


REVISITING THE ISSUE OF PHONOSTYLES

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The article actualizes different approaches to phonostylistic studies and analyses the problem of phonostyles differentiation.

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At the current stage of the linguistic science development, special attention is paid to the issues of language functioning in the process of communication, study of various factors directing the language process and affecting the implementation of language means, structural linguistic features of styles and patterns of their implementation.

Phonostylistics is a relatively new branch of linguistics, one of the main objectives of which is to identify different phonetic modifications under the influence of extralinguistic factors, although the references to the role of phonetic means in utterances styling can be found in numerous studies.

Traditionally the linguistic science divides phonostylistics into segmental and suprasegmental depending on the aspect under study, i.e. sounds or speech prosody accordingly. Phonetic studies of segment set are much more numerous and this section is more developed. Thus, the study of sound symbolism begins with Plato and Aristotle [7].

Analyzing the segment (phonemic) level of the linguistic structure, phoneticians-experimentalists increasingly turn to the study of the phonetic ambiguity, i.e. sounds that cannot be unambiguously interpreted at the phonemic level. With acoustic and audit types of analysis, such issues as the correlation of complete and incomplete elements of the pronunciation type in the speech signal, the degree of quantitative and structural deformation of segment units under the influence of intra- and extralinguistic factors and, therefore, “resistance” of vocalic and consonant segments of various kinds of influences they are exposed to in every speech act, are examined [2; 5; 13 et al.].

Linguistic science operates with such concepts as the language style and the speech style. Language styles

are different sets of language means depending on the limitations of their composition and varying concentrations, as well as the intenseness of each particular style by the language means typical only for it. Speech styles differ not only with the language means composition and the concentration specific to them, but also with the varying degrees of language means implementation, their repeatability and particular sequence of their use in a particular field of communication [3, P. 9]. Thus, the speech stylistics is aimed at examining the aspects of variability of pronunciation, i.e. studying the stylistic forms of a word developed by the variability of phonemes.

Phonostyles cannot stand separately from functional styles. In the stylistic differentiation of speech phonetic means can be basic ones, but they can also correlate with lexical and grammatical means. It is assumed that there is a connection between stylistic devices of different levels of the language system: phonetic, lexical, syntactic, and morphological.

Different authors use several terms, namely: “pronunciation type”, “speech style”, “language style”, “phonetic style”. Our work will deal with the term “phonetic style” or “phonostyle”, which refers to a kind of phonetic means combination of all levels of the language phonetic system, peculiar to a statement in a particular form in a certain speech situation [4, P. 7].

The main aspects of phonostylistic studies are the search of patterns of language phonetic means functioning in different forms and types of oral speech, as well as the study of sound variability. Works on the typology of oral speech utterances have made it possible to determine the extralinguistic factors affecting the choice of language phonetic means in styling of a particular utterance

more accurately. Linguistic science differentiates external and internal extralinguistic factors. External factors contribute to generation of stylistic features which are the set of functional style qualitative features that should be obtained by a language for the effective implementation of specific goals of communication in a certain field of speech communication.

Many style features are natural for not just one, but several styles, and in all of them the same features have their own specificity, their functional and stylistic quality. This fact is determined by the differences of language means and the ways of their implementation, differences in target and functional focus, as well as the specificity of the styles [5].

Y.M. Screbnev names the situation-based nature of the speech act (official or not, solemn or casual, etc.), relation of the speaker to the speech recipient, i.e. the degree of intimacy between the speaker and the listener, understanding of communicative goals of the speech – business, scientific explanation and transfer of the speaker’s emotional attitude to the object of speech among the factors influencing the selection of linguistic means by a speaker [14]. Y.O. Dubovskyi provides another division: objective factors of a language situation that are independent of interlocutors, namely the form of speech (monologue, dialogue – unilateral, bilateral, multilateral), the type of speech (speaking, reading, citations), the method of communication (direct contact or by technical means), the external conditions of communication (in front of a large audience or a small group of people), stylistic orientation of the speech act (official – unofficial), etc. Other factors depend on the speaker or interlocutor, being identified by them: their age, social status, territorial identity, speaker’s degree of readiness (spontaneous,

quasispontaneous or prepared speech), the speaker's profession [8, P. 15]. M.O. Sokolova believes that these factors are divided into two groups: those forming the style and those modifying it. The first group expresses the speaker's strategy and includes the goal and topic of an utterance. Each option provides the selection of different phonetic means to implement an effective communication. The second group includes such extralinguistic factors as the speaker's relation to the communicative situation, to what he/she says or hears; the form of communication (monologue, dialogue or polylogue); the formality degree of the situation and discourse (formal/informal). There are also such important additional factors as the social status of the speakers and the type of publicity (public/non-public speech), the degree of preparedness (prepared/spontaneous speech) [15, pp. 21]. The role of these factors in the production of texts is different: some of them, such as the degree of preparedness, play a crucial role, others (e.g. number of recipients) – a minor one. We proceed from the idea that all factors forming a style are interrelated, and only their combination builds a phonostyle.

