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Interstitial characteristic of the Popular Scientific Legal Internet Discourse (PSLID)

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Abstract

Popular Scientific Legal Internet Discourse (PSLID) is a modern linguistic phenomenon, which appeared due to penetration of juristic terminology into the Internet. Discourse of law is an institutional discourse for it embraces the diversity of relations developing in the field of legal institutions and using their textual sources. Modern Internet formats, such as blogs, vlogs and posts (including tweets), contribute to the popularization of legal discourse and PSLID in online media and social networks. Author analyzes relation between scientific, official, journalistic and colloquial styles via examples of texts from a legal column "Pravo znat" from data portal Tomsk.ru. The analysis leads to the conclusion that PSLID combines element of different functional styles.

Keywords: Discourse, legal discourse, discourse of law, functional style, interstitial characteristic;

1. Introduction

Recent studies show that scientists do not have a consistent approach to a notion discourse. A number of linguists assimilate the terms discourse and text. [4] However, in our opinion, different linguistic notions cannot be perceived as identical. The abovementioned can be confirmed by the statements of linguists who believe that "not every text is self-sufficient for an adequate interpretation". [1]

2. Materials and methods

M. V. Torgasheva notes that the discourse involves text and speech including extra-linguistic factors of certain social situations, communicative tasks, etc. [5] M. Jorgensen and L. Phillips, considering the term *discourse* in the context of discourse analysis, point out that it is important to understand that the modern language is structured according to the patterns which determine people's statements in different areas of social life. [3] A. M. Kaplunenko believes that in order to study the information left beyond the text, it is necessary to refer to discourse. The scientist notes that discourse has much broader meaning in comparison with the text, it combines not only the linguistic structure of speech, but also the features of communication, as well as the strategy of its construction depending on the type of discourse. [1]

Linguists distinguish two main types of discourse, the difference between them is based on personalization and institutionalization. Discourse of law is an institutional discourse for it embraces the diversity of relations developing in the field of legal institutions and using their textual sources.

3. Discussion

Therefore, in the context of this article, discourse can be defined not only as a form of language expression depending on the area of communication activity, but also as a complex communicative phenomenon. Its main elements are creation of some text, as well as demonstration of dependence between the text and various extra-linguistic circumstances, specific goals of the author and ways of obtaining and transmitting information. For the purposes of this article, the Popular Scientific Legal Internet Discourse (PSLID) should be considered as a modern linguistic phenomenon, which appeared due to penetration of juristic terminology into the Internet.

At the same time, it is critical to talk about PSLID along with the functional style. Oral and written functional style is a kind of language that appears in a socially significant area of people's social and speech practice. Its features are determined by the peculiarities of communication in this area. Thus, speaking about discourse-functional style correlation, it is important to take into account the genre, the theme and creative manner of the author. This interaction is the main foundation for the formation of interstitial characteristic of PSLID. It should be noted that the existence of PSLID in the Internet is impossible without a combination of distinctive features of discourse and the previously described factors of interaction of discourse and functional style.

Modern Internet formats, such as blogs, vlogs and posts (including tweets), contribute to the popularization of PSLID in online media and social networks. Currently, one of the most popular formats of the text on the Internet is a blog. With the ability to adapt to the needs of the audience, the blog can be transformed in the reader's mind and be perceived in different ways, for example, as a weekly legal column.

Scientific, official, journalistic and colloquial styles correlate with each other in the discourse. Let us analyze their relation via examples of texts from a legal column "Pravo znat" from data portal Tomsk.ru. [2] It is possible to determine interstitial characteristic of PSLID by identifying the characteristic features of different functional styles. These include the area of communication, the main functions and purpose of communication of a particular style, as well as existing sub-styles, the main genres and style-forming features.

The most outstanding feature of the scientific style is the use of scientific terminology. Terms from different branches of legal science (civil law, criminal law, family law, etc.) appear in the analyzed texts. All texts of the column contain references to laws as to the main acts of regulation of public relationship. Law is a key concept of legal discourse, and its mandatory nature is one of the fundamental components that should be taken into account when describing the interstitial characteristic of PSLID. The lack of emotional words when the author quotes articles of the law testifies to the standardization, stylistic uniformity and order. All this is typical for the official style (its legislative sub-style) texts. However, the column does not represent texts exclusively with references to the current legislation, but explains its provisions. This results in unemotional composition of the text for those elements that contain references to the law.

Thus, the general linguistic features of the official style are the standard and orderly nature of the use of language means. When writing about the responsibilities of parents, the author used such constructions as "in the manner prescribed by law", "to allocate a duty to the child's parents" from the Family code of the Russian Federation. [2] This again emphasizes the existing stylistic features and lexical peculiarities of the functional style. Among other things, the combination of

terminology, speech clichés and attributive-nominal phrases distinguishes official style from journalistic and colloquial, which are also used in the column "Pravo znat".

4. Results

Journalistic style in the column interchanges with colloquial one. This is shown in simplified form of presentation of information which enhances the impact of PSLID on the reader's attitude to the law and his/her own behavior. However, due to the specific purpose of communication journalistic style prevails over colloquial one. This is explained by the fact that social and political information, which is useful to the reader, is a priority for the authors of the analyzed texts. The explanation of some difficult statements in a social and political context in provisions of the current legislation can be given in the form of author's comments by means of colloquial or slangy phrases.

5. Conclusion

As we can see, PSLID combines elements of different functional styles. The interstitial characteristic of PSLID is explained by the complexity and heterogeneity of extra-linguistic circumstances and depends on the specific goals of the author of the text.

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