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БОЙКО СТАНИСЛАВ ЮРЬЕВИЧ

**FUNCTIONAL AND SEMANTIC ESSENCE OF PUNCTUTATION IN THE ENGLISH
AND RUSSIAN LANGUAGES**

ДИССЕРТАЦИЯ

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INTRODUCTION	

The question about formation and development of science gains an exclusive importance in the Republic of Uzbekistan nowadays. The President of our country, I.A.Karimov, speaking about the science's value in the process of preparation of the young generation, emphasizes the

following: "In conditions of modern life it is impossible to speak of progress without the development of science. Time dictates that the given question should be considered as one of the most actual ones" (1.7,34). These words concern also the development of philological sciences and indicate the need of consideration of the language and speech phenomena in connection with spiritual and national values of people, their culture and outlook.

Language is the most extensive sphere of scientific studies. The mankind would be just a part of the animal world without the language.

The President of Uzbekistan, I.A.Karimov, said the following words: "we live now in the world, which is changing very fast, we live in the era, fundamentally differing from all former eras, outlived by mankind. In the modern world the ideological ranges are more powerful, than nuclear ranges" (2.7,46).

In our modern life the role and place of language rapidly increases in life of mankind. Language gradually turns into the main facility in people's lives. Language is the source of literacy, logical thinking of the person, his possibility to convince surrounding people in correctness of his standpoint.

It is known that there are 6900 languages now in the world. It's obvious that languages differ from each other in lexicon, grammar rules and pronunciation. It's also known that formation and shaping of the languages occurred spontaneously, each tribe worked out the rules and lexical composition of its language. The native language not only united the tribe, but also served as the means of protection from nearby hostile tribes. That's why there is such a difference among languages nowadays. But if we avoid "other languages" as before, we shall slow the process of the output of our country on a wide international arena. These questions are particularly important in Uzbekistan, because our country is the most populous part of Central Asian region, with its ancient culture.

Language is a world, a person, a thought, and cognition of the whole essence by a person, beauties and wisdoms of life. All these complicated phenomena require the further scientific motivations (3.6,8).

The words in speech unite in groups. Between such groups of words, and also between separate words the intervals of the different length are used. On verbal groups or on separate words the reduction and increase of the tone are used. And all of this is not accidental, but is subordinated to a certain rule: the intervals, the increase and reduction of the tone (so called intonation) express the certain tones of meaning of the sentence. Writer must firmly know, what semantic tone he wants to add to his utterance and its separate parts, and what methods he has to use for it.

Punctuation, as spelling, makes the part of the graphic system, accepted for the given language, and must be adopted as firmly, as all the letters of the alphabet with their sound values, in order to express the contents of the utterance exactly and completely. But to make all the readers equally perceive the contents, it's necessary that importance of the punctuation signs is firmly established within one language. It doesn't matter that exterior punctuation signs in different languages can be similar, but significance and, consequently the usage can be different. It is important that all the writers and readers of any language could absolutely equally understand what each and every sign of punctuation expresses.

“Surely, there is one supreme rule: that punctuation is best which best serves to make writing subtle, supple, delicate, nuanced and efficient. Of course you can write using only periods and commas for punctuation. You can cook using only salt and pepper for seasoning. But why do it when there are so many seasonings pleasing to a mature palate?” (4.50,15)

This investigation is dedicated to the study of functional-semantic essence of punctuation in the English and Russian languages.

Correct punctuation, in varying degrees, is based on three things:

- (1) Thought or meaning,
- (2) The structural patterns of the sentence,
- (3) The conventions of the age.

The practice of writers may be codified into a number of rules or principles. These rules or principles govern a very large number of typical situations in writing. At times, certain marks are optional, depending on the decisions of publishers or on levels of usage; on the whole, however, a university student will succeed if he or she follows a codified usage. When in doubt, one can always resort to a common sense.

The problem of punctuation in English and Russian has already been studied for so many years by Russian and English linguists. The interest to the most important translation facility from the spoken form of the language into the written one continuously grows. Scientifically motivated unity of spoken and written forms of speech gains now a particularly big value, and becomes especially necessary to understand, in what degree the spoken form of speech can be reflected in the written form.

The system of punctuation is one of the most important systems of the language. In spite of the fact that a lot of scientists are concerned with the questions of punctuation, functions and semantics of punctuation are not studied enough, both in plan of the general linguistics, and with the point of separate languages. There isn't such a theory in punctuation, which would

correspond to theoretical level of science of the language. With this statement it is difficult not to agree with the reference both to English and Russian punctuation. There appears the urgency of the subject of my investigation, the theoretical comparative review of English and Russian systems of punctuation.

The Object of study is the written speech of carriers of the language; the modern punctuation as a historically established system, its principles and specifics, rules, functions, regularities in usage of the main punctuation signs.

The Subject of study is the basic trends, rules, functions, regularities in usage of the main punctuation signs.

The Actuality of this work is conditioned that punctuation presents a very problematic part of grammar. Unlike Russian language, punctuation in English is not spared due attention. Many carriers of the language allow in letter such maneuvers with the signs of punctuation that they seem inadmissible. And certainly because of the ignorance of the significant rules in punctuation, there occurs the rash growing of the similar sort mistakes. Nowadays, linguists are worried about this question. This problem will be considered from different positions in this work.

The Purpose of dissertation is a theoretical comparative analysis of punctuation systems in the English and Russian languages, generalization of the usage's trend of the main punctuation signs as a whole, and also in the scientific literature.

In accordance to the purpose, the subject and the object I researched the following targets:

- 1) to analyze the specifics of the punctuation system, its principles and main aspects;
- 2) to find out the reasons of the problems appearance in punctuation.
- 3) to analyze the most problematic areas of punctuation.
- 4) to make a detailed description of the problems in punctuation with adduction of concrete examples.
- 5) to analyze the main rules of punctuation for the most "problematic" signs of punctuation in the English and Russian languages.

The Scientific problem in this thesis is the need of theoretical generalization, the analysis of already available information of punctuation as systems of trend, rules and regularities in usage of the main punctuation signs.

The Novelty of this work is the generalization and consideration of the trends, rules and regularities in the usage of punctuation signs in both languages. A lot of scientists worked with the research of punctuation system in one language, a few scientists worked with the comparison of both languages. But no one ever worked with the investigation of both peculiarities, and comparison and also significant aspects of punctuation systems in the English and Russian languages. I've chosen this theme to work with, to generalize and systematize theoretical and

practical information, and to show the difficulty and value of the given aspect on the base of discovery and analysis of the functions of punctuation.

The Methods of study are descriptive (the history of punctuation signs, the rules of their usage are described), analytical (the main cases of punctuation signs usage are analyzed and the main mistakes, connected with ignorance of the given rules, are revealed), the method of the contextual analysis (the sense of that or another utterance was analyzed, depending on the signs of punctuation in the sentences).

The Theoretical value of the study on a unity's base of spoken and written forms of the language is defined that these two forms of the language, functioning and developing, are found in a constant interaction and require the study in indissoluble unity, since only thereby it's possible to get deeper into essence of this complex and furcated phenomena. Paramount importance has the fact that written form of the contact is possible only because the consciousness of literate people has the indissoluble graph-phonetic associations between conditional, graphic image of speech and its sounds.

The Practical value of the work is conditioned that its results can be used in courses of lectures, in special courses and special seminars, as well as in practice of teaching English and Russian showing students the correct building of written speech and correct prosodic registration and reproduction of spoken speech.

The Methodological base of persisting research is about the need of dialectical approach to study of the language phenomena; the direct observations over investigated phenomena on base of dialectical unity in spoken and written speech allow us to do the theoretical generalizations.

The Hypothesis of my investigation is a statement that punctuation systems in the English and Russian languages are generally similar and that comma is a base element of the modern punctuation, as a whole, executing different semantic-syntax functions, serves to the purposes of communications in different manifestations.

The structure of the thesis includes introduction, two chapters, conclusion, list of the used literature and list of the analyzed sources.

The First chapter contains information on essence of the system of punctuation as a whole. The majority of rules in modern punctuation leans simultaneously on semantic particularities of the sentence (on semantic base), and on particularities of its structure - particularities of building of the sentence, its parts, presence or absence of conjunctions, ways of emphasizing members of the sentence, order of their location etc, and all of this forms the structured-grammatical base of punctuation. Each of the languages has its unique features, which can often be a problem for the learners. I observed the main peculiarities in chapter I in order to make everything clear. Chapter I reveals the theoretical aspects of essence in punctuation system.

The Second chapter is about the comparative analysis of the functions, rules and trends of usage of the main punctuation signs in the English and Russian languages. There is a certain amount of conditional punctuation rules in both languages, specifying the comma usage, which will be considered in chapter II.

In both languages there is a certain code of the rules, specifying the use of the main punctuation signs. In English, however, punctuation signs can be used with a greater liberty. The foreign language learners are supposed to know the main rules of the usage of punctuation signs, also study them in comparison with corresponding rules of the usage in a native language. The special attention must be paid to the cases of the usage of punctuation signs, which are absent in the native language of the learners. Otherwise the main function of punctuation signs is ignored - to serve as the facility of the contact between writing and reading, and signs of punctuation can also become the obstacle for correct dividing and understanding the utterance. Chapter II reveals the practical aspects of essence in punctuation system.

In Conclusion the general findings of thesis are formulated on base of the studies result. I summed up the particularities of the punctuation system of the English and Russian languages on general linguistic level and comma, as the base element of this system. The generalization of the thesis is mentioned in conclusion.

All the valuable material from the list of the used literature and the list of the analyzed sources helped me to work with my dissertation.

CHAPTER I

Theoretical investigation of punctuation

1.1 Significance of Punctuation

Punctuation has a huge significance in our life. Let's remember the famous phrase “Казнить нельзя помиловать”, where the life of a human depends on the placement of comma. There is also an English equivalent for this phrase: “Panda is the animal which eats, shoots and leaves”. English people have a humoristic story about that definition: Panda comes into a bar, orders food, eats it, takes out a gun, shoots and leaves the bar. Next week Panda comes again and does the same thing, and when the bartender asks him why he does that, Panda takes out a definition vocabulary and throws it to the bartender. And there is a definition for panda – animal which eats, shoots and leaves. Actually, there is a mistake of putting comma after “eats”. Shoots (ветки) and leaves (листья) obtain another definition (стрелять и уходить). Here we can see how a small comma can change the whole essence of the meaning.

Punctuation is a facility, through which the writer expresses the definite signs and tones, and with their help the reader receives expressed meanings and tones (5.45,19). Frequently the punctuation signs mark such tones of meanings, which it's impossible to express lexically or grammatically, in other cases they are an additional facility of the expression to different semantic-grammatical meanings.

The foreign language learners are supposed to know the main rules of the usage of punctuation signs, also study them in comparison with corresponding rules of the usage in the native language. The special attention must be paid to the cases of the usage of punctuation signs, which are absent in native language of the learners. Otherwise the main function of punctuation signs is ignored - to serve as the facility of the contact between writing and reading, and signs of punctuation can also become the obstacle for correct dividing and understanding the utterance.

At studying and defining the system of punctuation in foreign language it is necessary in methodical purpose to take into consideration the interference of the languages.

The theorist F.I.Buslaev said that punctuation signs have a double purpose:

1) Promote clarity in interpretation of the thoughts, separating one sentence from the other or one part of it from another

2) Express the sense of the speaker and his attitude to the listener.

The first requirement includes comma, semicolon, colon and point, the second - exclamatory and interrogative signs, dots and dash. Buslaev adds the stylistic function to logical (separating) function of the first group of punctuation signs: their main rules of their use are defined by rhetorical analysis of periodic and curt speech. S.I.Abakumova considered as the main function of punctuation - the instruction on dismemberment of speech into parts, having importance for expression of the thoughts in writing. A.B.Shapiro saw the main role of punctuation in indication of the semantic relations and tones, which can not be denominated by lexical and syntax facilities.

The syntax direction in theories of punctuation, which widely spread in practice of its teaching, comes from the fact that signs of punctuation are supposed to demonstrate the syntax formation of speech, select the separate sentences and their parts. The well-known representative of this direction, Ya.K.Grot, considered that with the help of the main punctuation signs the instruction of larger and smaller relationship between the sentences is given, and partly between the parts of the sentences, which serves to relieve the reader to understand the written speech. The representatives of intonation theories of punctuation suppose that punctuation signs serve to indicate the rhythm and melodic of the phrase, in other words the phrasal intonations, that in majority of cases reflect not a grammatical, but declamatory-psychological dismemberment of speech; and they are required to show the tunes, the rate and pauses of speech. Despite significant divergences of thoughts of representatives in different directions, they all admit the communicative function of punctuation, which is an important facility of the registration in written speech; the signs of punctuation point to semantic dividing of the speech. And Russian punctuation is mostly built on syntax base (6.44,64). In row of cases Russian punctuation is also bound with intonation. All of this adds a greater flexibility to Russian punctuation system, alongside with obligatory rules it carries inference, excluding strictly normative nature and allowing punctuation variants, bound not only with semantic side of the written text, but also with its stylistic particularities (7.43,82).

It is necessary to note that the row of positions of all these theories can also be used with punctuation of the English language.

