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Generičke rečenice na primjerima romana *Nineteen Eighty-Four* i *Animal Farm*
Georgea Orwella / Generic Sentences on the Examples of Novels *Nineteen Eighty-
Four* and *Animal Farm* by George Orwell

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ABSTRACT

Semantics, as a branch of linguistics, consists of numerous parts which linguists all over the world observe and study. Among those parts which constitute semantics, some are known to semanticists to a greater or lesser extent. Interestingly enough, the topic of generic sentences can be assigned to the category of semantics which subsumes those topics that have not been studied to a great detail in the past decades. For this reason, the diploma paper below will deal exactly with this topic – the topic of generic sentences, with the aim of defining this branch of semantics more clearly and, also, seeing what generic sentences are all about.

Key words: linguistics, semantics, language, generic sentences

ABSTRAKT

Semantika, kao grana lingvistike, se sastoji od brojnih dijelova koje lingvisti širom svijeta promatraju i izučavaju. Među tim dijelovima koji sačinjavaju semantiku, neki su poznati semantičarima u većem ili manjem obimu. Interesantno je za pomenuti da se tema generičkih rečenica može pripojiti kategoriji u semantici koja podrazumijeva one teme koje se nisu detaljno izučavale u posljednjim decenijama. Zbog ovog razloga, ovaj magistarski rad će se baviti upravo ovom temom – temom generičkih rečenica – sa ciljem jasnijeg definisanja ove grane semantike, kao i razumijevanja šta zapravo jesu generičke rečenice.

Ključne riječi: lingvistika, semantika, jezik, generičke rečenice

INTRODUCTION

1. Introduction

The study of language consists of numerous fields which are related to the ways in which language is used and the ways in which it affects and shapes our lives. It does not matter what some might say, our world *is* shaped by words, phrases, and sentences, as well as the ways in which we utter and comprehend them.

This final diploma paper focuses on one field of linguistics: *semantics*. One of many definitions of semantics reads: “semantics is the study of meaning in language” (Hurford, Heasley & B. Smith, 2007, p. 1); and, although broad in nature, it provides the gist of the area. In this vein, we can say that understanding meaning is the central aspect in terms of communication among people (Meyer, 2009).

Also, Meyer (2009) offers a more detailed definition: “the study of semantics is typically focused on such topics as the meaning of individual words (lexical semantics) and the ability of words to refer to points in time or individuals in the external world (deixis)” (p. 8). This tells us that semantics as such does not only deal with what the meaning of individual words is, but also whether or not those words have actual referents in deixis (extra-linguistic context) and whether they refer to one specific individual, a group of individuals, no individuals at all, etc.

As we can see, semantics, in a way, builds up on the very broad definition mentioned at the very beginning, encompassing the individual meaning of words, their connection to the outside world, but also encompassing larger structures within language – phrases, clauses and sentences. And sentences are at the very heart of this final diploma paper. More precisely, the very definition and (possible) classification of generic sentences will be presented in the following paragraphs.

At this point, it would suffice to say that this is an interesting topic for research since not much has been written about the notion of generic sentences in our region, but also, I dare say, in general. Hence, this final diploma paper will be descriptive, in the sense that I will present the theoretical framework related to the available research of generic sentences, and will apply it to the selected examples from the corpus.

1.1 Corpus

The corpus that I selected for this final diploma paper are two novels by George Orwell: *Nineteen Eighty-Four* and *Animal Farm*. George Orwell (1903 – 1950) was a famous English novelist whose most famous works are his novels *Nineteen Eighty-Four* and *Animal Farm*. The author was born and had lived in India, until he moved to England with his parents at around the age of nine. Throughout his entire life, Orwell had a special bond with the lower class of people – the unrepresented – which resulted in his spending a big part of the adulthood working and living as an average impoverished person in Europe at the time (in cities like London and Paris) (Britannica, 2022). Too, it is notable that Orwell allegedly composed his first piece of writing (a poem) at the age of four, but his lifestyle and the fact that he disfavored class differences and imperialism so much shaped the way in which he would later find his literary expression, i.e., by composing such pieces of writing as *Nineteen Eighty-Four*, *Animal Farm*, *Burmese Days*, etc.; thus, even though he experienced much turmoil in his life and voluntarily lived on the brink of poverty many times, Orwell never abandoned his love for writing; he rather let his life conditions shape the way he was going to express himself (Biography, 2021).

Additionally, imperialism, lack of privacy, fear, the prohibition of the freedom of thought, communism, etc. were all “pests” of Orwell’s age which had compelled him to compose two of his greatest literary achievements – the novels *Nineteen Eighty-Four* and *Animal Farm* – in which he metaphorically and sarcastically described the dystopian world which human beings have found themselves in.

The main reason why I chose to analyze the novels is for the assumption that they will contain a sufficient amount of generic sentences, given the fact that some other corpus of the English language was unavailable to me. Also, there is a symbolical reason for the choice of the two novels, and that is because the world of the 21st century is fighting its own “pests” in the form of neo-capitalism, overproduction, destruction of the natural environment, wars, etc. Hence, I think that the two novels are a decent match for both scholarly purposes.

2. Methodological Framework

As I have mentioned previously, I will analyze two novels by George Orwell, and, in the paragraphs that follow, I will first introduce the notion of generic sentences, as well as research available and conducted so far. In that sense, methodologically, this paper will be descriptive, but I will also provide a section containing an analytical presentation of the frequency of occurrence of certain classes of generic sentences.

My goal, thus, is to present the models of classification of generic sentences in the Theoretical Framework Chapter, and the corpus analysis will follow in Chapter 4.

3. Theoretical Framework

3.1 The Nature of Generic Sentences

“In all human languages, generic reference [generic sentences] is used for expressing general statements, referring to all members of a collective group without making reference to any entity or subject in particular” (Tomas, 2016, p. 6). This means that the phenomenon of generic sentences is a very interesting one, for it proves itself to be very useful when a person wants to refer to an entire group of individuals, without making a particular reference to any one of the individuals in that group. With this in mind, an example of a generic sentence is “The kangaroo is potentially a dangerous animal.” where the definite expression “the kangaroo” does not refer to any particular kangaroo, rather the entire species of kangaroos. Also, the indefinite expression “a dangerous animal” can also be said to be a generic reference, because the expression makes reference to the category of dangerous animals in total, without pointing out any specific group within the category.

Additionally, it is notable what Hurford, Heasley & Smith (2007) proposed, and that is the fact that “a generic sentence is a sentence in which some statement is made about a whole unrestricted class of individuals, as opposed to any particular individual” (p. 59). From this definition, a further definition can be posited that sentences with a generic reference are the ones which do not have a referent per se, provided they may refer to an unlimited category which can possibly include an unspecified number of members. Another important thing to be noted is that,

no matter how many members a category includes, generic sentences *equally* refer to all of them; that is, without specifically pointing out any of those individuals included in the category.

Furthermore, Chierchia, Jacobson & Pelletier (Eds.) (1989), referring to Carlson G. (1980), proposed that “generic sentences express a regularity, tendency or habit, as opposed to the reporting of an event or the description of an episode” (p. 11). This definition goes very well with what was already mentioned, and that is the fact that generic sentences can refer only to an entire category without pointing out any of its individuals. If one goes back to what Chierchia, Jacobson & Pelletier (Eds.) (1989) suggested, one will be able to conclude that reporting an episode as such involves referring to a specific individual from one group. In order to better explain what this distinction is about; it will be convenient to take a sentence (e.g.) *A dog just ran through my backyard.*, where this sentence cannot be regarded as generic (despite its subject having an indefinite article) because it talks about an episode, rather than a regularity or habit. To be more precise, by using the noun expression “a dog” and despite the usage of the indefinite article, the sentence nevertheless points out one representative of a class; in this case, it was that one dog which ran through somebody’s backyard.

