

**THE REALIZATION OF THE QUALITY SEMANTICS IN ENGLISH
(ON THE EXAMPLE OF TAXIS SEMANTICS)**

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ABSTRACT

The article examines the functioning of the structures containing nuclear components of autonomous taxis when realizing the function of synchronicity in English. The study is conducted by the material of modern fiction. The author analyzes literary personages' direct speech and discovers the typical peculiarities of the taxis semantics of synchronicity realization in colloquial speech. Then the researcher compares adults' and children's speech spheres and identifies similarities and differences between them.

Key words and phrases: autonomous taxis; synchronicity; colloquial speech; children's speech sphere; adults' speech sphere; semantics; linguistics.

The colloquial speech presented in fiction does not describe natural speech completely, but only with some separate elements, in other words, it is stylized, which creates the impression of its reality, reliability. Despite this, it is believed that fiction is a reliable source for the study of colloquial speech, since it contains the quintessence of its typical features [3, p. 16]. As is known, the functional-semantic field of taxis in English consists of two microfields - independent and dependent taxis. Within the framework of dependent taxis, relations are expressed using impersonal verb forms (participles, gerunds and infinitives) and constructions with them. However, despite the fact that verbals are very common in the English language, their use is more typical for the written language, in particular for journalistic, scientific and similar types of discourse. At the same time, impersonal verb forms are not commonly used in the colloquial style of speech in informal communication in everyday situations [1, p. 93; 9, p. 124]. Accordingly, there are very few examples of the use of means of expressing dependent taxis in the direct speech of characters in works of art, and their analysis is not of great interest to the researcher, so we will turn to studying the functioning of the means of expressing independent taxis and dwell on the study of the nuclear components of this microfield, to which include: 1) superphrasal units; 2) complex sentences with clauses of time; 3) compound sentences; 4) sentences with homogeneous predicates.

The conducted research allows us to conclude that taxis semantics in general is not characteristic of colloquial speech. Thus, the analysis of the frequency of using structures containing the central components of an independent taxis in the process of implementing the semantics of simultaneity showed that the cases of using these structures in the direct speech of characters in works of art make up only 8% of the entire corpus of analyzed examples. It can be assumed with a high degree of certainty that this feature is explained by the fact that taxis is always a relationship between two or more actions (events), therefore, the implementation of all taxis functions, including simultaneity, occurs within the framework of complex syntactic structures (superphrasal unities, complex sentences, complex sentences with different types of subordinate clauses, constructions with impersonal forms), the use of which is uncharacteristic for colloquial speech. Since colloquial speech is characterized by brevity, unpreparedness, immediacy, then simpler syntactic constructions are typical for it [9, p. 124]. The analysis also showed that the statements of child characters make up only 18.5% of the entire corpus of examples containing direct speech of characters in fiction. We believe that such a low frequency of the use of taxis structures in children's speech is explained by the fact that, according to many researchers, "the category of time is one of the most difficult for a child to understand. Time does not have a visual form, it is fluid, irreversible, its perception depends on subjective states, is of a personal nature ... Therefore, for a child, the perception of time is a very

difficult task. This is due, first of all, to the very nature of time as an object of knowledge and its role in the lives of children” [7, p. 143]. In this case, the idea of time should be considered in a broad, generalized sense, that is, not only as the localization of an event on the time axis, but also as an indication of the place of one situation on the time axis relative to another.

Next, we will consider the functioning of the main components of taxis structures, containing the nuclear components of an independent taxis, in the process of implementing the function of simultaneity in the direct speech of adult characters and child characters. As mentioned above, the core components of an independent taxis include superphrasal units, complex sentences with clauses of time, compound sentences and sentences with homogeneous predicates. It is important to note that in the direct speech of adult characters, all of the above structures are found, while structures containing complex sentences with clauses of time are characterized by the predominant use. Perhaps this is due to the fact that it is these structures that convey taxis relations between events in the simplest but most sufficient way, so adults choose them for brevity and accuracy in the implementation of their communicative intention. At the same time, structures containing superphrasal units prevail in the direct speech of children's characters, and examples of structures with homogeneous predicates are not found. The absence of a grammatical connection between simple sentences, as well as the logical and semantic complication of simple sentences due to the use of homogeneous predicates in the children's speech sphere, can be explained by the difficulty of mastering conjunctions due to their abstract meaning, thus semantic relationships are found between propositions rather than formal grammatical relationships. compositions and submissions [4, p. 102]. In English, the implementation of all taxis functions, including simultaneity, occurs with the participation of three main components: 1) the nominal component; 2) verbal component; 3) temporary expression.

The nominal component is associated with the implementation of taxis relations in monosubjective or polysubjective structures. The analysis showed that both in the adult and in the children's speech spheres, structures with central components of an independent taxis can be used to express simultaneity relations in both monosubjective and polysubjective structures. For example: You ask where I was when the Dark Lord fell [10, p. 26]. You've got one bedroom, you've got no children's toys in the bathroom, there are no toys in here... You haven't even got any photos of him [8, p. 103]. Next, consider the verbal component of taxis structures. First, it should be noted that the temporal assignment of events described by structures containing the considered means of expressing taxis semantics depends on whether the statement belongs to the adult or child speech sphere. So, in the direct speech of adult characters, the described events can refer to the past, present and future plans, and situations related to the past and present plans occur with almost equal frequency (50% and 43% of cases, respectively), while events related to the plan of the future are quite rare (7% of the entire corpus of analyzed examples).