1.1.1 Flexibility of modern punctuation

It is accepted to consider that punctuation rules, acting in modern Russian language, are mostly optional. And this is considered to be the main characteristic of punctuation, which enables to obtain a bigger degree of accuracy in written speech. No doubts, that such a statement has a serious foundation because in fact most signs of punctuation are often chosen, depending on concrete tasks of profound organization, and sometimes even on emotional and stylistic sides of the text, i.e. signs of punctuation can vary with changes of these tasks. Now I would like to elaborate the contents of this notion, define what unit of speech in this notion exists for, how broad the sphere of its spreading is and how this notion is connected with the action of punctuation. The term "optional signs" is profoundly opposite to the term "obligatory signs". Speaking of option and obligatory with reference to the action of principles in punctuation, the "structured" signs must be obligatory, but "semantic" and "intonation" signs should be optional since they are individualized by the author's usage. However the "structured" signs are not always firmly obligatory, because structured dividing of the sentence in text, just like the semantic and intonation dividing, is subordinated to the will of writer. The structured signs might be not purely structured. Since new structure gives the new sense and another intonation registration, these signs can be optional. The notion of option, thereby, is applicable to punctuation signs, founded on semantic, intonation and also structured principles.

However it is important not only to establish the ability of punctuation to options, but also define the unit of the text, which is an object of the possible spreading of this punctuation characteristic. The optional signs can be used in separate utterances, wrested from text. The option of punctuation exists only as a notion, which is used in education of punctuation, when the object of the signs placement's rules usage elects the individual sentence, when the sentence does not exist as a component of the text and is not considered from the point of the given sense and, thereby, all possible variants of its explanation are revealed. In punctuation analysis of the linked text the problem of option, as a rule, does not exist, since choice of signs is founded on concrete semantic relationships of the row of syntax buildings, joined by the unity of thoughts, the general emotional-expressive directivity, author's longing to send the sense the way it is perceived by himself (8.18,52). Under such understanding of the usage of punctuation, the influence of the context is taken into consideration, which is used in cases of the lexical material resistance, or without it, at presence of the special author's task (under possible variants in sharing the relationships of the words). The event of so named optional usage of signs could be named as contextual, and the signs - contextual, not optional.

Social essence of punctuation is revealed in firmness of general function signs and values, in stability and regularity of their reproduction. And the social value of punctuation holds the rich possibilities of the signs usage accounting their semantic-stylistic functions in text (9.39,27). Therefore, we perceive the text accordingly to signs placed in it, since these signs are read, they carry determined information in themselves, and consequently, they are filled with the sense, moreover, the historically gained sense in the practice of the seal. This sense can have a different degree of generalization: under higher degree of generalization we consider the general function signs, under lower - the concrete values. For instance, semantic differentiating function executes the signs at issue of the reason, consequences, explanations, contrapositions and etc, particularly, signs in asyndetically compound sentence; the expressive-stylistic functions appear with the sign under their emotional complication of their main meanings by additional, connected with special stylistic tasks. The most generalizing functions of signs are functions, described in terms of the type as separating signs and selecting signs. Regardless of degree of generalization any functions reflect the purpose of punctuation: signs of punctuation execute the social purpose due to determined functions and meanings, which are fixed with them (10.47,82).

The term of punctuation means the collection of separating signs, used in written speech, as well as the collection of rules of their placement. The signs of punctuation, just like the letters, are a part of graphic system in each language. The usage of punctuation signs is defined with syntax building of the language, semantic dividing of the utterance and rhythm-intonation system of speech. It is possible to show a preference to miscellaneous aspects in analysis and system definitions of punctuation of the language, because in different languages, depending on their building, the usage of punctuation signs prevails in one or another function. Also, it is difficult to conduct the clear verge between the functions of punctuation signs, since the rhythm and intonation are undoubtedly the auxiliary semantic-syntax facilities of dividing texts. The role of punctuation as a system is very significant, because the punctuation, as a component of the part of the letter, is supposed to serve the purpose of contact between the writer and reader, providing two-way process of communication (11.46,9).

The system referred to punctuation is a quality, which graphically reveals itself in a double-sided functional value of punctuation: "punctuation from the writer" (the directivity from sense to signs) and "punctuation for the reader" (the directivity through signs to sense). It's clear that both processes are possible only in condition of the coincidence of sense for the writer and reader, which carries the signs in itself. And, consequently, signs must normally and firmly find the similar qualities in similar positions. Modern punctuation, such as system qualities, undoubtedly finds such qualities. The comprehension is connected with the search and statement

of the bases of punctuation, principles of dividing the text. One of the main principles in modern punctuation is a structured principle. (examples are shown in chapter II).

The signs conditioned by construction of the sentence and its syntax are conditionally called structured. Such signs can not be optional. This is the foundation, on which the modern punctuation is built. Finally this is the necessary minimum of the sign usage, without which it's impossible to get a free contact between the writer and reader. The structured signs at present are specified enough; their usage is firm. Such signs divide the text into the structured significant parts, help to install the correlation of parts of the text, point to the end of the interpretation of one thought and beginning of another. Such signs are used in texts of any stylistic accessories (in official document, in scientific composition, and in artistic or publicist product). Syntax dividing of the speech reflects the logical and semantic dividing, since the structured significant parts, as a rule, comply with logically significant parts, moreover, they serve to their expression and signs of punctuation; fix the borders of these parts (12.29,44).

On the other hand, the semantic dividing of speech subordinates the structured dividing; i.e. the concrete sense dictates the only possible structure. The construction of the sentence is programmed by the given sense. If it is required to send the other sense, the sentence including the same content of words is constructed in other way. In opinion of N.S.Valgina, the important principle in modern punctuation is the semantic principle. (examples are shown in chapter II).

The signs of punctuation help writers to sharpen the attention of the reader on important details. The direct sense of the utterance can depend on the replacement of punctuation signs, and the semantic and psychological depth; the tension and uniqueness of sign's manifestation can be sent. The tones, fixed in the sentence, can vary, and therefore there is always something subjective in punctuation, something individual, and founded on semantic principle. The skilful placement of punctuation signs raises the semantic value of the written speech, compacts the semantic capacity of the utterance (13.27,69).

It is also important to note that different sense, sent by means of different punctuation registration, is inevitably reflected on the structure of the text or separate sentence.

It is impossible not to mention the value of intonation principle in punctuation. Modern punctuation possesses the big arsenal of the reflection facilities of intonation (stating the point on place of a voice reduction and long pause; interrogative and exclamation point, intonation dash, dots). However intonation principle acts as the secondary and often not in a clear type. That means even though some intonation sign (for instance, the pause) is fixed by punctuation sign, it is the consequence of the given semantic and structured dividing of the sentence (14.41.23). Noting the role and importance of intonation in placement of punctuation signs, it is impossible not to mention the question about different functions of intonation in our speech. The intonation

can emerge as a facility of transmission of semantic values, but can send only emotional qualities of speech. In that case, when intonation sends semantic value of speech, the intonation principle in placement of signs is used as accompanying to the semantic one; it hereunder reflects on the structure of the text. When intonation is just a factor of emotional color of speech, then the intonation principle acts in a clear type. Such intonation conditioned signs send the emotional tension, reflects the expression of the speech.

The intonations, sending the semantic value of speech are socially fixed, with the huge percent of objectivity; they're reproducible and therefore yield to the description and inventories as certain types.

The intonations of purely emotional plan in their own quotient manifestations are subjective, and fixing them in written text by means of signs is totally connected with the individuality of the writer:

Ходить долго - не мог; Ходить - долго не мог (15.11,37).

It's possible to say that modern punctuation is systematically organized. The firmness and stability of punctuation is defined by its structured principle, and the possibility to send the wealth and variety of semantic tones and emotions - semantic and intonation principles. So influence of the text on the reader can become exceedingly strong.

As a whole, punctuation is one of the most complex and significant language system.

1.1.2 Functions of punctuation

I will begin the consideration of functions with the analysis of comma as a sign of syntax relationship between distantly located members of the sentence. The word order, the contact position of language units in speech chain, connected with each other syntactically, is a main sign of the syntax relationship between words and groups of the words in connection with morphological non-formality of the languages. The distant location of such units appears at disposal of one of the elements, referring to two or more units in this chain.

The sign of relationship between the distantly located language units can be commas, which are put after the first and before the second element of torn syntax unity. In such complicated syntax structures in English, comma is a single sign, which allows establishing the syntax relationship between the given units. I'll consider the most widely-used syntax structures with distantly located elements. Let's start with the distant location of predicate's parts. Parts of component predicate are situated distantly and there can be two or more verb-ligaments. In such case comma is put after each verb-ligament. It shows that the given verb is not bound syntactically with the following word, but pertains to the distantly located nominal part:

The role of mathematics in economics is, and will be one of helping to clarify economic theory (16.26,97).

The cases of distant locations of controlling and operated elements of the syntax complex are often met in scientific literature. In English the management is realized by means of prepositions, management without using preposition (the direct object) can be considered as case of zero preposition use. At presence of two or more prepositions, which pertain to one generally operated element and which are located distantly to it, the presence of comma after each of the elements enables to establish the syntax relationship between controlling and operated elements (17.20,114). Such structures must be carefully analyzed with comma usage as a main syntax sign in order to avoid the possible difficulties in understanding. If controlling elements are found close to each other (nearly contact) and conjunctions "And" or "Or" are put between them, comma is often lowered, since these conjunctions do not prevent the visual perception of relationship between controlling and operated elements; L.I.Ziliberman and G.I.Abramova illustrate the given and following positions with examples:

Biological laws can be reduced to or derived from physical laws.

In the English language several varieties of distant locations of controlling and operated elements exist for scientific literature. The most frequent case is the prepositional management. In this case controlling prepositions can be used independently or stand after verbs, adjectives and nouns, which control the addition:

Liquids were placed in a cell at, and in some cases near, the focal point of lens.

Saussure speaks of the study of a dead language as something different from, or independent of, speech (18.24,59).

If both controlling elements require the same preposition (in case if verb in different time-aspectual forms is used, with limit of one voice), the given preposition can be used only once before operated element, but comma is put after each controlling element and before preposition:

This method is extended by, and partly replaced by, a new one → This method is extended and partly replaced, by a new one.

Preposition By comes off from the verb and is fixed for operated element, and appears the displacement of comma.

When controlling elements are denominated by one and the same verb, but in time-aspectual forms of different voices, management is realized by different prepositions:

This factor determines, and is determined by, all other factors involved.

Sometimes controlling element can be a subordinating conjunctive, operated element in such case can be the whole sentence. Comma is put after each controlling element and on its whole structure the sentence complies with examples of prepositional management:

The degree is either higher than, or equal to, the one presented here.

The similarity of the structure and functional identity of prepositional conjunctions in such sentences points to resemblance of prepositions and subordinating conjunctions as auxiliary controlling words, difference between which does not matter for understanding the structure of such sentences.

The last type of distant locations of controlling and operated elements is the case, under which controlling elements are personal forms of the verb (often with modal importance, which are located distantly to operated, expressed by infinitive). The particle "To", which enters the infinitive, executes the function of controlling prepositions, described above. Identities of such constructions with prepositional structures are conditioned by prepositional origin of the particle "To" and nominal nature of the infinitive:

In calculating the value one can, and often has to, use a more valid method.

In such constructions as the controlling element can be also two or more structures with entering "It":

It is much easier, and (it is) much more usual, to use wide-spread methods than experimental ones.

In this case not only infinitive, but also that-clause can be operated element:

It is usually desirable, and often necessary, that the substance analysed be absolutely pure (19.5.41).

1.2 Specifics of the punctuation system in English

L.I.Ziliberman, G.I.Abramova emphasize that in the statement of the functions' analysis of punctuation signs it's necessary to take into consideration the stylistic particularities of the text. The contents of scientific message are a description of facts, subjects, and phenomena of reality, their study, explanation, and generalization. The problem of the scientific message is a proof of the certain positions, hypothesizes, their argumentation. The scientific literature usually contains the system of the discourses and proofs. Thence there are peculiarities of the language, including its syntax construction (30.5,49).

The syntax of the scientific literature is rather clear: it differs with consequent coherence of the separate sentences, their maturity and fullness. The scientific style relates to the speech facility, which is deprived of emotional affect and expressive colors. That's why in syntax of scientific works, calculated not on emotional, but on logical, intellectual perception, there are usually no sentences, sending expressive quality of speech, semantic and intellectual niceties.

The emotional colored sentences, possible silence, and lack of agreement are not typical to the scientific style. Punctuation of this literature type is standardized and deprived of individual concision. If in belles-lettres the rhythm-intonation side of punctuation signs, as a rule, prevails over semantic-syntax side, then in scientific literature - a main purpose of punctuation signs is an indication on syntax dividing of the text (31.13,24). In scientific literature the signs, resting on structured base can dominate: these are the signs, dividing text on separate clauses and parts of the sentence (the main and dependent; the homogeneous members amongst isolations - only obligatory i.e. caused by structured factors).

The study of the text material on different branches of the science enables both for reader, and researcher to discover some cases of the comma use - a very important sign of punctuation in scientific style speech - in English scientific texts, which are typical for the given style, and also are main or auxiliary signs to discover the syntax or semantic structure of the sentence.

L.I.Ziliberman, G.I.Abramova also note that the comma usage as a semantic-syntax signal in scientific literature gains a special urgency. The value of the given punctuation sign is especially important for the text understanding. The comma is used as an indicator of distantly located parts of a complicated syntax complex, frequently used in scientific texts. The comma in such cases serves as separating-connecting nature - selects what is found between distantly located parts of the sentence and connects distantly located elements of the different syntax structures (32.5,48). Comma is also a clear signal of determined actual dividing of the sentence - a separation of the logical subject and predicate. Thereby, comma serves as the sign of different types of semantic-syntax isolation, as connected as well as not connected with the actual dividing of the sentence. English learners must have the developed skills of comma usage as a distinction sign of syntax structures with distantly located elements and revealing the semantic structure of the sentence, determining the syntactic-semantic role of isolated parts of the analyzed complex by means of comma. Such skills bring about more full and clear understanding of information tones, which are sometimes ignored during the study of reading and translation of English scientific text (33.15,21).

