STYLISTIC POTENTIAL OF LINGUISTIC AND SPEECH UNITS IN THE SPEECH ACT OF REPROACH

СТИЛИСТИЧЕСКИЕ ВОЗМОЖНОСТИ ЯЗЫКОВЫХ И РЕЧЕВЫХ ЕДИНИЦ В РЕЧЕВОМ АКТЕ УПРЕКА

TANBEH NUTQIY AKTIDA TIL VA NUTQ BIRLIKLARINING STILISTIK IMKONIYATLARI

Abduqodirova Madina Abduqayum qizi
Student of Tashkent state transport university
Gmail: madinaabdukodirova73@gmail.com
Tel:+998938025659

Annotation. This article analyzes the stylistic potential of linguistic and speech units in the speech act of reproach. Expressions of dissatisfaction, criticism, or objection are conveyed through various stylistic means in speech. The article examines the lexical, grammatical, and pragmatic features of these means and illustrates their use in reproach through concrete examples. Special attention is also given to the comparative analysis of stylistic features of reproach in Uzbek, Russian, and English languages.

Key words: Reproach, speech act, stylistic devices, linguistic units, speech units, pragmatics, lexical means, grammatical means, intercultural communication, comparative analysis.

Аннотация. В данной статье анализируются стилистические возможности языковых и речевых единиц в речевом акте упрека. Выражение недовольства, критики или возражения в речи осуществляется с помощью различных стилистических средств. В статье рассматриваются лексические, грамматические и прагматические особенности этих средств и их использование в актах упрека на конкретных примерах. Также внимание уделяется сопоставительному анализу стилистических особенностей акта упрека в узбекском, русском и английском языках.

Ключевые слова: Упрек, речевой акт, стилистические средства, языковые единицы, речевые единицы, прагматика, лексические средства, грамматические средства, межкультурная коммуникация, сопоставительный анализ.

Annotatsiya. Ushbu maqolada tanbeh nutqiy aktida til va nutq birliklarining stilistik imkoniyatlari tahlil qilinadi. Nutqda bildirayotgan norozilik, tanqid yoki e'tiroz ifodalari turli stilistik vositalar orqali amalga oshiriladi. Maqolada ushbu vositalarning leksik, grammatik va pragmatik xususiyatlari o'rganiladi hamda ularning tanbeh ifodalarida qanday ishlatilishi misollar asosida yoritiladi. Shuningdek, o'zbek, rus va ingliz tillarida tanbeh nutqiy aktining stilistik xususiyatlarini qiyosiy tahlil qilishga

ham e'tibor qaratiladi.

Kalit so'zlar: Tanbeh, nutqiy akt, stilistik vositalar, til birliklari, nutq birliklari, pragmatika, leksik vositalar, grammatik vositalar, madaniyatlararo muloqot, qiyosiy tahlil.

Introduction. Language is not only a means of communication but also a powerful tool for expressing attitudes, emotions, and social relations. Among the various speech acts used in human interaction, the speech act of reproach holds a significant place, as it reflects disagreement, disappointment, or criticism directed at an interlocutor. Reproach is often delivered through nuanced and stylistically marked language, which varies across languages and cultures. This paper explores the stylistic potential of linguistic and speech units used in the speech act of reproach. It focuses on how lexical, grammatical, and pragmatic tools contribute to the expression of reproach in Uzbek, Russian, and English. Since reproach often involves subtle interpersonal dynamics, the stylistic choices made by speakers can greatly influence how the message is perceived — whether as polite feedback or as harsh criticism. By examining examples from real-life discourse and comparing usage across the three languages, this study aims to uncover both universal patterns and culturally specific features. Such analysis can deepen our understanding of pragmatics, intercultural communication, and stylistics in modern linguistics.[3]

