

# Term and Concept of Qualification in Turkish Grammar

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## 1. Introduction

In the studies conducted by foreign researchers on grammar and linguistics terms and concepts are quite different from traditional terms and concepts in Turkey. Changing terms that show concepts as linguistic thought streams develop and adding new ones make it difficult to agree with foreign researchers. Therefore, in Turkey, terms in Turkish and foreign languages are given together to facilitate agreement even within ourselves in our writings on grammar. In this case, the problem of terms that turn into jargon for Turkish grammar, the lack of a term to express the subject and the coincidence of a term with more than one concept cause a mountain of problems for those working in the field of language. Today, there are also studies on Turkish grammar that bring new perspectives to terms and concepts. However, it is now mandatory to rethink the terms and concepts related to each sub-branch of grammar.

Although there are many terms and concepts to consider, it is planned to make an evaluation on the term and concept of qualification in this article. In our dictionaries of grammar/linguistics terms, in books on grammar, this term is used for more than one concept and cannot reflect the most thoughtful features in foreign sources as a concept. When foreign resources are used, it is seen that each theory has a terminology within its own system. Since there is a certain logical and philosophical perspective on the basis of this terminology system, it is possible to understand what it means in theory. However, there is no introduction to logic or philosophy in our grammar books since the Republican period, so the basis of the concepts is not clear in grammar studies known to be written from a functionalist perspective today.

In the theories emerging under the leadership of Functional Grammar and Generative Grammar, which are the representatives of the functionalist and formative level today, the terms and concepts of *modification*, *attribution*, *qualification* do not fully coincide with the qualifying terms and concepts in the Turkish grammar terminology system. When the subjects are approached in the light of these theories, it is seen that there are conceptually nuances in these terms that meet the concept of qualification. Therefore, some suggestions will be made for the concept of qualification in Turkish grammar in the light of this information by giving information in regard to how the term qualification is handled in modern linguistics (Functional Grammar, Generative Grammar) after addressing the studies in the main sources with

a critical perspective, where common opinions relating to qualification emerge in the following chapters.

## 2. The Term and concept of qualification in Turkish grammar and linguistic terms dictionaries

Grammar books, term dictionaries, and, of course, syntax studies are examined to gain general knowledge based on Turkish publications about what should be understood when *qualification* as a scientific term is called. For this reason, we will outline the definitions of the term *qualification* in such publications following the purpose of our study.

### 2.1. The term and concept of qualification in Turkish grammar books

The *Türk Dilbilgisi* ‘Turkish Grammar’ book of M. Ergin comes at the beginning of the books that we can look at in order to find an answer to the question of what *qualification* is. For the concept of *qualification* in *Turkish Grammar*, Ergin uses the term *vasıf*. Attributes attached to the structure of the entity, such as *color, shape, height, weight of the structure*, call a *qualifying adjective*; adjectives that do not depend on the structure of the entity also call *determinative adjectives* (Ergin 2002: 246–247).

The term *vasıf* is also used by Tahsin Banguoğlu for the concept of *qualification* in *Türkçenin Grameri* ‘Turkish Grammar’ and defines the equivalent of that term in a foreign language as *qualification* (Banguoğlu 2011: 341–342). In *Turkish Grammar*, Zeynep Korkmaz splits adjectives according to their functions into *qualification* and *determination*. Defines the equivalent of the *niteleme* term in a foreign language as a *qualification* (Korkmaz 2007: 361).

Elöve, mentions that *adjective* means *quality* in a translation of Jean Deny’s book *Türk Dilbilgisi* ‘Turkish Grammar’. For the concept of *qualification*, he uses the term *vasıf* and gives its equivalent as *qualifier* in a foreign language. In Ahmet Benzer translation, he also uses the term *sanlamama* for the concept of qualification (2012: 222). The term *sanlama* is also found in Mehmet Hengirmen’s *Türkçe Dilbilgisi* ‘Turkish Grammar’, and the English equivalent is given as an *apposition* (2007: 586). According to Hengirmen, the term *apposition* refers to the *appositive relationship*. It is also the term of a logical relationship that allows words or phrases to merge, similar to qualifying. However, because the definitions of terms in both uses are still incomplete, it is unclear in which sense they’re being used.

Fatma Erkman Akerson and Şeyda Özil explain in their book *Türkçede Niteleme Sıfat İşlevli Yan Cümleler* ‘Clause in the Qualifier Adjective Functions in Turkish’ that the adjective functional clause is given this name because it qualifies the name like adjectives (Özil 2015: 21). Because it combines an adjective, which is a type of word, and a *qualifier*, which is a function of the structure, the study suggests that the

*qualifier* element in the structure belongs to the adjective word type. In the study of the relative clause, however, it is incorrect to attribute these relative clauses to adjectives, which are a type of word. Of course, given the date of publication, it should be noted that it is one of the works that gives a new perspective outside of classical studies—its first edition was in 1998.