There are also ways of usage of more frequent character. They can delude during analysis of complicated English complex structures, since they contradict with the system of comma usage in Russian language (comma division of subject and predicate, if subject is expressed by extended group and etc.). Comma is also used to remove the syntax homonymy of English text segments, when dividing on syntagmas without special separating signal – comma; causes special difficulties in consequence of non-formality of the English word. Such cases are extremely rare in Russian language since the main parts of speech have formal factors, defining their syntax relationship with each other. Comma is used for the revision of importance and

function of some ambiguous and multifunctional words of syntactic-building types (again, due, to, say, however) (34.3,87).

All of this allows valuing the scale and width of the problem of system consideration in punctuation, with reference to scientific style of speech.

1.2.1 Semantic - syntax isolation

One more important function in English punctuation system is a function of syntactic-semantic isolation. It is formulated as italicizing of part of information, contained in the sentence, as the type of special syntactic-semantic unit. The isolation can be used for different aims: emphasizing isolation, isolations of a part of sentence, containing additional information to the main utterance, isolations of information of the introductory nature, and etc. Any isolation has a stylistic nature and forms a part of system of the author's facilities for placement of logical accents and expressions of different tone importance. Certainly, isolation as a stylistic acceptance is characterized also to scientific literature. Let's consider the main examples of the isolation:

1. The separation of comma "of-phrase" (being the determination to preceding noun and forming a part of one syntax group with it) references in the given context not additional, secondary nature of information contained in it:

The author also considers as a possible source of threshold fluctuations local statistical variations of membrane potential, of the sort discussed above (35.10,28).

2. The isolated part, with which begins the sentence, can serve as the connecting-link with the previous utterance - then speech goes about the point of view, stated above:

From this point of view, an RNA virus can be regarded as a specialized RNA molecule (36.10,42).

The presence of "from-phrase" is considered not as inversion, but as logical link in the course of discussions.

3. The central idea in the following sentence consists of that the language participates in shaping the thoughts of the person, but whether these thoughts are said or not - has secondary importance. So group "uttered" and "unuttered" is isolated:

The language contributes to forging thoughts, uttered and unuttered, of every conscious person (37.10,49)

4. Finally, one more example of isolation is a case, when isolated part marks information, carrying introductory nature and in some way structurally connected with the main utterance. Just like the introductory words and clauses, such isolated group is more syntactically independent and pertains to the whole utterance as a whole:

Of great importance, not only from the clinical view-point, is the classical theory of reflexes (38.5,51)

1.2.2 Apostrophe, slash and brackets

Apostrophe

The apostrophe is a very "problematic" sign of punctuation. Especially for the Russian speaking learners who don't have such a punctuation sign in their language. For the first time, apostrophe appeared in English in XVI century. "Apostrophe" means "to dodge" from the Greek translation. In classical texts apostrophe marked the missed letters, as t'cius for "tertius". In XVII century apostrophe became to be put before "s" in possessive singular nouns, which has some belongings: "the girl's dress". In XVIII century apostrophe began to be used after "s" in possessive plural nouns: "the girls' dresses" (39.14,71).

The main problem of apostrophe is concluded in that people often use it wherever they want to. To avoid mistakes using apostrophe, it's necessary to remember its main functions.

1. Apostrophe points to possessive nouns:

The boy's hat.

The First Lord of the Admiralty's rather smart front door.

It seems to be very simple, however it's necessary to remember that in possessive plural nouns, not finishing on "s" apostrophe should be used in the following way::

The children's playground

The women's movement

It is also significant to note that in plural nouns, finishing on "s" apostrophe should be used at the end of the word.

The boys' hats (more, than one boy)

The babies' bibs

This rule is easy to remember, however it's possible to meet the problems even here. Linn Routes shows the amusing example. Why did not anyone come to "Giant Kid's Playground" ? It's simple - everyone was frightened with the giant child. Therefore, in the correct variant of writing apostrophe must be put after "s": Giant Kids' Playground and otherwise translation of the sentence will make a wrong opinion (40.31,21).

2. Apostrophe indicates time or quantity:

In one week's time.

Four yards' worth

3. Apostrophe points to the symbols gap in date:

The summer of '96

In this case, the apostrophe points to reduction of the numerals in date. Probably, the only variant of the mistake here can be a gap of the apostrophe.

4. Apostrophe points to the letters gap in word:

We can't go to Jo'burg (We cannot go to Johannesburg -- perhaps because we can't spell the middle bit)

In the given example it's possible to consider, that the town name of Johannesburg grows shorter by means of apostrophe. But for many common shortened forms of the words, such, as: bus (omnibus); flu (influenza); phone (telephone); photo (photograph) apostrophe is not required. Though there are cases, when people tried to put the apostrophe: Any of that wine left in the 'fridge, dear? (41.35,84)

It is also useful to consider the cases with the use of reduction It's. In the given reduction it is important to save the apostrophe in order not to change the sense of the whole sentence.

5. Apostrophe points to strange, not standard English:

The presence of enormous amount of apostrophes, used without reason, certainly, means that the person, using this style of language, doesn't pay a valuable attention to such conventionalities of language, as punctuation. It could be a peasant, or some other very idle person (42.33,59).

So all these functions of apostrophe brightly hint that apostrophe, as a sign, deserves an attentive use.

Slash

A slash or virgule (/) is used to indicate alternative items:

Every writer needs to know at least something about his/her audience.

No space is left before or after a slash used in this way.

A slash is used to mark off lines of poetry when you run them on as if they were prose:

Coleridge introduces the mariner in the very first stanza: "It is an ancient Mariner, / And he stoppeth one of three."

One space is left before and after a slash used in this way (43.25,36).

Brackets

Brackets ([]) are used to insert a clarifying detail, comment, or correction of your own into a quotation:

"In the presidential campaign of 1993 [1992], Bill Clinton defeated George Bush."

"When we last see Lady Macbeth [in the sleepwalking scene], she is obviously distraught."

"Most remarkably, the Motherhood Myth [the notion that having babies is instructive and enjoyable] persists in the face of the most overwhelming maternal unhappiness and incompetence." (44.32,19)

Brackets are used to note a misspelling in the quotation with the Latin word *sic* ("thus"). This will indicate that an error appeared in the original and was not made by you:

According to the newspaper report, "The car slammed thru [*sic*] the railing and into oncoming traffic."

But "sic" shouldn't be used to make fun of a writer or to note errors in a passage that is clearly non-standard or illiterate.

Brackets shouldn't be used when inserting comments into our own writing. Parentheses or dashes are supposed to be used. Brackets are used to enclose parenthetical material within a text that is already in parentheses:

We drove through Borrego Springs (years ago [maybe 1938] when we still were youngsters) on our way to Indio.

But constructions that call for this intricate punctuation should be avoided.

Indication that the quote in the given place was used without changes:

She had used [Tom Jones] for quite a number of examples now (45.30,32).

1.3 Principles of punctuation in modern Russian

Russian punctuation has formed comparatively late, at the beginning of XIX century and in the main trends it's similar to punctuation of other European languages.

In ancient Russian system of writing text was not divided in words and sentences. The punctuation signs divided the text basically in semantic length or marked the situation in the author's work. The significant importance for development of punctuation was an entering of the typography. Modern punctuation must be considered as a result of long and complicated interaction of the punctuation system, which was established in a row of European languages (including Russian) after entering the typography and those methods of usage of punctuation signs, which had been worked out by the best masters of Russian literary speech throughout a long period, beginning from XVIII century until the present time. In the first half of XX century the great attention was paid to the questions of punctuation in the works of A.M.Peshkovskiy, L.V.Scherba and some other linguists, in the middle and the second half of XX century there appeared the fundamental studies on punctuation by A. B. Shapiro. However until nowadays the theory of punctuation is on a rather low level of the development and does not correspond to the

general theoretical level of the Russian linguistic science (20.42,78). At the present time the linguists, working in the field of punctuation, do not have a united standpoint on bases of modern Russian punctuation. Some scientists keep the standpoint that Russian punctuation is based on a semantic base, others - on grammatical, the third ones - on semantic-grammatical, the rest - on intonation base. However, in spite of theoretical discords of scientists, the principle bases of Russian punctuation remain unchangeable, and that promotes its stability though separate punctuation rules are periodically elaborated and rendered concrete in connection with the development of the Russian grammatical theory and the Russian literary language as a whole (21.38,56).

Modern Russian punctuation is built on a semantic and structured grammatical base, which is interconnected with each other; therefore it's possible to mention the existence of united semantic-grammatical base of Russian punctuation.

Punctuation reflects the semantic dividing of written speech, points to semantic relationship and connection between separate words and groups of words, to different semantic tones of parts of the written text. But the semantic relationship of the words and parts of the text finds its expression in determined grammatical structure (22.34,78). The majority of rules in modern Russian punctuation leans simultaneously on semantic particularities of the sentence (on a semantic base), and on particularities of its structure - particularities of building of the sentence, its parts, presence or absence of conjunctions, ways of emphasizing members of the sentence, order of their location, etc; and all of this forms the structured- grammatical base of punctuation.

1.3.1 Stability of Russian punctuation system

Stability of Russian punctuation system is mainly explained that its defining principles allow sending a semantic, syntax, and particularly intonation structure of speech on the letter. Punctuation signs in most cases divide text in bound on sense and intonation formed syntax units. For instance:

Теркин - кто же он такой? Скажем откровенно:
Просто парень сам собой он обыкновенный.
Впрочем, парень хоть куда. Парень в этом роде
в каждой роте есть всегда, да и в каждом взводе.

Interrogative sign and dot express in this text the borders of the independent syntax units - sentences, expressing in each case a comparatively complete thought. These signs of punctuation characterize also a purpose and intonation of the utterance and mark the greater pauses at the end of the sentence. Dash in the first sentence connects the nominative subject (Теркин) with the second developing part of the sentence (кто же он такой?) and points to preventive intonation and pause between the parts of the sentence. Colon connects the second part of the complex asyndetic sentence with the first one, and points to explanatory intonation and explanatory semantic relations between the parts of the sentence. Comma emphasizes the introductory word "Впрочем", and corresponds to pause and intonations, accompanying the introductory words. Comma in the last sentence separates the connecting structure (да и в каждом взводе) and also corresponds to pause.

The principles, on which the whole system of the punctuation rules is founded, were comprehended gradually. M.V.Lomonosov has emphasized the semantic and syntax functions of punctuation signs: "Small signs are put on power of mind and on its location to conjunctions" (23.11,51).

Punctuation signs in modern Russian language, differing on its function, purpose, and placement in sentences, enter in a determined hierarchical dependency. According to the placement in the sentence punctuation signs of the end and middle of the sentence are distinguished - final and internal signs. All separating final signs - dot, interrogative and exclamation point, dots - have greater power, than internal signs (24.22,18).

So called internal signs of punctuation - semicolon, comma, dash, colon, parentheses – are not homogeneous in their use. The "strongest" hierarchical senior separating sign of punctuation inside the sentence is a semicolon. This sign, marking borders of homogeneous members of the sentence or predicative parts in content of the compound sentence, is capable to send the meaning differentiating pause of spoken speech. Other four internal signs of punctuation (comma, dash, colon, parentheses) differ on informative load, on functional range, on duration of the pauses during "reading". The hierarchy of their pause values begins with comma and ends with brackets. The difference of considered four internal signs of punctuation in the way of content is expressed, on the one hand, by different volume informative load and, on the other - by concreteness of importance, which they can fix on letter. Comma is the most ambiguous among these signs, and then goes dash, colon is even less ambiguous, and the most concrete sign in the attitude of content is parentheses. Consequently, the least degree in concreteness of importance has comma and the most - parentheses. Thereby, hierarchy of the degree increase of these specified four signs of punctuation corresponds to the noted hierarchies of pause values and hierarchies of their functional range. The particularities of combinability of punctuation

signs in the sentence are fixed on the base of hierarchical dependency. In some cases punctuation signs are combined, in other - signs of smaller power are absorbed by stronger signs. The separating sign usually exists if the selected construction is found at the beginning or at the end of the sentence (the predicative part of compound sentence) or on the border with homogeneous members (25.3,29). Only comma or dash can be absorbed as a part of selecting sign. They are always absorbed by dot, interrogative and exclamation points, dots, semicolon, the following closing bracket or the following closing quote as signs of a greater importance. The same signs can also be absorbed: comma can be absorbed by comma, dash - by other dash, closing bracket or quotation marks - by other closing bracket or quotation marks.

Different punctuation variants are possible when comma meets dash: these signs can be combined as equal on power, or one of these signs is absorbed by another.

1.3.2 Directions of principles of Russian punctuation system

As I mentioned above three main trends are distinguished in Russian linguistics in the principles of punctuation: logical (semantic), syntax and intonation.

The followers of logical direction consider that the main purpose of punctuation is a semantic dividing of speech and issue of semantic attitude of divided parts. Russian linguists Ya.K.Grot and S.K.Bulich explained the syntax understanding of punctuation; they considered that punctuation demonstrates the syntax formation of speech.

In Grot's works there is an important indication on relationship of punctuation system with the general nature of syntax structure of sentences and written speech. He pays attention to an observable trend to refusal of "too complex or wide-spread sentences" and use of "curter speech" (26.11,29).

"The curt speech is used for greater simplicity and clarity of the interpretation, and to express the meaning by short sentences. In attitude of usage of punctuation signs it means: not to accumulate too much sentences between two dots, residing in mutual dependency or close relations between each other, and dispose them in such a way that they could define from each other at least by semicolon or colon. The overindulgent set of dependent clauses between the main clauses tangles and obscures the speech" (27.11,31).

