This Chapter provides perspectives on syntactic aspects. An analysis of the syntactic components was undertaken in historical perspectives. In this, views of various scholars followed at this level of language, have been incorporated and for each of which the Researcher’s inferences were provided. This paved a way to set the scope of coverage of this study in this regard.

1.1 The role of Syntactic Aspects in Language

‘Language’ is understood in terms of its properties or characteristics. According to Sapir (1921), language is a purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas by means of a system of voluntarily produced symbols. Noam Chomsky (1957) defined language as “a set (finite or infinite) of sentences, each finite in length (constructed out of a finite set of elements)”.

Thus, language is a very important means of communication (oral and written) among the human beings which consists of meaningful sounds, words, and sentences. Keeping these in mind, the linguists have viewed the concept of language into four structural levels viz., phonology (study of sounds), morphology (study of words), syntax¹ (study of sentence structure), and semantics (study of meaning of the words and sentences). Based on these, the Centre for Testing and Evaluation of CIIL has developed a working model

¹ ‘Syntax’ is made up to two words that is Syn ‘together’ and Taxis, ‘arrangement’. It is a study how the words are arranged together to form meaningful sentence. Thus, syntax is the study of rules for how the words or other elements of sentence structure are arranged to form grammatical sentences.
consisting of hierarchically listed components of language, for pedagogical purposes. By and large, the details provided in this model have been used for all practical purposes of this study.

As stated in the introductory chapter the focus of this study is limited only to syntactic level\(^2\). Accordingly, the components listed under this level (of the working model) have invariably been adopted for analysis in the context of teaching, learning, and evaluation. These syntactic aspects play a major role in human communication. As we know, it is governed by the syntactic rules. These rules not only provide the native speakers with clarity when they have doubts but also it provides the foreigners with necessary information to learn the language with great confidence. As per the working model, the major components that constitute this level are phrase, clause, and sentence.

The components of the syntactic level play a major role in language operation and which is useful in learning about the structure within words and the structure of words in an expression. This could be seen in both first and second language acquisition. Though first language is acquired naturally and second language acquisition may or may not be naturally. By studying these factors, language could be better taught and therefore better grasped. It is also possible to communicate complicated thoughts by arranging small, simple units in meaningful ways.

In the light of the above, the study has focused in finding out the characteristics / properties / qualities of syntactic aspects in Tamil in the historical perspectives.

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\(^2\) The word ‘syntactic’ is adjective form of syntax. Syntactic level is the level of ‘word arrangement’ in language.
In case of Tamil, only தொல்காப்பியம் tolkaappiyam ³ (by Tholkaappiar) and நனுல் nannul (by Pavanathamunivar) have dealt with the language as a whole. Among these two grammars, தொல்காப்பியம் tolkaappiam is the oldest extant grammar as it belongs to 3rd Century BC.

Apart from Tamil scholars, the foreign language scholars also have written grammars for Tamil language. Since these grammar works are not exclusively focussing on the pedagogical issues, this study concentrates to deal with such an unexplored aspect. Thus, in order to get an overall picture of syntactic aspects in Tamil, the views of different authors are discussed in historical perspectives, in the following pages.

1.2 Historical perspectives

1.2.1 W.r.t. Phrase

The term 'phrase' is usually translated by the linguists as பொருள் 'ṭar' in Tamil. Some traces of ‘ṭotar’ (phrase) as டொர் 'tokal' (compounds) and இறுத்தால் kizavi ‘iraṭṭalk kizavi’ (onomatopoeic) are found in தொல்காப்பியம் tolkaappiam. For example in தொள்ளத்தாக்காரம் ezuttatikaaram, under புருநியல் purariyal chapter (while describing the coalescence of words), there is a mention about the syntactic structure Noun + Noun (nuṟṟa ‘formula’ 108). It can be interpreted as noun phrase e.g., புறுளியல் அரிய ‘murukan viṭṭil meaning 'house of Murugan'. Though phrase is not directly defined, the description of பொருள் ‘tokal indicates that

³ ‘tolkaappiyam’ is a work on the grammar of Tamil language and the earliest extant work of Tamil literature which is written in the form of nuṟṟaa (short formulaic compositions) and consists of three books viz., the ezuttatikaaram, the collatikaaram and the porulatikaaram. The exact date of the work is not known, based on linguistic and other evidence, it has been dated variously between 3rd century BCE and the 3rd century CE (S.V.Subramanian, 2004). According to Ilakkuvanar, each of the book constructed with nine chapters. The book ezuttatikaaram deals with phonetics and phonology of Tamil language. The book collatikaaram deals with morphology of Tamil language. The book on porulatikaaram deals with the themes and forms of literature.
Tholkaappiyar speaks about the phrase. It is evident from the following formula 

\[ \text{nuurpaa (formula 895)} \]

"veerumait tokaiyee uvamat tokaiyee
vinaiyin tokaiyee panpin tokaiyee
ummait tokaiyee anmozit tokai enru
avaaru enpa tokaimozi nilaiyee”

"Compounds are six types (1) case compounds (2) simile compounds (3) verbal compounds (4) quality compounds (5) conjunctive compounds (6) non-word compounds" according to the interpretation of Subramanian, S.V (2004).

From this, it may be inferred that every compound listed by Tolkaappiar invariably refers to only the phrase. Also, it is found that the types of compounds are classified on the basis of its usage.

\[ \text{nuurpaa 899} \]

"\text{an\texttoram}, \text{alavin}, \text{alavir}, \text{cuvaiyin} enru
\text{an\texttoram atan kunam nutali},
\text{innatu itu ena varuuum iyarkai}
en\text{en\texttoram panpin tokaiyee”}
“Words expressing the qualities of colour, shape, measure, and taste and the like, expressing the qualities of the objects will be quality compounds” and நுற்றா "nuurpa 900"

“இருபாயர், பலாபாயர், அளவின் பெயர்,
ஏற்றவின் பெயர் திண்குப்பெயர்கள் கிளை,
ஏற்றவின் பெயர்கள் ஆன ஆய விளையாடாமல்
ஏற்றவின் தொடுத்து செய்யச்செய்யத்தலே”

“irupeyar, palapeyar, aḷavin peyaree, enṇiyar peyaree niraippeyark kizavi
enṇi peyarotu av aru kizaviyum
kaṇṇiya nilatte ummaittokaiyee”

“Conjunctive compounds occur with the following six words (1) two nouns (2) many nouns (3) nouns of measure (4) numerical nouns (5) nouns of weights (6) nouns of numbers” (ibid)

The above "nuurpaas provide some limitations for quality compounds and conjunctive compounds. It may be inferred that the “words expressing qualities” are considered as limitations for quality compounds. “Conjunctives occurring only with the six type of nominal words” as limitation for conjunctive compounds.

