

THE CONCEPT OF "DISCOURSE" IN MODERN LINGUISTICS

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Abstract. *The article is devoted to the definition of the concept of "discourse" in modern linguistics through the prism of various approaches and their features. Several approaches have been chosen to analyze the concept of "discourse": communicative, cognitive, structural, and sociolinguistic. Based on the studied approaches, the following working definition of discourse is given: discourse is a complex communicative event recorded orally or in writing, occurring in a certain communicative space, predetermined cognitively and typologically, as well as correlated with a particular culture or social community.*

Keywords: *discourse, communicative activity, text, cognitive approach, sociolinguistic approach, structural approach.*

In modern linguistics, there is no universally accepted and clear definition of the term "discourse", because it is the object of study of many scientific disciplines, such as philosophy, literary studies, sociology, anthropology, ethnography, etc. Despite long-term research in the field of speech, interest in this phenomenon does not subside, because the concept of "discourse" itself has clear boundaries.

A number of approaches to defining the concept of "discourse" can be distinguished within linguistic sciences.

With the communicative approach, the focus of researchers' attention is "discourse" in all its meanings: oral natural speech, communicative situations, the process of speech activity, etc. T. V. Matveeva "in the complete dictionary of linguistic terms, "discourse" together with the non-linguistic conditions of its development is coherent discourse, speech is related to living life: its context of events of speakers, socio-cultural, pragmatic, psychological features" .

Sociolinguistics deals with the analysis of discourse participants as representatives of a certain social group, and also studies the implementation of discourse in a broad socio-cultural context. From a sociolinguistic point of view, V. I. Karasik interprets discourse as "communication between people considered in terms of belonging to a certain social group or in relation to a certain typical speech-behavior situation, for example, institutional communication."

Within the framework of the cognitive approach, discourse is a hierarchical essence of various knowledge necessary for successful creation and understanding of speech. An example of such consideration of discourse is the



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definition of E. S. Kubryakova and O. V. Aleksandrova, where discourse is a cognitive process directly related to the creation of a speech work.

The structural aspect of the study of discourse is the analysis of its formal and meaningful connection, defining the discourse as two or more sentences connected in terms of meaning.

In the linguistic-cultural approach, attention is paid to the characteristics of communication within this or that ethnic group, as well as to the description of the formulaic models of discourse movements and dominants of this linguistic culture.

The linguistic-stylistic approach to the study of discourse is manifested in determining the parameters and registers of communication activities, as well as in the analysis of oral and written speech, their genres and various stylistic features. All of the above approaches to understanding discourse do not contradict each other, on the contrary, they complement each other, which allows you to consider the concept of "speech" from different angles and expand its scope. Thus, the formation of a precise definition of speech seems to be a very difficult task.

Considering the main approaches to understanding discourse and their specific features, the following definition can be derived: speech is recorded orally or in writing, occurring in a certain communicative space, cognitively and typologically a complex communicative phenomenon that is predetermined and also associated with a certain culture or social community.

Discourse is the main event in human life in "language", B. M. Gasparov calls linguistic existence: "any act of using language - whether it is a high-value product or a passing gesture in a dialogue - is a particle of a constantly moving stream of human experience. In this capacity, it absorbs and creates for itself a unique combination of conditions. These situations include:

- 1) communicative intentions of the author;
- 2) the relationship between the author and the recipients;
- 3) various "cases", meaningful and accidental;
- 4) the general ideological characteristics and methodological climate of the period as a whole, and the specific environment and specific individuals to whom the message was addressed directly or indirectly;
- 5) genre and style features of the message itself and the communicative situation in which it is included;
- 6) many associations with previous experience, in one way or another, fell into the orbit of a certain language movement.

Thus, the discourse is not just communication, it has specific goals and some participants with specific social, psychological, national-cultural, status characteristics. But which goals and which participants depend on the specific type of speech (for example, the goal of political speech is to gain and maintain power; its participants are politicians and society).

Thus, categorical discourse is one of the main concepts of communicative linguistics. This term admits not only pronunciation variants (with stress on the first or second syllable), but also many scientific interpretations. Wide use of speech as a general category in relation to the concepts of text, speech, dialogue is increasingly common in linguistic literature. Defining a category such as discourse implies a certain ideological direction, one's own point of view to the study of language and language communication.

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