Description of the Syntax of the Text in Modern Linguistics

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Abstract

The article is devoted to the descriptive characteristic of the concept of syntax of text and discourse. For a long time, these concepts were analyzed by many scientists and developed the principles for the analysis of these syntactic units. In their writings, the text as a linguistic category and the difference in concepts text and discourse are considered. The history of the study and the current state of these phenomena in linguistics are described. A wide understanding of the term “text” has been established relatively recently. It is associated with the general trend of interpretation of culture as a complex semiotic education. This approach is due to the development of semiotics. In the French tradition, the term “discourse” for coherent speech was used by E. Benvenist, indicating them with a speech work, which occurs every time we speak.

Keywords: Russian Language; Syntax, Sociolinguistics; Social Roles; Speech Act; Speech Behavior; Linguistics; Complex Sentences; Syntactic Analysis; Text; Discourse

Methods

description, comparison, method of generalization and systematization, comparative analysis, as well as methods of conceptual and contextual analysis.

Text as a Linguistic Category

Units of semantic-grammatical (syntactic) and compositional levels are in conjunction and interdependence, in a particular case they may even coincide in the “spatial” attitude, applying on each other, for example, interfrasky unity and paragraphs, although at the same time they retain their own distinctive signs.

Its style and stylistic characteristics are closely connected with the semantic, grammatical and compositional structure of the text. Each text reveals a certain more or less pronounced functional-style orientation (scientific text, artistic, etc.) and has stylistic qualities dictated by this orientation and moreover, the author’s personality.

The stylistic qualities of the text are subordinated to the thematic and general style dominant, manifested throughout the entire text space.
The construction of the text is determined by the topic expressed by information, the conditions of communication, the task of a particular message and the chosen presentation style.

The text as a speech work consists of a consistently united verbal means (statements, interfrasical unities) [16].

Unlike the semantics of the text that studies its semantic structure, the syntax of the text examines the syntactic, including the intonation-rhythmic organization of the text, based, naturally, on the patterns of thinking.

Between the sentences that make up the speech work, there is not only a semantic connection (which does not require evidence), but also syntactic, differing from the connection of words in the phrase and sentence. This is a higher level of syntactic phenomena, to which the concepts and category of lower levels are applied only to a slight extent.

The syntactic connection between independent sentences is determined, firstly, by the movement of thought (semantic laws), and secondly, by the nature of the sentence as a complete unit.

In terms of meaning, each pair of neighboring sentences is combined thanks to the general component of thought, which is indicated in the language, firstly, with a lexical repeat, secondly, in a word and replacing it with a personally appropriate pronoun (boat it), thirdly, in a word and replacing it synonym (Christmas tree - tree). These are three ways to designate the general component of thought, i.e. The semantic connection between sentences, peculiar signals indicating that we are talking about the same thing. These signals are important, albeit external, superficial in nature.

The deep essence of the connection between the sentences lies in its structural character, in the structural correlation of the combined sentences. There are certain language models of the structural correlation of sentences: addition - subject, subject - subject, subject - addition, etc. A syntactic connection arises due to the fact that a member of the previous sentence (e.g. supplement) becomes subsequently by another member of the sentence (e.g. to be subject to): Masha reads a book. The book is very interesting. The syntactic nature of the connection in this example lies precisely in the structural correlation of sentences according to the model of the addition - subject. The lexical repeat (book - book) only reveals a syntactic model, makes it obvious. Instead of repetition, other means can be used, for example: Masha reads a book. She is very interesting; Masha reads a book. The novel is very interesting. The means of expression of the model are changing, but the model remains unchanged: the addition is the subject. An infinite number of sentences can be connected according to this model. This method of communication is called a chain connection. It reflects the consistent movement of thought, in which the second sentence follows from the first, develops the first.

Another way of structural correlation, syntactic connection of sentences is a parallel connection, carried out due to the parallelism of the structure of sentences (who was sitting on a bench, who looked at the street ...). With a parallel connection, the proposals do not develop one of the other, but are compared, compared.

So, independent sentences of the text are connected by certain syntactic models detecting the syntactic nature of the connection. The lexical filling of models is an external, individual, superficial signals showing, detecting models that “show” communication. There are three types of communication between independent sentences of the text: chain, parallel and annexing, well-known from the syntax of the sentence.

