THE TERM DISCOURSE IN LINGUISTICS

Acting Associate Professor of the Department of
Foreign Languages of Fergana State University
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Philological Sciences
Azamova Gulasal Sodiq kizi
gulasalazamova91@gmail.com

ORCID ID 0000-0002-6852-5087

Abstract: This article discusses the interpretation of the term discourse as a cohesive unity of text and speech activity, and its functions in language service.

Keywords: discourse, meaning, speech, contextual, social, structuralist, pragmatic, cognitive, linguocultural, socio-linguistic, phoneme, morpheme, word, addressee, context, emotive, conative, referential, poetic, phatic, and metalingual.

LINGVISTIKADA DISKURS ATAMASINING QO'LLANILISHI

Annotatsiya: Ushbu maqolada diskurs atamasining matn va nutq faoliyatining yaxlit birligi sifatidagi talqini hamda uning til tizimidagi funksiyalari tahlil qilinadi.

Kalit so'zlar: diskurs, ma'no, nutq, kontekstual, ijtimoiy, strukturalistik, pragmatik, kognitiv, lingvomadaniy, sotsiolingvistik, fonema, morfema, so'z, adresat, kontekst, emotsional, konativ, referensial, poetik, fatik, metalingvistik.

ТЕРМИН ДИСКУРС В ЛИНГВИСТИКЕ

Аннотация: В данной статье рассматривается интерпретация термина дискурс как целостного единства текста и речевой деятельности, а также его функции в языковой системе.

Ключевые слова: дискурс, значение, речь, контекстуальный, социальный, структуралистский, прагматический, когнитивный, лингвокультурный, социолингвистический, фонема, морфема, слово, адресат, контекст, эмотивный, конативный, референциальный, поэтический, фатический, метаязыковой.

INTRODUCTION. In linguistics, the term discourse is viewed as a cohesive unity of text and speech activity. For instance, according to Shoiraxon Xo'jayeva's definition, discourse is a text considered in harmony with extralinguistic factors and analyzed from the perspective of reality, meaning speech as a purposeful speech act, an integral part of human interaction, and their cognitive processes. Simply put, discourse is the condition where text + situation is considered as a unity. In linguistics, discourse extends beyond the boundaries of text to encompass factors such as socio-cultural context, the goal of communication, and inter-participant relationships.

MAIN PART. Over the course of the 20th century, various approaches to discourse emerged. The following sections will individually review the main approaches used in linguistics to study discourse—structuralist, pragmatic, cognitive, linguocultural, and socio-linguistic approaches—examining their theoretical principles, interpretation of discourse, application in the Uzbek language, and providing examples from scholarly literature. Examples and evidence

418

relevant to the study of these approaches in the Uzbek language will be provided at the end of each section.

Structuralist Approach

The Structuralist approach studies language as an entire system. The founder of this theory, Ferdinand de Saussure (F. de Saussure), divided language into langue (system) and parole (speech). Langue is the abstract language system existing in society, while parole is its manifestation in concrete speech. The linguistic sign consists of two parts: the signifier and the signified. According to Structuralism, the meaning of linguistic signs is determined by their relationship with other signs within the system. Roman Jakobson, as a representative of the Prague School, developed Structuralism, focusing on studying linguistic units in relation to each other and determining their functions within the system. Structural linguistics views language as a "system of interrelated formal units" and analyzes the relationships between units like word structure, sentence syntax, and the sound system.

The main principles of the Structuralist approach are briefly as follows:

• Systemicity: Linguistic elements (phoneme, morpheme, word, sentence) are interconnected and form a cohesive system. Each unit derives its meaning from its place within the system.

• Synchronic and Diachronic Analysis: Saussure directed the focus of linguistics toward synchronic (state at one time) study. The structure of language at a given moment (synchrony) is more important, while historical changes (diachrony) are analyzed separately.

• Primacy of Form: In Structuralism, form (structure) is considered paramount over meaning. That is, linguistic units must first be studied based on their structure and rules, followed by meaning and function.

• Differential Sign: The content of linguistic signs is determined by their distinguishing features from other signs (e.g., through opposition, or contrast of meanings).

Although the Structuralist approach initially considered speech (parole) secondary in the scope of research, it later paved the way for text and discourse to be viewed as extensions of the language system.

ANALYSIS OF LITERATURE. Zellig Harris, an American linguist, first introduced the term "Discourse Analysis" to scholarship in 1952 and proposed considering the concept of text at a stage higher than syntactic analysis. That is, structural analysis should encompass the sequence of sentences as well. Within the Structuralist approach, discourse is often interpreted as a collection of interconnected sentences, or text.

Jakobson proposed a communicative model of language within Structuralism. According to him, six main factors participate in any communication: the addresser (sender), the addressee (receiver), the context (situation), the message text, the code (language system), and the contact channel. Corresponding to these factors, six functions of language were distinguished: emotive (expressive), conative (influence), referential (informative), poetic (aesthetic), phatic (contact), and metalingual (metalinguistic) functions. This model by Jakobson is important in analyzing discourse—it allows one to determine which factor and function is dominant in any speech situation.