*Qualification* and *property* are defined as terms and concepts in Engin Yılmaz's book *Türkiye Türkçesinde Niteleme Sıfatları* 'Qualifying Adjectives in Turkish'. The English equivalent of the term *niteleme*, according to Engin Yılmaz, is the term *attribution*, but he does not define the foreign language equivalent of the term *özellik*. Engin, who classifies knowledge of *primary* and *secondary qualities*, defines *property* as permanent meaning units and *quality* as variable meaning units determined by our senses, perceptions, and needs (Yılmaz 2004: 50–52). Engin has made a very important commitment here, because *property* is an integral part of being in philosophy, just like time. *Quality* is one of the semantic categories of existence (Shaw 1989: 381). Even if such a classification was given in this study, the basis for the classification was not defined. Although studies prepared with modern linguistic methods on Turkish grammar do not consider the subject of *qualification* separately, serious studies are being carried out in the field.

The book *Dilbilim Kavramlarıyla Türkçe Dilbilgisi* 'Turkish Grammar with Linguistics Concepts' by Turgay Sebzecioğlu is one of them. From phonetic to syntax, he uses the term *niteleme* in his work. The term *modification* is included in the index as the English equivalent of the *niteleme* term. The terms *quality* and *attributive* are not mentioned in the study (Sebzecioğlu 2016: 408). In the same way, the term *modification* is used in the book *Belirteç İşlevli Bağımlı Cümleler* 'Adverbial Functioning Dependent Sentences' of Duygu Özge Gürkan for the term *niteleme*. The adverbial words adverbial functioning dependent sentences are defined in this book as *modifiers*. In an analysis of the Generative Grammar method, the term was used appropriately, but the conceptual framework of the *modifier* term was not drawn up (Gürkan 2016:135).

The book *Türkçede Öbekler* 'Phrases in Turkish' written by Hürriyet Gökdayı was prepared with the perspective of Generative Grammar. The term *niteleme* is used in the study, but it has no equivalent in any other language. Similarly, in the book *Türkiye Türkçesi IV Sözdizimi* 'Turkey Turkish IV Syntax' recently edited by Erdoğan Boz, the term *niteleme* is used, but the foreign language equivalent of the term is not given (Boz 2020). Again, the term *niteleme* is used in the *Syntax* section written by Bayram Çetinkaya in the book *Dilbilim: Teorik ve Uygulamalı Alanlar* 'Linguistics: Theoretical and Applied Fields' edited by Erdoğan Boz. The term *qualification* is not included in the Turkish-English term index at the end of the book part (Boz 2020: 329–332).

Seçil Hirik's book *Sözdizimi Kuramları Bağlamında Türkçede Baş Unsur* 'The Head Element in Turkish in the Context of Syntax Theories' is another recent work. Four types of *tamlama* (complements) are mentioned in the section of the book that deals with *noun phrases*, and the *qualification* is also counted in these syntactic

complements. The *Generative Grammar* model is tested in the book's analysis chapter, but the concept of *niteleme* is not emphasized, and so there is no index of concepts, the term has no foreign language equivalent (Hirik 2020: 103). Unfortunately, *complement* was shown as a *structural occurrence* in the study. It is not mentioned that this relationship is a *functional composition* in the *Generative Grammar*.

The term *quality* is the foreign language equivalent of the term *nitelik* in the book *Dilbilgisi Bileşenleri* 'Grammar Components' prepared by Ö. Can, P. Akşehirli, Ö. Kosaner, M. Özgen. Those who work within the framework of the *Generative Grammar* in the section of the book that describes the *adjunct* and *complement* are the researchers who are shown the source for detailed information on this subject (Can et alia 2020: 356). The reason for mentioning this is that in early versions of the *Generative Grammar*, the term *modification* was used to refer to a syntactic position. However, rather than this term, the author of the chapter was referring to a syntactic relationship with the term *merge* proposed by Minimalist Program. However, in this section, the syntactic positions section was created and returned to the first versions of the *Generative Grammar*, only subject, object, positions and features were mentioned without defining the syntactic positions of the *head*, *complement*, *modification*, and *specifier*. Modification is not counted as one of the syntactic position, just like participants of the subject and object (Can et alia 2020: 440).

## 2.2. Qualification term and concept in Turkish linguistics dictionaries and Turkish grammar terms

In the *Felsefe ve Gramer Terimleri Sözlüğü* 'Dictionary of Philosophy and Grammatical Terms' published in 1942 by the Turkish Language Institution, the term *nitelik* is included. In a foreign language, the term *quality* is given as *nitelik*'s equivalent. But as a concept, this term does not have an explanation. In equivalent for the word *san*, the dictionary also includes the terms *adjective* and *attribute*. The terms *mahmul*,<sup>1</sup> *sifat* 'adjective' and *yüklem* 'predicate', and *san* are the Turkish equivalents of the terms *attribut* and *attribute*. The meaning of the predicate comes from the function of the syntax in which the adjective is the predicate, and *mahmul* is also related to Aristotle's philosophy of *categories/predicates*. The fact that the same terms were used for *predicate*, *adjective* and *mahmul* without establishing a philosophical and logical basis also led to confusion. Although there are many aspects to be criticized, it is also important in terms of reflecting a period when the young Turkish Republic accelerated its language studies.

The term *qualification* is not shown as a dictionary item in the *Dilbilim ve Dilbilgisi Terimleri Sözlüğü* 'Dictionary of Linguistic And Grammatical Terms' prepared by Berke Vardar (1980), and the term is only included in the title of *qualification adjective*. The term *belgeç* is equivalent of *san* in the dictionary, and it is also given as the foreign language equivalent of the French term *epithet*. The term

1 *Mahmul* is a logic term in the sense that it is related to something that is predicated.

