The means of verbalization of non-verbal communication acts in fiction texts of Modern German literature

The means of verbalization of non-verbal communication acts in fiction texts of Modern German literature

Los significados de la verbalización en los actos de comunicación no-verbal en textos de ficción de la literatura alemana moderna

ABSTRACT

The article presents the results of study of acts and functions of behavioral communication that can be found in fiction and descriptive modeling of stereotype means of their verbalization in modern German. Only a limited number of models, which represents extra-linguistic communicative components, were discovered. They can be added to optional lexical elements reflecting the specificity of recipient's perception of the act. Contextual conditionality of verbalization of non-verbal components is determined by a number of functions which they perform interacting with verbal message in a dialogue. Autonomic usage of paralinguistic means is used for expression of emotional and mental state of participants of communication. .

KEY WORDS: non-verbal communication, semantic types of gestures, verbalization models of non-verbal communicative acts, paralinguistic context.
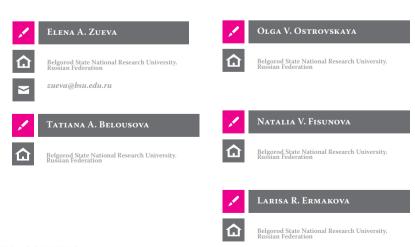
RESUMEN

El artículo presenta los resultados del estudio de los actos y funciones de la expresión corporal que se pueden encontrar en la ficción, y el modelo descriptivo del significado de los estereotipos y su verbalización en el alemán moderno. Se descubrió un número limitado de modelos, que representan componentes comunicativos extralingüísticos. Se pueden agregar a elementos léxicos opcionales que reflejen la especificidad de la percepción del acto por parte del receptor. La condicionalidad contextual de la verbalización de los componentes no verbales está determinada por una serie de funciones que realizan interactuando con el mensaje verbal en un diálogo. El uso autónomo de los medios paralingüísticos se usa para la expresión del estado emocional y mental de los participantes de la comunicación.

PALABRAS CLAVE:comunicación no verbal, tipos semánticos de gestos, modelos de verbalización de actos comunicativos no verbales, contexto paralingüístico..

Elena A. Zueva

Belgorod State National Research University. Russian Federation

zueva@bsu.edu.ru

Olga V. Ostrovskaya

Belgorod State National Research University. Russian Federation

Tatiana A. Belousova

Belgorod State National Research University. Russian Federation

Natalia V. Fisunova

Belgorod State National Research University. Russian Federation

Larisa R. Ermakova

Belgorod State National Research University. Russian Federation

1. INTRODUCTION

Non-verbal communication is the most ancient communication form of people. But, in spite of the availability of such a perfect form of communication as a verbal language, 65% of all the information is conveyed through a non-verbal form of communication in interpersonal communication. The fact is that for successful communication there is a necessity not only for representative information but also for evaluative information, allowing to determine an attitude of a speaker towards the information and/or a recipient [Konetskaja, V.P., 1994..Dementev, A.V., 1985].

At the present stage of linguistics development verbal and non-verbal components of communication are considered as duality of communication means not only in oral language but also in writing, including fiction. Consequently in modern linguistics of a text there is increasing attention to the verbal reflection of different paralinguistic phenomena. Our main purpose within the framework of this article is a detailed study of acts and functions of behavioral communication which are discovered in fiction with descriptive modeling of stereotype means of their verbalization in modern German [Zueva, E.A., 2009. Zueva, E.A., 2011.].

The ascendancy of a new paradigm of scientific knowledge with a focus on linguistic identity and the predominant language learning from the standpoint of anthropocentrism determined the timeliness of consideration this topic. The active development of communication theory reflected in communicative oriented study of language phenomena at different levels. The timeliness of the survey is determined by the tendency towards integration of research areas which contributes more detailed, qualitative and objective study of the problem. Within the framework of this research the tendency is manifested in relation to data of various special branches of linguistics

(psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics, theory of text, communication theory, etc.) with the results of psychology and physiology. This synthesis of disciplines is a necessity, as in special sciences of natural cycle the problem under consideration received much more significant elucidation while the linguistic aspect of behavioral communication is far enough from the state which allows us to consider the issue closed, despite a fairly long history of paralinguistic [Kreidlin, G.E., 1999. Schönher, B., 1997. Gorelov, I.N., 1980.].

2.METHODS

Methods of the analysis are defined by the objectives of the research, a theoretical and practical concept, type of the material under study. The basis of the study methodology is the system structural analysis which makes it possible to consider the inner organization of the phenomenon under study and determine its specificity in line of related phenomena. The main method is a descriptive one, understood as a set of methods and techniques and allows moving from particular observations to generalizations and conclusions. The particular methods are elements of hermeneutics, text interpretation, and a method of dictionary definition, observation, lexical semantic transformations, and contrastive comparison within the framework of an individual style of different authors in fiction.

