



## EXPLORING THE CONCEPT OF DISCOURSE THROUGH THEORETICAL AND PRACTICAL APPROACHES IN GLOBAL LINGUISTICS

<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.20648292>

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**Abstract:** *The article is devoted to the concept of 'discourse' and it is analysis from the point of world linguistic views. Furthermore, it deals with the key characteristics of discourse in relation to the scientific discipline in which it is researched and applied.*

**Key words:** *discourse, oral, written, discursus, coherent text, polysemantic, linguo-cultural, main characteristics, speech etiquette, narrative plan.*

### I. INTRODUCTION.

Many terms used in the research field are characterized by multifaceted and contradictory characteristics. They certainly include such a concept as discourse. [1].

A lot of studies in world linguistics, as well as in other areas of humanitarian knowledge, are devoted to the study of discourse. Discourse is studied by linguists, literary scholars, sociologists, political scientists, psychologists, ethnographers, philosophers due to the multiplicity of interpretations of this concept.

### II. MATERIALS AND METHODS.

One of the most prominent works in world linguistics is Emile Benveniste (1966), Z.Harris (1951), Dijk van T.A.(1997), while in Russian linguistics N.D. Arutyunova (1990), T.M Nikolaeva (1978), Yu.S.Stepanov (1995),

A.A.Kibrik (2009) in Uzbek linguistics, Khazratkulov A. (1976), Urinboev B. (1975), Lafasov U. (1996), Iriskulov M. (1992), N.Mahmudov (1992), U.Yusupov (2013), B.Mengliev (2013), Khudoyberganova D. (2013) etc. [ 2, 26 p].

It should be marked that at the same time, new approaches appear and new facets of this multidimensional phenomenon are revealed. The founder of the understanding of the concept of "discourse" is Z. Harris, who singles out dynamism as the main property of discourse, distinguishing it from text as a static structure. [ 3,30 p].

Discourse (French) (from Lat. Discursus - movement, conversation, conversation) is translated as "discourse" (less often - speech, type of speech, text, type of text). It is considered one of the most complex concepts for the definition.



But despite this, it is an often applicable and functionally convenient term. [ 4 ].

Middle English discourses, process of reasoning, from Medieval Latin discursus, from Latin, a running about, from past participle of discurrere, to run about : dis-, apart; see dis- + currere, to run; see kers- in Indo-European roots. [5, 27 p]

Discourse is a coherent text, but the text also has a certain coherence. So, sentences in the text are connected lexically and grammatically - with the help of conjunctions and union words, references, ellipses, lexical means, repetitions, intonation. The peculiarity of discourse lies in the fact that we perceive the text not only in connection with the external circumstances of communication, but also depending on our own linguo-cultural baggage. The perception and analysis of information is carried out taking into account the pragmatic components, to which we include linguo-cultural and encyclopedic knowledge, personal experience, linguo-cultural models (ideas about the world), as well as background knowledge and speech etiquette. [6, 13p]

Originally, the word "discourse" in French linguistics meant speech in general or text. As expected, the theory of discourse takes its origins from the concept of E. Benveniste, who defines discourse "as speech attributed to the speaker." He drew a line between the narrative plane (*récit*) and the language assigned by the speaking person (discourse). An identical distinction was

observed in L.V. Shcherby: language as a system and as an ability, speech activity and linguistic material, texts.

### III. DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION.

The term "discourse", as it is understood in modern linguistics, is close in meaning to the concept of "text", but emphasizes the dynamic, unfolding in time, the nature of linguistic communication; in contrast, the text is thought of primarily as a static object, the result of linguistic activity. As already noted, discourse is speech "immersed in life." Therefore, the term "discourse", in contrast to the term "text", is not applied to ancient and other texts, whose connections with living life are not directly restored. [7, 137 p]

Studying discourse as a subject of text linguistics, and discourse analysis as one of its methods, T.M. Nikolaeva considers discourse as "a polysemantic term of text linguistics, used by a number of authors in meanings that are almost homonymous" [8, 479 p] and highlights the main ones:

- 1) dialogue;
- 2) oral and spoken form of the text;
- 3) a group of statements related to each other in meaning;
- 4) coherent text;
- 5) speech work as a given, oral or written.