On the other hand, Chierchia, Jacobson & Pelletier (Eds.) (1989) posited a connection between generic sentences and a regularity or a habit. For instance, saying a sentence (e.g.) *A dog barks.* or *Dogs bark.* provides an example of generic sentences, given that the said sentences do not portray an episode (something that happened, is happening or will happen); rather, they express a regularity, i.e., something that can be applied to all members of a particular group; in this case that would be the species of dogs and what is considered its characteristic – hence, the sentences are regarded as generic.

With this in mind, what Chierchia, Jacobson & Pelletier (Eds.) (1989) said regarding the event-regularity distinction can be connected with what Lee (n.d.) assumed: “naturally, generic NPs [...] are argued to be *semantic definiteness* or approximated to [definiteness], no matter whether they are syntactically definite or indefinite, mass or count, and singular or plural, language internally or cross-linguistically” (p. 1). This means that generic sentences (the ones which contain generic NPs) are considered definite by default, regardless of what their syntactic structure is. The reason for this is, as was mentioned above, the fact that generic sentences already refer to an entire

category *without* excluding any of the individuals or members belonging to that category; hence, all generic sentences contain generic NPs which are understood as semantically definite by default.

Henceforth, Cherchia, Jacobson & Pelletier (Eds.) (1989) referred to Pelletier and Schubert (1982) in positing an interesting observation in terms of representation and interpretation of generic sentences. What they said is the following: “[...] the main aspect of their [Pelletier and Schubert’s] proposal is that the interpretation of generics requires a set of cases that provides the background with respect to which generic statements are evaluated. They call the background assumption relevant to the semantics of generics “reference ensemble” (pp. 14-15). The “reference ensemble” (Pelletier and Schubert, 1989) being talked about practically means that the antecedent in a sentence serves the purpose of setting up an ensemble, i.e., the antecedent is there to, metaphorically speaking, set up the perimeter within which a generic expression will have its jurisdiction. To be more precise, with the help of the reference ensemble will a person be able to figure out which category a particular generic NP refers to. According to Cherchia, Jacobson & Pelletier (Eds.) (1989), the reference ensemble can go both ways; put in different words, it can be explicit (when it openly refers to a category) or implicit (when a generic reference needs to be understood from the context).

In this section, I have provided a theoretical insight into the nature of generic sentences, as well as contexts in which they are deemed appropriate and can be used. What can be concluded from this section is:

- a) generic sentences refer to all individuals from a particular category, thus the reference to a category in question can be regarded as absolute (semantically definite), provided all of its members are addressed by using a generic NP or a generic sentence;
- b) from the semantic point of view, generic NPs are definite (as was mentioned in Lee (n.d.)), even if their syntactic structure suggests otherwise, for generic sentences can only be deemed appropriate if they refer to an entire category without making any specific reference to its individual members, segments or parts.

These definitions are necessary in order to be able to differentiate generic from other sentences, but the following issue is which framework to apply to the analysis of generic sentences. In the following subsections, I will present the findings related to the (possible) classification of generic sentences, and those models will be applied in the corpus analysis.

3.2 Models of Classification of Generic Sentences

This section will present the essential models of analysis/classification of generic sentences in English. It should be noted that some of the approaches are either disapproved, in development or too ambitious for the needs of this final diploma paper; hence, this section will be limited to the approaches that can readily be applied on the chosen corpus.

3.2.1. Stage and Individual Level Predicates

This principal differentiation was introduced by Greg Carlson (1977), and it focuses on the predicate that determines the readings that the subject receives, especially in the case of bare plural generics. He argued that stage level predications give rise to existential readings of *bare plural generics*. Also, individual level predications give rise to generic readings.

According to Carlson (1977) and Stomp (1985), the distinction between the two types of predicates can be drawn intuitively, and also on the basis of linguistic patterns. Semantically, individual level predicates express properties that normally are contained by items for quite extended periods, while stage-level predicates properties normally contained by items for relatively short time intervals.

Leslie (2016) provided some examples of stage and individual level predicates:

- individual: “is tall”; “is intelligent”; “knows French”; “is a mammal”; “is female”; “is a singer”; “loves Bob”; “hates Bob”;
- stage: “is drunk”; “is barking”; “is speaking French”; “is taking an exam”; “is sober”; “is sick”, “is sitting”; “is on the lawn”, “is in the room”.

As far as the aforementioned linguistic patterns are concerned, Carlson (1977), Stomp (1986) and Leslie (2016) distinguish the following (note: All examples taken from Leslie, 2016):

a) Stage level predicates are permissible in the following constructions, while individual level ones are not:

- John saw Bill drunk/sober/sick/naked.
- John saw Bill speaking French/taking an exam/smoking cigarettes.

- John saw Bill on the lawn/in the room.
- *John saw Bill intelligent/tall/a mammal/male.
- *John saw Bill knowing French/hating Bob.

b) There-insertion constructions behave similarly:

- There are men drunk/sober/sick/naked.
- There are men speaking French/taking an exam/smoking cigarettes.
- There are men on the lawn/in the room.
- *There are men intelligent/tall/mammals/male.
- *There are men knowing French/hating Bob.

c) Stage level predicates can be modified by locatives, while individual level ones cannot:

- John is drunk/speaking French/smoking in 1879 Hall.
- *John is a mammal/intelligent/male in 1879 Hall.
- *John knows French/hates Bob in 1879 Hall.

Carlson (1977) noted the difference in syntactic behavior between individual and stage level predicates, and proposed that the distinction between the classes of predicates underlies the distinction between existential and generic readings of bare plurals:

- Students are drunk/speaking French/on the lawn. (existential)
- Students are intelligent/mammals/tall/male. (generic)
- Students know French/hate Bob. (generic)

He also noted the difference between existential and generic readings of the indefinite singular, which he, as well as some other authors, e.g., Diesing (1992), Chierchia (1995), Kratzer (1995), Cohen and Erteschik-Shir (1997, 2002) rejected.

3.2.2. Characterizing Generics vs. Direct Kinds of Predications

Also, generic statements can be classified to generic and D-generic. In this sense, generic statements express generalizations about individual members of the kind. Direct kinds, or D-generic statements concern the kind in question, rather than individual members of that kind.

The initial proposal was (again) developed by Carlson (1977), but Krifka (1987) and Krifka et al. (1995) have also written about this model.

Carlson's original comparisons included examples such as Tigers are striped vs. Dinosaurs are extinct. The former example is "made true by enough individual tigers possessing stripes" (Leslie (2016), while latter predicates "a property directly of the kind in question, rather than expressing generalizations concerning its members" (Ibid). Leslie and Krifka (1995; 2016) agree that Carlson's idea that bare plurals can refer directly to kinds, and thus that (at least some) generics involve predicating properties directly of kinds remains widely accepted.

Leslie (2016) notes that "the indefinite singular form on its standard interpretation cannot be used to express a direct kind predication: statements such as 'a dinosaur is extinct' and 'a tiger is widespread' are not felicitous. (They can of course be heard as felicitous if they are given a very different interpretation, so that their domain ranges over particular kinds – e.g., 'a dinosaur, namely the T. rex, is extinct' – but this is not the relevant interpretation. To see the difference, consider statements involving kinds that do not themselves have salient subkinds, e.g., perhaps 'a T. rex is extinct'.)"

3.2.3 Definite, Indefinite, and Bare Singular Generics

Singular generics have not been treated in literature as compared to the plural generics. According to Leslie (2016), the reason is that they bear a lot of complications and thus can be infelicitous. The author illustrates this by the following examples:

- A madrigal is polyphonic
- A football hero is popular
- *A madrigal is popular (Leslie, 2016).

Other authors also agree that singular generics can frequently be infelicitous. For example, Carlson (1977), Dahl (1985), Krifka et al. (1995).

According to Krifka et al. (1995), one of the reasons why singular generics, both definite and indefinite, are sensitive is because they contain subjects that are infelicitous if they do not refer to well-established kinds (Krifka considers a well-established kind to be anything with an appropriate body of background knowledge (p. 122):

- The coke bottle has a narrow neck
- *The green bottle has a narrow neck.

