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Theoretical Basis of Pronoun Study

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Abstract

This article delves into the intricate theory of pronouns across various historical periods, offering a comprehensive exploration of their evolution and usage. It meticulously examines and presents several factual propositions put forth by prominent scholars while facilitating debates among linguists. The focal point of this scholarly discourse revolves around the nuanced study of pronouns within the English and German languages, shedding light on their multifaceted roles and transformations over time.

Key Words: pronoun, categories, number, gender, suspect pronouns, grammatical functions.

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In world linguistics, the history of the development of the English language is divided into three periods: the period of the Old English language - the 5th-11th centuries, the period of the Middle English language - the 11th-15th centuries, and the period of the early modern English language - from the 15th century to the present day. The period of the early modern English language is divided into two, and the period from the 15th century to the time of Shakespeare is studied as the period of the early English language, and the period from the time of Shakespeare to the present day is studied as the period of the modern English language. When we pay attention to the history of the appearance of pronouns and their increase and development, we can witness the diversity of opinions and opinions of linguists.

Alfred Bammesberger, a linguist who specialized in the investigation of suspicious pronouns in the English language, recommended studying pronouns in five types in his manual entitled "A Sketch of Diachronic English Morphology" [1].

It is known that in the period of the Old English language, pronouns were classified according to the categories of agreement, number, and gender. During the Middle English period, the number of pronouns increased. Personal and relative pronouns have appeared in addition to the above-mentioned pronouns. Instead of the indefinite personal pronoun "I" the pronoun "one" is used. In this period, indefinite and negative pronouns some, any, non and each, every stop being used. In the period of the Old

English language, the pronouns man, me, and we were used in the unstressed, weakened state in the sense of indefinite personal pronouns. The combination of the accusative pronoun *oone* (= one) with other accusative pronouns in the Middle English period is noticeable, for example *everychon* = every one, many one. Later they are used independently in texts and speech. By the time of New English, the demonstrative *one's* also appears in the dependent pronouns.

Personal pronouns in general in the Old English period *ic*, *þā*, *hē*, *hit*, *heō*, *wē*, *zē*, *hiē*, *hī*, *hȳ*; demonstrative pronouns *sē*, *þæt*, *sēo*, *þā*, *þes*, *þis*, *þeos*, *þās*; interrogative pronouns *hwæt*, *hwylc*, *hwā* and were categories such as agreement, person, number, gender. In the Middle and Early Modern English period, personal pronouns lost their accusative case, and they combined with possessive pronouns to express the meaning of possession.

Information about the morphological categories of interrogative, indefinite, negative, personal, relative, and indefinite personal pronouns in English is not detailed. In this chapter, we have focused more on suspect pronouns, mainly because they have been the subject of research.

If we pay attention to the opinions of modern English scholars, we can witness different approaches to the subject pronouns. For example, English linguist E. Kreising refuses to classify suspect pronouns and describes them in alphabetical order [2].

Description of V.A. Zhigadlo, I.P. Ivanova, L.L. Iofiks: "Pronouns are words with an extremely abstract

meaning that indicate objects and their signs without naming them. In speech, they relate to real persons, objects and signs, revealing first of all their relationship to the speaker. Pronouns are distinguished by the absence of common formal features that would characterize this whole part of speech as a whole. Speaking in a sentence as a subject member of a sentence and definition, one pronoun can be used as significant words that do not perform official functions, others combine official functions with significant ones, and others in certain meanings are used only in a service function. [3].

According to the definition of R. Quirk, S. Greenbaum, G. Leech, T. Swartvik, "Pronouns form a category with a large number of subclasses". Despite the diversity of pronouns or their main categories, there are several common features that distinguish them from nouns [4].

So, we can witness the existence of similarities as well as many differences in the opinions of English scholars.

It is noticeable that the opinions of linguists are not the same when defining and classifying pronouns in the English language. Pronouns in Richard Hogg, David Denison's manual "A history of the English language"

1. Personal pronouns;
2. Possessive pronouns;
3. Demonstrative pronouns;
4. Interrogative pronouns;

5. He gave information about such types as indefinite pronouns [1] and gave evidence about their grammatical functions and history of origin.

L.P. Vinokurova divides English pronouns into eleven types:

1. Personal pronouns: I, he, she, it, we, you, they, these

2. Possessive pronouns: my-mine, his-his, her-hers, it-its, our-ours, your-yours, their-theirs;

3. Reflexive pronouns: myself, yourself, himself, herself, itself, ourselves, yourselves, themselves;

4. Emphasizing pronouns: These pronouns are similar in form to personal pronouns;

5. Reciprocal pronouns: each other, one another;

6. Demonstrative pronouns: this, these; that, those; such, the same;

7. Indefinite pronouns: one, each, every, all, either, both, other, another, some any, everybody, someone, anything, much, many, (a) little, (a) few and etc.

8. Interrogative pronouns: who, whom, which;

9. Relative pronouns: who, whose, whom, which, what;

10. Conjunctive pronouns: who, whose, whom, which, what;

11. Negative pronouns: no, neither, no one, nobody, nothing, none [5].

S. M. Mutallibov, who paid attention to pronouns in the example of the Uzbek language, compared the language of the work written about a thousand years ago with the modern grammar, and based on the material of written monuments, divides pronouns into the following types.

1. Personal pronouns -- man, san, ul, biz-miz, siz-si(lar);

2. Demonstrative pronoun - ul, anda, angar, mu, mungar, muni, o'shandog', mundog', nu, na, ne, naluk, nachuk, necha, natak, neg'utak, qali, nedak, neg'u;

3. Marking pronoun - qamug'dir, qamuq-qamug', tagma [6].

Pronouns are divided into the following 7 types in textbooks and specially researched works: 1) personal; 2) identity; 3) show; 4) interrogation; 5) designation; 6) indivisibility; 7) suspect pronouns.

On the example of the Russian language, R.F. Protogenova divides pronouns into seven types: 1) personal; 2) reflexive; 3) possessive; 4) indicative; 5) interrogative-relative; 6) determinative; 7) indefinite pronouns [7].

In modern English, there are the following grammatical categories of suspect pronouns at the morphological level, which can be explained in the table as follows:

1.1-table

Suspect pronouns	number	case	gender	possessive
Some	-	-	-	-
Any	-	-	-	-
Somebody	-	+	-	-
Anybody	-	+	-	-
Someone	-	+	-	-
Anyone	-	+	-	-
Something	-	-	-	-
Anything	-	-	-	-

The gender category does not exist in English accusative pronouns. It applies to the Duetsch dependent pronouns.

In short, as it is known from the sources mentioned above, in the case of English, German languages, the lack of uniformity is noticeable as a result of the disproportion between the approaches of linguists in the classification of pronouns.

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