Here we can conclude that for each sign all cases of its use are indicated; each rule is illustrated by one or several examples from works of late XVIII century and the first half of XIX century. These rules of punctuation turned out to be clear and suitable enough for everyday use, since they were founded on syntax structure of the sentence, which learners adopted in school course of grammar. But practically all learners in addition to rules of punctuation also follow by

a spoken pronunciation. A learner mentally (and sometimes even aloud) pronounces the sentence or a part of it to understand, what punctuation sign should be put in one or another case. Since pauses and intonation of spoken speech in many cases definitely express those relations, which are comprised in the sentence, the address to these factors is wholly natural. In the English language learners on no account can allow themselves to use that method of usage of punctuation signs.

The issue of intonation side of speech is introduced as the primary task of punctuation for A.H.Vostokov, I.I.Davydov, A.M.Peshkovskiy, L.V.Scherba.

Punctuation is connected with intonation rather closely. However, it is impossible to confirm that punctuation is subordinated to intonation and that intonation is the main base of punctuation, though similar opinions were supported by some Russian linguists.

Considering the correlation of punctuation and intonation, we narrow the notion "intonation" to the rhythm of speech, considering first of all the presence or absence of intonation pauses, their duration, increase or reduction of the tone, place of logical or phrasal stress.

Some scientists consider that intonation is a grammatical facility of sense expression in oral speech (together with structured peculiarities of the sentence), and on this base we distinguish the intonations of enumeration, collations, contrasting contraposition, warning, explanations, conditionality, etc. Punctuation in written speech, just like intonation in oral speech, has one and the same purpose - a semantic reading of the text; they will add the speech an intelligent nature. Pronunciation of one and the same expressions with different intonations, like the different punctuation registration, can change their semantic importance in root.

When choice of punctuation signs is defined by differentiation of semantic relationships of words or semantic relations between parts of the compound sentence, there are some punctuation variants, which in oral speech correspond to different intonation particularities of the utterance (28.12,74).

In such situations punctuation signs in written speech and intonation in oral speech are connected, single-functioned - they execute the meaning differentiating function. However sense of the utterance is indissolubly connected with grammatical building and intonation of the sentence. It can be explained by that the acting rules of placement of punctuation signs in modern Russian letter can not come to some definite of enumerated principles, and separate signs of punctuation in each concrete case of use emphasize either logical, or syntax, or intonation structure of speech or can be even syntax - simultaneously divide text in semantic and syntax segments, characterize its semantic and intonation structure (29.12,77).

Conclusions on chapter I:

So, I've mentioned the most significant peculiarities of punctuation systems both in Russian and English languages. According to my investigation we can see that the modern Russian punctuation is built on semantic and structured grammatical base, which are interconnected with each other, therefore it's possible to mention the existence of united semantic-grammatical base of Russian punctuation.

The majority of rules in modern Russian punctuation leans simultaneously on semantic particularities of the sentence (on semantic base), and on particularities of its structure - particularities of building of the sentence, its parts, presence or absence of conjunctions, ways of emphasizing members of the sentence, order of their location etc, and all of this forms the structured- grammatical base of punctuation.

1. In syntax the attitude of varieties of the written speech possesses the particularities, more or less brightly expressed. Punctuation differs in different texts on function-target accessories.

2. Special scientific value presents the study of punctuation in scientific style of speech.

Herewith in the highlight was frequency of the main punctuation signs' usage, and intra-language, inter-language and chronological differences.

Let's note the most interesting results. Some of them confirm the trends in use of punctuation signs, described in the main part of work. As to chronological difference in frequencies of semicolon use in Russian language, it's necessary to note that the given sign vastly dominates in classical literature of XIX century in contrast with modern. Also there are significant chronological differences in sphere of the dash usage. The frequency dash use in classical literature is less, than in modern. All of this shows that semicolon has narrowed the sphere of its use, but dash increases its usage in modern Russian language.

The intra-language style differences in Russian language are not so sharp. The scientific style of speech is characterized by minimum amount of exhibits, comparative turns. The amount of colons and semicolons is small; they are used in Russian language in the same function, as in belles-lettres.

The dash possesses sufficient frequency in scientific style of speech.

Finally let's look over the intra-language and inter-language differences of English punctuation.

The frequency of semicolon in English classical literature vastly prevails over modern. That concerns the inter-language difference, it's necessary to say that in English in contrast with Russian the amount of isolated participial turns, comparative turns, and as a whole the amount of the isolations is much less.

While analyzing the intra-style differences, we pay attention to the frequency of semicolon usage, its prevalence in English scientific literature in contrast with Russian; this confirms the flexibility and transportability of the given sign in modern English.

In consideration of intra-style differences it's possible to mention the certain prevalence of a dash in Russian scientific text over English one; and also that in English scientific literature there is a great amount of isolated members of the sentence though as a whole in English texts there are less isolations, than in Russian.

We have also witnessed the absent of such punctuation signs as apostrophe, slash and brackets in Russian language.

In chapter II the research will go about the specifics of English and Russian systems of punctuation in comparative aspect, and about trends in rules and regularities of the usage of main punctuation signs.

CHAPTER II

Comparative analysis of the English and Russian systems of punctuation

2.1 End Marks (period, question mark, exclamation point, ellipsis marks)

Among the varieties of punctuation signs, existing in modern language, in my work we shall consider in details the trends of punctuation signs' usage.

Almost the same signs of punctuation are used in English, as in Russian: period, comma, semicolon, dash, parentheses, ellipsis, interrogative and exclamation points, quotation marks. In both languages the placement of punctuation signs in text is adjusted by determined rules, but one should remember that these rules often allow the use of different punctuation signs in one and the same situations. In other words, a good punctuation is a skill to do the right choice in the necessary place, so that the reader could perfectly understand the intentions of the author of text.

Period

Periods are used to mark the end of a declarative sentence, a mild command, or an indirect question:

I wish I owned a couple of acres of land now, in which case I would not be writing autobiographies for a living. (Thackeray W.M.)

Please do not smoke.

Junior asked Susanna whether she wanted any more pancakes.

Мама, ты не входи ко мне, а только подойди к двери. (А. Чехов.)

Я отчетливо слышал звуки рояля. (М. Булгаков.)

Художественная литература не может материально изменить мир, но она может изменить отношение людей к собственной жизни и жизни общества. (Махмутов М.И.)

1. Period is put at the end of the positive sentence:

He was there. He saw everything. — Он был там. Он все видел.

2. Period is put at the end of the interrogative sentence, having, however, the nature of request:

Would you please call him as soon as possible. — Позвоните, пожалуйста, ему как можно скорей.

3. It is used for the abbreviations:

Prof. = Professor;

Nov. = November;

U.K. = United Kingdom

Серж. = Сержант

Ред. = Редактор

Дек. = Декабрь

But the period is not used in acronyms i.e. words, consisting of initial letters of the other words or parts of the words:

UNESCO = United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization;

ООН = Организация Объединенных Наций

4. It is put before decimal signs in numerals (and is read as Point):

67.5 per cent / 89.485 / 0.0001 / .45

5. It is put for division of greater and smaller money units of one system:

\$24.75 / J31.50

6. Period is put in English at indication of time for division hours and minutes:

9:38 a.m. (рус: 9:38)

Question mark

A question mark is used to mark the end of a direct question:

Would you feel better as someone else? (Austen J.)

Куда же мне деваться?

Question mark is put:

1) At the end of the simple interrogative sentence:

Чем мне оправдаться? (А. Чехов).

How can I be justified? (A.Chekhov)

2) At the end of compound or asyndetic sentence if all its parts or only the last one contains question:

А вы думаете, мне без борьбы досталось это уважение? (Фадеев А.А.).

Do you think I've obtained all this respect without struggles? (Fadeev A.A.)

3) At the end of the complex sentence if all its parts or one of them contain question:

Да знаешь ты, кто я такой? (А. Чехов)

Do you know who I am? (A.Chekhov)

Exclamation point

The exclamation point is put at the end of the exclamatory sentence and is used to mark an expression of strong feeling:

Poor Columbus! He is a minor character now, a walk-on in the middle of American history. (Maugham W.S.)

Какое это великое счастье – жить, существовать в мире, дышать, видеть небо, воду, солнце! (И. Бунин)

Ellipsis marks

Ellipsis marks (ellipses) are three spaced periods that are used to indicate omissions within quotations.

Three spaced dots are used to signal the omission of a word or words from the middle of a quoted sentence:

And so the writer . . . suffers, especially in the creative years of youth, every form of distraction and discouragement. (Snow C.P.)

Куда... - трясущимся голосом спросил он, - куда он поехал? Скорей скажи, очень нужно, понимаешь ли...

Ellipses can be used at instruction on transition (often unexpected) from one thought to another, on gap at time between events, described in sentences:

Долго я оборачивался и смотрел на сизые зубцы скал, вырезающихся из сини пустого неба... А тройка под заливающимся звон и топот катилась и катилась все ниже и ниже, все глубже и глубже, в лесистые живописные пропасти, все дальше и дальше от перевала, вырастающего и уплывающего в небо (И. Бунин)

The spirit of football is wrong. 'Win at any cost' is the slogan of most teams, and the methods used to win are often abominable... In nearly every scrimmage the roughest kind of unsportsmanlike play is indulged in, and the broken arms and ankles are often intentional rather than accidental (Greene Gr.)

Sometimes ellipses are used to show dramatic pauses in a sentence.

NASA had just announced that he no longer had . . . the right stuff.

Весь день я скитался по пустынным равнинам, а потом... наступила ночь (И.Бунин)

2.2 Dash, colon and semicolon in Russian and English systems of punctuation

Semicolon

Semicolon is not simply an alternative to the period, colon or comma. With it a writer can signal special relationships between independent clauses, and can increase the readability of long sentences that contain several commas.

One may use a semicolon to join independent clauses if the second clause restates or sets up a contrast to the first.

From all the signs of punctuation, the destiny of semicolon is the most interesting. This sign, which was exceedingly widely-used and ambiguous in past, nowadays has clearly fixed its own positions in sentences with widely-spread homogeneous members or compound sentences of the homogeneous composition (complex or asyndetic with enumerated relations) (46.21,58). The

semicolon is a sign, which functions were not differentiated and inefficiently bordered from functions of other signs - comma, colons.

The activity of semicolon has existed throughout XIX age both in the English, and in Russian language. So, for instance, in Russian classical literature the semicolon was often used in adversative and linked relations, sent the meaning of reasons, effects, explanatory, was used before the structure of additional-pasted nature:

Может быть, Базаров и прав; но мне, признаюсь, одно больно; я надеялся именно теперь тесно и дружески сойтись с Аркадием (И. Тургенев).

Пожалуйста в комнату; я без очков читать не могу (И. Тургенев).

Я кликнул своего слугу; Филькой он у меня прозывался (И. Тургенев).

Currently the observations show that the main trend in usage of semicolon is an aspiration to narrow the sphere of spreading to the clearly marked positions: this syntax homogeneity, enumerated relations. Such trend is closely connected with the other one - a liberation of the sign from fixation of other meanings and, consequently, with functional rapprochements with comma. Together with that and simultaneously with this exists another trend of the delimitation of semicolon and comma functions: punctuation as a whole and its elements strive to accuracy in fixation of sense (47.19,124). The qualitative changes between semicolon and comma increases, intensifies their own meaning separating characteristics.

The semicolon, in comparison with comma, separates the equal parts in syntax, less closely bound with sense. The functional difference between comma and semicolon graphically reveals itself on butting of the compound sentence: in the first case (the comma is used) of a part, they are closely bound on sense, they are united by description of one and the same subject; in second case (the semicolon is used) - appears transition to feature of the new subjects. In specifically complicated sentences the semicolon defines large parts, the main ones, while commas signalize about internal dividing of these parts. In such case semicolon helps to define the borders of the main parts and hereunder reveals their structured value (48.36,92).

The semicolon is most often used on butting of parts of the compound sentence, but they can be used between homogeneous members of the simple sentence.

Here is the example of semicolon usage on butting of parts of the compound sentence:

Серая полоса дороги уходила от реки в глубь степи; она была как-то беспощадно пряма, суха и наводила уныние (Гоголь Н.В.).

This butting would not be seen at once if we used comma here, since inside each part there are already commas or they could be used, put on the other base. Such usage of semicolon is very typical nowadays.

The rarer event is a delimitation of the homogeneous members of the sentence, by means of this sign. By the way, as a rule, these predicates, complicated by different depended on them members - additions and circumstances, which, in turn, are explained by various isolated groups of words. Such sentences are very close to complex in structure and sometimes present themselves as connecting designs from simple to complex: the predicates here are either homogeneous with the general subject, or independently used without subjects. The semicolon in such cases relieves the perception of thoughts, unites logically bound details (49.41,82).

It's necessary to note that mutual substitution between comma and semicolon is wholly possible, but as a matter of fact it isn't absolute, since functions of these signs under their formal resemblance conclude rather appreciable differences. The semicolon is a sign of more limited use, than comma. It's possible to reveal the certain regularity: where the semicolon is used, it's always possible to put the comma (certainly, such sign can be more expressive, but wholly acceptable), however not every comma can be replaced by semicolon.

