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The Economy Principle in Languages

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ABSTRACT: In this article work is to give information about theories on economy principle in languages, the economy principle in languages, linguistic economy in early Modern English texts. (1582-1799), especially phonetics and phonology, morphology and syntax, the elements of economy of language, ellipsis as an element of economy of language, the role of asyndeton in economy of language and the importance of aposiopesis in economy of language.

KEY WORDS: economy, theory, abbreviation, linguistic, evaluation, modern, linguistic, level

I. INTRODUCTION

The concept of economy in linguistics can have lots of different values and meanings and can be considered and studied from many and diverse view-points. In order to determine its several readings, a lexical and etymological definition has been attached to the word economy, which reveals a positive interpretation as a whole: economy means gain, thrift, less burden, saving; it is defined as the rule for the good administration of a house, derived as it is from the Greek *oikós*, which means 'house', and from *nomos*, from *ēmeîn*, which means 'to deliver, to distribute'. This notion concerning the good management of the resources in a house can be metaphorically transferred from a social to a linguistic level; in this sense, language as a whole shows a proper balance resulting from the right distribution of all internal and external forces that custom, linguistic change, contacts with different realities and other various elements import constantly, causing alterations and irregularities to the detriment of communication. Therefore, economy in language has a strong controlling function over the whole system, something which is carried out with the least possible cost in terms of energy. The concept of economy in a tendency shared by all living organisms it may be referred to as the principle of least effort, which consists in tending towards the minimum amount of effort that is necessary to achieve the maximum result, so that nothing is wasted. Besides being a biological principle, this principle operates in linguistic behaviour as well, at the very core of linguistic evolution. In modern times it was given a first consistent definition by André Martinet, who studied and analyzed the principle of economy in linguistics, testing its manifold applications in both phonology and syntax.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Before concentrating on the historiographical analysis of the Early Modern English texts, I will devote the following paragraphs to the study of the concept of linguistic economy in modern times, in order to provide some theoretical criteria and parameters to be applied in the analysis of the early works. Economy was traditionally considered a factor functioning at sound level; according to Vendryes, it also works in the lexicon and in grammar and it is in contrast with clarity. Economy appears as the strategy to choose precise linguistic-grammatical forms in order to amend defects and imperfections of the language; in this sense the positive aspect of the principle is underlined. According to Bert Peeters, Martinet cannot have derived inspiration from Vendryes because his idea of economy was approached only from a diachronic point of view, while Vendryes' economy gets full value in synchrony. Furthermore, whereas in Vendryes the act of speech involves an effort, in Martinet's view it implies a reduction of efforts in the double articulation being the most important synchronic manifestation of the human tendency towards reduction of physical and mental efforts. Vendryes and Martinet's viewpoints seem to get reciprocal completion. [10] Besides a principle of economy, which gets the language to dismiss what is superfluous, Paul Passy (1890) distinguishes a 'principle de-emphasize', which constantly gives prominence to every necessary element within the system. According to him, the two forces steadily struggle against each other, and phonetic evolution results from their synthesis. Sweet (1988) distinguishes two principles of economy, which are the main causes for merely organic changes, which are changes due to tendencies to inertia and indolence of the speech organs: If we survey the purely organic changes as a whole, we perceive two



principles of economy: (a) dropping of superfluous sounds; (b) ease of transition from one sound to another, which leads to convergence and assimilation, as when (dn) becomes (nn).[9]Linguistic development follows not one tendency, but two opposing ones: towards distinctness and towards economy. Either of these poles prevails, but both are present and alternately preponderant. The tendency to distinctness originates from the fact that any speaker has, at any time, 'the predominant intention of being understood; tendency to economy is but 'the innate tendency of man, wisely given him by nature, not to spend more energy on any effort than necessary. In some languages, one of the two factors usually prevails on the other, generating different balances depending on the social or professional level. Valter Tauli (1958), who would later influence Martinet's views about paradigmatic and syntagmatic economy, deems that linguistic evolution is determined by passive pressures and by five active driving forces:

- (1) Tendency towards clarity,
- (2) Tendency towards ease or economy of effort,
- (3) Emotional impulses,
- (4) Aesthetic tendencies,
- (5) Social impulses.

