CONTRASTIVE TYPOLOGY OF THE ENGLISH AND THE UKRAINIAN LANGUAGES

BASIC LITERATURE

- ***Аракин В.Д.*** Сравнительная типология английского и русского языков / В.Д. Аракин. – Л. : Просвещение, 1989. – 259 с.
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- ***Корунець І.В***. Порівняльна типологія англійської та української мов / І.В. Корунець. – Київ : Либідь, 1995. – 238 с.
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ADDITIONAL LITERATURE

- ***Волкова Л.М.*** Теоретична грамматика англійської мови: Сучасний підхід. – Навчальний посібник / Л.М. Волкова. – К. : “Освіта України”, 2009. – 256 с.
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- ***Мечковская Н.Б.*** Общее языкознание. Структурная и социальная типология языков / Н.Б. Мечковская. – М. : Флинта, Наука, 2008. – 312 с.
- ***Практическая фонетика английского языка*** / М.А. Соколова, К.П. Гинтовт, Л.А. Кантер и др. – М. : ВЛАДОС, 1997. – 384 с.

PRACTICAL ASSIGNMENTS (from Korunets 2003)

Seminar **2** - ex. 4, 6, 8, 13, 15 pp. 112-115

Seminar **3** - ex. 1, 3, 7, 8 pp. 173-177

Seminar **4** - ex. 2, 6-10 pp. 276-280

Seminar **5** – ex. 2, 3, 5, 6 pp. 451-454

CONTRASTIVE TYPOLOGY, ITS AIMS AND TASKS. VARIOUS TYPOLOGIES

THE OUTLINE

1. The **object and** the **subject** of contrastive typology, its aims and tasks.
2. Typological **constants** of contrastive typology.
3. The main **branches** of typological investigation.
4. **Correlation** between
   1) the type of the language,
   2) the language type,
   3) the typical in the languages.

The hypothesis of the unified language

UKRAINIAN	***ВОВК***
RUSSIAN	***ВОЛК***
BULGARIAN	***ВЪЛК***
SERBIAN	***ВУК***
CZECH	***ВЛК***
POLISH	***WILK***
LITHUANIAN	***VILKAS***
LETTISH	***VILKS***
GERMAN	***WOLF***
ENGLISH	***WOLF***
GOTHIC	***WULFS***
ALBANIAN	***ULK***

The task → the result
of typological investigations

If we set ourselves a task to show up all **regularities** (закономірності) and **singularities** (відмінності) in the languages contrasted,

↓

we'll get a set of characteristics according to which **we can distinguish one group of languages from another**.

Different languages

"***Different languages*** *are not different designations of the thing, they are* ***different views*** *(impressions, understandings) of this thing"*

(**W. von Humboldt**).

Nomination

English	***Ukrainian***
• Spyhole	вічко (рос.дверной глазок)
• Bread-maker	годувальник
• To take a bus	сідати на автобус
• To lie in the sun	загорати
• Sweetheart	кохана/ий
• Brown bread	чорний хліб
• Granulated sugar	цукор-пісок
• Egg-plant	баклажан

Modern tendencies

A contrastive investigation of languages has become one of the most **attractive areas of today's linguistics** (+contrastive pragmatics).

A contrastive study of languages is the research of **different world pictures**, unique linguistic cultures, ethnic peculiarities of perception of the environment.

Different studies

- ✔ Linguistic typology
- ✔ Historical and comparative linguistics
- ✔ Contrastive typology

Linguistic typology
(the subject)

1) Classification of the main, essential features of languages and

2) revealing the linguistic regularities in them

Linguistic typology

is the study

of types of languages

(types of language structures)

The aim of Linguistic typology

to provide the classification
of the languages of different types,
irrespective of their genealogical relationship

“**The language type**”
as the basic notion of linguistic typology

can be understood

as the **language structure with an accent on its dominating features**

e.g. Turkic languages (dominant features)

*1) **monosemantic** and standard suffixes, so called "stickers",*

*2) a strictly prescribed **order** of suffixes etc.*

*(**okul "школа",***

okullar "школи",

okullarimiz "наші школи",

***okullarimizda "в наших школах"**)*

These features are permanent for Turkic languages, so it is possible to contrast them to another group of languages.

