

## How Grammaticalization Works in Turkish

The process of language change in which lexical items or constructions come to bear grammatical information (i.e., bound morphemes or grammatical items), or grammatical items gain more grammaticality is called *grammaticalization* (Hopper & Traugott, 2003). This process shares much with *morphologization* (Millar & Trask, 2015). The ordinary course of grammaticalization is expressed by Trask (2015: 136-137), as follows: “an ordinary lexical item with an ordinary meaning come to be used in some particular context; it is then bleached of its original meaning and becomes a mere grammatical marker in syntactic construction; finally, it is reduced to a bound morpheme, an affix, a piece of morphology”. Grammaticalization is also a theory that deals with regularities of grammatical change (Heine & Kuteva, 2004). The grammaticalization consist of four principal mechanisms that languages use at least one of them to grammaticalize: Semantic bleaching, extension, decategorialization and erosion (H&K, 2004: 2). Zingler (2018) suggest that grammaticalization does not work in agglutinative languages, such as Turkish as the same way as in fusional ones. Therefore, the current theories of grammaticalization does not cover every aspect of world languages. As a highly agglutinative language, Turkish might show rather eccentric evidence for grammaticalization studies, thus it needs more investigation. In this paper, I will investigate grammaticalization in Turkish descriptively and try to come up with a morpho-syntactic analysis.

## List of References

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