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ON THE PROBLEM OF FUNCTIONALISM IN MODERN LINGUISTICS

Summary
Functional grammar is part of the general functional model of language. In other words, functional grammar is only one element of a wider functional field in linguistics. The scope of functional grammar coincides with such fields of study as grammatical typology, comparative grammar, grammatical analysis of text, psycholinguistics, pragmalinguistics, applied linguistics (in its grammatical aspects).

Traditional grammar is characterised by the orientation of research from form to semantics. In this case, the functional aspect is by no means excluded. In response to the question "How are grammatical units (forms and constructions) constructed?", the article states that this grammar studies the meaning and functions of forms, their classes and the grammatical categories represented in these classes. Therefore, in our opinion, it would not be entirely correct to call traditional grammar by its system-structural and functional aspects, although the formal aspect plays an important role. As mentioned above, this grammar is multilevel and monosystemic.

In conclusion, it can be said that: a) in modern linguistics there are different types of approaches to the study of functional grammar and different directions according to the nature of the research; b) the functional semantic field is a bilateral (two-sided) entity that has not only a plan of content but also a plan of expression.

Keywords: tradition, function, semantics, form, system, linguistic situation

Language is a multifunctional semiotic system arising and developing dialectically at a certain stage of human society development. According to I.M.Troyanova, "...the aspect that is known as the main object of language, if not the only one, is its functional aspect. The direct object of language is the linguistic situation, which is a special type of interlingual communication, and its various forms existing in the social life of a certain people at a certain stage of development of history. The function of language - "the practical manifestation of its essence, the realisation of its purpose in the system of social events is determined by the specific movement (development) of language, arising from its own nature and not existing without it, i.e. as there is no immobile matter, so an immobile (non-developing) language cannot exist". The importance of the discovery and study of language

functions for the study of language in both theoretical and applied aspects was more clearly demonstrated in 20th century linguistics, especially in linguistic functionalism. Thus, in a theoretical approach based on the concept of "language function", the fundamental characteristics of language cannot be described without reference to this concept. In the framework of functionalism, language is regarded as a tool that fulfils its functions, a means of realising certain human goals and intentions. In this sense, the functions of language can be identified with   its fundamental characteristics, because their studying as – "what is language?" helps to answer the question. In linguistics, the acceptance of the fundamental postulates about the priority of function over form and the ability to explain form by means of function seems to make it possible to accept and understand not only language as a whole, but also what each specific linguistic fact consists of (1, p. 56).

The problem of functionalism is an object of active discussion in modern linguistics. It is stated that functionalism as a linguistic paradigm is represented by a number of linguistic theories of different degrees of radicalisation. Some functionalists ("frontier" functionalists) consider functional analysis as a kind of auxiliary tool of formal analysis. The second functionalists ("middle" functionalists) study mainly grammar and consider it partly an independent and partly a motivated function. The third functionalists ("radical" functionalists) believe that functionalism should be studied mainly or mostly by reducing it to the level of discursive elements (2, p. 100).

Grammar as a linguistic science studies the form and content, structure and functioning of grammatical units and categories. The complex nature of grammatical units and categories has led to different approaches to them depending on the purpose of studying.

The study of grammatical form and grammatical meaning is based on two possible approaches - from form to meaning and from meaning to form. These two grammatical approaches are called onomasiological (structural-semantic, formal) and semasiological (semantic-structural, semantic) approaches.

Functional grammar assumes a certain role of the approach "from semantics to its means of expression" as the main starting point determining the creation of grammar. At the same time, within the framework of this basic premise, at different stages of analysis there is a movement in different directions from semantics to form and from form to semantics (from function to means and from means to function). Thus, although the leading role is played by the direction from semantics to its means of expression (according to the principle "semantics" means the description of the structure of grammar - functional-semantic groupings of fields), we proceed from the principle of synthesising both directions of grammatical description.

Traditional grammar is characterized by a direction of research from form to semantics. This does not exclude the functional aspect; regarding form and "how are grammatical units (forms and constructions) constructed?" In answer to the question, this grammar studies the meanings and functions of forms, their classes, and the grammatical categories represented within those classes. Therefore, it would not be

entirely correct to call traditional grammar with its systemic-structural and functional aspects formal grammar, despite the fact that the formal aspect plays an important role in it. As mentioned above, this grammar is based on the differential level and is monosystemic.

Grammar can have a functional character even in the transition from form to semantics - when the focus is on the meanings of forms and the regularities of their action. However, the specificity of functional grammar is revealed when applying the "semantic" approach, which determines the construction of grammatical description with all its peculiarities. The leading role of the analysis "from semantics to formal means" is connected with the special significance of this direction for the speaker's speech activity in functional grammar. In the process of idea formation, the speaker moves from the meaning he wants to convey to the formal means. In unifying the meaning formed and assigning it to one or another internal speech structure, the speaker's anticipation of what he wants to say about the means he will use to do so plays a major role in the dynamics of idea formation. Grammatical description of "semantics" is related to this side of the speaker's thought-speech activity.

