Dilraboxon NAZIRQULOVA,
O'zbekiston davlat jahon tillari universiteti mustaqil izlanuvchisi
E-mail:dilraboxonn@gmail.com

O'zDJTU dotsenti I.O'sarov taqrizi asosida

THE CATEGORY OF MODALITY IN THE SPHERE OF POLITE COMMUNICATION

Annotation

In this article, the category of modality in the sphere of polite communication is presented, analyzed and researched in the examples of different communicational situations. Modality in the English and Uzbek language is expressed, learned, and compared with some examples in the following article. The role of modality is central and important in the creating reliable atmosphere among communicators.

Key words: Modality, modal expressions, linguistic, communication, deontic modality, illocution, context, conversation, statement, modifier.

КАТЕГОРИЯ МОДАЛЬНОСТИ В СФЕРЕ ВЕЖЛИВОГО ОБЩЕНИЯ

Аннотация

В данной статье категория модальности в сфере вежливого общения представлена, проанализирована и исследована на примерах различных коммуникативных ситуаций. Модальность в английском и узбекском языках выражается, изучается и сравнивается с некоторыми примерами в следующей статье. Роль модальности является центральной и важной в создании атмосферы доверия среди коммуникаторов.

Ключевые слова: Модальность, модальные выражения, лингвистика, общение, деонтическая модальность, иллокуция, контекст, разговор, высказывание, модификатор.

MODALLIK KATEGORIYASI XUSHMUOMALA MULOQOT MISOLIDA

Annotatsiya

Bu maqola xushmuomala muloqot muhitida modallik kategoriyasining ahamiyati haqida so'z olib boradi. Modallikning o'rganilishi ingliz va o'zbek tillaridagi turli kommunikativ munosabatlar, muoqotlar tarkibida, misolida ko'rib chiqildi. Modallik hodisasini keltirib chiqaruvchi turli vositalar o'rganilib chiqildi, analiz qilindi. Muloqotchilar o'rtasida ishonchli atmosfera yaratilishida modallikning roli katta ahamiyatga ega ekanligi tahlil qilindi.

Kalit so'zlar: Modallik, modal birikmalar, lingvistika, muloqot, deontik modallik, illokutsiya, kontekst, suhbat, modifikator

Introduction. Various functional-semantic categories within every language, can be (but not necessarily) based on grammatical or lexical categories, which forms as the core, the centre of functional-semantic category. In relation to this "center", other components of the functional-semantic category represent as the "periphery". The macrofield core of the politeness is a category of modality, since it concentrates special means of expressing the content inherent in a given functional-semantic category. The markers of politeness can serve as a function reducing the illocutionary force of the utterance (in English, in the literature, they are called "downgraders") and amplifications ("upgraders"). To implement the distancing strategy mainly involved the so-called "downgraders". Their main function is to soften the harshness of the utterance. According to M.Stubbs, mitigation- is the most important means of interaction in colloquial speech ('basic interactive dimension' of spoken language)[Stubbs, 1983:183].

Modality in the language can be expressed as the attitude of the speaker to reality or environment which is developing in the process of perception of the phenomena of the objective, real world. Human thoughts, opinions, relation to the real world are reflected with the help of the category of modality in the language. Analyzing, researching it in two English and Uzbek languages gave us some comprehensions in the linguistic sphere.

Literature review. The grammatical category of modality has been investigated in the works of several scholars, such as V.Vinogradov, W.Pagliuca, A.Kratzer, and therefore we consider here only one that part of the means, that most clearly explicate the category of politeness. Modality, as we already know, reflects the interaction between the four factors of communication-the speaker, the listener,the content of the statement and the reality. Meanwhile, it plays an important role, as the means of objective modality, which express the relation of the reported to reality in terms of reality and irreality(the main means of reflecting the category of modality in this function is verbal mood,) as well as various means of subjective modality,that express the attitude of the speaker towards the reported, and the content of the utterance. In modern English we can see a rich system of the lexico-grammatical means of expressing modal meanings: modal verbs: can, could, may, might, must, ought to, will, would, shall, should and the so-called type of modal verbs have(got)to, need to, had better. Some researchers, such as, Lyons, 1977; Hermeren, 1979; Perkins, 1983/ include in this class of units, also the modal expressions like to be going to, to be able to, "modal" adjectives and adverbs, probable/probably, possible/possibly, perhaps, maybe and some introductory constructions (parentheticals,) as well as conditional (subjunctive) mood.