This completes the theoretical overview of the issue of generic sentences as observed by semanticists. I would like to emphasize here that the body of literature is rather scarce and that many authors wrote the groundbreaking models in the period over the past three decades, but, regardless, the main models presented here are still used as the basis of many analyses. Also, as I have already stated, there are some other models encompassing logical form (Heim (1982); Kamp (1981); Kamp and Reyle (1993); Diesing (1992); Kratzer (1995), etc.), normalcy-based approaches (Schubert and Pelletier (1989), Asher and Morreau (1995), Krifka et al. (1995), Pelletier and Asher (1997), Greenberg (2003)), but I here will limit the analysis to the models presented in the previous paragraphs.

4. Corpus Analysis

As I have already mentioned, the corpus consists of two novels by George Orwell, *1984* and *Animal Farm*. Thus, the text below will solely focus on the analysis of corpus sentences taken from the two said novels. The observations will be based on the previous research on generic sentences discussed in the paragraphs above (as well as the mentioned authors whose groundbreaking research still serves as the basis of many analyses), which served as the basis for what will come in the remaining part of this section. It should also be noted that the first novel whose sentences will be discussed is *Animal Farm*, and *Nineteen Eighty-Four* will follow afterwards.

1. *The distinguishing mark of Man is the hand, the instrument with which he does all his mischief* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 24).

- Syntactic form: definite singular
- Type of predicate: the distinction between individual and stage level predicates is not applicable to sentences whose subjects are definite singulars.
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The sentence is regarded as a characterizing generic, because “the distinguishing mark of Man” has been defined as is, based on the observation of numerous individuals with mutual characteristics – distinguishing marks – thanks to whom “the hand” has been agreed upon as a distinguishing mark which characterizes all human beings.

2. *All animals are equal* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 7).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: The reason why this sentence is categorized as a direct kind predication is because of the context in which it appears, provided, in the work *Animal Farm*, it is believed that being equal to each other is an inherent right to which all animals are bound.

3. *All men are enemies* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 6).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: Even though this example of a generic sentence is very much similar to the former one, the difference in categorization should be further explained; the explanation being more philosophical in nature. The statement that all men are enemies has come from the observation of a high enough number of individuals (the people) who have shown a characteristic of being an enemy to the animals; thus, being animals’ enemy cannot be said to be something that is inherent to people (or

characteristic of the kind, for instance), rather something which characterizes numerous individuals who have allowed for such a statement.

4. ***They rolled in the dew, they cropped mouthfuls of the sweet summer grass, they kicked up clods of the black earth and snuffed its rich scent*** (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 15).
- Syntactic form: bare plural
 - Type of predicate: individual level predicate
 - Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The sentence, once placed in the context, has as its aim to portray the farm animals' entering the age of prosperity and harmony. Thus, the images presented in the sentence are a portrayal of a longer time span – the age of progress and harmony; hence, the choice of the suggested type of predicate. Also, the observation of various individuals has led to the categorization of this sentence as a characterizing generic.

5. ***A bed merely means a place to sleep in*** (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 50).
- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
 - Type of predicate: individual level
 - Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: The focus of the sentence is talking about what a bed is, as an artefact, or a place in which one sleeps. There is no specific reference to any bed or beds; rather the sentence refers to the class of beds; hence, the categorization as a direct kind generic

6. ***A pile of straw in a stall is a bed, properly regarded*** (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 50).
- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
 - Type of predicate: individual level
 - Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: There is a difference in the categorization of the former example and the latter one, even though the sentences are almost the same in terms of syntactic formation. The reason why this sentence is regarded as a characterizing generic, unlike the previous one, is because “piles of straw” are one class of beds, within the larger, all-encompassing class of beds, which included all the others. For this reason, individual “piles of straw” have been observed, and the result of such an observation is finding a mutual characteristic to all of them – being a type of bed or a place to sleep in.

7. *Milk and apples [...] contain substances absolutely necessary for the well-being of a pig* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 25).

- Syntactic form: bare singular and bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: The subject which is composed of two bare nouns in coordination refers to an entire class of their referents, i.e., milk and apples respectively; hence, direct kind generic.

8. *They [the hens] had been warned earlier that this sacrifice might be necessary, but had not believed that it would really happen* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 55).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The act of warning the hens about their potential sacrifice was based on their individually receiving the warning; hence, characterizing generic. Also, the process of issuing the warning required an undefined amount of time, which paved the way for regarding this sentence as one containing an individual level predicate.

9. *They [the hens] were just getting their clutches ready for the spring sitting, and they protested that to take the eggs away now was murder* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 55).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: This sentence, in its nature, is quite similar to the aforementioned one; hence, the same taxonomy. However, one interesting thing to be noted is the fact that the use of past progressive in this sentence is a clear indication of finding an individual level predicate in the sentence itself. Past progressive, by definition, indicates an action, or a process, whose completion required a longer, extended period of time, which is something that allows for the use of an individual level predicate. All of this combined has enabled the taxonomy from the above.

10. *Suddenly, early in the spring, an alarming thing was discovered* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 56).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: Containing an individual level predicate is, as is already clear by now, one of the requirements for a generic sentence. This one, being generic, suggests that the alarming thing which was discovered resulted in some long-lasting consequences. Also, given that “an alarming thing” is one of its kind; i.e., there are no other “alarming things” being taken into consideration; the sentence, then, introduces an entire kind all at once – *the* alarming thing. Hence, the arguments put forward paved the way for the taxonomy above.

11. *The animals were so disturbed that they could hardly sleep in their stalls* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 56).

- Syntactic form: definite plural
- Type of predicate: the distinction between individual and stage level predicates is not applicable to sentences whose subjects are definite plurals.
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: Provided the statement is based on an observation where all animals' internal feelings and sensations were taken into account, individually; this generic sentence has, for this reason, been categorized as a characterizing generic.

12. *The animals were thoroughly frightened* (Orwell, 1945/2021, 57).

- Syntactic form: definite plural
- Type of predicate: the distinction between individual and stage level predicates is not applicable to sentences whose subjects are definite plurals.
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: As in the sentence from the above, what “needed to be done” before positing this statement was to observe the individual behavior of all animals; hence, the categorization as a characterizing generic, which requires the observation of a high enough number of individuals, as well as finding their mutual trait (or traits) and then positing it as part of a generic inference.

13. *They all cowered silently in their places, seeming to know in advance that some terrible thing was about to happen* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 60).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The sentence depicts a type of behavior displayed by the animals over a long period of time; this is how the individual level predicate in this sentence can be accounted for. On the other hand, as was the case in previous examples, in order to posit the statement (the sentence), it was necessary to observe how animals individually behaved; hence, the categorization as a characterizing generic.

14. *Moreover, terrible stories were leaking out from Pinchfield about the cruelties that Frederick practiced upon his animals* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 69).

- Syntactic form: bare plural

- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The leaking of stories was not just a momentary thing; the entire affair took enough time to regard the event as one lasting for a longer period of time. Also, as was mentioned in an example from the above, the use of past progressive indicates an action which took enough time to complete it, so that it can be regarded as a “permanent”, rather than a “momentary” occurrence. Also, the stories have been regarded as terrible based on the observation of separate, individual stories; hence, the sentence is being categorized as a characterizing generic.

15. *And when they thought of how they had labored, what discouragements they had overcome, and the enormous difference that would be made in their lives when the sails were turning and dynamos running – when they thought of all of this, their tiredness forsook them and they gambolled round and round the windmill, uttering cries of triumph* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 70).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The actions of gambolling round the windmill and uttering cries of triumph were, also, actions which lasted for a longer period of time; hence, the predicate is regarded as individual-level. Also, the reason why the sentence is a characterizing generic in its nature is because various, individual animals have been observed, as well as their behavior, which brought to this kind of conclusion.

