

DISCURSIVE FEATURES OF WRITTEN-ORAL SPEECH IN CHAT AND MESSENGER

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Abstract:

This article analyzes the discursive features of written-oral speech in chat and messengers, which are widely used in the modern communication environment, from a linguistic perspective. As a result of the development of digital technologies, written forms of communication are enriched with signs characteristic of oral speech and are significantly different from traditional written speech. Especially in the communication carried out in chats and messengers such as Telegram and WhatsApp, the active use of short sentences, dialogicity, quick responses, units specific to the style of speech, graphic symbols and emojis determines the uniqueness of this speech. The main goal of the study is to determine how signs specific to oral speech are manifested in written communication in chats and messengers and to reveal their communicative function. The article studied real chat correspondence based on discourse analysis, descriptive and comparative methods. During the analysis, elements of oral speech expressed in written form, including abbreviations, emotional units, speech acts and visual signs, were compared with traditional written speech.

Keywords: Discourse, chat discourse, written-oral speech, messengers, emojis, abbreviations, paralinguistic tools, digital communication, pragmatics.

Introduction

CHAT VA MESSENGERLARDAGI YOZMA-OG‘ZAKI NUTQNING DISKURSIV XUSUSIYATLARI

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Annotatsiya:

Ushbu maqolada zamonaviy kommunikatsiya muhitida keng qo'llanilayotgan chat va messengerlardagi yozma–ogʻzaki nutqning diskursiv xususiyatlari lingvistik jihatdan tahlil qilinadi. Raqamli texnologiyalar rivoji natijasida yozma muloqot shakllari ogʻzaki nutqqa xos belgilar bilan boyib, anʼanaviy yozma nutqdan sezilarli darajada farqlanib bormoqda. Ayniqsa, Telegram, WhatsApp kabi chat va messengerlarda amalga oshiriladigan muloqotda qisqa gaplar, dialogiklik, tezkor javoblar, soʻzlashuv uslubiga xos birliklar, grafik belgilar va emoji kabi vositalarning faol qo'llanilishi ushbu nutqning oʻziga xosligini belgilaydi. Tadqiqotning asosiy maqsadi chat va messengerlardagi yozma muloqotda ogʻzaki nutqqa xos belgilar qanday namoyon boʻlishini aniqlash hamda ularning kommunikativ vazifasini ochib berishdan iborat. Maqolada diskurs tahlili, tavsifiy va qiyosiy metodlar asosida real chat yozishmalari oʻrganildi. Tahlil jarayonida yozma shaklda ifodalangan ogʻzaki nutq elementlari, jumladan, qisqartmalar, emotsional birliklar, nutq aktlari va vizual belgilar anʼanaviy yozma nutq bilan solishtirildi.

Kalit soʻzlar : diskurs, chat diskursi, yozma-ogʻzaki nutq, messengerlar, emojilar, qisqartmalar, paralingvistik vositalar, raqamli kommunikatsiya, pragmatika.

Introduction:

Today, the rapid development of modern information and communication technologies has led to a fundamental change in the forms of communication between people. In particular, chats and messengers have become one of the main means of everyday communication, giving rise to a new functional area of language application. Although the communication carried out on these platforms is in written form, the simplicity, immediacy, dialogicity and emotional expressions inherent in oral speech are widely manifested in it. As a result, the traditional boundaries between written and oral speech are changing significantly. In linguistics, the concept of discourse is associated with the study of the social, communicative and contextual aspects of speech, and the analysis of communication in chats and messengers based on a discursive approach is of great scientific importance. Because in such forms of communication, language units not only convey information, but also express the attitude, state, emotion and



communicative intention of the participants. Emoji, abbreviations, graphic symbols, and units specific to the style of speech are forming as important components of chat discourse. Although in recent years, issues of communication carried out via the Internet and computers (Computer-Mediated Communication) have been widely covered in foreign and domestic research, the discursive features of written-oral speech in chats and messengers in the Uzbek language have not been systematically studied. In particular, a comprehensive analysis of the linguistic, pragmatic, and communicative aspects of this discourse is one of the urgent tasks. The purpose of this article is to identify signs specific to oral speech in written communication in chats and messengers, analyze their communicative function, and compare them with traditional written speech. The following tasks were set within the framework of the study: to identify the main linguistic features of chat discourse, to reveal the functional significance of written-oral units, and to determine the place of messenger communication as a modern discourse. The results of the study are of theoretical and practical importance in the study of Internet linguistics, discourse analysis and modern communication issues, and can be used in teaching linguistics in higher education institutions and in studying the culture of digital communication.

