

Spoken English: Lexical and syntactic features

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This research is devoted to the problem of linguistic peculiarities of Spoken English. As the investigated material was taken chat's sms. The article covers lexical and syntactic features of the material. To lexical features we refer sentence beginnings, rambling sentences, repetitions, shortenings, using of idioms. Syntactic features are represented by presence of elliptic structures, shortenings, brief forms, asyndeton, emoticons.

Key words – Spoken English, chat's sms, linguistic peculiarities, lexical features, syntactic features, repetition, shortenings, omission, elliptic structures, emoticons.

I. Introduction

There are many determinations of Spoken speech in linguistics highlighting the various features and peculiarities. P.V. Glagolev determines Spoken speech as oral with participation of interlocutor situated conditioned, spontaneous and as a rule emotionally saturated type of communication. Y.M. Skrebnev asserts that Spoken speech follows from verbal communication the basic sign of which is unimportance or insignificant role of stylistic requirements for its participants linguistic consciousness. In other words the speech is generated in the conditions of complete or partial absence of the realized requirements, produced to its form [1, p. 7].

As we know, it is distinguished two varieties of speech, they are dialogic and monologue. The rapid changing of remarks of interlocutors, brevity syntactic dependent character and original composition of suggestions is incident to the dialogue. Sentiency of monologue is more independent, than dialogic remarks. As a rule, a situation conditionality is less in a monologue than in a dialogue.

Spoken speech differs from other forms of language and carries linguistic and extralinguistic characters. Unpreparedness, linear character, direct character of speech act are characteristics of colloquialness [2, pp. 49-87].

II. Lexical Features

Spoken English may be distinguished from Formal varieties according to a relatively small number of linguistic features, exemplified in the following list.

Having analyzed the material chat's sms we have determined several lexical features. First of all are sentence beginnings, often use conjunctions. They are *and, but, or, because* (contrast with formal academic writing). For example: *Lucy is taking the early flight. But*

I'm taking the red-eye; Because Mary and Samantha arrived at the bus station before noon, I did not see them at the station; And she was running very fast; But I am still awaiting his reply.

The next is rambling sentences. It is when there are long sentences and not many full stops. Coordinating conjunctions are meant to join words, phrases, and clauses; a coordinating conjunction is left dangling without a role to play when it comes at the beginning of a sentence. Consider attaching the sentence that starts with the end of a sentence: *This product here is much cheaper. It will last only half as long, though.* Starting a sentence with "also" is used in Spoken English. For example: *Also read Chapters Two and Three.* The following one is discourse markers. *WELL* and *OK* eg. academic instead of *firstly and now* in Spoken English. For example: *Well, the acting was great, but the plot was terrible; Well, really! The manners of some people!; Well? You promised to tell me all about it; Okay, Jack; OK, I'll pass on your message; OK, OK, I give in; OK, let's go.*

Repetition is a simple repeating of a word, within a sentence or a poetical line, with no particular placement of the words, in order to provide emphasis. It depends on the place in the sentence. *Anadiplosis* is repetition of the last word of one line or clause to begin the next: *Watch your thoughts; they become words. Watch your words; they become actions. Watch your actions; they become habits. Watch your habits; they become character. Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.* *Anaphora* is repetition of a word or phrase at the beginning of successive clauses or verses: *Better for him, better for me.* *Polysyndeton* is a list or series of words, phrases, or clauses that is connected with the repeated use of the same conjunction: *The citizens of the small town demanded a new sheriff and mayor, hoping the change would lead to the elimination of deception and fraud and corruption.* *Asyndeton* is a list or a series in which no and is used at all, rather the items are separated by commas. *Asyndeton* has an effect that is quite different from polysyndeton's: *I went to him, he invited me.* One more often used lexical features of Spoken English is fillers. They are *Hey, hey, shh, shh, shh.* They are sensitive to the fact that other people are not comfortable talking about emotional disturbances. *Um, you know, I am, I'm fine with that, but . . . other people* [3, p. 51].