The second object syntax of the text is a prosaic stanza (SSC), a fragment and other larger units of the text. The main building material of coherent speech is independent proposals, which are combined into closely related and syntactically related groups of sentences - prosaic stanzas (SSC). The latter are
united in larger unity - fragments, etc. to the finished speech work. Division to prosaic stanzas and fragments is an important side of the syntactic organization of the text, showing style, its artistic features. The division of paragraphs, their ratio with prosaic stanzas and fragments is of great importance [17].

Text and Discourse

Today, the concept of “text” has both narrow and wide meaning. With a narrow or traditional interpretation, the text is understood to mean any speech utterance regardless of volume, but certainly with a sign of completed semantic unity and communicative significance. These criteria can be applied to both a separate word and a sentence and even a letter.

Here is the reasoning of I.N. Gorelova and K.F. Sedova: “We see a sign”. There is no way out in front of us (in front of the stairs in the subway). It seems to be a proposal, and even very pessimistic. But this tablet hangs in front of the stairs in the subway. It turns out that the author was not given to any pessimism - he simply indicated that it was in this place that you could not leave the metro, we must look for a place with a “output” sign. It would seem that one word, but contains all the information we need for this situation. This is the text, like many other texts: “Caution!”, “Do not walk!” (the text is clear, the verbal part is merged with a non-western fragment of reality - a lawn or flowerbed), “grocery store”, “flowers”, “zoo” ... undoubted texts ... are the letters “t”, “a”, “m” (metro, for example) [5].

O.I. Moskalskaya also noted that since the volume is not a characteristic of the text, speech units can be indicated by this term. The text is understood as, wrote O.I. Moskalskaya - on the one hand, any statement consisting of one or more sentences, carrying a complete meaning, and on the other hand, such a speech work as a story, a novel, a newspaper or journal article, a scientific monograph, documents of various kinds etc. ... parts of a whole speech work are also considered as texts-chapters, paragraphs, paragraphs [12].

In accordance with the above observations, to which the points of view of I.V. Arnold, M Hallidia and many other authors, the number of units forming the text, when determining it is not the main sign. In this regard, I.V. Arnold drew attention to the analogy with the mathematical concept of the set: “Like the fact that in mathematics a lot is considered a lot, even if it contains only one element, and empty sets are possible, and in the language the word can consist of only morpheme, sentence from One word, and the text is from one sentence. The probability of such cases is small, but they are not excluded” [1].

The term “text” is also used by a semantic sense. For example, such iconic formations of non-verbal origin as works of fine art, musical works, silent cinema, ritual actions are considered as texts [5]. In other words, the culture on the whole, as shown in the works of Yu.M. Lotman, is a text in her iconic incarnation [9].

A wide understanding of the term “text” has been established relatively recently. It is associated with the general trend of interpretation of culture as a complex semiotic education. This approach is due to the development of semiotics-the science of laws.

The provision on culture as a sign entity leads to the fact that all phenomena of culture are thought of as texts. The ideologist of the concept of continuous textualization, or the theory of “text without coast” by J. Derrida, claims: “For me, the text is limitless. This is absolute totalness ... This means that the text is not just a speech act” [15].

Since culture and everything that exists in the world is a text, the subject of the inevitable is inside the text. As a result, his consciousness is also a certain sum of texts. The text, thus, decisively means everything that a person creates and perceives. It follows that text is not only a verbal education. This term can indicate everything that falls under the definition of a sign in this world, whether it is the text of culture, the text of consciousness the text of the dream.
No less than the term “text” is common the term “discourse” (Arutyunova, Borbotko, Water, Makarov, Mokratsova, Plotnikova). This term is used not only by linguists, but also by philosophers, ethnographers, sociologists, psychologists. V.A. Kanka, for example, notes that in modern philosophy, the term “dialectics”, introduced by ancient Greek thinkers Zeno and Socrates and meant “the art of clarifying truth in the clash of opposite truths”, is more and more replaced by the term “discourse”, which is understood as “the process of obtaining the production new knowledge based on philosophically and scientifically independent judgments presented in linguistic form” [7].

Without pursuing the purpose of considering all the possible values of the term “discourse”, we will dwell only on a philological linguistic sense.

One of the meanings of the term “discourse” is aimed at clarifying the traditional concepts of style and individual language. Instead of expressions like “Hemingway style”, “Hemingway language”, “language of the political party”, expressions become familiar: “Discourse of a small group” [10], “Discourse of memoirs” [11]. With this understanding of the term “discourse”, a description of the methods of the speaker in various varieties of discourse is carried out, while not only purely linguistic features, stylistic features, specifics of the subjects, the system of conviction, as well as the ideological coloring of the discourse based from different social institutions have significance. Yu.S. Stepanov, revealing the concept of discourse in the meaning under consideration, said that discourse with this approach is mentality and special ideology [14].

