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LINGUISTICS AS THE SCIENCE OF NATURAL HUMAN LANGUAGE

Makhmuda Makhkamova Abdulloevna,
Lecturer, UzSWLU

Annotation

The article examines linguistics as a science about natural human language in general and about all languages of the world as its individual representatives. The place of linguistics among other sciences is also analyzed. It deals with the key role of linguistics for many related humanities, since linguistics is important for all humanities in general.

Keywords: means of communication, scientific disciplines, linguistic poetics, directions of linguistics, intermediate disciplines.

Since language is the most important means of communication in society and is closely related to thinking and consciousness, Linguistics is included (as one of the central sciences) in the circle of humanitarian (social) scientific disciplines that study man and human society. Of these sciences, ethnography and its various areas are most closely related to Linguistics, developing, in particular, the general principles of the functioning of language in societies of different types, in archaic, or "primitive", collectives (for example, the problems of taboos, euphemisms, in the theory of nomination - names associated with the characteristics of archaic consciousness, and so on.).

Linguistics as the science of linguistic communication is increasingly connected with modern sociology. Various types of communication in society are studied by Linguistics, the theory of communication, cultural anthropology (which studies communication through any messages, not only and not so much linguistic and sign) and semiotics. Natural language is the most important (and best studied) sign system, therefore Linguistics is often regarded as the most important of the semiotic disciplines. Among them, Linguistics turns out to be the central science, since language serves as a means for constructing a whole series of texts (in particular, in fiction) and "supra-linguistic" systems (semiotic models of the world) studied by semiotic disciplines. For the study of linguistic texts serving the symbolic tasks of "supra-linguistic" systems (mythology, ritual, religion, philosophy, and the like), the corresponding scientific disciplines turn to Linguistics for help and to a number of scientific disciplines bordering on Linguistics - to philology, which studies texts. hermeneutics, which deals with the understanding of texts, and so on. But at the same time, the solution to each of these problems should be specially investigated in Linguistics, since any new social function of language significantly affects some of its levels. The emergence of intermediate disciplines in contact with linguistics is necessary, such as linguistic poetics, which in many respects approaches the linguistics of the text, which studies the linguistic laws of constructing texts, and artistic ones. The relationship between Linguistics and other sciences can be investigated depending on the nature of the sign (or non-sign) nature of the subject of

each of these sciences. The closest thing to Linguistics of the semiotic disciplines is grammatology - the science of writing (since there are types of writing that are only indirectly related to language, grammatology as a whole is not included in Linguistics. hieroglyphics).

The key role of Linguistics for many related humanities makes the conclusions of Linguistics important for all humanities in general. The history of Linguistics in its methods approaches history and other sciences that study the change in time of social structures, the development of which in some cases determines the paths of linguistic evolution, and the development of culture, literature, art and others. One of the most important problems is to find out to what extent the development of one of these series of evolving phenomena causally influences the evolution of another series. The history of Linguistics is related to a large number of historical disciplines, on the conclusions of which it relies. The variety of functions of language in society and the close nature of its connection with thinking and with mental activity of a person makes the interaction of linguistics very flexible with the corresponding social and psychological sciences.

The links between Linguistics and psychology are especially close, which already in the 19th century caused the invasion of psychological methods and ideas in Linguistics. In the fifties of the 20th century, a new science bordering on Linguistics, psycholinguistics, was formed. The development of the ideas of striking grammar led to its organic fusion with cognitive psychology and to the gradual inclusion of linguistics in the circle of fundamental cognitive sciences and their applications, united by the general term “artificial intelligence”. Considered common for linguistics and psychology, the issues of correlating language and thinking are intensively studied by modern logic, philosophy of language and at the same time constitute the content of linguistic semantics. The links of Linguistics with the social sciences and the human sciences, but also with the natural sciences, were outlined back in the 19th century. Some of the anologies proposed by A. Schleicher between comparative historical linguistics and Darwinian theory of evolution have found support in modern science. Deciphering the genetic code was largely based on the assimilation of the experience of linguistics by biologists and on typological analogies with the structure of a natural language, which are still being studied by both geneticists and linguists.

