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METHODOLOGICAL ASPECT OF STUDYING PHONOSTYLISTIC VARIATION

Summary. This article is devoted to the question about determining the most appropriate methods and techniques that can be used by linguists to study phonostylistics variability. The features of the segmental composition of pronunciation of German officials were shown as the example of using the described technique.

Key words: method, technique, situation of communication, variability, phonostylistic variant, phonological variable, speech, official.

Research of features of the German colloquial speech is important not only from the point of view of linguistics but also from position of sociolinguistics that studies the question of social condition of development of language. Linguists repeatedly proved dependence of variation of speech on communicative intention and situation of communication: than less degree of formality of context of communication is, the more language changes expression has. And first of all, they are phonetic ones. **Results of numerous phonostylistic researches** [1; 2; 3] show that when the degree of formality of the variation changes, speech becomes noticeable first of all at phonetic level, when speaker controls the lexical and syntactic aspects of construction of expression yet [4, p. 59]. Even the simple reading of the same text for a different audience (for plenty of people or at home for family) will show some phonetic variations, when lexical and syntactic composition of the read text it will stay unchangeable.

The aim of this article is to describe methods and techniques, which are used for isolating, identifying and analyzing phonostylistic variants of specific phonological variable in speech of the representative of any social group.

Determination of phonostylistic features of speech is progressive direction of linguistic researches. Thus a big attention is paid to determination of informants, whose variation of speech becomes the object of experiment. For the receiving sociological data about the members of target group *the methods of questionnaire and questioning* were used. The aim of the sociolinguistic questioning is receiving data about the informants' descriptions, that must define their belonging to certain social group, and also to lay down an idea about advantages of speech normativity of polled. So, it is the process of clarification of socially meaningful information and its estimation, during that the researcher interprets answers [5, p. 182–183].

The questions of questionnaire have a goal to define not only potential informants but also their attitude toward the use of dialect, spoken and literary language. It can consist of three parts, and an aim of each part is to gather such data about informant, as:

- 1) personal (age, sex, birth-place and regional belonging);
- 2) professional (education, profession);
- 3) linguistic (the mother tongue, dialect that is used by an informant, advantage of certain variant of language in different situations of communication depending on a place and participants of communication: literary, colloquial, dialect).

Essence of experiment consists in:

- gathering speech material;
- selecting of phonostylistic variables of informants' speech;
- analyzing these variables, that has for an aim to define their dependence on the situation of communication and the style that corresponds to it.

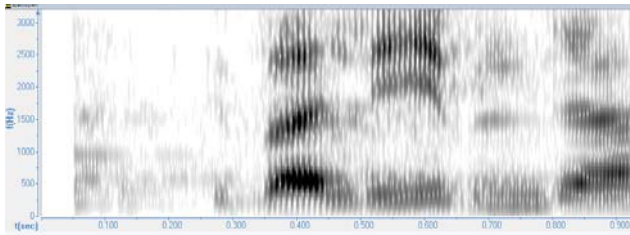
Gathering of speech material is better to conduct in such situations of communication, which differ in the degree of formality, preparedness and spontaneity. For this purpose it is possible to use *the methods of hidden record, semistandard interview and included supervision* [6; 7; 8]. For an audio and video record it is possible to use Dictaphones, smart phones, telephones, tablets, PC, cameras, etc. If the use of Dictaphone is dedicated first of all to record of speech, camera serves in a great measure as an instrument of establishing necessary level of formality of situation.

For the receiving of objective data about speech skills of informants and for not to prevent to speaker to use his or her language potencies automated and unconsciously [9, p. 303–304], it is possible to tell the members of target group, that they will participate in a sociolinguistic experiment. The aim of research should be explained only broadly speaking and it is unnecessary to tell details of that, which one material will be gathered.

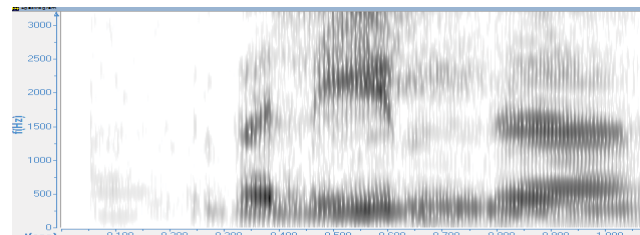
For the examples of prepared, *official speech* it is possible to take the performances of informants before big audience e.g. different kinds of lectures and reports. It is possible to suggest to read text distinctly, and then the list of words from this text. For the receiving of information about speech behaviour of informant it is possible to use the method of *semistandard interview*, principles of that consist in that, the person who conducts an interview has the opportunity depending on circumstances to vary the form of question [10]. W. Labov said that an interview is, from one hand, the successfully developed strategy, and from other, the row of the hierarchically structured complexes of questions [11, p. 32–34]. The questions of interview are aimed not to receive certain information, but to get the speech examples of necessary style.