Research methodology. In order to achieve intended plans, the research methodology should be organized precisely and synchronically. This article is written with the help of descriptive and comparative methodology.

Analysis and results. Researchers see the modal words in general, and the modal verbs in particular, as the main means of softening the illocution, since they carry out the function of predicting various types of logical and actual possibility of the event be realization.[Davidenko, 1984]. Modal verbs are used as the means of softening the harshness of the utterance in its secondary function, which is expressed in a certain gap between semantic and pragmatic meanings of speech formulas. The modal verb must expresses a logical conclusion, which is based on specific facts and can be derived from the result of logical reasoning, while, the modal verb, should means an assumption, based on the expectation of a certain event, the verification of which only possible in the future. That's why, the utterance, "John must be easy to talk to" can be used, when the speaker sees, how kind John is in conversation, on the basis of that, he does corresponding logical conclusion; the utterance, "John should be easy to talk to"perhaps, can be used, when the speaker knows, that John wants to make a reputation as a sociable person, on the basis of

which, the speaker expects that the conversation with john will be easy.[Lakoff R., 1972:233]. Modal verb can in the meaning of the assumption, reflects the possibility of an event based on the internal properties of the subject. "The road can be blocked=the road is possible to block the road". Modal verb may express the possibility of an event based on a subjective assumption. "The road may be blocked=It's possible that the road will be blocked". This semantic variety can be defined as the difference between the theoretical and actual possibility[Leech, 1974:75-77].

Wide range of modal verbs used in the utterances with the meaning of a request (can, could, may, might, will, would) also allows us to convey a variety of shades and varying degrees of politeness.

-May I ask you something?

-If you like.

-Can I .I mean…Could I…no, might I have the next dance with you?(Hartley&Viney, Streamline English, 1996:11)

In the final statement of the above given dialogue, the use of different modal verbs within the same utterance clearly shows the difference in meanings they convey and different forms of "politeness" of each of the verbs taken out of context. The category of modality is understood as the main part of the semantics of the sentence. In linguistics,it is stated that, the modality should be understood as the attitude of the semantics of the sentence towards the objective world and the attitude of the speaker towards the meaning of the sentence. Modality is divided into two groups:

1.Objective 2.Subjective modality

Objective modality is expressed in the syntactic separation field of the sentence, while,the subjective modality expresses the attitude of the speaker towards the objective semantics of the sentence. Subjective modality is expressed with the help of special words that come in the function of introductory phrase, or other words, that come in the function of modality.

The second meaning of modality, which is interpreted as deontic modality, manifests itself in more complex type of contexts. The occurance of this type of modality is mainly connected with the speaker's need to establish social relations and social status with the help of discourse. Modal linguistic units act as one of the most crucial tools, that help to achieve certain strategic goals: to convey the speaker's communicative intention not directly, but, somehow in veiled and indirect form, as the result of which, reduce the intensity of the speaker's illocution; express the uncertainty of the possible occurance of the named action; keep away both the listener and the speaker himself, from the prompted action, thus, emphasizing the unreality its implementation; give the opportunity to choose the addressee, etc,. It is obvious, that, in several linguistic studies, modality is called as the interpersonal aspect of grammar , which is considered to be central part of the both written and oral speech. In speech discourse, the means of modality function to establish personal relationships and to some extent, determine the character of interrelation between interlocutors[Carter &McCarthy,1997:18]. In the English language we can observe such sentences with modal components.

"Can you spare me a few minutes?" –it is the expression of polite request with the usage of modal verb, "can", and from the meaning we can conclude, that the speaker needs the listener's help and asking to take his time.

"Can you come over today?"- in this expression, we can see the reflection of inviting the listener, with the usage of modal verb, "can" and by asking this question, the speaker wants to know the possibility of the listener's intention about coming. The requests, requiring more effort and time are used with hypothetical form "could", and in addition to this, we can see politeness markers as "kindly, possibly, likely" in the structure of the sentence:

"Could you kindly/possibly help me with lifting this table?"