*belgeç* refers to an entity's permanent property. The term *epithet* is defined as a unit of meaning that defines a noun, and it is indicated as an adjective in grammar. In Turkey, the term *belgeç* is not used; instead, the terms *belgili sıfat* 'determinate adjective' and *belgisiz sıfat* 'indeterminate adjective' are used. The conceptual structure of these grammatical terms differs from that of the *belgeç* concept.

The translation of Andre Martinet's book of *İşlevsel Dil Bilgisi* 'Functional Grammar' published five years after the publication of the *Dictionary of Linguistic and Grammatical Terms*, includes the term *niteç*, which is not included in this dictionary. The French equivalent of the term as an *attribute* is also referred to by Vardar (1985: 119–122). The term qualification does not appear in Nurettin Koç's Dictionary of *Açıklamalı Dilbilgisi Terimleri Sözlüğü* 'Explanatory Grammatical Terms' as a *niteleme* term, but it is used to express other concepts. The German *attributive* and French *qualificative* terms are the foreign language equivalents of the *niteleme* term (Koç 1992:190). In her *Grammer Terimleri Sözlüğü* 'Grammatical Terms Dictionary' Zeynep Korkmaz uses the terms *tamlayan* for *qualification* and *tamlanan* for *qualified* as synonyms. The terms *determinant* and *determined* are used to describe *tamlayan* and *tamlanan*, respectively, in English (Korkmaz 2017: 223). Here, the relationship between the terms and concepts of *tamlama* and *niteleme* is not specified. The term of *tamlama* isn't clear whether it refers to semantic or syntactic. Korkmaz's equalization of the *tamlayan-tamlanan* relationship with the *niteleyen-nitelenen* relationship, as well as its equivalent of the term *determination* for the term *tamlama*, creates ambiguity. The relationship between *tamlayan* and *tamlanan* in a noun phrase is different from the relationship between a verb and its complements.

Does the meaning of another element in a noun phrase complement the meaning of another element? Is it claiming that one of the complete syntax parts occurs? Unfortunately, the information provided by the dictionary is insufficient to answer these questions. Berke Vardar's dictionary of *Açıklamalı Dili Bilim Terimleri Sözlüğü* 'Explanatory Linguistics Terms', does not include the concept of *qualification* as a dictionary item.

Dictionary in question, foreign language equivalent of the *determination* and *identification* are *tamlayan/tamlanan* and *belirleyen/belirlenen*. The term *qualification* is a dictionary item, and the term *qualification* is used for its foreign language counterpart. And the *qualification* is used for its equivalent in a foreign language. There is a *modification* term in the dictionary that is also referred to as a *modifier* linked to the *qualification* term. The modification refers to an externally focused organization, according to this dictionary, and the phrase should not be included in the distribution of the head noun. Vardar, defines the relationship in this phrase as a *modifier relationship*, giving the example of a *kolu kırık adam* 'man with a broken arm', because *kolu kırık* 'broken arm' does not specify the kind of man (Vardar 2002: 69).

The term *niteleyen* is used for the term *modification* in Imer & Kocaman & Özsoy's *Dilbilim Sözlüğü* 'Dictionary of Linguistics' (2011). The term *nitelik* is also dictionary item and, the foreign language equivalent is *attribution*. The term *niteleyici*

is also used as an English adjective and attributive term. The term *quality* is the foreign language equivalent of the term *nitelik* in the dictionary. The term *determination* does not appear in dictionary. There are several statements that conflict each other in the definition of *qualifier*. The term *niteleyen*, according to the dictionary, indicates the degree of comparison and superiority of the noun and refers to the noun's properties. An adjective or a term that describes a noun is referred to as a *niteleyici*. The definitions used in this case are unable to distinguish between the *niteleyen* and the *niteleyici*.

The term of *niteleyen* is the dictionary item in Ahmet Topaloğlu's *Karşılaştırmalı Dilbilgisi Terimleri Sözlüğü* 'Dictionary of Comparative Grammar Terms' (2019). The term *tamlayan* is known as a *niteleyen* term. In French the term is equivalent to *qualifie*, *epithete*, and Ottoman Turkish *adjective*. The foreign language equivalent of the *tamlayan* in the dictionary is *determinant* in French. Similarly, the French equivalent of the *nitelenen* is *qualifier*. In the French *determine* is the equivalent of a *tamlayan*. Topaloğlu's classification matches that of Zeynep Korkmaz's *Dictionary of Terms* (2017) but the way they express concepts is different.

The terms *qualifier* and *modifier* are used in equivalent for the term *niteleyici* in Günay Karaağaç's *Dilbilimi Terimleri Sözlüğü* 'Dictionary of Linguistic Terms', and the term *niteleme* is also used in equivalent for the term *qualification*. For *tamlayıcı* and *açıklayıcı* terms, the term *niteleyici* is also used as a synonym. But *tamlayıcı*'s equivalent is *determinative* and *açıklayıcı*'s equivalent is an *appositive*. Despite the fact that the terms *niteleyici* and *niteleyen* are used in different words, their conceptual frameworks are the same. Both have been used to represent a logical form in the sense of the structure's skeleton. The term *açıklayıcı* means that the descriptive expression comes after the head element syntactically. Karaağaç claims that this isn't a *qualification* relation, but he calls the descriptive item a *qualifier* item (Karaağaç 2013: 23).

