

1. МОВОЗНАВСТВО

1.1. ЗАГАЛЬНІ ПИТАННЯ

УДК 811.111'34

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SUPRASEGMENTALS OF SPEECH CONTINUUM DELIMITATION

Стаття присвячена аналізу фонологічних особливостей супraseгментного оформлення синтагми в мовах з наголосом динамічного характеру. Схарактеризовано універсальність супraseгментного рівня, подібність засобів і механізмів його актуалізації в різних мовах задля передачі логіко-семантичних і модально-емоційних відношень у процесі комунікації розглянуто в роботі.

Ключові слова: супraseгментний рівень; делімітація речового континуума; синтагма; компоненти інтонації.

Статья посвящена анализу фонологических особенностей супraseгментного оформления синтагмы в языках с ударением динамического характера. Охарактеризована универсальность супraseгментного уровня, подобие средств и механизмов его актуализации в разных языках при передаче логико-семантических и модально-эмоциональных отношений в процессе коммуникации рассмотрены в работе.

Ключевые слова: супraseгментный уровень; делімітація речового континуума; синтагма; компоненты интонации.

The article is devoted to the analysis of phonological features of a sense-group suprasegmentals in languages with a dynamic character of stress. The universal character of the suprasegmental level, similarity of linguistic means and mechanisms the suprasegmentals are actualized in different languages when processing logical, semantical and attitudinal relations in communication can be read in the research.

Key words: suprasegmental level; speech continuum delimitation; sense group; components of intonation.

There are some phonological features characteristic of speech segments larger than sounds. These features cannot be derived out of the individual characteristics of vowels and consonants, which compile the phrase. They

do not involve one segment but spread over a larger number of segments. These type of phonetic characteristics are called suprasegmentals or prosody. The word «prosody» comes from the type of Greek song that is accompanies a musical instrument. Some time ago, this term denoted the peculiarities of pronouncing the words, including the time and pitch of their production. Special signs were introduced to mark these characteristics in writing; these marks were called «prosodies». By the second century of A. D., the word prosody denoted the phonetic characteristics that did not refer to the segmental level of vowels and consonants continuum.¹

In modern linguistics the phonetical characteristics of the suprasegmental level are united by the general term – intonation. The term «intonation» is derived from the Latin word that means «to speak loud.» Nowadays, in linguistics the term «intonation» is much more complicated than its etymological meaning and includes the whole spectrum of phonetical means of an utterance at the suprasegmental level. This refers to the following: melody, loudness, tempo (pauses included), timber, sentence-stress and rhythm.

Among linguists there is no unique approach to the terms intonation and prosody, which characterize the phonetic structure of speech suprasegmentals. Some researchers believe the term «prosody» deals with the problems of the stress system; others attribute more characteristics to it. A number of scientists use these terms as synonyms.

When describing the principles of speech delimitation at the suprasegmental level, the following suprasegmental units are analysed: phonetical word, sense-group, phrase, overphrasal unity, and text.

A phonetical word is an independent word together with the unstressed form-words and particles joining it.

A syntagm (sense-group) originates from the Greek word «syntagma» – built together, connected; it is interpreted as a minimal semantic unit of speech shaped intonationally and syntactically. In this sense the term syntagm was first used by L. V. Scherba.² A sense-group can spread over the whole sentence but more often a sentence or a phrase consists of a number of sense-groups.

A phrase is prosodical and has syntactical unity, which can include inner (between the sense groups) pauses, which are treated as the units of oral speech linea division. A phrase corresponds to the term «sentence» in written speech.

An overphrasal unity (a complex syntactic unity) is a portion of speech consisting of two or more phrases which are united by a common topic and development of some part of the preceding utterance in the following one, it refers to all types of theme and rheme progression. In oral speech prosody of overphrasal unities is «superimposed» on the syntagmatic and phrasal intonational structures.

A text (textus – material, interlacing) is a semantically united succession of signs which is characterized by coherency, integrity and completeness. Phonetic investigations indicate that the intonational structure of the text cannot be regarded as a mere sum of intonation of its structural units.

The system of the sense groups' prosody is presented rather well in modern scientific literature.³

The problem of the intonation of supraphrasal unities and the text is an important and independent problem, and will not be discussed in this publication. Full attention will instead be paid to the analysis of prosodical structure of sense groups and phrases consisting of a number of sense groups.

The problem of a sense-group delimiting out of a speech continuum is closely connected with three criteria insuring the integrity of this unity: semantic completeness, syntactic wholeness, and intonational unity.