Literature review:

In modern linguistics, the issue of written-oral discourse in chats and messengers is being studied mainly within the framework of Internet and computer-mediated communication (Computer-Mediated Communication). Research by foreign scholars serves as an important theoretical basis for determining the specific linguistic, pragmatic and discursive characteristics of this type of communication. D. Crystal (Language and Internet, 2001) interprets Internet language as an intermediate communicative form between traditional written and oral speech. In his opinion, although the written form is preserved in electronic communication, the simplicity, immediacy and emotionality inherent in oral speech prevail in terms of content and expression. Crystal, analyzing chat and online correspondence, emphasizes that short sentences, simplified grammatical structures, abbreviations, and graphic symbols are integral features of Internet discourse. These views are important in explaining the process of convergence of written communication in chat and instant messengers with spoken speech.



The theory of computer-mediated communication (CMC), developed by S. Herring (Computer-Mediated Discourse Analysis, 2004), is one of the widely used methodological foundations in the study of chat and messenger discourse. The scientist evaluates CMC as an independent communicative environment and shows that the discursive units that arise in it differ from traditional speech forms. Herring emphasizes that dialogicity, interactivity, rapid response, and visual signs play an important role in chat communication. This approach allows us to analyze chat discourse not only as a written text, but also as an active interactive process. M. Halliday's theory of functional linguistics (An Introduction to Functional Grammar, 1985) involves the study of language units in relation to their communicative function and context. According to Halliday, language is primarily a means of communication, and its form adapts to communicative needs. The departure from grammatical norms, the abundance of abbreviations and the use of simplified structures in written communication in chats and messengers are explained precisely by the priority of the communicative task. This theory is important in explaining the functional aspects of chat discourse. Within the framework of the pragmatic approach, the theory of speech acts developed by J. Austin and J. Searle (Speech Acts, 1969) is an important theoretical source in the analysis of chat communication. According to this theory, each speech unit performs a certain action. In chat discourse, speech acts such as requests, confirmations, refusals, and suggestions are expressed in a short and simplified form. Often, a single word, symbol, or emoji can also act as an independent speech act. This clearly demonstrates the pragmatic features of chat communication.

E. Goffman (The Presentation of Self in Everyday Life, 1959) interprets communication as a process of social interaction, paying special attention to the social roles and self-presentation strategies of the participants in it. In chat and messenger discourse, users express their image, attitude, and position through language units, emojis, and reactions. Goffman's interactive approach allows us to analyze the influence of social factors on speech in chat communication.

T. van Dijk (Discourse and Society, 1998) interprets discourse as a phenomenon associated with social and cognitive processes. In his opinion, discourse is closely related to social relations and social context in society. Messenger discourse has also become one of the main means of communication in modern society, in



which social relations, the degree of intimacy, and status directly affect the form of speech. Van Dijk's views serve as a theoretical basis for studying chat discourse as a social phenomenon.

Along with foreign studies, the views of local linguists are also important in explaining the written-oral features of chat discourse. Nurmon Mahmudov (Nutq manautiyati, 2007) emphasizes that in modern speech the boundary between oral and written forms is increasingly blurred. This is especially evident in communication in chats and messengers, where the simplicity and emotionality inherent in oral speech are observed in the written form.

The expressive and economical features of the colloquial style are widely covered in the studies of Shavkat Rahmatullayev (Current Uzbek Literary Language, 2006). The scientist notes the priority of informality and emotional expression in colloquial speech. The active use of abbreviations, colloquial units and emojis in messenger discourse indicates that these features continue in modern communication.

The issues of the active introduction of foreign units into the lexicon of the modern language were studied by Erkin Begmatov (Terminology Problems, 2012). The scientist emphasizes that mixed codes are a natural process in language development. The use of English abbreviations and transliteration forms in chat discourse confirms this idea.