Economy seems here to mean tendency to limit any linguistic effort. Martinet uses expressions that can only partly be traced back to a teleological approach, which does not come as a surprise given that he belonged to the School of Prague, which was clearly devoted to teleology. [10]According to this theoretical approach, most changes occur in the linguistic system because they aim at a total optimization of communication, the primeval function of language. However, according to the last Martinet, any change will occur whenever communication needs require it, but it will not happen in order to make a linguistic system easier or more complex; on the contrary, it will occur because the system in which it takes place is too complex to satisfy the communicative needs of the speakers. A teleological reading, therefore, is based on an improper interpretation of linguistic change; by rejecting a finalistic tendency towards simplicity or harmony of the system, Martinet prefers a deterministic or causal concept, which is realized in the principle of economy; the famous statement according to which 'languages change because they function makes sense now. The principle language spare as one of the main factor of the language development was brought forth in 40-20 years. He is founded on knowledge unconscious physiological longing of the person to spare its psychic and physical energy. The main function language as before remains the contact, and exactly in speech possible to track primary change, moved such longing, which subsequently, being recognized language community, are fixed in composition of the language. The Fact of presence and constant appearance in language simplified to predecessor of the structures and element is a certificate to urgency of the principle spare for language development. Evgeniy Dmitrievich Polivanov considers change on phonetic and grammatical level, as change, touching more deep processes in language, than change the vocabulary composition. The trend to spare facilities of the expression in syntax reveals itself in change one design others, more shortly. Broad spreading in speech of such phenomena as "ellipsis" is proof to activities given process. In English most often lower:

1) Subject to: «*You've read his report*» - *"I have", he said grimly. "Shows very unusual mechanical ability - has done original work in subelectronic research", and others. [6]*

2) Subject to and a part of predicate (usually auxiliary verb or verb-ligament). For example: *Want me?; Looking for anybody?; Got any chocolate?*

And the smell of school, the oil in the floor, chalk dust, the smell of the idea, children gone: loneliness, the sadness.

3) Subject to and the whole predicate. For example: *Nine hundred years ago we reached Pluto, and where are we now? Still at Pluto!*

4) Whole predicate (the semantic verb). For example: *You may have to wait ten years. How old are you now? - Twenty. Do you want to see me again? - Rather. "No fingerprints at all", he said.*

5) Verb "had" in modal design "had better". For example: *"Better get out and walk here", said Poirot.*

Ellipsis is peculiar to questions, since allows to avoid the repetition already given to information, for instance, *"I went to the theatre on Sunday - With whom (did you go to the theatre)?"*

"It cost me twenty-five dollars. - How much?"

In Modern English all more often meet the substantives of the combination (the possessive designs), allowing is spared to express the complex thought within the framework of simple offer, for instance: "women's gallery", "the chambers of heaven", "crowns of the heads", "blotch of colour", "pattern of movement below", "rustle of voices". Syncretism, being typical devil of all analytical languages, is broadly presented and in English. For example:

"This question seemed to provoke a murmur of sympathetic approval from up and down the table".

The dog always came back hungry and weak and always ran away fresh and strong.



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The facts of the operation and developments phenomena data in system of modern English are indicative of activities of the process spare language facilities in syntax. The language - there is material semiotic system, intended for giving information i.e. language there is facility of the contact of the people. "Exactly communication i.e. the general rapport, presents itself main function that instruments, which is identified the language", - emphasizes A. Martin. The similar glances develops and E. Koseriu: language pertains to phenomena, which are defined its function. "Language functions not therefore that he - a system, but, on the contrary, he is a system to execute its function and correspond to the certain purposes". Understanding the language as systems, t. e. realization that language presents itself not idle time set heterogeneous element (the words, grammatical forms and etc), but unity interconnected, and interacting parts and that his(its) separate elements must be observed in their attitude to one another and to that integer, in composition which they enter, is one of the cornerstones, on which are founded modern linguistical studies. The principle spare system analysis reveals itself in that that characteristic of the units are described ranked, in border determined to categorizations, which takes into account newly appearing characteristic as result of the interaction of these units. Revealing the system relationships between component of the language promotes the plans to penetration in his (its) essence and his (its) nature, opens the causal deep relations between matched unit and hereunder does motivated and more consequent their categorization. Essentially, system description different aspect language is a single possible form of his (its) study, " no system element of the language can not be is duly evaluated unless are taken in attention his (its) relations with the other element same most system". The language emerges as complex system, characterizing presence quotient subsystems, possessing miscellaneous by purpose and different degree to difficulties. So, language possible to name not simply system, but in a sense system. Consideration of the language as systems is provided in traditional model of his (its) description already, distributed on sections: phonetics, grammar (the morphology and syntax) and lexicology. The units of the language essence or double-sided units - a sound complexes, expressing definite sign, or unilateral units - a division sounds (the phonemes), serving for distinguishing the double-sided units. Primary thread of the language as facility of the contact i.e. his (its) speech use, with cost (stand) s, eventually, in formation from element of the system person language, forming, expressing and sending information. Such images in process speech systems present it concrete offers, which, being speech system, consist of units of the language. Units of the language themselves differ on degree of the difficulties and on its purpose. At units of the more high order do not develop from units of the more high order. So in language and in speech system, formed from units of the language, relations undermost and high level there is relations component and integer, but not evolutionary attitude. However, differences of the units of the language on degree of the difficulties and purpose, expressing their qualitative, as well as "entering" undermost units in high, allows using to attitude between units to miscellaneous degree to difficulties and considering such units as units of the miscellaneous level.

