



PRAGMATIC FEATURES OF INDIRECT SPEECH

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Abstract: *The article studies the difference between semantic and pragmatic differences in indirect speech using the example of Uzbek novels. The analysis is based on fundamental theoretical considerations regarding the process of meaning formation and interpretation of linguistic expressions. In each of the examples taken from the novels, the spiritual characteristics of the components participating in indirect speech, the purpose of speech acts in the context, the relationship between the subject and the addressee were analyzed in more depth. In particular, special attention was paid to the development of the semantic level, its dependence on the growth of the language. In studying the emerging problem, it was found that it is important to know the logical, socio-historical, and psychological reasons for this development, as well as to be economical in using words that ensure the operation of mechanisms that require meaningful changes, and to express them expressively.*

Keywords: *indirect speech, semantically, pragmatic function, subject, addressee, speech act, expressiveness, economy;*

INTRODUCTION

It is difficult to imagine modern linguistics without semantics and pragmatics. Indirect speech has long attracted the attention of scholars with its spiritual properties, the purpose of the subject in transmitting information, and the subtleties of its reception and understanding by the addressee [1,4, 5, 6, 11]

The main part. When both aspects of indirect speech are studied in more depth, it becomes clear that they are in many ways complex and problematic. Semantics includes the meanings that are

formed in indirect speech on the basis of the units of the sentence and the syntactic relations that are semantically relevant to these units. This approach is known as the compositional principle. On the other hand, pragmatics includes those aspects of the interpretation of indirect speech that are determined by communicative and worldly knowledge, a clear idea of the relevant speech situation, and the speaker's intention.

Indirect speech is an important part of human communication and is a common form of interpersonal communication. It plays an important role



in linguistics and cultural studies. Researchers study how people interact with each other and why certain linguistic forms are considered important [8, 9].

The meaning expressed through linguistic units in the process of communication is not limited to conveying information, but also reflects the cultural experience, national thinking and social values of society. Therefore, the semantic system of the language is closely related to the system of understanding the world by individuals, and this process has its own characteristics in each national language. By analyzing the content of linguistic units, it is possible to determine their cultural and national characteristics.

The concept that occupies the central core of the semantic structure of the word is as nationalistic in terms of content and scope as the meaning itself[10]. This manifests itself differently in different peoples. In order to compare and identify subtle nuances as much as possible, we will analyze examples of indirect speech in German and Uzbek novels:

Medikamente hatten Nebenwirkungen, das wusste jeder. Aber Else sagte, die Spritzen seien notwendig, damit sich der angeschwollene Knöchel nicht entzündete und die Prellung in der Hüfte zurückging.[2]. (Everyone knew that medications had side effects. But Else said the injections were necessary to prevent the swollen ankle from becoming infected and to reduce the bruising in her

hip.[2]) (The translation belongs to the author of the article.)

In the example, two main semantic components are contrasted. The sentence “Medikamente haben Nebenwirkungen” in the previous sentence expresses general, universally known knowledge. The phrase “everyone knows” - “das wusste jeder” in the sentence acts as a generalizing semantic sign indicating that this information is firmly established in the collective consciousness. The fact that drugs have side effects has a negative semantic connotation, and evokes the content of caution and anxiety. In the next sentence, the semantics of opposition is evident. The construction “Aber Else sagte - but Else ...said” is used to express a personal opinion and professional judgment. According to Else’s statement, the necessity of taking the drugs despite their harm represents the semantics of necessity. “notwendig - necessary” means that there is no alternative to treatment. This is directed towards the goal of treatment. In addition, the semantics of cause and effect are clearly stated in the example, that is, the injections serve to “prevent the swollen ankle from becoming inflamed and the pain in the thigh area from returning.” These sentences, in turn, are semantic aspects that indicate that the process is aimed at a positive result. Finally, the balance between risk and its elimination is clearly demonstrated from a semantic perspective.

According to the pragmatic analysis of the above passage, the author intended



to influence the addressee by contrasting general knowledge and expert opinion. While the content of the first sentence emphasizes the need for careful treatment of medications, the next sentence forms a persuasive strategy through Elze's argument justifying the need for treatment. The reader is made to believe that it is very important to get the injection despite the negative effects, and the rationality of this decision is contextually explained.

