Viewpoint, quantors, gestures

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Dialogue’2015
CVPT vs. OVPT gestures

- D. McNeill (1992)
- CVPT gestures: a speaker mentally superposes his body with a character’s body, and gesticulates as if he/she is this very character
- OVPT gestures: a speaker describes the situation from the outer point of view, and depicts it rather in abstracto; the length of the speaker’s arm symbolizes the distance between the observer and the character
‘To fly’: CVPT vs. OVPT
• The McNeill’s differentiation bears the strong resemblance to the traditional distinction between one’s own speech and the other’s speech

• (in brackets) The gesticulation as a system has its own markers of the other’s speech
  – at the beginning of the cited fragment a speaker moves his/her gaze out of the zone of communication and returns it back
  – a speaker does not blink while citing
  – a speaker shakes his/her head and screws up his/her face as long as the sited fragment lasts
• So, the **viewpoint** means the speaker’s empathy to one of the characters, or the absence of the empathy of the kind

• The gesticulation gives us the possibility to mark not only the situational viewpoint, but the physical position of a speaker relative to the described scene (**the observer’s position**)  
  – *a traveller just has appeared on the road ©*  
  – “the observed absence” (Paducheva) in the case of the Genitive of negation in Russian

• The gesticulation marks the observer’s physical position in rather obligatory way
Frontal vs. horizontal plane
My intention

• is to show that the observer’s position sometimes may serve as one of the semantic features of a word, which distinguishes the word from its synonyms

• The Russian quantors, which mean ‘totality’ (T-quantors), viz.
  – vse ‘all’
  – ves’ ‘whole’
  – kazhdyj ‘every’
  – l’uboj ‘any’
Method

• The database, which includes circa 400 gestural entries
• The row of the gestural characteristics
• The row of quantors
• The statistical analysis of the gesture-word relation
The quantified gestures

- The hand gestures, which quantify the space in one or another way
Point marking
Shape: circles and arcs
Shape: volume
Shape: line and surface
Negative gestures: headshakes
Negative gestures: throwing out
Negative gestures: sweeping off
## Gestures and lexemes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Negative gestures</th>
<th>Shape</th>
<th>Point-fixing</th>
<th>Quantifying gest.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ves’ ‘whole’</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>vse ‘all’</strong></td>
<td>12</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>kazhdyj ‘every’</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>l’uboj ‘any’</strong></td>
<td>24</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\( \chi^2 = 184.26; \ p = 6.52 - 35, \) параметры связаны, распределения достоверны
Quantor ves’ ‘whole’

• The basic T-quantor: directly, without interim logical steps conveys the idea of totality

• Treats a set as a whole: the set members are inaccessible => irrelevant

• The observer’s location is external => the only accessible feature of the set is its form

• The only quantor which evaluates a set from the point of view of the set form
Quantor vse ‘all’

- The basic T-quantor: directly, without interim logical steps conveys the idea of totality
- Treats a set as a discrete constellation of the separate members
- The observer’s position is internal: an observer can’t evaluate the set form, but can observe a lot of separate (quantified) members
Quantor kazhdyj ‘every’

- The implicative T-quantor:
  - the observer has gone over all set members
  - the result: every examined set member has the property P
  - the observer concludes: all set members have the property P

- Treats a set as a discrete constellation of the separate members
- The observer’s position is internal
- The observer functions as a kind of operator: he goes over all set members, but at this very moment he handles only one separate member
Quantor l’uboj ‘any’

• The implicative T-quantor:
  – the observer sees all set members before his eyes
  – the observer asserts: I can choose any set member at random, it does not matter what set member I’d choose: this set member would have the property P
  – the observer concludes: all set members have the property P

• The observer’s position is internal
• The observer is the operator at the same time
• The choice of a set member is potential, not real, in contrast to kazhdyj
Ves’ ‘whole’

- External observer; the dominant semantic component: FORM
Vse ‘all’

- Internal observer; the dominant semantic component: QUANTOR
Kazhdyj ‘every’

- Internal operator; the real quantor; two dominant semantic components: QUANTOR; SEPARATE SET MEMBER
L’uboj ‘any’

- Internal quantor; potential quantor; the dominant semantic component: NEGATION
To conclude

• OVPT gestures are more typical for a dialogue mode
• CVPT gestures are more typical for a narrative mode
• The analysis of T-quantors shows that the viewpoint may be the immanent feature of some lexemes