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PHRASAL STRESS, LOGICAL STRESS AND EMPHATIC STRESS IN ENGLISH AND DIFFERENCES OF THEM

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Abstract: English learners should be able to correctly convey the melody of English speech and place phrasal stress from the very first sentences spoken. Many, having theoretical knowledge, need practical mastering of a foreign language. The relevance of this topic is due to the growing interest of linguists in the study of natural speech.

Key words: English language, verbal and phrasal stress, speech, function, research, syllables, phonetic approach, special, emotional and stylistic.

Stress in English, is an important means of combining a sequence of words into a single whole and highlighting one syllable of a speech flow against the background of others.

In linguistics, verbal and phrasal stress is clearly distinguished. A special type of stress is logical, the purpose of which is the semantic underlining of the most important word in a given speech situation in a sentence. There is also emphatic stress, which is used to clarify any information.

Word stress is a means of phonetically combining a word into a single whole.

Stress is an extraordinarily complex phenomenon. There are many approaches both in terms of identifying its typology and in terms of identifying its many functions. According to D. Jones, stress can be described as the effort with which the speaker pronounces a sound or a syllable [8, p. 245].

In linguistics, there are two ways to categorize the status of stress: phonological and phonetic. In the first approach, stress is usually interpreted as the

selection of one of the syllables of a word, perceived by ear. A phonetic approach to stress can be called such, when stress is also understood as highlighting one of the syllables of a word, but at the same time it is associated with specific acoustic parameters.

Differences in the degree of stress, the sequence of distribution of the main and secondary stress, a different number of stresses in a word create accent types of words, and the distribution of stresses over the syllables of a word from the accent structures of words. In other words, verbal stress, highlighting one or another syllable of a word, is realized in the accent structure of the word and is directly related to the variability of its characteristics in the speech stream.

Under stress it is customary to understand the emphasis of a syllable. Phrasal stress, with rare exceptions, highlights the same syllable in a word as verbal stress. Thus, verbal and phrasal stress is closely related to each other [4, p. 90].

Phrasal stress refers to the accentuation of words in an utterance. It organizes the utterance, serves as the basis for the rhythmic structure of the phrase, highlights the semantic center of the sentence [10].

When studying linguistic intonational units, phrasal stress is divided into two types: centralized and decentralized. Such a division is associated with the allocation of two types of semantic center: consisting of one or more individually selected words and represented by the entire phrase as a whole. A semantic center is a word or words on which the speaker wants to focus the listener's attention. There is a difference between decentralized and centralized stress, which lies in the fact that in a phrase with decentralized stress, the semantic connection between words is closer. Therefore, the whole phrase is perceived as a single semantic center. With decentralized stress, words receive individual emphasis, and therefore the connection between them is less close [8, p. 45].

Traditionally, it is customary to distinguish three degrees of phrasal stress: main, secondary and weak. For the purposes of this study, it is proposed to adopt a four-degree gradation of stress: stress of the first, second, third and fourth degree. Each subsequent type of stress is a step in the weakening of emphasis.

The placement of stress in a sentence is determined primarily by semantic-syntactic factors. Highlighting a certain syllable of a word, phrasal stress highlights the entire word as an integral unit. But not every word in a sentence is stressed.

Phrasal stress, which can vary in strength, is determined, firstly, by the task of expressing a certain content of the entire sentence: the semantic weight of words, i.e. their semantic relationships, as well as emotional and stylistic moments. Secondly, phrasal stress is to a certain extent determined by the grammatical structure of the sentence, which, in turn, depends to a certain extent on the task of expressing this content. Thirdly, phrasal stress is to some extent determined by the rhythmic organization of the sentence, the rhythmic speech skills of native speakers of a given language. The semantic, grammatical and rhythmic factors of phrasal stress are closely related to each other and are all important for determining the place and degree of phrasal stress, however, the semantic factor is the leading one in English [3, p. 102].

The stress usually does not fall on functional words - auxiliary verbs, linking verbs, prepositions, conjunctions, particles, personal and reflexive pronouns, articles [7, p. 59]. All unstressed words are pronounced together with the stressed word with which they are connected in meaning. Vowels or syllables that fall into an unstressed position in a sentence are pronounced as neutral vowels or drop out completely.

It should also be noted that the verb is followed by an adverb, and both words together form almost a new verb. So in the phrases go away, give up, put down, leave out, turn round, come on, etc., usually both words are stressed. [8, p. 264]

So, unstressed in the English sentence:

- Auxiliary verbs: What does he do in the evening?
- Modal verbs: He can play the piano very well.
- Verb to be: This is a large house.
- Prepositions: We go to the village in summer.
- Particles: We want to go home.

- Conjunctions: I like this picture, but my brother likes that photo.
- Articles: I have a beautiful dress. The dress is in the box.

In English, there is an alternation of stressed and unstressed syllables, which creates a certain rhythm of English speech. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary to know the features of phrasal stress in English speech [2, p. 57].

In addition to the phrasal stress, which is constantly present in the sentence, in English, there is a logical stress. Logical stress is the selection by stress of any word in the sentence stronger than all other words [5, p. 109]. Logical stress is used to contrast one word with another or to reinforce the meaning of a word:

‘She saw this picture’. – She saw that picture.

Highlighting the word “she – she” with logical stress, we contrast it with pronouns: “he” or “they”.

Since logical stress goes beyond the usual phrasal stress, it may turn out to be used to highlight a word in a sentence that is usually unstressed, such as a personal pronoun, preposition, article, or auxiliary verb. [5, p. 61] For example:

‘The copybook is on the desk, not under the table’. – The copybook is on the table not under the desk.

In practice, when pronouncing each sentence, there can be as many variants of logical stress as there are words in it. It all depends on which word the speaker wants to emphasize, and this, in turn, depends on the purpose of the utterance and the situation of communication.

Emphatic stress can be used in a sentence, usually to compare, correct, or clarify something. Emphatic stress emphasizes the word that the speaker considers the most important, and in this case even a function word can become stressed.

Sentence stress is not just a phonetic feature of the English language. It has a very important function of highlighting words that are needed to understand the utterance. When native English speakers listen to their interlocutors, they expect to hear stressed words because stressed words provide important information. It is often difficult to understand the meaning of a sentence in which at least one significant word is missing. It is also difficult to understand a sentence in which the

important word is not stressed or the function word is stressed. Unstressed functional words make sentences grammatically correct. They are not very important in terms of the information they provide, and their meaning is usually clear from their immediate surroundings in the sentence. Even if you do not catch some quickly pronounced functional words, the meaning of the entire sentence will be clear to you [9, p. 112].

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