16. *All relations with Foxwood had been broken off; insulting messages had been sent to Pilkington* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 71).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: Besides taking time to complete, the breaking of relations and the sending of insulting messages were supposed to be aimed at having long-term and long-lasting consequences in terms of relations between the Animal Farm and the neighboring ones. This paved the way for regarding the sentence predicate as an individual level one. Also, what is subsumed under “all relations” are various types of legal or social connections between the Animal Farm and Foxwood; so, based on this observation, the sentence has been regarded as a characterizing generic.

17. *All these rumors had probably originated with Snowball and his agents* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 71).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: What is being talked about here is the process of how particular rumors had originated. Accordingly, the process of potentially creating rumors and spreading them around is what requires a certain amount of time. For this reason, the predicate is individual-level, given one of its main features is depicting an event in a generic construction, or a feature, which is present over a longer period of time (Carlson, 1977). On the other hand, the observation of individual rumors has enabled for the sentence construction to be regarded as a characterizing generic.

18. *A number of them were already wounded* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 73).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The fact that a number of animals were wounded suggests a feature, or a condition, which will be present over a longer period of time; hence, the predicate type has been categorized as individual-level. On the other hand, using the construction “a number of them” clearly suggests that the sentence has been based on the observation of a mutual trait which is shared among a number of different individuals; hence, the categorization as a characterizing generic.

19. *They took refuge in the farm buildings and peeped cautiously out from chinks and knot-holes* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 73).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: As is the case with the previous sentence; this sentence, as well, is based on describing an action which lasted for an undetermined, longer time period. Also, the sentence was put forward after observing a high enough number of individuals which allowed for the statement itself. Hence, the taxonomy from the above.

20. *Wistful glances were sent in the direction of Foxwood* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 73).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: The reason why the sentence is regarded as a direct kind predication is because it can answer the question: “What kind of glances were sent in the direction of Foxwood?”. There is no “observation of individual glances”; rather, a particular type/kind of a glance has been emphasized; hence, the categorization as a direct kind predication.

21. *A mighty cry for vengeance went up ...* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 74)

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: The reason why this embedded sentence is categorized as a direct kind predication is because only “one cry for vengeance” has been posited and talked about. A kind of cry for vengeance, that is – a mighty cry for vengeance – has been introduced; hence, the categorization as a direct kind predication. Also, the cry was a result of an outburst of emotions which the animals had been

accumulating previously, and it also resulted in animals' retaliation; hence, the predicate can be observed as an individual-level one.

22. ... *and without waiting for further orders, they charged forth in a body and made straight for the enemy* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 74).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The last two examples are actually two parts of one sentence, where one has a chance to see a contrast between generic sentences that can be present. The second embedded sentence is, thus, inclined towards the observation of how animals behaved after the cry for vengeance, whereas the first embedded sentence practically introduced the cry for vengeance – as a kind of a cry – which resulted in the animals' behavior after that – this was described on the basis of observation of animals individually.

23. *They [the humans] saw that they were in danger of being surrounded* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 74).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: This example of a generic sentence has been based on what different individuals concluded at a certain point in time – that they were about to be surrounded. Hence, the sentence has been regarded as a characterizing generic.

24. *They had won, but they were weary and bleeding* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 75).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The reason why this sentence displays an individual level predicate is because it depicts the animals' condition which will be permanent and the recovery from which will require a long amount of time. Also, the statement has been posited after noticing the condition of different individuals; hence, the categorization as a characterizing generic.

25. *The animals slain in the battle were given a solemn funeral* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 76).

- Syntactic form: definite plural
- Type of predicate: the distinction between individual and stage level predicates is not applicable to sentences whose subjects are definite plurals.
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The positing of the sentence has been made possible, given various individuals – slain animals – received a common thing, which is a proper funeral. It is because of this that the sentence is regarded as a characterizing generic.

26. *A cry of lamentation went up* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 77).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: As was the case in one of the previous examples, this sentence, as well, can answer the question: “What kind of cry went up?”. The sentence introduces a type of a cry – a cry of lamentation – without making an inference about any other “cries”. It is because of this that the sentence is categorized as a direct kind predication.

27. *All orders were now issued through Squealer, or one of the other pigs* (Orwell, 1945/2021, p. 66).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The sentence above refers to “all orders”, as a group of instructions issued by a relevant body; hence the sentence is regarded as generic, with the presented semantic description.

28. *The pen was an archaic instrument, seldom used for signatures [...]* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 9)

- Syntactic form: definite singular
- Type of predicate: the distinction between individual and stage level predicates is not applicable to sentences whose subjects are definite singulars.
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: It is usually associated with definite singulars that such noun phrases refer to a specific entity; i.e., a feature of definite singulars which is mostly attributed to them is the fact that they have a specific referent, as opposed to having general reference. However, in some cases, as is the case above, definite singulars *are* used generically. Thus, “the pen” – the subject from the above example – is used so as to refer to all pens used as a means of writing which is almost completely extinct. Hence, it is being categorized as a direct kind of generic, because it refers to the pen as a means of writing, without taking into consideration characteristics of any individual pen.

29. *[...] and he had procured one, furtively and with some difficulty, simply because of a feeling that the beautiful creamy paper deserved to be written on with a real nib instead of being scratched with an ink-pencil* (Orwell, 1949, 2021, p. 9).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: stage level predicate
- Categorization: the categorization which is used for the purposes of this diploma paper cannot be applied, for characterizing generics and/or direct kind predications, as two distinct categories, are applied to generic sentences only; this one is existential in nature.

Note: Even though the focus of the diploma paper is on generic sentences, an existential one is used here so as to provide further evidence in terms of the distinction between existential and generic sentences.

30. *The enemy of the moment always represents absolute evil, and it followed that any past or future agreement with him was impossible* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 39).

- Syntactic form: definite singular
- Type of predicate: the distinction between individual and stage level predicates is not applicable to sentences whose subjects are definite singulars.
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: “The enemy of the moment” can be regarded as a genuine category of individuals; hence, this sentence is subsumed under the category of direct kind predications.

31. *On the contrary, they [children] adorned the Party and everything connected with it* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 29).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: the feeling of adoration is something which becomes more emphasized over time; hence, what children feel for the Party (i.e., their adoration for the Party) can only be subsumed under individual stage predicates, provided it is seen as a sensation that lasts permanently.

32. *There were the vast repositories where the corrected documents were stored, and the hidden furnaces where the original copies were destroyed* (Orwell, 1949/2021, pp. 49-50).

- Syntactic form: definite plural
- Type of predicate: stage level predicate
- Categorization: the categorization which is used for the purposed of this diploma paper cannot be applied, for characterizing generics and/or direct kind predications, as two distinct categories, are applied to generic sentences only; this one is existential in nature.

Note: According to Carlson (1977; qtd. in Malpas (2010)), *there*-insertion constructions agree with stage level predicates, as well as existential sentences. In this sense, the said author suggested that

marking a location in a sentence is a characteristic of stage level predicates, as well as existential sentences.

33. *All subsequent crimes against the Party, all treacheries, acts of sabotage, heresies, deviations, sprang directly out of his teaching* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 14).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: Based on the observation of “all subsequent crimes, treacheries, acts of sabotage, heresies, and deviations”, it was concluded that all of them have one single source. Thus, the observation of individual cases of all of these instances has paved the way for one, generic statement; hence, the sentence has been categorized as a characterizing generic.

34. *A day never passed when spies and saboteurs acting under his directions were not unmasked by the Thought Police* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 16).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: Based on earlier research of Carlson (1977), it might be suggested that a predicate can be regarded as individual-level if it, among other things, depicts a habit or an activity that has been observed to take place over an unspecified amount of time. Hence, the example from the above has been seen as having an individual level predicate, provided it talks about something that has been regarded as a usual (habitual) activity, or something that has been taking place over a longer period of time.

