



THE NOTION AND ISSUES OF TEXT LINGUISTICS: A BRIEF OVERVIEW

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ABSTRACT

The article looks at the discipline of text linguistics and the issues it deals. It further discusses different linguists' views and works in relation to text linguistics. It can be noted that there have been different interpretations of a text.

KEY WORDS: *Text, Text Linguistics, Text Definition, Text Delimitation*

INTRODUCTION

Text linguistics appeared as a scientific discipline in the mid of the 20th century and was defined as the branch of linguistics that deals with text as communication systems (Trappes-Lomax, 2004). It takes into account the form of a text, but also its setting, i.e. the way in which it is situated in an interactional, communicative context. Both the author of a (written or spoken) text as well as its addressee are taken into consideration in their respective (social and/or institutional) roles in the specific communicative context (Ashurova & Galieva, 2016). In general, it is an application of discourse analysis at the much broader level of text, rather than just a sentence or word (Trappes-Lomax, 2004).

Since 1952, many scholars have contributed to the development of this scientific field, including Z. Harris, T. Adrianus van Dijk, I. R. Galperin, R. de Beaugrande, O.I. Moskalskaya, W. Dressler, A.I. Novikov, Z. Turaeva, D. Ashurova, M. Galieva, whose works discuss text structure, semantics, principles of text formation, perception, and methods of text analysis (Ashurova & Galieva, 2016).

As highlighted by the American Association of Applied Linguistics, text linguistics “addresses a broad range of language-related issues in order to understand their roles in the lives of individuals and conditions in society” (American Association of Applied Linguistics, 2022). Its interdisciplinary character encompasses internal links with phonetics, morphology, stylistics, lexicology, and syntax, and external links with psycholinguistics, linguoculturology, sociolinguistics, literary criticism, linguopragmatics, and cognitive linguistics (Turaeva, 1986).

Recent publications include Giuffrè's *Text Linguistics and Classical Studies* (2017), De Gruyter's *Variational Text Linguistics* (2016), Al-Haj's *Text Linguistics and Translation: A Textbook for Advanced University Students of Linguistics* (2014), Sylvie Mellet & Dominique Longrée's *New Approaches in Text Linguistics* (2009). Giuffrè (2017) presents three viewpoints on the history of text linguistics, explains the procedural approaches, and connects theoretical linguistics with classical studies. Schubert & Sanchez-Stockhammer argue that register analysis has focused too much on frequent registers like newspaper articles, leaving other areas underexplored (Mellet & Longrée, 2009).

Albashir (2014) states that translators rely on principles rather than recipes, analyzing text linguistics from a translation

perspective. Mellet & Longrée (2009) point out that computerized corpora and hypertextual reading highlight the complexity of texts, raising methodological questions about textual units and grammatical categories. In their work, the selected papers either demonstrate the value of some innovative method of analysis through concrete applications or develop strong and well-argued epistemological positions, illustrated with examples.

Main Trends in Text Linguistics

Based on the literature, five main trends have been identified:

- *General text theory* – outlines history, evolution, approaches, and definitions (Ashurova & Galieva, 2016).
- *Text Grammar* – studies texts above a sentence level, showing how they convey ideas and messages (Nordquist, 2020; Text Grammar, 2022)
- *Text Semantics* – plays a role in meaning, involving pre-processing, pattern extraction, and post-processing (Sinoara, Antunes, & Rezende, 2017).
- *Text stylistics* – analyzes texts from a stylistic perspective, focusing on the original wording of something written, printed, or spoken, in contrast to a summary or paraphrase (Nordquist, 2020).
- *Text typology* – classifies texts by criteria such as spoken/written, dialogical/monological, spontaneous (unprepared)/ritual (prepared), formal/informal, individual (personal)/interindividual (interpersonal), private/public, subjective or objective, interactional (contact-oriented)/transactional (message-oriented) (Ferencik, 2022).

DEFINITIONS AND DELIMITATION OF TEXT

Text is central to communication because people communicate through texts rather than isolated words (NerdySeal, 2021). Beaugrande & Dressler (1981) define text as a “communicative occurrence” which meets seven standards of textuality: cohesion, coherence, intentionality, acceptability, informativity, situationality, and intertextuality.

Galperin's definition has been widely accepted, though Kubryakova (2001) argues that titles are not decisive since many texts lack them, and oral texts exist alongside written ones. She concludes that a universal definition of text is impossible. Similarly, Al-Amri (2007) notes that while text is



the natural domain of language, linguists differ on what constitutes a text. This perception is influenced by different methods of observations hampering the definition of text from being concrete and complete.

Text delimitation remains problematic. Scholars such as Galperin, Kolshanskiy, and Moskalskaya argue that text delimitation is based on thematic principles distinguishing monothematic micro-texts and multi-thematic macro-texts (Turaeva, 1986).

CONCLUSION

Text linguistics is a dynamic area of study that combines multiple disciplines and perspectives. Although definitions and delimitations remain debated, the discipline continues to develop gradually through contributions from linguistics scholars around the world.

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