THE DOCTRINE OF PARTS OF SPEECH IN RUSSIAN GRAMMATICAL SCIENCE

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Annotation: This article examines the historical and theoretical development of the doctrine of parts of speech in Russian grammatical science. It analyzes the contributions of early grammarians, 20th-century structural linguists, and modern approaches that integrate semantic, morphological, syntactic, and functional criteria. The study highlights the significance of this doctrine for contemporary linguistics, language teaching, and comparative grammatical analysis.

Keywords: parts of speech, Russian grammar, classification, morphological criteria, syntactic function, linguistic theory.

УЧЕНИЕ О ЧАСТЯХ РЕЧИ В РУССКОЙ ГРАММАТИЧЕСКОЙ НАУКЕ

Аннотация: В статье рассматривается историческое и теоретическое развитие учения о частях речи в русской грамматической науке. Анализируются взгляды ранних грамматистов, подходы структурной лингвистики XX века и современные классификации, основанные на семантических, морфологических, синтаксических и функциональных критериях. Подчёркивается значение данного учения для современного языкознания, преподавания и сравнительной грамматики.

Ключевые слова: части речи, русская грамматика, классификация, морфологические признаки, синтаксическая функция, лингвистическая теория.

RUS GRAMMATIKA FANIDA NUTQ QISMLARINI O'QITISH

Annotatsiya: Maqolada rus grammatik fanida so'z turkumlari talqini tarixiy va nazariy jihatdan tahlil qilinadi. Unda dastlabki grammatchilar qarashlari, XX asr struktur tilshunosligi yondashuvlari hamda semantik, morfologik, sintaktik va funksional mezonlarga asoslangan zamonaviy tasniflar yoritiladi. Tadqiqot so'z turkumlari doktrinasining tilshunoslik, ta'lim va qiyosiy grammatika uchun ahamiyatini ko'rsatadi.

Kalit so'zlar: so'z turkumlari, rus grammatikasi, tasnif, morfologik mezonlar, sintaktik vazifa, nazariy tilshunoslik.

The doctrine of parts of speech occupies a central position in Russian grammatical science and represents one of the most enduring and theoretically complex areas of linguistic study. Since the earliest stages of Russian philology, scholars have sought to establish the principles that govern the classification of words, determine their grammatical properties, and explain their functional roles within utterances. The evolution of this doctrine reflects broader developments in linguistic methodology, including the shift from prescriptive grammar to structural and functional linguistic approaches. Contemporary Russian linguistics continues to refine the criteria for identifying parts of speech by integrating morphological, syntactic, semantic, and functional principles.

The 20th century marked a turning point in the scientific understanding of Russian grammar. Structural linguistics, led by scholars such as L. Shcherba, V. Vinogradov, and A. Reformatskii, brought forward a multidimensional approach to classification. Vinogradov proposed that parts of speech should be identified through a combination of semantic, morphological, and syntactic features, resulting in a more comprehensive and logically grounded system.

During this period, Russian linguistics began to distinguish between notional (самостоятельные) and functional (служебные) parts of speech. Notional words were characterized by lexical meaning and independent syntactic function, while functional words performed relational and structural roles within a sentence. This distinction allowed linguists to better describe the grammatical behavior of words that did not fit neatly into traditional categories.

The study of parts of speech in Russian grammatical science is rooted in a long-standing linguistic tradition that integrates classical, structural, and functional theories. The foundations of this doctrine were established through the influence of ancient Greek and Latin grammar, which introduced the earliest models of word classification. These classical frameworks provided the initial categories—such as the noun, verb, adjective, and adverb—that later Russian scholars adapted to the structural and semantic characteristics of the Russian language. Thus, the theoretical background begins with an understanding of universal linguistic principles inherited from classical philology.

A major theoretical shift occurred in the works of leading Russian grammarians of the 18th and 19th centuries. Mikhail Lomonosov developed a system that classified Russian words based on morphological and syntactic properties, forming a scientific basis for subsequent linguistic inquiry. His approach emphasized the role of inflection and syntactic function in determining grammatical categories. Later scholars, including F. Buslaev and A. Potebnia, enriched the doctrine by introducing psychological, semantic, and cognitive perspectives. They argued that parts of speech cannot be understood solely through formal features but must also reflect semantic content and mental processes underlying language use. Their contributions established a more complex interplay between form and meaning within grammatical theory.

The theoretical background expanded significantly in the 20th century with the rise of structural linguistics. L. Shcherba, V. Vinogradov, and A. Reformatskii laid the groundwork for a multidimensional classification system. Structural linguistics asserted that the classification of words should rely on several interrelated criteria: semantic meaning, morphological markers, syntactic roles, and functional characteristics. Vinogradov's theory became particularly influential because it proposed a balanced, integrative model that remains central to contemporary grammatical science. This theoretical perspective marked the transition from single-criterion to multi-criterion classification.

Another key advancement in theoretical understanding is the distinction between notional (самостоятельные) and functional (служебные) parts of speech. This differentiation reflects the broader linguistic theories of autonomy and dependency in syntax. Notional parts of speech possess full lexical meaning and participate independently in sentence construction, while functional parts of speech act as relational markers that structure syntactic connections. This theoretical insight helped linguists explain the behavior of prepositions, conjunctions, particles, and other units that do not carry independent semantic weight yet serve essential grammatical functions.

