

## ISSUES OF STYLE AND REGISTER IN WESTERN LINGUISTICS

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**Annotatsiya:** Ushbu maqola ingliz tilida uslub va registri tahlil qiladi, tilning kontekst va muloqot maqsadiga qarab farqlanishini ko'rsatadi. Stil so'zlovchi yoki yozuvchi tanlovlarini, registr esa ijtimoiy va funksional kontekstga ko'ra til o'zgarishini bildiradi. Funktsional uslub va registr o'rtasidagi farqlar leksik, grammatik va diskurs xususiyatlari bilan tushuntiriladi, tilning muloqotdagi roli yoritiladi.

**Kalit so'zlar:** *Uslub, Registr, Funktsional Uslub, Til Xilma-xilligi, Kontekst, Ingliz Tili*

**Abstract:** This paper analyzes style and register in English, showing how language varies by context and communicative purpose. Style reflects the choices of speakers or writers, while register indicates language variation across social and functional contexts. Differences between functional style and register are discussed in terms of lexical, grammatical, and discourse features, highlighting language adaptation and its role in communication.

**Key words:** *Style, Register, Functional Style, Language Variation, Context, English*

В статье анализируются стиль и регистр в английском языке, показывается, как язык меняется в зависимости от контекста и цели коммуникации. Стиль отражает выбор говорящего или пишущего, а регистр обозначает языковое разнообразие в социальном и функциональном контексте. Различия между функциональным стилем и регистром рассматриваются через лексические, грамматические и дискурсивные особенности, подчеркивая адаптацию языка и его роль в общении.

**Ключевые слова:** *Стиль, Регистр, Функциональный стиль, Языковое разнообразие, Контекст, Английский язык*

A number of studies have been conducted in English linguistics on the study of language styles, and the contribution of members of the Prague Linguistic School to the development of English stylistics has been particularly significant. **R. Jakobson** and **J. Mukařovský** sought to identify formal and functional differences between literary and non-literary language.<sup>1</sup>

The linguistic study and stylistic analysis of literary works gradually increased scholarly interest in non-literary texts as well, which led to the emergence of a branch of stylistics specifically devoted to the analysis of non-literary discourse. In the development of this field, the contributions of **D. Crystal** and **D. Davy**, as well as **N. Enkvist**, have been especially influential. While **Crystal** and **Davy** focused on how social context can impose constraints on a speaker's

<sup>1</sup>[Jakobson R. *Style in Language // Linguistics and Poetics*. In T. Sebeok (Ed.), The Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 1960, pp. 350–377; Mukařovský J. *The Esthetics of Language*. In Paul Garvin (Ed.), *A Prague School Reader on Esthetics, Literary Structure, and Style*. Washington: Georgetown University Press, 1964, pp. 31–69]



use of linguistic units <sup>2</sup>, **Enkvist**, by contrast, emphasized how a speaker's choice of linguistic forms can influence the addressee in the process of communication.<sup>3</sup>

Thus, linguists began to actively discuss the selection of linguistic elements used in different communicative situations.

In the co-authored work by **M. Halliday, A. McIntosh, and P. Strevens**, the following idea is expressed: "*The more varied the functions of speech are, the more varied the language used in that speech will be*".<sup>4</sup>

This diversity varies according to the different situations in which language is used and is referred to as **register**. In addition, register also differs depending on the lexical and grammatical characteristics of the linguistic units employed in a particular text.

In general, several terms are used in linguistics, and the distinctions between them have consistently been a matter of debate. For example, such notions as "**functional style**," "**register**," and "**language variety**" (or "**language variant**") are widely employed. These terms are largely associated with different linguistic schools; for instance, Russian linguists have conducted extensive research on the concept of **functional style**.

Discussions and early scholarly views on speech style in English are mainly associated with D. Crystal and D. Davy, as well as N. Enkvist, since it was in their works that the term *style* was first defined and its various meanings were explained; in their studies, they began to analyze the notion of style from a functional perspective. The term *style* is not limited to the academic sphere alone, as it also has other meanings; for example, style may refer to the way a writer or speaker conveys their ideas <sup>5</sup>, where techniques of writing and speaking are implied. D. Crystal and D. Davy identify four meanings of the term *style*: it may denote an individual's habitual use of language, for example, Shakespeare's style; it may refer to the linguistic habits shared by many people during a particular period, such as the style of Augustan poets; it may signify a manner of expression, that is, expressing an idea effectively; and it may denote a mode of literary composition in creative writing. <sup>6</sup>The term *style* may also be understood as the diversity of linguistic units used in the process of communication; however, in linguistics, style is regarded as the set of linguistic choices made by a language user according to the purpose of communication, context, and genre. G. Leech and M. Short do not consider *style* to be a particularly controversial term and define it as "the way in which language is used in a given context, by a given person, for a given purpose".<sup>7</sup>

In Anglo-Saxon (modern British English) linguistics, the term *register* is used instead of *functional style* and is discussed precisely in place of the term *style*; in stylistic analysis within linguistics, it is the term *register*, rather than *style*, that is applied. I. V. Arnold notes that English linguists use the term *register* instead of *functional style of speech* and explains its meaning as follows: "Register is the process of oral or written communication in various types of situations,

<sup>2</sup> [Crystal D., Davy D. *Investigating English Style*. New York: Routledge, 2013, p. 10]

<sup>3</sup> [Enkvist N. E. *Linguistic Stylistics*. Paris–The Hague, 1973]

<sup>4</sup> [Halliday M. A. K., McIntosh A., & Strevens P. *The Linguistic Sciences and Language Teaching*. (Longmans' Linguistic Library). London: Longmans, 1964, p. 87]

<sup>5</sup> [Abrams M. *A Glossary of Literary Terms*. London: Harcourt Brace Jovanovich College Publishers, 1993, p. 203]

<sup>6</sup> [Crystal D., Davy D. *Investigating English Style*. Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1969, p. 9]

<sup>7</sup> [Leech G., Short M. *Style in Fiction: A Linguistic Introduction to English Fiction Prose*. London: Longman, 1981, p. 10]



which differ from one another according to different professional or field-specific domains”.<sup>8</sup>In English, there are religious, informal spoken, scientific, advertising, and other registers, but no strict classification of them has been established. In English linguistics, classificatory descriptions of functional styles of speech are scarcely encountered; however, there is a substantial body of research aimed at identifying different registers and their characteristics. The main reason for this is that English linguists use the term *style* to refer to an author’s literary style or to a particular manner of expressing ideas, whereas the term *register* is applied to any other types of texts. Nevertheless, when comparing the terms *functional style* and *register*, it becomes evident that they do not fully coincide semantically.

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<sup>8</sup> [Arnold I. V. *Stylistics of the Modern English Language*. 13th ed., 2015, Moscow: Flinta, p. 384]

