

TYPOLOGY AND FUNCTIONS OF A COMPLIMENT

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ABSTRACT

This article is devoted to the analysis of a compliment as one of the speech acts. It also emphasizes the structure, typology and function of compliments in communication. The object for this article is Oscar Wilde's works in which complimentary statements are found.

Keywords: compliments, compliment classification, speech structure, pragmatics, speech acts.

АННОТАЦИЯ

Данная статья посвящена анализу комплимента как одного из речевых актов. Также подчеркивается структура, типология и функция комплиментов в общении. Объектом данной статьи являются произведения Оскара Уайльда, в которых встречаются комплементарные высказывания.

Ключевые слова: комплименты, классификация комплиментов, речевая структура, прагматика, речевые акты.

ANNOTATSIYA

Ushbu maqola iltifotni nutq aktlaridan biri sifatida tahlil qilishga bag'ishlangan. Shuningdek, muloqotda iltifotlarning tuzilishi, tipologiyasi va vazifasi ham ta'kidlangan. Ushbu maqolaning ob'ekti Oskar Uayldning iltifotli gaplar topilgan asarlaridir.

Kalit so'zlar: iltifotlar, iltifotlarning tasnifi, nutq tuzilishi, pragmatika, nutqiy aktlar.

INTRODUCTION

Pragmatics originated and developed within the framework of semiotics, which was considered by the American scientist Charles Peirce as a science that unites all fields of knowledge. The idea of looking at pragmatics as a separate branch of semiotics was first expressed by Ch. Morris. This scientist, who created the classification of linguistic signs, proposed to divide semiotics into three independent parts: semantics, which studies the relationship of linguistic signs to the subject,

syntax, which describes the relationship of signs to each other, and pragmatics, which studies the relationship of signs to individuals.¹

J. Searle, a disciple of J. Austin, draws on his predecessor's theories. He differentiated the illocutionary and prepositional components of a speech and offered a more unified taxonomy of illocutionary acts:

representative or assertive - statements expressing the speaker's belief in the truth of his propositional content;

directives - statements in which the speaker tries to persuade the listeners to take some action;

commissives - statements in which the speaker assumes certain obligations regarding the subsequent course of events;

expressives - statements denoting the speaker's mental state in relation to something;

declarations - statements, the use of which the speaker tries to persuade the listeners to perform.

According to this categorization, the compliment we're looking at belongs in the category of **expressives**.

Compliments have three kinds of meanings: they are remarks that express admiration of someone or something; they are remarks that show that we trust someone else and have a good opinion of them; they are remarks that express praise, or good wishes.²

METHODS

Compliments have been the subject of a lot of research, with different research methodologies being used to look at them from different angles and this work is dedicated to analyze the classification of compliments, their function and types.

The methods used in the article: analytical method, method of pragmatic description, structural analysis, as well as research methods of systematization and classification of the analyzed material.

The classification of a compliment which is given below was proposed by I.S. Morozova and this classification is thematic and includes the following headings:³

1. a compliment to appearance,
2. a compliment to a piece of clothing,

¹ Safarov Sh. Pragmalinguistics. -T.: State Scientific Publishing House of the National Encyclopedia of Uzbekistan, 2008. - 286 p

² Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English, 2004

³ Morozova I.S. Some Features of the Speech Act of Compliment in the English Linguistic Culture (on the Materials of Texts of Artistic Works of the 20th Century) / I.S. Morozov // www.easyschool.ru/ref/81/273/

3. a compliment to inner qualities,
4. a compliment to the mind, abilities and talents,
5. a compliment to age,
6. compliment to actions, results of actions,
7. a compliment belonging to the addressee or a family member of the addressee.

1. Compliments on looks are more typically given to women, although they are also given to men. An attractive hairstyle, cosmetics, or body can be marked by such a compliment:

You have a stunning hairstyle and a flawless figure!

2. A compliment made at an item of clothing (more typically aimed at women):
You look gorgeous in this dress! / You have excellent taste.

3. Compliment to internal qualities:

You are the most kind and sincere / You have a wonderful character.

In such a compliment, the spiritual and moral qualities of a person are noted.

4. Making a compliment to the mind, abilities, we praise the mind and wit, the professional level of the interlocutor:

You are a rare specialist!

5. Downplaying the age of the addressee, unless he is young:

You look so young!

6. You can approve of both the act and the behavior in general:

You did a great job! / If I were you, I would be at loss, you behaved well.

7. Compliment to relatives or things belonging to the addressee:

What a lovely daughter you have! / What a gorgeous bouquet! Who gave?

The speech structure of compliments allows us to distinguish the following types of compliments: direct compliment, indirect compliment, compliment - antithesis, compliment - answer.

1. Direct compliment:

The construction of a direct compliment is fairly standard. In direct compliments, there is a direct mention of the virtues of a person or what he does. For example:

"You look great!" This hairstyle really suits you!

2. Indirect compliment:

In an indirect compliment, the addresser's ability to think outside the box and its adequate verbalization is realized. The addresser does not praise the addressee himself, but what is dear to him:

“What lovely children you have!”

