

## THE CATEGORY OF MODALITY: OBJECTIVE AND SUBJECTIVE MODALITY

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**ABSTRACT.** The main research object of the article is the category of modality, the history of the origin of the semantic category, the information about the linguistic means representing it are included in this article. In addition, representatives of the school of Romance linguistics, moreover, English, German and Uzbek linguists have presented various opinions about this category and detailed comments about the linguistic units that represent it. At the end of the discussion part of the article, there is presented some information about objective and subjective modality, and the explained rules are proved with the help of various examples.

**KEY WORDS.** Modality, semantic category, objective and subjective modality, *modus, dictum*.

**Introduction.** Modality is the basic unit of speech, the most important component of sentence semantics. In linguistics, modality is generally understood as the relation of the content of a sentence to an objective being and the relation of the speaker to the content of the sentence. The category of modality includes a variety of tools that serve to ensure speech modality.<sup>1</sup> The category of modality is one of the language phenomena closely related to the logical construction of thought, and therefore it is the object of investigation of the science of linguistics and logic. In the first, modality is the most important feature of the sentence, and in the second, the form of thought is considered as an important feature of the sentence.<sup>2</sup> The category of modality is an equally interesting and crucial problem for world and Uzbek linguists.

M. Halliday considers modality as an important functional characteristic of communication - a function between individuals (interpersonal) and emphasizes that Modality is the form of expression of the speaker participating in communication. According to him, due to the form of expression, the speaker reveals the semantic status and significance of his utterance. According to the theory of M. Halliday, modality is a concept in a narrow sense, and as a language category, it understands the idea of reality that can be expressed only by modal words. Russian linguist I.B. Khlebnikov<sup>3</sup> pointed out that “Modality is a semantic category, it is a set of meanings and their different reflection in the language. The category acquires a separate content and expresses meanings such as “necessary-need”, “possible-impossible”, which has different parts of the language.

According to the linguist J.A. Yakubov, the category of modality is “a grammatical semantic category indicating the attitude of the speaker to the expressed thought or the attitude of the

1 Radjapova N. Modal category and modality units. Electronic journal of actual problems of modern science, education and training. 2021 august 8/2. issn 2181-9750. p. 41.

2 Yaqubov J. Modalliy kategoriyasi mantiq va tilda ifodalanish xususiyatlari. Fil.f.dok. diss. –Tosh. 2006. b- 6.

3 Хлебникова И.Б. ещё о проблеме модальности в грамматике. –Учёные записки. М, 1965. с.354-363.

speaker to the content of the sentence.”<sup>4</sup> According to another Uzbek linguist, N.Q. Turniyozov, “the modality sign of speech elements is related to the speaking person's mentality on the one hand, and on the other hand, it is inextricably linked with their meanings.” I.K. Mirzayev stated, “The idea of modality is a functional-semantic category that represents different forms of relations to reality, as well as different forms of subjective classification of the things being expressed.”

U.K. Yusupov states the expression of modality in the comparative analysis of conditional sentences in Uzbek and English languages. Conditional clauses are divided into four types according to their modal meaning: real, possible, doubtful, and unrealistic conditional clauses.<sup>5</sup> As we mentioned above, modality is one of the widely researched issues of the science of logic, and in this science, “modality is the main important feature of judgment, which expresses one or another sign of the subject. Modality is the semantic classification given to it according to the content of the reality stated in the judgment: the judgment is understood as the logical connection between the predicate and the subject of such concepts as necessary, probable, accidental, and improbable.” Investigating modality from logic point of view will be best research in logic. For now, we will restrict ourselves to scientific research from a linguistic point of view.

I.R. Galperin<sup>6</sup> analyzes modality based on artistic texts. The author focuses on two linguistic elements representing the category of modality in texts. The first of these is an epithet (dreary-sad, bleak-sad, sad-sad, unmerciful, melancholy-sad, evil-indecent), and the second is an exclamation. Although the epithet does not play a major role in the text, due to its attachment to the attribute, which is its syntactic function, it only describes the characteristics of the object. Revealing the modality of an artistic text also depends on the author's personal methodology. Also, I.R. Galperin expresses the following thoughts about the subjective assessment of exclamations - subjective modality: “When exclamation words are used in a sentence, they not only affect the sentence with their meaning, but also enrich the thought.” In addition, exclamations are returned in different ways and begin to express the subjective evaluation attitude of the author, thus becoming a category of textual modality. It seems that I.R. Galperin expresses the category of modality through epithet and exclamatory words and tries to explain the evaluative nature of subjective modality. If we look at the given language materials, they form one semantic field.

**Materials and methods.** The research on the modality is based on an anthropocentric paradigm and a method of synergetic analysis.

World linguists have expressed different opinions about the scientific-theoretical analysis of the category of modality, and the application of this semantic category is different in various languages and significantly differs from each other.<sup>7</sup> For example, in English linguistics, due to the non-recognition of verb mood, verb forms are considered as a morphological category and it is emphasized that they perform the function of modality. M. Halliday, I. P. Ivanova, I. I. Khlebnikova, J. Boranov, O. Yusupov showed the external objective and internal subjective types of modality category. Representatives of Romance linguistics Ch.Bally, V.G.Gak,

4 Yaqubov J. Modalliy kategoriyasi mantiq va tilda ifodalanish xususiyatlari. Fil.f.dok. diss. –Tosh. 2006. b- 7.

5 Юсупов У.К. Сравнительный анализ английских и узбекских сложносочинённых предложений с придаточными условными. –Дисс. ...канд.филол.наук. –Ташкент, 1971

6 Aliyeva M. O`zbek tilida modal ma`no ifodalovchi lingvistik vositalar. –Andijon. 2011. b.13-14.

7 Yaqubov J. Modalliy kategoriyasi mantiq va tilda ifodalanish xususiyatlari. Fil.f.dok. diss. –Tosh. 2006. b. 7-10.



E.E.Cordy, Y.S.Stepanov, T.B.Alisova, M.A.Aburazakovs emphasize that this category can be expressed by different means, and the external nature of this semantic category is revealed by verb moods, and the internal modality is the modal verb, modal words, and prepositions. German linguists A.A.Metzler, V.G.Admony, L.V.Zinder, V.F.Gurevich, V.I.Kurakov and another group of scientists divided the category of modality into morphological (verb moods), syntactic (intonation and syntactic devices), lexical-grammatical (modal verb and special phrases), showed that it can be expressed in lexical (modal words) ways.

