



USE OF SUBSTANTIVATES IN VARIOUS SPEECH STYLES

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ABSTRACT. *The article analyzes the role of substantivates — words reinterpreted from other parts of speech as nouns — in various speech styles. The features of their use in artistic, scientific, colloquial and official-business styles, as well as the influence of substantivates on the expressiveness and functionality of the text are considered. Examples from fiction, scientific works and everyday speech are given, and recommendations for their stylistic use are given. The material is addressed to philologists, teachers and students studying the stylistics of the Russian language.*

Keywords: *substantivization, speech styles, stylistics, expressiveness, Russian language*

The Russian language has a rich potential for transforming words from different parts of speech into nouns, which is called substantivization. This process, characteristic of many languages, allows to expand the expressive possibilities of speech, giving the text individuality and emotional coloring [1, 56]. Substantivization can occur with adjectives, verbs, adverbs and even interjections, forming words that begin to function as independent nominative units [2,142]. The study of substantivates in various styles of speech is of particular interest, since their use depends on the context, the purpose of communication and the audience. In the artistic style, substantivization often serves as a means of creating images and enhancing expression, while in the scientific and official-business styles it can be limited by the requirements of accuracy and formality [3,48]. Conversational style, on the contrary, actively uses substantivization for spontaneity and



emotionality [4, 45]. This article is aimed at analyzing these features, as well as identifying universal and specific features of the use of substantivates in different functional varieties of speech.

Theoretical foundations of substantiation. Substantivation as a linguistic phenomenon is associated with the processes of word formation and rethinking. According to the research of A.V. Bondarko, substantivation reflects the dynamics of language, allowing it to adapt to new communicative tasks [5, 53]. This process can be both productive (for example, the formation of nouns from adjectives, such as "beautiful" in the meaning of "a beautiful thing"), and individual-authorial, which is typical for fiction [6, 24].

The stylistic role of substantivates is determined by their ability to convey abstract concepts or concretize generalized meanings. For example, in the scientific style, substantivization is often used to nominate terms ("study" from "to study"), while in colloquial speech it can be expressive in nature ("silence" instead of "to keep silent" with a hint of resentment) [4, 45]. The classification of substantivates includes the following types:

Adjective substantivates (e.g., "young" - young people).

Verbal substantivates (e.g., "walking" from "walk").

Adverbial substantivates (e.g., "yesterday" as a designation of the day).

Substantivization in fiction. In fiction, substantivization acts as a powerful tool for creating imagery and emotional impact. Writers often use this technique to convey the inner state of the characters or to enhance the lyrical mood. For example, in the works of A.S. Pushkin, there are constructions such as "beautiful" or "inexpressible", where adjectives receive a nominative function, becoming symbols of aesthetic categories [6, 13]. Such substantivates enrich the text, adding poetic depth to it. Individual-authorial substantivization is also characteristic of



modernist prose. For example, in A. Bely's "Petersburg" we encounter forms such as "blue" or "golden", which go beyond the boundaries of traditional usage and create an atmosphere of symbolism [7, 221].

This technique allows the author to focus the reader's attention on the sensory and abstract aspects of the narrative. Substantivization in the scientific style. In the scientific style, substantivization is most often associated with term formation. Here, verbal and adjective substantivates predominate, which ensure the accuracy and brevity of the presentation. For example, the terms "research", "analysis" or "development" originate from the corresponding verbs and became the basis of scientific nomenclature [5, 20].

However, in this style, substantivization is limited by strict norms, and excessive use of expressive forms can be considered a violation of standards.

Substantivization in the colloquial style. Colloquial speech actively uses substantivization to express emotions and spontaneity. For example, phrases like "let's do it without unnecessary if" or "I like it like" demonstrate how adverbs and conjunctions are transformed into independent units with an intonational or emotional load [4, 23]. This approach makes speech lively and dynamic, although it is rarely recorded in writing. Such substantivities enrich the text, adding poetic depth to it. Individual authorial substantivization is also characteristic of modernist prose. For example, in A. Bely's "Petersburg

Substantivization in the official business style. The official business style is characterized by strict normativity, which limits the use of substantivities in comparison with other styles. However, here substantivization occurs in the form of standardized forms, mainly verbs and adjectives. For example, in business correspondence, such substantivities are used as "offer" (from "offer"), "decision" (from "decide") or "discussion" (from "discuss") [3,61]. In a legal document one can find: "The decision will be made on May 10", where "acceptance" is a



substantivate that ensures formality. Expressive or non-standard substantivities (for example, “beautiful” or “yesterday”) are practically not used in this style, since they violate the canons of formality [1,57].

An analysis of 5,000-word texts for each style was conducted. In the artistic style (using the works of Pushkin and Bely as an example), 72 cases of substantivization were identified, of which 60% were adjectival forms. In the scientific style (articles on linguistics), 45 cases were recorded, mainly verbal substantivizations (70%). In the colloquial style (recorded dialogues), there were 98 cases, with a predominance of adverbial and interjectional forms (65%). In the official business style (documents), there were 22 cases, almost exclusively verbal forms (90%) [2, 23]. These data confirm the stylistic specificity of substantivization. Substantivization plays an important role in enriching the Russian language, adapting to the specifics of various styles of speech. Its study allows for a deeper understanding of the mechanisms of stylistic expressiveness and functionality. In the following sections of the article, examples from the official business style will be considered, a comparative analysis will be carried out and practical recommendations for the use of substantivates in pedagogical practice will be given.

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