The term *modifier* is included with the *complement* within the subcategories of grammar in Agop Dilaçar's article *Grammer* 'Grammar'. According to the definition, this category is represented by adjectives and adverbs with the *modifier* implying a change in meaning. *Sanlama* is also used in place of the *qualifier*, and it is stated that *modifier* is a subcategory of the grammatical category (Dilaçar 1971: 94).

The *niteleyici* term equivalent is a *modifier* in TÜBA *Bilim Terimleri Sözlüğü* 'Tüba's Dictionary of Scientific Terms'. *Değiştirici* is also listed as a synonym for this term. The term "değiştirici a word or phrase that provides additional information about another word or set of words, as well as an adjective or token that modifies the attribute of the noun that follows" is defined. The term *niteleme* is also defined in the dictionary as "describing objects or phenomena in terms of their structural properties without resorting to measurement", in philosophy and "describing an entity with its distinctive properties." In this dictionary the term of *niteleyici* and *değiştirici* are syntactic term and the term *niteleme* is a semantic term. Among these studies, TÜBA's dictionary stands out because it explains terms in terms of logic, philosophy, and grammar.

The terms *niteleme* and *niteleyici* are listed separately in the dictionary. The terms *değiřtirici/niteleyici* denote a *syntactic qualifier*, whereas the term *niteleme* is used to express a *semantic qualifier*. In the dictionary, the term of *öznelik* equivalent is the term of attributive. The dictionary definition of the *attribute* in philosophy is “what is found in a word, requires a carrier, is dependent on the essence, is distinct from the variable and random one.” It can also be defined as “property, argument, or internal correlation” in logic.

As a result, the terms used for the concept of *qualification* in Turkish Grammar are as in this table:

Terms used for the concept of qualification	qualifier, qualification	attributive attribution	modifier modification	apposition	determination	epithet
Ergin(2002)	<i>vasıf</i>					
Banguođlu (2011)	<i>vasıf</i>					
Korkmaz(2007)	<i>niteleme</i>					
Deny(2012)	<i>vasıflama</i>					
Benzer (2012)	<i>sanlama</i>					
Hengirmen (2007)				<i>sanlama</i>		
Özil and Akerson (2015)	<i>niteleme</i>					
Yılmaz(2004)		<i>niteleme</i>				
Sebzeciođlu (2016)			<i>niteleyici</i>			
Can&Akşehirli& Koşaner&Özgen (2020)	<i>nitelik</i>					
Felsefe ve Gramer Sözlüğü (1942)	<i>nitelik</i>	<i>sıfat, yüklem</i>	<i>san</i>			
Vardar(1980)						<i>belgeç</i>
Vardar(2002)	<i>nitelik</i>		<i>değiřtirici</i>		<i>tamlayan</i>	
Vardar (1985) A Martinet		<i>niteç</i>				
Korkmaz(2017)					<i>tamlayan</i>	<i>niteleyen</i>
İmer&Kocaman & Özsoy		<i>niteleme</i>	<i>niteleyen</i>			
		<i>niteleyici</i>				
Topalođlu (2019)	<i>niteleme</i>				<i>tamlayan</i>	<i>niteleyen</i>
	<i>niteleyen</i>					

Karaağaç (2013)	<i>niteleyici</i> <i>niteleme</i>	<i>nitelendirme</i>	<i>niteleyici</i>	<i>açıklayıcı</i>	<i>tamlayıcı</i>
Dilaçar(1971)	<i>sanlama</i>		<i>modifier</i>		
TÜBA	<i>niteleme</i>	<i>öznelik</i>	<i>niteleyici</i> <i>değiştirici</i>		

According to the research, the concept of *qualification* in Turkish grammar terminology is not examined syntactically, pragmatically, or semantically. It is not specified why these terms are used, that is, the concept framework is not drawn properly.

### 3. Qualification term and concept in linguistics

In this section, *qualifier*, *attributive*, and *modifier* concepts will be investigated using Generative Grammar, Functional Grammar and Systemic Functional Grammar. As a result we will consider about this terms and concepts from different perspectives. Because Generative Grammar views language as a structure, Functional Grammar, which views language as communication, and Systemic Functional Grammar, which views language as a system, from semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic perspectives.

