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Theoretical basis for identifying the speaker's level of professionalism in a personnel interview

Abstract

The article tests the formalized theory of identification of the speaker's qualification level by means of sociolinguistic analysis of their oral spontaneous speech during interview. According to the hypothesis, professionalism is a stable system in the structure of an individual reflecting the degree of his / her professional competence that influences the organization and speech elements: vertical context, thematic scope, language means, rhetoric and language strategies. The material for the study were the interviews obtained from 3 subjects in mature age, specializing in music, having large working experience in the field but different levels of professionalism: low, medium and high. To identify the level, the methods of socio- and psycho-linguistics were applied. As a result, linguistic markers for the 3 levels were obtained. Low level was marked by the dominance of sentences comprising 40–50 words with serious disorders in semantic-syntactic patterns. Medium level was characterized by the complexity of sentences comprising 60–70 words but still with disorders in their syntactic patterns, scattering of the the data informed, simple enumeration of facts without their analysis. High-level markers were complex multi-component sentences with various subordinate conjunctions reflecting data integration and their analysis. The outlook for further study will include more subjects balanced by sociolinguistic parameters, more professional spheres as well as addressing morphology and lexis to identify the corresponding professionalism markers.

Keywords: narrative interview, sociolinguistic categories, discursive analysis, language representation of professionalism, speech markers