3. Compliment-antithesis:

As in an indirect compliment, the addresser's ability for non-standard thinking and its adequate verbalization is realized here. Compliments of this type are based on the antithesis. This form of compliment is the most emotional and memorable, according to psychologists. However, the "minus" should never be more than the "plus," otherwise the effect may be the absolute opposite of what the addresser expected. Such compliments seldom involve motive, since this might make him appear pretentious and untrustworthy, and instead consist of an appeal and a message:

When I finished reading your book, I just had one regret: I didn't write it!

4. Compliment-answer

Compliments-responses are most often of the same type. They seldom contain appeal or inspiration, and instead focus on a message about the interlocutor's positive qualities. This message is usually intended as an indirect compliment:

“- You look good.”

“- Thanks. You too.”

There are six different types of compliment functions:

1) To show appreciation or approval for someone's work, attractiveness, or taste.

For example:

“Your coat is very nice.”

This compliment only compliments the speaker's admiration for the other's beauty.

2) To establish, affirm, and sustain unity. When a stranger enters a group and makes the speech described above, it may also be viewed as a technique of establishing a new friendly relationship inside the group.

3) To substitute for welcomes, appreciation, apologies, and congratulations.

When two friends meet for the first time, one of them says something like this:

“How wonderful you are today!”

This phrase serves the same purpose as the greeting *“How are you?”*

4) To make face-threatening activities like apologies, demands, and criticism less intimidating. If the speaker offends the listener, he can shift the subject and alleviate the hostile environment with a praise.

5) To start and keep a discussion going (conversation technique). If the interlocutors are strangers, they might start by complimenting each other to start the discussion. The example below exemplifies it perfectly.

“Hello, your English is excellent; when did you start learning it?”

6) To encourage the desired behavior. It is commonplace in everyday life.

"What lovely ear rings you have! What store did you get these from? "

These two lines express the speaker's appreciation as well as her great desire to get the identical ones.

In the course of the study of complimentary statements, J. Holmes, P. Brown and N. Wolfson found that a compliment can express many illocutionary functions. These scientists believe that a compliment is applicable in situations of congratulations, gratitude, apologies, greetings. For example, consider the situation of greeting. Thus, when greeting a lady, the gentleman emphasizes the significance and importance of the meeting. The adjective *brilliant* is used here.

"Everyone is dying to know the brilliant Mrs. Cheveley."

"Thank you, Sir Robert. An acquaintance that begins with a compliment is sure to develop into a real friendship. It straits in the right manner."

(Oscar Wilde "An Ideal Husband" p. 179)

The situation of gratitude is characterized by the use of exclamatory sentences, the adjective good with a positive assessment.

"Lady Chiltren, I have a certain amount of very good news to tell you. Mrs. Cheveley gave me up Robert's letter last night, and I burnt it. Robert is safe."

"Safe! Oh! I'm so glad of that! What a good friend you are to him - to us!"

(Oscar Wilde "An Ideal Husband" p.262)

In English the main function of a compliment has a number of specific manifestations. For example, a compliment can replace greetings or follow them directly, for example:

"Good-evening, dear Gertrude! So kind of you to let me bring my friend, Mrs. Cheveley. Two such charming women should know each other!"

(Oscar Wilde "An Ideal Husband" p. 176)

At the syntactic level, the researcher identifies a number of distinguishing features of direct and indirect compliments. According to the author, direct compliments are characterized by affirmative sentences containing recognition of the positive features of the addressee. For example:

"Lady Chiltern, you are a sensible woman, the most sensible woman in London, the most sensible woman I know."

(Oscar Wilde "An Ideal Husband" p.268)

Compliments to family members and close friends are a common occurrence in English communication. Friends and family have complimented this direction. Because such communication entails a degree of intimacy, the speaker is compelled

to communicate emotions, which he does by using a lot of exclamatory words and rich syntactic structures.

Adjectives with a pronounced positive connotation (pretty, fine, nice, sweet) are widely used, for example:

"Cecily Gardew? What a very sweet name! Something tells me that we are going to be great friends. I like you already more than I can say. My first impressions of people are never wrong."

"How nice of you to like me so much after we have known each other such a comparatively short time. Pray sit down."

(Oscar Wilde "The Importance of Being Earnest" p.323-324)

Compliments about age, as well as jewelry, clothes of a person are not very common in English language communication. Here are some examples of such compliments:

1) "And I'm ...I'm a little over thirty." "Dear, you look weeks younger than that."

(Oscar Wilde "An Ideal Husband" p.261)

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The way a compliment is delivered in speech is largely impacted by a society's culture. A detailed understanding of the value system of the studied linguistic group is required to comprehend the functioning of a complement in a culture that is alien to the researcher.

A compliment is a social tactic in which the speaker expresses praise, approbation, or respect for the interlocutor while also attempting to create and maintain cordial connections with him. A compliment's primary function is to express gratitude. A complement can convey appreciation, respect, or praise. There are two types of compliments: spontaneous and forced, as well as direct and indirect. There are compliments made to an absent individual, as well as praise derived from the words of others. The study's findings revealed that compliments to a person's intrinsic moral characteristics, as well as praises that measure professionalism, compliments to mental ability, and compassion, dominated in the English-speaking communicative culture.

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