The **object** of any typological investigation (linguistic or contrastive)

The ***object*** of typological investigation may be:

1. **a separate language feature or phenomenon** pertained to some genealogically close or genealogically far languages,
2. **separate features, language units or phenomena** pertained to both living and one or two dead languages,
3. **language / languages**.

Therefore, the ***object*** of typological investigation may be:

- a restricted object of investigation or
- an extensive language material

The stages (aims) of typological investigations

1. to identify the **main isomorphic and allomorphic features** characteristic of the languages under investigation;

2. to draw from these common or divergent features respectively the **isomorphic regularities** (закономірності) **and the allomorphic singularities** (відмінності) in the languages contrasted;

3. to establish on the basis of the obtained isomorphic features the **typical language structures and the types of languages**;

4. to perform on the basis of the obtained practical data a truly scientific **classification of the existing languages in the world**;

5. to establish the **universal features** pertained to each single language in the world.

Historical and comparative linguistics

- ✔ the study about the genealogical kinship of some languages, it aims at establishing the **parent language;**

- ✔ it also studies the obligate changes in phonology, grammar and the word-stock of the **daughter languages** under investigation

Contrastive typology

Contrastive typology

(порівняльна типологія)

represents a linguistic subject of typology based on

the **method of comparison**

or contrasting.

The subject of contrastive typology

Like linguistic typology contrastive typology also aims at establishing the structural types of the contrasted languages on the basis of their dominant or common phonetic, morphological, lexical and syntactic features.

The object of contrastive typology

Apart from linguistic typology contrastive typology may equally treat:

- **common** features only **as well as divergent** phenomena only;
- languages **of the same structural type** as well as languages **of different structural types**.

The final aims
of contrastive investigations

(two first points from the aims of linguistic typology)

1. to identify the main isomorphic and allomorphic features characteristic of the languages under investigation;

2. to draw from these common or divergent features respectively the isomorphic regularities (закономірності) and the allomorphic singularities (відмінності) in the languages contrasted.

Practical aims
of contrastive investigations

- to supply the ground for
  translation theory and practice;

- to foresee and overcome unnecessary interference of languages in teaching practice.

  e.g. the cases taken from Nigel Turton. The ABC of Common Grammatical errors:

born 115

× Both my sons have been born in hospital.	√ Both my sons were born in hospital.

When talking about the past, we normally use ***was/were born***: 'I ***was born*** in Athens.'

borrow 116

× If he borrows you anything, you never get it back.	√ If he borrows anything from you, you never get it back.

We ***borrow*** something ***from*** someone: 'He has ***borrowed*** most of the money ***from*** his parents.' Compare: 'If you ***lend*** him anything, you never get it back.'

both 117

× Our both countries get money from oil.	√ Both our countries get money from oil.
× First of all, the both families must agree to the wedding.	√ First of all, both the families must agree to the wedding.

Both goes before a determiner (*the/these/our* etc), not after it. Note that ***the*** is often omitted: 'First of all, ***both*** families must agree to the wedding.'

The number of investigated languages

The number of different languages which can be simultaneously subjected to typological contrasting **<u>is not limited</u>**.

The plane of investigation

The languages or some of their features / phenomena may be contrasted

either synchronically

or diachronically.

TYPOLOGICAL CONSTANTS

(*The notion of etalon language.*

Language universals and their kinds …

TYPOLOGICAL CONSTANTS

- **Absolute universals (абсолютні універсалії)**
- **Near universals (неповні/часткові універсалії)**
- **Typologically dominant features (типол. домінанти)**
- **Typologically recessive features**
- **Isomorphic features (ізоморфічні риси)**
- **Allomorphic features (аломорфічні риси)**
- **Unique features (унікалії)**
- **The etalon language (мова-еталон)**
- **Metalanguage (метамова)**

Absolute universals

features or phenomena of a language level pertaining to any language of the world:

vowels and consonants,

word-stress and

utterance stress,

parts of the sentences,

parts of speech etc.

The absolute universals of the **phonological** level are:

1) *in each language **CV** syllable type can be found,*

2) *the consonantal minimal set comprises*

*plosives **/p/, /t/, /k/**,*

*fricative **/f/** and*

*sonorant **/j/**.*

The absolute universals of the **morphological** level are:

1) in all languages words can be classified into ***parts of speech****,*

2) The most frequent noun category is the ***category of number****,*

3) the most frequent verb category is ***the category of tense****,*

4) in all languages ***pronouns*** *are available*.

