Communicative registers as means of expressing author’s position in monologue speech

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Abstract

During monologue speech, one does not take into consideration author’s position. In monologue utterance of learners, as a rule, the author’s position was absent. An academician Zolotova—pointed out five communicative registers of speech: reproductive, informative, generative, volunitive and reactive. They may be taken as means of the teaching of expressing author’s position. In the work is described the functioning of these communicative registers of speech in semantic types of a text, suggested by Passov. In the framework of each type is shown functioning of the most frequently used registers, defining the role of a speaker toward the information of a text: ‘the person who observes’, ‘the person who participates in social events’, ‘the person who gives information’, ‘the person who encourages’, ‘the person who reacts to some events’ and ‘the person who generates information’.

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Keywords: Communicative register, reproductive register, informative register, generative register, voluntive register, reactive register, author’s position, monologue speech, time schedule, modal-temporal plan of text, deictic line of text.

1. Scholars about typology of structure and content of text

A text has got a direct communicative idea. Making a text by a person is based upon the experience of the society.

Producing monologue utterances is a product of an individual’s activity (speaker). One builds concrete content upon firmed ‘skeleton’—structure of a definite essential type of the text.

Kolshanski’s underscores that objective of making text is not for forming separate utterances but for the whole idea transmission, which can be less a constant of atomised facts, and can be a description of a definite situation. Precisely, the wholeness and globality unite the utterances into one unit, which is supposed to be as a completeness and informativity (creation of communicator’s idea) so an unambiguity of perception (Kolshansky, 2007).

Consequently, it is vital for teaching monologue speech to find out definite ideas and compositional structures in the aspect of communication.

Entirely, one of the communicative abilities according to Passov (1989) is (a) content of the whole text from the beginning till the end; (b) structure of difficult phrases, which can be a hint for understanding (c) structure of ‘fiction or abstract from the text’. General presentation about wholeness has been always making easier to understand its parts, concludes the scholar (Passov, 1989).

The vital foundation in this plan can be the idea of Passov (1989) about a denotational aspect of the text: content of communication comes from thinking process, which imbibes an objective reality like consciousness that reflects the reality in process of individual’s activity. Based upon reflection, the content presented in consciousness the content of the communication, the maintenance of any problems is presented in the form of subjects of discussion, subjects of interest of the person (Passov, 1989). The scholar allocated 10 universal subjects of discussion: any public event; act of the person or other living being; mass phenomenon; subjective statement (including disputable); concept interpreted differently; an objective maxim not suitable for all cases of life; the fact from someone’s activity; ‘unrationed’ behaviour; ‘abnormal’ situation; motivation to action.

This semantic typology of the text, working for communicativeness’, is impossible to consider complete. At the same time, this classification convinces us of the need to learn on such types for purposeful management of the process of generation of communicatively focused monologue. At the same time, it is necessary to consider the role of a speaker himself.

2. Communicative registers as units of communicative linguistics

Giving achievements of Linguistics and Linguodidactics in the field of text research, we note that in the course of training in the monological statement, one more important aspect—the organisation of expressing author’s position in relation to reported text remains unaddressed. Systematic work on this problem became possible based on the communicative registers of the speech allocated in Linguistics with an academician Zolotova. We will give definitions.

The reproductive register is characterised as reproduction by means of language fragments, pictures, reality events as directly perceived by sense organs of the speaker, the observer, localised in a chronotope, uniform with it (it is real or in imagination).

The informative register represents the message known about for the speaker the reality phenomena in derivation from their concrete and time duration and from an environmental belonging.
to the subject. ‘It is the sphere not of direct supervision, but the knowledge received or as a result of numerous supervision, experience, usage or as a result of logical, cogitative operations’.

The generative register—‘the generalisation, judgment of information correlating to life experience with universal laws of a world order, with a fund of knowledge, its projection for universal time for a temporal framework of this text’ (Zolotova, Onipenko & Sidorova, 1998). This communicative type of speech reflects ‘timeless’ and in-time action, which becomes a way of property expression, abilities and characteristics. Therefore, in texts of this type, the statics and dynamics of action are not defined, information is a result of the universal experience covering human knowledge existential extent.

