Lecture 8.
The theory of functional styles

1. The system of functional styles by I.R.Galperin

2. Skrebnev's classification of functional styles

3. The system of functional styles by I.V.Arnold

4. The modern approach to functional styles

The overview of the system of functional styles

Language varieties are called:
   sublanguages,
       substyles,
          registers,
             functional styles

!various *criteria for definition and categorisation*!
  Russian scholars generally accept the term "functional styles".

1. The system of functional styles by I.R.Galperin

I.R.Galperin distinguishes **5 functional styles**

Prof. Galperin differs from other scholars in his views on functional styles as he includes in his **classification**

only the written language.!

The system of functional styles by I.R.Galperin (2)

- "Style is the result of creative activity of the writer who consciously and deliberately selects language means that create style.

   Colloquial speech by its nature will not lend itself to careful selection of linguistic features and there is no stylistic intention expressed on the part of the speaker".

The system of functional styles by I.R.Galperin (3)

1. The Belles-Lettres Style:
- poetry
- emotive prose
- the language of the drama

2. Publicist Style:
- oratory and speeches
- the essay
- articles

The system of functional styles by I.R.Galperin (4)

3. Newspaper Style

- brief news items
- headlines
- advertisements and announcements
- the editorial

4. Scientific Style

5. The Style of Official Documents

- business documents
- legal documents
- the language of diplomacy
- military documents

Drawbacks of classification of I.R.Galperin

- including oratory and speeches into the notion of publicist style he means not the spoken variety of the language but spontaneous colloquial speech (which is rather doubtful).

- In modern works of fiction we may encounter any functional speech types. Most classifications do not distinguish the language of fiction as a separate style (as well as belles-lettres style).

2. Skrebnev's classification of functional styles

The styles and varieties distinguished by **Y.M.Skrebnev and M.D.Kuznetz** included:

1. Literary or Bookish Style:
- publicist style
- scientific (technological) style
- official documents

2. Free ("Colloquial") Style:
- literary colloquial style
- familiar colloquial style

3. The system of functional styles by I.V.Arnold

- **Functional styles** are subsystems of the language that present varieties of the norm of the national language. The term "functional style" reflects peculiar functions of the language in some type of communicative interaction.

- **I.V.Arnold** presents the system of functional styles as an opposition:

- **Neutral Style** :: **Colloquial Style** :: **Bookish Style**

Neutral style has no distinctive features and its function is to provide a standard background for other styles.

1. Colloquial Style

- literary colloquial
- familiar colloquial
- common colloquial

2. Bookish Style

- scientific
- official documents
- publicist (newspaper)
- oratorical
- poetic

The hierarchy functional styles by Prof I.V.Arnold

Function\ Style	Commu- nicative	Pragmatic	Emotive	Phatic	Aesthetic
Oratorical	+	+	+	+	+
Colloquial	+	+	+	+	-
Poetic	+	-	+	-	+
Publicist	+	+	+	-	-
Official	+	+	-	-	-
Scientific	+	-	-	-	-

The system of functional styles by I.V.Arnold (2)

- **Newspaper style** = the materials that serve to inform the reader :

    political news,

    police reports,

    press reviews,

    editorials.

The system of functional styles by I.V.Arnold (3)

- **Distinctive style-forming features** =

a special choice of words,

abundance of international words,

newspaper cliches,

nonce words.

- Many scholars : "language of press is a separate style "

- (newspaper headlines = a functional style)   ☺

4. The modern approach to functional styles

- A) **A.N.Morokhovsky** and his co-authors O.P.Vorobyova, Z.V.Timoshenko suggested the following style classes:
- 1. Official business style
- 2. Scientific-professional style
- 3. Publicist style
- 4. Literary colloquial style
- 5. Familiar colloquial style

The modern approach to functional styles (2)

- Each style has a combination of **distinctive features**: **oppositions** :

- "artistic – non-artistic",

 - "presence of personality – absence of it",

 - "formal – informal situation",

 - "equal – unequal social status" (of the participants of communication),

 - "written – oral form".

The modern approach to functional styles (3)

- = Language as a system includes **types of thinking** differentiating poetic and straightforward language, oral and written speech, bookish and colloquial functional styles of language.

- = The number of functional styles (stereotypes) is not unlimited, but great.

The modern approach to functional styles (4)

➡ **Texts in official business style** (administrative, juridical, military, commercial, diplomatic, etc).

➤ division of texts into <u>genres</u>: **Military texts** (official style): commands, reports, regulations, manuals, instructions; **Diplomatic documents**: notes, declarations, agreements, treaties.

➤ "**individual style**" with regard to any kind of text.

The modern approach to functional styles (5)

- B) Classification of functional styles of modern English (language varieties) **D.Crystal** :

regional,

social,

occupational,

restricted,

individual.

The modern approach to functional styles (6)

- **Regional varieties** ➤ the geographical origin of the language used by the speaker:

EX.: Lancashire variety, Canadian English, Cockney.

- **Social variations** ➤ the speaker's family, education, social status background:

Ex.: upper class and non-upper class, a political activist, a Times leader.

The modern approach to functional styles (7)

Occupational styles:

- Religious English
- Scientific English
- Legal English
- Plain (official) English
- Political English

News media English:

- newsreporting
- journalistics
- broadcasting
- sportscommentary
- advertising

The modern approach to functional styles (8)

Restricted English
(domestic and occupational spheres):

- Knitwrite in books on knitting
- Cookwrite in recipe books
- Congratulatory messagrs
- Newspaper announcements
- Newspaper headlines
- Sportscasting scores
- Airspeak,
- E-mail variety

Individual variation =
speaker's <u>personal</u> differences : interests, physique, personality, experience.

Ex.: an individual style of the writer, poet: Shakespeare's style.