SPEECH ACT OF APPROVAL AS A SEPARATE COMPONENT OF A POSITIVE ASSESSMENT SPEECH ACT

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ABSTRACT

The classification of speech acts is one of the most urgent problems of modern linguistic pragmatics. Although there were many attempts to determine the types of speech acts, based on the totality of the linguistic and extra-linguistic components, as well as their implementation, the clear distinctions of function space of acts are absent still. Besides, there are disputes about the existence of a particular type of speech act against the background of a clear division absence concerning functional features. Modern scientists, in contrast to the linguistic pragmatics classics, tend to consider speech acts in interaction, as the acts do not occur virtually in a pure form. We agree with the fact that an act of the communication process interacting with a context, is supplemented by shading values. Due to this, some speech acts seem to lose its primary importance and begin to be considered within the contiguous acts. These acts include the act of approval, which is still considered by some works, as a component of a complement or praise. We used the following methods in our scientific work: apperceive method, aspect, hermeneutic, critical, holographic and problem analysis.

We proved that the approval is a separate element of the positive-evaluation acts of expressive element class, based on three important points. First of all, having considered the addressee and the object of positive assessment speech acts, we concluded that in contrast to flattery, praise and a complement, an interlocutor is not an object of approval but some decision or an action. Secondly, we found the works of scholars, who proved the existence of a disapproval speech act. Comparing the approval and disapproval, we concluded that the act of approval performs a specific function, and also has the right to an independent existence. Thirdly, we reviewed the approval in terms of sincerity category, and found the examples and situations in which the approval is not a sincere one. We described the difference between insincere approval and flattery.

Thus, proving that an act of approval exists as a separate component of positive assessment speech acts, we distinguished its functional and proved that taking into account the context factor and the factor of combinatorial features, you may clearly define the functional capacity of approval speech acts.

Key words: Speech acts of approval, extralinguistic component, functional features of speech acts, a positive assessment, pragmatics

1. INTRODUCTION

The classification of speech acts is one of the most urgent problems in modern linguistic pragmatics. Although many attempts were made to determine the types of speech acts, based on the totality of the linguistic and extra-linguistic components, as well as their implementation, there is still no clear distinctions of act functional space.

2. METHODS

The works written by J.L. Austin [2004] are focused on the principle of speech act communicative determination. J. Searle takes the opposition of proposition (content) and illocution (speaker's intentions) as the basis for his research. D. Wunderlich [1976] developing the J. Searle's ideas, works on the delineation of illocutionary act types. G. Pochepcov [1981, pp. 163] takes closely related structural, semantic and pragmatic aspects of proposals as the basis for his classification. Each of these researchers contributed to the development of speech acts, but some works lose its relevance in time. According to M.I. Solnyshkina and A.R. Ismagilova [2015], the dynamics acceleration factor of the linguistic landscape change plays a certain role. The absence of uniform classification standards leaves room for the continuation of scientific debate in this area. Modern research move away significantly from the classical works of linguistic pragmatics representatives. Such scholars as A. Wierzbicka [1985, pp. 253], V.V. Bogdanov [1989] state that speech acts almost never occur in a pure form. Olga Amurskaya [O.Y. Amurskaya, 2015] proposes to consider not only the context but to take into account such language means as smiles used to express emotions during the study and the classification. We agree with the fact that this or that act is supplemented by shading values interacting with the

context during the communication process. Because of this, some speech acts seem to lose its primary importance and begin to be considered within the contiguous acts. Such a speech act relates to approval, the existence of which as a separate element of the positive assessment act was questioned many times. Let's consider approval as a separate element of a positive assessment speech act. The materials of research are the examples taken from mass media texts and published in Turkish.
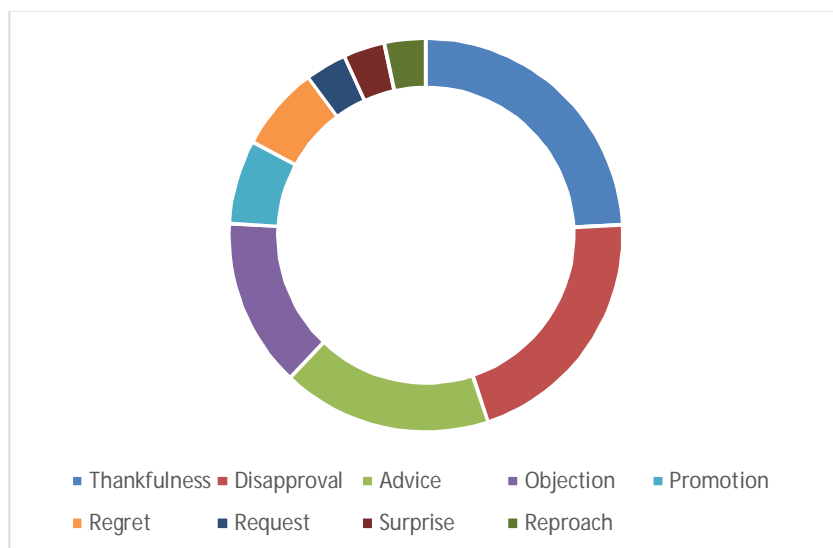
3. DISCUSSION