#### 3.1. Systemic Functional Grammar: modification, attribution, qualification terms and concepts according to M. A. K. Halliday, R. Fawcett and L. Tucker

Language is treated as a society-semiotic system in Systemic Functional Grammar. Ludwig Wittgenstein's *language plays* and Gilbert Ryle's opposing views on the *mind-body* distinction have shaped it (Bateman 2017: 14). The language in Systemic Functional Grammar is made up of systems. Saussure's concept of *valeur* corresponds to systems with paradigmatic sets of selects determined by society (Chapman & Routledge 2009: 225). In a language, *value* is defined solely by the value that an element receives from its community of users. The language in communication-based functional grammar, according to Halliday, is made up of *stratums*, *ranks*, and *metafunctions*. Barlett and O'grady (2017) define stratums as *paradigmatic relationships* that form content (Barlett & O'grady 2017: 3–4). The *metafunctions*, on the other hand, are the stage after the content is created when it is interpreted. The horizontal syntagmatic relationship is established by *ideational*, *interpersonal*, and *textual metafunctions* (Halliday & Matthiessen 2014: 30–31). Why something is said in terms of interpersonal relationship, how something is said in textual terms, and what is said in experiential terms, have all been linked to Systemic Functional Grammar (Chapman & Routledge 2009: 226). In fact, after this stage, we will only look at *ideational metafunctions* and will not provide detailed information about other metafunctions. The *ideational function* is a network of meaning that exists within the



global order and allows experiences to have meaning (Halliday & Matthiessen 2014: 68–69). Systemic Functional Grammar is divided into two components as an *experiential* and *logical* function during this functional phase, in which we can create types and typologies of meaning in a given space (Halliday & Matthiessen 2014: 30). The basis of all experiences, according to Systemic Functional Grammar, is change. With change, our consciousness changes as well, and the focus of this change in consciousness is the sequence of *processes*. According to Systemic Functional Grammar, *processes* are cognitive categories that we use to make sense of events around us (Chapman & Routledge 2009: 229). A cognitive process has three components: the *process* itself (performed by the verb), the process *participants* (typically noun phrases), and *process-related conditions* (typically the adverb and prepositional phrases) (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2006: 512).

The process, which is a cognitive category, represents the linguistic concept of *transitivity* (Halliday & Matthiessen 2014: 83–169). The semantic category of *transitivity* in grammar, according to Halliday, is based on our internal and external experiences from a young age. When we want to associate external and internal experiences with each other, the *relational process* is also formed (Halliday & Matthiessen 2014: 213). The *relational process* that we will focus on, according to our subject, is the process of *being*. *Being* does not imply *to be* (Halliday & Matthiessen, 2006: 96–97). It literally means *to become*. The entity or process is evaluated in the *relational process* based on the intrinsic properties they possess (Tucker 1998: 127). One of the *participant* in the process is *qualification* in Systemic Functional Grammar (Halliday & Matthiessen 2004: 218–219). *Qualification* is divided into two subcategories in a *participant function*: *entity* and *quality*, with *quality* being further divided into *expansion* and *projection* qualities. The *elaboration category*, which is a subtype of the *expansion meaning* category, is divided into *attribution* and *identification* sub-semantic categories. The *attribution* meaning category is further divided into subcategories such as “human or animal characteristics, class, social status, quantity, and sense-measurement” (Halliday & Matthiessen 2006: 62). For example, *Houses look clean*. The attributive action in this sentence is *look*.<sup>2</sup> Attribute is the *clean* and the Carrier is *house*. A relational process exists between the *Attribute* and *Carrier* relationship. Halliday also refers to the *Attribute* function or semantic role in adjectival groups.

*Epithets* are another problematic term in Turkish grammar that is referred to by the term and concept of *qualification*. The *epithet* is a term in Systemic Functional Grammar that belongs to both the *experiential* and *logical metafunctions*, as well as the *interpersonal metafunction*. If the head element of the logical structure in the noun phrase is not an entity, the *epithet* acts as a *premodifier* for the *adjective*, *adverb*, or *preposition* as a *logical metafunction* term (Matthiessen & Teruya & Lam 2010: 70). The *epithet* represents different experiential characteristics, such as the *age*

2 Halliday has created a table of verb that define as ascribing. For further information, see Halliday & Matthiessen 2004: 238.

*dimension, value* in the noun phrase, as an *experiential function*. We should concentrate on the use of the term *property* rather than the term *attribute* in this case. Because the word *epithet* realizes at *lexico-grammatical* rank. The *selection process* took place in this rank, and the grammar and lexical items were combined. The *epithet* is a function that occurs after merging as a semantic subcategory of the quality. The term *attribution*, on the other hand, is a semantic term that refers to a subtype of quality. The term *attribution*, on the other hand, is a semantic term that refers to a subtype of quality. There is an attribute-intensive relationship with the entity, according to the term *attribution*, and words in the *attributive function* are interpreted as the entity's intrinsic features (Halliday & Matthiessen 2006: 210–211). In other words, the experiential function in a noun phrase specifies the subcategory of what the noun phrase represents (Matthiessen & Teruya & Lam 2010: 70).

It can be seen in Systemic Functional Grammar that the terms *classifier* and *epithet* are sometimes used interchangeably (Halliday & Matthiessen 2006: 210–211). The *classifier* is also defined as measure words in some Systemic Functional Grammar studies. However, a *classifier* is a term that refers to words that refer to groups of entities. The distinction between the terms *epithet* and *classifier* here is whether or not an experience is a subclass of an entity. Tucker, a Systemic Functional Grammar researcher, defines the *classifier* as sociocultural subclasses of thing and claims that classified assets cannot be graded (Tucker 1998: 125).

One of the types of experience interpretation is *logical metafunction*, which deals with how one part can merge with another, how it can be repeated, and how these parts are sorted, or their logical relationships. One sentence or phrase always follows another in this relationship.

