



## Category of Modality in Linguistics

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**Abstract:** These days there is a number of researches, carried out in the world on the studies of the category of modality the level of a particular language including the following directions: definition of the conceptual characteristics of the category of modality; scientific grounding of the significance of the text modality in the disclosure of cognitive, national and cultural peculiarities of the category of modality; definition of the relation of modality with other semantic categories; considering the person and time while defining the characteristics of the category of modality; grounding the harmony of the motive with the category of modality in tales.

**Keywords:** conceptual characteristics, cultural peculiarities, category of modality, semantic categories, linguocognitive and national-cultural aspects.

Scientific researches, devoted to the notion of modality in linguistics, functional peculiarities of the category of modality, linguocognitive and national-cultural aspects of the category of modality in the tale texts, have been carried out by the leading scientific centres and higher educational institutions of the world, specifically, Université de Paris-Sorbonne, Université François Rabelais (France), Université du Canada à Montréal, American Academy of Religion, Harvard University (USA), Cambridge University, Oxford University (Great Britain), University of Bonn (Germany), Université Cheikh-Anta-Diop (Africa), Moscow State University, Linguistic institute RAS, Institute of Taletherapy (Russia), Uzbek State World Languages university, Bukhara State University (Uzbekistan).

As a result of the scientific investigations devoted to tales, relevant to the grammatical, lexical and semantic peculiarities of the category of modality and their functional-semantic, linguocognitive and national-cultural aspects, here are the following results: the notion of the category of modality has been grounded (Université de Paris-Sorbonne), connotative, imperative, emotive, epistemic types of the category of modality have been defined (Oxford University), linguistics means expressing the category of modality (American Academy of Religion); the role of phraseological units in the expression of modality has been grounded (Cambridge University), modal particles as aber, auch, doch, ja have been defined on the materials of the German language (University of Bonn), interconnection between objective and subjective categories of modality has been grounded (Harvard University), the modality of the text has been defined (Université du Canada à Montréal), cognitive aspect of the category of modality in the tales has been grounded (Université François Rabelais), modality motivation in the tales has been defined (Moscow State University), the role of modal verbs in the tales has been grounded (Institute of Taletherapy), lexico-semantic peculiarity of the category of modality in the tales has been grounded (Institute of linguistics RAS), the category of modality has been proved in the connection with logics (Uzbek State World Languages university), the category of modality has been compared on the examples of Uzbek and French tales, conceptual and national-cultural peculiarities of tales in each language have been grounded (Bukhara State University).

In the modern linguistic scientific centres, the notion of modality has been widely applied in linguistics and as a semantic category it shows communication aspects that are rich in content and raise the prestige of the expressed opinions in the communication process. At the comparison of modality, interlingual national and

There are different viewpoints on the scientific-theoretical analysis of the category of modality. Specific feature of the application of this semantic category varies in different languages, as they differ in form and meaning. The reflection of modality in linguistics in due course changes, develops and becomes a reason of the emergence of new scientific and theoretical viewpoints.

In spite of the sufficient quantity of the works on the characteristics of modality, yet there is no common fixed opinion regarding its content and volume.

The category of modality is one of the questions that have interested not only the scientists of the natural and social sciences, but linguists as well. It is no secret that, in the course of time, the reflection of this category in linguistics tends to change and develop. According to the information, the first man to introduce the notion of "Modality" into science was Aristotle. Since then, modality is considered the main topic of many philosophical, logical and linguistic sciences. It is known that "Modality (lat. modalis – measurement, method) is a functional-semantic category, which expresses different types of relations to the reality"<sup>1</sup>.

Sh.Bally characterizes the category of modality as follows: "Modality is a heart and soul of the sentence"<sup>2</sup>. F.Bruno grounded the ways of expression of the modal notions as wish, supposition, faith, request and decline basing on the linguistic direction "from sense to form". In the scholar's judgement, "Sound, time, order of words and verb moods are the means expressing the category of modality"<sup>3</sup>. V.Gak proved that community in the relations between the speaker and the reporter is one type of modality. In his opinion, "Modality is divided into three levels: 1) declarative and performative" (J'ordonne que Pierre vienne) modality as report (Je dis que Pierre viendra); 2) confidence (je sais) and probability–knowledge of reality (Je suppose); 3) wish (je veux qu'il vienne)– relations"<sup>4</sup>. J.Muir studied the category of modality from the point of view of the English language, particularly underlined fineness of the modal significance and entered them in the section of modality: "Verb forms are called mood and express such modal meaning as affirmation, question and command"<sup>5</sup>. M.Halliday asserts that "Modality is an important functional characteristics of the dialogue, interpersonal function, form of expression of the speaker participating in the dialogue"<sup>6</sup>. Besides, "There is no any other category in the language that would provoke different contradicting opinions and interpretation of its significance in the language"<sup>7</sup>.