In general, the semicolon at this moment is a rather determined sign and limited under the provisions of its use (insufficiency is understood here as a small set of syntax conditions for operating the sign). The semicolon has forfeited the row of positions, marked off from the other signs (colon, comma). On its purpose in speech the semicolon is put between comma and period, particularly with standpoint of the intonation reflection, - a sign marks the pause of average duration. However, such a purely distinction is a disappearing phenomena; trends in the use of semicolon shows the reinforcement in sign of semantic factors i.e. qualitative changes. The sign is often used as a fixative semantic breakup in text; it uncouples thematic defending parts of the sentences, helps to redistribute semantic and grammatical relationship of the words (50.49.34).

The semicolon wherever is put, reports the sentence just a single reading, meanwhile the comma allows miscellaneous interpretation. In other cases semicolon can help to avoid logical or semantic mistakes. All of this confirms the importance, value of semicolon in modern system of punctuation.

Finally, let's consider the practical plane of semicolon use in English. The semicolon is mostly used in row of cases. It is put between composed sentences, united in asyndetic way:

The weather was fine; the sky was blue and cloudless. (Flapan D.)

He looked at his watch; it was nine o'clock (Costlow J.T.)

The semicolon is mostly used in compound English sentences with different types of relationship. So, for instance, semicolon is put between composed sentences, united with conjunctions "Neither", "Nor" and connecting adverbs "Moreover", "Besides", "Then":

She would not listen, therefore, to her daughter's proposal of being carried home; neither did the apothecary, who arrived about the same time, think it necessary (J. Austen).

He seemed to have no desire to go; besides his clothes were not good enough (Dreiser Th.)

Composed sentences, united with adversative conjunctions “But” and “While”, adverbs “Yet”, “Whereas”, “Still” are often divided by semicolon:

Her own limits were the limits of her horizon; but limited minds can recognize limitation only in others (Wilde O.).

Upon the other step was Mr. Jones; whereas the youngest gentleman was deep in the booking office among the black and red placards (Ch. Dickens).

Composed sentences, united with causal conjunctions and adverbs can also be separated by semicolon:

Don't approach me; for I hate you beyond measure (Dreiser Th.)

Semicolon is sometimes used at enumeration, when each of enumerated words is added a special importance:

He went away, came back, wanted to say something; but suddenly turned and almost ran out of the room. (Galsworthy J.)

The semicolon is used for division of the widely-spread homogeneous members of the sentence if there is a comma between them, if they are put before the generalizing word with colon, if homogeneous members of the sentence are chosen in separate points (51.40,27). In English, semicolon is also put before the words “Namely” and “As”, explaining and illustrating something:

Eat some fruit at breakfast; as an orange, a dish of stewed prunes (52.8,47)

Colon

Another important and rather complex punctuation sign is a colon. It is a formal mark that mainly serves an introductory purpose. The usage of colon in modern Russian language is an explanatory-elucidatory function. The colon warns about such explanation. The explanatory-elucidatory function is presented by following meanings: causal stipulations, motivations, opening the contents, concrete definition of the general notion (53.3,48).

Causal stipulation and importance of the motivation are sent by means of colons in asyndetic compound sentences, the colon signalizes about such semantic relations of parts of the sentence:

Ему нельзя было подать такой пример: он сам вдовый, у него одна только старуха мать (Симонов К.М.).

Игнатъевна лечила от голода малолетних: она им давала грибной настойки пополам со сладкой травой, и дети мирно затихали с сухой пеной на губах (А. Платонов).

Explanatory-elucidatory relations are emphasized in the following examples:

Варвара прислушалась: донёлся шум вечернего поезда (А. Чехов).

Ильке давно известно: черной тенью ходит это прозвище за его односельчанами (В. Астафьев).

The general meaning of word is rendered concrete by means of colons:

Со вторым кулаком дело ясно: сто седьмую статью ему, и - крышка (Толстой Л.Н.).

Concrete definition of meaning of the general notion is fixed by colon in sentences with generalizing words:

В этих маленьких квартирах теперь живут, ночуют чужие люди: работники пришлых учреждений, бойцы и командиры частей Красной Армии (А. Фадеев).

В зимние вечера он иногда делал ненужные вещи: башни из проволоки, корабли из кровельного железа, бумажные дирижабли и прочее – исключительно для собственного удовольствия (А. Платонов).

The function of colon in sentences is close to explanatory at combinations of author's and somebody else's speech. Colon is put after the words entering direct speech (such verbs as *сказал, подумал, возразил, воскликнул* etc.):

Уже сквозь колёсный клёкот он крикнул: «Будут спрашивать – в районе я. В район поехал!» (Е. Носов);

Тогда он подумал: будь что будет (В. Астафьев).

The same use at question-reply forms of the compound sentence building:

Там почти нет избы, где не было бы картин. Спросить: кто писал? Отвечают: дед, или отец, или брат (Салтыков-Щедрин М.Е.).

Finally, in the same logical key (explanatory-elucidatory type of the sentence) two-member constructions are built, which are wide-spread in modern newspaper headlines, in indication of the rubrics, where colon is fixed as a single acceptable sign. The new functional quality of the sign is a rhythm-emphasizing. The modern press actively uses this sign though rule is not provided. By means of colons the determined brevity and strictness is reached, and that is exactly why it is possible to name the colon emphasizing, i.e. used in expressive purposes. Such two-member constructions are striking, dash and laconic. They are built on scheme: name of the general problem and rendering its aspects and details (54.48,72). If there is such a correlation between parts of the headline, colon is justified by own importance: this sign, signaling explanation:

Роман: традиции и поиск («Лит. Газ» 1981, 10 марта);

Жатва: время, темпы, качество («Известия», 1986, 14 августа).

The colon became to be often used not as a traditional punctuation sign, but as a conditional graphic liner, and after such colons, the second part of utterance is quite often arranged with residence of the letter, i.e. it's not perceived as continuation of the sentence. Headline designs

with colon reply the demands of newspaper genres: they are compact, dynamic and garish. As a whole, the sign saves here its explanatory function. So, the colon in its modern use is possible to characterize as a sign, which has a rather concrete, and so in general, the narrow usage: meanings, sent by means of this sign, are not beyond the borders of explanatory-elucidatory function. Such unambiguous functional orientation of the sign allows to consider clearly its use and in the same way to qualify clearly the mistakes in its use (55.28,64). It is necessary to note that one should not abuse the colon, when its functions become diffused, and sometimes the sign in general loses the sense. Writer must take care not only of the way and facility of the expression of his own thoughts, but also of being adequately understood, and the latter is possible only at condition of keeping in punctuation the generally recognized meanings. The oblivion of social-significant functions of signs leads to the loss of contact with the reader. The modern newspaper material urgently requires the clear recommendation of punctuation registrations of the headline. Such recommendations can be made on base of the generalizations of this material and on account of functional value of punctuation signs. It's reasonable to avoid cliché, abuses of such constructions. The clinches are deprived of expressiveness. Therefore appears the contradiction: that, which was found as a bright expressive facility, gradually tarnishes and turns into phenomena, negatively acting upon the reader. The signs of punctuation, such, as colon, are used in headlines, as a connecting-link, as a signal of the explanation, but headline itself differs with semantic saturation and with the limiting brevity (56.21,101).

Modern linguists notice that during the last years a number of newspapers is gradually freed from abuses in use of the colon.

It's necessary to emphasize that we concerned perfunctorily some principles of the colon usage in newspaper speech style. Detailed consideration of the given problems can be a subject of the special work and studies. So, practice of the colon use gradually brings to revision and concrete definition of explanatory-elucidatory function of this sign, as well as acquisition of rhythm-emphasizing (graphically-expressive) function by the sign (57.29,49). Consequently, according to consideration of trend of using the colon it's possible to notice the narrowing and localization of functions in contrast with broader and more ranked usage of the sign in past, particularly in XIX century. It was even more used in XVIII century - at contraposition, before adversative alliance and conjunctive sentence:

Одне ясно и подробно понимаем: другие хотя ясно в уме представляем, однако подробно изобразить не можем (Толстой Л.Н.).

Испытание природы трудно, Слушатели: однако приятно, полезно, свято (Толстой Л.Н.).

It's possible to notice that functions of this sign were arranged in a complicated way, inconsistently. The process was long, but determined - a sign steadily went the way of the

accumulation of explanatory-elucidatory value. It's interesting to pay attention on some compositions, where the colon is put rather often on butting of main and subordinate causal sentences (with causal conjunctions). With modern standpoint this sign is spare, since importance of the reason is sent lexically - by causal conjunctions. But gradually, fixed in such positions, the sign became to be associated with the importance of the reason, motivations. That is exactly why in asyndetic sentence it undertook the causal meaning, became the profoundly significant sign (58.35,71). Explanatory-elucidatory function of colon is firmly saved, however the sign begins to forfeit some positions and yield the place to other sign - dash.

The colon in English vastly complies with the use in Russian language. This sign is often used in explanatory-elucidatory function. The colon elaborates, explains, increases and narrows the information (59.36,19). The colon is put before the parts of the compound sentence, marking reason, proof or revealing contents of the previous material:

All this washing can't be good for health: it's not natural.

After a long meeting they reached an agreement: the employer apologized, and the boss gave him his job back. (60.12,54)).

The colon is often used at the end of the sentence if further goes some obligatory explanation or addition of the sense of the main sentence:

He had one final aim before him: to help his friend.

Oh, don't shout, Paul: it really isn't nice (61.12,55).

The colon is also very typical at enumeration of the similar members of the sentence, particularly if they are preceded by generalizing word (as follows, the following, for example and others):

The agreement provides for the delivery of the following raw materials: cotton, wool, jute, and others.

Finally, the colon can be put, as in Russian language, before quotes or direct speech. However, in modern English, the colon dominates before text of direct speech if it is long enough: before short text of direct speech and in case of interrupted direct speech comma is mainly put, unlike Russian language:

“Never mind, Father”, he shouted: “The game is not finished yet”.

«Ничего, Отец», воскликнул он: «Игра еще не окончена».

He said, “Wait for me”.

Он сказал: «Подожди меня».

Dash

Another important and complex sign for theoretical research is dash. Dash is used for setting off material from the rest of a sentence. The material set off usually causes a noticeable break in

the sentence's rhythm or meaning. Dashes are used to set off text either in the middle or at the end of a sentence. In very informal writing, such as quick notes or letters to close friends, the dash can become a substitute for other punctuation signs. In most formal or college writing, however, it is used sparingly - and then for a special effect (62.47,31).

The fate of dash in Russian punctuation is very interesting and rash: having appeared only in the second half of the XVIII century i.e. later than other signs (it is not noted in "Russian Grammatik" of M.V.Lomonosov), dash swiftly conquers the positions in punctuation system. Use of this sign has a very broad range. First of all, dash is multifunctional: it executes the purely structured, semantic, and expressive functions (64.6,54). At present, the dash behaves obviously offensive to the other signs, noticeably displacing the colon in some aspects (63.3,89).

The width of the dash usage in modern publishing proves the determined universality of this sign. However, it's possible to reveal the regularities of its use. The dash, first of all, means all the manner of gaps - a gap of the ligament in predicate, gap of the member of the sentence in incomplete and elliptical sentences, gap of adversative conjunctions. The dash compensates these missed words, saves the place which belong to them:

Солотча – извилистая, неглубокая река (К.Г.Паустовский).

Нина несла кашу, Витя – пустую кастрюльку с ложкой (В.П. Астафьев).

Не с ним – с огнём теперь веду я речь (Салтыков-Щедрин М.Е.).

Such dash is used in negatively-adversative sentences - simple, and complex. The production of dash on the place of gaps can bring about thoughts that in this function the dash as a punctuation sign has certain resemblance with dots. However gaps - fixed dash and dots - different gaps.

The gaps marked with dash, are always grammatical: the words are fixed as members of the sentence, not only as the words in general (the gap of predicate, gap of the secondary members of the sentence, gap of the connecting element - a conjunction - between members of the sentence or parts of the compound sentence). The dots mark the gaps of parts of the text, which do not have direct relations to the main idea of the narrative, or on various reasons are consciously hid by the author. In any case these are gaps, relating to profound side of the text, not to its grammatical construction (65.2.38).

The second function of dash is semantic: issue of meanings of the condition, time, comparisons, effects, contrapositions and collations in those cases, when these meanings are not denominated lexically i.e. by conjunctions; in the end this is also the fixation of definite gaps. Such functions characterize dash in asyndetic compound sentences, at registration of which the intonation plays a great role: the first part of such sentences is pronounced with sharply growing

increase of the tone and deep pause before the second part, and the dash is put on the border of parts:

Биться в одиночку – жизни не перевернуть (Н.А.Островский).

Она вспомнила Винклера – мёртвая тоска внезапно сжала ей сердце и вернула силы (К. Паустовский).

The volume of meanings, sent on letter by means of dash, is rather broad, and generalizing moment in the use of this sign is an instruction on semantic dependency of parts of the sentence, which is realized without using the conjunctions (66.38,19).

The dash is possible to name as "sign of surprises" - semantic, intonation and compose. By means of dash the unexpected joining, the unexpected result of the action can be marked:

Метелица был уже совсем близко от костра – вдруг конское ржание раздалось во тьме (А.А. Фадеев).

The dash can emerge as a distinctive limiter, can signalize about the border of the author's words and direct speech, about indentation location of the dialogue remarks (67.44,59). Finally, the dash is capable to send the emotional side of speech: dynamic, sharpness, quick change of events:

Игнат спустил курок – ружьё дало осечку (А.П. Чехов).

The expressive function is characterized by dash, breaking the intonation smoothness of the phrase and creating hereunder the emotional tension and sharpness:

Я имею бумаги...но – они никуда не годятся; Смерть разула стоптанные лапти, прилегла на камень – и уснула (М. Горький.).

All these underpinnings, by means of dash, of the emotional sides of speech, its tension and dynamic, naturally, are subordinated to the manner of interpretation and are not specified by rules.

