

## Some causative verbs are lighter than others (Abstract)

Korean uses the light verb *ha-* ‘do’ to build a very productive light verb construction (LVC) in combination with Sino-Korean nouns, e.g. *kyeolhon-ha-* ‘marry’ (lit. ‘marriage-do’). The same verb is also used in various other grammatical contexts, one of which is the periphrastic causative construction, where its meaning is similarly diminished from the original meaning of ‘doing’. I investigated the use of *ha-* ‘do’ and the two other verbs *sikhi-* ‘order’ and *mantul-* ‘make/produce’ in order to determine the degree to which they can be considered light verbs. From their (lack of) occurrence in causative and non-causative (i.e. LVC and heavy) contexts, I conclude that these three verbs lie on a gradient of lightness, and that serial, auxiliary and light verbhood may be more conveniently understood as overlapping types of predication rather than separate categories.