



Text Linguistics

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Abstract

Text linguistics as an independent scientific discipline was born at the turn of 60-70 of the XX century. At the time of the birth of text linguistics scientists did not aim at global reorientation of the traditional linguistics. Particular advances of text linguistics were made in 1970-1980s by such researchers as I.R. Galperin, O.I. Moskalskaya, R. Bogrand and W. Dressler, T.A. Van Dijk.

Three most common definitions of the term "text" should be considered. Firstly, in the narrow linguistic sense text is defined as the highest level in the language system, along with linguistic units such as phonemes, morphemes, words, phrases, sentences, super-phrasal unities macro-syntax, paragraphs, etc. Text linguistics in this case, was developed as a "grammar of text", "text syntax." Secondly, the text is an independent higher communicative unit, it is subject to the implementation of certain communicative goal, becoming one of the first signs of a shift from a system-structural paradigm to its communicative function. As the most important category of linguistic stylistics the concept of "systematic speech" is put forward. The basic principle of functional and stylistic theory dwells on the fact that the text (speech) is studied inseparably from the sphere of communication.

Thirdly, the text is a unit of communication that reflects the purpose of the participants of communication - the sender and the recipient, having relative semantic completeness. However, the text could not be regarded as an independent higher communicative unit. It is an important element of the communicative system, but it is not the only one, it exists in the discourse system, i.e. around and above the extralinguistic background, cognitive and discursive analysis.

Formation and development of text linguistics (the latter opposition 'text – discourse') has become the focus of increased interest of researchers dealing with human communication and speech. Thus, in a complex information structure of the text systemic, cognitive, communicative and situational pragmatic components overlap and display multilateral communication links.

1. Introduction

Text Linguistics as an independent scientific discipline was born at the turn of 60-70-s of the XX century. At the time of the birth of "text linguistics" scientists probably did not set a global goal of reorienting the traditional linguistics. They saw before them a simple extension of the framework of the scientific description of linguistic phenomena. According to K.A. Filippov, "after decades of enthusiastic study of well-known structures of language units they suddenly faced with a completely new area of scientific interest. They looked beyond the borders of a sentence and saw the new, bright world of meaningful relationships and structural texture of a speech entity" [6, p.11].

It is believed that the appearance of text linguistics as an independent scientific discipline is justified by internal linguistic properties and external, extralinguistic properties [6, p.9].

Among the most often linguistic reasons they usually name inability to adequately explain some linguistic phenomena by relying on the traditional conceptual apparatus that focuses exclusively on the analysis of the sentences. First of all, it refers to such well-known linguistic phenomena as pronominalization in all its forms, the use of the article, the interpretation of the temporal relations and other. Text linguistics as an independent scientific discipline is justified by extralinguistic reasons, ie external action on the part of other scientific disciplines, immediately adjacent to linguistics - literature, psychology, sociology, etc. As acknowledged by O.I. Moskalskaya, "in this situation, the whole speech product - text appeared as the focus, which interlaced all of these approaches to language [10, p.11].

Stable interest in the study of the text, as a specially structured entity, was registered in 1960-70s of the XX century. The period witnessed the formation of Western European linguistic theory of text by its brightest representatives as E. Agricola [1], R. and W. Dressler Bogrand [2] T.A. Van Dijk [5], and others. Text linguistics was initially characterized by structural methods. Thus, the object of the

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analysis was to identify the typed opening and closing text phrases. Depending on the lexical composition communicative-strong and communicative-weak sentences were identified. The latter contain anaphoric means (pronouns, definite article), and therefore, according to the findings can not open grammatically well-formed text; there can only be a strong communicative proposal, which does not demonstrate any signs of lack of independence. Agricola E. [1], based on the method of the actual division of the sentence, devoted his research methods of deployment information in the text, starting from its core nexus.

Particularly intense development of text linguistics was registered in 1970-1980-ies in the works of such famous authors as I.R. Galperin [7] O.I. Moskalskaya [10]. The area addressed in these works is very wide: the border and text units, text categories, methods of generation and understanding of the text, the laws of coherence and means to implement connectivity status of sentences and the actual division of the text, time and modality in the text, text typology and other.

A significant contribution to the development of Russian linguistics of the text was made by I.R. Galperin [7]. He managed to allocate the main categories of the text: informativeness, dividedness, cohesion (inline connection), continuum (temporal and spatial), retrospection and prospection, autosemantics, integration, completeness, modality, the subtext [7]. Subsequently this list was added by such categories of text as tension and emotiveness [11]. Today the list includes the category of intertextuality. In linguistics, there did not exist a single universally accepted definition of "text". According to the past research there were more than 300 definitions [8].