Dialogical impregnations in monological text or long remarks as rather independent monologues (for example, the initiative or jet letter) not always keep within the communicative registers stated above. Therefore, Zolotova allocates still voluntative and reactivity registers of the speech.

The voluntive register realises the speech intentions (the order, council, the invitation, the requirement, etc.) turned to the potential performer of will.

The reactive register represents an expressive and estimated reaction to a speech situation.

3. Content types of monological text and potential communicative registers in each text

Disclosure of the semantic and communicative nature of the text allows us to present in academic purpose the new typology of the text constructed on hierarchical (two-step) classification of the text based on ‘subjects’ of discussion (Passov, 1989) (this semantic typology of the text can be still studied and added) and based on communicative registers of the speech (Zolotova et al., 1998). We will bring them

3.1. A social event

The reproductive register: direct perception for speakers about the observed event (in reality or imagination).

The informative register: knowledge of events as a result of observation, experience or logic thoughtful operations.

The reactive register: estimated reaction upon the event.

On this semantic, text type can be a strategy of the author: to keep the reporting with an event place; to reproduce the seen; to impart the knowledge of a certain event; to express an assessment (relation) to a certain event.

3.2. Act of the person or other living being

The reproductive register: direct reproduction to the speaker of the act (in reality or in imagination).

The informative register: the message on an act known to the speaker.

The generative register: the message on the ‘timeless’ and in-time positive act taking place in a certain situation.

The voluntive register: motivation of the addressee to a certain act in a certain situation.

The reactive register: expression of estimated reaction to an act.
3.3. Mass phenomenon

The reproductive register: direct reproduction to the speaker the mass phenomenon (in reality or in imagination).

The informative register: message of knowledge about the mass phenomenon as a result of supervision, experience and logical cognititative operations.

The generative register: expression of a characteristic of the ‘timeless’ and in-time mass phenomenon of this kind.

The voluntive register: motivation to the positive mass phenomenon (an appeal, advertising, the address), motivation to taking measures to prevent the negative mass phenomenon.

The reactive register: estimated reaction to the mass phenomenon.

In this semantic, text type can be the strategy of the author:
- the message on the development of mass phenomenon (the reproductive narrative subtype of the reproductive register is realised);
- the description of the mass phenomenon (the reproductive and descriptive type of the reproductive register is realised);
- reasoning on a positive or negative role of the mass phenomenon in society (informative and jet registers);
- universal public assessment of mass phenomenon (generitive register);
- an appeal to join in the positive mass phenomenon (voluntive register).
- an appeal to fight against the negative mass phenomenon (voluntive register).

3.4. Subjective statement (debate)

The generative register: expression of own point of view regarding discussion appealing to universal conclusions.

The reproductive register: confirmation by the concrete facts.

The informative register: message of knowledge of a subject of discussion as a result of supervision, experience, logical and cognititative operations.

The voluntive register: motivation to accept the subjective statement or to refuse the subjective statement.

The reactive register: whose assessment—or the subjective statement.

Reasoning on a subject, phenomenon:
- message on concrete facts for confirmation of statement;
- message of knowledge of a subject of phenomena links to the knowledge of authoritative people;
- an appeal to understand, penetrate (the contact establishing means);
- reaction to someone’s other statement.

3.5. Notion perceived on different way

The reproductive register: message on concrete facts allowing to interpret concept differently.

The informative register: disclosure of sense of concept as a result of supervision, experience, logical and cognitive operations.

The generative register: synthesis of information correlated to universal experience.

The voluntive register: motivation to accept a certain point of view on the concept.

The reactive register: estimated reaction to the point of view of an interlocutor.

Disclosure of concept through:
- message on concrete facts;
- an appeal to folklore, reference books;
- to read a request, council about it in certain sources, to learn from particular competent persons;
- an assessment of different points of view on this concept.

3.6. Objective statement, which is not suitable for all occasions

The reproductive register: report about specific facts as objective evidence of intention or of relativity.

