

THE DOCTRINE OF PARTS OF SPEECH IN RUSSIAN GRAMMATICAL SCIENCE

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Abstract. This article is devoted to the analysis of the evolution of the doctrine of parts of speech in Russian linguistic tradition. The author traces the history of the development of this doctrine from Old Russian grammars to modern research, identifying key stages and turning points in its formation. Special attention is paid to modern discussions regarding the foundations of classification of parts of speech, the problem of boundaries between them, and the place of interjections in the system of the Russian language. A conceptual model describing the parts-of-speech system is proposed, integrating traditional and cognitive approaches.

Keywords: parts of speech, grammatical category, word combination, morphology, syntax, cognitive linguistics, functional grammar.

The doctrine of parts of speech represents a fundamental section of grammatical science with a centuries-long history of development. The question of the nature and foundations of the classification of words into parts of speech remains one of the most controversial in modern linguistics, which is due to both the internal complexity of the linguistic phenomenon and the evolution of methodological approaches to its study [1].

The Russian grammatical tradition has made a significant contribution to the development of the theory of parts of speech, from the first descriptions of Old Russian to modern comprehensive research. Throughout the history of Russian linguistics, there has been intense interaction between the borrowing of European concepts and the development of original theoretical solutions [2].

The purpose of this study is a comprehensive analysis of the evolution of the doctrine of parts of speech in Russian grammatical science, identifying its current state and prospects for development.

Pre-Revolutionary Period (17th — early 20th century)

The formation of the Russian doctrine of parts of speech is inextricably linked with the process of development of grammatical thought in Russia. The first attempts to describe the vocabulary of the Russian language were made within the framework of Church Slavonic grammatical tradition, oriented toward Greek and Latin linguistics [3].

A turning point was the appearance of M.V. Lomonosov's "Russian Grammar" (1755), where an original classification was proposed for the first time, taking into account the specifics of the Russian language. Lomonosov distinguished four "variable" parts of speech (noun, adjective, pronoun, numeral) and four "invariable" ones (participle, gerund, adverb, preposition), while the verb was considered as a special category [4].

In the 19th century, the traditional eight-member classification, originating from the Latin school but adapted to the material of the Russian language, became established in Russian linguistics. F.F. Fortunatov and his followers laid the foundations of the formal approach to defining parts of speech, based on morphological criteria.

Soviet Period (1920s–1990s)

Soviet linguistics was marked by an intensive discussion about the nature of parts of speech, known as the "dispute about parts of speech." The central question was the relationship between lexical and grammatical meaning of a word as the foundation of classification [5].



A.A. Potebnya and his followers developed the psychological direction, considering parts of speech as a reflection of forms of thought. In contrast to them, V.V. Vinogradov substantiated the semantic-grammatical approach, according to which a part of speech is determined by the combination of lexico-grammatical categories, general lexical meaning, and syntactic function [6].

In the 1950s–1960s, within the framework of structuralism, formal methods of describing morphological classes were actively developed. A.A. Zaliznyak proposed strict criteria for determining parts of speech based on paradigmatic and syntagmatic relations, which made it possible to overcome purely intuitive approaches [7].

Table 1. Evolution of the Foundations of Classification of Parts of Speech in Russian Science

Period	Dominant Criterion	Representatives
18th century	Logico-philosophical	M.V. Lomonosov
19th century	Formal-morphological	F.F. Fortunatov
Early 20th century	Psychological	A.A. Potebnya
Mid-20th century	Semantic-grammatical	V.V. Vinogradov
Second half of 20th century	Formal-structural	A.A. Zaliznyak
Late 20th — 21st century	Functional-communicative	A.V. Bondarko, L.G. Akademy

Modern Period (1990s — present)

The modern stage is characterized by pluralism of theoretical approaches and intensive interdisciplinary dialogue. Functional grammar (A.V. Bondarko) proposed considering parts of speech as the result of the interaction of semantic, formal, and functional components within the theory of grammatical categories [8].

Cognitive linguistics (E.S. Kubryakova, A.N. Baranov, Yu.M. Kobozeva) drew attention to the conceptual foundations of classification, considering parts of speech as ways of conceptualizing the world in linguistic consciousness. Communicative grammar (L.G. Akademy) emphasized the role of communicative function in determining the status of lexical units [9].

The traditional classification of parts of speech is based on a combination of semantic, morphological, and syntactic criteria; however, the hierarchy of these criteria remains debatable. Modern researchers demand greater strictness and uniformity of the foundations of division [10].

Alternative approaches assume:

- single-criterion classifications (only morphological, only syntactic, or only semantic foundations);
- multi-level classifications (distinguishing parts of speech at different linguistic levels);
- prototypical classifications (taking into account degree of membership in a category).

The peripheral zones of parts-of-speech categories are characterized by the presence of transitional, ambiguous cases. The category of state, words of the category of quality, transposition, and homonymy create methodological difficulties for unambiguous classification [11].



A particular discussion is caused by the status of words such as *nuzhno* (necessary), *mozhno* (possible), *zhal'* (pity), traditionally classified as the category of state but possessing features of predicative adverbs or modal words. The problem is complicated in the context of studying colloquial speech and network communication, where intensive dynamics of parts-of-speech membership is observed.

The status of interjections in the system of parts of speech remains one of the most controversial questions. Traditionally, interjections were considered as a special group that does not fit into the general system of parts of speech due to the absence of morphological and syntactic connections [12].

Modern research offers various solutions:

- including interjections in the system of parts of speech as a special part with a unique status;
- removing interjections beyond parts of speech into the category of pragmatic signs;
- differentiation of proper interjections and onomatopoeic words with different status.

Based on the conducted analysis, a conceptual model is proposed that integrates the achievements of various theoretical directions. This model is based on the following principles:

1. Principle of multi-levelness — distinguishing parts-of-speech status at lexical, morphological, syntactic, and textual levels.
2. Principle of prototypicality — recognizing the presence of central and peripheral members of a category with a gradient structure of boundaries.
3. Principle of functional determinism — considering parts of speech as instruments for implementing communicative tasks in discourse.
4. Principle of dynamism — taking into account historical variability and synchronic variability of parts-of-speech membership.

The study of the evolution of the doctrine of parts of speech in Russian grammatical science allows us to formulate the following conclusions:

The Russian grammatical tradition has passed the path from borrowing ancient and European concepts through the development of original approaches to modern pluralism of theories, reflecting the complexity of the described phenomenon.

The current state of the doctrine of parts of speech is characterized by the presence of unresolved problems of the foundations of classification, boundaries between parts of speech, and the status of interjections, which requires the development of new methodological approaches.

The prospects for the development of this doctrine are connected with the integration of cognitive, functional, and formal approaches, taking into account the data of corpus linguistics and big data linguistics.

The practical significance of the results lies in the possibility of using the proposed integrative model for improving school and university grammar, creating new types of dictionaries, and developing methods of automatic text processing.

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