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RESPONSIVE SENTENCES OUT OF THE QUESTION-ANSWER SYSTEM

Responsive sentence itself is representing not only the answer to the question, but mostly reaction to this question. If to interpret the notion «responsive sentence» in a broader sense, it is possible to suppose, that this syntactic unit can be used not only in the correlation with the interrogative sentences, but also in relation with the other ones: declarative, imperative, optative. Such a consideration can be reasoned by the fact that a person can react verbally not only the question (interrogative sentence), but also the statement (declarative sentence), command or request (imperative sentence), expressing of someone's wishes (optative sentence) etc. Subclasses of functional and non-functional responsive sentences can also be represented responsives-reactions to the interrogative sentences as well as declarative and imperative ones. For example, informative subtype of responsive sentences that comprises such subclasses as tautological and heuristic responsives contain responsives as a verbal reaction to any kind of the communicative act. In the connection with this fact, some responsive sentences within the «question-answer system» are also considered as means of communicative sabotage (nine main figures of the communicative sabotage are identified). But it is possible to suppose, that the responsives as linguistic figures representing forms of the communicative sabotage can be used out of the «question-answer system». Responsive is peculiar type of sentences, marking the reaction to any verbal communicative act. Specific features and subclasses in the general typology of responsives that are characteristics of the responsive sentences in the system «question-answer» are also appropriate for the communicative units under the research out of the «question-answer system».

Key words: responsive sentence, question-answer system, communicative task, interrogative, declarative, imperative sentences.

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РЕСПОНСИВНІ РЕЧЕННЯ ПОЗА СИСТЕМОЮ ПИТАННЯ-ВІДПОВІДЬ

Досліджено специфіку респонсивів як особливого типу речень згідно з їх комунікативним завданням поза системою питання-відповідь. Респонсиви розглянуто як реакцію не тільки на питальні, а й розповідні та спонукальні речення. Описано характерні риси функціональних та нефункціональних респонсивних речень. У теоретичному плані вказані синтаксичні одиниці проаналізовано як такі, що мають свої диференційні ознаки та відрізняються за комунікативною метою від інших. Простежено взаємозв'язок між адресованим реченням (розповідним, питальним чи спонукальним) та реченням-реакцією (відповіддю).

Ключові слова: респонсивне речення, система питання-відповідь, комунікативне завдання, питальні, розповідні, спонукальні речення.

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РЕСПОНСИВНЫЕ ПРЕДЛОЖЕНИЯ ВНЕ СИСТЕМЫ ВОПРОС-ОТВЕТ

Исследована специфика респонсивов как особого типа предложений согласно их коммуникативному заданию вне системы вопрос-ответ. Респонсивы рассмотрены как реакция не только на вопросительные, но и повествовательные и побудительные предложения. Описаны характерные черты функциональных и нефункциональных респонсивных предложений. В теоретическом плане указанные синтаксические единицы проанализированы как имеющие свои дифференциальные признаки и отличающиеся от других единиц. Прослежена связь между адресованной фразой (повествовательной, вопросительной или побудительной) и предложением-реакцией (ответом).

Ключевые слова: респонсивное предложение, система вопрос-ответ, коммуникативное задание, вопросительные, повествовательные, побудительные предложения.