M.V. Panov in connection with the discussion of problems of the speech styles draws a parallel with lexical styles [10]. R.I. Avanesov mentions that speech styles are closely related to language styles as a whole, but the correlation of speech styles with styles of vocabulary is not straight and simple [1]. N.I. Portnova reasonably believes that functional and phonetic styles are not identical, but they form a dialectical unity reflected in the overall scheme of the social situation [12].

S.M. Haiduchyk notes that phonetic styles are "the complex of phonetic means peculiar to a linguistic utterance in a certain form and situation in a certain field of communication" [6]. The framework for the study of phonetic style was established by M.V. Lomonosov, who distinguished three styles of spoken Russian literary language of the eighteenth century: high, medium and simple. Academician L.V. Shcherba clearly defined two poles – complete style and conversational style [16, pp. 21-22].

In the course of further development

of the speech style doctrine, linguists have identified three pronunciation styles: high, neutral and conversational. It is believed that different styles of pronunciation cannot be represented as closed systems, isolated from one another; on the contrary, they are very closely related to each other and are characterized by interpenetration.

Phonetic variation is determined by the need to differentiate various styles and genres of speech. Linguists involved in phonostylistics, basing on the L.V. Scherba's notion as for coexistence of many styles in accordance with the wide variety of social conditions of language, point the ways for future research in the field of phonostylistic differentiation of speech. So, S.M. Haiduchik identifies five phonetic styles: solemn, scientific, official, neutral and relaxed. The criterion for this division is a field of their use [6]. There is another appropriate classification of phonetic styles, covering all types of phonetic means of language segment and suprasegment levels, peculiar to utterances under the condition of presence of these extralinguistic factors, and promoting their use in the process of phonostylistic aspect description of other languages. In his turn, E. Nurahmetov believes that the distinguished phonetic styles do not cover the variety of phonetic means at sound and prosodic levels, but he notes that the allocation of these styles discovers the way for further studies of phonetic means of communicative types and kinds of utterances [9]. O.D. Petrenko identifies three phonostyles: reciting, and also reading a report without a microphone in a formal setting; pronunciation when reading texts on the radio or reading fiction; calm business conversation [11, p. 30]. The scientist notes that the existence of the norm implies these oppositions: system – norm – individual speech, literary language – spoken language – a dialect, official style – casual style, sociolect – annolect – sexolect – idiolect.

A. Cruttenden uses two contrasts: formal/informal, rehearsed/spontaneous [17, pp. 37-40]. D. Jones analyses five styles: fast familiar, slow spoken, facing the audience, theater and opera [3, P. 21]. In the course of oral monologue utterances study Y.A. Dubovskiy opposes

public (meeting and non-meeting) and non-public (official and unofficial) styles. The author makes it clear that all types of spoken oral text can have direct or indirect contact implementation [8, P. 82]. The given classification demonstrates the fact that the author distributes phonostyles depending on the formality degree of relations between the speakers and the audience. V. Yakubovych identifies five phonostyles: formal (dramatic language, singing of opera singers), full (characteristic of the political and judicial speakers), spoken (used during the interviews, parliament debates, scientific discussions), informal (practiced among equal communicators in their social position and on television and radio, in classrooms), extremely informal (family, circle of friends). The author says that the first two types are characteristics of monologues; the others are for dialogues [18, pp. 114-115].

Phonostyles as well as the functional styles rarely exist in their pure form. Depending on the purpose of communication and the communicative situation in general they can intertwine, complementing each other. However, each phonostyle is characterized by a certain ratio of typological characteristics, among which the form of speech (verbal/written), the type of speech (monologue/dialogue), the degree of preparedness (prepared/spontaneous), the number of communicants (public/non-public), the relationship between participants in the communicative act (formal/informal) are chief ones. The study of functional-stylistic differentiation of oral speech remains an urgent task of communicative phonetics and phonostylistics.

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- Promotion of international consolidation and cooperation of business structures
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- Promotion of favorable conditions for business in various countries
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- Promotion of international trade turnover widening
- Initiation and development of scientific researches, which support the effective development of businesses and satisfy the economic needs of the society
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