

LANGUAGE AND SPEECH

Andijan state institute of foreign languages

Student Adhamova Shukrona

adhamovashukrona@330gamil.com

Annotatsiya : Ushbu maqolada til va nutq tushunchalari keng yoritilgan. Maqolada tilning ijtimoiy tizim sifatida xususiyatlari, uning belgilar va qoidalar orqali tashkil topishi tushuntiriladi. Nutq esa tilning shaxsiy, amaliy va real hayotdagi amalga oshishi sifatida ko‘rib chiqilgan. Shuningdek, maqolada til va nutqning asosiy birliklari — tovushlar, morfemalar, so‘zlar, iboralar, gap va diskurs — tushuntiriladi. Maqola davomida mashhur olimlarning til va nutq haqidagi fikrlari keltiriladi.

Kalit so'zlar: Til, nutq, xususiyatlari, til va nutq birliklari, fenomen, ramziy, fonema, morfem, so'z, so'z, ovoz, bo'g'inlar va nutq.

Аннотация : В этой статье рассматриваются понятия языка и речи. В статье раскрываются особенности языка как социальной системы, его организация посредством знаков и правил. Речь рассматривается как личное, практическое и реальное воплощение языка. Также в статье поясняются основные единицы языка и речи – звуки, морфемы, слова, словосочетания, предложение и речь. На протяжении статьи представлены мнения известных ученых о языке и речи.

Ключевые слова: язык, речь, характеристики, единицы языка и речи, явление, символика, фонема, морфема, слово, словосочетание, звук, слог высказывания и речи.

Abstract : This article covers the concepts of language and speech. The article explains the features of language as a social system, its organization through signs and rules. Speech is considered as a personal, practical and real-life implementation of language. Also, the article explains the main units of language and speech - sounds, morphemes, words, phrases, sentence and discourse. Throughout the article, famous scientists' thoughts on language and speech are presented.

Key words : language, speech, characteristics, units of language and speech, phenomenon, symbolic, phoneme, morpheme, word, phrase, sound, syllable utterance and discourse.

Language and speech are essential components of human communication and play a vital role in expressing thoughts, ideas, and emotions. Although these terms are often used interchangeably, they refer to different yet closely connected phenomena. Language is a structured system of symbols, rules, and signs that allows people to communicate meaning, while speech is the physical act of producing sounds to express language orally. The study of language and speech is important in linguistics, psychology, and education because it helps us understand how humans acquire, use, and develop communication skills.

Characteristics of Language. Language is a complex and systematic means of human communication. It has several important characteristics that distinguish it from other forms of communication.

First, language is a social phenomenon. It is created, developed, and shared by a community, not by an individual. Every member of society learns and uses the same language system to communicate with others.

Second, language is systematic and structured. It consists of interconnected levels such as phonetics, vocabulary, and grammar. These elements follow specific rules that allow speakers to form meaningful and correct sentences.

Third, language is symbolic. Words are symbols that represent objects, actions, ideas, or feelings, but they do not have a natural connection to what they represent. The relationship between a word and its meaning is mostly arbitrary.

Another important characteristic of language is its stability and variability. Language remains relatively stable over time, which allows people to understand each other across generations. At the same time, it changes and develops due to social, cultural, and technological influences.

Language is also productive and creative. Speakers can produce an unlimited number of new sentences using a limited set of rules and words. This creativity allows language to adapt to new situations and ideas.

Units of language. Language consists of several hierarchical units that work together to create meaning. Each unit has its own function and role in the language system.

The smallest unit of language is the phoneme. Phonemes are individual sounds that distinguish meaning between words. For example, the phonemes /b/ and /p/ differentiate the words bat and pat.

The next unit is the morpheme, which is the smallest meaningful unit of language. Morphemes include roots, prefixes, and suffixes. For instance, in the word unhappiness, un-, happy, and -ness are morphemes.

A word is a central unit of language that carries lexical meaning and can function independently in speech. Words name objects, actions, qualities, and ideas.

Above the word level is the phrase (or word combination). A phrase consists of two or more words that function together but do not form a complete sentence, such as a beautiful day.

The sentence is the main communicative unit of language. It expresses a complete thought and follows grammatical rules. Sentences are used to convey statements, questions, commands, or emotions.

Finally, the highest unit of language is the text (or discourse). A text is a coherent sequence of sentences connected by meaning and structure, such as a conversation, article, or story.

