

Content-Logical Structure of the Module

Functional Styles of
Speech as Subsystems
of the
Literary Language

System of Functional
Styles in Modern English

The Notion of Style
Features. Function-
Related Style Features.

- Lingua-Stylistic Peculiarities of the Style of Official or Business Documents
- Lingua-Stylistic Peculiarities of Scientific /Academic Style
- Lingua-Stylistic Peculiarities of Publicist (Media) Style
- Lingua-Stylistic Peculiarities of Literary Colloquial Style
- Lingua-Stylistic Peculiarities of Familiar Colloquial Style
- Lingua-Stylistic Peculiarities of the Belles-Lettres Style

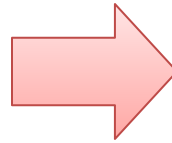
Functional Style and Speech Genres

- The theory of functional styles as subsystems of a national language goes back to works of V. V. Vinogradov, M.M. Bakhtin, E. Riesel, etc. Functional- stylistic classification of text continuum is determined by **extralinguistic factors: form of social consciousness, kind of activity, communicative aims in a society, typical content in a certain sphere of communication.**
- **Functional style → substyle → text/speech genres.**

The Notion of Functional Style

The representatives of the Prague Linguistic School B.Havranek and V.Mathesius worked out the term „Functional Style“ and differentiated 3 functional languages in 1932. According to their conception, every language use, i.e. Style is **purposeful**.

Elise Riesel, the Soviet scholar, considered style „as function-correlated, by extra- and intralinguistic factors determined use of linguistic potential in written and oral social intercourse“. She stated 5 functional styles (1975) as subsystems of the national language.



Every language realizes certain social aims and purposes. These social functions in their turn cause a purpose-corresponding , complex lingua-stylistic specificity (**Style features**).

So, „Functional styles“ are complex standards (types) of language using , determined by extra-linguistic aims and purposes of a sender in classes of social communication acts (**W.Fleischer**).

For a functional style are typical:

- The social specific function (social aims and purposes) in a sphere of activity, in which the communication takes place, occurs.
- The social- conscious normed character (character of norm)

The functional style as the system of inner, hidden relations is realized through concrete speech genres. Each functional style represents a peculiar reality and is organized as a system of stable forms, stereotypes, schemes and fixed traditions (**M.P.Brandes, 2011**)

Definition of Functional Style by I.R.Galperin

A style of language is a system of coordinated, interrelated and interconditioned language means intended to fulfil a specific function of communication and aiming at a definite effect.
(I.R.Galperin)

Each style is a relatively stable system at the given stage in the development of the literary language, but it changes from one period to another. Therefore style of language is a historical category.

Classification of FS according to I.R.Galperin

I.R. Galperin distinguishes 5 functional styles and suggests their subdivision into sub-styles in modern English according to the following scheme:

1. The Belles-Lettres Style:

2. Publicist Style:

3. Newspaper Style:

4. Scientific Prose Style.

5. The Style of Official documents:

1. The Belles-Lettres Style:

- a) poetry;**
- b) emotive prose;**
- c) the language of the drama.**

2. Publicist Style:

- a) oratory and speeches;**
- b) the essay;**
- c) articles.**

3. Newspaper Style:

- a) brief news items;**
- b) headlines;**
- c) advertisements and announcements;**
- d) the editorial.**

4. Scientific Prose Style.

5. *The Style of Official documents:*

- a) business documents;
- b) legal documents;
- c) the language of diplomacy;
- d) military documents.

The Classification by M. D. Kuznetz and Y. M. Skrebnev in “Stylistics of the English Language”(1960)

1. Literary or Bookish Style:

- *publicist style;*
- *scientific (technological) style;*
- *official documents.*

2. Colloquial Style:

- *literary colloquial style;*
- *familiar colloquial style.*

As can be seen from this classification, both poetry and imaginative prose have not been included (as non-homogeneous objects) although the book is supplied with a chapter on versification.

According to Skrebnev, newspaper style can hardly be accepted as

I. V. Arnold «Stylistics of Modern English» (1973)

1. *Colloquial Styles:*

- a) literary colloquial;
- b) familiar colloquial;
- c) common colloquial.

2. *Literary Bookish Styles:*

- a) scientific;
- b) official documents;
- c) publicist (newspaper);
- d) oratorical;
- e) poetic.

Arnold starts with the kind of abstract notion termed 'neutral style'. It has no distinctive features and is non-existent in individual use, its function is only to provide a standard background for the other styles

**A. N. Morokhovsky and his Co-authors O. P. Vorobyova, N. I. Liknosherst and Z. V. Timoshenko
«Stylistics of the English Language» (1984)**

- ▣ **Official business style.**
- ▣ **Scientific-professional style.**
- ▣ **Publicist style.**
- ▣ **Literary colloquial style.**
- ▣ **Familiar colloquial style.**

- According to **Morokhovsky's** approach language as a system includes **types of thinking** differentiating *poetic and straightforward language, oral and written speech, and ultimately, bookish and colloquial* functional types of language. The next problem is stylistics of 'speech activity' connected with **social stereotypes of speech behaviour**. Morokhovsky defines this in the following way:
«Stereotypes of speech behaviour or functional styles of speech activity are norms for wide classes of texts or utterances, in which *general social roles* are embodied—poet, journalist, manager, politician, scholar, teacher, father, mother, etc.»

British linguist D. **Crystal** suggests the following subdivision of styles:

1) *Regional varieties* of English reflect the geographical origin of the language used by the speaker. ***Lancashire variety, Canadian English, Cockney, etc.***

2) *Social variations* testify to the speaker's family, education, social status background: **upper class and non-upper class, a political activist, a member of the proletariat, a Times reader, etc.**

3) *Occupational styles* present quite a big group that includes the following types:

a) **religious English;**

b) **scientific English;**

c) **legal English;**

d) **plain (official) English;**

e) **political English;**

f) **news media English** further subdivided into:

- **newsreporting;**

- **journalistics;**

- **broadcasting;**

- **sportcommentary;**

4) **Restricted English** includes very tightly constrained uses of language when little or no linguistic variation is permitted:

- **knitwrite in books on knitting;**
- **cookwrite in recipe books;**
- **congratulatory messages;**
- **newspaper announcements;**
- **newspaper headlines;**
- **sportscasting scores;**
- **airspeak, the language of air traffic control;**
- **emergencyspeak, the language for the emergency services;**
- **e-mail variety, etc.**

5) **Individual variation** involves types of speech that arise **from the speaker's personal differences** meaning such features as physique, interests, personality, experience and so on. Each individual has a different ***idiolect***, a variety of the