

LANGUAGE IN MODERN LINGUISTICS

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ЯЗЫК В СОВРЕМЕННОЙ ЛИНГВИСТИКЕ

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Abstract: Language, the foundation of human communication, has long fascinated scholars. Modern linguistics, with its diverse methodologies and theoretical frameworks, offers a vibrant and ever-evolving lens through which to examine this complex phenomenon. This article delves into the key areas of inquiry within modern linguistics, highlighting the intricate interplay between language structure, function, and social context.

Key words: methods, diachronic, synchronic, functional linguistics, cognitive linguistics, corpus linguistics.

Annotatsiya: Inson muloqotining asosi bo'lgan til uzoq vaqtdan beri olimlarni o'ziga jalb qilib keladi. Zamonaviy tilshunoslik o'zining turli metodologiyalari va nazariy asoslari bilan ushbu murakkab hodisani o'rganishga dinamik va doimiy rivojlanayotgan yondashuvni taklif etadi. Ushbu maqolada zamonaviy tilshunoslikning asosiy yo'nalishlari ko'rib chiqilgan, u tilning tuzilishi, funksiyalari va ijtimoiy konteksti o'rtasidagi murakkab munosabatlarni ta'kidlaydi.

Kalit so'zlar: metodlar, diaxronik, sinxron, funksional tilshunoslik, kognitiv tilshunoslik, korpus tilshunosligi.

Аннотация: Язык, являющийся основой человеческого общения, уже давно привлекает ученых. Современная лингвистика с ее разнообразными методологиями и теоретическими основами предлагает динамичный и постоянно развивающийся подход к изучению этого сложного явления. В этой статье рассматриваются ключевые области современной лингвистики, подчеркивается сложная взаимосвязь между структурой, функциями и социальным контекстом языка.

Ключевые слова: методы, диахроническая, синхронная, функциональная лингвистика, когнитивная лингвистика, корпусная лингвистика.

INTRODUCTION (KIRISH). The study of human language, a complex and fascinating system, has undergone a remarkable evolution. Modern linguistics, in its quest to understand the intricacies of language structure, function, and evolution, has embraced a diverse range of methodologies. This article explores the multifaceted nature of contemporary linguistic research, highlighting the diverse approaches that contribute to our understanding of the human capacity for language. From traditional quantitative analysis to innovative computational methods, we delve into the methodologies that shape our understanding of language and its role in human cognition, social interaction, and cultural expression. Examining this spectrum of methodologies, we aim to illustrate the vibrant and dynamic nature of modern linguistics, a field continuously seeking deeper insights into the complexities of the human linguistic experience.

MATERIALS AND METHODS (ADABIYOTLAR TAHLILI VA METOD).

Modern linguistics draws upon a range of methodologies, including **Formal Linguistics** focuses on the abstract rules governing language, often using mathematical models and logical systems [1]. Examples include generative grammar, which explores the underlying principles of sentence formation, and phonology, which studies the sound system of language. Formal Linguistics states for the rule “SVO” (subject-verb-object) in English sentence structure, as in “I got a gift”, “I like apples” illustrates a basic principle of generative grammar.

Formal Linguistics encompassing descriptive linguistics and language variation, offers a comprehensive approach to the study of human language. It integrates theoretical, computational, and descriptive methodologies to systematically analyze linguistic phenomena. This specialization equips students with the skills to describe and analyze spoken and signed languages which involves understanding and applying the principles of phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. It develops explanatory analyses of linguistic phenomena that includes analyzing both diachronic (historical) and synchronic (current) changes in language structure and meaning. Utilize computational and experimental techniques which allows for the processing and analysis of linguistic

data for research purposes, facilitating the validation of theoretical models. Formal Linguistics delves into diverse areas, including: Formal modeling of linguistic rules that encompasses the creation of formal models representing both structural (e.g., grammatical rules) and semantic (e.g., meaning) aspects of language. Cross-linguistic variation and formal representation examining the differences and similarities in language structure across different languages and seeks to develop formal representations to capture these variations. Sociolinguistic variation, language contact, and grammatical change investigating how social factors, language contact, and historical processes influence language change and variation. Dynamic representation of meaning which explores the dynamic nature of meaning and how it can be represented in formal models, accounting for context, ambiguity, and the evolution of meaning. Experimental analysis and computational implementation, this involves designing and conducting experiments to test theoretical models and using computational tools to analyze and simulate linguistic data. By focusing on these areas, Formal Linguistics provides a rigorous and multifaceted approach to understanding the structure, function, and evolution of human language.

Functional Linguistics examines the role of language in communication, emphasizing its use in social contexts [2]. Pragmatics, which studies the meaning of utterances in specific situations, and sociolinguistics, which analyzes the relationship between language and society, are key areas within this approach. Functional Linguistics: The phrase “Can you pass the salt?” is a polite request, even though it is phrased as a question. This demonstrates the importance of context in understanding the meaning of utterances, as studied by pragmatics.

Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), a social semiotic theory developed by Michael Halliday, examines the interconnectedness of meaning-making, learning, and social change. Rooted in the 1960s, SFL has evolved into a broad framework influencing various fields within applied linguistics, including education, multimodality, and critical discourse analysis. Halliday's groundbreaking contribution lies in his understanding of grammar as a dynamic, functional resource for meaning-

making. This resource reflects and shapes the social and cultural contexts in which semiotic systems operate and evolve. This perspective contrasts with traditional behavioral, cognitive, and psycholinguistic views of grammar, which tend to focus on internal cognitive processes. SFL emphasizes the crucial role of context in understanding language and other meaning-making systems. It argues that communication, particularly in multilingual and multimodal environments, cannot be fully grasped without considering the immediate context of its use and development. Furthermore, SFL recognizes the interplay between language, power dynamics, socialization, and ideology. To elaborate on Halliday's comprehensive theory of text-context dynamics, SFL identifies three metafunctions: Ideational metafunction addresses how language represents the world, our thoughts, and experiences [3]. Interpersonal metafunction focuses on how language establishes and maintains social relationships. Textual metafunction examines how language creates coherent and cohesive texts. These metafunctions are realized through the use of "field," "tenor", and "mode" resources, reflecting the context of communication.

Cognitive Linguistics investigates the mental processes involved in language comprehension and production, drawing inspiration from cognitive psychology and neuroscience [4]. Embodied cognition, which emphasizes the role of the body in language, and metaphor theory, which explores how metaphors shape our understanding of the world, are prominent examples. It emerged from the work of researchers in the 1970s who challenged the dominant view of language as a self-contained system governed by internal structural properties. Instead, they focused on the relationship between language and the human mind, exploring how linguistic patterns are shaped by cognitive processes and principles. This approach moved away from the traditional separation of syntax from other aspects of language, arguing that linguistic structures are intimately connected to cognitive principles, including Principles of human categorization of how humans classify and organize knowledge influences linguistic structures. Pragmatic and interactional principles of language use in social contexts plays a significant role in shaping linguistic

patterns. Functional principles like iconicity (form reflecting meaning) and economy (using the least linguistic effort) influence language structure.

Key figures in this movement include Wallace Chafe, Charles Fillmore, George Lakoff, Ronald Langacker, and Leonard Talmy. Each developed unique approach to linguistic description and theory, centered on specific areas of language and cognitive processes. A central tenet shared by these scholars is the primacy of meaning in language. They argue that linguistic structures exist to express meaning, making the relationship between form and meaning a primary focus of linguistic analysis. Linguistic forms, in this view, are closely tied to the semantic structures they represent. Furthermore, Cognitive Linguistics emphasizes the importance of investigating semantic structures across all levels of language, from individual words to complex sentences, as these structures are essential for understanding the meaning-making processes of the human mind.

Corpus Linguistics utilizes large databases of naturally occurring language data to analyze linguistic patterns and trends. This method provides valuable insights into language change, usage variation, and the impact of technology on language [5]. It analyzes a large corpus of text can reveal patterns in language use, such as the increasing frequency of the word "selfie" in recent years, reflecting the impact of technology on language. Corpus Linguistics is a field that investigates language in its natural, real-world usage by analyzing large, electronically-stored collections of language data known as corpora. The central goal of corpus linguistics is to answer two fundamental issues: That involves identifying recurring combinations of words and grammatical structures. This examines variations in language use based on factors like geographical location, social group, and context of communication (e.g., formal vs. informal language).

The field of corpus linguistics has been shaped by the contributions of numerous scholars, including Leech, Biber, Johansson, Francis, Hunston, Conrad, and McCarthy, to name a few. However, John Sinclair is widely recognized as a pivotal figure in modern corpus linguistics. His groundbreaking work revealed that individual words rarely carry meaning in isolation. Instead, meaning is often

derived from the co-occurrence of words within a sequence. This idea forms the foundation of corpus linguistics, emphasizing the importance of analyzing language in context. In essence, Corpus Linguistics uses the power of large datasets to explore the nuances and patterns of language use, providing valuable insights into how language functions in real-world contexts [6].

DISCUSSION AND RESULTS (MUHOKAMA VA NATIJALAR). Modern linguistics has yielded significant insights into the nature of language, including: The Structure of Language generative grammar has revealed the recursive nature of language, allowing for an infinite number of grammatical sentences to be generated from a finite set of rules [7]. This has revolutionized our understanding of sentence formation and syntactic structure. The Role of Context in functional linguistics has demonstrated the crucial role of context in interpreting meaning. Pragmatic principles, such as Gricean maxims, help us understand how speakers convey meaning beyond the literal words they use, while sociolinguistics analyzes how social factors, such as gender, class, and ethnicity, influence language use. The Cognitive Basis of Language Cognitive linguistics has shown that language is not merely a set of rules but a reflection of our cognitive abilities. Embodied cognition has highlighted the interconnectedness of language, thought, and bodily experience, while metaphor theory reveals how metaphors structure our conceptual systems and influence our understanding of the world. Cognitive Linguistics the metaphor “Time is money” reflects how we conceptualize time as a resource that can be spent or wasted, illustrating the impact of metaphors on our understanding of the world. The Dynamics of Language Change that Corpus linguistics provides empirical evidence for language change, showing how language evolves over time, influenced by social, technological, and cultural factors [8].

Modern linguistics continues to evolve, pushing the boundaries of our understanding of language. Current research explores topics such as Language Acquisition it shows the ways children acquire language, and what are the underlying cognitive mechanisms. Language Evolution studies language originate, and its changes over time. Language and Technology demonstrates technology influence

language use and communication. Language and the Brain conformations language represented and processed in the brain.

CONCLUSION (XULOSA). Modern linguistics offers a rich tapestry of theoretical frameworks and methodologies for understanding the complexities of human language. By exploring the structure, function, and cognitive basis of language, linguists are making significant contributions to our understanding of human cognition, communication, and culture. As language continues to evolve in our increasingly interconnected world, the insights gleaned from modern linguistics will become increasingly important for navigating the challenges and opportunities of our time.

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