Already in the 19th century, this term was polysemic: in the Dictionary of the German language by Jacob Wilhelm Grimm "Deutsches Woerterbuch" of 1860, the following semantic parameters of the



term “discourse” are indicated: 1) dialogue, conversation; 2) speech, lecture. This approach was characteristic during the formation of the theory of discourse in the framework of numerous studies, called the linguistics of the text. It was a period when linguistics went beyond the study of an isolated utterance (sentence) and moved on to the analysis of the syntagmatic chain of utterances that form a text, the constitutive properties of which are completeness, integrity, coherence, etc. communication, to study more deeply the connections of language with various aspects of human activity, realized through the text. The intensive development of text linguistics as a science of the essence, prerequisites and conditions of human communication has outlined a turn from linguistics of language to linguistics of speech, has caused increased attention to the act of communication. [9]

From the very beginning, within the framework of studies studying the organization of the text of coherent speech, there was a controversy related to the terminological definition of the object of research, as well as the field of linguistics itself, which studies the text. The originally coined term "text linguistics" seems to many scholars to be not entirely successful, and in some linguistic works the text of a coherent speech is called discourse. The polysemicity of the term "discourse" is recorded in the "Concise Dictionary of Text Linguistics Terms" by T.M. Nikolaeva: “Discourse is a polysemantic

term in the linguistics of a text, used by a number of authors in meanings that are almost homonymous. The most important of them are: 1) coherent text; 2) oral and spoken form of the text; 3) dialogue; 4) a group of statements related to each other in meaning; 5) a speech work as a given - written or oral” [10, 467 p].

In the 50s of the XX century. Emile Benveniste, developing the theory of utterance, consistently applies the term discourse, traditional for French linguistics, in a new meaning - as a characteristic of "speech assigned to the speaker." Zelig Harris publishes the article "Discourse analysis" on the distribution method in relation to over phrasal unities. Thus, these two reputable scientists establish the tradition of the identical designation of different objects of research. Benveniste understands by discourse the explication of the speaker's position in a statement [11, 1p]; in Harris's interpretation, the object of analysis is a sequence of statements, a piece of text that is larger than a sentence.

Professor T.A. van Dijk defines discourse in a broad sense (as a complex communicative event). Discourse is a communicative event that occurs between the speaker and the listener in the process of communicative action in a certain temporal and spatial context. This communicative action can be verbal, written, have verbal and non-verbal components. Typical examples are an everyday conversation with a friend, a dialogue between a doctor and a patient, and reading a newspaper [12,2p]. The



term "discourse" was widely used in his works by the famous German philosopher J. Habermas. In his works, discourse is a type of verbal communication conditioned by a critical examination of the values and norms of social life. [ 13, 571-606 p].

The point of view of Yu.S. Stepanov, connecting discourse with the concepts of an alternative world, fact and causality. Stepanov also gives a broad linguo-philosophical interpretation of discourse as "language in language", presented in the form of a special social given. At the same time, discourse cannot be reduced to style, grammar or vocabulary as just a language. It "exists, first of all, and mainly in texts, but those behind which there is a special grammar, a special lexicon, special rules of word use and syntax, special semantics, ultimately - a special world" [14, 45 p]. Although Stepanov also speaks of the existence of discourse in texts, his vision of discourse as a special, possible world takes discourse far beyond the text.

A. A. Kibrik considers discourse as a synthesis of the process of communication and its result - the text: "Thanks to this dual unity, discourse can

be studied both as a process unfolding in time and as a structural object. "Discourse" is the broadest possible term, including all forms of language use "[Kibrik (electronic resource) 15, 5-16 p].

#### IV. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, it can be summarized that everything in many scientific ideas about discourse interacting with each other and are inseparable parts of one concept, indicates the frequent use of this term in modern science , but at the same time emphasizes the absence of transparent borders and the final the number of structural components of this concept. Modern researchers emphasize that text as a linguistic material does not always represent coherent speech, i.e. discourse. Not every text is discourse, but discourse is always text, and the converse is not true. Since any discourse is a text, the theory of discourse has shared with the linguistics of the text all issues related to the essential properties of the text as a linguistic unit of a higher order (text and discourse are characterized by the general properties of completeness, integrity, coherence, etc.), as well as issues related to units of discourse , its structure and segmentation methods.

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