

Concept of Linguistic Perceptual Space¹

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Abstract

This article is dedicated to the linguistic perceptual space. Of great interest in cognitive science is the relationship between linguistic and perceptual ideas about space. There are different approaches, some of them explore aspects of linguistic coding of space, which are closely related to the functioning of the visual system, and some of them are aimed at exploring the differences between linguistic and visual representations of space. Linguistic studies show that the presence of two main types of demonstrative points, near and far, characteristic of most languages, is evidence that language differences are derived from sensory ones. However, they are independent of each other. It is noted that the main characteristic of linguistic perceptual space is its deictism. At the present stage of development of linguistics, the following types of deixis are distinguished: primary, secondary, textual, social and cognitive. The authors come to the conclusion that the perceptual space is identical with the concept of the deictic field, which is defined by three parameters: temporal, spatial, and personal.

Keywords: Language; Linguistics; Space; Perception; English.

1. Introduction

The philosophical interpretation of the concept of perception suggests that it is a process (result) of building an image of an object in the perceptual space of a subject in its direct interaction with this object. Space is a fundamental characteristic of being objective and subjective. The distinction between objective and subjective, in particular, perceptual space, is historically associated with three trends in the interpretation of space. According to Newton, space is an empty “container” of bodies, absolutely motionless, continuous, homogeneous and isotropic, permeable, not affecting matter and not affected by its influence, infinite, having three dimensions. According to another direction in the interpretation of space, going from

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Aristotle and later developed by Leibniz, is the order of the mutual arrangement of bodies existing outside each other. A fundamentally different position with regard to the nature of space was formulated by I. Kant, having made a "Copernican" revolution in ideas. For him, space along with time is a priori forms of sensual contemplation. In other words, space and time are not only properties of objective reality, but also forms that constitute the subject, expressing its activity. Perceptual space is a composition of spaces associated with various analyzer systems (Irani & Rezaei, 2018).

In perception, reproduction receives an objective integral coherence of the phenomenon; for it, first of all, attribution to objective space, pronouncedness, and projection of images outside are typical. The image of perception is a product of the integration of sensory data obtained from many receptors, and the subject's own activity, perceptual actions (Ginetsinskii, 1987).

Perception is: 1) the process of perception by the senses *the perception of a faint sound*; 2) way of perception *sense perception*; 3) a process or state of being aware of something that is *the perception of time*; 4) knowledge obtained as a result of mental activity *perception that inheritance must be coded in DNA*; 5) the ability to learn *theories of how to enhance human perception*; 6) knowledge or point of knowledge *the article is full of astute perceptions*; 7) interpretation or impression *doctors working to change the public perception of certain diseases*.

2. Methods

The most interesting thing in cognitive science is the relationship between linguistic and perceptual views on space. One approach explores aspects of linguistic coding of space, which are closely related to the functioning of the visual system. Another approach is aimed at exploring the differences between linguistic and visual representations of space. Recent neuropsychological studies indicate that the brain contains separate mechanisms for representation: 1) *peri personal* space, i.e. that which is close to or which extends approximately around the perimeter of an outstretched arm, 2) an *extra personal* space that expands in the direction from this boundary. Linguistic studies show that the presence of two main types of demonstrative points, near and far, characteristic of most languages, is evidence that language differences are derived from sensory ones. However, they are independent of each other (Shayakhmetova & Chaklikova, 2018).

When writing this article, we reviewed scientific literature on the topic of study and used the following set of methods: theoretical, method of comparison and descriptive method, presupposing classification of the analyzed material.

Theoretical and methodological basis of the research is based on the results of studies in the field of linguistics developed by Abdrakhmanova and Mubarakshina

(2017), Aikhenvald (2004), Makhmutova and Lutfullina (2017), Mubarakshina, Fedorova, and Fattahova (2016).

3. Results

The main characteristic of linguistic perceptual space is its deicity. The concept of deixis covers all components of the speech act of its participants, the subject of speech, the temporal and spatial localization of the reported fact, as well as an indication of everything that can be described as relating to the act of speech (Arutyunova, 1988). At the present stage of development of linguistics, the following types of deixis are distinguished: primary, secondary, textual, social, cognitive. These types of deixis are derived from primary deixis and exist relatively independently in relation to it (Makhmutova, 2017). The secondary or narrative deixis, called the deictic projection, is the deixis of retelling and artistic narration that is not related to the speech situation. Text deixis is associated with the correlation of parts of the text and is represented by the following expressions *it was shown above, in the next paragraph, in this sentence*. Cognitive deixis implies a mentally conditioned system of deictic relationships, including perceptual, spatial, temporal, relational, textual and compositional deixis (Akhapkin). Primary deixis carries out instructions based on the deictic center "*narrator, here, now*", determined by the "*live*" situation of communication. The secondary or anaphoric deixis is associated with the creation of the space-time frame of the work, the assessment of events and characters from the point of view of an observer occupying a certain position in time and space (Mubarakshina, 2016). Perceptual space is primarily determined by the primary deixis "*perceptor, here, now*", while the situation of information is characterized by the secondary deixis of the reported situation.