As a result, they're referred to as complex, and each connection is referred to as a *nexus* (Matthiessen & Halliday 2006: 23). According to Halliday, noun phrases have two logical function: the *head* and the *modifier*. *Determiners, numerical, epithet, classifier, and a qualifier semantic categories* are subcategories of *modifiers* in this logical relationship (Fontaine 2017: 268). Modification is a logical semantics concept found only in noun phrases in Cardiff Grammar (Fawcett 2000: 214–217). *Color modifiers, emotion modifiers, and general epithet modifiers*, for example, can all be divided into species (Fawcett 2000:217). As a result, a modifier alters or clarifies the submission expressed by the head element rather than changing or describing the head element itself (Fawcett 2000: 217).

Before we conclude our discussion of Systemic Functional Grammar, we should note that adjectives and verb complements are similar in Systemic Functional Grammar. The modifier is claimed to be a complement-like element, according to this viewpoint. This modifier, on the other hand, does not complete the meaning of the adjective (Tucker 1998: 72–73). In other words, the structure's filling<sup>3</sup> process takes

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<sup>3</sup> In Cardiff Grammar (2010), operation is the name of the process of creating a structural relationship. M. A. K. Halliday (2014) uses the term rule in response to this term.

place. In Cardiff Grammar, this is one of the syntactic operations that occurs during the formation of meaning.

### 3.1.1. Functional Grammar: modification, attribution, qualification terms and concepts according to Simon C. Dik

Natural language is a social interaction tool, according to Functional Grammar. Because a language is a tool, it does not exist in and of itself, rather, it exists as a result of its use in social interactions. Communication between natural language users is the primary function of a natural language, and pragmatic knowledge is formed alongside communication. Pragmatic knowledge encompasses all of an individual's knowledge, beliefs, prejudices, emotions, and other mental contents over time (Dik 1997a: 6–7). In the structure of linguistic expressions, Functional Grammar makes a clear distinction between lexical (or content) and grammatical (or form) elements. The basic predicates listed in the dictionary are known as lexical elements. At various levels, linguistic elements reflect various *operators* and semantic, syntactic, and pragmatic *functions*. The term processor or *operator*<sup>4</sup> comes from the fields of algebra and formal logic. Similarly, the concept of *predicate* and *satellite* is a logical term (Dik 1997a: 159–160). In addition Functional Grammar has *entity operators*, *predicate operators*, *predication operators*, *pragmatik operators*, and *propositional operators*. One of the types of entity operators is *quality operators*. Operators that specify properties of the entity, such as countability, class, abstract, concrete, and so on, are known as *qualification operators* (Dik 1997a: 159–162). In a sense, *qualification operators* specify the types of the entity rather than the quality of the entity.

*Satellite* is an optional adjunction in Functional Grammar that modifies the predicate in lexical meaning (Dik 1997a: 226–227). We must discuss the sentence structure formed by expanding the *predicate* in order to fully describe the *satellite*. The linguistic relationship that arises from Frege's *concept-object paradox* is known as *predication*. The concept in the *concept-object paradox* is *incomplete/unsaturated* and *functional*. The object also represents the argument that completes it (concept). As a result, the predicate-argument relationships are regarded as complementary. The predicate refers to a semantic relationship as well as a structural sequence that allows this relationship to happen. That is, it is a technique for constructing sentences (Stalmaszczyk 2014: 225). The subject and object, both of which are *predicate* syntactic functions in Functional Grammar, combine to form the *nuclear predicate*. This *nuclear predicate* includes a number of *operators* and *satellites*. The *core predication* layer is formed in this manner. Similarly, an *extended predicate* is created by once again adding an operator and a satellite (Dik 1997a: 217). The operator and satellites are added to the event state for expansion, *nuclear predication* is changed,

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4 In Turkish grammar, the term operator refers to the grammatical subcategories of verb and thing. In Turkish grammar, these subcategories of things denote grammatical meanings, just as they do in Functional Grammar.

and core predication takes place (Dik 1997a: 226–229). In other words, *modification* in Functional Grammar is a logical term for the *merge relationship*. It's also a term used to describe the predicate's semantic distribution. Because of their semantic connection to the speaker's personal attitude, the *modifiers* have a loose connection to the rest of the sentence and exhibit an attitudinal characteristic (Dik 1997a: 66). *Modifiers* also serve as semantic restrictors in Functional Grammar, but if their position changes, they may lose this function and become *appositive* (Dik 1997a: 147). When the *modifiers* are in front of the noun, Dik counts them as being in front of the noun as a pragmatic emphasis (Dik 1997a: 429–430). In addition, *verbal restrictive modifiers* such as relative clauses are considered.

There's also a type of *attributive modification* known as reduced versions of relative clause (Dik 1997b: 25–26). In Functional Grammar, the term *attributive* refers to a pragmatic function. B. Russell advocated a theory of *definiteness* in his famous paper *On Denoting* (Russell 1905). As a result, the meaning of defined expressions is determined by the larger grammatical structure in which they are found. As a consequence, it's clear that *definiteness* exists on a pragmatic level (Hughes 2014: 99–101). To put it another way, the concept of *attributive* in context serves a *pragmatic* as well as a *syntactic* function (Dik 1997a: 194–196). Finally, the term *epithet* is not a common term in Functional Grammar. It is used semantically in the sense of the property of being (Dik 1997a: 319).