The informative register: the message of knowledge about the phenomena, on the basis of which objective sentence is derived.

The generative register: synthesis of information associated with the universal experience.

The voluntive register: the urge to take (take into account), not to conflict with the objective statements.

The reactive register: the estimated response to an objective sentence.

Opinion about the objective maxims or relativity through:
- information of the specific facts (unipolar or heteropolar);
- conversion of the received knowledge, proving an objective statement (or its relativity);
- the urge to be the source of objective statements;
- assessment of objective statements.

3.7. The fact of someone else’s work

The reproductive register: direct playback speaker for the observable fact of someone else’s work (in reality or in imagination).
The informative register: the message of knowledge about the fact of someone else’s work, resulting from repeated observation, experience, usage or logical mental operations.

The generative register: conclusion from this fact.

The voluntive register: the urge to take the fact into account, to take measures to fact.

The reactive register: evaluative reaction to the fact.

The retelling any fact:
- messages knowledge of such facts;
- assessment of this fact;
- the conclusion made on a regular, repeated basis.

3.8. ‘Irregular’ behaviour

The reproductive register: direct reproduction of the observed ‘irregular’ behaviour (in reality or in imagination).

The informative register: message about the ‘irregular’ behaviour as a result of observation, experience, usage and logical mental operations.

The generative register: the message about ‘timeless’ and all the time ‘irregular’ behaviour, its characteristic.

The voluntive register: encouraging the elimination of the ‘irregular’ behaviour.

The reactive register: the estimated response to ‘irregular’ behaviour.

The expression of evaluative responses to ‘irregular’ behaviour through:
- message about ‘irregular’ behaviour;
- monitor ‘irregular’ behaviour;
- a statement of ‘irregular’ behaviour of man as ‘timeless’ and all the time behaviour taking place in society;
- encouraging the elimination of the ‘irregular’ behaviour or finding ways of its elimination, to join forces and so on.

3.9. Abnormal position

The reproductive register: direct playback by the speaker of the ‘abnormal’ position (in reality or in imagination).

The informative register: the information about ‘abnormal’ position as a result of observation, experience, usage or logical mental operations.

The generative register: the information about ‘abnormal’ position as timeless and all the time phenomenon, its characteristics.

The voluntive register: encouraging the elimination of the ‘abnormal’ position.

The reactive register: evaluative reactions to ‘abnormal’ position.

The expression of evaluative reactions to ‘abnormal’ position through:
- observation of 'an abnormal position;
- the message about 'abnormal' position, known from any sources;
- the appeal to universal conclusions on such 'abnormal' position;
- urge (direct or indirect) to the elimination of the 'abnormal' situation, to seek its elimination, to join forces.

3.10. The impulse to action

The reproductive register: direct perception of the speaker, any action of a third party (not the addressee of the speech).

The informative register message about the action of a third party (specific or typical) as a result of observation, experience, usage and logical mental operations.

The generative register: message about human experience in general in the execution of the action.

The voluntive register: urge the addressee of the speech to take action (letter of advice letter of request, request, invitation, instruction, prayer, etc.

The reactive register: the estimated response of the speaker at the prompting of another person.

The motivation of the author to step through:
- proof of need (appropriate) action;
- monitoring speaker for the same by action of a third party;
- message talking about is similar to the action of a third party, known from certain sources;
- expression of the predictable reaction of the reader (listener) appeal against his wisdom, understanding and other positive characteristics.

4. Registers of speech and marked language tools

Linguodidactic value accounting communicative speech registers is a mandatory expression of the author's position in produced them utterance. These positions can be called as follows: (1) 'observer for an event or party events'; (2) 'owner information'; (3) 'sage'; (4) 'reacting' and (5) 'motive to any verbal or non-verbal action'.

Communicative registers of speech depending on the position of the speaker suggest a definite correlation time plans in the text. Zolotova et al. (1998) allocate three-time plans.

T1—the actual current time;
T2—textual (eventual) time;
T3—the time in which the author (speaker).