Tholkaappiari describe the sequence of the words under coalescence in the following "nuurpa (தொண்டன "nuurpa, 108)

“அம்பூடா
மிதம்காசலரின் கண்ட ஆய சர்க்கரூ
ஆக்கான கொள் கிளை பூம் சர்க்கரூ விளை
ஆமிர்தம் மேசால் போஸ்காக்காம் கட்டும
ஆமிர்தம் குருண்டிலைய் போஸ்காக்காம் கட்டும

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“Among them, the final phoneme of the standing word and the initial phoneme of the coming word, mixing together, a noun may join with a noun; noun may join with a verb; verb may join with a noun; verb may join with a verb. These are the four types of mixing words. Out of which three changes may take place and one will be natural” (ibid)

According to the above nuurpaa, coalescence (combination of words) takes place in four ways i.e., [noun + noun]; [noun + verb]; [verb + noun], [verb + verb]. It may be inferred that the linear arrangement of the components of phrase is dealt with here.

Also, the use of adjective is described in the following nuurpaa 501

“இன்னம் குறுக்கையில் போதுமையாக மொழிபொறிக்காய மறுக்கு குறுக்கையில் மொழியையே என்று குறிப்பிட்டாம்

“இந்த குறிப்பிட்டு பார்வோ kol peyarkkotai
vazakkaaru alla ceyyulaare”
“The use of adjectives whose antonym cannot qualify the noun is a customary i.e., not in spoken dialect but is allowed in poetry e.g., சைவாயிரு the red sun (however it does not mean that we are having black sun and green sun)” (ibid).

It is assumed that the context in which phrase could be used, is explained in the above நூற்பா நூற்பா.

Tholkaappiar describe the semantic value of compounds in the following நூற்பா 902

“அ தவாம்,
அன்னியர் தொல்லதும் மின்னியர் தொல்லதும்
அக்கியர் தொல்லதும் குருந்து தொல்லதும்
அம்மனது தொல்லது அக்கியரது தொல்லது
அர்க்காரது கருளி நீளர்கருளி மாரும்.”

“avaitaam
munmozi nilaiyalum, pinmozi nilaiyalum,
irumozi meelum orunkutan nilaiyalum,
ammozi nilaiyaatu apmozi nilaiyalum,
annaanku enpa porulnilai marapee”

“They are four types of semantic value in compounds (1) on the first word (2) on the last word (3) on both the words, and (4) with non word”

Here the semantic value is nothing but meaning value. It is inferred that the focus of meaning which varies from one word to the other, is discussed here.

nantu4 by Pavananthi Munivar (13th Century) another grammar of Tamil language, is considered important among the grammars that are existed after tolkaappiyam. Here too, phrase is indicated as ‘tokai’.

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4 It is written by Pavananthi Munivar. Its period is said to be 13th Century, it is published after about 1700 years after tolkaappiyam (A.Dhamodaran, 1999).
For example

The நுர்பா nuurpaa 362

“செய்துணையான மிதிப்பான புரூண்டு பும்மை
அளிக்கும் விளக்கு விளக்க பெற்று.

“veerrumai viṇaipañ puvañmai yummai
apmozi yenavat tokaiyaa raakum”

“The compounds are of 6 kinds viz., case, verbal, quality, simile, conjunctive, and non-word” according to Puliyur Kesikan (2007).

In the above nuurpaa, 6 kinds of compounds are discussed. It is inferred that the classification of compounds is made based on their usage and appearance.

Further, the nuurpaa (formula) 152

“செய்துணையான வல்லுண்டு வள்ளுண்டு
அளிக்கும் களப்பட புர்வூடு பும்மைப்படு
சவியது தமிழின் விளக்கத்து மீற்றுப்
அழுது ஒருங்கின் விளக்க செய்து

“veerrumai aimmuta laaraa malvazi
tozilpan puvañmai yummai yanmozhí
ezuvaay viliiy reccamur ritaiyuri
tazuvi totaratuk kenavi reezee”

“there are செய்துணை வீருமை-case (6 case based phrase from ‘ai’)
e.g., பிளமைக்கிட்டு nilañkataántaa i.e., திம்மைக்காத காண்டான nilattaik
kataántaan ‘crossed the land’; அவியம் alvazi-non case among 5 implicit compounds such as., verbal compound, simile compound, conjunctive compound, etc., and 9 explicit compound phrases viz., subject phrase, vocational phrase, VP phrase, RP phrase, etc., are the sequence of word formation” – (ibid).
Here, combination or sequence of word formation is discussed. Accordingly, there are 14 types of sequence of word combination such as case, verbal, quality, simile, conjunctive, non-word, etc. Therefore, it may be inferred that the combination of words, is considered in terms of sequence.

According to John Lazarus (1878), a phrase differs from a sentence and it is not being a complete thought. Phrases are of three kinds, noun phrase (e.g., கோபமாயிர்வுதல் பயித்தியம் koopamaayiruttal payittiyam ‘to be angry is madness’), adjective phrase (e.g., நெர்ரு வந்த சாட்டன் எங்கே neerru vanta caattan eṅke ‘Where is caattan who came yesterday’), and adverbial phrase (e.g., evvaarraa uyvaar ivar) - accordingly they stand for a noun, adjective, or adverb.

In view of this, it is inferred that the phrase is defined in terms of meaning. Also, it is classified in terms of its appearance and usage.

Alan D. Corre (1962) has stated that it is possible to set up formula for noun phrases and verb phrases. Phrases broadly classified as noun phrase, verb phrase, and post positional phrase. Noun phrases in Tamil end with their centre noun. However, the morphemes /e/ and /tan/ follow the center noun. e.g., ஒரு மணி நீரம் taan oru mani neeram ‘just one hour’s time’. Post positional phrases may be assigned to the verb phrase e.g., மீசையும் மூழ இருண்ட கடிதம் meejai miitu irunta kaṭitam ‘the letter which was on the table’

It is assumed that phrase is viewed in terms of its sequence of constituents or the way in which constituents are arranged; and the classification of phrase is made based on role.

K.Zvelebil, et al (1967) defines “phrases are potential sequences of two or more words which function as a unit of other than subject predicate
relationship". Phrases are broadly classified into co-ordinate phrases (composed of the two or more constituents which are equal in relationship e.g., குழவியோடு குவழம bael leaf with wild jasmine), and sub-ordinate phrases (consists of a head and modifier e.g., கரையநார் கீவல black necked clock).

It is found that phrases are classified in terms of their sequence and structure.

M.S Andronov (1969, 1989) describes phrase as the subject and predicate of the sentence. The subject may consists of a noun, a numeral, a personal noun, etc. Predicate is expressed as simple predicates (predicates expressed by one word) and compound predicates (expressed by two or several words). The noun phrase or verb phrase may contain one word or more than one words. The subject of the sentence has been exemplified as: அகத்தை ஆழு முகத்தில் தெரியும் akattin azaku mukattil teriyum ‘the beauty of the mind appears in the face’. Subsequently, the predicate of the sentence has been exemplified as: சிறிது நீரம் அமைதிமுளை நிலம்பு சிறிது neeram amaiti nilaviyatu ‘some time there was a silence’. The ‘noun modifiers’ and ‘verb modifiers are expressed in terms of ‘attributes’ and ‘adverbia! modifiers’ respectively.

