

Seyidova A. S.
Azerbaijan University of Languages

TEXTUAL FEATURES OF WORD COMBINATIONS IN MODERN ENGLISH AND THEIR USAGE IN ENGLISH-LANGUAGE TEXTS

This article examines the study of phrases and the concept of text in modern English from a linguistic point of view. The first part analyzes the structural and semantic features of phrases, their types (nominal, verbal, adverbial, etc.), and provides an overview of scientific works in this area. The article reveals the views of famous linguists such as L. Bloomfield, B. Ilyish, Yu. Seidov, O. Musayev and A. Guseinov. Particular attention is paid to the functional role of the main and dependent components in the structure of phrases. Specific models such as noun + noun, adjective + noun, noun + infinitive, noun + adverb are also considered in detail. The second part of the article analyzes the concept of text. The formal, semantic and pragmatic properties of the text, its coherence, contextual determinacy are highlighted. The concepts of cohesion and coherence are considered as the most important features that ensure the integrity of the text. It is emphasized that phrases play a key role in the formation of the text and its communicative function. It is determined that the relationships that arise at different language levels contribute to the structural integrity of the text. In conclusion, it is concluded that both functional and structural analysis of phrases and their role in the text are relevant areas of modern linguistics. It is established that phrases in modern English, especially in scientific discourse, are distinguished by great diversity. Firstly, they include linguistic artifacts, secondly, commonly used nominative vocabulary, thirdly, nomenclature names of objects or items of intangible origin, fourthly, terminology. It is especially emphasized that these phrases can be directly related to various areas, as well as to the humanitarian or technological spheres of public life. When performing such a task, it is necessary to keep in mind that English phrases are capable of functioning in the textual discourse of both common and specialized vocabulary.

Key words: word combinations, cohesion, coherence, propositional approach, communicative approach.

Statement of the problem. The study of word combinations in modern English holds significant importance. Modern English contains a vast number of combinations, including verbal, nominal, and adverbial phrases. Structural linguists have also offered numerous insights into word combinations.

It is worth noting that L. Bloomfield, in his famous book *"Language"*, provides an extensive analysis of word combinations. From the 1950s onwards, the study of word combinations gained broader traction. Among the scholars writing on this subject is B. Ilyish, who discusses word combinations in his book *"The Structure of Modern English"*.

In Azerbaijani linguistics, word combinations have also been widely studied. One such work is by Y. Seyidov, who conducted research on word combinations based on Azerbaijani language materials.

Among Azerbaijani scholars researching English word combinations, O. Musayev is notable. In his book *"English Grammar"*, he devotes significant attention to word combinations and provides

numerous examples in his *Azerbaijani-English Dictionary*.

Text linguistics is one of the most engaging areas in linguistics. Much has been said and written about texts. Let us consider some viewpoints on the nature of text.

A text must be formally and semantically cohesive and unified. A text encompasses the cognitive process of forming semantic integrity, which is essential to its pragmatic function. A text can exist not only in written form but also in isolation from the external world. Since the 1980s, the dominant view has been that a text must have pragmatic influence and be socially contextualized.

Analysis of recent research and publications. It must be noted that a text does not exist without context. A better effect is achieved when a text is analyzed within linguistic and psycholinguistic frameworks. Numerous works have been written on this topic. The article involves analysis of recent books and publications by Enkvist [6], Abdullayev K. [1; 2], Veyselli F. [15; 16], Mammadov A. [10], Swan M. [11], Tipping L. [14].

Task statement. Despite the fact that many studies have been conducted in this area, the number of scientific papers devoted to the problem of textual features of phrases in modern English is growing. However, the analysis of research and development shows that there are still controversial issues in determining the features of phrases in modern English. The main goal is to show by examples the role of textual features in the creation of phrases in English.

Outline of the main material of the study. However, without trying, as they say, to embrace the vast in our article, we will focus on the texts of the technical plan, schematically revealing the role and significance of phrases in the named language. A special vocabulary will help us, which we intend to use on two levels. A). The so-called adjuncts; B). Nuclear words in phrases. And as the main research method, we choose their component analysis, of course, based on the material of the English language. What do we need to do to achieve the desired goal?

So, first of all, the selection of phrases, in our opinion, should be purposeful. In our case, this is a correct and clear selection of linguistic nominative means in the designated technological field. Naturally, they have a range of individual differences, which, in particular, can reveal a component analysis. By the way, it is also included in the research methodology, sometimes competing, sometimes performing a comparative analysis on equal rights [3; 4].