Linguistic understanding, the study of positive assessment acts specifics, namely, approval, praise, compliment and flattery is an uneven one. The most studied among them is the complement act: it is considered in J. Holmes [1998], N. Wolfson [1983] and other works thoroughly in a classical approach manner, and in the manner of combinatorial features. Praise act is considered in the works written by I.A. Konova [1992] and L.I. Klochko [2000]. Flattery act is touched upon in the works written by S.V. Dorda [2007] and E.S. Petelina [1985]. The act of approval is the least studied one among speech acts. This is due to the fact that most scientists consider it as a kind of praise or a complement. Suppose that the difficulties in the identification and an integrated pragmatic linguistic description of this act are presented by its combinatorial features such as the blurring of meaning borders in a context.

Here is an example of the electronic newspaper "Aegean mail": «Yasak iyi ki yürürlükteydi. İki takımın taraftarı bugün sahada olsaydı daha büyük sonuçlara yol açabilirdi »dedi.» [«It is good that the prohibition worked. If the fans of these two teams were here today, an outcome could be more deplorable»] [Aribogan L., 2013].

As we see, L. Aribogan, commenting on the cancellation of a football game because of a disorder threat, approves the action of the authorities by the following phrase: «Yasak iyi ki yürürlükteydi» ("It is good that the prohibition worked"). If we do not consider the contextual importance of the phrase, given its utterance style, we could suggest that it is an act of disapproval, shaped like sarcasm. But the subsequent phrase clearly delineates the meaning: «daha büyük sonuçlara yol açabilirdi» ("an outcome could be more deplorable"). The author of the phrase gives his own assessment of the approval speech act. Further he reinforces the meaning of his first sentence by his guesses about possible negative outcomes which could happen otherwise.

In the contextual approach, the speech act of approval is recognized quickly and leaves no room for doubt, clearly standing out among the other acts. Besides, N.A. Bigunova considered the combinatorial possibilities of acts as a percentage, proved that the approval is integrated into other speech acts least of all: "A speech act of approval is integrated less often in other speech acts than the other acts of a positive assessment: in our sample such contexts form only 10 per cent of all approval contexts. According to Bigunova N.A., the approval is integrated into the speech act of gratitude [24.1%], disapproval [20.7%], advice [17.2%], objection [13.8%], encourage [6.9%], regret [6.9%] request [3.4%], surprise [3.4%], reproach [3.4%] in the voice party of one communicant" [Bigunova N.A., 2014, pp. 456].

Accordingly, the combinatorial features of an approval act can not be a reason for its inclusion in the contiguous speech acts.

We suggest consider an act of approval as an independent fourth category of positive assessment acts. N.A. Bigunova [2012], in her article "Evaluation object in positive evaluative speech acts» considers the act of approval as an independent unit, but does not provide any evidence. And in the article "The speech act of encouragement in English dialogical discourse" [Combinability of positive evaluation speech acts with other

speech acts [based on the examples of dialogical discourse in English fiction] she defines the stimulation as an evaluative statement of a positive assessment, and as a speech act as a whole [Bigunova N.A., 2008]. We do not agree with her opinion, continuing to insist that positively estimated speech acts of expressive element class consist of four elements: an approval, a complement, a praise and flattery.