It may be inferred from the above views, that definitions and classifications of the phrase are made in terms of their structure.

According to Dhamodharan (1972), the phrase is above the word level and below the clause level and it is a functional unit composed potentially of two or more words. Here, phrases are classified into two groups: (1) nominal phrases and (2) verbal phrases.

Here, it is perceived that though the word function is used as a label, the phrase is actually defined and classified in terms of structure.
According to T.P. Meenakshisundaram (1974), compounds are those where there is an ellipsis of either case sign, the particle of similarity, the conjunctive particle or the particle ending a verb (i.e., relative verbal participle) or the ending of a noun denoting quality.

It is found that this description of phrase is similar to that of what is found in nannuul.

According to Schiffman (1979), noun phrases are considered as subject of a sentence. Adjectives and other members of noun phrase precedes the noun (e.g., azakaana pen 'beautiful girl') and case markers, plural markers, and certain quantifiers follows the noun (e.g., avanukku 'to him', kuzantaikal 'children', avarkaḷ 'all of them'). Verb phrases are generally the last constituent in the surface structure of a Tamil sentence. The order of constituents of verb phrase is "Verb stem + tense ~ infinitive + aspect (conditional) + modal (negative) +Person Number Gender" e.g., vantaarkaḷ 'came (they)'.

It is found that the function, sequential order, and limitations of the phrase are provided here.

Thomas Lehmann (1989, 1993) states that "except verbs, determiners, and conjunctions combine with other syntactic categories to form larger syntactic constituents that is phrasal constitutes". Classified phrases into noun phrases, post positional phrases, adjective phrases, adverb phrases and quantifier phrases. Phrase is defined as "the modifiers such as determiners 'anta', inta', adjectival participle, etc., along with one head word form a phrasal category". Noun phrase is "noun preceded by modifiers and even nouns alone occur as a NP (e.g., anta muunru periya pettikaḷ 'these three big boxes') and noun phrases themselves
occur as head constituent of a NP". Post positional phrase as "when post positions occur as head constituent of a post positional phrase, they are obligatorily complemented by a noun phrase to their left side e.g., இடைவின் தலையிட்டு முன்னைய் inter viittukku munnaal 'in front of this house'. Adjective phrase is said to be "adjectives occurring as head constituents of an adjective phrase can optionally be modified by a preceding quantifier phrase e.g., மிகவும் பெரிய (பெராணி) mikavum periya (paiyan) 'very big (boy)". Similarly, adverb phrase is defined as 'adverbs occur as head constituent e.g., மிகவும் தள்ள மிகவும் mella 'very slow'. Another phrase called quantifier phrase is defined as 'it can optionally be modified by another quantifier to their left side with intensifier function to form a quantifier phrase e.g., மிகவும் நிர மிகவும் niraiya 'very much'.

It is seen that, the phrase here, is defined in terms of constituent elements and classified in terms of its appearance and constituent elements.

Pon Kothandaraman (1997) has given the rule structure for noun phrase and predicate phrase. The noun phrase is described in the following way NP →(S) [PN / NP] (Co + NP). Here, the above rule is provided in two ways (a) NP → (S) PN (Co + NP) , and (b) NP → (S) NP (Co + NP). It is implied that pronoun categories and noun categories occur in isolation and also in sequence with co-ordinators as NP e.g., ரமான் காண்ணாம் ramanum kaṇṇaṭum 'Raman & Kannan'. Likewise, the rule for predicate phrase (verb phrase, according to the researcher) too, has been provided. Accordingly, the predicate phrase is PP [NP/VP/Adj.p/Genitive]. Predicate phrase is thus classified into 4 kinds viz., noun phrase, adjective phrase, verb phrase, genitive predicate

e.g., அவள் கமலை aval/kamalaa(NP) 'She is Kamala'

அவள் வங்காளோ aval/vantaa(VP) 'She came'
Also, the rules for adverb phrase is discussed elaborately as adv(tense), adv (mood), adv(concess), adv(conditional); and rules for post positional phrase as PP topical marker. e.g., பையானை பாணி paiyanai panni 'about the boy' / PP(comparative) e.g., kāṇṇாய் ப்ளையானைப் பொல் 'like Kanna' / PP(instrumental) e.g., பையானைப் பொல் peepaavaik kontu 'by pen' / PP (directive) e.g., பையானை பாணி aarai nookki 'towards river', etc.

In view of the above, it may be interpreted that the phrase is defined and classified in terms of their structure.

Bhadriraju Krishnamurti (2013), while explaining the syntax of Dravidian languages describes 'subject & predicate' as the parts of the sentence. According to him, the subject is either a noun phrase (NP) with the head noun in the nominative case, post positional phrase (PP) with the head noun in dative and Predicate is represented either by a verb phrase (VP) or NP with PPs as complements or adjuncts. As far as classification is concerned he concurs with the Thomas Lehmann (1989, 1993). Noun phrase as "a noun phrase has a noun ad head, optionally preceded by one or more modifiers" e.g., அந்தா சந்தர்வா சன்மகள் anta muunu periya peṭṭi 'those three big boxes'. Adjectival phrases occur only as modifiers of noun heads and within the adjective phrase the demonstrative / possessive and numeral adjectives may precede descriptive adjectives e.g., பல்லா peru tool 'big nice shoulders' (Narr 13-15). Adverbial phrase has an adverb as head preceded by modifiers e.g., கரு நீரம் carru neeram 'a little time'. It includes variety of adverbial functions viz., manner, comparative, time location, purpose, duration, distributive. He explains the post positional phrases
elaborately. A postpositional phrase consists of NP + case/postpositional marking and its role is complement to the main verb in the predicate phrase.

It is inferred that the functions of the phrase are indicated here; also the kind of phrases on the basis of external appearance, apart from the sequential order.

1.2.1.1 Consolidated view

The consolidation of the above views is given below:

Tholkaappiar (3rd Century BCE) has viewed the phrase as ‘tokai’ and he described the phrase in terms of usage, limitations, arrangement / sequence, and meaning. Pavananthi Munivar (13th Century) also concurred with what Tholkaappiar has stated. John Lazarus (1878) has seen phrase in terms of meaning, appearance, and usage. Alan D.Corre (1962) has described the phrase in terms of sequence of constituents & structure. K Zvelebil, et al (1967), M.S Andronov (1969,1989), Dhamodharan (1972), Pon Kothandaraman (1997) concurs with Alan D.Corre. Meenakshisundaram T.P. (1974) has agreed to the Pavananthi Munivar. Schiffman (1979) has viewed the phrase in terms of function, sequential order, and limitations. Thomas Lehmann (1989,1993) has seen the phrase in terms of constituent elements and appearance. Bhadriraju Krishnamurthy (2013) is concur with Thomas Lehmann.