In the structural approach, discourse means the examination of the internal structure of a sentence chain (or text). Here, aspects such as the compositional structure of discourse, grammatical cohesion devices (e.g., cohesion through units and conjunctions), and thematic unity are analyzed. For example, Text Linguistics, shaped by the influence of Structuralism, views text as the largest linguistic unit. Structural analysis examines structural elements like the introduction, development, and conclusion of a text, referential linkages (pronoun binding to preceding words), and lexical repetitions.

In Uzbek linguistics, the structural approach has primarily found expression in grammatical research and text linguistics. For example, the grammar and phonology of the Uzbek language were described based on structural principles during the mid- and second half of the 20th century. Furthermore, in works dedicated to the study of text units (Sh. Yo'ldoshev, I. Abdullayev, and others), the grammatical cohesion devices and compositional parts forming the text were analyzed. The structural approach was also applied in the analysis of Uzbek literary texts: for instance, the structure of a poem or prose work, and the paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations of the lexical units used to express images, were determined.

The Uzbek linguist Sh. Safarov specially researched discourse in the Uzbek language. Reviewing the relationship between text and discourse, he asserts that "if both text and discourse are the result of human linguistic activity, there is doubt about the possibility of distinguishing them solely based on the external (oral-written) indicator". This view indicates that discourse should be defined not only formally, but also through the situation and purpose.

R. Jakobson focused on the "poetic function" in analyzing literary text and researched the relationship between sound and meaning in poetic discourse. Thus, the structural role played by phenomena like rhyme, rhythm, and sound repetition in creating meaning in Uzbek poetry can be studied. From a structuralist perspective, the repetitions in the epic "Alpomish" or the parallel structures in folk proverbs reflect the structural characteristics of enduring cultural discourse. Z.Harris's 1952 article, "Discourse Analysis", initiated discourse analysis based on the structural approach. In it, Harris attempted to formally analyze the connection between sentences and the integrity of the text.

DISCUSSION. The Pragmatic approach studies language in the process of its use, taking into account the context and the speech participants. This approach emerged in the mid-20th century through the theory of Speech Acts and Communication Principles. Its main principles are:

• Speech Act Theory: The English philosopher J. L. Austin (Austin), in his work How to Do Things with Words, showed that action can be performed through speech. He distinguished between constative sentences (stating a fact) and performative sentences (performing an action), and analyzed the locutionary, illocutionary, and perlocutionary aspects of every sentence. His student, J. Searle (Searle), developed this theory, classifying illocutionary acts into five types: assertive (confirming), directive (ordering), commissive (promising), expressive (expressing emotion), and declarative (declaring) acts. Speech Act Theory forms the core of pragmatics, studying how certain social actions (e.g., promising, commanding, apologizing) are performed not just by conveying information with words.

• Cooperative Principle and Implicature: The linguist H. P. Grice (H.P.Grice) proposed the principle that participants in communication cooperate. According to the Cooperative Principle, interlocutors construct their intelligibly and logically—adhering to four maxims: quality

(truthfulness), quantity (providing the necessary amount of information), relation (relevance), and manner (clarity). These Gricean maxims are generally observed by people, and if they are violated, an implicature—a hidden meaning—is generated. For example, if a person says, "My car broke down today," and the underlying meaning is the reason for being late for work, they are explaining the delay based on the maxim of relevance without stating it directly. Grice's theory explained how meaning is understood in discourse: a lot of content is conveyed through indirect communication and implied context.

CONCLUSION. Emotions are formed through a person's experience, memory, and consciousness. These cognitive processes are the basis of emotional speech expression, since a person processes their emotions through various images and concepts. Cognitive mechanisms determine the form of emotional expression in accordance with the internal and external factors of a person.

REFERENCES

1. Xo'jayeva Sh.T. O'zbek tili diskursida baholash kategoriyasining lingvokognitiv tahlili: filol. fan. dok. (DSc) diss. avtoref.. – Toshkent, 2021. – B. 12.

2. Абдуллаев И. Ўзбек тили матнларида грамматик боғланишнинг структурал таҳлили: филол. фан. док. дисс.. – Тошкент, 1985. – Б. 25-30.

3. Сафаров Ш. Прагмалингвистика. – Тошкент: Янги аср авлоди, 2008. – Б. 156.

4. Сафаров Ш. Адабий тилнинг лисоний ва когнитив асослари. – Самарқанд: СамДУ, 2017. – Б. 40-45.

5. Harris Z.S. Discourse Analysis // Language. – Vol. 28, No. 1, 1952. – P. 1-30.

6. Остин Ж.Л. Слово как действие // Новое в зарубежной лингвистике. Вып. 17. – Москва: Прогресс, 1986. – С. 22-25.

7. Грайс Г.П. Логика и речевое общение // Новое в зарубежной лингвистике. Вып. 16. – Москва: Прогресс, 1985. – С. 217-237.

8. Harris Z.S.. Discourse Analysis // Language. – Vol. 28, No. 1, 1952. – P. 1-3

9. Остин Ж.Л.. Слово как действие // Новое в зарубежной лингвистике. Вып. 17. – Москва: Прогресс, 1986. – С. 22-25.

10. Грайс Г.П.. Логика и речевое общение // Новое в зарубежной лингвистике. Вып. 16. – Москва: Прогресс, 1985. – С. 217-237.