III. MATERIAL AND METHODS.

The theory, having purpose to reflect the essential line most language, rather than different approaches linguist to language, must be built on that reference positions that language level characterizes, first of all, amenable of the language system, having objective hierarchical construction. Since language system is characterized presence of the different sort of the units, models and rules their combinations though and is not reduced to ask their total set in so far as relationship of the notion language level with collection of some units undoubted. The difficulty is concluded in choice most collections of the units, which can serve the objective reason for separation certain level that in turn requires discovery level characteristic units i.e. such characteristic, which can serve the discriminating feature whole data collection units. If come from suggestion that there are different level in system of the language to organizations i.e. level, in which reveals itself the structured mouths language and separation which does not depend on standpoint of the researcher, but intrudes most system, that, first of all, follows to realize, exist such general, inherent all unit of the language characteristic, which can serve united and general reason for revealing the place that or other units in system of the language. The characteristic of all units of the language reveal itself in their relations with the other unit of the language. That concerns these relations of the units of the language between itself then in most general type their possible reduce to three general types: syntagmatic, paradigmatic, hierarchical. Syntagmatic - a relation of the units in linear sequence (otherwise their name combinatorial); paradigmatic -, on terminology F. de Saussure, associative relations (the groups of the units in classes on the grounds of generalities or resemblance their some essential characteristic); hierarchical - a relations on degree of the difficulties, or relations "entering" (components) of the more complex units in more complex. This relations integer and part i.e. relations, characterizing construction of the different units. The ability to enter in specified three types of the relations pertains to count, calculate, list most general characteristic of all units of the language. The level comprises of itself collection all for uniform units (the units one



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degree to difficulties), which can enter between itself in syntagmatic and paradigmatic relations, but can not be in hierarchical relations (the phonemes can not consist of background, morphemes - from morphemes, word - from words). The units, forming level organization, or system, are an element to this system and so are indivisible within its level. The hierarchical relations characterize only relations between units of the miscellaneous level i.e. relations of the qualitative different values. When turning from unit more low-level to higher-level unit is realized, as a rule, as a result of combination i.e. realization syntagmatic characteristic element more low-level. Discovery linguistically units themselves is realized by means of segmenting of the speech flow and using to chosen segment different type abstraction (first of all abstraction of the identification). The minimum speech segment is a sound or background; accordingly minimum linguistically unit of the system of the language turns out to be the phonemes, which possible define as class background with identical meaning function. The phrase - a speech unit of the high rank. Eventually, heaven and earth of the language are directed on that to with their help to create the phrases. The direct material, from which form the phrases, serves the word forms. But phrase is not a simple set of the word forms: she unites them in one structured-semantic integer, made by certain quality, mounted- swarm of the word form itself do not possess, - an ability to express is aimed ruled and currently coordinated with determined problem of communication purpose message. The class of the phrases with identical composition of the grammatical forms presents itself syntax design. One and same syntax construction can be presented phrase with different communication purpose. The class syntax design, uniting phrases with identical communication purpose, presents itself offer. Consequently, as linguistically units of the miscellaneous system level language, such, obviously, follows to acknowledge the phonemes, morphemes, word and offers. Thereby, accordingly named linguistically unit possible more exactly select the main system level of the language:

- 1) Level phonemes, or phonetic level;
- 2) Level morphemes, or morphological level;
- 3) Level words, or lexical level,
- 4) Level offers, or communication-syntax level.

