

Lecture №14

A functional paradigm of knowledge in modern linguistics (Part 2)

In the further, since second half XX century when on change to structuralism so-called poststructuralist paradigms of language come, first of all pragmalinguistic and cognition orientations, in theoretical linguistics began to allocate and such functions which were on periphery of research interests. To them concern когнитивная function of language (function of storage and processing of the information on the cognizable world), epistemic (function of fixing of knowledge, including scientific), textual (function of formation of language objects as tools of speech influence), discourse (function of verbalization speech-thinking activity of the subject of the communications), interactive (function of realization of intersubject attitudes), ethical (function of realization of norms of behaviour at the speech communications) and some other. As it is possible to notice, the problem of functions of language, despite of especially, apparently, a theoretical orientation, has and конститутивные aspects as depending on function accented in a scientific reflection the corresponding paradigm of language and its problematics is formed.

The second problem of functional linguistics - research conceptually-semantic (cogitative, by A.V.Bondarko's definition) categories or functions for which demonstration language is intended, - has the double decision and double interpretation in modern linguistics, in particular in various versions of functional grammar. In one case as methodological installation construction of the linguistic theory by a principle “ from language unit to its function or functions ” (“ from the language form to function ” acts, i.e., proceeding from a final set (a priori accepted or empirically established) language objects, the linguist sets as the purpose the description of all functions which carry out analyzed objects. Such approach consistently, but not always is on a regular basis used in traditional linguistics with precisely certain list of units of language (from phonemes and morphemes up to syntactic designs). Researches of a similar sort are under construction under the scheme: It is set certain variable (unit or a category of language) and its function or functions is defined. The descriptions constructed by this principle, have old tradition. So understood функционализм has the right to be presented in linguistics for its problems include the description of functional aspect of all units of language. One of variants of such functional grammar of Russian is presented in M.A.Sheljakin's recently left book (see Sheljakin 2001).

Other approach when the researcher starts with the set functions (usually, semantic, cogitative) is more combined from the point of view of practical realization and puts a problem revealing of all their possible language demonstrations. This approach (from function to its realization in language) operates with such categories which ontologically have not linguistic properties. So the understood nature of functions i.e. as general scientific categories, does rather inconvenient realization of this approach in concrete linguistic descriptions, together with in theoretical constructions.

Speaking about functional linguistics and its problematics, it is necessary to mean, on the one hand, different schools and directions, different concepts and the theories united by the general conceptual installation - studying of functional aspect of language and its units as an ontologic reality, and, on the other hand, the theories focused on research of other aspects of language in view of also functioning of language in different communicative, welfare contexts. Therefore in a vein of a functional paradigm of language are or such directions of modern linguistics as pragmatical, когнитивное, semasiological, sociological are partially crossed with it, cultural-anthropological, etc. In relation to functional grammar of Russian it is possible to allocate following directions with inherent in each of them theoretical postulates and circle of the problems, solved by them (Kiklivitsch 1999, 14-15).

1) Grammar in which basis the is functional-semantic description of different degrees the means incorporated by the general substantial function lays. In a basis of such association lays conceptual (semantic) the category expressed in language by a grammatic or latent category, and also others (lexical, word-formation, просодическими) the means incorporated in various field structures (is functional-semantic fields). Most full given direction in Russian philology was showed in A.V.Bondarko's theories and its followers (the general analysis of the theory of functional grammar (TFG) A.V.Bondarko is given in T.M.Nikolaev's clause (1995).

2) the Researches, devoted to characteristics of functions of language, functioning of its subsystems and units both in all system as a whole, and in concrete functional styles (registers). Works concern To this direction on G.A.Zolotov's functional syntax.

3) the Direction which has arisen from experience of teaching of Russian as foreign. It has distinct applied is functional-communicative orientation as its subject are not only semantic space of language and stock of means of their expression, but also « the language mechanisms providing optimum performance of language units and objects in speech constructions at the decision of corresponding communicative installations speaking ». Most actively and fruitfully in this direction M.V.Vsevolodov (see, in particular, Vsevolodov 2000) works.

4) the Direction of researches which subject is the attitude between language and the person. Here it is possible to carry works of ethnolinguistic schools.

Naturally, specified 4 directions - only insignificant part of the general system of diverse schools and the currents focused on research of the functional party of language. It is necessary to mention also various directions of the semantic analysis of language, the conceptual analysis, sociolinguistical researches of language; schools of linguistics of the text and, certainly, linguistic pragmatists.