Among the semantic factors responsible for the words' unity in a sense group, special attention should be paid to the ones involved in the process of joining the words that express an integral, though a complicated concept, in the given context. Thus, the words joined by their meaning and needed for the purpose of understanding the whole meaning of this group of words are disposed of within one sense group. Alternatively there can be a tendency to put each member of the antithesis into a separate sense group:

Мій батько працює інженером. || Мати | ніде не працює. ||

My father works at a firm. || My mother | doesn't work anywhere. ||

The degree of a word's meaningfulness conditions its possibility to be syntagmatically marked: form-words and semi-notional words do not form a separate sense group. This refers to the pronouns, auxiliary- and semi-auxiliary verbs, numerals, most adjectives, and others.

Regarding the special semantic importance of the above, enumerated words are the exception. As a rule, in such cases there turns out to be a psychological pause in speech, the prominent word making a separate sense group:

Will you give me three tickets? || – Three | is impossible. || There are only two available. ||

The semantic factors that condition the syntagmatic division of utterances are closely connected with the syntactic factors that are dependent on the sentence structure, on the degree of its expansion, on the strength of syntactic links between the words. Primarily, it refers to the parts of compound sentences, the principal, subordinate and introductory clauses:

We'll have a walk | if you don't mind. ||

Separation of the syntactic structures that complicate the sentence into an independent sense group is also inevitable, such syntactic structures including isolated phrases, homogeneous parts of a sentence, introductory words, interjection, appositions, addresses and enumerations:

Dave, | how long do you intend to stay in Turkey? ||

However, sometimes addresses, introductory words, and each of two homogeneous members of a sentence joined by the conjunction «and» do not form a separate sense group.

He is a good eater and sleeper. || Добрувечір, Кампе. ||

Some members of a sentence or groups of members of a sentence can make a separate sense group in sentences of any structure. Therefore, in English the following elements of an utterance can create a sense group of their own: the subject expressed by a noun, or the subject group including the attributes related to it; the adverbial modifiers of place and time located at the beginning of the sentence and some others:

Out in the crowd | against the railings | with his arm hooked in Annette's | Soames waited. ||

In Ukrainian the list of syntactic structures which can form independent sense groups is considerably wider than in English. This can be explained by the free word order in a Ukrainian sentence. Besides the group of the subject and adverbial modifiers being placed at the beginning of the sentence, an object in pre-position, an extended postposed object, an extended post – posed adverbial modifier, an uncoordinated extended attribute and an extended predicate group (including the adverbial modifiers, postposed objects and others) can form independent sense groups:

Купила вона собі сукню | з модної джинсової тканини. ||

All forms of the syntactic structures of a sense group listed above are typical in languages. They are common for all styles of speech, and, certainly, they are characteristic of a norm only and are not obligatory.

Both in colloquial and in literary speech, different individual, stylistic and emphatic factors causing a syntactic structure variability in a sense group are numerous. However, as L. W. Scherba wrote, «in our consciousness... there is knowledge of typical methods of a sense group construction...».

Semantic and syntactic integrity of a sense group obtains an intonational shape in oral speech that allows it to be regarded as the minimal independent unit of intonation. The sense group unity in speech is achieved by the use of a complex of prosodic means. The melody, temporal characteristics, loudness, rhythm and sentence stress are involved. The sense groups are embodied into one of the basic melody contours depending on the communicative type of the utterance and its attitudinal and emotional connotation (expanded upon later). The character of loudness alterations within the limits of a sense group also submits to certain regularities of the law. The most essential role in a sense groups division belongs to the normative (syntagmatic) stress and pauses between the sense groups.

In colloquial speech the most typical basic changes in the components of intonation mainly appear on the stressed syllables of the utterance, while

unstressed syllables continue the pitch motion of the stressed syllables. Certainly, there are some cases where the unstressed syllables behave in a different way.

The role of different syllables within the intonation contour is not equal. Separate syllables or groups of successive syllables form some independent structural elements within the sense groups; these elements execute some specific kind of work. The following principal elements of a sense group are usually regarded in the course of its intonational analysis: the nucleus, the post-nuclear part and the pre-nuclear part.

The nucleus is the most essential element of the intonation group; it is always present in the sense group. This is the semantic and intonational center of a sense group that is usually located in the last stressed syllable of an intonation group. The post nuclear part that includes one or more unstressed syllables can follow the nucleus. The nucleus, together with the post nuclear part, form the terminal tone.

The pre nuclear part precedes the nucleus. Its basic element is the head the group of stressed and unstressed syllables that starts with the first stressed syllable.