The term “discourse” has other meanings that arose in connection with the reorientation of linguistics to study coherent segments of speech (60s-70s of the XX century). In studies of Anglo-American authors, thanks to Z.S. Harris, who applied the concept of discourse to indicate a coherent segment of speech, in which he solved the problem of occurrence of morphemes, immediately outlined a persistent tendency to denote such segments with the term “discourse”.

In the French tradition, the term “discourse” for coherent speech was used by E. Benvenist, indicating them “a speech work (Discours), which arises every time we speak” [2].

In a number of European countries, at the initial stages of studying coherent segments of speech, the use of the term “text” was still preferred. A similar tendency was in Russian linguistics, due to the fact that theorists, standing at the origins of linguistics of the text, called their object of research (Halperin, Moskal, Refer, Turaeva).

The foregoing means that the term “discourse” in Russian linguistics was not used. The I.R. Halperin, for example, when determining super-frase unity, a number of synonyms are brought to this term, among which the term “discourse” falls [3]. V.A. Zveligintsev preferred the term “discourse” to refer to two or more sentences that are with each other in semantic communication [13]. Subsequently, in the same meaning, the term “discourse” continued to use a number of other researchers (Borbanka, Slyusareva).

The cut of the possible values of this term was made by T.M. Nikolaev in the 1970s. The researcher identified the following discourse values:

1) coherent text;
2) the oral-conversational form of the text;
3) dialogue;
4) a group of statements interconnected in meaning;
5) a speech work (written or oral) as a given [13].
As knowledge accumulates in the field of studying coherent units of speech, the terminological apparatus was somehow sophisticated, revised. If in the 1970s, as Yu.S. Karaulov and V.V. Petrov, the term “discourse” corresponded to his understanding as a coherent sequence of sentences or speech acts, then, starting from the 80s, the discourse began to mean a complex communicative phenomenon, for the understanding of which it was necessary to attract extralinguistic facts (knowledge about the world, opinions, attitudes, attitudes, attitudes, attitudes, attitudes The purpose of the addressee) [8]. Note that in the same sense the term “text” (Dridze, Kamenskaya) turned out to be used in the same sense.

The text as a complex structural and semantic formation of a hierarchical structure has long attracted the attention of linguists. In linguistics, there are a large number of studies devoted to the problems of studying the text, such as establishing the boundaries of the text, units that make up the text, text signs and so on, but, nevertheless, a number of questions are discussion in nature.

The text as a complete information and structural whole.

The text, if we consider it in the system of generalized functional categories, is qualified as the highest communicative unit. This is a holistic unit, consisting of communicative-functional elements organized into the system for the communicative intention of the author of the text, respectively, the speech situation.

The text realizes the presented activity, and the structure of activity involves the subject and the object, the process itself, the goal, means and the result. These components of the structure of activity are reflected in different indicators of the text- content-structural, functional, communicative.

The text has its own micro-macrosemantics, micro- and macrostructure. The semantics of the text are due to the communicative task of transmitting information. The structure of the text is determined by the features of the internal organization of the text units and the laws of the relationship of these units within the framework of a whole message (text).

In the circle of issues related to the characterization of the text, which implies comprehensive lighting of this phenomenon, the question of integrity and connectedness can be considered one of the main ones. This is due to the fact that the text as an object of linguistic research seems primarily as information and structural unity, as a functionally completed speech whole. It is this quality of the text that currently makes it possible to determine quite clear patterns of text formation.

The integrity and connectedness-these, in essence, are the main, constructive signs of the text-reflect the substantive and structural essence of the text. At the same time, researchers, in particular, distinguish between local coherence and global connectivity. Local coherence is the coherence of linear sequences (statements, interfrasical unity). Global coherence is what ensures the unity of the text as a semantic whole, its inner integrity.

Local connectivity is determined by interfrazic syntactic connections (introductory-modal and pronoun words, species forms of verbs, lexical repetitions, words of words, unions, etc.).

Global connectivity (and it leads to the substantive integrity of the text) is manifested through keywords, thematically and conceptually uniting the text and its fragments.

The connectedness of the text is manifested through external structural indicators, through the formal dependence of the components of the text.