Besides, taking into consideration participation of the units of the sibling in thread of the units other level, possible select row intermediate level:

- 1) Morphological level, on which are considered morphemes with standpoint their phoneme composition;
- 2) Lexical-morphological level, where are subjected to the analysis of the word with standpoint their morpheme composition (the separate quotient of the sphere this level give the word-building and word formation);
- 3) Constructive-syntax level, on which are considered offers with standpoint their formally-grammatical composition (or with standpoint their positional structure).[7]

Thereby, status structured level language possible to acknowledge for area only, formed following unit: phoneme - a morpheme - a word - an offer - a text. We shall explain this total. The text there is offer or group of the offers; the offer consists of words: word there is minimum one morpheme, which, in turn, or is divided (without the remainder) on phonemes, or consists of one phoneme. The offered principle of the fission (the stratifications) does not expect that any other units present the smaller interest for linguistics: they only do not pertain to system level, reflecting in most general type - in the manner of unit qualitative different order - a principle scheme of the construction of the language. Taking here system level reflects the hierarchical structure but does not predestine the nature and way of the study separate level and, anyway, does not limit his(its) limit each given level. Obviously, as subject of syntax - a level of the offer - separates for the matter of that characteristic level: description of the offer handles the unit these level. Aside from that, level of the offer possesses the characteristic, distinguishing him (it) from the other level. The language system - a holistic structure; all that exists in one her (its) part, is reflected and in the other parts. Wholeness of the language system, hierarchical nature forming her (its) level requires taking into account at study of the separate language phenomena of relationship. All in language serves communication function for performing him. Exactly communication explains the longing to harmonies in construction of the language - after all impossible was communicate by means of formless of the heap separate debris. In level construction of the language system, in specifics of the construction separate level (phonetic, grammatical, lexical), in types their difference, as well as in a certain resemblance devil, traceable in separate level (i.e. phenomena of the isomorphism), are given to regularities, characteristic system of the language as facility of the contact of the people. The contact between people is realized at words. The word exists in unity meaning and importance. Pronouncing only then is realized as word, when possible indicate the subject, phenomena in real reality or in sphere of the human thought, which this utter introduces. R. Jakobson has noticed that sender of the speech message acts on morpheme level, but grantee on phoneme. Other word, sender sends the morphemes, clothing them in phoneme vestment in determined to sequences, but grantee, perceiving sound chain and forming her(its) phonemes, encodes them in morphemes, containing sense of the message. Under the



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known isomorphs its constructions, observed at collation phonetic, grammatical, lexical level of the language, much numerical work are proved specific line typical of each level, and, as effect, need to take into account the dialectics general and quotient. The separate parts of the system of the language, her (its) level differ on nature forming units, and this tells these level on types of the relations. Most often change; occurring in structure of the language, appear in intermediate area, on "butting" different level of the language system. We have already spoken of that principle spare carries the universal nature i.e. he acts one of the main reasons of the change to all languages. Now we want to say about that this principle shows its universal role and with the other standpoint, as follows, he finds its expression on all level of the language system. Certainly, facility to realization of this principle on each of level possess its own specifics and must be considered separately, as will is made below. But presently follows to note that fact that result of the manifestation of the principle spare on miscellaneous level always same: this reduction speech chain, but, consequently, and economy effort and time. As it was noted above, language system has a hierarchical nature. Coming there of, we consider that language structure does the language very economical and flexible instrument, providing satisfaction of expressive need of the person. Thereby, economy of the language reveals itself in two directions as it were. On the one hand, use the language as facility of the contact, founded on spare all sorts of effort, coming from the most human organism, his(its) physophysiological of the particularities, predestines use more short, condensed forms on each of level of the language system.

IV.CONCLUSION

In our article we attempted to investigate about the theories on economy principle in languages, the economy principle in languages, linguistic economy in early Modern English texts. (1582-1799), especially phonetics and phonology, morphology and syntax, the elements of economy of language, ellipsis as an element of economy of language, the role of asyndeton in economy of language and the importance of aposiopesis in economy of language. The principle of language economy is shown at all language levels: elliptical offers, reductions and abbreviations, replacement of word combinations with brief equivalents, for example, the person who builds – the builder etc. Unsuccessful from the point of view of language economy abbreviations are considered, which do not promote understanding at reduction of time for verbalization. The most important for understanding of a problem of economy by aspect is the big redundancy of language and non-uniform distribution of the information in separate elements of a speech stream. Some elements of a speech stream do not bear any new information and as a matter of fact duplicate the information containing in other elements.

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