British phoneticians use other terms. G. Arnold and J. O'Connor⁴ write the «head» instead of the «scale». R Kingdon⁵ thinks that the «head» is the first stressed syllable and excludes the first stressed syllable out of the head, thus, naming the latter the «body».

One or more unstressed syllables – the so-called *pre-head* of the intonation group – can precede the head.

It should be underscored that the elements of an intonation group are always interacting and form a single intonation contour (pitch and dynamic), thus their separate analysis is justified only when aiming at examining some details of intonation or for teaching purposes.

As it has already been mentioned in modern linguistics, intonation is continued to be understood as a complex of structural unity of prosodic elements which are relevantly differentiated in different functional intonation structures.

The componental structure of intonation comprises the whole spectrum of phonetic means which are involved at the suprasegmental level of phrase development. A specific arsenal of suprasegmental phonetical means is characteristic for each stage of speech communication (articulation, acoustics and perception). It is common to name the components of intonation according to the terms existing at the perceptive level. Speech melody, loudness (or intensity), duration (tempo and pauses), timber of speech, sentence stress and rhythm are all involved.

Although intonation is a complex unity of several components inseparable from each other, each of them may have a decisive or subordinate significance in conveying the aim of communication.

The chief functions of the main component of intonation – *tone or melody* are the following:

1. To organize (unite) sense-groups into sentences, sentences into overphrasal unities and overphrasal unities into the highest suprasegmental speech unit – the text. On the other hand, melody ensures the division of the text into overphrasal unities, overphrasal unities into phrases (utterances) and phrases into sense-groups.

2. To differentiate between the communicative types of the sentences – statements, questions, requests, orders, etc.

3. To reflect the emotional state of the speaker and his attitude to the reported.

The chief functions of *loudness* are:

1. To provide the basis for energetic structure of the utterance with the aid of sentence stress; that is to provide different degrees of energy for stressed and unstressed syllables, assuring their alternation according to the rules existing in the given language.

2. To provide the basis for the singling out the words, sense-groups and phrases expressing a greater degree of semantic importance or different emotions with the help of logic and emphatic sentence stress.

3. To provide the basis for the rhythmic structure of the utterance.

The chief functions of *tempo* are:

1. To express some logical meanings.

2. To express modal and emotional shades of an utterance.

Tempo may become slower to emphasize semantically important words or sense-groups in a sentence. Words, sense-groups, or sentences that express some secondary idea, are often pronounced quicker. Passive emotions such as depression or sorrow are usually characterized by a slow tempo. Violent emotions of anger or irritation are usually characterized by a quicker tempo.

The chief functions of *intensity* are:

1. To provide a basis for energetic and rhythmic structure of the utterance with the aid of sentence stress; that is to provide different degrees of energy to stressed and unstressed syllables and assure their alternation according to the alternation rules in a given language.

2. To provide a basis with the help of logic, emphatic and emotional sentence stress by singling out words, sense-groups and phrases expressing a greater degree of semantic importance or different emotions.

3. To provide the basis for the rhythmic structure of the utterance.

The last two components of intonation – the rhyme and sentence-stress – are complex characteristics; they are formed by means of interaction between pitch and temporal and dynamic components of intonation. That is why, from the point of view of function, they fulfill the same tasks in speech as the elements which they consist of.

It is evident that the suprasegmental level is a universal one; there is no language to be found that could exist without this level. At the same time, the way the suprasegmentals are used in every language to convey logical, semantical and attitudinal – emotive relations in communication – is unique.

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УДК 811.111.161.'42

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ВИСЛОВЛЕННЯ З ЧАСТКОВОЮ АБО НУЛЬОВОЮ ПРЕДИКАЦІЄЮ В ЕВОЛЮЦІЇ ДІАЛЕКТИЧНОГО ВЗАЄМОЗВ'ЯЗКУ МИСЛЕННЯ, МОВИ ТА МОВЛЕННЯ

Взаємовідношення між структурно-предикаційним реченням та висловленнями часткової або нульової предикації (ВЧ/НП) розглядаються крізь призму еволюції мислення, мовлення і мови. ВЧ/НП вигуківового та номінативного типу – форми мовленнєвого ословеснення результатів первісного синкретичного мислення. Поступовий розвиток абстрактного мислення – основа формування мови: типове вживання у мовленні закріплює за словами семантико-граматичні характеристики як частин мови; слови логіко-синтаксичні словосполучення закріплюються як синтаксичні структури, зокрема структура предикації для вираження структурованої думки. Наявність мови як системи