

Ekaterina S. Khudyakova
Perm State University
Perm, Russian Federation
khudiakova.es@gmail.com

Sociolinguistic variation of parameters of oral spontaneous text

Abstract

The article examines the social factors influence on prosodic manifestation of syntactic and macrosyntactic units. The data collected during suprasegmental analysis of spontaneous speech are used, which are directly related to the syntactic level, namely: the average length of a phrase in words and in syntagmas and the average length of a syntagma in phonetic words, as well as parameters associated with the design of the whole text: the number of composition blocks in the text, their length in phrases, the length of the whole text in phrases and words. The results of statistical modeling of the influence of the factors "age", "type of education", "level of education" and "gender" clearly indicate that the factors "type of education" and "gender" significantly influence the variation of syntactic and macrosyntactic parameters of an oral text. The factor "type of education" significantly affects the number of phrases in the text and the length of the text block in phrases – both parameters are significantly higher for the speakers who specialize in Humanities compared to those who specialize in Sciences. The length of the syntagma depends on the speaker's gender – syntagmas produced by male speakers are longer.

Keywords: spontaneous speech, monologue, social factors, syntax, macrosyntax, syntagma, phrase, statistical modeling.

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