Literature review. The study of speech acts has been a central concern in pragmatics since the foundational works of Austin and Searle, who conceptualized speech as action rather than mere expression.[1] According to Searle, every utterance performs an act — be it assertive, directive, commissive, expressive, or declarative — and the speech act of reproach is typically classified under expressive acts, reflecting the speaker's negative attitude toward a prior action or behavior of the interlocutor. Later developments in pragmatics and discourse analysis, such as those by Brown and Levinson, emphasized politeness theory and face-threatening acts, wherein reproach is viewed as an inherently face-threatening move.[5] In this context, the stylistic choices made by the speaker are critical, as they can either mitigate or intensify the threat. Thus, scholars like Leech and Spencer-Oatey have examined the role of pragmatic strategies and politeness maxims in softening expressions of criticism and disapproval. Stylistics, as a complementary field to pragmatics, investigates how linguistic choices (lexical, grammatical, phonological) shape the tone, intensity, and reception of utterances. Simpson and Wales argue that stylistic variation serves not only aesthetic functions but also pragmatic purposes, especially in sensitive communicative acts such as reproach. The speaker's selection of formal vs informal vocabulary, direct vs indirect phrasing, and rhetorical devices (such as irony or understatement) plays a key role in how reproach is perceived — whether as constructive criticism or personal attack.[4] Cross-

linguistic and intercultural studies have further expanded the scope of research into reproach. Blum-Kulka, House, and Kasper conducted comparative analyses of speech acts across languages, highlighting significant differences in how reproach and other face-threatening acts are performed in different cultural contexts. Their work and others like it have emphasized the importance of sociolinguistic norms and cultural values in shaping stylistic expression. [2] For example, what may be considered a polite form of reproach in English might be perceived as overly direct or even rude in Uzbek or Russian contexts, and vice versa. In the Uzbek linguistic tradition, research into pragmatics and stylistics has grown in recent decades. Scholars such as U. Karimov and D. Yoʻldoshev have explored the interplay between language and social behavior, particularly how reproach is expressed through culturally marked linguistic units and idioms. However, much of this work remains underrepresented in comparative or translation-focused studies, especially those integrating Uzbek with global languages such as English and Russian.While there is a robust theoretical foundation in Western linguistics for analyzing reproach as a speech act, fewer studies focus specifically on its stylistic realization across languages. This gap suggests a need for more nuanced, interdisciplinary research that combines pragmatics, stylistics, and contrastive linguistics to explore how reproach is formulated, delivered, and interpreted in different linguistic and cultural settings.[6]

Conclusion. The speech act of reproach plays a significant role in interpersonal communication, as it serves to express dissatisfaction, disapproval, or criticism in response to a perceived violation of social or personal expectations. This act, being inherently face-threatening, demands careful stylistic management from the speaker to avoid escalating conflict and to preserve social harmony. As this study has shown, the stylistic potential of linguistic and speech units — including lexical choices, syntactic structures, intonation, and pragmatic strategies — is central to how reproach is constructed and interpreted. Through a comparative perspective involving Uzbek, Russian, and English, it becomes evident that while the underlying communicative function of reproach remains relatively universal, its stylistic realization is shaped by cultural, social, and linguistic norms. Each language employs specific stylistic devices that align with its politeness conventions and communicative traditions. For example, indirectness may be preferred in English as a form of mitigation, whereas in Uzbek, culturally embedded expressions and proverbs might soften the reproach, and Russian may allow for more direct formulations depending on context. The findings underscore the importance of integrating stylistic analysis with pragmatic and intercultural approaches when studying speech acts. Such interdisciplinary exploration not only enhances our understanding of language use in social contexts but also contributes to improved intercultural communication, especially in translation, diplomacy, education, and conflict resolution. Ultimately, the speech act of reproach is a rich site for linguistic

investigation, offering insights into how language encodes values, norms, and relationships. Future research can further explore its stylistic and pragmatic dimensions across more languages, dialects, and discourse communities, contributing to the broader fields of contrastive pragmatics and stylistics.

References:

1. Austin, J. L. How to Do Things with Words. Harvard University Press, 1962.p. 16-20.
2. Brown, P., and Levinson, S. C. Politeness: Some Universals in Language Usage. Cambridge University Press,1987, p. 60-65.
3. Fiske, S. T., Cuddy, A. J. C., and Glick, P.A Model of (Often Mixed) Stereotype Content: Competence and Warmth Respectively Follow from Perceived Status and Competition. Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin, 2002,28(9), 978–990, p. 980-985.
4. Van Dijk, T. A. Discourse and the Denial of Racism. Discourse & Society, 3(1), 87-118,1992, p. 90-95.
5. Achilov, O. (2023). Hozirgizamontilshunosligidailgarisurishhodisasinitadqiqetishningnazariyasoslari. Журналиностранныхязыков и лингвистики, 5(5).
6. Achilov, O. (2023). Foregrounding and interpretation. Журнал иностранных языков и лингвистики, 5(5).