The methods of comparative historical reconstruction of the proforms and determination of the time of divergence between the descendants of the same proto-language in Linguistics turned out to be similar to similar procedures in the molecular theory of evolution (determination of a protein - the initial source for comparable proteins in different organisms, establishing the time of separation of organisms during evolution). The contact of Linguistics with biology is also carried out in the study of the possible hereditary nature of the basis of human linguistic abilities, which is associated with the problem of glottogenesis, and with the development of the idea of monogenesis of language. The status of neurolinguistics, which studies, on the basis of linguistic data,

the functions and zones of the central nervous system, associated in norm and pathology with language, has been more clearly defined. On the border of linguistics and psychiatry, there is a study of the characteristics of speech in different types of mental disorders. In psychoanalysis, attention is focused on unconscious speech errors and on the unconscious content of the patient's monologue, pronounced in the presence of a doctor. I.A.Baudouin de Courtenay, E. Sapir, M.M.Bakhtin, R.O. Yakobson, E. Benveniste, investigating the connection between the science of the unconscious and Linguistics, noted that different levels of language are “automated” to varying degrees and are not are recognized by the speakers.

As neurolinguistics develops, the question is raised about the relationship between different parts of the theory of language and the characteristics of the work of the corresponding zones of the human central nervous system. For understanding the features of human physiology, it is language that plays a particularly important role, which is gradually beginning to be taken into account both in theoretical works on psychophysiology and in medical (psychotherapeutic) applications that have analogies in folk medicine (conspiracy texts, etc.).

Modern instrumental methods of experimental phonetics are associated with the use of various devices, mainly electro-acoustic (spectrographs, intonographs, etc.), as well as registering the movements of the speech organs (articulation). Phonetics is therefore particularly closely related to physics and physiology. Technical problems associated with an increase in the effective use of speech information transmission channels and with oral communication with computers and works are practically the most important areas of applied linguistics, where speech is studied and Academician A.N. Kolmogorov and the American mathematician K. Shannon calculate its static characteristics using the methods of mathematical information theory developed.

The connection of Linguistics with information theory, the stimulus for the study of which was given by the technical applications of Linguistics, at the same time leads to a clear formulation of significant problems associated with the nature of the act of communication and with the social functions of language. For some areas of Linguistics in the first half of the 20th century, focusing only on the study of language as a "subject in itself" from the middle of the 20th century, followed by the rapprochement of Linguistics with the physical and mathematical sciences, in particular with mathematics; a special area of mathematics arises - mathematical linguistics, which includes the mathematical formal (algebraic) theory of grammars and the statistical theory of language (using the methods of mathematical statistics, probability theory and information theory).

Methods of mathematical logic are used to formally describe the categories of natural languages. Linguistics turned out to be the humanities that, without breaking ties with other sciences about man and his culture, was the first to decisively use not only instrumental observation methods (in phonetics) and experimental techniques (in

psycholinguistics), but also systematically apply mathematical methods (including number and computer) to receive and record their findings. Computational linguistics is rapidly developing, the purpose of which is the creation of complex systems for servicing computers by means of language, making it possible for a person to talk directly with a computer, automatic processing, memorization, search and output of information in speech form, and the like (sometimes some of these tasks are combined with the term "engineering linguistics").

The essential role of language and Linguistics for the computer revolution (especially in connection with the appearance by the mid-80s of personal and other computers capable of conducting a dialogue with the "consumer" in a natural language), which leads to further stimulation of the growth of precisely those areas of Linguistics that especially important for these newest practical applications. Many traditional areas of Linguistics significantly change the research methodology due to the ability to use computers in them: it becomes possible to build programs that reconstruct different alternative variants of phonological and grammatical levels of proto-languages, machine determination of the time of separation of related languages by the method of lexicostatistics, compilation of machine dictionaries for vast corpuses of ancient written texts and not a computer of auxiliary work for deciphering ancient scripts, recording in the memory of a machine a complete grammatical dictionary of a particular language, and the like. The nature of the application of these computational methods brings computational linguistics closer to such sciences as experimental physics, where the verification of the defining mathematical models is carried out by processing the experimental material on a computer, respectively.

The description of the world and its fragments in physics and other natural sciences uses natural language; to some extent, they continue to use it even after the development of a special mathematical language on its basis; the properties of a natural language retain their significance for these sciences to this day. Therefore, the need to take into account the peculiarities of natural language and the achievements of linguistics are recognized by the largest representatives of physics and other natural sciences.

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