The integrity of the text is seen due to thematic, conceptual, modal.

This means that the concept of integrity of the text leads to its meaningful and communicative organization, and the concept of coherence - to the form and structural organization.
The integrity of the text is, first of all, the unity is thematic, conceptual, modal.

The semantic integrity lies in the unity of the theme - micro-thoroughness, macro-dimensions, themes of the entire speech work.

The smallest private theme is a topic contained in super-frase unity (it is usually given in the method, the first phrase of unity). Superfraise unity is monotematic. The transition from one topic to another is a signal of the border of super-frase unity. The unity of the topic is manifested in the regular repeatability of keywords. Through the synonymization of keywords, through a repeated nomination. The unity of the topic is ensured by the identity of the reference, i.e. the ratio of words (names and their deputies) with the same object of image. The phenomenon of implication based on situational relations is finally associated with the unity of the topic. The presence of some displayed items implies the presence of others, situational-tied with them.

Thus, the text will take place if it has two signs-structural connectedness and meaningful integrity. Moreover, both signs are inextricably linked and applied to each other. The presence of only one of the signs does not yet indicate an appropriately constructed text. In terms of expression, the text can be “connected” (means of syntactic communication are used; the theme-reproaches are observed), but in terms of content, such a text may turn out to be absurd.

Complex syntactic whole as a unit of speech.

In a literal translation from Greek (syntaxis) the term syntax denotes “compilation”, “construction”, that is, since ancient times, the main task of science syntax was the study of those units with which phrases could be built, communicated. Therefore, such constructions as a phrase and proposal were distinguished and studied. Recently, the attention of scientists has been attracted by the largest syntactic units, such as a complex syntactic whole or superfrasial unity, which consist of several sentences and meet a greater extent by the desire of verbal communication.

Note that the definition of a complex syntactic whole in different textbooks is given differently. S. S. Kryuchkov, L. Yu. Maksimov in the textbook “Modern Russian language. Syntax of a complex sentence” note: “The complex syntactic whole is the largest of the structural-syntactic units, on which the text (or oral statement) is destroyed. A complex syntactic whole consists of several sentences united by intonation and other means of communication and revealing one of the microdimum of the text”.

A. B. Dudnikov in the textbook “Modern Russian language” indicates:

“A complex syntactic whole (super-fragmentary unity) is such a unit of monologic utterance, which reveals one of its private topics and consists of a number of sentences united by a parallel or chain connection”.

The general in these definitions is an indication that a complex syntactic whole is part of the statement expressing the microthem with the help of related proposals. Another thing is communication methods. The first definition focuses on intonation, the second takes into account formal indicators. Apparently, it is logical to take into account both other signs and give the following working definition a complex syntactic whole: a complex syntactic whole is such a syntactic unit that consists of several sentences interconnected by lexical, grammatical and intonational communications.

The concept is a complex syntactic whole introduced into the scientific everyday life of N.S. Pospelov. Along with it, they are used in the same meaning of the term “super-fraud unity” (L. A. Bulakhovsky), “Prose stanza” (G. Ya. Salganik).

The linguistic status is still unclear. Complex syntactic whole. According to a number of scientists (L. M. Loseva, N. S. Valgin, L. Yu. Maksimov), a complex syntactic whole should be
Description of the Syntax of the Text in Modern Linguistics

considered as units of the syntactic level, contrasting them with fragments of the text highlighted in the graphic image with a “red line”, that is, paragraphs as units of compositional-stylistic. But still, such a contrast is not always possible, because the paragraphs often in writing records connected in the text of the sentences that form a complex syntactic whole. Another thing is that the composition of the paragraph is often limited to a separate sentence, and one complex syntactic whole is distributed into several paragraphs. That is, the problem of graphic, punctuation design of coherent speech, the problem of the ratio of syntax and punctuation arises here.

It is important to find out the difference in a complex syntactic whole from the paragraph, although in the letter these units often coincide, and indeed a new thought, the microthem is separated by a “red line”.

The paragraph, unlike a complex syntactic whole, is not a structural-semantic, but a stylistic compositional unit. With the help of paragraph retreat, the “red line”, the most important in the composition of the whole text of the sentence group or individual sentences containing a description of the new stage in the development of action, the characterization of the new hero, the author’s digression in the literary text are distinguished. Description of a new subject of thought, a new stage in its development, separate logical premises and conclusions in scientific work.

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