For example: No, you were once again absent while the rest of us ran dangers, were you not, Snape? [10, p. 29] Suzie's angry with Will, as she has every right to be, and she's telling him so [8, p. 189]. I shall explain this more fully when I see you [10, p. 43]. At the same time, in the utterances of children's characters, the analyzed events can only refer to the plane of the past and the present, and the frequency of their use in the plane of the present significantly exceeds the frequency of their use in the plane of the past (58% and 42% of examples, respectively). For example: Did you go to school when you were a kid [8, p. 110]? He understands about school and that. He knows things [Ibidem, p. 137]. He understands such things. This feature can be explained by the fact that colloquial speech is divided into monologue and dialog. In dialogue, a person speaks about something based on his own sensory experience, that is, most often about the present. In a monologue, situational conditioning, as

a rule, is less than in a dialogue. In other words, very often in a monologue a character in the first person narrates about some events that happened in the past. It can be assumed that in a conversation, adults equally resort to dialogue and monologue, that is, they tell other people about what happened to them and react to the statements of the interlocutors, as well as to the events observed at the time of the conversation. For children's speech, in turn, brevity, unpreparedness and rapid change of remarks are more characteristic, that is, dialogue prevails over monologue. As for the plan for the future, the low frequency of the use of taxis constructions in the speech of adults and their absence in children's speech may be explained by the fact that "the form of the futurum, presenting a process that does not exist in the language as a fact of the future, reflects the most complex interpretative work thoughts" [6, p. 51]. In other words, "in the strict sense of the word, the future is something that does not yet exist, or, in other words, it is something that has yet to come into existence" [2, p. 65].

Further, we recall that the verb component includes the aspectual class of the verb and the aspect tense form. The analysis showed that both in the adult and in the children's speech spheres, the verbs in both parts of the polypredicative complexes that serve to express the relations of simultaneity are in the vast majority of cases used in non-long forms (Simple). In addition, continuous forms (Continuous) are distinguished by a relatively high frequency of functioning, while perfect (Perfect) and perfect-long (Perfect Continuous) forms are used extremely rarely (perfect-long forms are found only in the speech of adult characters).

Table 1. Quantitative ratio of structures with non-long, long, perfect and perfect-long forms

Speech sphere	Simple	Continuous	Perfect	Perfect Continuous
Adults	80%	15%	4%	1%
children's	83%	12,5%	4,5%	-

The preferred use of Simple forms is primarily due to the fact that, according to many linguists, in the modern English spoken language, the tenses of the Perfect group are being abandoned in favor of Simple, in other words, colloquial speech is characterized by the predominant use of simple tense forms instead of perfect ones. [5]. In addition, the use of non-long forms is closely related to the aspectual semantics of verbs characterized by the highest frequency of use in the structures under consideration, namely, verbs belonging to the aspectual class of states, which are rarely used in continuous forms. The predominant use of state verbs in structures containing the central components of an independent taxis is due to the fact that it is these verbs that make it possible to convey a static picture, which is most often the primary task when describing simultaneously occurring events.

Finally, let us analyze the functioning of the temporal expression within the considered taxic structures. By temporary expressions, we include any temporary indicators (adverbs of time, nouns with a preposition, subordinating conjunctions) that can participate in the implementation of various taxis functions. The analysis showed that of the entire set of temporary expressions, only subordinating (temporary) conjunctions (while / while, when / when, as / while) are involved in the implementation of the semantics of simultaneity in the direct speech of characters in works of art. Since non-perfect verb forms, which are characterized by the highest frequency of use in the considered polypredicative complexes, have a wide semantics and can serve not only to express simultaneity, but also to express other taxis functions (precedence and succession), then the semantics of temporary conjunctions helps to avoid ambiguity by clarifying and concretizing the taxis relations of simultaneity between compared events. For example: A team of Healers from St. Mungo's Hospital for Magical Maladies and Injuries are examining him as we speak [10, p. eighteen]. Where were you when the Dark Lord fell [Ibidem, p.

25)? As a result, the study allows us to draw the following conclusions regarding the use of structures containing nuclear components of an independent taxis to express the semantics of the features in modern English spoken language. 1. Taxis semantics is not characteristic of colloquial speech in general, and in children's speech the frequency of its implementation is much lower than in adult speech. 2. Children's speech is characterized not only by a lower frequency of expressing taxis semantics, but also by a smaller set of means involved in its implementation. 3. The functioning of various components of taxis structures in the process of implementing the semantics of simultaneity in the adult speech sphere is more variable than in the child sphere. Thus, the revealed differences between the adult and children's speech spheres can be attributed more to quantitative than to qualitative ones.

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