So, the range of the dash usage is really wide: first, it is a fixative of all kinds of "grammatical" gaps, dash fills these structured nonentities; secondly, in the absence of special lexical-grammatical facilities of the expression (when no conjunctions are used) dash promotes the issue on letter the special semantic relations - conditionally-temporary and investigating; in oral speech these meanings are sent by intonation facilities; thirdly, it serves to the purpose of the creation of emotional-expressive quality in speech. But the usage of dash is growing. The sign begins to seize new positions, particularly if they are defined by a semantic factor. The trend is revealed to displace the colon by the sign of dash in those cases, when explanatory-elucidatory sense of construction is obvious - semantic relations of parts of the sentence reveal themselves on a lexical level (68.43,47). In asyndetic compound sentences at indications of the reason,

explanations and motivations, in the second part of the sentence, the colon is practically changed with dash in modern literature:

Батурин пробовал писать, но ничего не вышло – не было ни сюжета, ни чёткой фразы (К. Паустовский).

Не узнать Москвы – она преобразена новыми кварталами, зданиями, разбежавшимися на запад, север, юг (Куприн А.И.).

The dash is actively used with the meaning of concretization of sense in the second part of the sentence to open the contents:

Из длинного этого разговора о воображении ясно только одно – без воображения нет подлинной прозы и нет поэзии (К. Паустовский).

The dash also starts to change the colon in asyndetic sentences with addition, when there are verbs in the first part with the meaning of action, notifying the further interpretation:

Малинин притронулся рукой – под ватником плечо было тёплое. Михнецов был жив (К. Симонов).

The dash is often put instead of colon before enumeration after generalizing word:

К этому времени относятся лучшие изделия – ажурные декоративные вазы, цветники, урны, колонны, люстры (69.12,82).

Хороших байдарочников было всего трое – Игорь Шуляев, Коля Корякин и, разумеется, сам Андрей Михайлович (70.12,84).

Moreover, the dash became to come up in complex sentences when there are words in the main part, notifying the explanation (according to the rules there supposed to be a colon):

Но важно одно – что они поставили ребром вопрос о поэтическом языке (71.12,85).

It's interesting that the process of universality of the dash is also very active at present; dash occupies the positions of other signs, particularly comma in usual complex sentences:

Очень важно понять – что такое в прозе повествовательное и что такое изобразительное (В. Катаев).

The practice of such a broad dash usage instead of colon (and sometimes - comma) does not testify that the usual sign can not be used at the same conditions: parallel usage testifies only about the outlining trend and, consequently, of the possibility of the signs choice - more traditional, strict, academic (the colon) and new, more free, energetic and expressive (the dash). The choice depends on nature of the text, manners of the interpretation, and finally, on author's habit. But one thing is clear - it is already impossible to restrain the offensive motion of dash. By the way, the effect of the choice graphically reveals itself if it's required to combine the signs (in text, complex constructions): where the similar conditions for using the sign are formed, dash

plays a subordinated role to colon. Or, for instance, the change of the colon by the dash can turn out to be impossible if there is already a dash, occupying its own place:

Видим – этого мало: болезнь запущена.

So, in the end, the context solves everything, and that is in what the flexibility of modern punctuation is concluded. Speaking about the offensive role of the dash I could mention the following: signs, yielding their place to dash, do not disappear completely, they change their quality in some way. And that is the process of the historical transformations in punctuation system. The quantitative accumulations here (the practice of the use) gradually bring about the qualitative changes (72.42,44).

Considering the use of dash in English, it is impossible not to notice that spectrum of the dash usage is rather determined and limited. The most frequent cases of dash can be used at isolation of the introductory words and sentences, exhibits, and the other elements, which are often inserted in the middle of the sentence for the reason of explanation, addition, and underlining of the sense and material (73.1,48).

But ideas – that is, opinions backed with genuine reasoning – are extremely difficult to develop.

Altitude sickness – an illness that strikes those not used to mountain elevations – frequently disrupts the plans of tourists.

The dash is also used to emphasize the final phrase in English sentence:

The advances of the age in mechanism – in radio and television, in electronics and jet planes.

Sometimes dash can be used alongside with traditional comma, colon, and semicolon in English in compound sentences with different types of relationship, separating the subordinate clauses:

Ellsworth advised a triangular piano – the square shapes were so inexpressibly wearisome to the initiated (74.4,118).

She was disappointed – or did it only seem to him? (H. Wells)

He was driven out into the cold world, he must submit – but he forgave them (M. Twain).

Aunt Polly asked him questions – for she wanted to trap him into damaging revelations (M. Twain)

Finally, I would like to pay your attention, that in English the dash unlike in Russian is used for indication of interrupted or unfinished sentence (the dots are put in such cases in Russian language):

“Marrying Sibil Vane” cried Lord Henry, standing up and looking at Dorian. “But, my dear Dorian – yesterday when I heard that Sibil Vane had killed herself” (O. Wilde).

In English the dash is also not accepted to be put at the beginning of the dialogue to indicate the change of speaking persons:

“But how are you going to begin?”

“By marrying Sibil Vane” (O. Wilde).

The quotes are appropriate in such cases in English. As a whole, I will note that the dash in English is used frequently in belles-lettres; however the spectrum of use of this sign of punctuation is limited enough.

The Rest

The quotation marks are also a rather significant sign in punctuation. In Russian we write them as «...», however in English they are written as “...”.

It requires a certain attention, as apostrophe or comma since grammatically quotation marks must be written correctly in all cases of the use. Quotation marks show the direct speech, names, a certain irony, figurative sense. For example we shall consider several variants of the use (for instance, the headlines of newspapers):

"BRITAIN BUYS 'WRONG' VACCINE"

"РОБЕРТ МАКБЕЛЛ 'МЕПТБ'"

The reader, seeing the quotation marks before and after the word WRONG (single quotation marks since double quotation marks in this case mean the quoting of the headline) immediately understands that here is meant the hidden figurative sense (75.31,79).

Quotation marks before the early XVIII century were used only for separation of the moralizing remarks. Then, in 1714 there appeared an idea of using quotation marks to show the direct speech. There haven't been any changes with quotation marks' functions since XVIII century.

There are a lot of cases, when quotation marks are wrongly used. People often write quotation marks on inscriptions hanging on the windows 'DO NOT OPEN SUNDAYS'. There is also the eternal question about single or double quotation marks usage. Double quotation marks are used for quoting, or direct speech. Single quotation marks emphasize the phrases or words with irony or portable sense (76.31,81).

I'll also notice that there are discords on cause of stating the period in sentences with double quotation marks. In American English period is supposed to be put before closing quotes, in British English - after.

Sophia asked Lord Fellamar if he was "out of senses". (The British variant)

Sophia asked Lord Fellamar if he was "out of senses." (The American variant)

Let's observe a small code of rules for the correct registration of direct speech:

When author's words go after direct speech, it's necessary to put comma before the quotes in direct speech:

"You are out of your senses, Lord Fellamar," gasped Sophia.

«Что бы все это могло значить», - прошептала она.

When direct speech goes after author's words, it is necessary to put comma before the quotes in English:

Lord Fellamar replied, "Love has so totally deprived me of reason that I am scarce accountable for my actions."

Or colon in Russian:

На что мы все хором ответили: «забастовка отменяется!»

When direct speech forms the whole sentence, it's necessary to put period inside the quote:

"Upon my word, my Lord, I neither understand your words nor your behavior."

However in Russian it will be:

«Надо было скупать товар вместе с вами, сударь».

When only a part of sentence is concluded in quotation marks, the whole punctuation is put outside the quote:

Sophia recognized in Lord Fellamar the "effects of frenzy", and tried to break away.

When the quoted sentence is interrogative or exclamatory, interrogative/exclamation point is put inside the quote:

"Unhand me, sir!" she demanded.

«Требуем немедленной эвакуации!» - потребовал капитан.

But if the question is assigned logically with author's words, then interrogative sign is put outside the quote:

Why didn't Sophia see at once that his lordship doted "to the highest degree of distraction"?

Как же она могла допустить «такую нестандартную ошибку»?

Mistakes that can appear in quoting the text are possible only at ignorance of the rules of punctuation signs (77.33,47).

Parentheses in English, unlike in Russian, are divided in several types:

- 1) Round (...);
- 2) Figured parentheses {...};
- 3) Angular parentheses <...>;

The angular parentheses were the first from all enumerated types. But after XVI century the round brackets started to be popular. The last two types of brackets are barely used nowadays (78.14,29).

Let's consider the functions of parentheses:

The emphasize of inserted information:

Starburst (formerly known as Opal Fruits) are available in all corner shops.

The emphasize of author's attitude:

Tom Jones was blamed for some earthquakes (isn't that interesting?).

2.3 Comma as the main semantic-syntax element of the modern system of punctuation

The role of comma as a semantic-syntax signal is significant and very complex in majority of modern languages of European type. The most differences are revealed exactly in comma usage in punctuation systems by comparing different languages. Different ways to place the signs of punctuation exist among different nations, especially comma. Certainly, row of cases in comma usage in English and Russian coincides. These are the cases of the usage, which identical in majority of the languages of cognate type, - the cases, which present the universality of language (79.13,21). Comma gives the signal to reader, such as in native language, and reader automatically perceives it as any other signal in text, which complies with its native language.

Many distributive aspects in language, punctuation signals, and in general the presence or absence of comma as a sign of determined syntax structure or actual dividing the sentence, - often carry not absolute, but probabilistic, frequent nature, that however does not deprive their significant methodical value while learning to read (80.5,16).

The sense of study's value of comma as a semantic-syntax signal is that it's a powerful additional facility of the orientation in syntax and semantic structure both for English and Russian text.

Comma is the most frequently used internal mark of punctuation. Of all the marks of punctuation, it has the widest variety of uses.

2.3.1 Demonstrative examples of comma usage in the English and Russian languages

Comma is the most wide-spread and, consequently, the most difficult sign of punctuation both in Russian language, and in English. The largest amount of different variations exists in cases with the usage of comma, which is conditioned by erudition of author, his emotional perception and interpretation of situations, presented in text.

The main difference of the comma usage in English, in contrast with Russian, is that in Russian language the dependent clauses are always separated by comma from the main, but in the English language - it doesn't happen in every single case (81.16,39).

Not separated by comma:

- dependent subjects / predicates / objects:

It is important that you should be here tomorrow. — Важно, чтобы ты был здесь завтра.

Our advice is that you should not smoke. — Наш совет заключается в том, чтобы вы не курили.

We insist that you call him immediately. — Мы настаиваем на том, чтобы вы позвонили ему немедленно (82.2,54).

- dependent adverbials, when they are used after the main clause:

She told him everything when he went downstairs. — Она рассказала ему все, когда он спустился вниз.

I had to finish my work earlier to help mother. — Мне пришлось закончить свою работу пораньше, чтобы помочь маме.

The police will take your car away if you park it here. — Полиция заберет твою машину, если ты припаркуешься здесь (83.40,29).

The most typical cases of comma usage in the written speech:

1. Comma is used to emphasize the address:

Waiter, I'd like the menu, please. — Официант, принесите меню, пожалуйста.

But mother, there is no one here. — Но мама, здесь же никого нет.

2. It's put to separate the elements of enumeration:

Red, pink, yellow(,) and white flowers filled the vases. — Вазы были наполнены красными, розовыми, желтыми и белыми цветами.

He rose, went around the desk, leaned down(,) and kissed her lightly on the cheek. — Он встал, обошел вокруг стола, наклонился и нежно поцеловал ее в щеку.

He eats, drinks(,) and talks too much. — Он слишком много ест, пьет и говорит (84.50,38).

3. It is put (not necessarily) between two main clauses, copulative conjunctions and / as / but / from and others. Particularly often this acceptance is used if the first clause is long:

You will confirm it(.) and I shall help you with the money. — Ты подтвердишь это, а я помогу тебе нужной суммой.

They turned back to look at each other, and again she wondered if this man knew he was being cuckolded. — Они обернулись, чтобы посмотреть друг на друга, и снова ей в голову пришла старая мысль — а знает ли этот человек о том, что жена изменяет ему.

The crowd sat stupefied (,) as the death dance whirled toward its climax. — Толпа сидела завороженная, а танец смерти бешеным вихрем приближался к своей кульминации.

4. It is used after dependent adverbial clauses, which are put before the main clause:

When he went downstairs, she told him everybody had gone to the tennis court. — Когда он спустился вниз, она сообщила ему о том, что все ушли на теннисный корт.

To help mother, I had to finish my work earlier. — Чтобы помочь матери, мне пришлось закончить работу пораньше.

Having called Sam, she immediately went to the airport. — Позвонив Сэму, она сразу же отправилась в аэропорт.

When in doubt, you should come to visit me. — Когда сомневаешься, приезжай ко мне.

If you park your car here, the police will take it away. — Если ты оставишь машину здесь, полиция заберет ее за нарушение правил парковки (85.51,69).

5. It is put before and after any part of the sentence, containing additional information about the subject:

The driver, who was very young, insisted that he knew me. — Водитель, очень молодой парень, настаивал на том, что знает меня.

One of the strictest rules in English punctuation (unlike Russian punctuation) is a rule, forbidding the use of comma between subject (or group of the subject) and predicate; this case describes the variant, when it's possible to put comma, but herewith follows to remember that stands out only the additional information, and necessarily on both sides:

The driver who was very young, insisted that he knew me. / The driver, who was very young insisted that he knew me. — Wrong! — Second comma is absent

The driver, who helped me that morning, insisted that he knew me. — Водитель, который помог мне в то утро, утверждал, что знает меня. — Wrong! — There is not an additional information, here is just an explanation – commas shouldn't be put.