1.2.1.2 Concluding Remarks in Phrase

On the basis of what have been said above, it is concluded that phrase is a sequence of words that are used together and have an idiomatic meaning. Also it is a group of words, usually a short one, summarizes something. In linguistic point of view, phrase is a group of words arranged in a particular sequence having meaning but will not express complete thought.
Phrase is considered as a part of the clause and sentence. Phrase functions either as a subject or a predicate or an attribute to subject or a modifier to the predicate, or adjunct to subject & predicate. At the level of syntactic function, a single word (in a sentence) can also be a phrase. Based on the functional role of the phrase, it is classified into five types, noun phrase\(^5\), verb phrase\(^6\), adjective phrase\(^7\), adverb phrase\(^8\), and post positional phrase\(^9\).

1.2.2 W.r.t. Clause

The clause in Tamil is widely perceived as ‘\(\text{சாக்கை} \; \text{தூர்ந்து} \; \text{நாற்கூட்டத்து} \; \text{நாற்பான்} \) eccat totar’. The concept of clause has been dealt with in Tamil by Tholkaappiar as ‘\(\text{சாக்கை} \; \text{நாற்கூட்டத்து} \) eccam’. However the modern linguists are calling it as a ‘\(\text{சாக்கை} \; \text{தூர்ந்து} \) eccat toṭar’.

The following nuurpaa (896) states

"\(\text{சாக்கை} \; \text{தூர்ந்து} \; \text{ராணுமென} \; \text{சாக்கை} \; \text{நாற்பான்} \) veerrumai tokaiyee veerrumai iyala “

“Case compound is in relation with case, for example : \(\text{சாக்கை} \; \text{தூர்ந்து} \) miing cantai – \(\text{சாக்கை} \; \text{தூர்ந்து} \) miinai virkum cantai ‘Fish selling market’ ”

And the nuurpaa (898)

"\(\text{சாக்கை} \; \text{தூர்ந்து} \; \text{வித்தை} \; \text{நாற்கூட்டத்து} \; \text{பாலு} \) vinaiyin tokuti kaalattu iyalam”

“Verbal compound is in relation with time concept for example \(\text{சாக்கை} \; \text{தூர்ந்து} \) kaṭi naay i.e., \(\text{சாக்கை} \; \text{தூர்ந்து} \) kaṭiinga naay ; \(\text{சாக்கை} \; \text{தூர்ந்து} \) kaṭittaa naay ; \(\text{சாக்கை} \; \text{தூர்ந்து} \) kaṭikkm naay; ‘bit dog, ‘bitten dog’, ‘bitting dog’

\(^5\) Noun phrase (abbreviated as NP) which has a noun (or indefinite pronoun) as its head word and it functions as subject or object or predicate or complement of a sentence.
\(^6\) Verb phrase (abbreviated as VP) which has a verb (finite or non-finite) as its head word and it functions as verb.
\(^7\) Adjective phrase is a phrase which consists of adjective as its head word and functions as attribute to noun.
\(^8\) Adverb phrase is a phrase which consists of adverb as its head word and functions as attribute to verb.
\(^9\) A phrase which consists of post position as its head is said to be post positional phrase.
Accordingly மின்ன் விர்க்கும் காண்க miinai virkkum cantai and அக்கினா காண்க, kaṭikinña naay; அக்கினா காண்க kaṭittaa naay; அக்கினா காண்க kaṭikkum naay may be seen as a clause.

Further, in the nuurppaa (719)

"நிலங்கும், வைஸ்புரும், காளமும், காருவியம் நிலங்கும் வைஸ்புரும், காளமும், காருவியம் நிலங்கும் வைஸ்புரும், காளமும், காருவியம்

நிலங்கும், வைஸ்புரும் காளமும் காருவியம்

-nilànum porum, kaalamum, karuviyum, 
vigaimitur kilaviyum, vigaivyum, ulappaṭa

av aru porukkum oorappə urimaiya

ceyyum, ceyta ennum collee”

"The words ; வைஸ்புரும ceyyum’ and வைஸ்புரும ceyta’ will occur with 1. land, 2 object, 3. time, 4. instrument, 5. agent, and 6. action e.g., வைஸ்புரும vaazum viṭṭu – ‘the house to live’; வைஸ்புரும vaaznta uur – ‘the town where one lived’, etc."

It may be seen that, in the above nuurppaa, limitations for functioning of ‘சேம் eccam’ are provided; they occur with only 6 kinds of noun forms, with relative participles. As per the interpretation given by S.V.Subramaniam, the nouns in Tamil follow the relative participles such as வைஸ்புரும, வைஸ்புரும, vaazum, vaznta, etc.

Likewise, the nuurppaa (718)

“பல்முரையாகும் விரையேங்கு kilavi

palmaraiyaaṇum vinaieyēνcu kilavi
"Though the verbal participles are occurring in succession, they will end with the final predicate that gives meaning e.g., கடவின் கருணை என்று வந்தே தவிக் குதித்து எரி இரங்கி ஊட்டி வந்தான் - ‘leaping and jumping, rising, and coming down and running he came’ " according to SVS (2004)

Thus, the sequence of occurrence of VP is highlighted; also they end with finite verb. There are so many விநாயிச்சம் vinai eccam ‘verbal participle’ occurring in sequence. Each one becomes a clause in itself when followed with a finite verb. When so many விநாயிச்சம் vinai eccam ‘verbal participles’ are given in sequence, all will be followed by a single finite verb. Here it is noted that the sequence of occurrence and the limitations of a clause are expressed here.

nannuul, also indicates the clause in the same way, as ‘eccam’.

Formula 374 speaks about the mnemonic\(^{10}\) forms of the non-elliptical\(^{11}\) compounds such as finite clause, RP clause, VP clause, etc. Tholkaappiyam gives only the mnemonic forms of RPs and VPs but nannuul, in its nuurpaa 340

"தேய்பு தேய்கிறேறு தேய்புக் கொண்டேறு மாசுறு
தேய்க்க நிறுது தேய்குருப்பே மெய்க்கு
தேய்புக் கொண்டேயும் மெய்கும்
தேய்பு கொண்டே மெய்கும் தமதே

ceyta ceykinra ceyyumen paattir
kaalamuñ ceyalan tooñ r ip paaloñ u
ceyva taati yaruporuñ peyare
enca nirpatu peyarec camme"
Gives mnemonic forms as well as a definition. Pavananthi Munivar, according to Annamalai (1997), states “the RP has a verb and a tense but no gender suffix, and requires a noun to finish it”.

“ஞாயிர்நிலையம் கிளையும் இருக்கும் பாநிலைகள்
உயிர் கி.மு. அசைந்தவை சம்பாதிக்கிறேன்.

tozilun kaalamun toongiap paalvinai

oziya nirpatu vinaiyecc camee” (nannuul, 342)

The above nuurpaad describes that the verbal participles has a verb and a tense and no gender suffix and requires a verb to complete it. The end result of this description may be perceived as clause e.g., பசு வாக்கங்கள்
centi vantaarkal, ‘had been and came (they)’.

