



AXIOLOGICAL FEATURES OF CONDITIONAL SENTENCES IN ENGLISH

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ABSTRACT

This article deal with the analysis of the axiological potential of conditional sentences in the English language. The aim of the work is to reveal axiological features of conditional sentences in English in terms of expressing values in a communicative setting. In order to achieve the aim of the study, the following tasks are set: review of related literature; analysis of axiological characteristics of English conditional sentences; identification and classification of values expressed by conditional sentences in English. The results of research show that conditional sentences in English can: a) contribute to the verbalization of axiological picture of the world; b) verbalize some basic human values as power, benevolence, security, achievement, hedonism, self-direction, stimulation, conformity, universalism in a specific communicative context; c) express values with the help of whole syntactic meaning.

KEYWORDS: - Axiology, value, system of values, conditional sentence, axiological linguistics, axiological picture of the world.

INTRODUCTION

Axiological linguistics is a comparatively new branch of linguistics which deal with the axiological world picture that is reflected by language units. Linguoaxiology is concerned with the following issues: a) theory of values and its system and b) evaluative function of a language. It should be noted that axiological linguistics can be viewed as a science in linguistics which is connected with other interdisciplinary sciences as psychology, culturology, philosophy, anthropology, sociology, pedagogy and etc. It shows that it is not a newly appeared science, but it is traced back to old times. As one of the research problems of axiological linguistics, human values are reflected in language and this can be

achieved by a various language units including conditional sentences. Below, we deal with the system of values and their expression features through conditional sentences in English and Uzbek.

LITERATURE REVIEW

It is essential to deal with the definition of the concept "value" prior to concerning the types, characteristics and features of that notion. There are a number of social scientists who deal with this issue. The problem has been addressed from different perspectives and directions: psychological, anthropological, sociological, culturological, philosophical and linguistic. There are the following definitions: a) values can be viewed as decision-making frameworks which guide people's everyday



actions and influence personal thoughts and behaviors; b) values are usually thought of as relatively abstract, giving rise to a broad constellation of related attitudes and behaviors. For example, a person who values "honesty" will typically hold a very negative attitude towards dishonest politicians and, accordingly, will be less likely to vote for them in the future. According to Ryan L. Boyd, it is cited in Rohan 2000 that c) it is generally believed that the values which people hold tend to be reliable indicators of how they will actually think and act in value-relevant situations (Ryan L. Boyd, 2015, p. 31). Shalom H. Schwartz, a leading expert in this field, d) defines values as desirable, transsituational goals, varying in importance, that serve as guiding principles in people's lives (Shalom H. Schwartz, p. 267-268). So, it is clear from these definitions that values are fixed criteria or standards, principles which direct people and encourage them to behave, think or act accordingly.

Now, let's deal with the classification of values suggested by Shalom H. Schwartz (1992). He proposed the following types:

1. **POWER**: it can be interpreted as follows: social status and prestige, control or dominance over people and resources (social power, authority, wealth, preserving my public image). According to this type, people tend to behave as prestigious, to have a higher social status over others, they are inclined to keep a lot of wealth to control others and want to keep their image among people.
2. **ACHIEVEMENT**: it can be interpreted in the following way: personal success through demonstrating competence according to social standards (successful, capable, ambitious, influential). According to this type, people tend to be successful, competent and capable in their activities.
3. **HEDONISM**: it can be understood in the following way: pleasure and sensuous gratification for oneself (pleasure, enjoying life, self-indulgence). According to this type, people tend to gratify one's desires, feel pleased and satisfied, delighted and enjoyed.
4. **STIMULATION**: it can be understood in the following way: excitement, novelty, and challenge in life (daring, a varied life, an exciting life). According to this type, people want novelty, a challenge in their lives, tend to make their lives different, exciting.
5. **SELF-DIRECTION**: it can be understood in the following way: independent thought and action-choosing, creating, exploring (creativity, freedom, independent, curious, choosing own goals). According to this type, people want creativity, freedom, independence.
6. **UNIVERSALISM**: it can be understood in the following way: understanding, appreciation, tolerance and protection for the welfare of all people and for nature (broadminded, wisdom, social justice, equality, a world at peace, a world of beauty, unity with nature, protecting the environment). According to this type, people tend to be broadminded, wise, fair, peace-loving, beautiful, environmentally aware.
7. **BENEVOLENCE**: it can be understood in the following way: preservation and enhancement of the welfare of people with whom one is in frequent personal contact (helpful, honest, forgiving, loyal, responsible). According to this type, people tend to be helpful, honest, forgiving, loyal, responsible.
8. **TRADITION**: it can be understood in the following way: respect, commitment and acceptance of the customs and ideas that traditional culture or religion provide the self (humble, accepting my portion in life, devout, respect for tradition, moderate). According to this type, people tend to respect, accept cultural and religious traditions and customs.
9. **CONFORMITY**: it can be understood in the following way: restraint of actions, inclinations, and impulses likely to upset or harm others and violate social expectations or norms (politeness, obedient, self-discipline, honoring parents and



