



TA'LIMDA TILLARNI O'QITISHNING MUAMMO VA YECHIMLARI
XALQARO ILMIY-AMALIY KONFERENSIYA

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**TA'LIMDA TILLARNI O'QITISHNING
MUAMMO VA YECHIMLARI
(ПРОБЛЕМЫ ЯЗЫКОВОГО ОБУЧЕНИЯ
И ПУТИ ИХ РЕШЕНИЯ/
PROBLEMS OF LANGUAGE LEARNING
AND WAYS TO SOLVE THEM)**

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THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE IN INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION

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Abstract. This article analyzes the close relationship between language and culture in the process of intercultural communication. Language is considered not only as a means of communication but also as an important factor expressing cultural values, traditions, and national worldview. Additionally, the article highlights problems that arise in intercultural communication using the example of the English language and discusses ways to overcome them.

Keywords: intercultural communication, language and culture, communicative competence, English language, pragmatics.

Introduction

In the present era of accelerating globalization, communication between representatives of different nations and cultures is expanding rapidly. In such conditions, intercultural communication gains particular importance. Language is the main tool of this process, and it is not limited to transmitting information but also reflects cultural values and social norms. Therefore, studying the relationship between language and culture is one of the pressing issues in modern linguistics.

The Interconnection Between the Concepts of Language and Culture

Language and culture are inseparable phenomena. Language is a component of culture through which a nation's historical experience, worldview, and mentality are expressed. Culture, in turn, directly influences the formation and development of language. For example, the concept of politeness in English is manifested in speech through courtesy, indirect expressions, and adherence to ethical norms.

Language and culture are among the most important components of human society and develop in close interrelation. While language serves as the primary means of expressing culture, culture directly influences the formation and development of language. Therefore, studying language and culture separately does not lead to complete scientific conclusions.

Language is a social phenomenon that ensures communication between people, through which ideas, emotions, knowledge, and experiences are transmitted from generation to generation. Culture is a set of values, traditions, customs, worldview, and behavioral norms formed during the historical development of society. Language serves as the main means of preserving and transmitting these cultural elements.

The relationship between language and culture is most clearly reflected in vocabulary. Every nation's language contains words specific to its lifestyle, environment, profession, and history. Concepts that are significant in one culture may be expressed precisely and in detail in its language, while in another culture such concepts may not exist or may be rarely used.

In addition, speech etiquette, forms of address, greeting and farewell expressions are directly connected with culture. Speech behavior that is considered normal in one culture may be regarded as inappropriate or disrespectful in another. This shows that language is not only a tool of communication but also a reflection of cultural values.

While language reflects culture, it also actively participates in shaping it. People perceive and classify the world through language. Therefore, language influences thinking patterns and worldview. This confirms that the relationship between language and culture is mutual.

Language and culture are closely interconnected concepts. Language is the expression and preserver of culture, while culture determines the content and development of language. Therefore, when learning a foreign language, it is important not only to acquire grammatical and lexical knowledge but also to study

the culture of the people who speak that language. This ensures effective communication and deep mutual understanding.

Pragmatic Factors in Intercultural Communication

The pragmatic aspects of language play a special role in intercultural communication. A speech form that is considered normal in one culture may be inappropriate or unclear for representatives of another culture. For example, in English, requests are often expressed indirectly (Could you..., Would you mind...). This is the result of a cultural politeness strategy. Lack of knowledge of such features may lead to communicative failure.

In modern globalization, intercultural communication has become an integral part of human life. For communication between representatives of different nations, languages, and cultures to be effective, it is important not only to know the language system but also to consider pragmatic factors that ensure speech is appropriate to the situation. Pragmatics studies the meaning and function of speech in real communication.

Pragmatic factors include the social status, age, gender, cultural values of participants, the speech situation, purpose, and context. In intercultural communication, these factors manifest differently, and speech behavior that is normal in one culture may be considered incorrect or inappropriate in another.

For example, in some cultures, giving direct commands or expressing opinions openly is seen as effective and sincere communication. In other cultures, indirect speech, polite expressions, and a soft tone are considered signs of respect. If pragmatic differences are not taken into account, speech may be misinterpreted and misunderstandings may arise.

Forms of address are also an important pragmatic factor. Using first names, titles, or surnames is perceived differently in different cultures. For instance, in Western countries addressing someone by their first name quickly is normal, whereas in some Eastern cultures this may be considered overly informal.

Speech etiquette, apologizing, expressing gratitude, and refusing are also culturally dependent from a pragmatic perspective. In one culture a brief answer may

be sufficient, while in another detailed explanation and apology may be required. These situations demonstrate the importance of pragmatic competence in intercultural communication.

Pragmatic factors play a significant role in intercultural communication. They ensure that communication is meaningful, appropriate to the situation, and culturally acceptable. Therefore, in learning a foreign language, it is necessary to study not only grammar and vocabulary but also pragmatic and cultural features. This is one of the key factors of effective and successful intercultural communication.

The English Language and Intercultural Communication

Today, English is widely used as an international language of communication. Therefore, when learning English, it is not enough to acquire only grammatical and lexical knowledge; it is also necessary to master the cultural characteristics of English-speaking societies. For example, misunderstanding humor, irony, or small talk culture in English may lead to misinterpretation.

In today's globalized world, interaction among representatives of different nations and cultures is expanding. In such conditions, effective communication requires not only knowledge of a common language but also intercultural communication skills. From this perspective, English occupies a special place as the main international means of communication.

English is widely used in international business, science, education, diplomacy, and tourism. Representatives of different countries use English in mutual communication. However, perfect grammatical knowledge does not always guarantee successful communication, since each nation has its own cultural values, traditions, and communication style.

Intercultural communication is the process of mutual understanding and exchange of information between people belonging to different cultures. In this process, speaking style, tone, body language, attitude toward time, and even silence may carry significant meaning. For example, in Western culture direct expression of opinion is seen positively, whereas in Eastern culture politeness and indirectness are considered signs of respect. If a person communicating in English does not consider

the traditions and mentality of another culture, misunderstandings or even conflicts may arise. Therefore, learning the culture of English-speaking countries alongside the language itself is important, as it increases intercultural competence.

Intercultural communication serves as an important factor in ensuring cooperation and mutual understanding between societies. Although language is a key tool, it is not sufficient on its own. Speech etiquette, forms of address, greetings, apologies, and expressions of gratitude differ across cultures. Stereotypes and misconceptions may also cause misunderstandings and conflicts. Therefore, tolerance, respect, and open-mindedness are key principles of intercultural communication.

Intercultural competence is the ability to communicate effectively with representatives of different cultures and includes cultural knowledge, communication skills, and adaptability. Developing this competence is especially important in education, particularly in foreign language learning.

In conclusion, intercultural communication is an important social phenomenon in modern society. It strengthens mutual respect, cooperation, and peace among nations. By understanding cultural differences and communicating appropriately, individuals can achieve success in the global world.

Developing Intercultural Competence

To increase the effectiveness of intercultural communication, it is important to develop communicative and intercultural competence. This includes:

- tolerance toward representatives of other cultures;
- understanding the cultural meaning of linguistic units;
- the ability to choose language tools appropriate to the speech situation;
- thinking free from stereotypes.

Conclusion

In conclusion, language and culture are inseparable components of intercultural communication. Language reflects culture, while culture enriches the content of language. Paying attention to cultural factors when learning English increases communicative effectiveness and prevents intercultural

misunderstandings. Therefore, the harmony of language and culture occupies an important place in modern language education.

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