ADDRESS AS A POLYFUNCTIONAL AND VARIED STATUS
SYNTACTIC PHENOMENON

Seytjanov Jetkerbay Elubayevich
Karakalpak State University

Abstract: The article deals with the functions and status of address. Address may appear in speech as a simple independent sentence, as a semi-predicative syntactic unit or as a parenthetic element of a sentence. The article contains information of nine functions of the address.

Keywords: address, addressee, status and functions of address, syncretism of functions, linguocultureme.

There are a number of opinions on the status and functions of address. A.M. Peshkovsky considered addresses as words or word-combinations which are not parts of the sentence and do not function as separate sentences [4]. The majority of grammarians of the Soviet period shared A.M. Peshkovsky’s opinion. Some linguists consider address as the tertiary part of the sentence [6].

A number of linguists consider addresses as one-member sentences [5, 8], units of communication [2], speech acts [7], independent parts of the text [1], elementary units of the text [3]. In our opinion, the notions of “sentence”, “unit of communication”, “speech act”, “an independent part of the text”, “elementary unit of the text” are very close notions and they do not exclude each other.

Generalizing and developing the existing opinions, we can say that address belongs to linguoculturemes. Address may appear in speech in one of the following three statuses:

1. Address as a simple independent one-member sentence which is called “vocative sentence” by some linguists.
   - Mr. Brown!
   - Yes.

The given vocative sentence has all the main features of the sentence: modality (inducement to do something), tense (present tense), the person (the second person), number (singular) and it has special vocative intonation. Also the sentence has illocative force (intention) and perlocutive effect. Perlocutive effect is seen in the reply “Yes” of the addressee.

2. Address as a semi-predicative syntactic unit in the structure of complicated sentence.

Mr. Brown, your son has come.

In such positions the predicativity of address weakens i.e. address with full predicativity turns into address with semi-predicativity.

3. Address as a parenthetic element of the sentence.

Are these things yours, sir?
Here address does not express and speech contact between listener and speaker has already been established. “Sir” here is a parenthetic element of the sentence which expresses politeness of the speaker towards the listener.

As our research shows, the number of functions established by linguists changes from one up to six. We have established 9 functions. They are as follows:

1) the function of naming the addressee (listener): **Janos**, do not worry. (Flora Kidd)

2) the function of attracting interlocutor’s attention to the message. In the above-stated example the address “Janos” not only names addressee (listener) of speech, but is also induced by the addresser (speaker) to listen to him.

3) the function of expressing attitude of the addresser towards the addressee (listener). The attitude may be positive, negative or neutral:

   - **Come in, my darling.** (Flora Kidd) (positive attitude)
   - **Not back to Tom, silly.** (Flora Kidd) (negative attitude)
   - **Children, stop talking.** (Flora Kidd) (neutral attitude)

4) the perlocutive function (the function of influencing the addressee (listener) to reach the purpose): Positive attitude of the addressee (listener) basically are pursued to achieve the purpose put by the addresser (speaker). Probability of meeting the request of the speaker by the addressee (listener) is much more higher than when he is addressed not politely.

5) the function of identification: **Guy**, are **you** Otto Jackson?

6) pointing function: **Hey you**, come here!

7) the function of expressing respect: - **Are you Bob?** - **Yes, sir.**

8) the emotive function: **My God!** But you cannot marry him. (Flora Kidd)

9) the regulative function:

As is known, the choice of address from a language arsenal depends on many factors: from the social status, age, the degree of acquaintance, friendship, sex, nationality, the place and time of the communication, the education of communicators, etc. These factors regulate the communicators during the communication. For example, the subordinate cannot give an order to his boss.

It must be noted, usually some functions are carried out simultaneously, this phenomenon is called syncretism of functions. Nevertheless the function of naming the addressee (listener) is always present in address. For example, in the above-stated sentence “Yes, sir”, address “sir” has minimum two functions: the function of naming the addressee (listener) and the function of expressing politeness (respect).
References