The nuurpaad 374 speaks about the mnemonic12 forms of the non-elliptical13 compounds as

“பிற்று பிற்று மிகுதியான விளக்கம் வருகின்றன
நிகழ்ந்து பிற்று மிகுதியான விளக்கம்
murii recca mezuvaay vilipporu/
aaruru pitaayuri yatukkilai tokaanilai”

Here, it is stated that there are 9 types of non-elliptical compounds such as finite clause, RP clause, VP clause, etc., e.g., உண்஠ுன் சாட்டன unthaan caattan, உண்஠ு சாட்டன unta caattan, உண்஠ு வாண்டன untu vantaan, etc., according to the interpretation by Puliyur Kesikan.

Thus, while dealing with the clause Pavananthi munivar has gone one step ahead to define the concept in terms of structure, in addition to form.

John Lazarus (1878), while dealing with complex sentences, speaks about the sub-ordinate clauses. They are classified as (1) noun clause (2)

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12 Mnemonic form – a word form, sentence form, poetic form, etc., that helps to remember something.
13 elliptical means that a word or words left out of a sentence deliberately and non-elliptical is an antonym of the word elliptical.
adverbial clause and (3) adjectival clause. The noun clause may act as a subject and as object. The predicate of a noun clause is always a verbal noun or a finite verb followed immediately by a verbal noun from இடு, இடும் enru. e.g., இடும் அவள குறுக்கு இரண்டாக்கும் untic cururikutal pențiirkkazaku 'Less eating makes woman beautiful'; இடுவரவிட பின் யார் nii colvatai naan nambeen 'I will not believe your words'; இடுவரவிட பின் யார் avan nii varuvaay enru connaan 'He told that you will come'. Adjective clause may qualify any noun in the principal sentence. It may be attached to the subject and predicate of an adjective clause is invariably a relative participle. E.g., [அவன் கட்டிண் விது] மண்டி்யேயியிரு [avan kattina viitu]manmeetāayiru 'the house that built by him has collapsed'. Adverbial clauses relates to time, place, manner and cause" E.g., அவன் பார்மேயே பின் பிரித்து பொன்னு avan pookumun aval marittup poonaa 'she died before his going' From the above view, it is observed that functions of the clause are indicated, apart from the classification sub-ordinate clauses.

Alan D Corre (1962), has dealt with the clause while describing the main structure of a sentence. 'Noun clause' and 'adjectival clauses' are brought under nominalised sentences. For example : “மறத்துக் கருங்கள்” செய்ட்டும் "marratai kaattu" ernput pazamozi 'show the other(check) is a proverb' (noun clause). அவன் பார்மேயே பின் பிரித்து பொன்னு .... aval raamanai paartta ceyti ... 'the news that she saw the Raman'..... (adjective clause) The possible patterns of all the adverbial clauses are listed under conjoined sentences with examples. Thus, the pattern of the clause is described, here.
K.Zvelebil (1967) has defined a clause as "A clause may be equivalent to a complete sentence or it may from a sentence nucleus accompanied by subordinate structures or it may be one of two or more clauses in compound sentence. A clause may also fill slots within another clause". He classified clauses in to time clause, manner clause, condition clause, concessive clause, cause clause, purpose clause, compared item clause.

Here, the clause is defined in terms of subordinate structure; also classified in terms of usage / purpose.

M.S Andronov (1969, 1989) also describes the 'clause' in a similar way as K.Zvelebil, but with a slight difference. Five types of clause structures viz., subject clause, the object clause, predicate clause, the attributive clause, and adverbial clause are suggested by him.

Andronov's description of clause concurs with K.Zvebelib. However, unlike K.Zvelebil, Androno's classification of clause is based on function.

According to Dhamotharan A (1972), clause is a class of syntagmemes of a median hierarchical order ranking above such syntagmemes as the phrase, word and below such syntagmemes as the sentence and discourse. It is any string of tagmemes which contains one and only one predicate or its equivalent and a subject among the constituent tagmemes of the string. Here, the clause is explained in terms of structural hierarchy, along with limitations.

According to Andrewskutty A.P (1975), relative clauses are those sentences which are embedded in a noun phrase that directly dominates another NP in the sentence. Relative clause can be broadly classified into two types: restrictive and non restrictive.

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14 a string of constituents
Here, the clause is dealt with in terms of structure and of its role.

Ramasamy, K (1981) has stated that "correlative relative clauses are formed by the correlative pairs ஆன்... ஆவன், evan...avan, ஐந்து... ஐந்து, enta...anta, ஐருந்து... ஐருந்து eppozutu...appozutu". The correlative relative clauses are strictly restrictive by nature and they can never modify pronouns, unique nouns and other definite noun phrases.

e.g., ஆன் நாரகா ஐருந்து வாழ்க்கையில் முழு முறைறுவான்

evan nagraaka uzaikkiaraapoo avan vazkkaiyil muppeuruvaan

'one who works hard will progress in his life'

It is found that the limitations to the clause, are discussed here.

Kothandaraman. R (1990) opines that relative clause constructions cannot be derivable from neutral sentences, but from the sentences which are committal in character. Committal sentences can be derivable from neutral sentences. However, committal sentences cannot derive more than one relative clause, and the head noun in such construction is always in subject function in the sentential source maintaining agreement with the copula predicate which is either suffixal or non-suffixal in character.

e.g., 1. வில்லை டிட்டா ராமான villai oṭitta raaman

2. வில்லை டிட்டான் அகியா ராமான villai oṭittavan aakiya raaman

3. ராமான வில்லை டிட்டான். raaman villai oṭittaan.

It may be seen that further functions and limitations of the clause are provided here.

Laymann (1993) states "the main clause always ends with finite verb forms and on the other hand non-finite verb forms occur as a predicate of an
embedded or subordinate clause". Under main clause / independent clause forms the structures of (1) verbless clauses, (2) subjectless clauses, (3) verb final clauses, (4) negation, (5) Interrogative, etc., are given. e.g., குமார் வாக்கில் kumaar vakkīl [NP + NP] 'kumar is a lawyer'; குமார் ராஜாவாய் பார்க்கா நீர்த்தா. kumar raajaavaip paarkka neerntatu. [SOV] 'kumar happen to see the raja'. Here, the non-finite clause forms are classified into infinitive clauses, verbal participle clauses, conditional clauses, adjectival clauses, and nominalised clauses.

It may be noted that organisation of the components of a clause is discussed here. The classification of non-finite clause is made on the basis of role played by that clause.

Annamalai (1997) discussed two kinds of adjectival clauses viz., case and complement adjectival clauses in terms of semantic representation. Adjectival clause is the semantic relationship between an adjectival clause and its head noun. The case adjectival clauses may be represented as NP→S. That is, the head noun is not represented separately, outside the constituent sentence, but it originates from it and is moved out by a transformational rule. The noun which is thus moved out is marked in the semantic representation for relativisation. The complement adjectival clauses may be represented as NP→S +NP. That is the head noun originates outside the constituent sentence. Under complement adjectival clause he briefly describe the different kinds of adjectival clauses viz., subject complement adjectival clause, object complement adjectival clause, causal complement adjectival clause, genetive adjectival clause, temporal adjectival clause, adjective clause of comparison.
Case and complement adjectival clauses are discussed here in terms of semantic representation apart from their structure; also classified in terms of role they play.

