

Functional Analysis of Contrasting Conjunctions in Georgian

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There exist eight conjunctions in Georgian used to express semantic or pragmatic contrast, which constitute an implicational hierarchy: *aramed* > *oᲃond* > *tumca* > *magram* > *k'i//k'idev* > *xolo* > *tu* > *da*. The given string is organized in such a way that the skill of conjunctions to express contrasting bindings is decreasing from the left to the right. On the basis of functional-semantic analysis of the conjunctions we propose seven binary differential semantic/pragmatic features: +/-[Contrast], +/-[Opposition], +/-[Correction], +/-[Expectation], +/-[Wish], +/-[At least one], +/-[Strong underlining]. Certain combinations of the features express the main functions of the conjunctions which are relevant for formal representations of contrastive topics and/or focuses during the binding of some constituents or sentences.