

Discursive elements of verbs of social relation and their categorial features

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Annotation: This article explores the discursive elements of verbs of social relation and their categorial features in modern English. The study analyzes how these verbs function within discourse to express interpersonal interaction, social behavior, and communicative intentions. Special attention is given to their semantic, grammatical, and pragmatic properties, as well as their categorial status within the system of parts of speech. The research identifies that verbs of social relation serve not only as linguistic indicators of social actions but also as important tools for maintaining coherence and interpersonal balance in communication. The findings contribute to a deeper understanding of the relationship between language, discourse, and social interaction.

Key words: discursive elements, verbs of social relation, categorial features, discourse analysis, pragmatics, social interaction, communication

Annotatsiya: Ushbu maqolada ijtimoiy munosabat fe'llarining diskursiv unsurlari va ularning kategoriyaviy xususiyatlari zamonaviy ingliz tilida tahlil qilinadi. Tadqiqotda bu fe'llarning nutqdagi vazifalari — shaxslararo munosabat, ijtimoiy xulq va kommunikativ maqsadlarni ifodalashdagi o'rni o'rganilgan. Ayniqsa, ularning semantik, grammatik va pragmatik xususiyatlari hamda so'z turkumlari tizimidagi kategoriyaviy maqomi alohida e'tiborga olingan. Tadqiqot natijalariga ko'ra, ijtimoiy munosabat fe'llari nafaqat ijtimoiy harakatlarning lingvistik ko'rsatkichi, balki muloqotda izchillik va shaxslararo muvozanatni ta'minlovchi muhim vosita sifatida ham xizmat qiladi. Ushbu ish til, diskurs va ijtimoiy o'zaro ta'sir o'rtaqidagi bog'liqlikni chuqurroq tushunishga yordam beradi.

Kalit so'zlar: diskursiv unsurlar, ijtimoiy munosabat fe'llari, kategoriyaviy xususiyatlar, diskurs tahlili, pragmatika, ijtimoiy o'zaro ta'sir, kommunikatsiya

Language serves as a powerful means of expressing social relations and interaction. Verbs of social relation play a significant role in shaping communicative behavior, reflecting the speaker's attitude, status, and intentions in discourse. The study of these verbs helps to reveal how language structures interpersonal dynamics and contributes to social cohesion.

The aim of this article is to analyze the discursive elements and categorial features of verbs of social relation in English, focusing on their semantic, grammatical, and pragmatic aspects.

Verbs of social relation are those that denote interaction between people, expressing actions of communication, cooperation, conflict, and emotional exchange. These verbs include words such as *greet*, *invite*, *apologize*, *promise*, *argue*, *thank*, *congratulate*, *forgive*, and *advise*.

For example:

- *She **apologized** for being late.*
- *They **argued** about the decision.*
- *He **thanked** his teacher for the help.*

Each of these verbs reflects a particular type of social relationship between participants — politeness, disagreement, gratitude, or cooperation.

From a discourse perspective, these verbs function as indicators of the speaker's communicative intent and social awareness. They organize conversation, mark transitions between topics, and help maintain social harmony.

For instance, verbs such as *apologize*, *thank*, and *greet* often occur in politeness strategies, serving as tools for expressing respect and empathy.

In contrast, verbs like *argue*, *blame*, or *refuse* can introduce conflict or opposition, marking power relations and emotional distance.

Thus, verbs of social relation perform a **discursive function** — they link linguistic form with social meaning and communicative context.

From a categorial point of view, these verbs belong to the **lexical-grammatical category of action verbs**, but they also possess **pragmatic and interpersonal** functions. They combine features of **process** (denoting action) and **state** (reflecting relationships).

For example:

- In *He forgives her every time*, the verb *forgive* denotes both an action and an emotional attitude, combining lexical semantics with social meaning.
- In *They promised to help*, the verb *promise* functions as a performative act — the speech itself constitutes the action.

Therefore, these verbs are multifunctional, bridging the gap between linguistic form and communicative intention.

Some social relation verbs possess specific functional features. The analysis revealed the following senses within the semantic structure of social relation verbs:

a) **Verbs expressing negative relations:** *fail, defeat, garble, escape, execute, betray, blemish, block, beguile, contradict, confine, embroil, disaccord, disaffirm, bluff, beat, punish, discriminate, suffer, penalize, chastise, abase,* humiliate;

b) **Verbs expressing positive relations:** *define, protect, accept, identify, regulate, domineer, earn, educate, effect, detect, endorse, approve, support, enhance, enjoin, obtain, gain, win, compete, announce, embody, emulate, emancipate, concretize, confederate, compromise, establish, extend, bestead,* etc.

The first general sense mainly denotes the relationship, state, or action between subjects. The next one, having a differential characteristic, reflects not only the relations between subjects but also between a subject and an object.

It should be noted that the functions of the social relation system are not identical in all languages. However, when expressed by verbs, similar phenomena can be observed. For example, in English:

Keeping Miss Havisham in the background at a great distance, I still hinted at the possibility of my having competed with him in his prospects, and at the certainty of his possessing a generous soul, and being far above any mean distrusts, retaliations, or designs. [Ch.Dickens, *Great expectations*. 296]

“Ten minutes”, said David, “is given me in which to do what I would devote years to achieve”. I will not say I pity you, mademoiselle; it would not be true - I love you. [Roads of Destiny. 8]

I called to Herbert and Startop to keep before the tide, that she might see us lying by for her, and I adjured Provis to sit quite still, wrapped in his cloak. He answered cheerily, “Trust to me, dear boy”, and sat like a statue. [Ch.Dickens, *Great expectations*. 443]

Verbs of social relation serve as a linguistic bridge between individual expression and social structure. Their discursive and categorial features demonstrate how language reflects social values, relationships, and hierarchies.

Understanding these verbs enriches discourse analysis, pragmatics, and sociolinguistics by revealing how meaning is co-constructed in social interaction.

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