The existence of a great many opportunities for the demonstration of modality testifies that this category is commonlingual and its investigation important for the consciousness of the notion of language structure. Above-mentioned language marks play a leading role in the determination of the category of modality and definition of predicates. They serve a precise and economical statement and transfer of messages of different content, and form lexical, semantic and grammatical categories.

World and Uzbek linguists Sh.Bally, F.Bruno, E.Volf, E.Benvenist, J.Dubua, B.Potye, T.Alisova, A.Nurmanov and N.Makhmudov<sup>8</sup> analysed the relations of modus and dictum in the frames of

<sup>1</sup> Ўзбекистон Миллий Энциклопедияси. 6 т. – Т., 2000. – Б.38.

<sup>2</sup> Балли Ш. Язык и жизнь. – М., 2003. – С.44–60.

<sup>3</sup> Brunot Ferdinand. La pensée et la langue. – P., 1936. – P.514.

<sup>4</sup> Гак В. Г. Теоретическая грамматика французского языка. – М., 1986. – С.108 – 147.

<sup>5</sup> Мур Д.Э. Доказательство внешнего мира. – М., 1993. – С.66–84.

2.1 <sup>6</sup> Halliday M.K. System and function in language: Selected papers. Ed. By G. R. Kress London. Oxford Univ. Press. 1976. – P.197.

<sup>7</sup> Боймирзаева С.Ў. Ўзбек тилида матнинг коммуникатив-прагматик мазмунини шакллантирувчи категориялар: Афтореф. филол. фан. док. дисс. – Т., 2010. – Б. 3–14.

<sup>8</sup> Балли Ш. Язык и жизнь. – М., 2003. – С.44–60. Brunot Ferdinand. La pensée et la langue. – P., 1936. – P.514. Вольф У.М. Функциональная семантика оценки. – М., 1985. – С.227. Benveniste E. Problème de linguistique générale. – P., 1981. – P.286. Dubois J. Grammaire structurale du français: le verbe. – P.: Larousse, 1967. – P.1263. Pottier B. Représentations mentales et catégorisations linguistiques, Paris, Louvain, Peeters, 1976, 2000, – P.318. Алисова Т.Б. Дополнительные отношения модуса и диктума. 1971. – С.54 – 64. Махмудов М.,

grammatical categories, and propagated their own theoretical ideas by expressing their attitude.

The word *modus* is derived from the Latin "modus" and means image, form, method and dictum, and translated from the Latin as stated opinion. "It is known that the notion of the category of *modus* was brought into linguistics by Sh.Bally. In the scholar's opinion, "Explicit sentence consists of 2 parts, one of which is correlative to the formation process of imagination and called "dictum", and the second is correlative to the operations fulfilled by an intelligent subject and is called "*modus*"<sup>9</sup>. In his research, scientist N.Makhmudov describes the peculiarities of the expression of dictum and *modus*'s meaning in the complex sentences: "...and here we need to differ dictum from *modus* - meaning with two different characters". We agree Gak's opinion that, "Dictum reflects reality, and *modus* expresses the attitude of the speaker to the reality"<sup>10</sup>. No matter what type of sentence it is, simple or complex, it always has *modus* and dictum. Complementing each other and being interconnected, dictum and *modus* express one event.

In modern linguistics, the first place is given not to the language awareness, but studying the relations between language, culture and person and the question of mutual understanding. Interconnection between these three is an important aspect in the studies of the national-cultural characteristics of the language. The role of the language and culture in the development of the category of modality is huge. As S.S.Vaulin states, "Language reflects the reality indirectly, through its structure; modality in the language is "a wide semantic category that consists of two different layers – ontological and gnosiological modalities"<sup>11</sup>. And what is more, in the comparison of the category of modality, we can notice interlanguage linguocultural differences as modality is closely connected with national images, that is, cultural concepts of different nations.

The existence of wide opportunities in the expression of modality testifies the importance of its study in understanding the essence of language construction, and to its being a general lingual phenomenon of this category.

The expression of the category of modality in different languages and general differences between them: the aim and the opinion told by the speaker in the sentence and communicative functions of the sentence, description of the notions of affirmation and negation; evaluation of two types of semantic notions, that is, evaluation of the reality from the side of the speaker and the level of trust of the speaker to the messages sent to him; the expression of the feelings and characteristics in the content of the speech of the speaker; the division of modality into objective and subjective categories; the expression of connotative modality.

The expression of the notions of *modus* and dictum in language units of the category of modality, the reflection of the reality by dictum, the expression of the attitude of the speaker to the reality by *modus*, display of the interconnection between modality, *modus* and dictum in linguistics.

Even though the tales form motives not big in size, they play a great role in the exposure of the characteristics peculiar to the category of modality.

Moreover, we can see that modality, expressing different displays of the attitude of ideas towards reality, has an important significance in the analysis and comparison of the texts, in the exposure and assessment of the sentence semantics.

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