Language has been studied by many linguists and psychologists, and each scholar has offered a unique perspective on its nature and functions. One of the most influential linguists, Ferdinand de Saussure, viewed language as a structured system of signs. He distinguished between *langue* (the abstract language system shared by a society) and *parole*

(individual speech). According to Saussure, language is a social phenomenon, and meaning arises from the relationships between signs within the system.

Noam Chomsky introduced a different approach by focusing on the mental aspects of language. He proposed the theory of generative grammar, suggesting that humans are born with an innate ability to acquire language, known as the language acquisition device. Chomsky emphasized the distinction between competence (a speaker's knowledge of language) and performance (actual language use).

From a psychological perspective, Lev Vygotsky highlighted the close relationship between language and thinking. He argued that language develops through social interaction and plays a crucial role in cognitive development.

Another important scholar, A.A. Leontiev, viewed language as a tool of communication and activity. He emphasized the functional and communicative aspects of language, especially in human interaction and learning.

Characteristics of Speech. Speech is the practical and individual realization of language in communication. Unlike language, which is a stable social system, speech is dynamic and varies depending on the speaker and situation. One important characteristic of speech is that it is individual. Each person's speech reflects their personality, level of education, emotional state, and communicative experience. No two speakers use language in exactly the same way.

Speech is also situational and contextual. The form and style of speech depend on the communicative situation, the purpose of communication, and the relationship between speakers. For example, speech used in informal conversation differs from academic or official speech.

Another key feature of speech is its variability. Speech changes according to time, place, and social environment. A speaker may use different vocabulary, intonation, or grammatical structures in different contexts.

Speech can be oral or written. Oral speech is usually spontaneous, supported by intonation and gestures, while written speech is more planned and structured, following stricter grammatical norms.

Speech is dynamic and process-oriented. It occurs in real time and involves psychological processes such as thinking, memory, and attention. Because of this, speech may include pauses, repetitions, or self-corrections.

Finally, speech is creative. Speakers can produce new utterances and express original thoughts by using the language system in flexible ways.

Units of Speech. Speech is realized through a number of units that function in actual communication. Unlike language units, which are abstract and stable, units of speech are concrete and context-dependent.

The smallest unit of speech is the sound as it is pronounced in real communication. While language deals with phonemes as abstract units, speech involves their actual articulation, including intonation, stress, and rhythm.

A syllable is another important unit of speech. It plays a significant role in pronunciation and fluency, as speech is organized rhythmically through syllables.

The word in speech appears as a concrete uttered form that may vary in pronunciation depending on the context, speed, and emotional state of the speaker.

The main unit of speech is the utterance. An utterance is a stretch of spoken or written speech produced by a speaker in a particular communicative situation. It may be as short as a single word or as long as several sentences.

At a higher level, discourse is considered a unit of speech. Discourse includes a sequence of utterances connected by context, purpose, and interaction between speakers.

Speech has been studied by linguists and psychologists as a key form of human communication and a manifestation of mental activity. Various scholars have explained speech from different theoretical perspectives. Lev Vygotsky considered speech to be

closely connected with thinking. According to his theory, speech develops through social interaction and later becomes internalized as inner speech, which plays a crucial role in regulating thought and behavior. Vygotsky emphasized that speech is not only a means of communication but also a tool of cognitive development.

A.A. Leontiev viewed speech as a form of purposeful activity. He explained speech within the framework of activity theory, stating that speech has motives, goals, and operations. From this perspective, speech is shaped by communicative needs and social interaction.

Ferdinand de Saussure indirectly addressed speech by distinguishing between language (*langue*) and speech (*parole*). He defined speech as an individual, concrete act of using the language system in real communication, highlighting its personal and variable nature.

Ivan Pavlov, from a physiological perspective, viewed speech as a system of conditioned reflexes. He described speech as a “second signal system,” unique to humans, through which abstract thinking and communication are mental activity.

In conclusion, language and speech are closely related but distinct aspects of human communication. Language is a stable social system of signs and rules, while speech is the individual, dynamic use of that system in real-life communication. Both have unique characteristics and hierarchical units, from sounds and words to sentences and discourse, which enable people to express thoughts, exchange information, and interact socially.

Scientific perspectives highlight different dimensions of language and speech. Linguists such as Saussure and Chomsky focus on structure and competence, while psychologists like Vygotsky and Leontiev emphasize the cognitive and social functions of speech. Together, these approaches demonstrate that language and speech are essential for human development, learning, and social interaction.

Understanding the nature of language and speech not only enriches our knowledge of communication but also provides valuable insights for education, psychology, and linguistics.

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