For the concept of perceptual space of greatest interest is the theory of K. Bühler, based on the differences of deictic and symbolic fields. According to this theory, there is only one indicator field in the language, and the semantic content of the indicator words depends on the perceived objects. K. Bühler writes: "A robust and fruitful lexicological principle is to look for the initial meaning in the sphere of sensory perception" (Byuler, 1993). He identifies three ways of pointing to the subject: 1) visual (*ad oculus*), i.e. direct indication by gestures or index words related to perceived specific objects; 2) anaphoric - an indication by verbal means within the deictic field or text; 3) deixis to the imaginary (*deixis ad phantasma*), indicating an abstract place in memory (Byuler, 1993).

Table 1. *Features of Fields*

Deictic field	Symbolic field
Denotation of the field are deictic signs of a situation of perception, "signs that	Denotation of fields are syntactic and semantic contexts, formed by situationally-independent call titles.

have referents but do not have designates” (you, this etc.)	
Based on the autonomic features of visual guidance and perceptual presentation	Based on an abstract conceptual understanding of the world
For index signs, the basis of operation is the situation	For symbolic signs, the basis of functioning is syntactic and semantic contexts
Associated with directly perceived	Associated with imaginary (spiritual perception)

The directive words “here”, “now”, “I”, symbolizing personal, spatial and temporal deixis, are considered as the center of the coordinate system into which all sensory-perceived data coming to a person is structured. Perceptual space correlates with the visual (ad oculus) way of indication and is associated, as a rule, with the primary deixis.

The referential characteristics of perceptual space assume the interrelation of the components of temporal and spatial references. The category of perception is closely related to the concepts of two daxies. We distinguish the following spatial characteristics of temporal localization, which define perceptual space.

1. **Personal characterization** is the most important characteristic of the prototypical temporal deixis. The inclusion of the personality factor is evidence of taking into account the spatial moment in the interpretation of temporal factors in speech. The temporal deixis with a sign of personal characterization is a relevant for the speaker (writer) ratio of the time of the designated situation to the time of speech — an attitude that is a component of “subjective speech meaning” (Mubarakshina, 2016). For example, the speaker can localize himself in any time plan and present himself as observing the described events “*I then*”, or present the events of the past as actual “*I as now*” thanks to the temporal form of the present historical. Personal characterization, often implying a coincidence of the perceptor and the narrator, is a necessary component of the perceptual space.
2. The sign “**here**” is associated with the “maximally prototypical” actual present. He explains the use of demonstrative pronouns in the aspect of spatial deixis and their actualizing ability. The sign “*then*” and “*there*” is associated with the functioning of other temporary forms. The sign “*here*” defines the boundaries of perceptual space,

signals the immediate observability of the situation, not only its temporal, but also modal relevance.

3. **Perception** is a category of closing and summarizing consideration of spatial referential signs. The interaction of temporal deixis with perceptual semantics is not included in the traditional range of grammatical meanings, but plays an important role in the language interpretation of a number of grammatical categories. Perception is the linguistic and speech interpretation of observability and other types of perception (in particular, auditory) of the external world from the point of view of the perceptor - first of all, the speaker and the listener.

4. Discussion

Many linguists have signs of a deictic field in perceptual space. The deictic field is the context of the use of deictic units with an indication of the speaker in the system of space-time coordinates of the statement.