Narrowing down the linguistic analysis in identifying the main English word forms, we take as a basis such phrases, spheres that serve as names of artifacts in the field of technological production. Common vocabulary with the core of the following phrases should be highlighted among them: flat source and blind wall; valve head prefabricated house.

In turn, the adjunct of English special phrases is no longer represented by commonly used, but by special vocabulary. We present its core in such combinations as instrument slab and prestressed reinforcement [5].

Using the two English examples above, we have shown the difference between common and special (or in other terminology, specialized, specific, etc.) vocabulary. Meanwhile, in some cases, one can observe some commonality between the two types of English vocabulary, especially when certain parts of speech function in texts. For example, the combination of two linguistic means or concepts occurs with a core expressed by a noun. In the transposition of modern English, the core with this part of speech can be represented by special vocabulary. At the same time, it is also an adjunct of the commonly used vocabulary [20].

For example: power source. This expression means the source or power of energy supply. The phrase "portable instrument" is used as a measuring device that is not stationary, but portable. Or: "iron core", which means an iron (metal) rod. In terms of the internal content of these devices, it is interesting to note that the British nowadays use these phrases as an electrically conductive material. Moreover, in all cases. And from a purely linguistic point of view, it should be noted that their detailed analysis leads to the recognition of such an artifact, which is used in English as a symbiosis of common and special vocabulary. Moreover, it is possible to replace one type of vocabulary with another. You can also say this: English phrases include both common and special vocabulary at the same time. However, more often than not, interchanges are planned [12; 13].

But the following question arises: how does this happen and which procedure is most productive from the perspective of modern cognitive linguistics? Typical examples will best answer this question. Thus, an adjunct expressed by a noun in an English phrase is more often represented by common vocabulary with a corresponding nominative meaning. At the same time, the core, expressed by the same part of speech, is usually represented by special vocabulary [8].

For example: "back gear" or "soft soldering". Such phrases are characterized exclusively by special vocabulary. But, unlike the above phrases, here scientists are dealing with artifacts describing certain technological processes, and they all consist of terms. In fact, the appropriate vocabulary is attached to them. Let us say: in-cut connection. It is impossible to translate this phrase literally from English into Russian with the main (reference) word "cut", which means to divide or divide into parts. In this case, we are talking about a technical text, and therefore only terminology is applicable. So: "in-cut connection" stands for "split connection". Or: "autogenic welding". The main noun word literally means "soldering". But this phrase will lose its main meaning, since soldering cannot be autogenous. Therefore, it can only be "autogenous welding", where terminology again acts as a special vocabulary. In some cases, in modern English, special phrases denote a certain process, and again linguists pay attention to the synthesis of common and special vocabulary [7].

Practically the same rule is quite applicable to nomenclature products. Take, for example, names like "blue steel" or "iron alloy". In the first case, common vocabulary cannot be used, since blue steel simply does not exist in nature. This is an exclusive term – "blued steel". In the second case (unlike the above

combination with the main word “iron”), there is no expression “metal alloy”. Special vocabulary allows only “iron alloy”, etc. However, when using artistic discourse for authorial purposes, it turns out that both types of vocabulary are acceptable: both special and common [9].

K. Abdullayev states that text analysis is conducted using two main approaches:

1. The propositional approach
2. The communicative approach

The propositional approach applies already established features of the sentence. (Propositional: It relates to statements or problems that must be solved or proven true/false.) [1]

The communicative approach focuses on the inherent characteristics of a text without referring to homogeneous syntactic structures. This approach defines the precise features that distinguish a text as a complete communicative object [17].

In linguistics, a text is considered the result of a cognitive process and may be realized in various ways:

- A text may refer to any fragment consisting of one or more sentences.
- It may denote literary works such as stories, novels, or articles.
- A text possesses specific features such as cohesion, completeness, and organized structure.

The internal and external integrity of a text is formed by several factors, including linguistic, psychological, logical, and grammatical elements, as well as the development of ideas.

Famous linguist N. Enkvist defines a text as a sequence of meaningful signs; a sequence composed of meaningful signs in natural language [6].

Texts can appear in both spoken and written forms. The dual characterization of texts is not a trivial issue. Prosodic elements can also be considered part of a text. Both sentences and texts can change depending on intonation. Intonation, as known, is realized primarily in the spoken variant of the text. Hence, prosody should be seen as an aspect that shapes the text and becomes active within its communicative dimension [18].

Importantly, a text must be defined not just as a sequence of sentences but as a cohesive structure. Though analyses describe the interconnection of components, they often fail to clearly explain what makes a text perceived as meaningful or coherent.