For making an informant to use a *nonofficial level of communication* and decrease the degree of controlling by him or her own speech behaviour, basic questions were expounded in the certain order. The questions of the first block (about birth, education, work) require from the polled clear answers, and that is why a communi-

Variants	Sample	Contexts communication	
		HC	OC
[y:] → [∅]	überlassen [ˈʊɐ̯ l a s ɐ n]	42%	8%
[ə] → [#]	gesprachen [k ʰ ʃ p r ɔ x ŋ], einem [ai m], ihnen [in]	86%	9%
[b] → [v]	aber [ˈ a v a]	54%	0%
[b] → [#]	sieben [z i: m], Abend [ˈ a: m t], haben [ha:m]	83%	8%
[n] → [m]	ebenfalls [ˈ ɛ m f a l s], schlafen [ˈ ʃ l a f m]	85%	4%



[ˈy: b a ˈl e: b ə n d ə]



[ˈœ v a ˈl e: m d ə]

cation on this stage represents the official level of communication. Answers for the question of the second block are aimed to cause certain remembrances and experiencing of an informant, to promote the degree of speech spontaneity and pass to the less official level of communication. The questions of the third block belong to the personal, in this connection every answer is accompanied by a certain emotion. Attention of informant is concentrated not on control after speech, but on the topic of conversation. Besides to this time an informant gets used to that the videotape recording is conducted, and to the figure of researcher, that helps to get the examples of speech maximally close to the level of informal conversation. Auxiliary questions should be set too. They serve as means that induces speaker to communication: Why? Could you tell more? How did it happen? etc.

Discussions during business conversations, conversation with colleagues in terms that required the certain, but not high degree of formality can be the examples of *less official communication* too. During recording speech of informants in nonofficial situations such basic conditions of the colloquial speech are maintained:

1) situation of communication and character of report should be nonofficial: informants must be in the conditions of usual for them environment, and themes of conversations must be acquainted to speaker to reflect their social reality;

2) speech should be unprepared;

3) speakers should be in nonofficial relations: the participants of communication must be members of the same social group;

4) communication should take place directly with a listener [6].

For identification and interpretation of the gathered material *the methods of auditory analysis and auditor's assessment* are used. The identified variants of phonological variables need to be collated with the dictionaries of pronouncing norm of the used by informant language, and to check for regional belonging with a help of dictionaries of dialectal forms. Objectivity of the got results is provided by auditor's assessment. Auditors must be philologists, but should not speak the language the speaker does. The basic their task is determination of deviation in realization of segment composition of experimental material from pronouncing norm.

For establishment the variants of realization of certain phonostylistic variation, which is not a subject of unambiguous phoneme interpretation, and for confirmation of result of auditory analysis and auditor's assessment, it is possible to apply *electro-acoustic analysis*, that shows more exact and detailed information about units that are analysed. Quantitative descriptions and variants of sociolinguistic variables are reflected in the graphic images of the observed correlation - in form of tables, diagrams or charts [12]. Processing of records of communicative situations can be implemented by means of the programs of computer voice signal processing for Windows XP – Speech Analyzer, FOLKER, MediaCoder, Praat, Sound Forge, Nero WaveEditor, WaveSurfer etc. As a result of their application the examples of speech of informants will be represented on waveforms and spectrograms. Then these graphic images, the information about formant data of separate variables, need to be compared to the numeric parameters of the formant of literary variant.

The results of analyses should be mathematically processed by means of statistical method and presented as tables or diagrams.

For an example the pronunciation of word "Überlebender" in the situations of nonofficial communication in speech of German officials and realization of vowels [y:], [ə] and consonants [b], [n] in this word will be considered. As a result of auditory analysis and auditor's assessment such changes of the sounds were identified:

1. in unstressed prefix *über-* vowel [y:], not losing the labialization, tests quality reduction and changes on vowel [∅];

2. elision (→[#]) of reduced [ə] in unstressed composition;

3. substitution [b] be [v] in unstressed prefix *über-*;

4. elision of [b] in position after long vowel in the combination of letters and completion *-ben(-)*;

5. labialization of [n] (→[m]) in intervocalic position, and out-lawry position (in completion- en) after [p], [b], [f].

Quantitative descriptions of realization of sounds [y:], [ə], [b] and [n] in speech of German officials in the situations of official (OC) and nonofficial (NC) communication driven to the table.

Picture. Spectrograms of word «Überlebender»

Getting the data this way, linguist can get the information not only about pronunciation features of some sociolect, as they

demonstrate intentional speaker's choice of a particular non-codified phonostylistics variables that differ from phonetic standards implementations in different degrees of formality situations, but about potential variants sound changes of pronunciation rules of the language.

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Козак Н. І., Корягіна А. Ю. Методологічний аспект вивчення фоностилістичної варіативності

Анотація. Статтю присвячено питанню визначення найбільш доцільних методів і прийомів, які можуть використовуватися лінгвістами для вивчення фоностилістичної варіативності. Показано особливості сегментного складу вимови службовців Німеччини, які було визначено шляхом застосування описаної методики.

Ключові слова: метод, прийом, ситуація спілкування, варіативність, фоностилістичний варіант, фонологічна змінна, мовлення, службовець.

Козак Н. И., Корягина А. Ю. Методологический аспект изучения фоностилистической вариативности

Аннотация. Статья посвящена вопросу определения наиболее целесообразных методов и приемов, которые могут быть использованы лингвистами для изучения фоностилистической вариативности. Показаны особенности сегментного состава произношения служащих Германии, которые были определены путем использования описанной методики.

Ключевые слова: метод, прием, ситуация общения, вариативность, фоностилистический вариант, фонологическая переменная, речь, служащий.