Within the types of sentences according to the communicative purpose, linguists traditionally identified three main classes: declarative, interrogative and imperative sentences [1; 2; 7; 8; 9]. But a wide range of recent scientific papers besides the types mentioned above added to the well-known and generally accepted system the other types of sentences by their aim of communication: exclamative [5; 6; 10], optative [4]. Exists also the research, which is dealing with the speech units with the communicative intention «answer to the question» and is considering these constructions as functionally significant syntactic units with the peculiar communicative purpose. Sentences with such a communicative intention are implemented under the term «*responsive sentences*» or «*responsives*» and are correlated only with the interrogative sentences in their primary function. According to I. I. Menshikov, responsive sentence itself is representing not only the answer to the question, but mostly reaction to this question [3, p. 98–100]. By the Oxford Explanatory dictionary of English, the word «*response*» is also defined as «verbal or written answer, reaction to something» [11]. If to interpret the notion «responsive sentence» in a broader sense, it is possible to suppose, that this syntactic unit can be used not only in the correlation with the interrogative sentences, but also in relation with the other ones: declarative, imperative, optative. Such a consideration can be reasoned by the fact that a person can react verbally not only the question (interrogative sentence), but also the statement (declarative sentence), command or request (imperative sentence), expressing of someone's wishes (optative sentence) etc. For instance, along with the communicative situations such as «*How late's the restaurant open? – 8:30 every night*», «*What platform does this bus go from? – 6-th platform*», where the responsive sentence presents an answer to the question, another speech constructions, where the responsive communicative unit will represent by itself the reaction to the statement, request etc.: «*I'm afraid I'll be busy at 5. – Let's make it 7*», «*I don't want to go to the university today! – You can do everything you want*», «*I have finally finished the reconstruction of my flat. – That is excellent!*» (reaction to the declarative sentences), «*If you only told us where we are going... – Calm down, stand still*», «*I would not like to do such a difficult work – You had no another way out*», «*If we were now near the seaside... – Don't get distracted! Focus your attention on the project*» (reaction to the optative sentence) «*Promise me that you won't follow me! – Promise*», «*Please, give me that newspaper! – Here you are!*», «*Remind the driver I will wait for him at three o'clock! – At three o'clock*» (reaction to the imperative sentence) etc.

Responsive sentences also have their specific differential features and their typology. First of all, responsives are divided into functional – containing the needed information and providing the questioner with some kind of answer, and non-functional – ignoring the question, avoiding answering it or trying to change the subject of the communication [3]. Out of the «question-answer system» the same types of responsive sentences can be found in various communicative situations. For example: functional responsive sentences: «*If you finish with this picture today it's going to be a lot less work. – A lot less work for you!*», «*– I am really sorry for breaking your glasses. – I am really sorry for breaking your glasses!* And that is all you can tell me?!», «*Let's go to the cinema! – Let's go!*», «*Look for your suitcase under the car! – Why should I look for it under the car! I have put the suitcase in the luggage rack!*», «*I hope everything is all right with the package, send it to Chicago! – Everything is all right, don't worry!*» etc.; non-functional responsive sentences: «*I think it's customary to take a preliminary vote. – Who knows?*», «*Don't make a deal with him! – Do you think I need you advice?*», «*Tell me what do you think about it, please – Don't you start speaking with me now*», «*Write his address to the paper - Sorry, but that's strictly confidential*».

Subclasses of functional and non-functional responsive sentences can also be represented responsives-reactions to the interrogative sentences as well as declarative and im-

perative ones. For example, informative subtype of responsive sentences that comprises such subclasses as tautological and heuristic responses contain responses as a verbal reaction to any kind of the communicative act. For example, tautological responsive sentences: «*Is it enough for you a piece of cake or I should bring one more for you? – Enough*», «*Do you have a dog, a cat or some other pet? – A cat*», «*Would you like the galleries and the exhibitions or the sights? – the sights*» (responses to the interrogative sentence); «*Julia, I will call you tomorrow. – I'll call!*», «*If you finish with this picture today it's going to be a lot less work. – A lot less work for you!*», «*I think they're going to fire me. – No, no, nobody's going to fire you!*» (responses to the declarative sentence); «*Eat it! – I'll eat it*», «*Let's go to the cinema! – Let's go!*», «*Remind the driver I will wait for him at three o'clock! – At three o'clock*» (responses to the imperative sentence). And the same situation with the heuristic responsive sentences: «*How was your trip? – Fantastic*», «*What sort of a company are you founding? – Internet*», «*At what time does the train arrive? – At 10 a.m.*» (responses to the interrogative sentence); «*Tell me the fare please? – One dollar fifty*», «*Talk with me for a minute! – Quickly!*», «*Tell me where is the nearest bus stop? – Over there, around the corner*» (responses to imperative sentences); «*He entered a university in Great Britain – I heard about it. It's ancient university in London*», «*Our new manager knows nothing about computer programs! – I have already asked our programmer to help her*», «*I saw a new café in the next street. – It is always overcrowded*» (responses to declarative sentences).