Now let's try to analyze an excerpt from an Uzbek novel that contains indirect speech:

Эртаси мактаб йиғилишида ойм сўзга чиқиб, анча-мунча пўписалар қилдилар. Минбад кимдан-ким муштумзўрлик қилса, мактабдан ҳайдалишини айтдилар. Биз бир-биримизга меҳрибон бўлишимиз зарурлигини уқтирдилар[7]. (The next day, at the school meeting, my mother spoke and they made a lot of jokes. Minbad was told that anyone who punches someone will be kicked out of school. They emphasized the need for us to be kind to each other[7].)

In this example, educational and social relations are expressed semantically. The components “the next day”, “at school”, “mom spoke up” serve to determine the time and place of the event. The sentence “they made a lot of noise” creates the semantics of warning and reprimand, indicating negative behavior. The concept of punishment is clearly expressed by creating the semantics of cause and effect “if he

bullies, he will be expelled from school”. The lexemes “we must be kind” in the last sentence are evaluated as a morally positive value, and the semantic conclusions of warning, punishment, and adherence to moral norms are clearly evident throughout the entire passage.

A pragmatic analysis of the excerpt from the novel shows that the component “mother spoke up” indicates the high social status of the “father”, which strengthens his or her rhetorical authority. The reprimand and warning about “making a fuss”, “expulsion from school”, as well as the strategies of punishment, aim to teach that the negative situation that occurred earlier should not be repeated, to prevent such unpleasant situations. The speech of appeal to harmony, acting as a normative and guiding strategy, creates a communicative environment that maintains balance after the warning of a decisive measure. Ultimately, these speech acts indicate that the aim of these speech acts is not to intimidate the addressees, but to understand the need to feel social responsibility and thus maintain discipline.

According to the linguist Shahriyor Safarov[10], the development of the semantic level depends on the growth of the language. In studying this problem, it is important to understand the logical, socio-historical, and psychological reasons for this development, as well as to study the forces that ensure the operation of mechanisms that require meaningful changes, such as economy in



the use of words, their expressiveness, standardization, and the identification of nuances. “The performance of these tasks leads to the study of the “traces” of semantic development, including the phenomena of expansion and narrowing, intensification and weakening, simplification and complication of meaning, as well as the abstraction and concretization of meaning, grammaticalization, etc. [10] The polysemy of words and other such phenomena are also included in them and are studied within the framework of the above-mentioned tasks. Based on the scientist's thoughts, we can conclude that the phenomenon of indirect speech also plays an important role in the process of semantic development. This is because this type of speech serves to simplify or, conversely, complicate the statement, as well as to abstract or concretize the meaning, by reinterpreting, generalizing, and adapting the content of direct speech to the author's point of view. In this process, economical expression of words and sentences, changes in the level of expressiveness, and redistribution of substantive differences are noticeable. Ultimately, indirect speech appears as one of the important elements of semantic changes, inextricably linked with its development. This, in turn, undergoes such processes as polysemy, changes in grammatical phenomena, and expansion of meaning.

Мен у ерда Лўлилардан чиққан бир олим билан танишиб қолдим. Унинг айтишича, лўлилар аслида

Покистоннинг Мўлтон шаҳридан келиб қолишган экан. Тажовузкор душман босиб олиб, мўлтонликларни ер юзига сочиб юборибди. Бир донишманд айтган экан: ватанидан айрилган – ҳамма нарсасидан ажрайди. Бу шўрликлар ҳам ҳамма нарсасидан ажралиб, тиланчига, фолбинга айланиб қолибди. Ҳозир бир-ярим кексаларигина тиланчилик қилишаркан[7]. (There I met a scholar who was a Gypsy. He said that the Gypsies originally came from the city of Multan in Pakistan. An aggressive enemy invaded and scattered the Multans across the world. A wise man once said: He who is separated from his homeland is separated from everything. These salty people also became separated from everything and turned into beggars and soothsayers. Now, only one-and-a-half old people are begging[7].)

