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Contrastive Linguistics in Modern Linguistics: Status, Problems, Methods

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Introduction

The first decade of the new millennium brought with it great changes in all spheres of human life. Urbanization, the creation of artificial intelligence, smart-city, the construction of "smart houses" are associated with a large flow of information in different languages, which leads to an intensification of the dialogue of cultures. Intercultural communications are expanding, the volume of material in a foreign language is increasing, which in turn leads to the study of foreign languages, the ability to use various kinds of dictionaries and a great demand for the creation of high-quality translation dictionaries, phrasebooks, reference books.

Literature Review

Merchants, travelers, all kinds of artists and interpreters (translators) were the first researchers, comparing unfamiliar words and finding analogues in their native language, they tried to explain and interpret them. The beginning of comparative historical linguistics or linguistic comparative studies was laid by the discovery of Sanskrit in the 19th century and is associated with the names of F. Bopp, J. Grimm, R. Rusk and A.Kh. Vostokova. Much attention has been paid to comparison from the initial point of view. According to A. Meie, a person can compare in order to achieve certain goals, one of them is to detect similarities and common patterns, and the other to enrich historical experience.

No linguistic research, regardless of its direction, can do without comparison. According to V.Ivanov, a Russian linguist, founder of the Moscow School of Comparative Studies, "the analysis of any language is based on the comparison of a given language with some general linguistic standard that plays the role of a metalanguage for describing the process and results of the study", which is an important component of the methodology for comparing languages.

In the book "Thought and Language" A. Potebnya noted the importance of comparing languages, comparing it with "a great discovery, like the idea of humanity." Comparative-historical linguistics is a field of linguistics, the object of which is to establish the relationship between related languages and describe their evolution in time and space

F. de Saussure in his "Memoirs" came to the conclusion that the main end result of comparative historical analysis is not only the collection and accumulation (accumulation) of the results obtained related to the parent language, but the restoration of integral systems. Thus, the parent language becomes a tool with which scientists compare, contrast and study modern languages.

The next direction refers to the beginning of the 19th century and is associated with the names of A. Schlegel, A. Schleicher and W. Humboldt.

Analysis

Man has always been interested in a wide range of issues related to understanding the environment, as well as the search for answers to questions that have arisen. To solve these and many other problems, a person very often compared, compared. Comparison is one of the main methods of



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understanding the world, which has always been fundamental in the life of people, being a kind of impulse for the further development of mankind. Entire areas arose based on the method of comparison "comparative psychology", "comparative jurisprudence", "comparative philosophy", "comparative political science".

Being one of the main methods of cognition, on which any scientific research was based, the comparison method also touched on linguistics. Over the long period of the existence of linguistics, as a science of language, several scientific movements have arisen and formed based on the comparison of languages. One of the first and important methods was the comparative method, which marked the beginning of comparative historical linguistics.

Trade has its distant roots, caravan routes ran for many thousands of kilometers, connecting different cities and nationalities.

The goal was a typological study of the language: the establishment of common types of languages for some reason. In the 20th century, on the basis of linguistic typological studies, the linguistics of universals arose. This is a theoretical direction, the main purpose of which is to identify linguistic phenomena that occur in all languages. All these currents and directions were the starting point for the emergence of comparative linguistics.

With the intensive development of structuralism, a new approach appears in the process of comparing unrelated languages in a synchronic aspect, which has practical and pragmatic significance for translation studies and linguodidactics, called comparative linguistics. Comparative linguistics has its roots in ancient times. The first scientific experience of comparing languages was made as early as the 4th century BC. in the grammar of Panini, when comparing Sanskrit with the ancient Indian spoken language.

In the Middle Ages, the general grammar of Port-Royal (1660) compared French with ancient Greek, Latin, Italian, Spanish, English and German. But as a scientific discipline, comparative linguistics was formed at the beginning of the 20th century, one of the tasks of which was the study of "similar linguistic microsystems (fields) of different languages." The purpose of a comparative study is to find similarities and differences between different languages, but all compared languages are studied, described independently from each other, and only summing up, they are compared.

Currently, much attention is paid to the issues of contrastive analysis, but despite this, the problem of contrastivistics remains poorly understood. Being a relatively young discipline, contrastive studies separated from comparative linguistics in the 60s of the XX century, which was facilitated by a number of conferences held: in 1968 in Georgetown, and since 1972, the problems of contrastive linguistics were included as a separate section in the program of international congresses on linguistics.