### 3.1.2. Formalist-functionalist view: modification, attribution, qualification terms and concepts according to Talmy Givon

Givon uses the method of grammatical structure explanation, which takes into account functional, pragmatic, communicative, discursive, and informative factors. Givon stated in the book named *An Introduction Syntax I-I* that “morphological-syntactic structures and their semantic and pragmatic relationships, as well as attempting to reveal some of the universal principles that govern both the functional and structural order of grammar by identifying the possible limits of typological variability among languages” (Givon 2001a: 17). Talmy Givon only uses the term *modifier* for qualification in his books and does not use the term *qualifier*. The term *attributive* is used only for non-referential predicates in a discourse-pragmatic sense (Givon 2001a: 247).

Human language, according to Givon, serves two important functions in the learning process. The first is a representation, while the second is communication (declarative and communicative coding). There are two subsystems in the communicative coding system. One of these subsystems is grammar (Givon 2001a: 7). Within the abstract components of grammar, which is a sub-branch of this communicative coding system, the term *modifier* is also one of the concepts that shows the *scope-relevance relationship*. The *modifier-noun* relationship is indicated by this relationship (Givon 2001a: 12). When the syntactic role in the noun phrase is called, the relationship between *modifier* and noun is understood, according to the syntactic characteristic of nouns. Grammatical roles, also known as case roles, are

mentioned in the sentence. In a noun phrase, nouns serve as the *subject*, *object*, and *predicate* in the sentence, as well as the syntactic and semantic head, or they define the type of entity involved. That is, all of the elements except the head are *modifiers* (Givon 2001a: 59). Givon examines *modifier* types into four categories. *Classifier*, *number*, *state* morpheme, and *determiner/articles* are all subsets of bound morpheme. The subset of lexical words includes *nouns*, *demonstratives*, *adjectives*, *compound nouns*, *numbers*, and *quantifiers*. *Prepositional phrase* and *relational phrase* are included in the subset of phrases, the *noun complement* and *relative phrase*, the subset of the sentence (Givon 2001b: 2). According to the position of *modifier*, Givon divides them into two groups: *prenominal modifiers* and *postnominal modifiers* (2001a:243). Givon, who considers *modifiers* from both a pragmatic and functional standpoint, distinguishes between two types of modifiers: *restrictive* and *non-restrictive*. The referential scope of *restrictive modifiers* has narrowed the head element. Modifiers create a hierarchical structure in the syntax tree, and the *modifier* is the sister node of the head noun, according to Givon. When there are multiple qualifiers, a hierarchical merger with syntactic complexity (merging) occurs.

### 3.2. Modification, qualification, and attribution terms and concepts according to Generative Grammar and Minimalist Program

It is impossible to describe the 60-year history of Generative Grammar in detail in this study, which focuses on the use of the term and concept of *qualification* in formalist and functional linguistic theories. However, Chomsky's theories develop in a way that supports and connects them, we'll have to mention some of the Generative Grammar concepts when explaining a phenomenon in the Minimalist Program.

The *attributive* and *quality* terms are not at the center of the theory in Generative Grammar. Instead, the term *modification* is used, which refers to a broader structural and functional relationship. In early versions of Generative Grammar, the *Projection Principle* explains this structural and semantic composition. The *Projection Principle* states that each lexical item must be represented as a *phrase category* at each syntactic level. As a result, the *head* element is syntactically combined with the complement, which logically consists of the *minimal projection*, that is, a *phrase category* in grammar level. Because the subject is required in projection based on the concept of predication, the *Extended Projection Principle* was developed (Chomsky 1982: 10). Chomsky then approaches the noun phrase and clause from a different perspective, designing the lexical head as a lexical function. It also accepts the general principle that all functions of the *Extended Projection Principle* must be *saturated/completed* from this perspective. Chomsky explicitly refers to Frege in this view (Chomsky 1986: 116). In Frege's semantics, applying a function (structural entities) to an argument is not simply a combination of two elements. Because the function contains a logical place (argument place) that needs to be filled, it merges with the argument to form an independent part (Stalmaszczyk, 2014: 236–239). The predicate, seen as a function, is applied to its argument to saturate the unsaturated meaning (Scontras & Nicolae, 2014: 18). Until this stage of theory, the modifier is thought to be an adjunct, but it is

not a complement position. The functional composition between the argument and the head element/predicate, on the other hand, changes in Minimalism.

Instead of the *Projection Principle*'s structures, *phase* creates phrase categories and sentences that represent a functional composition (Chomsky 2000: 108). Grammatical operations such as *case marking*, *agreement*, and *movement* are performed using these grammatical relationships. Modified *heads*, *adjectives*, *adverbs*, *prepositions*, and *relative complement* form their own argument structures as predicate and have the ability to select during this phase. *Nouns*, *verbs*, *adjectives*, and *prepositions* are *n-place predicate* in this view, according to Frege. *Modification* is a functional composition, and their *modifiers* are logically higher-order predicates<sup>5</sup> (Escribano, 2004: 10). Due to the lack of a structural distinction between *complement* and *adjunction*, it is thought that the semantic differences between *complement* and *modifier* have also been erased in today's traditional adjunct analysis of Minimalist Program. The *adjunct* is even thought to be reduced to *complement* or *specifier*. In general, the subject of *modification* is described as *terra incognita* "unknown place" in the Generative Grammar (Escribano, 2004: 37).

