

**PRAGMALINGUISTICS: OBJECT AND THEORETICAL FOUNDATIONS IN
LINGUISTICS**

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Abstract

This article analyzes the role of pragmalinguistics in linguistics, its . object and subject matter, the process of its formation, and its interrelation with other linguistic fields from a scientific perspective. In addition, the functional features of language units in speech processes, communicative situations, and the relationships between the addresser and the addressee are examined from a pragmatic point of view. The role of semiotics, speech act theory, and philosophical approaches in the formation of pragmalinguistics is substantiated. The article also extensively analyzes the interrelation between language and speech, as well as the significance of the human factor in linguistics.

Keywords

pragmalinguistics, pragmatics, speech, communication, speech act, addresser, addressee, language system, semantics, discourse, linguistics

Language is one of the most important social phenomena of humanity, developing in close connection with society. Human activity, thinking, and worldview are expressed through speech. Therefore, it is essential to study language not only as a system but also in its practical application – in the process of speech.

In modern linguistics, pragmalinguistics has emerged as a field that studies precisely this aspect. It investigates how language units are used in real speech and how they serve communicative purposes. Pragmalinguistics is considered a “young and promising” branch of linguistics that studies the relationships between linguistic signs, their forms of expression, and their usage in communication .

The Concept of Pragmalinguistics and Its Formation. Pragmalinguistics is a branch of linguistics that studies how language units function in speech and how they serve communicative purposes. The term derives from the Greek word “*pragma*”, meaning action or deed, indicating its focus on the practical use of language.

This field is closely connected with the philosophy of pragmatism, which originated in the United States in the 19th century, with founders such as Charles Peirce, William James, and John Dewey. In the 20th century, pragmalinguistics developed into an independent field of linguistics, significantly influenced by speech act theory developed by J. Austin and J. Searle .

Object and Subject of Pragmalinguistics. The main object of pragmalinguistics is the speech process. It includes the following components:

- the speaker (addresser),

- the listener (addressee),
- the speech situation,
- the communicative purpose,
- the context.

Pragmatics studies the functional aspects of linguistic signs in speech and is therefore considered a part of semiotics. Thus, pragmalinguistics examines language not merely as a system but as it is used in real communication .

The Relationship Between Language and Speech. Language and speech are inseparably connected and cannot exist independently. Language is a system, while .speech is its practical manifestation.

All social activities of humans are expressed through speech; therefore, studying speech provides insight into a person's inner world, thinking, and culture. Pragmalinguistics analyzes precisely this process — how language “comes alive” in speech .

Relationship with Other Sciences. Pragmalinguistics is closely connected with several disciplines:

- semantics (meaning),
- syntax (structure),
- psychology (human cognition),
- sociology (social relations).

Some scholars consider pragmatics a part of linguistics, while others view it as an independent discipline. This demonstrates the complexity and multidimensional nature of pragmalinguistics .

Speech Acts and Communicative Purpose. One of the central concepts of pragmalinguistics is the speech act. A speech act is an action performed through language, such as:

- giving orders,
- making requests,
- offering advice.

J. Austin and J. Searle developed this theory, interpreting speech not merely as a means of conveying information but as a form of action. This approach forms the theoretical foundation of pragmalinguistics .

Modern Significance of Pragmalinguistics. Today, pragmalinguistics plays an important role in:

- developing communicative competence,
- forming speech culture,
- studying professional communication (including medical discourse).

It also reveals the mechanisms through which individuals influence others through speech.

The Relationship Between Pragmalinguistics and Semantics. One of the key issues in linguistics is defining the boundary between semantics and pragmatics. Semantics studies the lexical and grammatical meanings of language units, while pragmatics examines additional meanings arising in communication.

The meaning of a word often depends on its use; the same sentence may have different meanings in different communicative situations. For example, the phrase “Be healthy!” can express:

- farewell,
- a wish,
- gratitude.

This demonstrates that pragmatic meaning depends on context. Thus, pragmalinguistics complements and extends semantics .

Communicative Nature of Pragmalinguistics. Pragmalinguistics places communication at the center of analysis. Any speech activity is goal-oriented and reflects interaction between the addresser and addressee.

A speech act consists of three main components:

1. the speaker (addresser),
2. the listener (addressee),
3. the topic of communication.

The harmony of these components ensures communicative success. Otherwise, communication effectiveness decreases. Therefore, pragmalinguistics studies speech not only as a linguistic phenomenon but also as a social and psychological process .

Practical Importance of Pragmalinguistics. Pragmalinguistics is widely applied in:

- education (speech development),
- medical communication (doctor–patient interaction),
- mass media,
- business and diplomatic communication.

In particular, in medical discourse, speech serves not only as a means of information exchange but also as a tool of psychological influence.

In conclusion, pragmalinguistics is one of the most important and promising fields in modern linguistics. It studies language not only as a system but also through its real use in communication.

The analysis shows that pragmalinguistics focuses on the interaction between language, context, and human factors. Its interdisciplinary nature, linking semantics, syntax, psychology, and sociology, highlights its significance in contemporary research.

Thus, pragmalinguistics enables a deeper understanding of human cognition and social communication through the study of language use.

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