Methodology:

In order to identify the discursive features of written and oral speech in chats and messengers, first of all, domestic and foreign scientific sources and regulatory documents were analyzed. A survey was also conducted among 100 students studying at Renaissance University of Education, which included questions about the use of chats and messengers.

Real examples of chat correspondence used in everyday informal communication were selected as research material. The following criteria were used in selecting materials: the dialogic nature of the communication, the presence of units characteristic of oral speech in the written form, and the use of emotional means of expression.

Several methods were used in the research process in a comprehensive manner. Using the descriptive method, linguistic units found in chat and messenger



discourse were identified and their main features were described. Based on the comparative method, these units were compared with traditional written and oral speech forms. Using the discourse analysis method, chat correspondence was studied not as a set of separate sentences, but as a holistic communicative process. Also, based on a pragmatic approach, the implementation of speech acts in chat communication was analyzed. It was determined how speech acts such as requests, commands, confirmations, and responses are expressed through short written units, and their communicative function was revealed.

These methodological approaches made it possible to explain the written-oral nature of chat and messenger discourse on a scientific basis. In order not to disclose personal information in the study, examples were given in a generalized form.

Discussion and results:

- Analysis of written communication in chat and messengers shows that this form of discourse, unlike traditional written speech, is based on speed and simplicity. In chat correspondence, sentences are often expressed in a short, grammatically incomplete form. For example, units such as “I’m coming”, “Now”, “It’s okay”, “Okay” perform the function of an independent sentence and convey a complete meaning based on the context. This situation indicates an increase in the brevity inherent in oral speech in written speech.
- One of the important features of chat discourse is dialogicity. In the process of communication, there is a rapid exchange of questions and answers between participants. For example, short replicas such as “Where are you?” — “I’m on my way” ensure the effective conduct of communication. This dialogic structure distinguishes chat communication from monologic written text and brings it closer to oral conversation.
- Providing emotional expression in written form is another important aspect of chat discourse. Using emoji and graphic symbols, communication participants express their attitude, mood and intention. For example, signs expressing agreement or joy replace intonation and facial expressions in written speech. As a result, written communication becomes emotionally richer and closer to oral speech.



- Units and abbreviations specific to the style of speech are widely used in chat and messenger discourse. Forms such as “What’s up?”, “What’s up?”, “I came” reflect the process of approaching pronunciation in written speech. This indicates a free attitude towards the normative rules of written speech. In particular, transliteration and mixed language units enhance the oral nature of written communication.
- From a pragmatic point of view, speech acts in chat communication are often performed in a minimal form. Commands or requests are expressed through short units such as “Wait”, “Send”, “Come”. These units, together with the context, represent a complete communicative purpose. This indicates that context is of decisive importance in chat discourse.

Based on the analysis conducted, it can be said that written communication in chat and messengers is manifested as an intermediate form of discourse between written and oral speech. It prioritizes the linguistic, pragmatic, and emotional features of oral speech while preserving the written form.

Conclusion:

This study aimed to shed light on written-oral discourse in chats and messengers as a specific linguistic form of modern digital communication. The above considerations and analyses show that this discourse does not fully obey the rules of traditional written speech, but is formed under the influence of communicative needs and situations. The results of the study showed that chat and messenger communication blurs the clear boundaries between written and oral speech. The priority of communicative strategies typical of oral speech while maintaining the written form allows us to interpret this communication as an intermediate form of discourse. This situation indicates that digital communication plays an important role in the development of modern language. The study also showed that deviations from normative written speech in chat discourse are not accidental, but are a functional phenomenon aimed at ensuring the effectiveness of communication. Informality, brevity, and expressiveness serve to convey information quickly and clearly in the communication process. The discursive and pragmatic approaches used in this work confirmed that chat and messenger communication can be assessed not only as a set of language units, but as a holistic communicative process. This approach serves as a methodological basis



for conducting new research within the framework of modern Internet linguistics. In general, the results of this study indicate the need to study written communication in chat and messengers as an independent and systematic form of discourse. The conclusions of the study are of practical importance in the linguistic study of digital communication processes and in linguistics education.

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