

THE NOTION OF “ELLIPSIS” IN MODERN LINGUISTICS

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ABSTRACT

Currently, elliptical structures are widely used in different types of discourses. However, not enough research has been made to analyze the peculiarities of the elliptical sentences in a scientific literature. The article analyzes different interpretations of the notion of ellipsis, presents a brief history of studying elliptical sentences in the English Language and proposes the classification of the elliptical sentences in Modern English. It is revealed that elliptical structures are used for information compression, as well as performing certain stylistic and communicative functions. The provided results in the research present a thorough formulation of the notion of “ellipsis” in Modern Linguistics. Besides, the elliptical sentences are classified into several types according to the replenishment of the part of the sentences.

Keywords: ellipsis, elliptical sentences, information compression, omission, sentence function.

Thanks to the introduction of the Information Technologies to our lives, a myriad of scholars have access to a broad range of scientific literature. There are a great deal of actual problems and dilemmas in modern Linguistics, one of such confusing issues being the peculiarities of elliptical sentences in Linguistics. Even if most linguists agree that elliptical sentences function to compress the information; economize the language materials; peculiar to the informal style, there are still lots of them considering that these

kind of grammatical structures can be used in newspaper and publicist styles and perform some stylistic and communicative functions.

THE NOTION OF “ELLIPSIS”

The notion of “ellipsis” can be explained as the omission of any part of the sentence, which can be easily restored from the context. Most grammarians define this term differently, but generally, their definitions have a lot in common:

In Cambridge Dictionary of English the notion of ellipsis is explained as “...simply leaving out words rather than repeating them unnecessarily”.

Kirillova A. B. in her article “Elliptical Sentences in Russian and English Languages” mentions that N. I. Grech was one of the first grammarians who explained that elliptical sentences are phenomena of the syntax (Kirillova, 2015, p.164).

Garanina N.A. argues that elliptical structures are the main structures in oral speech which have not identical syntactical structure. (Garanina, 2012)

Vorobyeva Ye. N. proposes that ellipsis is defined as structural incompleteness of a syntactical structures. (Vorobyeva, 2019)

Taking all the viewpoints into consideration, it can be understood that, a language user can explicit the most important parts of the information, making less effort and economizing the language units.

Since the structural and semantic peculiarities of elliptical sentences have not been analyzed fully, there are still some disputable questions in Modern linguistics. To solve the problems of structural formulation and semantic interpretation of the notion of ellipsis in linguistics, a wide range of scholars have studied these phenomena of Linguistics.

Such famous linguists as a. A.A. Shaxmatov, V. V. Vinogradov, I. A. Lipova were engaged in studying the linguistic nature of elliptical structures.

Hamidullaeva G. A. in her scientific article “Elliptical sentences in advertisement texts” mentions that the following classification of elliptical sentences was revealed by an outstanding grammarian L. S. Barxudarov:

1) If the word that is omitted can be restored in the context, this type of elliptical sentences fall under the syntagmatically restoring category of the elliptical sentences:

For example:

She was proud of her father having been a staff officer and her husband a colonel in the Medical Service. (S. Maugham)

2) If the word or a word phrase that is omitted can not be restored according to the context, but with the means of the analogue constructions in a language, this type of elliptical sentences fall under the category of paradigmatically restored elliptical sentences:

For example:

-Where are you from? –

- Canada (I am from Canada)

L. S. Barxudarov explains that this classification of the elliptical sentences are made according to the method of the word explication.

Moreover, Hamidullaeva G. A. implements that Morozova Ye. I. suggested to divide the elliptical sentences into three groups:

1) Elliptical sentences, where the subject is left out;

2) Elliptical sentences, in which the predicate or the predicative is omitted;

3) Elliptical sentences, which do not have the subject and a part of the predicate.

The Internet site grammarbook.com suggests the following common types of elliptical sentences:

a) Noun ellipsis:

I did four laps around the track, and Marcella did too.

b) Verb ellipsis:

I ate steak, and Jennifer, fish.

- c) A verb-phrase ellipsis:
- d) Mr. Burns is wiser than I.

It can be concluded that elliptical sentences must be studied from different approaches and aspects. The distinctive difference between the elliptical sentences and the incomplete sentences has not been analyzed yet. It is easy to misinterpret incomplete sentences as elliptical sentences. The main function of the elliptical sentence is to carry clarity of the utterance.

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