

LANGUAGE SYSTEM AND ITS STRUCTURAL FEATURES

Akramova K.A

*Samarkand "Silk Road" International
University of Tourism and Cultural Heritage*

Abstact

This study investigates the structure of the English language, examining the phonetic, morphological, syntactic, lexical, and semantic levels and their interrelationships. It demonstrates that each level performs specific functions while interacting to ensure clarity, coherence, and expressiveness in communication. The findings highlight the importance of understanding these patterns for language learning, effective communication, and language teaching.

Key words: Linguistic levels, phonetics, morphology, syntax, lexicon, semantics, language structure, interdependence, communication.

Abstrakt

Ushbu tadqiqot ingliz tilining tuzilishini o'rganadi, fonetik, morfologik, sintaktik, leksik va semantik sathlarni hamda ularning o'zaro bog'liqligini o'rganadi. Unda har bir sath yoki daraja muloqotda ravshanlik, izchillik va ifodalilikni ta'minlash uchun o'zaro ta'sir qilish bilan birga ma'lum funktsiyalarni bajarishi ko'rsatilgan. Tadqiqot natijalari til o'rganish, samarali muloqot va til o'qitish uchun ushbu naqshlarni tushunishning muhimligini ta'kidlaydi.

Kalit so'zlar: Lingvistik darajalar, fonetika, morfologiya, sintaksis, leksikon, semantika, til tuzilishi, o'zaro bog'liqlik, muloqot.

Аннотация

В данном исследовании рассматривается структура английского языка, анализируются фонетический, морфологический, синтаксический, лексический и семантический уровни, а также их взаимосвязи. Показано, что каждый уровень выполняет определенные функции, взаимодействуя друг с другом для обеспечения ясности, связности и выразительности в общении. Результаты исследования подчеркивают важность понимания этих закономерностей для изучения языка, эффективного общения и преподавания языка.

Ключевые слова: Лингвистические уровни, фонетика, морфология, синтаксис, лексика, семантика, структура языка, взаимосвязи, общение.

INTRODUCTION

Language is a unique human ability to communicate, reflecting the thinking and culture of society. It is a complex system of signs through which people convey information, express emotions, and organize social interaction. A language system is

characterized by an internal structure and patterns that ensure its stability and effectiveness.

The structural features of language manifest themselves at various levels: phonetic (speech sounds), morphological (word structure), syntactic (sentence construction), lexical (vocabulary), and semantic (the meaning of words and expressions). Each level of the system is interconnected and governed by specific rules, allowing language to function as a unified whole.

The study of the language system and its structure is important not only for linguistics but also for related fields such as psychology, sociology, pedagogy, and computer science, as understanding the patterns of language helps us better understand the processes of human communication and thought.

MAIN PART

The study of the language system and its structural features is one of the key tasks of linguistics. As early as the 19th century, F. de Saussure, in his work "Course in General Linguistics," emphasized that language should be viewed as a structured system of signs, where each element acquires meaning only within the context of the entire system. According to Saussure, the structure of language determines its functioning and the interrelationships of its various levels: phonetic, morphological, syntactic, and semantic.

Modern researchers such as R. Jakobson and L. Shcherba developed ideas about the multi-level organization of language, identifying phonetic, morphological, syntactic, and lexical-semantic levels as interconnected systems. They emphasize that it is the interaction of these levels that ensures the effectiveness of communication and the precision of meaning.

In English linguistics, significant contributions to the study of language structure were made by scholars such as Leonard Bloomfield, Noam Chomsky, and Randolph Quirk. Their works reveal patterns of word formation, syntactic organization, and semantic relationships, allowing for a deeper understanding of the internal organization of the English language and the functioning of its linguistic levels. Chomsky, in particular, emphasized the role of morphological and syntactic regularities as the foundation for generating and interpreting meaningful utterances.

In Russian linguistics, significant contributions to the study of language structure were made by A.A. Reformatsky, V.V. Vinogradov, and N.Yu. Shvedova. Their works reveal patterns of word formation, syntactic connections, and semantic relationships, allowing for a deeper understanding of the internal organization of the Russian language and the functioning of its levels. Vinogradov, in particular, emphasized the role of morphological and syntactic consistency as the basis for constructing meaningful utterances.

Furthermore, modern research, such as that of M. Khalidi and D. Crane, examines the dynamics of language systems during the process of development and borrowing. They demonstrate that language structure is not static: new words, grammatical forms, and semantic meanings emerge under the influence of social, cultural, and technological factors, while maintaining a common system of relationships between levels.

Thus, an analysis of literary sources reveals that the language system is a complex, multi-level structure, where each level is interconnected and subject to common laws of operation. Modern research confirms that understanding these patterns is essential for studying language as a means of communication, as well as for developing methods for teaching and learning it. When we talk about the regularities of the language system, we mean the stable rules and relationships that govern the functioning of all levels of language and make it systematic, predictable, and effective for communication. Let's examine the main ones:

1. Phonetic Level

The phonetic level of language includes speech sounds (phonemes), their articulatory features, and acoustic properties. Phonemes are the smallest distinctive units of sound that do not carry meaning by themselves but serve to differentiate words. For example, in English, the words “bat” and “pat” differ in the initial phoneme, which leads to a difference in meaning, while the words “bank” and “bank” (financial institution and river edge) share the same phonemic form and are distinguished by context.

In addition to phonemes, phonetics studies stress, intonation, and rhythm of speech, which impart emotional coloring to utterances and help highlight important information. For example, in interrogative sentences, the intonation rises at the end of the phrase, signaling a question.