According to Palmer (2003), Clause is a short sentence; a distinct member of a sentence containing a subject and a predicate. All the sentences are clauses, or contain several clauses, but a single clause does not necessarily form a sentence.

Here, the clause is related with sentences. Internal arrangement of sentences is discussed in terms of clauses; also, in terms of structure i.e., sequence in which it is arranged.

Bhadriraju Krishnamurti (2013), while explaining the complex sentence, the different clause structures have been described with examples. How the sub-ordinate clauses are embedded into the main clause is has been explained. There are different forms of clauses viz., Non-finite verb clauses, Noun clauses, Finite predicate clauses, and Adverbial clauses. There are perfective participle clause, conditional and concessive clauses, and infinitive clauses under non-finite clause forms; relative clauses, pronominalised relative clauses, correlative relative clauses, and action clause under noun clauses.

It is found that the structure, role, limitations are discussed here.

1.2.2.1 Consolidated view

The consolidation of the above views is given below:

Tholkaappiar (3rd Century BCE) has viewed the clause as ‘eccam’ and he described the clause in terms of structure, limitations, and meaning. Pavananthi Munivar (13th Century) also concurred with what Tholkaappiar
has stated but he has defined the clause in terms of structure. John Lazarus (1878) has indicated the functions of clause and he explained it in terms of structure. Alan D. Corre (1962) has described the clause in terms of pattern. K Zvelebil, et al (1967) has defined the clause in terms of structure and usage. M.S Andronov (1969,1989) has also concur with K Zvelebil. Dhamodharan (1972) has explained the clause in terms of componential hierarchy. Andrewskutty A.P (1975) has stated the clause in terms of pattern and role. Ramasamy, K (1981) has seen the clause in terms of pattern. Kothandaraman. R (1990) speaks about the clause in terms of its role. Thomas Lehmann (1989,1993) has seen the clause in terms of organised way of constituent parts, structure, and its role. Annamalai (1997) has viewed the clause in terms of set pattern and semantic representation. Palmer (2003) defined the phrase in terms of sequence or arrangement. Bhadriraju Krishnamurthy (2013) has viewed the clause in terms of structure and role.

1.2.2.2 Concluding remarks in Clause

On the basis of what have been said above, it is concluded that clause is a group of sequential arrangement of words that consists of subject, object, and predicate. It is a part of the sentence. It is bigger than the word and phrase, smaller than sentence. It is classified as a main clause and subordinate clause.

A clause which makes complete sense by itself is called main clause or independent clause. It is occurring in two ways one is independent in itself and other being attached with another clause. It has two structures i.e., one ends with finite verb and other one ends with noun or noun phrase as their predicates respectively. Simple sentences are also considered as independent clause.
A clause which requires a main clause to make complete sense then it is called subordinate clause or dependent clause. In other words, subordinate clause consists of both subject and a verb, but cannot stand alone by itself as a complete sentence. Subordinate clause functions either as a subject or attribute or modifier or adjunct of another clause in the given sentence.

Subordinate clauses are classified into 3 broader categories based on the functional role as noun clause\(^\text{15}\), adjective clause\(^\text{16}\), and adverbial clause\(^\text{17}\).

1.2.3 W.r.t. Sentence

The concept of sentence in Tamil is widely perceived as வாக்கியம் ‘vaakkiyam’.

Tholkaappiyar describes it in chapter கிளாயியாக்கம் kilaviyaakkam in to syntactic perspectives. The name ‘kilaviyaakkam’ itself gives the meaning as continuous arrangement of words expressing some meaning according to Subramanian, S.V (2007).

The *nuupaa* 496

"என்று மிதவும் அருள் வாய்மை
ceppum viṇṇavum vazaaal oompal"

"questions and answers should be uttered without error". The perception here is that the act of questioning & answering usually happens in the form of sentence.

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\(^{15}\) A subordinate clause that functions as a noun (i.e., as subject, object, or complement) within a sentence is called noun clause. It is also known as nominal clause.

\(^{16}\) A subordinate clause that functions as an adjective within a sentence and part of the noun clause is called adjectival clause. Adjective clause is also called as relative clause. Relative clause is further classified into restrictive and non restrictive.

\(^{17}\) A subordinate clause that functions as an adverb within a sentence is called adverbial clause. It can be a time clause, manner clause, place clause, comparison clause, cause clause, purpose clause, condition clause, concessive clause, and so on.
The text nuurpaa 521

"இயற்றுற்ற கல்லூரியுடன் பல்வேறு செய்விப்புரைகள்

சில கல்லூரியுடன் பல்வேறு செய்விப்புரைகள்

சில கல்லூரியுடன் பல்வேறு செய்விப்புரைகள்

இயற்றுற்ற கல்லூரியுடன் பல்வேறு செய்விப்புரைகள்"

"iyapeyark kilaviyum cutup peyark kilaviyum

viṇaikkku oruriku iyalum kaalam toopri

cuttup peyark kilavi murpatak kilavaar;

iyapeyar vaziya empanaar pulavar"

“Scholars say that when a proper noun, a demonstrative pronoun appear together in a sentence along with the predicate, that the demonstrative pronoun never precedes the proper noun but follows it e.g., கனன் வர்த்தங்கர் kannan vantaang, அவன் கர்பன் avan karraap ‘kannan came and he studied’ according to by S.V. Subramanian (2007). It reflects the paradigmatic relationship among the language units in a compound sentence.

In the above nuurpaa, it is understood that Tholkaappiar speaks about the limitations of uttering question and answer in terms of direct meaning and its relationship among language units of the sentence which indicate usage.

The text nuurpaa 494

“இன்றுவேறு கற்று பெரும் வரும் அது கிளாலிபும்

இயற்றுநான் கற்று பெரும் வரும் அது கிளாலிபும்

மேலுடன் கால கூறும் பினேவ"

“viṇaiyin toonrum paalari kilaviyum,

peyarin toonrum paalari kilaviyum,

mayaikal kuuttaa tammara piṇavee”
“the gender denoting words of verbs (predicates) must not disagree with the gender, number denoting element in the noun (subject) and they should conform to usage e.g., naan vanteen, avan vantaan, etc." (ibid).

The function of the sentence is explained, here, in terms of coordination between noun and verb. It is inferred that the agreement between subject & predicate / nouns and verbs invariably refers to sentence formation. It means that the sentence obviously consists of subject (noun) and predicate (verb). The structure of the sentence w.r.t. sequence is dealt with.

"nuurpaa 891

"

Similarly, nannuul, too, speaks about the concordance among the subject, predicate, number, and gender, a feature which refers to the concept of sentence.

"nuurpaa 377

"
The *nuurpaas* 377

“uyartĩñai totarnta poruṇmuta laaṃ
tagotu caartti nattĩñai mutipĩṇa.”