35. *People were leaping up and down in their places and shouting at the tops of their voices in an effort to drown the maddening bleating voice that came from the screen* (Orwell, 1949/2021, pp. 16 – 17).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: This is an instance where the difference between a stage-level and an individual-level predicate is not as clear-cut. The reason for this being the fact that the action depicted – people’s “leaping up and down” – seems to be unclear whether it depicts something which took place momentarily or a permanent action. However, what the main character of the novel wanted to portray at this moment was his being terrified by the dystopian sight which he was witnessing. For this reason, the occurrence seemed to have lasted for an unspecified amount of time. Hence, the predicate can be regarded as individual-level, because the duration, or the length, of the action was in focus here, among many other things.

36. *The Thought Police would get him just the same* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 22).

- Syntactic form: definite singular
- Type of predicate: the distinction between individual and stage level predicates is not applicable to sentences whose subjects are definite singulars.
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: This sentence talks about one kind of people within a society; in particular, that is the Thought Police who work for the government. The kind of people are referred to generically; and it is for this reason that the sentence has been considered an example of a direct kind generic, given that it deals with a kind of people, without taking into consideration its individuals who comprise it.

37. *People simply disappeared, always during the night.* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 22).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: Numerous cases of disappeared people have been recorded; thus, the statement is something which is rooted in an observation which has taken place over a longer time span. Additionally, the observation is based on the enlisting of such cases independently, which paved the way for a general statement mutual to all the cases observed (that all the people disappeared during the night). Hence, the conclusions above have been posited.

38. *Vivid, beautiful hallucinations flashed through his mind* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 18).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: Even though “to flash” indicates an event that lasted for an extremely short amount of time; if properly contextualized, the process of “flashing” might also refer to a series of events that took more to complete than just a moment, as is the case with this example. Put in different words, “vivid, beautiful hallucinations” started occurring one after another – hence, a series of events – and the completion of the entire series took enough time to regard this action as a temporary, rather than a momentary one.

39. *Nearly all children nowadays were horrible* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 28).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The observation of various underage individuals of the time has allowed for an inference that nearly all of them were horrible; hence, the categorization as a characterizing generic.

40. *Some noisy zealot in the Ministry (a woman, probably: someone like the little sandy-haired woman or the dark-haired girl from the Fiction Department) might start wondering why he had been writing during the lunch interval, why he had used an old-*

fashioned pen, what he had been writing – and then drop a hint in the appropriate quarter (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 33).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: This example talks generally about a person who might be an informant of the government. If that person starts wondering about a suspicious event, such a thing would subsume a longer process of investigating into the suspicious event; hence, the categorization as an individual level predicate. Also, the categorization as a characterizing generic is due to the fact that the entire statement is based on the behavior of individuals, and what the features of such a behavior are.

41. *People in the Records Department did not readily talk about their jobs* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 49).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The statement from the above talks about a custom that has been described based on the observation of individuals within an organization. Hence, the sentence has been classified as is.

42. *A sort of vapid eagerness flitted across Winston's face at the mention of Big Brother* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 60).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: Even though the act of “flitting” indicates a momentary act; what followed after the act was a change in Winston’s face, something which lasted for an undetermined amount of time. Also, the noun phrase “a sort of vapid eagerness” in itself suggests that the sentence aims at introducing

a new entity, a new kind – in this case, a facial expression – and it is because of this reason that the sentence is categorized as a direct kind predication.

43. *A young woman who was perhaps his secretary, and who was sitting with her back to Winston, was listening to him and seemed to be eagerly agreeing with everything that he said* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 62).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: the period of listening extended over a longer, undetermined period of time; hence, the sentence is regarded as an individual level predicate. Also, provided this is one person being talked about, “a young woman”, this is a clear indication of an observation of one individual; hence, the categorization as a characterizing generic.

44. *Yet a faint air of disreputability always clung to him* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 63).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: The amount of time of “clinging of the air of disreputability” is unknown, but the context suggests that it was a longer period of time; that is why the predicate is regarded as an individual level predicate. On the other hand, a type of air is introduced – literally speaking, the air of disreputability – without observing some other types individually. For this reason, the sentence is categorized as a direct kind predication.

45. *Beads of moisture stood out all over his pink face* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 64).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The description of the character being talked about (Syme) is based on the observation of one of his unique features – the fact that there are beads of moisture all over his face. This kind of observation follows from another one, where in the focus were individual “beads of moisture” which were dripping from the character’s face; hence, the categorization as a characterizing generic.

46. *Returns now completed of the output of all classes of consumption goods show that the standard of living has risen by no less than 20 per cent over the past year* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 66).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: Individual returns were being observed, which was necessary for this kind of a statement; hence, the categorization of the sentence as a characterizing generic.

47. *On the far side of the room, sitting at a table alone, a small, curiously beetle-like man was drinking a cup of coffee, his little eyes darting suspicious glances from side to side* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 69).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: The use of past progressive indicates the duration of the action, which clearly indicates that the predicate is individual-level. Also, the sentence is based on the observation of an individual; hence, the categorization of the sentence as a characterizing generic.

48. *A horrible pang of terror went through him* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 70).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate

- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: Even though it is not indicated in the sentence how much time was needed for the sensation of terror to overwhelm the entire body; what can easily be suggested is that the sensation of terror lasted for an undetermined amount of time; hence, the predicate of the sentence can be categorized as individual-level. Also, one individual “pang of terror” was observed instead of an entire observation of terror as a sensation. Because of this, the sentence was categorized as a characterizing generic.

49. *A nervous tic, an unconscious look of anxiety, a habit of muttering to yourself – anything that carried with it the suggestion of abnormality, of having something to hide.* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 71).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: This inference was made after the observation of all possible things which did not go well with the dystopian society that Orwell was describing. Provided this was based on an observation of individual facial expressions and/or strange behavior, it was decided that this sentence be categorized as a characterizing generic,

50. *Party women never paint their faces* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 73).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: This statement was allowed for by an observation of high enough number of women who have never painted their faces; hence, the categorization of this sentence as a characterizing generic.

51. *All marriages between Party members had to be approved by a committee appointed for the purpose, and – though the principle was never clearly stated – permission was always refused the couple concerned gave the impression of being physically attracted to one another* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 75).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: Based on the individual observation of all newly formed marriages, it was concluded that a special committee needs to approve of all of them; hence, the categorization as a characterizing generic.

52. *All children were to be begotten by artificial insemination (artsem, it was called in Newspeak) and brought up in public institutions* (Orwell, 1949/2021, pp. 75-76).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: As in the previous example, the statement has been proposed after a period of observation of individual cases – in this situation, those would be artificially begotten children – thus, the sentence is categorized as a characterizing generic. Also, since the observation had had to be conducted over a longer period of time, the predicate needs to be regarded as individual-level.

53. *But a real love affair was an almost unthinkable even.* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 78).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: What is being talked about here is a kind of love – a real love affair. There are no individual cases of anything to be put forward here; that is why the sentence is regarded as a direct kind

predication, talking about a kind of love, a true and honest love affair which is impossible to be realized in the dystopian world being described by Orwell.

54. *They were all impregnable, as the Party intended that they should be* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 78).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: This sentence cannot be seen as a direct kind predication, provided “being impregnable for the Party” is not inherent to women (it is women who are being talked about in this sentence); this is rather a product of Party indoctrination, the results of which have been made obvious thanks to the observation of numerous, separate individuals over a certain period of time.

55. *They [the proles] needed only to rise up and shake themselves like a horse shaking off flies* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 80).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: What is in focus here is a thing that relates to “an entire kind of people” – the proletariat, the working class. The statement has not been proposed by observing various individuals from the kind; rather, it relates to the whole kind – hence, the categorization as a direct kind predication.

56. *Until they [the proles] become conscious, they will never rebel, and until after they have rebelled, they cannot become conscious* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 81).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: As in the previous example, the talk is about “an entire kind of people”; hence, the categorization as a direct kind predication.

57. *So long as they continued to work and breed, their other activities were without importance* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 82).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: As in the previous two examples, this sentence, as well, is about “an entire kind of people”, hence, the categorization above.