When this example is analyzed according to semantic development and components of indirect speech, the expansion and abstraction of layers of meaning are clearly demonstrated. In the example, the event is described using the communicative verbs “*unin sekali*”, “*aytgen ekan*”, the incomplete verb *ekan* in the sentence “*kelib kalirgen ekan*”, the suffix “*-ibdi*” in the components “*söçib sörebdi*”, “*yılanı kalırbendi*”, and suffixes made from the incomplete verb “*-arkan*” in the verb “*kilisharkan*”. This shifts the responsibility of the source of information away from the author and shows his neutral position. As a result, a generalization occurs, contributing to the



understanding of the socio-historical content. This raises a specific historical event, namely the dispersion of the Roma from the city of Moulton, from the level of an individual story to a general semantic level reflecting the fate of the people. The inclusion of the wise quote “whoever is separated from his homeland is separated from everything” enhances the expansion and abstraction of the content, bringing the event related to a specific ethnic group to the level of a universal philosophical conclusion. Also, the speech units “became a beggar, a fortune teller” enhance the semantic content, help to condense and describe the negative consequences of the historical tragedy, which, since it is expressed at an expressive level, indicates speech economy. In conclusion, as Sh. Safarov noted, this excerpt from the novel clearly demonstrates traces of semantic development, including the expansion of content, abstraction, economy, and the identification of differences between sentences using indirect speech.

Now let's analyze the above passage from a pragmatic point of view. In the example, it can be observed that the goals of mutual information transfer, evaluation, and influence between the participants of the speech are achieved using indirect speech means. The components "says", "says" indicate that the statement is transmitted not directly by the subject, but through another source. This, in turn, weakens the author's neutral position and communicative responsibility. This pragmatic strategy

requires the reader to perceive this information not as an absolute truth, but as a product of social information and verbal expression. At the same time, the generalizing wise phrase "He who is separated from his homeland is separated from everything" is a powerful pragmatic tool, creating empathy and an evaluative attitude in the mind of the addressee. This wise saying is not limited to providing information, but has an illocutionary effect aimed at drawing a moral-philosophical conclusion. Ultimately, the story about the gypsies turns into a discourse that has a tragic effect from a pragmatic point of view, evoking a sense of pity. The components of “became a beggar, a fortune teller” pragmatically convey information, evaluate, encourage conclusions, and influence the reader, expressing the author's implicit (hidden) attitude.

Ich musterte ihn, er wick meinem Blick aus. Dorothea hob die Schultern. “Dein Vater hat uns gestern Abend sehr theatralisch mitgeteilt, dass du in einer privaten Krise steckst und wir alle ein wenig Rücksicht nehmen sollen”[3]. (I studied him; he avoided my gaze. Dorothea shrugged. “Your father informed us very theatrically last night that you are going through a personal crisis and that we should all show some consideration”[3].)

The above example is presented as a semantically and pragmatically compact, but content-dense unit. From a semantic point of view, the sentence “in einer privaten Krise stecken” expresses not a



specific situation, but an abstract and comprehensive content, giving a general description without revealing the mental and social state of the hero. This is characterized by the abstract appearance of the content and the economical expression of speech. The construction “sehr theatralisch mitgeteilt” emphasizes the method of its delivery rather than the statement itself, strengthening the semantic evaluative component.

According to pragmatic analysis, the example shows implicit relations between the participants of the speech in a dialogical form. Since the father's opinion is conveyed using indirect speech, the responsibility for the information is partially removed from the speaker, his

critical attitude is not explicitly stated, that is, it is expressed implicitly. The structure “Rücksicht nehmen sollen” is a pragmatic signal expressing obligation and reflects social pressure on the listeners.

In conclusion, it should be noted that indirect speech in works of art is not only a means of conveying information, but also a complex functional unit in semantic and pragmatic terms. While the task of semantics in it is to reveal the meaning of words and sentences, pragmatics serves to express the subtleties of the purpose-proposition, subject-addressee relations, and the intended meaning of the transmitted information.

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