“The high class form together with non-class form in the subject generally ends with a predicative form appropriate to the high class form (irrespective of the non-class form immediately preceding the predicate).” according to Puliyur Kesikan (2007)

The *nuurpaas* 378 (cha. potuviyal)

“tiṇaipaal porulpala viraviṇa cirappiṇum
mikaviṇu mizipiṇu morumuṭi piṇavee”

“When the subject occurs with a cluster of more than one gender, it takes the predicate appropriate to the general dominant characteristics of the subject (noun phrase)”

In the above *nuurpaas*, the functional components like subject, predicate, and object are discussed; it is inferred that the concept of sentence along with its functional aspects are highlighted here.

John Lazarus (1878) defines sentence as a complete thought expressed in words. There must be atleast two things or elements to constitute a complete thought and they are the subject and predicate. There are three kinds of sentences i.e., simple, complex, and compound. The sentence which contains single predicate is said to be simple sentence e.g., caattaṉ vantaaṉ. The simple sentence becomes compound, when it is co-ordinate with one or more principal sentences e.g., _caattan vantaan_.

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It may be inferred that 'subordinate form' and 'co-ordinate form' are taken as the process of arrangement. Simple sentence is defined on the basis of its 'role' and limitations; also, 'complete thought' is taken as 'sense'.

Alan D. Core (1962) putsforth his views as every Tamil sentence is assigned to one of the following six groups:

(I) N1 N2 (ai) Vtg e.g., 
-raaman manitanai paartaan
'Raman saw the man'

(II) N V tg e.g., 
-raaman poongaan
'Raman went'

(III) N1 N2 e.g., 
-raaman vaanaaan
'Raman is a washerman'

(IV)N1 (kku) N2 (iru) tg or untu e.g., 
-raamanukku paanam
'Raman has money'

(V) N1 (ai) N2 (kku) Vt (atu) e.g., 
-raamanai manitanukku pittikkiratu
'The man likes Raman'

(VI) N (kku) Vt (atu) e.g., 
-raamanukku pacikkiratu
'Raman is hungry'

Under each group, Independent, nominalised and conjoined sentences have been described. The sentences are grouped based on the structure they attains.
It may be inferred that the sequential arrangement of elements and patterns of sentence (in which the arrangement is made) is discussed here.

Jacobs and Rosenbarem (1968) says “sentence is a structural string of words”

He is of the view that the scope is more on the structure w.r.t. set pattern or model in which language components are arranged.

M.S. Andronov (1969, 1989) has defined simple sentence as “simple sentences may be binomial or mononuclear in forms. ...The binomial may possess both subject and the predicate. E.g., oru periya laari tirumbi vantatu ‘one big truck came back’; The other one mononuclear have only one principal statement. E.g., en arumai mikka nanparka/eel ‘my dear friends!’ ...Subject, predicate, and object are the constituent parts of binomial simple sentence. And, the constituent parts of the mononuclear simple sentence as nominal e.g., tambi ! ‘brother!’...Composite sentence may consists of two or several clauses i.e., both binomial and mononuclear, complete and incomplete. Complex sentences the clauses are in the relation of hyptaxis i.e., one clause being main, the other subordinate. But in compound sentences the clauses are in the relation of parataxis, i.e., syntactically equal. ...The connection between clauses of the compound sentence may be copulative, adversative, or additive.

He has defined the sentences on the basis of ‘integral whole’ i.e., in terms of constituent elements. The relation of hypotaxis and parataxis as the sequence of arrangement of language components in particular order.

Arden A.H (1976) states that finite verb in a sentence will conclude the sentence. The general rules on the order of words and clauses in a Tamil
sentence are (a) The principal verb which gives the main statement made in the sentence comes last, (b) All other phrases in the sentence should lead up to the statement made by this principal verb, (c) dependent clause always precedes that on which it depends or which governs it.

It may be inferred here that, rather than defining the sentence, the order / sequence of occurrence of grammatical units within the sentence is dealt with.

According to Hartmann (1972) sentence is "expression of a complete thought with atleast a subject and a predicate (although in some sentences the subject is said to be understood)". There are three types of sentence viz., simple sentence, compound sentence, and complex sentence. Simple sentence is a "syntactic pattern consisting of one main clause without any subordinate or co-ordinate clauses". Compound sentence is a "sentence which is made up of atleast two independent or main clauses, connected by co-ordinate conjunctions". Complex sentence is a "sentence which is made up of atleast one independent clause and one dependent clause joined by sub-ordinating conjunction".

It is inferred that the pattern of sentences and order of arrangement of a given sentence are discussed here; as how the language elements are connected with in the sentence. Also sentence is defined on the basis of the role played by the constituent elements and 'complete thought' which indicates use and sense.

According to Tickoo, M.L (1978), there are 3 types of sentences. They are (a) simple sentence which is having only one subject and only one predicate (i.e., only one finite verb). Simple sentence can have more than one subject, but only one predicate. (b) Compound sentence is the one having two or more sentences joined by a conjunction and having a finite verb in each of
the sentence. (c) Complex sentence is the one having one or more than one subordinate clause embedded with main clause.

It is inferred that compound and complex sentences are differentiated on the basis of order of arrangement of language component with in the sentence i.e., co-ordinate form and sub-ordinate form of arrangement. His definition is directly based on the role of the language component i.e., subject and predicate.

According to Rajaram (1979) there are two basic type of simple sentences in Tamil language. The first one being equational sentence and consists of two nouns or noun phrases, one being subject and the other predicate. Various nouns will occur as a predicate in this type of sentence. E.g., அவன் மாணவன் avan maanavan ‘He is a student’. This type of sentence can also consists of adjectives in the predicate slots. The other type of sentence consists of a noun or noun phrase and verb or verb phrase. E.g., நான் பெராசிரியராய இருக்கிறேன் naan peeraaciriyaraa irukkiree ‘I (am) a professor’. In this sentence naan ‘I’ is the noun phrase and peeraaciriyaraa irukkiree ‘(am) a Professor’ is the verb phrase. They function as subject and predicate of the sentence respectively. He also introduced the complex and compound sentences. Pointed out that relative participles or verbal adjectives are the influencing factors for constructing the complex sentence e.g., சென்னையிலிருந்து வராமல் இருக்கிறேன். cennaiyiliruntu vara rayilee kuittamaa irukkum ‘The rail which comes from Chennai is very crowd’; மாயவரத்துக்கு பொரு ரயில் எப்ப வரும் maayavarattukkup poora rayil eppa varum ‘When the Rail which goes to Mayavaram will arrive’. Compound sentence may consists of sequence of non-finite verbs and a finite verb e.g., niiṅka nampar ettulle eeric cucuintirattulee erankunka “Having got into number eight got down at Susindiram”. Described the another kind of compound sentence where two or more sentences are combined by using conjunctive particle e.g., நான்
naan pooree 'I (myself) will go'; naaṉ pooree en maṉaiṉ pooraṉ 'my wife is going (non honorific)'; can be conjoined into compound sentence by using conjunctive particle as naaṉ pooree en maṉaiṉ pooraṉ. naanum en maṉaiṉyum pooraṉu 'myself and my wife shall go (together)'.

It is inferred that the limitations of sentence components and structure of the sentence are discussed here. Also the sentence structure is described in terms of subject and predicate function.