This idea does not diminish the importance for the speaker of the direction from form to semantics. The speaker's speech skills include mastering the functional potential of each of the linguistic means and the rules of their operation. The approach from means to function is relevant for the speaker.

It is also important to take into account that the speaker controls his speech and at the same time is in the position of a listener. Therefore, in his thinking and speech activity the main direction from thought to means of expression is combined with the direction from formal means to the content of language and thought.

The position of the listener is also ambiguous. The connection of the listener's thought-speech activity with the main direction from formal means to their meanings and (in relation to the situation, context and encyclopaedic information) to the meaning extracted from them, for the listener is his experience of activity in the speaker's space. Position plays an important role. Unless one knows the mechanism of the speaker's activity, it is impossible to fully realise the activity of the listener.

This confirms the necessity of creating a functional grammar in such a way that its structure is determined by the "semantic" approach, and both approaches are used in describing linguistic facts in turn (3, pp. 18-20).

The necessity of synthesising both directions of description in functional grammar is also connected with the fact that a certain function can be realised by different linguistic means, and on the other hand, one and the same linguistic mean can usually has different functions (e.g. comparing with the principle put forward by S.O.Kartsevsky about the asymmetrical dualism of the linguistic sign, it is in the "two-way approach" that the fullness of these asymmetrical relations can be covered (4, pp. 85-93).

The direction from form to semantics is necessary in any grammar, including functional grammar. Turning only to form makes it possible to discover and take into

account the meanings expressed in this language in all their complexity, in their diversity, which cannot be said in advance.

On the other hand, analyses based on semantics allow us to go beyond the "simple and obvious" means (of the affixation type), which grammar has been studying for a long time, and to turn to the study of more complex means related to the interaction elements of different levels.

There is an intrinsic relationship between the aspects of grammatical description we are considering. The "from-semantics" approach implicitly includes the results of the "from-form" description. The semantics studied in functional grammar is always "potentially grammatical". Even where elements of the lexical meaning of words are involved (e.g. compare verbs denoting state, situation, attitude), these elements are important for the structure of language and the functioning of its units. They are included in the sphere of variation of generalised semantic categories, in their expression of which grammatical means are involved.

Linguists have long been talking about the need for a "two-pronged approach" in grammar and the correlation between the directions of form and meaning.

Analysing A.A.Shakhmatov's syntactic system, S.I.Bernshtein wrote as early as 1922: ".... for the starting point of syntactic research takes the material taken from physically realised and understood external speech. The researcher goes from this material existence to its psychical source - from the sound manifestation of thought to meanings. For example, the existence of a command form in a language indicates the existence of a command category in the psyche of that language. But on the other hand, it is possible that this category also finds its expression in other forms - in other sound manifestations, for example, in the form of an infinitive pronounced with appropriate intonation. Therefore, having determined the known meaning and category by means of form, the researcher must go in the opposite direction and examine the whole material of the external manifestations of thought in language from the point of view of the found category. The result is a system of double correspondences: 1) the command form is a grammatical command, conditional, etc. means, 2) the command discharge is expressed in the command form of the verb, in the infinitive form with the corresponding intonation, etc. Only in this second system syntax is completed and reaches its ultimate goal - the goal of knowledge about a certain field of manifestations of thought and external methods of their detection" [5, c. 208-233].

Similar ideas were expressed in O. Jespersen's work "Philosophy of Grammar" in 1924: "A perfect system can be created if it is based on the two-way principle defined in lexicology. In grammatica, too, it can be started from the outside as well as from the inside. In the first part (F→M), we treat form as we treat this value and then determine its meaning or function; in the second part (M→F), on the contrary, we draw on values and functions and determine how they are expressed in form. The grammatical facts are the same in both parts, only the approach to them is different: both parts of the grammar complement each other with their different

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interpretations and, taken together, give a perfectly clear and general picture of the facts of a particular language." [6, 39-40].

The division of the functional-semantic field is based on the unity of linguistic means and their functions used in expressing ideas in a particular language. By separating one of these means and its function, we inevitably "usurp" other linguistic means related to the realisation of this function. To give an example, let us define the correlation (not that they have the same meaning!) of such types of statements: a) We strained tea and started talking about work; b) We drank tea and started talking about business; c) Drunking tea, we started talking about business. As a result, we create a whole chain of interrelated linguistic means (forms, constructions, lexical indicators) serving to express a complex of semantic signs and their variants within the studied semantic category. After that, the researcher's task is to determine how to group the means identified in the language under study, how to organise them systematically and structurally. Usually, this is determined by the distinction of certain circles of functions within this field (our example assumes a distinction between dependent and independent taxis functions).

