

The Category of Pronominal Verb in Italian and Its Perception By Russian Speakers

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Abstract. The article analyzes the formation of pronominal verbs in the Italian language, studies their role in a sentence and their transformation. The perception of pronominal verbs by Russian speakers is also considered.

Key words. Verb, pronoun, frase, pronominal verb, particle.

The verb in Italian is the central part of speech when constructing a sentence, without which the sentence cannot exist, which is observed in many languages, for example, in English.

The verb plays a major role in the formation of a sentence. It carries the main semantic load: it conveys what is being narrated, what action is being described, thanks to the verb, we can, without additional clues, understand in what period of time the described action took place, looking only at its form, we can determine by whom the action was performed: by person, number, and sometimes genus, if the action is expressed by Passato Prossimo. In Italian, a sentence with a fully expressed meaning cannot exist without the use of a verb. Other parts of speech are built around the verb, which help express the thought. The verb must always be present in a sentence in Italian, with the exception of some literary devices when it is omitted.

A pronominal verb is a verb that has additional particles, most often expressed by pronouns. In this case, the original lexical meaning of the verb is lost and a new one is acquired, which may be completely different from the first.

There are two forms of pronominal verbs: reflexive verbs and idiomatic verbs.

Reflexive verbs, in turn, are divided into:

1. Reciprocal verbs that express an action that is performed by two or more subjects at the same time and to which they are mutually subjected (Mario e Anna si salutano = Mario salute Anna e Anna salute Mario).

2. Indirect reflexive verbs express an action that is not directly reflected on the subject, but is performed for his benefit, interest or on his initiative (mi domando, se ho sbagliato = domando a me stesso).

3. Intransitive reflexive verbs. These include verbs in which the unstressed pronoun does not carry the meaning of reflexivity, neither direct, nor indirect, nor reciprocal, but represents only a formal component of the verb, necessary (mi pento = / pento, pento me stesso, pento a me stesso) or optional (mi ricordo=ricordo).

Idiomatic verbs are used in spoken language. They consist of a main verb and a pair of pronouns, which have an idiomatic meaning different from the meaning of the verb used without the pronoun.

Idiomatic verbs are formed with the help of pronominal particles and personal direct unstressed pronouns, giving the verb a new meaning.¹

Either the reflexive particle *si* or the particle *ci* is added first to the stem of the verb: *mettere+ci+la=mettercela*, *andare+si+ne=andarsene*.

After the particles *si* or *ci*, a personal direct unstressed pronoun (most often *la*) or a pronominal particle *ne* is added: *prendere+si+la=prendersela*, *fregare+si+ne=fregarsene*.

Pronominal verbs are conjugated according to the same rules as simple verbs. The only difference is that when conjugating pronominal verbs, you need to pay special attention to the reflexive particle *si*, which changes in each person.

Pronominal verbs formed with *-cela* do not change their form when conjugated. For example, *Io non ce la faccio più.* (I can not go on.)

Pronominal verbs in a sentence have the same function as regular verbs. The only difference is the way they are conjugated, when a pronominal part is placed before the main verb to conjugate them.

They also play the role of a predicate, express action, conjugate by number, gender and change by tense.

In order to effectively use pronominal verbs in Italian, you need to know the exact meaning of each and its scope.

For this reason, the study of pronominal verbs is a small obstacle for students who speak Russian, since when they see the stem of a verb, it comes to their mind that a pronoun or particle should only in some way highlight the main meaning of the verb, while a pronominal verb, most often, has nothing to do with the meaning of the main verb. Therefore, when reading fiction, watching films or hearing anything in Italian where a pronominal verb is used, you should consult a dictionary so as not to end up in an awkward situation due to a lack of understanding of the exact meaning.

It follows from this that Russophones studying Italian should pay more attention to studying pronominal verbs, since they are often used by native speakers in everyday life. The best exercise for this is to read books in which you can find several new pronominal verbs, and immediately learn them by making examples using them.

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¹ Luca Serianni. *Grammatica italiana*, UTET, 2006. Стр. 237-238