

THE CONCEPT OF GENDERLECT AS A SET OF CHARACTERISTICS OF MALE AND FEMALE SPEECH

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The concepts of "gender," "men's and women's speech," which are currently encountered in domestic linguistics, originate from the concept of "gender." The concept of "gender" has penetrated all humanities - philosophy, sociology, psychology, history, linguistics, literary studies, etc. - it is constantly changing and enriching. This is explained, firstly, by the fact that the concept itself arose relatively recently; secondly, by its complexity. Therefore, let's examine the scope of the concept in more detail.

The term "gender" was used to denote the cultural characteristics of men and women, unlike gender, i.e., the totality of biological characteristics, genetic, physiological, and reproductive. With the help of the concept of "gender," the structural separation of the natural (natural) from the acquired (cultural) in man was carried out.[1;194]

"Gender" is one of the central and fundamental concepts, which is the subject of special and deep understanding.

In 1958, psychologist Robert Stoller of the University of California (Los Angeles, USA) introduced the term "gender" into science, under which he understood the social manifestations of belonging to a gender, or "social sex." In 1963, speaking at a congress of psychoanalysts in Stockholm, he spoke about the concept of sociogender (i.e., gender) self-awareness. His concept was built on the division of "biological" and "cultural." The study of gender (Eng. - sex) was considered by R. Stoller as the task of biology and physiology, and the analysis of gender (Eng. - gender) - as a subject area of research for psychologists, sociologists, and cultural scholars. "R. Stoller's proposal to breed biological and cultural components in the study of gender-related issues has given impetus to the formation of a special direction in modern humanitarian knowledge - gender studies."

Men's and women's speech is the conventional name for lexical privileges and some other distinguishing features of language use, depending on the speaker's gender. Gender differences in speech began to spread from the 17th century, when new indigenous tribes were discovered, where there were quite significant differences in speech depending on the speaker's gender. First of all, this concerned women, as their speech behavior was more regulated than that of men, therefore, previously in scientific description, so-called "women's languages" were discussed. Differences are most often expressed in vocabulary, but can also extend to other phenomena. The sets of modal-expressive particles, forms of politeness, etc., are distinguished. In European languages, some differences in language usage are also noted, however, they are not global in nature, but manifest as trends.[2;36]

Initially, speech differences were interpreted by the nature of women and men, i.e., considered as constant factors. In the 1960s, with the development of sociolinguistics, the probabilistic nature of differences was determined.

During the period of active feminist criticism of language (70s - early 80s). Linguists insisted on the existence of intentionality, that is, the conscious maintenance by men of their superiority through speech behavior - the length of speech segments, the frequency of interruptions, speaking simultaneously with the interlocutor, controlling the topic of communication, etc.

Let's give an example from the work "Angels & Demons." Dan Brown.

"I must see you immediately."

"Who is this?"

"My name is Maximilian Kohler. I'm a discrete particle physicist."

"What?" Langdon could barely concentrate. "Are you sure you have the right Langdon?"

"You are a professor of religious iconology at Harvard University. You've written three books on symbolology and-" "Do you know what time it is?"

"I apologize. I have something you need to see. I can't discuss it over the phone."

Now Langdon was getting angry. - I'm sorry, but I really...

"If you leave immediately, you can be here by-"

"I'm not going anywhere! It's five o'clock in the morning!" Langdon hung up and collapsed back into bed. He closed his eyes and tried to fall asleep again. It was no use. The dream was embroidered in his mind. He reluctantly put on his robe and went downstairs.

- I must meet with you immediately.

"Who's speaking?"

- Maximilian Kohler is a physicist who studies elementary particles.

"Who?" Langdon asked in surprise. - Are you sure you need me?

- I'm sure. You are a professor at Harvard University, specializing in religious symbolism.

We wrote three books and...

"Do you know what time it is?" Langdon interrupted angrily.

- I beg your pardon. I need to show you something. I can't explain it over the phone.

Langdon raised his eyebrows. He was absolutely certain that his home phone number wasn't listed on this website. His interlocutor is clearly lying.

"I need to see you," he insisted. - I'll pay you well.

Now Langdon was truly furious.

- Excuse me, but I really...

- If you don't waste time arguing, then you can be with me...

- And I won't move from my spot! Five in the morning! - Langdon dropped the receiver and collapsed onto the bed, closing his eyes and trying to fall asleep.[3;38]

Analyzing men's speech, we see in this example: the length of speech segments, the frequency of interruptions, and speaking simultaneously with the interlocutor.

In conclusion, the concept of genderlect sheds light on the distinct ways in which men and women often communicate, shaped by both socialization and cultural expectations. These speech patterns—ranging from differences in tone, word choice, conversational style, to levels of assertiveness or politeness—reflect deeper societal roles and norms assigned to gender. While not universally applicable to every individual, genderlect offers valuable insights into how language both influences and reflects gender identity. Understanding these patterns can promote more effective cross-gender communication and challenge stereotypes, paving the way for greater empathy and equality in both personal and professional interactions.

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