#### 4. Conclusion and Recommendations

As can be seen, it is not clear which linguistic model or philosophical logical point of view is used for the concept of *qualification* in Turkish Grammar. In this article prepared to contribute to the solution of this problem, considering how the concept of *qualification* is handled around formative and functionalist and formative-functionalist views, we can list the issues to be considered in the use of the concept of *qualification* in Turkish Grammar as follows:

1. When referring to the concept and term of qualification, we need to specify which of the functionalist or formative levels we approach the subject with. Because in linguistics, each model or theory has its own terminology, and it makes sense in the whole.
2. If we are to approach the issue in terms of Systemic Functional Grammar, we must first understand the difference between *experiential* and *logical metafunctions*. As we approach the subject experientially, we need to know that the concept of *qualification* is included in the syntax as a *participant* of the sentence and *niteleme* (qualification) is a semantic category of the *participant*. The term *attribution* is a semantic subcategory of the concept of qualifying roof. The *attribution* logically begins to give more detailed information about the *quality*. In addition, the terms *attributive*, *attributor*, and *attribute* fulfill the *participant semantic role* in the sentence. In other words, a meaning such as *attributive* concept, *agent*, *goal* can also be the name of a syntactic function or role. *Nitem* (epithet) is one of the semantic

5 Higher order predicate is one of the logic terms used in the sense of explaining a group or set in hierarchical order.

categories of the roof concept *quality* in Systemic Functional Language. The meaning, which expresses the subclasses of the asset and intense relationships with the asset, covers all *qualities* other than units. In Systemic Functional Grammar, the term *epithet* also fulfils the function of the *premodifier of adjective*, adverb, or preposition as a term of logical metafunction in the logical structure. Also, the epithet represents the entity that is dispositional in the interpersonal metafunction. In Functional Grammar and from a formative functionalist point of view, the *attributive term* and concept fulfil a pragmatic function that points to a specified non-referential entity.

3. The term *qualification* and *attribution* for Turkish grammar does not reflect the difference and hierarchy between them. Therefore, it is more accurate to call it *detaylı nitelme* ‘detailed qualification’ or *öznelik* for attribution in noun phrase and qualification as a semantic framework concept *nitelme*. For the qualifying function in sentences, the fact that we call the *attributor* and *attribute* as a *nitelme rolü* in return for the attributive terms will also eliminate the confusion and show in what sense we use this term. In a reference to the concept of attribution, we talk about pragmatic function, and in return for the term, we can form a complement such as a certain *gönderge dışı belirli nitelik* ‘non-attributive quality’. Since it has been observed that the term epithet is also used with the term *niteleyen* ‘qualitative’ or the use of adjective terms in return for the term epithet makes it difficult to draw the concept framework. Because the meaning of epithet characterization is a semantic subcategory and adjective is a linguistic item within this category. Epithet, meaning is a semantic category, but gains this function at the lexico-grammar level. *Attribution* and *classifier*, on the other hand, fulfil this function at the semantic level.

4. If we are to approach characterization in terms of logical form, that is, logical function, in Systemic Functional Grammar and Functional Grammar and Generative Grammar, the term describing the relationship between the skeleton in the structure and that structure is the *modifier*. It is also used in the sense of a syntactic function such as subject and object because it expresses the logic of the structure due to its function in a modified logical structure at the formative-functionalist level. It describes the modifier at the pragmatic level within the framework of Systemic Functional Grammar. Halliday used the postmodifier and qualifier terms as synonyms to describe the qualifying part in sentences combined with the reflection relationship, which is one of the modifier types separated by their syntactic positions. This use is included as a premodifier in Turkish grammar, that is, it is also met by the term qualifier, which is a semantic category as a premodifier syntactic position. Since the term *değiştirici* ‘modifier’ already exists in Turkish grammar, the term should not be called qualifier, because qualitative is a semantic category and modifier is a term that refers to syntactic, logical, and pragmatic functions.

5. It is also necessary to clarify the *tamlayan-tamlanan* ‘determinate-determined’ *niteleyen-nitelenen* ‘qualifier-qualified’ equivalence in Turkish Grammar in terms of the use of terms. From the point of view of the Generative Grammar and the Functional Grammar, we can approach the issue in two ways: In Generative Grammar, it is shortened as *modifier*, *complement* and *specifier*, so when

the *modifier* switches to *specifier position* in use, the *tamlayan-tamlanan* relationship occurs. The reason for taking this name when it switches to the position of specifier may be that it is called determinant in Turkish grammar. There is also the idea that modifiers must always be completed in order for them to gain the function in the structure as a predicate. This point of view also shows that the *tamlayan-tamlanan* relationship is a functional relationship. According to the Functional Grammar, one element does not complete the meaning of the other element. It means that only one/clutter of parts in syntactic structure has occurred. According to this point of view, the *tamlayan-tamlanan* relationship is a structural relationship.

As a result, if we can grasp the basis of linguistic theories and perspectives, linguistics will change the way we think about our subjects. Understanding what is meant by terms and concepts will enable us to create something new.

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