Modern linguistic theory incorporates functional grammar, cognitive linguistics, and discourse analysis into the study of parts of speech. Contemporary scholars argue that language must be described not only as a system of forms but also as a tool of communication. Therefore, the classification of parts of speech must account for pragmatic and communicative factors, such as information structure, emphasis, and speaker intention. Additionally, cognitive linguistics

contributes by explaining how conceptual categories shape grammatical structures, demonstrating that parts of speech reflect fundamental patterns of human cognition.

Finally, modern theories acknowledge the existence of intermediate or transitional grammatical categories. Words such as statives, verbal nouns, and predicative forms exhibit mixed features that do not fit neatly into traditional classifications. Their presence shows that grammatical categories are not entirely discrete but can overlap, evolve, and adapt to communicative needs. This understanding aligns with contemporary linguistic views that grammar is a dynamic system shaped by usage and discourse.

Contemporary Russian grammatical science relies on a holistic classification model that integrates four major criteria:
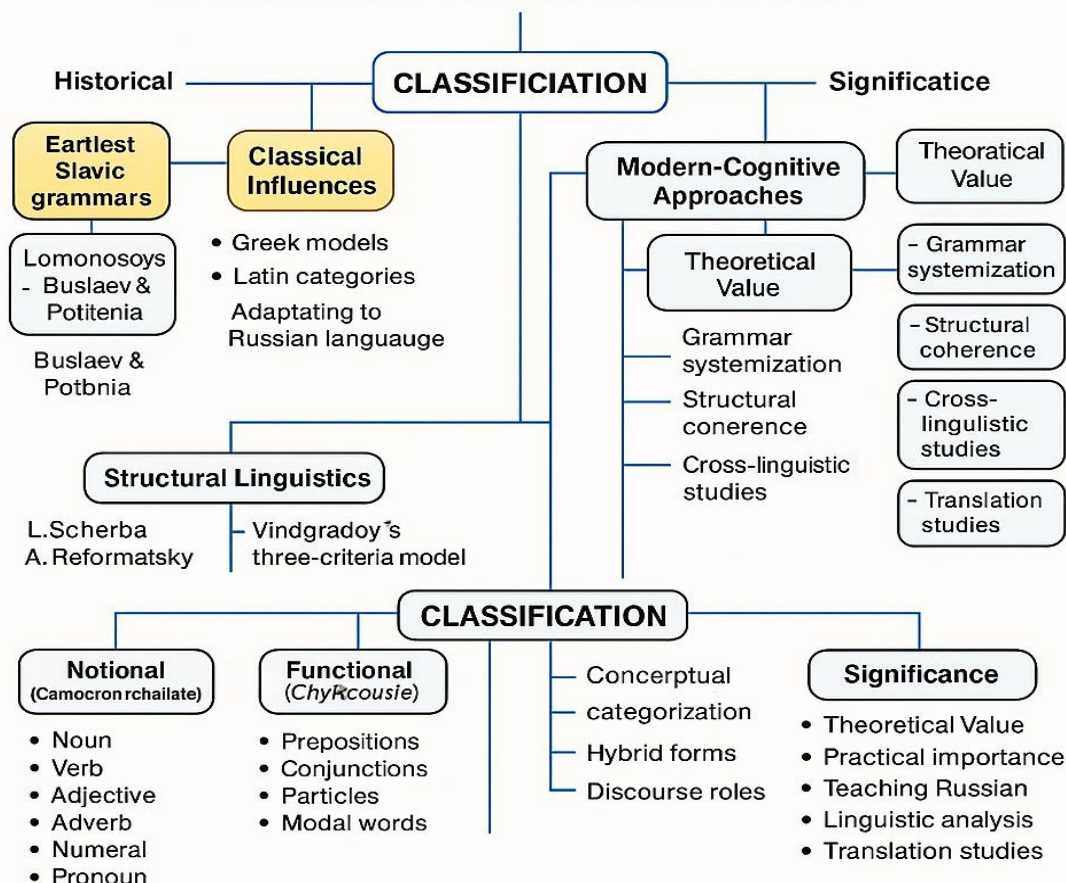
1.   Semantic criterion – defines the general meaning category associated with a part of speech (e.g., objectivity, quality, action).

2.   Morphological criterion – identifies characteristic grammatical categories and paradigms (e.g., case, number, tense, aspect).

3.   Syntactic criterion – describes typical syntactic positions and functions within a sentence.

4.   Functional criterion – analyzes the communicative purpose and grammatical behavior of a word in actual speech.

Modern linguists also recognize the existence of transitional or intermediate categories such as verbal nouns, predicative words, and statives, which exhibit hybrid grammatical features. The study of these units demonstrates the dynamic and flexible nature of Russian grammar.

Understanding the classification of parts of speech is essential for linguistic theory, lexicography, language teaching, and translation studies. The doctrine plays a crucial role in constructing grammatical descriptions, analyzing sentence structure, developing educational materials, and clarifying stylistic and semantic subtleties of Russian language use. Its significance extends to comparative linguistics, where cross-linguistic analysis reveals both universal and language-specific grammatical patterns.

THE DOCTRINE OF PARTS OF SPEECH IN RUSSIAN GRAMMATICAL SCIENCE

The doctrine of parts of speech in Russian grammatical science has undergone a long and multifaceted development, evolving from classical traditions to modern structural and functional approaches. The interplay of semantic, morphological, syntactic, and functional criteria has produced a comprehensive and scientifically grounded system that reflects the complexity of the Russian language. As linguistic research continues to expand, the study of parts of speech remains a vital field that contributes to a deeper understanding of grammatical theory and language functioning as a whole.

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