58. *They [the proles] were born, they grew in gutters, they went to work at twelve, they passed through a brief blossoming period of beauty and sexual desire, they married at twenty, they were middle-aged at thirty, they died, for the most part, at sixty* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 82).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: This example, however, is different from the previous three, because the sentence itself talks about the life of an average prole. Such a statement required an observation of a high enough number of proles who would allow for the statement per se. Knowing this, the sentence has been categorized as a characterizing generic, contrary to what the case was in the previous three sentences.

59. *In all questions of morals, they were allowed to follow their ancestral code* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 83).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate

- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: What is being talked about in this sentence is what the proles, as a kind of people, were allowed to do; i.e., it is a custom of theirs (a social custom) which is in focus here; hence, the observation as a direct kind predication. Also, it might be useful to say why the sentence per se has an individual-level predicate. Besides being a generic sentence, which is the main requirement for having an individual-level predicate, the sentence talks about a custom which is applicable to a particular class of people – in this case, those are the proles. Knowing this, applying customs, expectedly, requires a lot of time; thus, all of the arguments above support the taxonomy of the sentence as was put forward in the bullets above the paragraph.

60. *Children no older than you had to work twelve hours a day for cruel masters, who flogged them with whips if they worked too slowly and fed them on nothing but stale breadcrusts and water* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 83).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: This sentence, like others which are categorized as characterizing generic, needed a number of individuals who go along with a particular description. In this case, those would be flogged children, who needed to work up to twelve hours a day. Also, the sentence describes how children of a certain age lived, which involves referring to a longer, unspecified period of time. Hence, the sentence has been described as is in the bullets above.

61. *They [the capitalists] were fat, ugly men with wicked faces...* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 84)

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: Based on the observation of various capitalists, the sentence above was put forward; hence, the categorization as a characterizing generic.

62. ... *like the one in the picture on the opposite page* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 84).

- Syntactic form: definite singular
- Type of predicate: stage level predicate
- Categorization: the categorization which is used for the purposes of this diploma paper cannot be applied, for characterizing generics and/or direct kind predications, as two distinct categories, are applied to generic sentences only; this one is existential in nature.

Note: Even though existential sentences and stage level predicates are not in the focus of this diploma paper, the two parts of one sentence presented above provide a useful presentation of how distinct and different in nature are generic and existential sentences.

63. *Great areas of it [the life], even for a Party member, were neutral and non-political, a matter of slogging through dreary jobs, fighting for a place on the Tube, darning a worn-out sock, cadging a saccharine tablet, saving a cigarette end* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 85).

- Syntactic form: bare plural
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: characterizing generic

Note: Thanks to the observation of various, individual “great areas of life”, this kind of a statement was allowed for; hence, the observation of the sentence as a characterizing generic.

64. *A tinny music was trickling from the telescreens* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 88).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: Past progressive is an indication that the music was playing for a longer period of time which has not been defined; hence, the categorization as an individual level predicate. Also, “a tinny music” is a type of music, and, in the sentence, there is no specific reference to a music track or something similar; the sentence is rather about a kind of music, “tinny music”; hence, the categorization as a direct kind predication.

65. *A new poster had suddenly appeared all over London* (Orwell, 1949/2021, p. 169).

- Syntactic form: indefinite singular
- Type of predicate: individual level predicate
- Categorization: direct kind predication

Note: The reason why this generic sentence is characterized as a direct kind predication is due to the fact that it does not subsume talking about various individual prints or copies of the poster in question; it rather talks about the poster, as a kind of advertising and the way it appeared all over London.

5. Conclusion

Having finished the part involving corpus analysis, it would be convenient to summarize in graphs and diagrams the overall analysis process. Thus, in order to introduce this part, it is necessary to become familiarized with a few pieces of information regarding the number of sentences, as well as the types being analyzed.

Essentially, 65 (sixty-five) was the complete number of all analyzed sentences from the corpora *Animal Farm* (1945) and *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949). The sentences were divided based on the type of combination that they involved:

- Combination 1: bare plural/individual level predicate/direct kind predication
- Combination 2: bare plural/individual level predicate/characterizing generic
- Combination 3: indefinite singular/individual level predicate/direct kind predication
- Combination 4: indefinite singular/individual level predicate/characterizing generic

However, several sentences did not fall within the scope of any of the aforementioned combinations, thus, a separate segment of such sentences will be introduced, due to this reason.

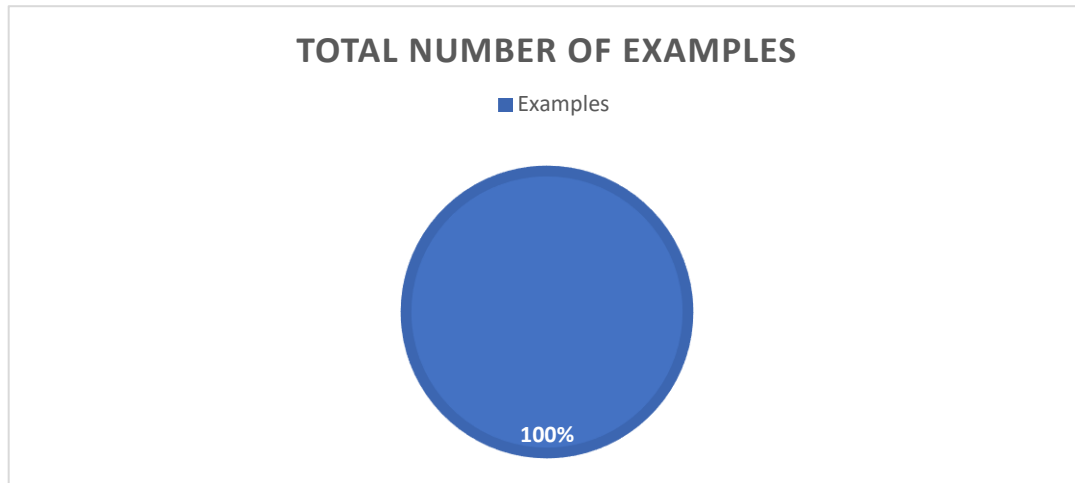
Furthermore, based on the nature of generic sentences (defined by Carlson (1977) and Krifka (1987)), two other categories will be introduced: the number of characterizing generic sentences and the number of sentences involving direct kind predications.

With all of the aforementioned things in mind, what is left for me to do is to put forward in the remaining part of this section graphs and diagrams which will visually depict what could be drawn from the corpus analysis.

Also, in order to understand portrayed graphs and diagrams more easily, one will be able to find short explanations of depicted things below each picture with a graph or a diagram.

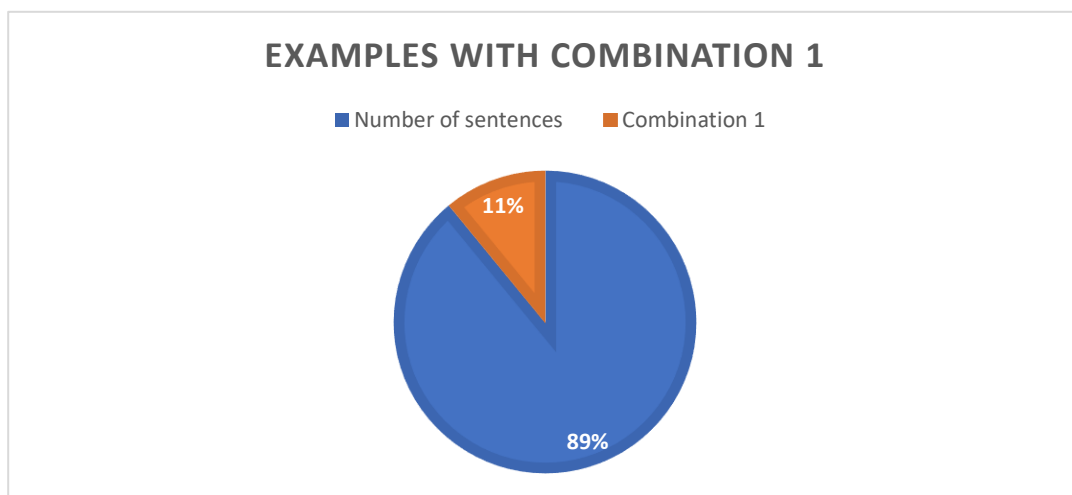
Finally, once this part has been finished, the following section will be wholly aimed at talking about some difficulties encountered in the writing process of this diploma paper, as well as putting forward some recommendations for future analyses, which might contribute to the development of this branch within semantics.