3.MAIN PART

In differentiations of non-verbal communication there are the same characteristics as in verbal communication: social status, social roles or occupation, age, sex. The means of non-verbal communication are carried out instinctively as a part of non-verbal etiquette. At the same time the distinction between standards of social differentiations in various areas denotes their sociocultural conditionality that dates back to the past of people [Gorelov, I.N., 1980. Kolshanski, G.V., 1974.].

Turning to the problem of studying the functional characteristics of paralinguistic acts of communication and means of their verbalization in modern German, we put forward a hypothesis of a limited number of models which represent extra-linguistic communicative components. These components can vary

by different optional lexical elements which reflect the perception of an act by a recipient. This hypothesis is the basis of our study.

The existence of non-verbal means in modern German assists an interlocutor to apprehend adequately a speaker's remarks and serve as a figurative mean. In modern German communication, national and individual features, a manner of talking, communication culture and other characteristics of speakers are reproduced by describing different gestures, body movements and mimicry. With the help of non-verbal means a psycho physiological and emotional state of a speaker, his inner world is depicted. In some cases of communication non-verbal means have an advantage over verbal ones: they are apprehended directly and despite their short duration they have a far greater influence; they reveal the most subtle shades of attitude, appreciation and emotions. In the long run they communicate the information that, for some reasons, cannot be expressed with a word [Akishina, A.A., Kano, H. Akishina, T.E., 1991].

The analysis of context descriptions of non-verbal means of communication provided the opportunity to distinguish three major semantic types of gestures in the fiction under study: ritual gestures, communicative gestures (etiquette and deictic (i.e. pointing) and symptomatic ones. These types of gestures may be represented in turn by the following means of non-verbal communication: gestures themselves, movements of the body, mimicry, visual communication and a pose [Nikolaeva, T.M., 1969. Gorelov, I.N.,].

In the result of the analysis and the description of the main lexico-grammatic verbalization models of non-verbal communication in German fiction from the point of view of explication of their formal aspect and context three main methods of acts representation of non-verbal communication were distinguished in writing: 1) explication of the form, 2) explication of the meaning, 3) simultaneous explication of the form and meaning [Jazykoznanie. Bolshoi enzhiklopedicheski Slovar, 1998].

In the course of the study 1500 cases of kinemes verbalization understood as meaningful gestures, mimic and pantomimic movements included in communication as non-verbal components when communicants interact directly [3], it has been established that basic verbalization models of non-verbal acts are verbal nominal word combinations (49%) which include the action verb and the noun naming the body which performs the action (die Hand geben; den Kopf schütteln; die Hand auf die Schulter legen) or the noun denoting the action in combination with a neutral verb (sich die Handbewegungen streuen; eine Kusshand geben; den Schüttelfrost haben).

Another common method of verbal kinemes representation is a kinetic verb, i.e. comprising in its semantics denotation that information is given in a non-verbal way (40%). These verbs may be represented by nominative or adverbial verbs, i.e. the verbs with a complicated semantic structure including the verbal seme and a seme (or semes) of nominative or adverbial characteristic of the main verb action. The nominative kinetic verbs have in their meaning in addition to the seme "action" also the seme "the body performing the action" (nicken; gestikulieren; umarmen). The semantic structure of adverbial kinetic verbs includes actually the verbal seme representing the named action and the compulsory actant seme characterizing the main seme (sich wälzen; tigern; schmunzeln; grinsen).

The kinemes may be also verbalized through postverbal formations which include substantivised infinitives of verbs (3%) (das Lächeln; das Nicken) and participles (6%) (nickend; grüssend). There are also cases of substantivization of verb collocations (1%) (das Stirnrunzeln; das Armschwenken; das Kopfschütteln).

Some context descriptions of non-verbal acts are represented also within the framework of a sentence (1%): „Nein", sagte Murke, „noch nie, jedenfalls" – und er gab seinem jungen Gesicht den Ausdruck tadelloser Bescheidenheit – „jedenfalls noch nie, solange ich in diesem Hause arbeite." [Böll].

In spite of a relatively limited quantity of verbal representation means of non-verbal communication components, their functionality is broad enough. It is ensured by means of a large number of optional elements – complementary lexical means. Being parts of a basic model, they expand or specify nature

of the performed non-verbal action taking on the semantic function.

Additional lexical means denote human emotions, and also specify the degree of intensity or duration one or another sign of display. From a grammatical point of view, participles, adjectives, adverbs and nouns with prepositions are the most suitable for explication of the emotional seme, as they originally include a qualitative description. This fact was confirmed in the study of functional features of verbalized behavioral acts.