elders). According to this type, people tend not to violate social norms and take no actions to harm others.

10. SECURITY: it can be understood in the following way: safety, harmony and stability of society, of relationships, and of self (family security, national security, social order, clean, reciprocation of favors). According to this type, people tend to secure his family and others (Shalom H. Schwartz, p. 267-268).

As we see, values are classified according to ten types which are done by Shalom H. Schwartz. However, should it be mentioned that this is not only classification of values, there are a lot of approaches to the classification of values according to their nature. It is noted that such and other types of values can be expressed by conditional sentences as analyzed below.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research is theoretical-analytical by nature. It is a qualitative study on the axiological potential of conditional sentences in English and Uzbek. The aim of study is to reveal axiological features of conditional sentences in terms of verbalizing values in the process of communication. In this work, the following methods of investigation are used: a) linguistic description and generalization (to describe and review related literature and generalize some viewpoints and ideas); b) axiological analysis (to reveal axiological features of conditional sentences in English and Uzbek); contextual analysis (to identify values expressed by conditional sentences in a specific communicative context).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

We deal with the analysis of the axiological potential of conditional sentences in English below. The language materials are taken from Harry Potter and The Deathly Hallows by J.K. Rowling. Now, let's be

concerned with the procedure of analysis.

Example 1. Context: "As long as our friend Thicknesse is not discovered before he has converted the rest," said Voldemort. "At any rate, it remains unlikely that the Ministry will be mine before next Saturday. If we cannot touch the boy at his destination, then it must be done while he travels." (Rowling, 2007, p. 6).

Analysis. It is clear from the example, the value of power is expressed by the conditional sentence "If we cannot touch the boy at his destination, then it must be done while he travels". It is clear from the context provided that Voldemort has a power over the Ministry and especially, the boy in question. The conditional speech of Voldemort makes it clear that the boy must be touched at his destination or while travelling. This means that Voldemort is someone who controls or dominates over the boy.

Example 2. Context: "Don't you understand?" shouted Harry. "They will torture and kill you like they did my parents!" "Dad," said Dudley in a loud voice, "Dad - I'm going with these Order people." "Dudley," said Harry, "for the first time in your life, you're talking sense." He knew that the battle was won. If Dudley was frightened enough to accept the Order's help, his parents would accompany him: There could be no question of being separated from their Diddykins. Harry glanced at the carriage clock on the mantelpiece (Rowling, 2007, 35-36).

Analysis: The conditional sentence as If Dudley was frightened enough to accept the Order's help, his parents would accompany him: There could be no question of being separated from their Diddykins makes it clear that it is used to express a value of benevolence. In this sentence, it is inferred that Dudley's welfare is enhanced by his parents as his parents are responsible for this. Dudley should not be frightened by Order. Dudley should not be separated from his parents. This value is expressed by the conditional sentence above. It should be noted that



the value of benevolence is expressed in the syntactic level as this value is achieved by a syntactic meaning of a sentence.

Example 3. Context: "The Trace, the Trace!" said Mad-Eye impatiently. "The charm that detects magical activity around under-seventeens, the way the Ministry finds out about underage magic! If you, or anyone around you, casts a spell to get you out of here, Thicknesse is going to know about it, and so will the Death Eaters (Rowling, 2007, p. 47).

Analysis. It is clear from the given example, the conditional sentence as If you, or anyone around you, casts a spell to get you out of here, Thicknesse is going to know about it, and so will the Death Eaters is used to express a value of security. As it shows safety of a boy under seventeens who deals with a magical activity. In particular, it makes it clear that Thicknesse, the Death Eaters are sources or representatives of danger for the young magicians therefore Mad-Eye is warning the boy about this danger in his conditional speech for the sake of the boy's safety.