Total number of analyzed examples: **65 (sixty-five)**



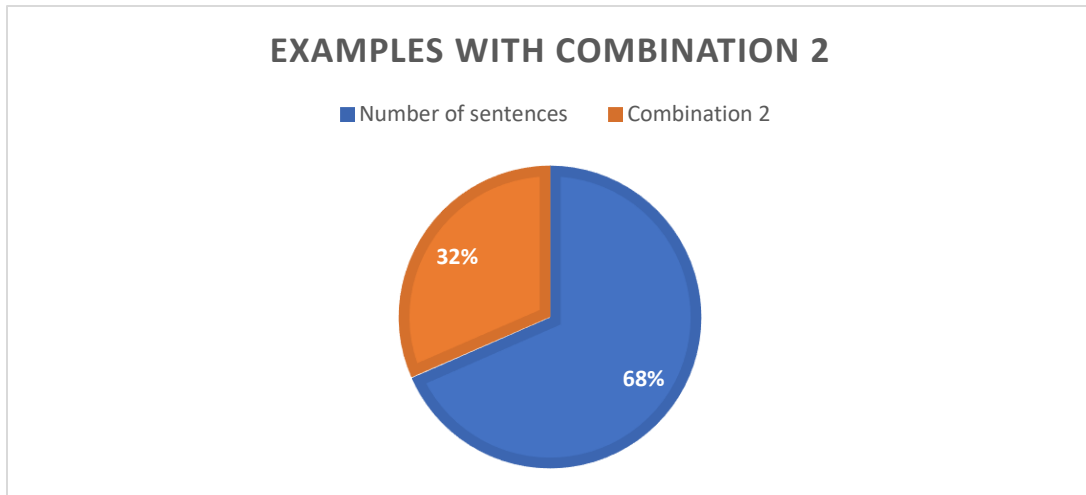
- The corpora used for the writing of this diploma paper were George Orwell's *Animal Farm* (1945) and *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949). Sixty-five sentences in total were taken from the novels for the purposes of the analysis.

Examples with combination 1 (bare plural/individual level predicate/direct kind predication): **8 (eight)**



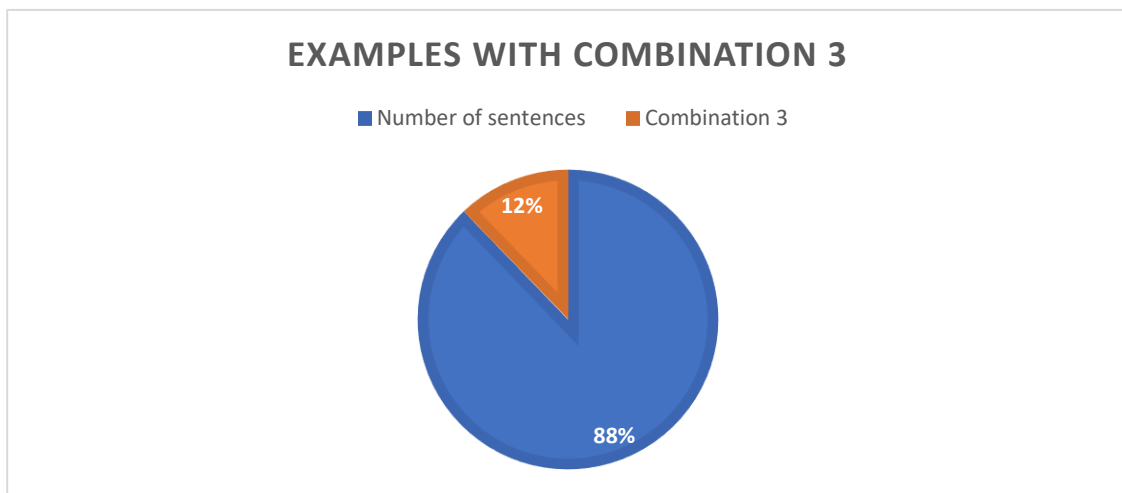
- As is visible from the graph above, about eleven percent of the analyzed sentences fall under the category Combination 1.

Examples with combination 2 (bare plural/individual level predicate/characterizing generic): **30 (thirty)**



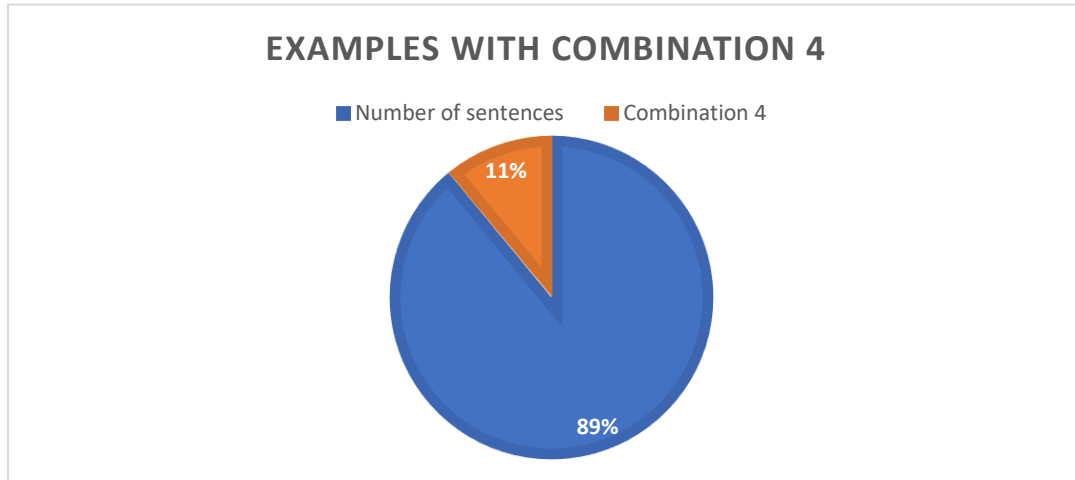
- This graph, in turn, can be considered the most interesting one because it shows that the largest percentage of analyzed sentences – above 30 percent – falls under the scope of Combination 2. Thus, Combination 2, as far as this analysis is concerned, can be said to be the most common one among the analyzed generic sentences.

Examples with combination 3 (indefinite singular/individual level predicate/direct kind predication): **9 (nine)**



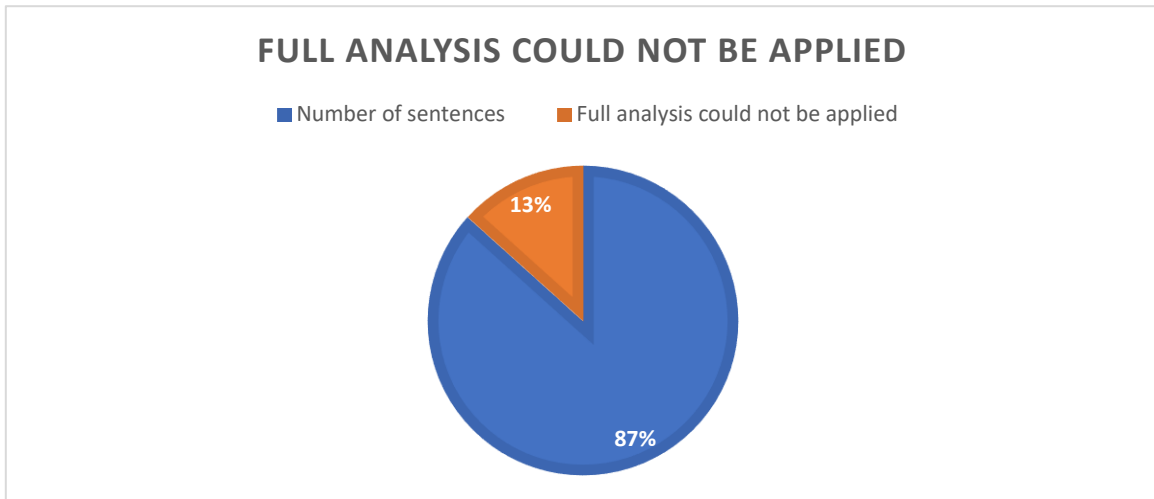
- Around 12 percent of sentences fall under Combination 3, which is still far lower a percentage when compared to Combination 2.