The driver who helped me that morning insisted that he knew me. – Correct.

The strike at the carpet factory, which lasted two weeks, is now over. — Additional information – commas are used — Забастовка на ковровой фабрике, длившаяся две недели, закончилась.

The girl with whom he fell in love left him after a few weeks. — explanation — commas are not used — Девушка, в которую он влюбился, оставила его через несколько недель.

The house, which has been empty for a year, has just been sold. — Дом, пустовавший в течение года, только что продали.

The man whom I wanted to see was away on holiday. — Мужчина, с которым я хотел встретиться, уехал в отпуск (86.45,74).

6. It is put to separate any part of the sentence, containing additional information on the addition (but: if such part of the sentence has a nature of the explanation or revision, comma is not used):

She is the woman, whose husband has been dead for three years. — Это та (самая) женщина, у которой муж умер три года назад.

A widow is a woman whose husband is dead, — вдова — это женщина, у которой умер муж.

Yesterday I met John, who told me he was getting married. — Вчера я встретил Джона, и он сказал мне, что женится.

I don't want to go back to the town where I was born. — Я не хочу возвращаться в город, где родился.

They would like to stay in this town, where their son was born. — Они хотели бы остаться в этом городе — здесь родился их сын.

Norman won \$10,000, half of which he gave to his sister. — Норман выиграл 10000 долларов, половину из которых он отдал сестре.

What was the name of the girl whose passport was stolen? — Как звали девушку, у которой украли паспорт?

7. It is used for indication of missed words in the text:

Fishing forms a quiet man; hunting, an eager man; gambling, a greedy man. — Рыбалка делает человека спокойным, охота — энергичным, азартные игры — жадным (87.48,46).

8. It is put on both sides of any element, breaking the sentence:

The fire, although it had been put out, was still very hot. — Камин, хоть уже и без огня, был еще очень горячим.

Can't you see, Peter, how big he is? — Разве ты не видишь, Питер, какой он большой?

There had, of course, been other women along the way. — Конечно, на его пути встречались и другие женщины.

9. Comma is put after introductory words or expressions for their separation from remaining part of the sentence:

Well, I like this. — Ну что ж, мне это нравится.

By the way, I also need money. — Кстати, мне тоже нужны деньги.

However, nobody drank much, — Однако, никто не пил много (88.37,51).

10. It is put in those cases, when there is the probability of the wrong perception of sense of the sentence:

As the police car pulled up, the crowd surged forward, (without comma we could understand that car smashed into the crowd) — Когда полицейская машина приблизилась, толпа хлынула вперед.

After a period of calm, college students have begun to demonstrate again, (without comma we could understand that calm is the adjective to college) — После периода затишья студенты снова начали устраивать демонстрации (89.27,32).

11. Comma is often put for separation of adverbial word-combinations, which are used at the beginning of the sentence and weakly bound on sense with the rest of its part:

In the summer of 1984, many trees died. — Летом 1984 года погибло много деревьев.

After the coffee and three cigarettes, he dressed in what he always dressed in. — Выпив кофе и выкурив три сигареты, он оделся в свой обычный костюм.

At forty-two, he was a deceptive-looking man. — Трудно было сказать с уверенностью, что ему сорок два года.

In thirteen months, he had parted with all of them. — Через тринадцать месяцев он разошелся с ними всеми.

In search of gold, my great-grandfather landed in America. — В поисках золота мой прадед высадился в Америке (90.17,22).

12. Comma is put to separate the interrogative part in separating questions:

You saw this film, didn't you? — Ты видел этот фильм, не так ли?

She was here yesterday, wasn't she? — Она была здесь вчера, не так ли?

They haven't come today, have they? — Они не приходили сегодня, не так ли?

13. Comma is put before the word "Too" (in positive sentences) and "Either" (in negative sentences) if they are related to the group of subject - predicate:

He has been to London, too. — Он тоже (как кто-либо) был в Лондоне.

He has been to London too. — В Лондоне (как и где-либо) он тоже был. — запятая не ставится. He has not been to London, either. — Он тоже (как и кто-либо) не был в Лондоне.

He has not been to London either. — В Лондоне (как и где-либо) он тоже не был. — Запятая не ставится (91.24,45).

14. It is put before the word "For" if it acts as the conjunction:

I asked her to stay, for I had something to tell her. — Я попросил ее остаться, так как мне нужно было ей кое-что сказать.

I could tell much about this man, for I had met him before. — Я мог бы многое рассказать об этом человеке, поскольку я встречался с ним раньше.

15. Comma is put at date for separation of the number and month from year:

He was born June 14, 1940. — Он родился 14 июня 1940 года. It happened in May, 1977. — Это случилось в мае 1977 года (92.4,33).

16. It is put for separation of categories in large numbers:

He once estimated that he was living slightly more than \$1,000 a year. — Он как-то подсчитал, что в год тратит чуть больше тысячи долларов.

The federal government's official poverty line that year was \$4,680. — Официальный уровень нищеты, определенный федеральным правительством на тот год, составлял 4680 долларов.

17. Comma is put in the English variant (in American colon is used) of registration of business correspondence after address:

Dear Mr. Johnson, I have received your letter...

(amer.) Dear Sir:

I have received your letter... (93.2,67).

In the following part of the chapter we shall consider the main similarities and differences in rules and regularities of comma usage in English and Russian languages, stated in different allowances of grammar.

2.3.2 Similarities and differences in system of the rules and regularities of comma usage in the English and Russian language

The system and functions of punctuation signs in English basically comply with the system and functions of punctuation signs in Russian language. Herewith in English the signs of punctuation, (in particular the comma) are used with greater liberty. However, there is a certain amount of conditional punctuation rules in both languages, specifying the comma usage, which will be considered in this part of the chapter.

I will start with consideration of comma in simple sentences. It is established, that in both languages all sorts of isolated expressions are distinguished by commas. It is explained with the specifics of such expressions.

The isolated members of the sentence form the separate syntagma from the definable element, pronounced on lower tones, than the rest syntagmas of the sentence (in written speech such an intonation registration is distinguished by means of comma). The Isolation can be used in various purposes. The isolated members can mark the additional accompanying signs of determined notions. The separate element (usually used at the beginning of the sentence) can be also correlated with remaining portion of the sentence (94.19,86).

In English logical relations between isolated member and the rest parts of the sentence in this case can be different.

a) Subject, person, place, moment of time and etc - phenomena, characterizing the given subject, person and etc.

On the bridge, a man was throwing bread to the sea-gulls (Hawking St.).

At this point, Mrs Poppets knocked at the door (J.K. Jerome).

b) Reason – consequence:

Being very tired, he soon fell asleep.

c) Condition – consequence:

Dead, he would have been safe.

d) Purpose - a facility to its achievement:

To divide one fraction by another, invert divisor and then multiply (95.46,74).

The main types of the isolated members of the sentences in English are the same as in Russian. They are determinations, exhibits, and circumstances. In English isolated determinations can be denominated by several homogeneous adjectives and participles, adjective or participle with dependent word, prepositional turns / prepositions (with, in, of), absolute nominative turns (with pretext with and without it), adverbial word-combination, single adjective or participle and etc (96.49,91).

She had a faint Cockney accent, tired and brutalized (W. Thackeray)

The promotion, so long denied him, came at last (A. Cronin)

The sky, with white promising clouds, began turning black (J. Steinbeck).

He saw his father, black – coated, with knees crossed, glasses balanced between thumb and finger (J. Galsworthy).

Denny, now abroad, knew nothing of the new reward (A. Cronin)

He got up, perplexed (I. Galsworthy).

The isolated determination can be related both to noun, and pronoun, expressing additional accompanying signs of the person or the subject.

Very pale, he turned back to the balcony (O. Wilde.)

It is typical to use the correlation with proper name for the isolated definitions, which matches only in rare events with non-isolated definition.

Soames, broad – shouldered and well – groomed, looked with contempt at his wife (J. Galsworthy).

Apposition is a special type of post-positive isolated definition in both languages expressed by noun or by substantive word-combination. Apposition gives the person or the subject another name. It is expressed by homogeneous nouns, as well as noun with pre-positive or post-positive definition, which can be expressed by infinitive, participial construction, prepositional turn or even by the whole subordinate clause:

It was told by Miss Fellows, my landlady (97.32,62).

It flashed upon her that he was the pedestrian who had joined in the club-dance at Marlett - the passing stranger who had danced with others but not with her (Maugham W.S.).

Просительница, штабс-капитанша Калинина, просила о невозможном и бестолковом (Л.Н. Толстой).

Пастух, дряхлый старик с одним глазом и покривившимся ртом, шёл, понуря голову (А.П. Чехов).

Speaking of isolation of circumstances both in Russian, and in English, it's necessary to note that the same types are used both inside and outside the isolations. It is a circumstance of the external conditions (time, reason, course of action, accompanying phenomena), concessions, comparisons, expressed conjunctive turn, adverbs and prepositional combinations:

Before going in, we walked up the street.

Our mission is over, we can take leave.

It was impossible to salute foreigners as an Italian, without embarrassment (E. Hemingway).

Несмотря на прошедшее время, я всё ещё помнил своё младенческое одиночество (И. Бунин).

Их годовалая дочь осталась там, в Гродно, рядом с войной (98.34,39).

The participle I is often used as an isolated circumstance in English. It is isolated, as a rule.

Having finished the lesson, the teacher went home. (I.A.Gruzinskaya)

Having reached the door, he turned the key, and opened it. (O.Wilde)

In Russian language such construction is presented by adverbial participle turn, which is isolated, expressing circumstances:

Касьян, отшвырнув сигарку, крупно пошагал, на ходу напяливая обсохшую рубаху (Е. Носов).

Приехав в Глупов, они первым делом решили прогуляться (М. Салтыков-Щедрин).

Comma plays the significant role at isolation of the introductory members of the sentence - introductory words, word-combinations, introductory sentences. The introductory members of the sentence are isolated, as a rule. They add the additional feature to the contents of the sentence, giving the modal, conjunctive or explanatory character. Different parts of speech and combinations of words are used in functions of the introductory members, somehow: the modal words, adverbs, prepositional combinations, infinitive and participial constructions (99.1,72):

Besides, it's the only thing that is necessary (Ch. Dickens).

He was, after all, a mere honest man.

Perhaps, it is all right.

Of course, he does not mean that.

It was, to be sure, a rainy night. (E.Bronte)

Казалось, пруд словно заснул. (И. Тургенев)

Видимо, данная работёнка доставалась ему непросто. (В. Распутин)

In the English language some introductory words can be used without commas to preserve the rhythm of the narration.

Perhaps he was killed by General Thé. (G. Greene)

The isolation of absolute constructions and independent participial turns in English deserves a particular attention. The second element of absolute nominative construction is expressed by a participle, noun, prepositional turn, adjective, adverb and, sometimes, by infinitive. Such constructions, in turn, can express the additional actions or conditions, marked by predicate; and additional sign of the subject, denominated by noun (100.16,28):

Close to the bank I saw deep pools, the water blue like the sky (E. Hemingway).

The visit over, they would go home.

Bernard yawning, the conversation dropped (J. Galsworthy).

The independent participial turn is always separated by comma. In Russian language such turns have an equivalent of unfolded dependent clause, subject of which complies with subject of main clause:

Cuba imports different foodstuffs, the main imported commodity being rice (101.8,96).

The independent participial turn can stand also at the end of the sentence, separated by comma and playing role of accompanying circumstances.

In the English language comma is put in simple sentences between homogeneous members, moreover comma, unlike in Russian language, is often put as well as before the last from three or more homogeneous members, which precedes the conjunction “And” or “Or”:

She loved life, liberty, and the happiness of being pursued (L.Rosen).

The steamer was loaded with wheat, barley and maize (102.9,72).

However, in modern English, particularly in private letters and newspaper style, comma may not be used:

We had wine, whiskey, brandy and port

In general, both ways of punctuation are possible in English at condition of the consequent usage of only one of them.

Homogeneous members, connected by repeating conjunctions, may not be marked by commas:

I'd like to be considered good honest and reasonably accurate (103.2,73)

At the end of consideration of comma use in simple sentences, let us see the following cases: separation of the address, usage of comma before signature, after final molded at the end of the

letters, in indications of dates for separation numbers from year, comma use for division of the parts of the address (name of the addressee, street, city, postal region, country) to separate direct speech from the words of the author:

Helen, where is my red pencil?

Yours faithfully, George Brown.

The contract was concluded on September 15, 1956.

Messrs. Smith and Co.,

20 High Street,

London, E.C., England (104.17,59).

I would like to note that in English, unlike Russian, colon is put only under a long text in direct speech. In other cases direct speech is separated by comma. Analyzing regularities of comma usage as a semantic-syntax signal in compound sentence, it's necessary to emphasize the certain homogeneity of interpretations, stated in different grammars. Let's stop on consideration of specifics of compound sentence in English. Parts of compound sentence are semantically bound with each other. Complicated-compositional sentence consists of equal simple clauses, connected with coordinate conjunctions, which are usually separated by comma. There are different types of coordinate relationship: connecting (the conjunctions And, Neither, Nor), adversative (But, Yet, Still), disconnecting (Or, Else, Or else, Otherwise), causal (For, So, Therefore). The comma is put between compositional clauses before coordinate conjunction, but is lowered before conjunctions "And" and "Or" if they enter the short clauses (105.5,63):

He pressed the on-button and the rocket flew-up.

It was midsummer, yet was rather chilly (C. Snow).

