

**THE EMERGENCE OF PRAGMALINGUISTICS AS A MODERN BRANCH
OF LINGUISTICS**

**СТАНОВЛЕНИЕ ПРАГМАЛИНГВИСТИКИ КАК СОВРЕМЕННОЙ
ОТРАСЛИ ЯЗЫКОЗНАНИЯ**

**PRAGMALINGVISTIKANING ZAMONAVIY TILSHUNOSLIK SOHASI
SIFATIDA SHAKLLANISHI**

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Annotation: This article analyses theoretical and practical development of Pragmalinguistics as an independent branch of linguistics. The subject has been investigated by a number of well-renowned linguists and some insights into these researches will be provided in this work.

Key words: Pragmatics, Pragmalinguistics, Semantics, Philosophy, locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act

Аннотация: В статье анализируется теоретическое и практическое развитие прагмалингвистики как самостоятельной отрасли языкознания. Эту тему исследовали ряд известных лингвистов, и в этой работе будет представлено некоторое представление об этих исследованиях.

Ключевые слова: Прагматика, Прагмалингвистика, Семантика, Философия, локутивный акт, иллокутивный акт и перлокутивный акт.

It is widely stated that throughout its history linguistics has been developing in correlation with various kinds of subjects. Through analyzing the interrelationship of linguistics with other branches of science, linguists have been able to conduct researches from which new approaches and views towards this relationship have been resulted. Pragmalinguistics, Cognitive linguistics, Psycholinguistics, Sociolinguistics

and others are the modern branches of linguistics that have been developing correlatively with philosophy, sociology, psychology. Particularly, Pragmalinguistics is seen to be of utmost importance to understand the true nature of the language and realize the practical usage of it. Therefore, a number of researches are being carried out to form its own identity and methodology.

Pragmalinguistics (Pragmatics) is commonly defined as a subject learning the interrelation between the language usage and the context. The term was taken from a Greek word ‘*pragmatikos*’ meaning ‘practical’ or from ‘*pragma*’ that is ‘act’ and was coined as a philosophical notion. Even though the subject originally stemmed from philosophy, it is now one of the most crucial branches of linguistics, which according to I.P.Suso ‘... can be defined as a branch of linguistics, which studies the usage of natural language by people as a mean of social action and interaction in real situation on the base of special system of rules, postulates and strategies. It is like a grammar of speech behavior of people in society.’ [Susov, 1986, p.61]

Aristotle coined the term Pragmatics as a philosophical notion and later the philosophers named John Locke and Immanuel Kant brought the term into a wider usage. While the new approach of Pragmatism appeared in philosophy in the thirties of the twentieth century on the basis of pragmatics, in the following decades it was accepted as a new branch of linguistics. Linguists, namely J. Cutting, Ch. Morris, U. James, D. Dun investigated Pragmatics thoroughly in their works.

In the early stages of the development of Pragmatics, Ch. Morris approached Pragmatics as a part of semiotics like syntax and semantics [Morris, 1938, p.47]. According to this scholar, ‘*syntax* deals with ‘the formal relation of signs to one another’, *semantics* denotes the study of ‘the relations of signs to the object to which signs are applicable’ and, finally, *pragmatics* incorporates the study of ‘the relation of signs to interpreters.’ [Morris, 1938, p.25]

The underlying idea incorporating Pragmatics with linguistics is based on analyzing communicative speech not only as the unity of linguistic structures, but also as a special context of speech containing personal intentions, cultural values, or individual

worldviews. As Y.D. Apresyan claims ‘Pragmatics is a speaker attitude to 1) truth to identity; 2) content of the message; 3) speaker’s attitude to the addressee by means of language units (affixes, lexemes, grammar, syntactic structure).’ [Apresyan, 1995, p.91]

There have been made incredible contributions to the development of Pragmalinguistics by a number of American and European scholars, as H. Grice, J. Austin, G. Leech, J. Searle and others. J. Austin, particularly, with his work ‘How to do things with words’ proved the importance of non-declarative uses of language which led other scholars to study this function of language more deeply. The notions of ‘locutionary act’, ‘illocutionary act’, and ‘perlocutionary act’, introduced by Austin, were of great importance to form the ‘study of speech acts’. To be more precise, an utterance defined a speaker’s intention and the effect of it on a listener is known as a *Speech act*. Simply put, speech act is a social activity with a purpose that is formed following the set rules in society. According to Austin, the main objects to be studied of this theory are the addresser, the addressee, the interrelationship between them and several components influencing on the context. In addition to declarative, interrogative, and imperative speech acts, Austin suggested new speech acts as verdictive, exertive, behabitive, commissive, or expositive, which could illustrate speech intentions even more clearly. Through applying the speech acts recommended by Austin, a speaker can form a range of purposeful linguistic actions, including promising, deciding, advising, threatening, criticizing, ordering or expressing one’s opinions. [Esenova, 2017, p.58]

Besides, linguists Kent Bach and Michael Harnish also made huge contributions to the development of Pragmalinguistics by categorizing illocutionary acts, that is to say, speech acts into four main groups: constatives, directives, commissives and acknowledgments. These groups can include the following examples:

- a) Constatives: affirming, alleging, announcing, answering, attributing, claiming, classifying, confirming, conjecturing, denying, disagreeing, disclosing, disputing, identifying, informing, insisting, predicting, ranking
- b) Directives: advising, admonishing, asking, begging, dismissing, excusing, forbidding, instructing, ordering, permitting, requesting, requiring, suggesting, urging, warning
- c) Commissives: agreeing, guaranteeing, inviting, offering, promising, swearing, volunteering
- d) Acknowledgments: apologizing, condoling, congratulating, greeting, thanking, accepting [Esenova, 2017, p. 59]

Pragmalinguistics as an ever-rising branch of linguistics is the field that is being learned by the majority of scholars in our country. D.Ashurova, Sh.Safarov, Z.Rasulov and other linguists can be regarded to have great influence on the development of this subject with their works studying the use of a language, the relationship between a speaker and a listener, the main notions and principles of Pragmalinguistics. Particularly, Sh. Zafarov has contributed to the development of this subject in Uzbekistan by writing several works devoted to Pragmalinguistics. ‘Pragmalinguistics’, ‘Imperative sentences in Turkic languages’, ‘The discourse of linguistics’ and others written by Sh. Safarov have a particular position in this term. According to Sh. Zafarov, ‘It can be said that primary period of language system development begins from Pragmatics’ which can easily prove indispensable significance of Pragmatics in linguistics. [Safarov, 2008, p.40]

In conclusion, Pragmalinguistics is the subject, which allows linguists to learn the functions of speech and language both practically and theoretically. It can be referred as the most crucial subject to analyze speech acts, the purpose of speech, or the use of linguistic structures to gain a speaker’s intentions.

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