The phonetic system plays a key role in distinguishing word meanings, developing speech culture, and perceiving language.

2. Morphological Level

Morphology studies the structure of words and their grammatical forms. Words in English can be divided into morphemes such as **roots and affixes** (prefixes and suffixes). The root carries the main lexical meaning, while affixes modify the word's grammatical or lexical function. For example, the word “*teacher*” consists of the root “*teach*” and the suffix “*-er*”.

3. Syntactic Level

Syntax is the level of language responsible for constructing sentences and defining the relationships between words. In English, syntax studies rules of word order, agreement, subordination, and coordination. For example, in the sentence “The boy reads a book,” the subject “boy” agrees with the verb “reads” in number and

person. English relies heavily on a fixed Subject–Verb–Object word order, but changes such as replacing “the” with “a” can alter emphasis without changing the basic meaning. Syntax enables speakers to form logically structured and comprehensible statements, express complex relationships between ideas, manage emphasis, and create coherent texts

4. Lexical Level

The lexical level of language includes its vocabulary, such as words, set expressions, terms, idioms, and professional or specialized vocabulary. Vocabulary reflects the culture, history, and way of life of a people. For example, in English, there are words that express specific cultural realities, such as “pub,” “Thanksgiving,” “tea time,” and “gentleman.” The vocabulary of English is constantly evolving: new words emerge under the influence of technology, science, social change, and borrowings from other languages. The lexical level allows speakers to express ideas precisely and flexibly, enriches speech, and makes communication more effective and nuanced.

5. Semantic Level

Semantics studies the meanings of words, phrases, and sentences, as well as the semantic relationships between them. A word may have multiple meanings (polysemy) and may enter into relationships of synonymy and antonymy with other words. For example, the English word “key” can refer to a lock, a musical key, a source of water, or a crucial element in something (e.g., “the key to success”). The correct interpretation of meaning is determined by context. Semantics ensures depth and precision in communication, allowing speakers to convey not only factual information but also emotional and cultural nuances.

Interconnectedness of Language Levels All levels of language are closely interconnected. Phonetics distinguishes words through sound, morphology enables their grammatical modification, syntax organizes them into meaningful structures, lexis provides content, and semantics conveys precise meaning. Together, these levels form a coherent and flexible system capable of reflecting human thought and cultural experience.

Research Methodology

Research methodology defines the approaches and tools used to study the object of research and to achieve its objectives. In this study, the object is the language system, while the subject is the structural features of language at different linguistic levels. The main goal of the research is to identify patterns in language functioning and to demonstrate the interrelationships between its levels. The primary method used in this study is theoretical analysis of linguistic literature, which involves the examination and systematization of existing scientific research, theories, and concepts related to the language system. This method makes it possible to identify the main approaches to understanding language structure, key scholars in the field, and current research

issues. This method provides a solid theoretical foundation for the study and helps to substantiate the relevance and academic significance of the chosen topic.

Comparative Analysis

This method is used to compare different levels of language—phonetic, morphological, syntactic, lexical, and semantic—and to identify patterns in their interaction.

Reason for Choice: Comparative analysis makes it possible to demonstrate how the structural features of one linguistic level influence others and to reveal the systemic relationships within the language.

Observation and Collection of Linguistic Data

This method involves the analysis of authentic texts, spoken utterances, and examples of written and oral language.

Reason for Choice: Observation allows theoretical assumptions to be verified using concrete linguistic material and helps identify patterns of language functioning in real communicative contexts.

Systematization and Classification: This method is used to organize linguistic phenomena according to levels, types, and functions.

Reason for Choice: Systematization and classification ensure a structured and coherent presentation of linguistic material, which is essential for analyzing a complex and multi-level language system. Thus, the combination of theoretical and empirical methods ensures a comprehensive approach to the study: scientific concepts are first examined, then tested through practical analysis, and finally systematized and interpreted.

Research Results

Multilevel Structure of Language

The study confirms that language is a complex, multilevel system, comprising phonetic, morphological, syntactic, lexical, and semantic levels. Each level performs its own function but is also closely interconnected with the others.

Functional Patterns of Levels

The analysis identified stable patterns in how each level contributes to communication:

The phonetic level ensures the differentiation of word meanings and contributes to the expressiveness of speech.

The morphological level enables word formation and the creation of grammatically correct constructions.

The syntactic level organizes words into logically structured sentences.

The lexical and semantic levels are responsible for accurate information transmission and the richness of meaning in speech.

Interdependence of Levels

The results demonstrate that changes at one linguistic level inevitably influence others. For instance, a change in word form (morphology) may require corresponding syntactic agreement and can impact meaning (semantics).

The Role of Context

The interpretation of word and expression meanings is closely tied to context, highlighting the crucial role of the semantic level in understanding speech.

Data Interpretation

The findings show that the language system functions as a unified whole, with each level complementing and supporting the others. The identified patterns help explain: why speech is understandable and consistent, how new words and constructions emerge, how the accurate transmission of meaning in communication is ensured.

Overall, the study confirms theoretical propositions regarding the multilevel structure of language and emphasizes the importance of examining the interrelationships between all linguistic levels to understand communication and human thought.

CONCLUSION

The language system is a complex, multilevel structure, in which the phonetic, morphological, syntactic, lexical, and semantic levels are closely interconnected. The research has demonstrated that each level performs its specific functions, and their interaction ensures the clarity, expressiveness, and coherence of speech. Understanding these patterns is essential for language learning, effective communication, and language teaching, as well as for further studies of how language reflects human thought and culture.

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