Brown E.K. (1980) opines that the term sentence refers sometimes actual sequences of sounds produced by a speaker in an ordinary usage, sometimes to an orthographic unit and sometimes to something much more abstract. The sentence is a unit described in the syntax at the abstract level of content. The sentence has a certain sort of units: it is grammatically complete; it can stand on its own independent of context; and it has a degree of semantic independence. The subordinate sentences embedded in the matrix sentence are said to be the complex subordinate sentences.

Here, the sentence is conceived as the one which stands on independent of context i.e., with semantic independence.

Crystal, D (1980) states "sentence is a largest structural unit in term of which the grammar of a language is organized"

Here, the sentence is described in terms of the way in which constituents are arranged.

According to William Madtha (1981), "sentences in general may be classified as simple and complex. The simple sentence will have one constituent clause and the complex sentence will have more than one clause, and may be divided into co-ordinate and subordinate sentences". In the co-ordinate sentences the constituent clauses are of equal grammatical rank and therefore they can be conjoined. But the subordinate clauses are not of equal grammatical rank.
It may be inferred that here the importance is given to sequence of arrangement of components within a sentence.

S.K. Verma (1984) states "according to Bhardrihari, sentence is that, which gives to the mind the sense or perception of 'that is it' not withstanding any problem of number, order or length, or that of involvement of any componential words or phonemes".

His perception about the sentence is on the basis of mental image i.e., meaning.

According to Pushpinder Syal, Jindal. D.V (1998), "a sentence is defined as a group of words that makes sense. It is the largest unit of grammatical description and is an independent linguistic form"

His perception about the sentence is also on the basis of 'sense' the sentence stands on the meaning, i.e., sense that a group of words gives.

According to Suseela, 2001, “a sentence is a unit consisting of one or more than one words expressing complete meaning”. In any natural language, sentences can be simple (having a single verb), or complex (having sentences embedded one into another), or compound (having conjoined sentences). Simple sentence is a sentence having only one verb without any conjoined NPs. Complex sentence is a sentence having a main sentence, embedded with one or more than one sentence and compound sentence is a sentence having one or more sentences conjoined by adding more than on noun, verb, or sentence in one sentence.

It may be perceived that the sentence is defined on the basis of meaning. Sequence of arrangement of components too is dealt with here.

According to Bhardiraju Krishnamurti (2013), the sentence sequence of its constituents is Subject-Object-Verb (SOV) in Dravidian languages. There
are three kinds of sentence simple, complex, and compound. He states that simple sentence is represented by two grammatical constituents Subject + Predicate. Subject may be noun phrase or post positional phrase and predicate may be represented by verb phrase or noun phrase. Based on the structure there are four types of simple sentence they are: (a) NP + VP e.g., அவன் வந்தான், *avāṉ vantaṉ* ‘he came’; (b) NP + NP e.g., ஆவராந்தி ஆசிரியர், *avar en aaciriyar* ‘he is my teacher’; (c) PP dat + VP e.g., ஆவர்கு கூபம் வந்தது, *avāṉukku koopam vantatu* ‘he got angry’; (d) PP dat + NP e.g., ஆவர்கு ஒரு மகன், *avāṉukku oru makan* ‘he got one son’. The next type of sentence i.e., complex sentence consists of one main clause and one or more subordinate clauses to its left. Further he states that when two or more independent units (words, phrases, clauses) of equal grammatical states and rank from two or more underlying clauses can be conjoined together within one sentence called compound sentence.

It is perceived here that the sentence is defined on the basis of sequence and order of arrangement.

1.2.3.1 Consolidated views

The consolidation of the above views is given below:

Tholkaappiar (3rd Century BCE) has viewed the sentence in terms of meaning, usage, and limitations. Pavananthi Munivar (13th Century) also concurred with what Tholkaappiar has stated. John Lazarus (1878) has defined the sentence in terms of external appearance, as order of arrangement, role, and complete thought. Alan D. Core (1962) defined the sentence in terms of sequential arrangement of elements and patterns. Jacobs and Rosenbarem (1968), Arden A.H (1976), Crystal, D (1980) William Madtha (1981), and Bhardiraju Krishnamurti (2013) have defined the sentence in the way Alan D. Core has defined. M.S. Andronov (1969, 1989)
has defined the sentence on the basis of integral whole, sequence of arrangement. Hartmann (1972) has identified the sentence in terms of order of arrangement of constituent elements, role, and complete thought. Tickoo, M.L (1978) in terms of sequence and role. Rajaram S (1979) has viewed the sentence in terms of limitations, structure, and role or use. Brown E.K. (1980) defined in terms of sequential order and semantic independence.

1.2.3.2 Concluding Remarks in Sentence

On the basis of what have been said above, it is concluded that sentence is a largest unit of the language in use and expresses a complete thought. It is a complete and independent unit of communication. It has more than one constituent parts arranged in a particular sequence or pattern (e.g., subject-object-verb) that makes a complete sense. Based on the structure, the sentence is classified into simple sentence, complex sentence, and compound. Based on function there are imperative, indicative, interrogative, exclamatory, habitual, etc.

The simple sentence will consists of only one main clause with only one subject and only one predicate having complete sense. There are two main structures of simple sentence i.e., NP+VP; & NP+NP (equational sentence) in Tamil.

The sentence which consists of one or more subordinate clauses with non-finite verb forms (such as verbal participle, relative participle, infinitive, and so on) embedded with one main clause having a finite verb form as its predicate is called complex sentence.

The sentence which consists of two or more main clauses connected with the conjunctions then it is said to be the compound sentence. Compound sentence can be a conjoined one e.g., காண்நும் ராணும் வங்கர்கள், kaṇṇum ramanum vantaarka/, ‘Kannan and Raman are came’ or disjunctive
1.2.4 Concluding remark on Syntactic Aspects

It is understood from the above mentioned view points that some authors have defined and classified the phrase/clause/sentence on the basis of constituents, sequences, arrangements, hierarchy, and pattern. Similarly few authors have viewed these components based on appearance, similarities, integral whole, way of organisation, etc. Likewise, some of the authors have defined and classified the phrase/clause/sentence based on use, usage, role, relationship, etc. In the same way few of them have defined and classified the phrase/clause/sentence based on some limitations. Some of them have defined the phrase/clause/sentence based on sense, image, complete thought, semantic representation, etc.

It is found that all of them have looked at the phrase / clause / sentence in one way or the other in terms of their characteristics or qualities or properties. All these characteristics may be brought under the following 5 dimensions (dealt with in chapter 3) as seen in the “Diagnostic Study with reference to Vocabulary” (Subbiah, Pon., unpublished), and also a working model on concept based continuum of graded syllabi developed at National Testing service-India, CT&E, CIIL, Mysore. Though no one have stated explicitly by mentioning the current terminologies but it is felt that in one way or other all are speaking same thing though not comprehensive.

Therefore, to study or to understand the depth and breadth of the language, the role of dimensions are important. Accordingly, for this study the above mentioned five dimensions form, boundary, structure, function and meaning are taken for discussion. They are explained briefly in the subsequent chapters.