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PAUSES IN QUASI-SPONTANEOUS COLLOQUIAL SPEECH OF THE AMUR VARIETY OF THE FAR-EASTERN REGIONAL ACCENT OF THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE

Abstract

Every regional variety of the modern Russian language has its own characteristic features. The ones that are specific for the speech of Far-Eastern Russian speakers have not been thoroughly studied yet. The present research is an attempt to consider one of the prosodic features of the Amur Region speakers of Russian, namely pauses, and bring pauses into a system based of the existing classification of pauses. The results enabled to single out 10 kinds of pauses: phrase-boundary hesitation filled, phrase-boundary hesitation empty, syntagm-boundary hesitation filled, syntagm-boundary hesitation empty, syntagm-internal hesitation repetitions, self-corrections. These pauses were characterized by different frequency rate. Syntagm-internal hesitation empty, while phrase-boundary hesitation empty ones, hesitation repetitions and self-corrections occurred most rarely. In general, hesitation pauses were more frequent than intonation ones, empty pauses occurred more often than filled ones. In addition, a number of cases where pauses followed each other were noticed. There was also certain speaker-dependent variation revealed.

Keywords: regional variety, the Russian language, quasi-spontaneous speech, pause, hesitation repetition, self-correction.