Therefore, each communication register of speech, according to the role and position of the speaker is marked with specific language tools.
Table 1. Registers of speech and marked language tools

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Communicative register of speech</th>
<th>The role of the speaker</th>
<th>Time schedule</th>
<th>The number of spatial-temporal plan</th>
<th>Deictic line</th>
<th>Verbal forms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>The reproductive register</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct observer (a) for the current event; (b) for the environment</td>
<td></td>
<td>T₁ = T₂ = T₃</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>‘I/we-here-now’; ‘another-here-now’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct doer (participant) of the current event</td>
<td></td>
<td>T₁ = T₂ = T₃</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>‘I/we-here-now’</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct observer in the past</td>
<td>T₁ ≠ T₂, T₂ = T₃ (present tense), T₂ = T₃ (past tense)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>‘I/we-here-now’ and ‘another-there-then’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct doer of the action in the past (a) repeatedly successful;</td>
<td>T₁ ≠ T₂, T₂ = T₃ (present tense), T₂ = T₃ (past tense)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>‘I/we-here-now’ and ‘another-there-then’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6) duplicate repeated</td>
<td>T₁ ≠ T₂, T₂ = T₃ (present tense), T₂ = T₃ (past tense)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>‘I/we-here-now’ and ‘another-there-then’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The observer for real</td>
<td>T₁ ≠ T₂a (present tense) = T₃ (observer), T₁ ≠ T₂b (unreal) (unreal) ≠ T₃ (time materialising.)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>‘I-here-now’ ‘another-here-now’ ‘another-there-then’</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The informative register</td>
<td>Informing about the past event (the effect)</td>
<td>T1 = T3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>«I-here-now»&lt;br&gt;«I/another-there-then»&lt;br&gt;Tense in the Subjunctive Mood&lt;br&gt;Finite forms of the verbs of the perfect type in the Present Simple Tense;&lt;br&gt;Finite forms of the verbs of the perfect type in the Past Simple Tense&lt;br&gt;Finite forms of the verbs of the perfect type in the Present Simple Tense;&lt;br&gt;Finite forms of the verbs of the perfect type in the Past Simple Tense&lt;br&gt;Finite forms of the verbs of the perfect type in the Present Simple Tense; adjectives; the Passive forms of participles&lt;br&gt;The generative register</td>
<td>Summarising the information in the form of human reasoning, conclusion</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The reactive  
register  
Reacting (a) on  
the event  

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>T₁ = T₃</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>‘another-here-now’</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>T₁ = T₂</td>
<td></td>
<td>Personal forms of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T₂ = T₃</td>
<td></td>
<td>the verb in Present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>tense</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reacting (b) on  
the event in the  
past (b) for  
event  

| T₁ = T₃ (present) | 2 | ‘I-here-now’ and |
| T₁ ≠ T₂ T₂ ≠ T₃ (present) |   | ‘another-then’ |
| T₂ = T₃ (participant of the past event) |   | Finite forms of the |
|                                   |   | verbs in the |
|                                   |   | Present Simple |
|                                   |   | Tense; Finite forms |
|                                   |   | of the verbs in the |
|                                   |   | Past Simple Tense |

5. Conclusion

Nominated (Zolotova et al., 1998) the idea of identifying the regularity of the steps of the language system—voice system—structure of speech works can find the implementation in the further study of the regularities of text construction in the framework of the typical themes, and this, in turn, will create conditions for more effective methodological organisation of the educational process in the development of monologue speech production.

With the view of improving the process of teaching monologue speech along with traditional methodic ways, one should plan taking into account:

- five communicative registers of speech (Zolotova et al., 1998), which allow to distinguish author’s position in the produced text
- possible deictic aspect of a text and the appropriate number of spatial-temporal planes
- functioning in each register temporal planes, expressed by definite forms of the verb
- These aspects still have been out of the system of tasks on teaching monologue speech. At the same time, they reflect regularities of functioning means of language, e.g., verb-predicate and their spreading words). Correlation of objective information and author’s position (speaker’s position) on the base of the semantic typology of texts.

References