Yartseva noted that being one of the most "mysterious" branches of comparative linguistics, the denial of contrastive studies as part of linguistic disciplines is unjustified, since they have become a separate independent object for research and have taken a certain place in the environment of comparative studies. Having studied the works of many well-known scientists devoted to CL, we came to the conclusion that the position of CL has not changed and the question still arises regarding the methodological basis and it is necessary to separate CL from comparative.

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Discussion

In his article, L.M. Malykh gives a thorough description of the CL of its methods and goals, based on the example given by V.A. Vinogradov with the word white in Russian and white Ukrainian, which in their content denote the same color, but in form they different. And he comes to the conclusion that such relationships of content and form hide complex concepts of similarities and differences based on the dialectical category.

The development of typological comparison coincided with the philosophy of R. Descartes and the development of the universal "Universal Grammar of Port-Royal", that is, in parallel with comparative historical linguistics. The scientists faced the question of whether the problems considered in typological linguistics are the same as the problems studied in the comparative historical aspect. The main concept underlying typological linguistics is the idea of the characteristic elements of typological universals, that is, linguistic units that are characteristic of all languages. Comparative-historical linguistics studies language from its geneological point of view.

According to R.A. Budagov, studies in related languages are extremely necessary, since behind "an external similar form, differences are visible, very significant, but also very subtle". Based on the foregoing, L.M. Malykh emphasized that the dialectical category of the particular - the general plays an important role in linguistic research work and the process from the particular to the general property is characteristic of typological universals, and the movement from the general to the particular, the singular reveals differences. It is this method that allows you to catch the differences between languages. The transition from structural similarities to common differences is a progressive step in the field of linguistics. Increased attention to contrastive linguistics is associated with linguo-pragmatic views on the language and national specifics of the word when translating from a foreign language into the native one, and the expanding practice of teaching a foreign language, the theory and practice of translation, and for compiling translation dictionaries. The work of Robert Lado is the emergence of contrastive linguistics as a scientific method. As mentioned at the beginning, there is no clear distinction between comparative and contrastive linguistics.

According to V.N. Yartseva, they are synonyms, but more preference is given to the term contrastive linguistics, because of its "greater traditionality and the allocation of dissimilar (contrastive) features". V.M. Mokienko, A Gudavichyus emphasize the focus of the first term on the characteristic features of the compared languages, and the second term is the process of comparison itself, which is based on contrast, that is, on differences.

I.P.Susov classifies contrastive linguistics as a multilingual discipline. Unlike comparative historical, areal and typological linguistics, which are part of the same group of disciplines, contrastive linguistics has its own distinctive features.

- 1. According to the scientist, "the purpose of comparative historical, areal and typological research is the construction and development of language classifications. Contrastive linguistics does not adhere to this goal.
- 2. Comparative historical, areal and typological research aims to find similarities in related languages, forming the basis for genetic matches. For contrastive linguistics, genetic kinship does not matter; with the contrastive method, different languages are studied, mainly native and foreign.
- 3. Contrastive linguistics distracts from diachronic moments character, it is purely synchronic.

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The next difference between the contrastive method and the comparative method is that only two languages are analyzed, less often three: native and studied; units of one language are studied not autonomously from another, but in parallel in finding contrasts and differences in the semantics and functions of a unit of one language in relation to another, and not similarities; not separate fields, subsystems, or any separate element of the hierarchical system of the language, but separate units and phenomena of the language are studied. The main thing in contrastive linguistics is the establishment of differences, "similarities are detected automatically".

Being an intermediary link between theoretical and practical linguistics, the main task of CL is differences, which relates it more to practical linguistics. Although, just like in comparative linguistics, it is characterized by comparison, the basis of the theoretical views of linguistics. According to A.A. Zalevskaya, the analysis of information obtained from comparison helps to find new opportunities for compared linguistic units, thereby expanding the horizons of systemic intralinguistic relations. Since the basis of the entire comparison will be a contrastive analysis.

Conclusion

Contrastive comparison is enriched with the material of semantic typology, which makes it possible to compare languages more fully and in more detail. And, thirdly, a contrastive description of semantic systems makes it possible to make a quantitative and qualitative assessment of the components of these systems. A contrasting approach can inject a fresh spirit into research. Despite a lot of work done in the field of comparison, they are not highlight many theoretical and methodological issues, necessary for modern contrast studies, in particular for contrastive study of vocabulary. All of the above proves once again the need to separate contrastive linguistics from comparative linguistics as a separate discipline.

CA can be considered a new independent stage in the modernization of comparative linguistics, which allows a deep study of languages based on in-depth study.

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