The category of modality has not escaped the attention of Uzbek linguists, and a number of linguists have thought about this issue in their scientific works and researches, including G. Abdurahmonov, A. Hajiyev, Sh. We can include Shoabdurahmonov, I. Rasulov, A. Nurmonov, N. Mahmudov, A. Mamatov, Sh. Rakhmatullayev and others. According to the results of scientific research, the category of modality is can be expressed with morphological (analytical forms of the verb), grammatical (adjunct, incomplete and modal verbs), and lexical methods (modal word, preposition and special adverbs).

**Results and discussions.** The following linguistic units are listed by linguists as means of modality: mood, tense and personal suffixes, separate devices of the sentence, prepositions, word order, intonation, interrogative pronouns in the function of preposition, impulses, introductory words and sentences. This category includes various tools like morphological (inclination, tense, personal affixes), lexical (different groups of words), syntactic (separate sentence devices, word order, repetition and phonetic means (intonation).

Unification of such diverse tools under one category naturally caused some objections among linguists. Therefore, an attempt is made to find a common symbol that unites these tools. All these devices show their function within the sentence (sentence level). This sign, that is, a syntactic sign, was to some extent the basis for combining the above tools. Accordingly, the tools of modality are:

- 1) constructive-syntactic;
- 2) morphological-syntactic;
- 3) can be divided into intonation-synthetic groups.<sup>8</sup>

Attributing syntactic status to all modal means seems to be a basis for showing the commonality of the structure of these means. However, this syntactic feature, which is the basis for combining in a certain place, loses its power in the differentiation of modal means.

Proponents of the nominative aspect of the sentence divide the sentence into two parts - dictum and modus.<sup>9</sup> A dictum is an objective content expressed by a syntactic device, that is, a proposition. It is not enough to express a dictum (proposition) for the formation of a certain syntactic device as a sentence. According to Ch.Bally, it becomes a sentence only when the modus is added. So, the mode is the most important part of the sentence, without it the sentence cannot be formed, because it cannot reflect the modality. It incorporates all features of the sentence except the dictum into the mode. Therefore, Fillmore shows the formula of the sentence in the form  $S = M + R$  ( $S$  – sentence,  $M$  – modality,  $R$  – proposition (dictum)). In this understanding, the types of communication considered are image, question, command meanings, emotional meanings, subjective-modal meanings, etc. modus Modality was widely interpreted in V. V. Vinogradov's article “О категории модальности и модальных словах в русском языке” published in 1950, and this concept of the scientist had a great influence on

<sup>8</sup> Сибгатов Р.Г. Теория предикативности. Саратов ГУ, 1984, С. 17

<sup>9</sup> Nurmonov A. Tanlangan asarlar. –Tosh. 2012. b.281-282.

the subsequent studies on the problem of modality in Russian linguistics. According to V.V. Vinogradov and his followers, under modality:

- 1) types of communicative meaning: types of sentences that differ in the meaning of declarative, interrogative, command;
- 2) types of sentences that are distinguished by affirmation and negation;
- 3) the speaker's emotional response to the content of the sentence and a number of other meanings are combined.

The meaning intended to be conveyed through the category of modality is divided into two groups:

1. objective modality;
2. subjective modality.

Objective modality is used to reflect the nature of objective relations in a particular situation, such as possibility, necessity, real or unreal. This type of modality is expressed using the following means: 1) verb moods (conditional, command, performance, etc.; 2) special modal verbs: to want, to wish, etc.; 3) lexical tools: must, should, need, ought to, etc.

- *Smoking is **not allowed** in public places*- jamoat joyida chekish mumkin emas.
- *I **want** all our students to pass the exam with excellent marks* - barcha talabalarimiz imtihondan a'lo baholar bilan o'tishini xohlayman.
- *All consumers **must** pay for the used energy on time*- barcha iste'molchilar foydalanilgan energiya haqqini o'z vaqtida to'lashlari kerak.

Subjective modality expresses the attitude of the speaker to the objective content expressed in the sentence. This type of modality is represented by a special modal that comes in the function of the input word and other words in the modal function. And it expresses the following meanings: confirmation (true), confidence (certainly), pity (sorry), suspicion (probably) and others.

*That is **true**, the project will serve the further prosperity of the state economy.*

*The new version is most **certainly** easier to use.*<sup>10</sup>

*It is a great **pity** that all pupils in the city cannot have the same chances.*<sup>11</sup>

**Conclusion.** Syntactic modality, divided into objective and subjective modality, is influenced by the subject's role in sentence formation and emotional attitude. Objective modality is a necessary sign, while subjective modality is an additional modality superimposed on it. The speaker's communicative intention, emotional attitude, and subjective modality all contribute to sentence structure, expressing the speaker's attitude.

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<sup>10</sup> <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/certainly>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.collinsdictionary.com/sentences/english/pity>



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