This expression is also mostly used in English communication in the form of "Could you do me a favor" and has higher degree of politeness as two linguistic units: modal verb and politeness marker are used in one sentence.

Now, we observe some examples of questions that are directed towards the speaker himself, and they are always considered to be much more polite, than the questions directed towards the interlocutor: "Can(Could) I+….", "May(might)I+…"are the modal constructions of such self-directed questions.

"Can I take your pen?" – this request-permission expresses that, the speaker needs a pen and asks a permission to use his interlocutor's, this type of question sounds more polite, as it includes personal pronoun "I" after modal verb "Can" and is directed towardsly the speaker himself. Another example of such questions is "Can I help you?"- the polite way of offering one's help and expressing one's desire or readiness to help interlocutor.

"May I come in?", "May I have the bill?" – are the self-directed questions that express inquiry about permission and request. For instance, "May I offer you another drink, sir?" -It should be noted that, we use "May(might) I+…."in more formal situations and it sounds more polite than "Can(Could) I+….".

"May" expresses more respect for the addressee, and therefore, we can see its usage mostly in formal events, conversations and among the people who don't know one another very well. The difference between may and might in the expression of permission thorugh speech act lies in the usage of communicative context. May is more common in official communicative environment, with a far socio-psychological distance between interlocutors, while, the modal verb can is a common form in neutral or relaxed atmosphere and close socio-psychological distance between communicants. However, it should be recognized, that the difference between these two word is losing its importance in today's communication. The following extended statements with modal components are also used in English communication.

The expression of request can be illustrated with such extended structures, that give more polite meaning to the sentence:

"Can I trouble you for+… ". "Can I trouble you for a warm glass of milk?"such expression of request is considered as too polite, and we can observe this kind of sentences only in the communication of strangers or the people not in close relationship.

"Do you think you could+….."; "Would(will)you be so kind(good)as to+….";

"I'd be very much obliged if you+……" are also the examples of extended sentences with polite meaning.

"Do you think you could look afterAngela while I'm away? "

Mrs.Higgins:…….Mr Doolittle, will you be so good as to step out on the balcony for a moment?

"I'd be very much obliged if you could give me the laptop that you bought yesterday ".

In order to express question-permission, we can observe the following extended structures in the English communication.

"Would you mind doing…?", Would(do)you mind if I+…."

These kind of polite modal structures are also common in the English language, and mostly used in official settings: "Would you mind opening the window please?", "Would you mind if I had the TV on?" Besides, these examples, we can see lots of other extended expressions including modal verbs, that express invitation ,"May I ask you+Adv. P- to dinner, supper, the party, etc,." – "Vicomte de Nanjac: "May I have the pleasure of escorting you to the music-room, Mademouiselle?.......May I

have the honor of taking you down to supper, Comtesse"(O.Wilde) Soothing "Don't let it+V.P-annoy, upset, worry you"- "Don't let these events worry you, everything will be ok, you will take the exam for good marks." request: Would you like+NP-whisky, tea, juice,etc. "Would you like to drink some coffe with us?". We should pay attention, that, the last group of given models, noun, adverbial and verb phrases are limited with the certain lexico-semantic group. The modal element of predication is capable of rendering its influence on any angle assessment of the situation, which the speaker is free to choose intentionally: he can explicitly express or hide the true intentions and pragmatic objects of the statement. For example, the form of will can be interpreted as forcing speech act: "Will you listen to me and stop interrupting?" and as a polite suggestion as in "Will you have another slice of lemon?".

The modality of reality in pragmatic purposes can be replaced by the modality of conjecture with the help of modal modifiers(Pragmatic markers)perhaps, probably, maybe, by(any)chance with the expression of meanings such as doubt, assumption and probability. The most frequently used modal phrase among these group of pragmatic markers is perhaps. As it is known already, it is characteristic for perhaps and maybe to be used mainly in the initial position of the sentence, while, probably and possibly are used in the middle position after the subject and before or as a part of a compound verbal predicate. These kind of words are usually used when expressing the polite advice or requests:

Perhaps, you ought to talk to Ann about it.
Perhaps, you might kindly call me and tell me where Ann is.
Could you possibly, show me how it works?
"You probably need some rest." ("The fault in our stars", J.Green)
Could you perhaps, say a few words about your new project.
Maybe, we should ask Tom for his opinion.

