perfect Continuous	shall/will have been playing football	Present Perfect Continuous	ফুটবল খেলতে থাকবে /futbɔl kʰelte tʰakbe/

It is to be noted that in Bangla, both continuous and perfect continuous tenses seem to be the same if there are no adverbials of time. However, the structures of English sentences show the tense distinction even without such adverbials.

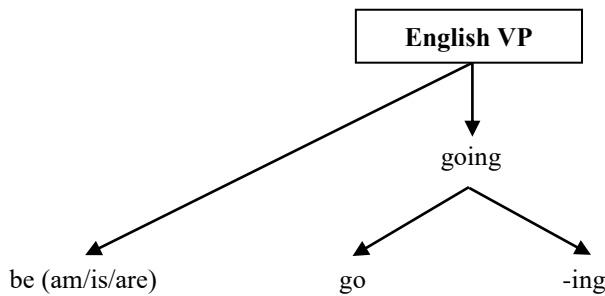
The English verb phrase (VP) can be represented using Phrase Structure Grammar in the following Diagram 1:



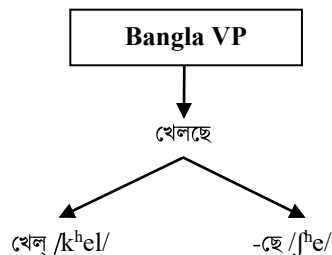
In a similar manner, the structure of the Bangla verb phrase (VP) can also be illustrated below in Diagram 2:



From the view point of Immediate Constituent Analysis, the English verb phrase (VP) could be displayed below in Diagram 3:



Correspondingly, the structure of the Bangla verb phrase (VP) can be demonstrated too in the following Diagram 4:



According to the number and type of objects and complements, verb phrases are divided into two types: intensive and extensive.

Intensive verb phrases: This category of verb phrases necessitates a subject complement and/or a predication adjunct. e.g.

Fariha *seemed* restless; the kitchen *is* downstairs. *vs.* ফারিহাকে অস্থির মনে হলো; রান্নাঘরটা হয় নিচে। | farihake oṣṭʰir mone holo, rannagʰorta he niṣe |

Extensive verb phrases: These verb phrases are of two types, for example, intransitive and transitive. Intransitive verb phrases don't need any objects or complements but transitive verb phrases need some objects or complements. The latter type can be subdivided in the following ways:

Transitivity of the verb phrases: This verb phrase can be of three types. e.g. mono-transitive, di-transitive and complex transitive. e.g.

Mono-transitive verb phrases: A verb phrase that takes only one object is called a mono-transitive verb phrase. e.g.

I *saw your picture* in the paper here just last week. *vs.* আমি ঠিক গত সপ্তাহে এখানে সংবাদপত্রে তোমার ছবি দেখলাম। | ami ṭʰik goṭo ṣoṭṭahe ekʰane ṣoṅbadpoṭre tomar ṭʰobi dekʰlam |

Di-transitive verb phrases: Di-transitive verb phrases are those verb phrases that take two objects, where one is a direct and the other is an indirect object. e.g.

Namira *sent me a card*. *vs.* নামিরা আমাকে একটা কার্ড পাঠালো। | namira amake ækta kard paṭʰalo |

Or, a Direct and a Predicator Object, for example:

I *encouraged the English boy to move in* one evening after he had taken me to a pub. *vs.* সে আমাকে একটি মদের দোকানে নিয়ে যাওয়ার পর এক সন্ধ্যায় আমি ইংরেজ বালকটিকে ভিতরে যেতে উৎসাহিত করলাম। | je amake ækti moḍder ḍokane nieṣe ḍzawar por æk ṣoṅḍʰæ ami iṅredʒ baloktike bʰitʰore ḍzete uṭṣaḥito korlam |

Complex transitive verb phrases: A complex transitive verb phrase is that verb phrase which takes an object and an object complement. e.g.

Nicole *appointed him a fellow* of the Shakespeare Institute in 1953. *vs.* নিকল ১৯৫৩ খ্রিষ্টাব্দে তাকে শেক্সপিয়ার ইন্সটিটিউটের একজন সহকর্মী নিযুক্ত করলো। | nikel 1953 kʰriṣtabde ṭake ſekspiar institju:ter ækdʒon ṣohokormi nidʒukṭo korlo |

Or, an Object and an Adverbial Complement, for illustration:

Daniel *put the book on the table*. *vs.* ডেনিয়েল বইটা টেবিলের উপর রাখলো। | dæniel boita tebiler upor rakʰlo |

Verb 'to Be' vs. Verb 'to Have'

These two verbs 'to be' and 'to have' often create problems both in English and Bangla. For example, the first one denotes *state*, whereas the second one expresses *possession* for both present and past simple tenses. e.g.

English: I am. *vs.* I have.

Bangla: আমি হই। | ami hoi | *vs.* আমার আছে। | amar aṭʰe |

Again, we have,

English: I was. *vs.* I had.

Bangla: আমি ছিলাম। | ami ṭʰilam | *vs.* আমার ছিল। | amar ṭʰilo |

VI. CONCLUSION

A comparative study of English and Bangla verb phrases (VPs) is small-scale exploratory research that focuses on the semantic and syntactic analyses of both languages within the field of linguistics. Being small-scale exploratory research, this very study usually contains many limitations. Thus, a rigorous study on this topic is required in the near future to aid the learners of either English or Bangla aptly. Further research in this area is needed in both aspects to gain a clearer understanding of verb morphological categories and to conduct a more thorough examination of the semantic elements related to the VP. Nevertheless, we are sure that, if we want to understand the structure, function and meaning of VPs of both the languages, this is a possible line of research to carry out. For developing any analyses on the English and Bangla VPs, some questions must be answered and come under consideration, such as what are the similarities and dissimilarities between the VPs, what are the components of the VPs, how are they integrated into a structure, what is the syntactic position of the VPs in a sentence, how can this integration or word order affect the meaning of a sentence etc. So, all these issues are tried to resolve in this very limited extent of work like ours but further scope to fill in the gaps are open for the upcoming researchers.

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