Vague language or shortest. They used to simplify the speech. For example: *bags of time; doing stuff; sort of thing; and all that.*

In addition to the above there is ellipsis. It is determined by leaving out one or two words that you know the other person will know. For example: *Speights Ad; She opened the door . . . and saw . . . a cake!; I was thinking . . . maybe we should call home; I know I saw my keys somewhere . . . ; "I'm not sure what to do . . .," he said; I never thought* In conclusion the most bright peculiarity of lexical features is using of idioms, colloquialisms or slang. For example: *Believe it or not; Bite your tongue!; Break a leg!; One for the road; Keep in touch.*

III. Syntactic Features

The most characteristic syntactic feature of Spoken speech is a presence of elliptic structures. Omitting of separate parts of sentences is the norm of dialogic speech, as a situation of communication does not require mention of omission. Complete sentences in Spoken English can be sometimes considered as abnormality.

As examples of elliptic structures fixed in English as typical norms of direct living everyday communication it is possible to bring the followings expressions over. For example: *I wish you didn't have to do it. – I don't; Married? – Yes. Two children; A Rainy autumn day.* Omission of the English subject of ten with the verb-copula the nominal part of the predicate or the auxiliary verb is the most widely-used form of an ellipse of spoken English. For example: *brave and fearless; just and equitable treatment; he was breathless and dead; by violence and force; normal and regular.*

For Spoken speech in modern English characteristically and the use of question in the syntactic form of affirmative suggestion. For example: *You have been to school? No.: I answered; for and short time.*

Sometimes interrogative sentences are used in an elliptic form: the auxiliary verb of English of to do goes down. For example: *Miss Holland look after you and all that?* Such sentences stand on verge of unliterary, used in living English.

The next syntactic peculiarity of Spoken English is a presence of shortenings which are also caused by communication conditions. As is generally known, a rate of Spoken speech as compared to writing considerably is a speed-up. The speed-up rate of English Spoken speech is caused by confluence of separate forms of word. For example: *shan't, can't, won't he's ..., I'll e.t.*

So, for example, there are some words of English which get brief form accordingly and description of the Spoken English words. For example: *mike from microphone; gent from gentleman; limo from limousine; taxi from taxi-cab; phone from telephone; cycle and bike from bicycle; exam from examination* and many others.

Some of these formations of colloquial English speech are examined as colloquial not words of the literary English language, but as words, standings on verge of common speech or slang words.

In Spoken English which is always more emotionally painted, than literary-book, intensifying words and constructions appear. So for example, the adverb *so* is gradually ejected by the adverb *that*. For example: *not that quick; not that far; you must not be here that late; it is that simple.* No less emotional construction: *that you (he, I, etc.) are (was, were, etc.).*

The syntactic peculiarity of Spoken English is an asyndeton. Intonations gesture situation finally, forms and semantics of predicate of English in sentences often carry in itself a connective function in an utterance. Absence of conjunctions gives Spoken English to reproduced in

artistic literature, tint of naturalness. For example: *Were I to meet him tomorrow, I should give him a present; Had I time, I should go to the cinema; Should I go there next week, I should visit some friends.* An asyndeton in Spoken speech is a norm. It is formed as a result of typical conditions of communication.

Intonation is replaced by emoticons. They are used to emphasize written Spoken speech [4, p. 187]. For example:

: -)	smile
; -) w	ink
: -(sad	
B -)	impressed
: -/ dou	bt
<3	a sideways heart, love
</3 n	ot love
♥ ♥	in love
! ex	pression, not
0 / 1	False/True
10x t	hanks
@ a	t
@TEOTD	At The End Of The Day

Conclusion

The syntactic specific of Spoken English consists in that by unit more large, than sentence is in it, as well as in a dialogic speech there is connection of row of remarks, connected structurally semantic by a n interconditionality.

Highlighted expressed emotional, evaluation and expressive character has the special, genetically the very heterogeneous layer of vocabulary and phrasology, existing in a Spoken English and which is out of literary standards.

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