In order to prove that the approval is a separate element, let's pay attention to the following points. First of all, let's analyze the positive direction of speech acts. An interlocutor is the addressee of all four abovementioned elements, but in the case of approval (unlike the other ones) an interlocutor is not a subject. The subject is some decision, an action or an object. The most difficult thing is to distinguish between the act of praise and approval. An act, a decision in the case of flattery, plays the role of an act secondary object, which is not true in the case of approval. There is a thin line between these two actions: the objects of art, the fruits of someone else's work, discussed in the presence of an owner or a creator, can be classified as an act of praise. Therefore, it is important to take into account the contextual and situational sounding of an act. In some cases, the speech acts of approval can be used naturally in the texts of protest and dissent. At that their function is preserved. Let consider the article written by O. Ozsoy [2016], Professor, Doctor of Philology. "They say that in Turkey", printed in the online version of "Ideall Haber" [2016]: «Hani, «artık bunlara Türkçe Olimpiyatları için Türkiye'de salon - malon yok» demişlerdi ya, «iyi ki demişler...» desem alınmazsınız inşaAllah... Türkiye'de zaten salonlara sığmaz hale gelen bu muhteşem etkinliğe tüm insanlık kucak açmış durumda...» [And they said: "from now on Turkey will not provide them the grounds for the Turkish Olympics!". If I say "it is good that they said this", I hope, you will not be offended... Now, the whole world was ready to accept this remarkable event, which has no place in Turkey...] [Ozsoy O., 2016]. O. Ozsoy approves here the words of the ruling party representatives concerning the fact that Turkey has no stadiums for the Olympic Games performance concerning Turkish language and Turkish culture. This announcement sounded originally in a negative way, the government was focused on the fact that this event is the waste of money and officially refused to attend the opening. But, when they understood the amount of audience gathered by Olympiad, T. Erdogan decided to attend the Olympiad one hour before the official opening. O. Ozsoy [2016] is angered by this fact. The author compares the similar events held in other countries and concludes that Turkey has really no place for such a large-scale event. He approves the words of the ruling party, but shows his negative attitude to it. The context is quite a difficult one. When the act of approval is taken from the context, the whole point is lost. As Internet publications are the area of mass communication, their words extracted from the article, will be given as an act of flattery. But at a holistic approach their function is to approve. It serves as the basis for protest. The protest through an act of approval is a special form of a thought presentation characteristic of the Turkic world. Therefore, exploring the speech acts of specific languages, it is important to remember the specific elements of national ideology [Kulkova M.A., 2015].

Secondly, one may specify disapproval among the negative reaction acts. Its existence is proved in the works written by T.V. Kabankova [2011], and some other scholars. The act of approval has a directly opposite function. Therefore, the existence of a disapproval act as a separate element of a negative evaluation speech act proves the need to recognize the approval as an independent unit. The statements of approval and disapproval are widely used in mass media, because there is no direct contact between a sender and a recipient. And an approval and a disapproval, being emotional and evaluative ones, serve as a powerful means of influence on an interlocutor, allow to achieve a desired result by verbal means [Goryainova N.N., 2010].

Thirdly, an approval requires a careful consideration in terms of sincerity. It would seem that an approval already implies an absolute sincerity. But in fact, in some situations, this act may be a negative politeness strategy, or have a formal, ethical conditionality. For example, take the case, set out in the material of the site "Haberai" covering J. Murat's trial [Murat Y., 2016], who was suspected in drug sale: «Antalya'da geçen yıl Ağustos ayında evinde 30 kilo esrar ele geçirilen, tutuklanıp, yargılandığı davanın karar duruşmasında «iyi ki polis arama yapıp uyuşturucuyu yakaladı, yoksa insanlar zehirlenecekti» diyen Murat Y., etkin pişmanlık indirimi sonrası 5 yıl hapis cezasına mahkum oldu!» [J. Murat caught during last year August in Antalya with 30 kg. of drugs said at the hearing: "it is good that the police conducted an investigation and found the drugs, otherwise more people could be affected". As a result of a strong regret for the thing he did, he was sentenced to 5 years!»] [Murat Y., 2016]. The defendant approves the police action here. Assuming only the rule of flattery act and approval differentiation this phrase would be appropriate to classify as an act of approval. But there is some discrepancy: we still continue to doubt the words of the suspect because he used them for selfish purposes, namely to reduce the potential prison term. There is no good reason in order to classify the phrase as an act of flattery: not a specific person, but an action is approved, while there is no person who committed the act among the communication participants. This is a clear example of the approval act formal conditionality acting as a compulsory element in the last speech of the defendants.

Besides, the insincerity of a positive assessment may be explained by the nature of a sender, his sensitivity, his compassion for people, his desire to encourage those who are not lucky.

4. SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

During the study, we concluded that an approval is the fourth element of expressive speech act positive assessment, which serves to ascertain the reasonableness, the timeliness of some idea and solution; the aesthetics, the value and the usefulness of a subject. The combinatorial features of an approval act do not cause significant difficulties for researchers, and the use of the contextual approach is the prerequisite for its

study. Its semantic field has no function of an interlocutor encouragement. It is used more likely to detect the position of an author, and its object is always something inanimate. A considerable assistance in the recognition of approval speech acts are performed by disapproval acts which meet the requirements of insincerity category.

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