In Azerbaijani linguistics, K. Abdullayev studied pre-textual units under the term “complex syntactic whole,” which includes paragraphs, periods, complex sentences, and other elements [2].

F. Veyselli states that the lower levels of language structure are more clearly defined – for example, phonemes, morphemes, and lexemes [15].

In the 1980s, structural analysis of texts from a linguistic point of view gained importance. Textual analysis must not only focus on minimal sentence structures but also on inter-sentential relationships. A. Mammadov emphasizes the need to examine sentence-to-sentence connections beyond the boundaries of the text to achieve a full understanding [10].

This leads to the study of cohesion and coherence. Cohesion ensures the structural unity of a text. Every level of language provides some information for cohesion (more or less).

In communication, two types of grouping should be distinguished:

1. Linear sequencing, observed between parts of the text
2. Structural internal repetition – explicit or implicit – of certain elements

Relationships between text components often appear as interwoven and tightly connected.

Today, alongside the structural study of texts, linguistic and extralinguistic reasons for their formation are also being researched [19].

One of the most active elements in text formation is the word combination (e.g., verb, noun phrases), which plays a major role in creating and organizing texts.

According to A. Huseynov, “Word combinations consist of at least two major parts of speech.” Western linguists, on the other hand, define word combinations more broadly: “Any combination of words in a language can be considered a word combination.” For example, “to the house” and “wise man” are both considered combinations, regardless of syntactic differences [7].

A. Huseynov, however, does not agree that combinations forming a predicative relationship (expressing a complete idea) should be considered word combinations, as these belong to the domain of sentences [7].

Word combinations are syntactic units made up of at least two components. For example:

- *to go to hospital*
- *to join the army*
- *the window of the car*
- *the composer of the music*

When classifying word combinations in modern English, two main criteria must be considered:

1. Combinative ability
2. Presence of a head component

Let us now examine noun-based combinations, divided into two types:

1. Those with the dependent word before the noun (e.g., adjective + noun)
2. Those with the dependent word after the noun (e.g., noun + prepositional phrase)

Examples of adjective+noun:

- big sadness
- big failure
- big surprise

Pronoun+noun combinations:

- his answers
- some questions
- that beautiful girl

Other combinations include:

- Participle I + noun: *dancing fire, smiling face*
- Participle II + noun: *taken man, written word*
- Noun + noun: *spring day, apple tree*
- Possessive noun + noun: *driver's license, Tom's body*

The text also covers combinations where the dependent word comes after the noun:

- Noun + prepositional phrase: *picture on the wall, anger on his face*
- Noun + adjective: *the best style possible, no bread eatable*
- Noun + infinitive: *time to go, need to help*
- Noun + adverb: *boy of sixteen, man alive*
- Noun + numeral: *chapter one, room two*

Several benefits of focusing on word combinations emerge:

- Enhances learner fluency and accuracy by providing ready-made, semantically coherent word groups

- Reduces typical learner errors in verb+noun structures such as *make a decision* vs *do a decision*.

- Promotes awareness of register and formality, guiding correct synonym use, e.g., *critical* vs *crucial*, which share meanings but differ in collocational patterns and nuance

Conclusions. This article indicates that in modern English, noun + prepositional phrase combinations are the most frequently used. Among these, combinations with the preposition “of” are the most common.

Overall, word combinations serve not only grammatical functions but also play a key role in creating meaning and coherence within texts. Their role in linking parts of the text structurally and semantically makes them crucial tools in the analysis and creation of English-language discourse. Communicative information is the information expressed in the text concerning the author's intent. It involves not only non-linguistic information from the sender's mind but also the decision on what aspects are made the subject of communication.

Studies show that a text consists of various components that exhibit structural features. A text has a linear nature, and its elements are perceived as a sequential order of interconnected sentences bound by specific rules.

Bibliography:

1. Abdullayev K. M. Azərbaycan dili sintaksisinin nəzəri problemləri. Bakı, Maarif. 1998. 284 s.
2. Abdullayev K.M., Məmmədov, A.Y., Musayev M.M. və b. Azərbaycan dilində mürəkkəb sintaktik bütövlər. Bakı, Mütərcim. 2012. 606 s.
3. Abdullayev Ə.Ə. Aktual üzvlənmə və mətn. Bakı, Xəzər Universiteti nəşriyyatı. 1998. 189 s.
4. Biber D., S.Conrad and G.Leech. The Longman Student's Grammar of Spoken and Written English. London, Longman. 2002. 487 p.
5. Dreiser Th. An American Tragedy. USA: Signet Classics, 2010, 867 p.
6. Enkvist N. E. From Text to the Interpretability: A Contribution of the Discussion of Basic Terms in Text Linguistics // Convexity and Coherence: Analysis of Text and Discourse. Ed. by W. Heydrich. Berlin-New York: Mouton de Gruyter. 1989. P. 369–382.
7. Hüseynov A. R. İngilis dilinin nəzəri qrammatikası üzrə mühazirələr toplusu. Bakı, Mütərcim. 2015. 376 s.
8. Musayev O. İ. İngilis dilinin qrammatikası. Bakı, Maarif, 1996. 385 s.
9. Musayev O.I., Hajiyev E.I., Huseynov A.R. A Practical Grammar of Contemporary English. Baku, Gismet, 2011. 539 p.
10. Məmmədov A.Y., Məmmədov M. Diskurs təhlilinin koqnitiv perspektivləri. Bakı: Çaşioğlu, 2010. 96 s.
11. Swan M. Practical English Usage. Second Edition. London, Oxford University Press, 1998. 688 p.
12. Sweet H.A. New English Grammar. Logical and Historical. Part I. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1892, 232 p.
13. Thomson A.J., Martinet A.V. A Practical English Grammar. Oxford, Oxford University Press, 1987. 383 p.
14. Tipping L. A Higher English Grammar. London, Macmillan and Co. Ltd, 1964. 378 p.
15. Veysəlli F.Y. Diskurs təhlilinə giriş. Bakı, Təhsil NPM, 2010. 141 s.
16. Veysəlli F.Y. Dilçiliyin əsasları. Bakı, Mütərcim, 2013. 420 s.
17. Wilbur S. Predator. UK, Harper, 2016. 442 p.

18. Yunusov D.N., Khanbutayeva L.M. Comparative typology of English and Azerbaijani languages. Baku, Mutarjim, 2008. 222 p.
19. Young D.J. The structure of English clauses. London, Hutchinson University Library, 1980. 390 p.
20. Ziyadova L. Some aspects of the functional analysis of sentence and text in English. Baku, 2010. 53 p.

Сейідова А. С. ТЕКСТУАЛЬНІ ОСОБЛИВОСТІ СЛОВОПОЄДНЕНЬ У СУЧASNІЙ АНГЛІЙСЬКІЙ МОВІ ТА ЇХ ВИКОРИСТАННЯ В АНГЛОМОВИЧНИХ ТЕКСТАХ

У цій статті розглядається дослідження словосполучень та поняття тексту в сучасній англійській мові з лінгвістичної точки зору. У першій частині аналізуються структурні та семантичні особливості словосполучень, їх типи (іменні, дієслівні, прислівникові та ін), а також дается огляд наукових праць у цій галузі. У статті розкрито погляди відомих лінгвістів, таких як Л. Блумфілд, Б. Іліш, Ю. Сеїдов, О. Мусаєв та А. Гусейнов. Особлива увага приділяється функціональній ролі головного та залежного компонентів у структурі словосполучень. А також докладно розглядаються конкретні моделі, такі як іменник + іменник, прікметник + іменник, іменник + інфінітив, іменник + прислівник.

У другій частині статті аналізується поняття тексту. Висвітлюються формальні, семантичні та прагматичні властивості тексту, його зв'язність, контекстуальна зумовленість. Поняття когезії та когерентності розглядаються як найважливіші ознаки, що забезпечують цілісність тексту. Наголошується, що словосполучення відіграють ключову роль у формуванні тексту та його комунікативної функції. Визначено, що взаємозв'язки, що виникають різних мовних рівнях, сприяють структурної цілісності тексту. На закінчення робиться висновок у тому, що як функціональний, і структурний аналіз словосполучень та його ролі у тексті є актуальними напрямами сучасної лінгвістики. Встановлюється, що словосполучення у сучасній англійській мові, особливо у науковому дискурсі, вирізняються великою різноманітністю. По-перше, вони включають до свого складу лінгвістичні артефакти, по-друге, загальновживану номінативну лексику, по-третє, номенклатурні назви предметів чи об'єктів нематеріального походження, по-четверте, термінологію. Особливо підкреслюється, що ці словосполучення можуть мати пряме відношення до різних галузей, так само як до гуманітарних або технологічних сфер суспільного життя. Виконуючи таку задачу, слід пам'ятати, що англійські словосполучення здатні функціонувати у текстовому дискурсі як загальновживаної, і спеціальної лексики.

Ключові слова: словосполучення, кохезія, когерентність, пропозиційний метод, комунікативний метод.

Дата надходження статті: 15.10.2025

Дата прийняття статті: 10.11.2025

Опубліковано: 29.12.2025