

Theoretical Foundations of Paralinguistics in World Linguistics

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Abstract. *This article is devoted to the problems of Paralinguistics in the world linguistics. It discusses theoretical foundations and different definitions of the term paralinguistics.*

Key words: *communication, verbal and nonverbal means, text, approach, development.*

Introduction

Paralinguistics, as a component of linguistics, entered the scientific field in the early 20th century. It was first published under the title "Approaches to Semiotics" following a conference on paralinguistics and kinesics held at Indiana University in 1962, based on the scientific research of Treyger. In Russia, during the mid-20th century, the development of paralinguistics was influenced by the works of G.V. Kolshansky, T.M. Nikolayeva, B.A. Uspensky, and G.E. Kreydlin. Theoretical information is provided regarding the functions, subject, object, methods, and the relationship of paralinguistics with other sciences, with a focus on the social-psychological issues of communication, as well as the kinematic and tactical aspects of information transmission, which were formulated by S.A. Garkavets. I.A. Golovanova's doctoral dissertation, which explored the expression of non-verbal behavior in Russian and German literary texts from a comparative perspective, tackled linguistic and stylistic issues related to the representation of non-verbal actions in artistic works. This included challenges such as the lexicographic description of body signals, the methods of reflecting paralinguistic and kinesic tools in written texts, and their expression in the language of national artistic literature of a specific period [1].

Methods

In Uzbek linguistics, the study of non-verbal tools was initially based on the scientific views of A. Nurmonov, and later explored from various aspects by M. Saidkhanov, S. Mominov, Sh. Iskandarova, A. Aripova, and others. Z. Akbarova, in her doctoral dissertation titled "Forms of Address in Uzbek and Their Linguistic Study," discusses the extralinguistic and psycholinguistic tools for expressing address. She categorizes the extralinguistic tools for expressing forms of address into three types:

1. Gestural tools;
2. Sound-prosodic tools;
3. Color tools.

In M.A. Qurbanov's doctoral dissertation, titled "A Study of Non-Verbal Communication Tools in Uzbek, Ottoman Turkish, English, and Russian," the use of language-related tools alongside linguistic tools is examined, and the linguo-pragmatic, stylistic, and grammatical aspects of gestures in different languages are revealed [2].

Results

Language is considered a unique tool that serves to meet the needs of a particular society in understanding the world, transmitting information, and receiving it. Social needs define the various functions of language. Among these functions, cognitive, communicative, cumulative, expressive, axiological, phatic (contact-establishing), and other functions can be distinguished [3].

The fulfillment of these simple yet highly complex functions of language is carried out through two mechanisms that regularly complement each other: verbal and non-verbal communication. Verbal communication serves as the main means of information exchange between individuals, enabling the speaker to easily convey information in their speech to the listener, creating opportunities for reception and understanding. Non-verbal communication, on the other hand, serves to convey additional information, express the given information quickly, conveniently, clearly, and accurately. In addition to language, which is considered the central organ for producing speech, non-verbal communication in the process involves the smile, gestures, tone of voice, body parts, hand movements, and other methods, through which the goal of communication is fully achieved.

Discussion

Verbal communication is the most convenient tool for expressing thoughts and emotions, which is why participants in a conversation tend to restrain themselves from using non-verbal tools as much as possible. Verbal communication creates a foundation for the interlocutors to clearly and accurately understand the information being conveyed and to exchange ideas. Through words, a person is able to fully express their experiences and the processes occurring in their environment, and they skillfully use non-verbal communication components to provide additional information when necessary. This is because expressing thoughts and ideas through gestures and body movements is the most complex process in communication. This field in linguistics is related to paralinguistics [4].

Paralinguistics (from the Greek “para” meaning “around” and “linguistics” meaning “language”) refers to: 1) a branch of linguistics that studies non-verbal (not related to verbal language) tools intended to provide additional information alongside verbal tools in speech communication; 2) the general use of non-verbal tools in speech communication [5].

It is a field of linguistics that studies factors such as gestures, facial expressions, and speech context in interpersonal communication. For example: — “E-e,” said the sheikh, stretching and smiling contentedly, “my state is unmatched, brother! Eshon bobo, a servant loved by God, is surrounded by blessings flowing like water from all directions.” (Abdulhamid Cho’lpon, *Yesterday and Today*).

In the example, the sheikh's words are verbal, while his “content smile” is considered a non-verbal tool. This smile indicates his satisfaction with his life and subtly expresses “blessings flowing like water.” As we know, verbal communication is considered a unique reflection of human thought and emotion. During the information exchange process, what is happening in the minds of the participants is not always immediately clear. Consequently, determining whether the received information is correct or incorrect can be difficult. In non-verbal communication, however, body movements are visible, and each action helps to determine whether the information is true or false. Paralinguistic tools serve as special components for verbal communication, fulfilling the task of providing additional information.

Paralinguistic tools play a significant role in interpersonal communication, being realized through actions like choosing the appropriate distance in a dialogue, making eye contact with the interlocutor, touching parts of the body, using specific intonations in speech, and other methods. In turn, paralinguistic tools can be important for sketching the psychological portrait of the interlocutor and can help create a positive impression of the speaker in the listener’s mind.

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