It is significant to state, that please has no restrictions on the usage, in terms of pragmatic-communicative context: it is a regular means of expression polite attitude of any speaker to any listener, regardless of their social status. In other words, the speaker can use the word please, when referring to hearer who is above him, below him, or equal to him. However, the presence of please in the imperative construction is not always reflected in its semantic extrapolation. For instance, if the boss gives an order to his subordinate, it will not be changed into request. In the situation sof verbal communication,it is preferable to use the particle, please, especially, when addressing to the strangers.Communicators are consciously aware that, addressing without please in such situations is a violation of the accepted norm of communication. For that reason, we can observe the usage of please more frequently in the communication of English people.

In Uzbek language the category of modality is expressed with the intrudoctory words, that come at the beginning of the sentence, such as albatta, shubhasiz, darhaqiqat, rostan ham, avvalo, ehtimol, chamasi, xullas, balki and etc,.After these words, we put comma, and they serve to mean the modal meanings of certainity, supposition or possibility in the sentence. There are different approaches to the category of modality in Uzbek language. For instance, we can look through the description of Q.Sapaev who divide them into different groups:

Modal words that indicate the exactness and correctness of the meaning given by the sentence: albatta,shubhasiz, so'zsiz, shaksiz, haqiqatdan, darhaqiqat and etc,.

Modal words that indicate the uncertainity, and supposition of the meaning expressed by the sentence: ehtimol, chamasi, shekilli, aftidan, balki

Modal phrases that are used in the meanings of regret, surprise: afsuski, attang, ajabo, nahotki and etc,.

The phrases that are used to express the mutual relation and order of the opinions: demak, xususan,masalan, aksincha, jumladan, chunonchi, binobarin, xullas, avvalo..etc,.[Sapaev Q, 2009]

Let's consider some examples of modality in Uzbek language:

"-Albatta, bu gaplar hozir sizga juda g'ayritabiiy tuyuladi. Ammo o'ttizinchi yillarning oxiridagi ba'zi gazetalarni varqalab ko'ring."(O.Yoqubov, Diyonat.)

If we analyze this sentence according to the description of Q.Sapaev, we can include it into the first grouping of modal words, that, are used to express the exactness and correctness of the meaning.

"-Menga qarang azizim. Haligi odam bugun tuman rahbariga kiribdi. Pochtani tekshiribdi. Ehtimol, ertaga sizni tuman rahbariyatiga chaqirib qolishsa, o'sha gap-gap". (O.Yoqubov, Diyonat) This example, demonstrates, that the speaker is expressing his supposition and giving advice to his interlocutor with the help of this modal word.

"Hech qanaqa dabdaba bo'lmaydi.Xalq, xususan, yoshlar sizday olimlar bilan uchrashishni orzu qilishadi.." (O.Yoqubov, Diyonat) here, the speaker is using "xususan" , in order to express his opinion by order and, somehow is intensifying the role of his interlocutor in the up-coming event.

"Uyg'otib yubordim, shekilli, tog'ajon. Choy-poy ichasizmi?" (O.Yoqubov, Diyonat)In this example, the usage of the modal word shekilli is giving the meaning of uncertainity and supposition to the sentence.

"Demak, gap-shu!Latofatni roziligini oldik, to'yni boshlayverasiz!"(O.Yoqubov, Diyonat)

"Demak, shoshilinch choralar ko'rmog'imiz darkor, janob Qosimbek."(P.Qodirov, Yulduzli tunlar)

The analysis of above given two examples for the modal word demak express two different meanings in each sentence. In the first sentence we can see that, demak is used on the purpose of concluding, and closing the order of opinions, while in the next example, we can see its usage in the expression of giving conclusion and polite advice as well.

Conclusion. From the above given examples, we can conclude that, in both languages is expressed by different tools, and meanings. The category of modality has great role in creating polite atmosphere of conversation between interlocutors both in the English and Uzbek language. Appropriate usage of the modal words and phrases in the language, provide us with long-lasting relationships among people, and gives the benefit of obtaining our intended goals from conversation.

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