Examples with combination 4 (indefinite singular/individual level predicate/characterizing generic): **8 (eight)**



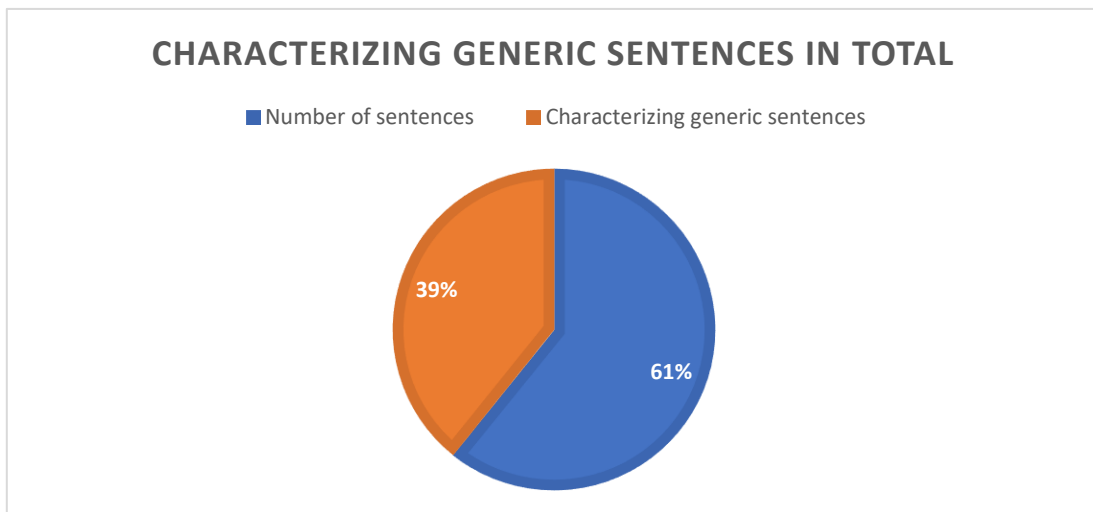
- Very close to Combinations 1 and 3 is the fourth combination, which subsumes around eleven percent of analyzed sentences. This tells us that Combination 2 – still – subsumes the largest percentage of all analyzed sentences.

Full analysis could not be applied to: **10 (ten) sentences**



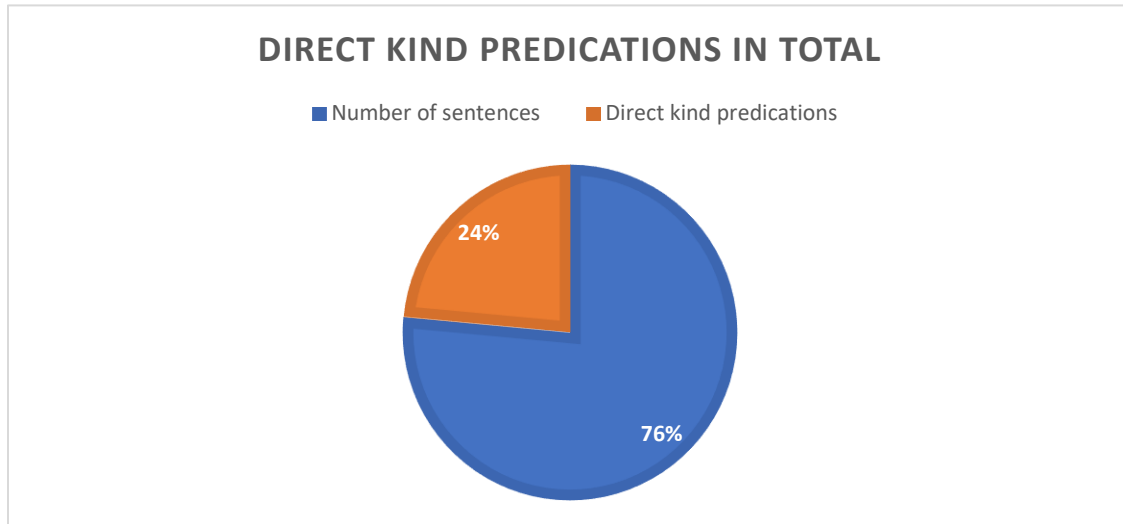
- Full analysis could not be applied to ten sentences due to various reasons; i.e., some sentences did not fall within the scope of indefinite singular/bare plural distinction; some predicates were stage level ones, instead of individual level ones which were necessary for the analysis, etc.

Characterizing generic sentences in total: **42 (forty-two)**



- Regarding the categorization of generic sentences from the corpora, forty-two of them were categorized as characterizing generic sentences.

- Direct kind predications in total: **20 (twenty)**



- Twenty sentences were categorized as direct kind predications. While comparing the last two graphs, it becomes visible that most of the analyzed sentences from the corpora have fallen under the scope of characterizing generic sentences, rather than direct kind predications.

By and large, the Conclusion section above had as an aim to summarize and graphically depict pieces of information that could be drawn from Corpus Analysis. The section started by introducing the total number of sentences used in the analysis, as well as the way in which the analysis was organized. Bringing the section to an end, what could be concluded was that Combination 2, along with the usage of characterizing generic sentences, have been observed to be used more in the analyses than other segments or analysis criteria. All the others were almost equally distributed (or used) across the analysis (Combinations 1, 3, and 4, and the usage of direct kind predications).

6. Final notes about the diploma paper and recommendations

As a final note to this diploma paper, it is worthy to mention once again something which was already introduced at the beginning, and that is the fact that the topic of generic sentences was chosen as a research project due to the scarcity of the available material about the topic, as well as the fact that not many works dealing with this topic have been written in recent years.

Having this in mind, the scarcity of material was something that I would say was the biggest obstacle while writing the work. In the process of collecting data, information, and material for the analysis, I could conclude that only few linguists have dealt with generic sentences in the last few decades. Working on it from my personal perspective, I would say that a main reason for that is simply the fact that generic sentences, as a field of semantics, have not been researched into in details, and that the field is still considered to be in its developing stages.

As a young scholar of linguistics, I strongly believe that this work of mine will be of use to some future younger (or older) scholars who will decide to dig deeper into the matter of generic sentences.

Following these lines, what could be useful in terms of further research is a deeper investigation into Combination 2 within generic sentences (bare plural/individual level predicate/characterizing generic); i.e., to see on a different corpus whether this type of combination will also be the most commonly used one. Such a piece of research would bring us further to a hypothesis that, among generic sentences, what is referred to as Combination 2 in this paper is something that will be encountered most commonly.

Also, it will be useful to test different corpora for characterizing generic sentences, in order to see whether this type of generics, in comparison with direct kind predication, will be more commonly used.

In sum, thinking about researching into the matter of generic sentences, from the present perspective, definitely brings to a conclusion that this was a challenging piece of research. However, completing the challenge surely is a fulfilling thing, due to the fact that another step has been made towards understanding the linguistic phenomenon of generic sentences a whole lot better.

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