Firstly, in a narrow linguistics sense a text referred to as the highest level in the language system, along with linguistic units such as phoneme, morpheme, word, phrase, sentence. In this case, the text is studied with grammatical positions, taking into account its various intra-relations and means of their realization. This stage of development of text linguistics is closely linked with the analysis of the rules of the connection string sentences or sentences into larger units. From the standpoint of the grammatical analysis the text is considered as a number of entities bigger than a sentence. From the standpoint of grammar, it systematizes knowledge of the structures beyond the sentence and utterance, studying the problems of a complex syntactic whole, super-phrasal unities, macrosyntax, paragraphs and others. Text linguistics in this case developed as grammar of the text, the text syntax. Text thus was mostly connected with the organization structure of the surface of texts [3, p.15].

Secondly, the text is an independent higher communicative unit, is subject to the implementation of specific communication objectives in the specific conditions of communication and possesses the appropriate target structurally meaningful organization and functional orientation [3].

The text is seen as the "language in action", ie as a result of the use of the language system in question. Functional and stylistic research are one of the first manifestations of the shift from system-structural paradigm to communicative-functional paradigm. As the most important category of linguistic stylistics the concept of systematic speech was put forward. It formed the basic principle of functional and stylistic theory consisting of the fact that the text (speech) should be studied inseparably from the sphere of communication.

Thirdly, the text is a unit of communication that reflects the purpose of the participants of communication - the sender and the recipient, have relative semantic completeness. However, the text could not be regarded as an independent higher communicative unit. The text is an important element of the communicative system, but it is not the only one, it exists in the discourse system, i.e. around text and over text extralinguistic background [3, p. 12]. This step is cognitive discourse analysis, put in the center of the attention of the perception processes of production of the text, which is seen as the result of mental procedures to obtain treatment, representation and storage of human knowledge. Formation and development of text linguistics were accompanied by discussions about the nature of its object. Initially, they were focused around the oppositions' text - sentence'; 'text - utterance'; 'written text - spoken text'; 'text - discourse'. Latter opposition 'text - discourse' has become the focus of increased interest of researchers dealing with communication and speech by human activity. When referring to the study of the text we define the basic theoretical premises. Recently structural and linguistic paradigm has been replaced by a functional knowledge. Metaparadigm of functionalism has been represented by various schools and trends that characterize the cognitive and communicative paradigm of knowledge [9,p.73-78].

The versatility of the concept of "text" requires separating its leading, ontological and functional features. After I.R. Galperin, the text has been defined as the product of a speech generation process, having completeness, objectified in the form of a written document, literary processed in accordance with the type of the document, a work consisting of the name (title) and a number of special units (super-phrasal unities), combining different types of lexical, grammatical, logical, stylistic connection



having a certain focus and pragmatic settings [7, p. 18]. Basic understanding of the two lines in the categories of text (and discourse) consists in the fact that the starting point in the modeling of these categories can be a text as such, any text in the situation of communication. In the first case, the basic categories regularly recognized informative text in its three aspects, by I.R. Galperin: substantial - factual, meaningful - conceptual and meaningful - the implied information [7]. Under the same approach as the main category of the text its semantic cohesiveness can be considered (wholeness, integrity).

One of the most famous theories devoted to the description of the general properties of the text, is the concept of textuality theory [2]. Textuality in this case refers to a set of those properties that are inherent in the text. These include: 1) cohesion, 2) coherence 3) intentionality, 4) acceptance, 5) informativeness, 6) situationality, 7) intertextuality. These properties according to R.A. de Bogrand and W. Dressler lay the basis for its determination of the text. In their opinion, the text is a communicative event that meets the seven criteria of textuality [2, p. 3].

Thus, in a complex information structure of the text systemic, cognitive, communicative and situational pragmatic components overlap and display multilateral and multi-valued links: text - the reality of the text, text - the author, text - the recipient, text-hypertext. "Text is a and semiotic, linguistic, communicative, cultural and cognitive event." [9, p. 23].

In modern science, the text in most cases is considered as a particular aspect of a broader phenomenon - discourse and is studied within discursive analysis. Thus, the text should now be considered alongside with the next unit of communication hierarchy - discourse. The text is not opposed to the discourse, but coexists with it. For a linguist, this means strengthening the analysis of the object, removing it in metaperspective in the new coordinate system.

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