Applying to the whole complex of bases of unification of semasiological ("from semantics") and onomasiological ("from form") approaches in functional grammar, I once again noted that these bases unite and complement each other.Let us make: 1) modelling of participants of the communicative act, first of all, important sides of the speaker's thought-speech activity; 2) asymmetric relations of semantics and form, functions and means, semantic categories and internal relations of linguistic forms.

The direction of functional research in linguistics has existed for a long time. If we consider the tradition of linguistics, we are primarily talking about the concepts of A.A.Potebnya and A.A.Shakhmatov, as well as the works of I.A.Baudouin de Courtenay, A.M.Peshkovsky, L.V.Shcherba, V.V.Vinogradov and I.I.Meshchaninov from there.

The studies of the representatives of the Prague school F.Bruno, O.Jespersen retain their importance to this day. The ideas of E.Koshmider, J.Kurilovich, G.Guillaume and E.Benveniste have not lost their relevance even today.

Functional grammar is a part of the general functional model of language. In other words, functional grammar is one of the elements of a broader functional direction in linguistics. The field of application of functional grammar overlaps with such research areas as grammatical typology, comparative grammar, grammatical text analysis, psycholinguistics, applied linguistics (in its grammatical aspects) and pragmalinguistics.

Works containing a broad description of the meanings of grammatical units are of great importance for the development of functional grammar. For example, extensive material for the creation of functional grammar can be found in the work "Russian Grammar" published in 1980 (7), especially in N. Y. Shvedova's studies devoted to the semantic description of the sentence (8).

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G.B.Alıyeva
Müasir dilçilikdə funksionalizm probleminə dair
Xülasə

Funksional qrammatika dilin ümumi funksional modelinin bir hissəsidir. Başqa sözlə, funksional qrammatika dilçilikdə daha geniş funksional sahənin yalnız bir elementidir. Funksional qrammatikanın əhatə dairəsi qrammatik tipologiya, müqayisəli qrammatika, mətnin qrammatik təhlili, psixolinqvistika, praqmalinqvistika, tətbiqi dilçilik (qrammatik aspektlərində) kimi tədqiqat sahələri ilə üst-üstə düşür. Ənənəvi qrammatika tədqiqatın formadan semantikaya yönəldilməsi ilə xarakterizə olunur. Bu zaman heç də funksional cəhət istisna edilmir. "Qrammatik vahidlər (formalar və konstruksiyalar) necə qurulur?" sualına cavab olaraq bildiririk ki, bu qrammatika formaların mənasını və funksiyalarını, siniflərini və bu siniflərdə təmsil olunan qrammatik kateqoriyaları öyrənir. Buna görə də, fikrimizcə, formal aspektin mühüm rol oynamasına baxmayaraq, ənənəvi qrammatikanı sistem-struktur və funksional aspektləri ilə adlandırmaq tamamilə düzgün olmazdı. Yuxarıda göstərildiyi kimi, bu qrammatika çoxsəviyyəli və monosistemlidir**.** Nəticədə qeyd olunur ki, a) müasir linqvistikada funksional qrammatikanın öyrənilməsinə fərqli yanaşma tipləri və tədqiqatların xarakterinə uyğun müxtəlif istiqamətlər mövcuddur; b) funksional-semantik sahə bilateral vahiddir, onun təkcə məzmun planı deyil, həm də ifadə planı vardır.

Açar sözlər: ənənə, funksiya, semantika, forma, sistem, linqvistik situasiya

Г.Б.Алыева
О проблеме функционализма в современной лингвистике
Резюме

Функциональная грамматика является частью общей функциональной модели языка. Другими словами, функциональная грамматика - это всего лишь один элемент более широкой функциональной области в лингвистике. Сфера применения функциональной грамматики совпадает с такими областями изучения, как грамматическая типология, сравнительная грамматика, грамматический анализ текста, психолингвистика, прагмалингвистика, прикладная лингвистика (в ее грамматических аспектах). Традиционная грамматика характеризуется ориентацией исследований от формы к семантике. В этом случае функциональный аспект вообще не исключается. В ответ на вопрос: "Как строятся грамматические единицы (формы и конструкции)?" в статье утверждается, что данная грамматика изучает значение и функции форм, их классы и грамматические категории, представленные в этих классах. Поэтому, на наш взгляд, было бы не совсем корректно называть традиционную грамматику по ее системно-структурному и функциональному аспектам, несмотря на то, что формальный аспект играет важную роль. Как упоминалось выше, эта грамматика многоуровневая и моносистемная. В заключении констатируется что: а) в современной лингвистике существуют разные типы подходов к изучению функциональной грамматики и разные направления, соответствующие характеру исследований; б) функционально-семантическое поле - это билатеральная (двусторонняя) единица, у которой есть не только план содержания, но и план выражения.
Ключевые слова: традиция, функция, семантика, форма, система, языковая ситуация

Rəyçi: professor Həbib Zərbəliyev