The verbal reaction to any kind of the utterance, not only to the question, can be very different: from one word, expressing the agreement or disagreement of the answering person, confirmation or objection of a fact, emotional condition of the speaker etc.: «*Close the window, please! It's too cold – Ok*», «*Promise you will never be late for the supper! – Yes, Yes*», «*I hope they accept here a two-dollar bill? – No, only exact change*», «*You can leave her a massage – No, thanks*» to the very big speech units, where the conversation partner gives all details concerning the subject of the conversation or tries to bewilder the speaker and avoid providing the information needed for the questioner while hiding these intentions with the help of giving a lot of unnecessary facts: «*Tell me please your opinion concerning the newscast this morning? – Have they said something important? I heard they started again working on the solving of the international economy problems*», «*I saw you in the city center yesterday! – What did you do there yesterday? I thought you went on business for this week. Why did you decide to postpone your travel?*» etc. In the connection with this fact, some responsive sentences within the «question-answer system» are also considered as means of communicative sabotage (nine main figures of the communicative sabotage are identified). But it is possible to suppose, that the responses as linguistic figures representing forms of the communicative sabotage can be used out of the «question-answer system». It is possible to find a correspondent variant for each of these nine figures out of the «question-answer system» [3, p. 98–99]: 1. A speaker pretends that he/she have not heard the question \ statement or he \ she does not understand it: «*What will be the payment for such a work? – You will receive your salary in time*», «*Do you really want to live in such a slum? – What do you mean?*» And the same situation can be while providing a reaction to the declarative or imperative utterance: «*I think it is time for you to find a job. – You mean, some job in my specialty?*», «*Let's go somewhere on holidays? – You should not go to the office tomorrow?*» etc.; 2. The question \ statement is ignored on the emotional level as an inappropriate, irrelevant and incorrect: «*What did you do there yesterday? – Just trivial issues*», «*He thinks that I am guilty – It is not the important thing now!*», «*The translation of this book is not so good as the original version! – It doesn't matter, you should only know the plot of this book!*» etc.; 3. The answer to the question \ statement requires additional time to work on and because of this fact it can be postponed: «*Will all members of our group be at that*

conference? – *I should call them first!*», «*Show me, please, your license on these goods production! – I must send an inquiry to the main office!*», «*I hope you will deliver my parcel as soon as possible! – I should firstly contact our delivering service*»; 4. There is an answer to the question \ statement, but it is determined with some requirements to the formulation of the question \ statement or to the speaker: «*Can you send this information via e-mail? – Only if you provide us with the internet access!*», «*You should be at that factory at 3 o'clock! – Pick me up, if you have a car!*», «*I want you to make several copies of this paper by the afternoon! – If I have time and if you tell me the exact number of the needed copies*»; 5. The question \ statement is stratified and the answering person gives reply only to one part of it, which is appropriate and accepted by the speaker: 6. The question \ statement is used as a cause to address another problem and answer or show the reaction to the other question \ statement: 7. The answering person ask the counter-question or gives counter-statement, which is impossible or very difficult to respond: «*Why are you here? – And why are you here?*», «*What did you do there? – And what did you do there?*». 8. The question \ statement is readdressed to another person: «*Why are you late for work? – Ask the driver of bus I took to get there!*», «*I heard you company has new taxation policy – I don't know, speak about it with our director*», «*Give me your timetable for tomorrow! – Ask my secretary to do it!*». 9. The rejection of the answering the question or statement is motivated: «*Who is the owner of this car? – It is confidential information*», «*I need to speak with the deputy minister! – Sorry, he doesn't accept visitors now*», «*Tell me where they keep documents? – It is secret information*».

Responsive is peculiar type of sentences, marking the reaction to any verbal communicative act. Specific features and subclasses in the general typology of responsiveness that are characteristics of the responsive sentences in the system «question-answer» are also appropriate for the communicative units under the research out of the «question-answer system».

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