Example 4. Context: "I'll prove who I am, Kingsley, after I've seen my son, now back off if you know what's good for you!" (Rowling, 2007, p. 74).

Analysis. It is clear from the given example, the conditional sentence as "I'll prove who I am, Kingsley, after I've seen my son, now back off if you know what's good for you!" is used to express a value of achievement. It is clear from the sentence that the speaker is showing his capacity or competence by stating the conditional sentence in his speech. He mentions he is competent at dealing with Kingsley and warning Kingsley about it.

Example 5. Context: "No, Harry, dear, I'd much rather you helped Arthur muck out the chickens, and Hermione, I'd be ever so grateful if you'd change the sheets for Monsieur and Madame Delacour; you know they're arriving at eleven tomorrow morning."

(Rowling, 2007, p. 92).

Analysis: The conditional sentence as I'd be ever so grateful if you'd change the sheets for Monsieur and Madame Delacour is used to express a value of hedonism. As the speaker who use the conditional sentence in his speech is expressing pleasure or gratitude.

Example 6. Context: "I - Hermione, I'm sorry - I didn't -"

"Didn't realize that Ron and I know perfectly well what might happen if we come with you? Well, we do. Ron, show Harry what you've done."

"Nah, he's just eaten," said Ron (Rowling, 2007, p. 97).

Analysis: The conditional sentence as "Didn't realize that Ron and I know perfectly well what might happen if we come with you? is used to express a value of achievement. Harry and Ron are expressing their capability of knowing future happenings. Therefore, by using conditional sentence they are showing the value of achievement.

Example 7. Context: "This isn't your average book," said Ron. "It's pure gold: Twelve Fail-Safe Ways to Charm Witches. Explains everything you need to know about girls. If only I'd had this last year I'd have known exactly how to get rid of Lavender and I would've known how to get going with . . . Well, Fred and George gave me a copy, and I've learned a lot. You'd be surprised, it's not all about wandwork, either." (Rowling, 2007, p. 113).

Analysis. It is clear from the conditional sentence If only I'd had this last year I'd have known exactly how to get rid of Lavender and I would've known how to get going with ... that Ron is showing his action choosing ways by his speech. He mentions how he gets rid of Lavender and how he gets going with.... it shows his action choosing potential such as the value of self-direction.



Example 8. Context: "And if the Ministry hasn't found any hidden codes in this book in thirty-one days, I doubt that I will." (Rowling, 2007, p. 126).

Analysis. It is clear from the conditional sentence if the Ministry hasn't found any hidden codes in this book in thirty-one days, I doubt that I will that the speaker mentions he will not do a challenge or novelty which the Ministry could not have done in thirty-one days. This sentence is used to express a value of stimulation.

Example 9. Context: "All right if we join you?" asked Ron. "Oh yes," she said happily. "Daddy's just gone to give Bill and Fleur our present." (Rowling, 2007, p. 146).

Analysis. It is clear from the conditional sentence "All right if we join you?" that Ron asks a permission by stating a conditional sentence and by using this sentence he tries to be polite towards his counterpart in communication. And this politeness triggers a value of conformity between communicants.

Example 10. Context: "As well as anyone," said Doge, dabbing his eyes with a napkin. "Certainly I knew him longest, if you don't count Aberforth - and somehow, people never do seem to count Aberforth." (Rowling, 2007, p. 151).

Analysis. It is clear from the conditional sentence if you don't count Aberforth - and somehow, people never do seem to count Aberforth that Doge says in his speech by using conditional sentence Aberforth is only counted by you and it is a good thing for people as they never do this for themselves, you will do for people. It is used to express a value of universalism as the sentence shows an appreciation of welfare of all people in the society.

CONCLUSION

As results of our investigation, the following conclusions can be drawn:

a) Conditional sentences in English can

contribute to the verbalization of axiological picture of the world;

b) Conditional sentences in English can verbalize some basic human values as power, benevolence, security, achievement, hedonism, self-direction, stimulation, conformity, universalism in a specific communicative context;

c) Values expressed by conditional sentences are achieved by the whole syntactic meaning of a conditional sentence in a context.

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