Tell the truth or say nothing

In a complicated-compositional sentence parts can be also connected with each other without conjunctions, or conjunctive words. In this case the elements in a complicated-compositional sentence are divided by comma and, often, by semicolon:

The moon went down, the stars grew pale, the cold day broke.

The signal was given; the steamer moved slowly from the dock.

Take your raincoat, it may rain.

Usage of comma in complicated-compositional sentences differs in many aspects from the rules of the usage of comma in compound sentences. It is known that in Russian language the dependent clause is always separated from the main clause by comma (106.23,74). Some nuances exist in English language in the given aspect. A complicated compositional sentence consists of two or several predicative syntagmas, one of which is considered as the main clause, and the other - as dependent. Parts of a complicated-compositional sentence can be connected

without conjunctions or, more often, by means of conjunctions, conjunctive words (adverb or pronouns). It's necessary to note that in English in various cases comma between the main and dependent clauses can be absent. The dependent clause executes the same syntax functions, as members of the simple sentence (107.20,48).

Accordingly they are subdivided on following clauses: subject, predicative, additional, definite and adverbial. Besides, dependent clauses can be added into a sentence.

Why she left him is a mystery.

How this happened is not clear to anyone.

The trouble is that I have lost his address .

In the English language comma shouldn't also be put the main and dependent additional clauses without conjunctions:

He said he would come in the evening (108.9,53).

It is necessary to pay attention to the absence of comma before subordinating conjunctive "That" in dependent additional clauses:

He said that he would never start smoking again.

Analyzing the comma use in sentences with dependent determinative clauses let me say several words about their categorizations. Dependent determinative are divide into three types: individualizing, classifying and descriptive. Individualizing clauses serve to the individual sign of the person or subject, that is to say, to signs, imputable to the given person or subject and distinguishing it from all other representatives of the same class. Classifying clause is a sign, on which person or subject is ranked to definite class of the persons or subjects. Finally, descriptive clauses serve to the description of the person or subject or to the message of the further information about him. Individualizing and classifying clauses are contrasted with clauses in Russian language, they are used without commas:

The letter that I received from him yesterday is very important (Th. Dreiser).

Vessels which are used for the transportation of oil are called tankers

The descriptive dependent clauses are usually separated by comma:

We have received a letter, which contains interesting information on the state of the market of wheat.

The manager of our office, who is a highly educated man, speaks several foreign languages.

His brother, whom we met yesterday, studies at our institute (W.Maugham).

Besides, it's necessary to note that to determinative dependent clauses also belong such clauses, which refer not to a separate word, but to preceding clause as a whole. They are always marked with the comma:

He came to see me off, which was very kind of him (109.9,55).

Michael has not yet arrived at the station, which is very strange (J. Austen).

Determinative dependent clause can be joined to the main clause without conjunction words. In such case these clauses are not separated by commas:

She began to talk quickly and easily upon the subject he had suggested.

The drawings the engineer gave us helped to understand the task better (110.51,27).

As to adverbial dependent clauses, they execute the function of different circumstances. They are divided on adverbial clauses according to their meaning: time, place, reasons, and effects, course of action, concessions, purposes, and conditions. Adverbial dependent clauses are separated with comma, when they are used before the main clause:

When the mail got successfully to Dover, the head driver opened the coach-door (Ch. Dickens).

As it is wet, we shall stay at home.

Whatever I may do, he is never content.

When adverbial clauses are used after the main clause, they are not separated with comma on both sides, if they are not very extended:

I watched TV after I finished my homework.

Remember our friendship wherever you are (111.37,51).

In conclusion let's mention that comma is usually used in conditional dependent clauses, which are used before the main, real, conjectural, with unenforceable conditions, and asyndetic dependent conditional clauses:

Were he at home, he would ring me up.

Should anyone ask, I'll say you are out.

If the ship comes, we shall inform you.

If you asked us to the party, we should come by all means.

If you had sent us a telegram, we should have met you.

Comma can separate subject from predicate. This occurs in that case if group of subject includes several different determinations or if there are several subjects in the sentence, which refer to one predicate. Then comma helps to orientate in the sentence, pointing to the border of the group of the subject. Sometimes author can indicate a not very wide-spread group of subject (112.39,41). Let's look at some examples:

The influence of diffusion cooling on the electron "temperature" made it impossible to determine the value of the coefficient.

The sit-ins, boycotts, picket lines, mass demonstrations, combining economic struggle with political action, and the tactic of alliances and united front relations, are all variations of methods originally developed in the fires of the class struggle.

Here we see that author in these sentences decided to mark the border of subject, putting comma before predicates “made it impossible”, “are all variations” (113.30,24).

Subject also can be expressed by dependent clause - subject. Usually it exists in those cases, when such dependent clauses are extended:

How a language may spring up with the express purpose, not exactly of hiding thoughts, but at least of hiding the communication of them, so that it is not understood by those who hear the words unless they are among the initiated, will be treated in a later lecture.

Comma, which is put before predicate "will be treated" is of great importance for understanding the syntax structure of this compound sentence. The function of separating comma from two contact-located elements of the sentence is typical, though is rare enough. Words in English can be morphologically not executed, but a few of existing formants execute several different functions so in the sentence words can turn out to be, which according to their grammatical and lexical compatibility can be wrongly referred to one syntax group (114.18,76).

Let's analyze some examples:

Later, investigations showed that light nuclei, especially helium, were present in significant numbers.

Comma, which is put between words "later" and "investigation" shows that word "later" is an adverb of comparative degree, referring to the whole sentence.

In the small sample we have, half of the replacements occur twice or more.

Comma helps to establish that word "half" is a subject, and "we have" - an asyndetic defining supplementary to the word "sample".

Since, then these foreign loan-words are so important for the development of the English vocabulary, it may well be worth while to consider how such loan words may be introduced into language.

Comma between "since" and "then" emphasizes that "since" here is the causal conjunction "так как", but then - an adverb "тогда".

Information has been obtained on the variations with repeated use, of critical current for a number of magnet coils.

Comma between "use" and "of" shows that "of-phrase" is referred to word "variation", rather than to word "use".

Linguistic cultural and individual meanings are independent of the facts that science discovers and proves. They are in a sense facts in their own right, to be studied by science as such.

Comma reflects that determination in the given sentence refers to noun "facts", rather than to word "right", after which it stands (115.5,49).

So, in general we managed to describe the specifics of punctuation, scientific style of speech on example of the English language and, mainly, on the base of scientific opinions of Ziliberman L.I. and Abramova G.I. We managed to analyze in details the main functions of the comma usage, including rare, specifically difficult for initial understanding cases.

The bottom line is that we have generalized and analyzed the main rules and regularities of the comma usage in both languages.

Conclusions on chapter II:

According to research in this chapter, I can conclude that:

1. The principles, system and functions of punctuation signs in English basically comply with those in Russian language. In both languages there is the certain code of the rules, specifying the use of the main punctuation signs. In English, however, punctuation signs can be used with a greater liberty.

2. Such signs of punctuation as semicolon, colon and dash are significant and complicated enough for the basic research. We can see the trends of the development of punctuation system in their use. I showed the importance of this question on the base of the functions analysis, rules and typical regularities of the usage of punctuation signs in English and Russian.

3. The comma is a basic system of the element in punctuation and the main semantic-syntax signal. The biggest difference between the English and Russian language according to the punctuation system reveals itself mainly in comma usage.

4. The principles' unity is a factor of development in modern punctuation, its flexibility, allowing to express the finest tones of the sense and structured variety. It expresses the relation of the manner and matter.

5. The structured principle is admitted as leading, since larger part of rules depends exactly on it. The rules are built with account of syntax building of speech, since exactly the largest percent of objectivity mortgaged here, which is so necessary for stable rules. The semantic principle is also admitted as leading, since sense is concluded in definite syntax form, or grammatical structure complies with the given sense. The syntax units are to send the thoughts and emotions. The joining of the three principles action of punctuation becomes obvious.

6. The characteristic of punctuation - to comply with the context - reports it with such a remarkable quality, as flexibility, revealing in variations. Punctuation in creative and literate usage turns into powerful semantic and stylistic facility.

CONCLUSION

This work is just one of the attempts to conduct the comparative review of English and Russian systems of punctuation, generalize the theoretical exploratory works, concerning comma usage as semantic-syntax signal, as well as the main punctuation sign such as: colon, semicolon, dash in Russian and English. In this study I summed up the particularities of the punctuation system of the English and Russian languages on general linguistic level and comma, as the base element of this system.

So in this thesis I have analyzed the functional and semantic essence of punctuation in English and Russian. During my investigation I've made the theoretical generalization and the analysis of already available information of punctuation as systems of trend, rules and regularities in usage of the main punctuation signs, a theoretical comparative analysis of punctuation systems in the English and Russian languages, generalization of the usage's trend of the main punctuation signs as a whole, and also in the scientific literature.

I have also managed to analyze the specifics of punctuation system, its principles and main aspects, to find out the reasons of the problems appearance in punctuation, to analyze the most problematic areas of punctuation, to make a detailed description of the problems in punctuation with adduction of concrete examples, and to analyze the main rules of punctuation for the most "problematic" signs of punctuation in the English and Russian languages.

According to the comparative analysis of punctuation in Russian and English languages, I can say that punctuation systems in both languages are generally similar and that comma is the most problematic element of the modern punctuation, as a whole, executing different semantic-syntax functions.

Comma is a basic system of the element in punctuation and the main semantic-syntax signal. The biggest difference between the English and Russian language according to the punctuation system reveals itself mainly in comma usage.

Modern punctuation is a very complex and rich system. The greatest achievement in modern punctuation is its systematical approach. Punctuation has great possibilities: it helps the writer with issue of not only thoughts, but also of emotions. All of this is possible due to reflection of systematical interaction of structured, semantic and intonation principles. Punctuation rules are significant, it is necessary to know them in order to avoid the mistakes. The work on given subject helped us to study various signs of punctuation, select the main rules of their use.

1. The main reason of the problems with punctuation is a twofold approach to the English grammar.
2. All signs of punctuation cause difficulties if you are not familiar with rules of their use.
3. The detailed description of the problematic zones of punctuation was made.
4. The detailed list of the main rules of punctuation was made.

Without skills of using punctuation signs it's impossible to possess the written speech as a whole, that's why punctuation has to be known. And without mastering the written speech, due to which human knowledge and experience are sent from generation to generation, it's impossible even to visualize the life today.

One witty writer told that there are fifty ways to say the word "yes", and five hundred ways to say the word "no", but to write these words, there is only one way.

With punctuation signs the written word is perceived and mentally pronounced by the reader maybe not in fifty and five hundred ways, but at least in several ways. Thereby, punctuation signs enable to say in written speech much more, than it's possible to write with letters. They help to express different senses of the words and painting their feeling. Signs, as words, speak, and we read them along with words. And sometimes we read them instead of words.

There is a fact of "mute" correspondence. The French writer Viktor Gugo, having finished novel "Outcast", had sent the manuscript of the book to the publisher. He enclosed the letter to the manuscript, in which words were not written, but there was only sign: "?" The publisher also answered the letter without words: "!".

Words that are written on paper can not express everything that is kept in a live human speech, can not express everything that is sent with intonation, rate of speech, gestures and mimicry. However there are not only words at the disposal of writer and reader, but also additional facilities - signs of punctuation. They help to express deeper and more exactly the sense of written speech. "Signs are put on power of the reason", - wrote M. V. Lomonosov, the founder of Russian grammar.

The signs of punctuation appeared from the need of division of the written text on segments of greater or smaller independence in accordance with semantic structure of speech. The first and reliable reason for such dividing of corresponding spoken utterance was pauses. Thereby, the first signs of punctuation marked the pauses of greater or smaller duration inwardly the written text. It goes without saying that writers could be satisfied of such primitive punctuation only during initial stages of usage of writing. And as a matter of fact, on the way of development of writing systems, and especially after starting and spreading the typography, the system of punctuation had become complicated and deepened until for relatively short period it reached the condition, which is saved in their main traits in modern European languages. But as the process of punctuation development went nearly spontaneously, the existing at present punctuation does not reflect a united, consecutively conducted system. However our modern punctuation as a whole satisfactorily services the most important practical needs of writers, striving to express semantic relations and tones in text; and also interests of the reader, needing for the most concrete and full perception.

The intonation is not considered as a base of modern punctuation system, since signs of punctuation do not always have a correspondence to intonations. Often pauses in spoken speech do not correspond to the signs of punctuation in written speech or sign of punctuation do not correspond to the pauses. Exactly in these cases learners make lots of punctuation mistakes therefore teacher must know at least the most typical of them.

Principles of punctuation are interconnected and in one and the same punctuation fact we can find the joining of different principles though the leading one is syntax (structured). Modern Russian punctuation leans on the sense, and on structure, and on rhythm-intonation dividing of the sentence in their interaction. So Russian punctuation is rather flexible and alongside with obligatory rules it contains the inferences, allowing punctuation variants.

In the end of the main part of my work I will specifically note that in the course of study there was used an extensive text material of modern and classical authors both in the English, and in Russian language.

The valuable result of the given work is concluded in that we managed to analyze and generalize with standpoint of different authors, facts about regularity of use of main punctuation signs in the English and Russian languages. A great attention was paid to the scientific style of speech, punctuation of which is very specific. And there is also an important fact that rules, functions, regularities of use of main punctuation signs find the reflection, and are realized in text product. The analysis of the varied text material was organized in the course of study for the reason to check the frequencies and applicability of rules and functions of punctuation signs usage to the concrete language reality. As a result of analysis some trends of punctuation signs usage in modern language were confirmed. Consideration of our subject in given foreshortening will assign the constructive vector and can be continued in the following studies.

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