

## A Cognitive Linguistic Approach to “Emotional Effects” of the Present Perfect Progressive

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Numerous studies on tense lump together the Present Perfect (PP) and the Present Perfect Progressive (PPP) and categorize them into some uses. One such comprehensive study is Declerck (2006), who divides PPs/PPPs into three categories: the “continuative” use describes a situation continuing until speech time (S); the “indefinite” use a situation occurring at some time before S; and the “up-to-now” use a situation/repetition of situations reaching the present time (excluding S). However, Onions (1929) and Jespersen (1931) observe that the “non-continuative (indefinite and up-to-now)” uses of PPPs, not PPs, can represent negatively-valued emotions, such as surprise or annoyance (e.g. (1) and (2)).

- (1) Someone has been tampering with this lock. [indefinite use] (Onions (1929:113))  
(2) Your little boy has been jumping and shouting for the whole morning. [up-to-now use] (Chen (1982:183))

No studies have (i) defined such phenomena with statistical support or (ii) elucidated their occurrence mechanism.

For (i), we classify negatively-valued PPPs into the lexical and contextual types, viewing only the latter as causing “emotional effects,” those to be explained in terms of temporal structures. In 10 novels, 69 out of 114 PPPs are non-continuative; 25 of them imply emotional effects. For (ii), only Shimura (2020, 2021), integrating Cognitive Grammar (Langacker 1991, 2008; De Wit 2017) with a general tense theory (Wada 2001, 2019), attributes such marked effects to the marked temporal structures of non-continuative PPPs using metaphors/analogy. However, it remains unanswered why such markedness slants to negative values. To answer this, we refine her temporal structures.

The temporal structures of indefinite and up-to-now PPPs are presented in Figures 1 and 2, respectively. The event time of *have* (representing a “resultant state”),  $E_1$ , coincides with S; that of *been* (a schematic verb serving as a “connector to the timeline”),  $E_2$ , is prior to  $E_1$ ; that of *-ing* (denoting an ongoing situation),  $E_3$ , coincides with  $E_2$ . The temporal focus (TF) is put on the most salient event time. The maximal scope (MS) embraces an overall content involved; the immediate scope (IS) subsumes the foregrounded segment of the MS, including the three event times. Because PPPs express imperfectivity of present-participle situations due to the property of the progressive, i.e., internal viewpoint, the internal part of the situation holding at  $E_3$  is profiled.

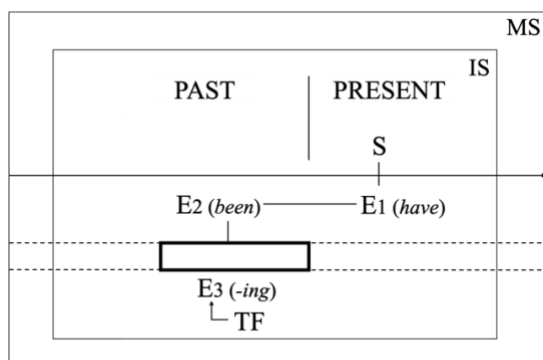
These temporal structures can clarify how the emotional effects arise. Because the three event times are within the IS, their relationships must be considered. The situations at  $E_1$  and  $E_3$  are indirectly connected via  $E_2$ , so their relationship must be inferred, because the situation at  $E_3$  is interpreted as imperfective, and the temporal structures do not assure its reaching  $E_1$  at S. Such an inference process produces “mental burden” for the interpreter, which can evoke negative values. Therefore, non-continuative PPPs have a strong inclination to negatively-valued emotions when accompanied by emotional values.

This analysis is indirectly supported by a strong tendency of the *être en train de* construction (e.g. (3)) to show emotional effects (Franckel 1989; Oguma 2001).

- (3) Attention! Il y a ton mouchoir qui est en train de tomber!  
‘Watch out! Your tissue is in the process of/on the point of falling!’

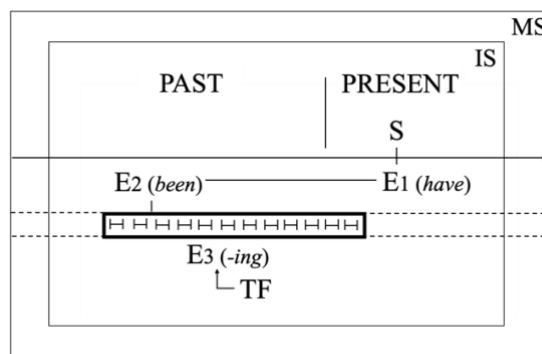
Based on Oguma’s claim, its temporal structure is schematized in Figure 3, where the profiled process does not reach its goal, while both are in the IS and their relationship must be inferred. This invokes mental burden, causing emotional effects.

Fig. 1 The Indefinite Use of the PPP



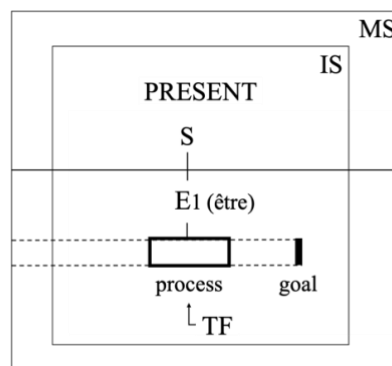
※ The profiled situation is enclosed by the heavy lines.

Fig. 2 The Up-to-now Use of the PPP



※ The profiled situation is enclosed by the heavy lines.

Fig.3 The être en train de construction



※ The profiled situation is enclosed by the heavy lines.

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