The contextual causation of non-verbal components verbalization is determined by a number of functions which they perform interacting with the verbal message within the framework of a dialogue, namely the functions of repetition, contradiction (i.e. opposition), substitution (i.e. replacement), amplification and emphasis. They form certain types of paralinguistic contexts within the framework of which they accomplish these functions. This interaction reveals some features which allow distinguishing the following kinds of paralinguistic contexts: duplicating, opposed, complementary, substitution and specifying contexts.

Non-verbal components of communication have their standard content, but in every kind of paralinguistic context they get some version or connotation of meaning which is not strictly fixed. Therefore, nonverbal components of communication get their true meaning only in a certain paralinguistic context. The autonomous usage of paralinguistic means serves for communication of emotional and mental states [4].

The autonomous usage of paralinguistic means serves for communication of emotional and mental states.

When describing a person's emotional state there is a need to create a general classification of emotions. According to the most psychologists, emotions should be divided into "primary" (basic), that are not combined with other emotions, and "minor" ones. However, distinct principles for division of emotions into different groups are not developed. Apart from that, the number of emotions, which should be considered as basic ones, varies in works of different authors.

In this study the question about the criteria emotions' classification as "primary" ones is solved by determining the generality of the selected group. On this basis it is fair to say that the "basic" emotions are the following: anger, surprise, grief, joy, fear and contempt.

Within the group of primary emotions we distinguished three oppositions: joy – grief, surprise – anger, fear – contempt. "Minor" emotions which are connotations of "primary" ones are distributed inside of these oppositions on the principle of intensity and/or duration [4].

The division of emotions and mental states into "primary" and "minor" is due to the need of the detailed analysis of non-verbal behavior with the purpose to identify the features of interaction of emotional, mental and behavioral components.

4. CONCLUSION

The simultaneous usage of verbal and nonverbal means is determined by intention to make information more concrete, expressive and significant to affect an interlocutor. In spite of the fact that nonverbal means take second place of communication in the combined usage, they fulfill a function of influence more effectively.

Thus, verbal signs are conventional symbols, i.e. unmotivated and denote some facts of reality while nonverbal signs, in particular, gestures and mimicry are also unmotivated but denote feelings, emotions and an attitude of evaluation of a speaker.

Elena A. Zueva, Olga V. Ostrovskaya, Tatiana A. Belousova, Natalia V. Fisunova, Larisa R. Ermakova : "The means of verbalization of non-verbal communication acts in fiction texts of Modern German literature."

161

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Konetskaja, V.P., 1994. Sopostavlenie neverbalnikh sredstv kommunikatsii naknationalno-kulturnih I sotsialnih komponentov rechevogo povedeniy. Tezisy IV mezhdunarodnogo simpoziuma po lingvostranivedeniju: 155-159 (In Russian).

Dementev, A.V., 1985. Sposoby i sredstva verbalnogo otraszhenia kinesiki: (na material sovremennogo angl. yaz.). M., pp: 38 (In Russian).

Zueva, E.A., 2009. Stereotype verbalization models of behavioral communication acts in fiction texts of modern German literature. Vestnik Kostromskogo gosudarstvennogo universiteta im. N.A. Nekrasova, 4: 136-139 (In Russian).

Zueva, E.A., 2011. The research of the peculiarities of the realization of a man's emotional states as the component of intercultural competence. Philology. Theory and practice, 3 (10): 67-69 (In Russian).

Kreidlin, G.E., 1999. Nationalnoye i universalnoe v semantike zhesta. Logocheski analiz yazyka. Obraz cheloveka v culture i yazyke: 170-185 (In Russian).

Schönher, B., 1997. Syntax – Prosodie – nonverbale Kommunikation: empirische Untersuchungen zur Interaktion sprachlicher und parasprachlicher Ausdrucksmittel im Gespräch. Tübingen: Niemeyer, pp:178 (In German).

Gorelov, I.N., 1980. Neverbalnye komponenty kommunikatsii. M., pp: 104 (In Russian).

Kolshanski, G.V., 1974. Paralingvistika. M., pp: 84 (In Russian).

Akishina, A.A., Kano, H. Akishina, T.E., 1991. Zhesti i mimika v russkoi razgovornoi rechi. Lingvostranovedcheski Slovar. M.: Russki yazyk, pp: 145 (In Russian).

Nikolaeva, T.M., 1969. Struktura rechevogo viskazyvania i nationalnaya spetsifika zhesta. M., pp 135 (In Russian).

Gorelov, I.N., Engalychev, V.F., 1991. Bezmolvni znak mysli: rasskazy o neverbalnoi kommunikatsii. M.: Mol. gvagdia, pp: 240 (In Russian).

Jazykoznanie. Bolshoi enzhiklopedicheski Slovar, 1998. M.: Bolshaja rossijskaja entsiklopedia, pp: 685 (In Russian).