Moiseeva (2006) points to the connection of the deictic field with the perceptual act, writes that the statement about the act of perception is like a performative act. In this case, speech act refers to the action of perception *I listen to you; I see him coming*. According to her point of view, the content of the grammatical category of indicative mood is based on perceptually obtained data. The following statement *Helene came* suggests modus *I say that I know, because I saw that Helen had come*, but the very situation of perception remains “behind the scenes”, i.e. the fact of perception is not indicated and is included in the presupposition of this statement (Moiseeva, 2006). The functioning of deicts is possible when the act of nomination coincides with the act of perception, which explains the change in their content depending on the situation of communication. Sensory verbs occupy a middle position between deictic characters and denominative words: 1) their denotative and significative meanings as denominative words are due to a separate sensory area of perception, and not a situation; 2) the specificity of their reference is that they correlate with the visual (ad oculus) way of indicating in the directly perceived situation and are associated with the primary deixis “*perceiver, here, now*” (Moiseeva, 2006). Perceptual space is defined by the semantics of perception verbs. In case of going beyond its limits (beyond the limits of the reachability of the organs of perception), the semantic meaning of the verbs of perception is modified from the concrete to the more abstract, for example, the designation of the thought processes of cognition and awareness – *to see, to hear = to understand*.

Grigorian considers the main guideline not only the speaker, but uses the term observer for the person from whose position the situation appears. In her opinion, the observer factor is extremely important for determining the content of many language units and categories. The action component, explicitly or hidden, is

contained in the lexical meanings of many words. In this respect, the distinction between the English verbs *come* and *go*, which is not always obvious to those who learn English, is characteristic. *Come* indicates a movement directed to the observer, and *go* - from the observer. It is for this reason that it is possible to say *He came up to me*, but we can't say *He went up to me*. Following sentences *John came up to the door* and *John went up to the door* both correspond to Russian “*Dzhon podoshel k dveri*”. The first sentence implies that John was moving towards the speaker/observer, i.e. the observer was closer to the door, in the second case the opposite is assumed (Grigor'yan).

In the works of Volkova (1987) studies the phenomenon of subjectively-inclusive deixis. According to the point of view, the consideration of deixis from the standpoint of the category of perceptivity allows us to explain the features of the space-time division of reality and the specific features of its actualization in the corpus of language means.

In the text interpretation theory, Dolinin (1985) explores the concept of the observer, which is either included in the communicative situation or not included and looks at it from the side. In the concept of a perceptual field, the subject is not only perceiving (omni percens), but also often the author of a speech messages about the situation of perception and its interpretation. Inclusion of the subject (perceiver of the situation) is one of the characteristics of perceptual space. In the sentence *The street is seen from all the points of view* in the role of the subject is the object of perception, and the perceiving subject and narrator in the active structure of the sentence remain unexpressed.

The status of the perceptor is not so simple and is not limited to the transfer of the contemplated. Perceptual act is accompanied by mental operations. Matveeva (2005) writes that in the structure of the category of perceptivity there are two plans: cognitive, which is a product of natural categorization, and axiological as a result of evaluative categorization. These two plans are interrelated and interdependent, which is reflected in the functioning of linguistic units. The structure of each of the concepts of methods of perception allows you to select the perceptual and non-perceptual levels of information. These levels are based on the results of processing information of various types: objective information about the physical world and subjectivized (national-cultural) information about real and virtual connections, relationships and properties that are significant for a person (Matveeva, 2005). The second level of information involves the category of reportative.

If the narrator and the perceptor coincide, or only the perceptor is present, then it is a question of the evidential category of perception provided the explication of the situation of perception. If the narrator informs about the presence of another perceptor / narrator or its presence is implied - then we are talking about the category of indirect evidentiality. The categorical difference between indirect evidentiality lies in the fact that the narrator initially positions himself outside the field of perception.

5. Summary

Summing up the results of the functioning of perceptual space, we can draw the following conclusions: perceptual space is identical to the concept of the deictic field, which is defined by three parameters: temporal, spatial, and personal – *now*, *here*, *I = the perceiver*.

The main differences in perceptual space are as follows:

- the interpretation of the subjective element, i.e. gaining perceptor status by the narrator;
- the spatial-temporal specificity of deterministic extralinguistic boundaries of visibility in a specific time interval.

We distinguish the following spatial characteristics of temporal localization, which define perceptual space:

1. Personal characterization is the most important characteristic of the prototypical temporal deixis.
2. The sign “*here*” is associated with the “maximally prototypical” actual present. He explains the use of demonstrative pronouns in the aspect of spatial deixis and their actualizing ability.
3. Perception is a category of closing and summarizing consideration of spatial referential signs.

6. Conclusions

Perception is a category of closing and summarizing consideration of spatial referential signs. The interaction of temporal deixis with perceptual semantics is not included in the traditional range of grammatical meanings, but plays an important role in the language interpretation of a number of grammatical categories. Perception is the linguistic and speech interpretation of observability and other types of perception (in particular, the auditory) phenomena of the external world from the point of view of the perceptor — first of all, the speaker and the listener (Bondarko, 2002).

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