The absolute universals of the **syntactic** level

*1) in any language there exist the **class of conjunctions**,*

*2) **constructions of comparison** can be found in any language*.

Near universals

features or phenomena common in many or some languages under typological investigation.

For instance,

1) *in most languages there is* ***a nasalized consonant****,*
2) *in a great number of languages* ***two vocalic phoneme****s can be found,*
3) *if the noun in a language can be characterized by* ***the category of gender****, the same category can be applied to analyze the pronoun*.

Typologically dominant features

features or phenomena dominating at a language level or in the structure of one/some contrasted languages.

Analytical means

are known to be dominant in present-day **English**.

Future simple

He

will

not

dance.

- The auxiliary Will
- The fixed order

English VS Ukrainian

The change of **placement** of the part of the sentence may completely change its sense:

e.g. ***The hunter killed the bear ≠***

The bear killed the hunter

Compare in Ukrainian:

Мисливець убив ведмедя =

Ведмедя убив мисливець

NB case, gender and number categories in Ukrainian are expressed by means of inflexions (*брат**ові** книг**и**, він співа**в** – вона співа**ла***).

Typologically recessive features

features or phenomena losing their former dominant role:

- **dual number** in Ukrainian:

вербá – вéрби (мн.) – 2,3,4 *вербú*;

- **case forms** in English.

Isomorphic features

common features or phenomena in languages under contrastive analysis.

Isomorphic in English and in Ukrainian:

- assimilation,
- categories of number / person / tense,
- parts of speech,
- the existence of sentences etc.

Allomorphic features

features or phenomena which are observed in one language and missing in the other.

For example, English

- **Gerund,**
- **Diphthongs,**
- **Analytical verb forms**

are completely missing in Ukrainian.

Unique features

features or phenomena which can be found only in one definite language and nowhere else.

For example,

the **final position of prepositions in English questions**.

The etalon language

a **hypothetic language** created by typologists for the sake of conveniencies of contrasting any language.

This “language” is supposed to contain **exhaustive quantitative and qualitative data** or characteristics concerning all existing language units and phenomena.

Metalanguage

the language on **the basis** of which the actual presentation of different features of the contrasted languages is carried out.

In our case it is English.

KINDS OF TYPOLOGICAL INVESTIGATIONS

Universal typology

investigates all the languages of the world and aims at singling out in them such features/phenomena which are common in all languages (***absolute universals***).

Special or charactereological typology

usually investigates **concrete languages**, as a rule the native tongue.

The language on the basis of which the description of isomorphic and allomorphic features is performed is referred to as ***metalanguage***.

General typology

has for its object of investigation the most general phonetic, morphological, lexical, syntactic or stylistic features.

This typological approach was introduced by the German scholar

W. Humboldt.

Partial typology

investigates a restricted number of language features/phenomena (**different levels**),

e.g. the system of vowels/consonants,
the syntactic level units.

Areal typology

investigates common and divergent features of languages of a particular **geographical area** with respect to their mutual influence of one language upon the other.

Structural typology

has for its object:

- means of **grammatical expression**,
- the **order** of constituent parts at the level of words,
- **word-combinations**,
- **sentences**.

Functional typology

investigates:

- the **frequency** of linguistic units in speech,
- the regularities / peculiarities of their **use**.

Content typology

Investigates the **types of possible meanings** expressed by various linguistic units in the contrasted languages.

Qualitative typology

establishes **predominant features** (phonetic, morphological, syntactic) in the contrasted languages.

Therefore languages are found to be ***vocalic, consonental*** etc.

Quantitative typology

identified by the American linguist J.Greenberg,

investigates

the **quantitative correlation** of some features or phenomena and their dominant role in the contrasted languages.

CORRELATION BETWEEN:

1. THE TYPE OF THE LANGUAGE,
2. THE LANGUAGE TYPE,
3. THE TYPICAL IN THE LANGUAGE

The type of the language
(тип мови)

is the principal term for ***hystorical and comparative linguistics*** and is understood as a fixed set of main features of a language under diachronical study, when the presence or absence of a feature is predetermined by the historical development of the language:

e.g.

disappearing of the category of case in Old English → disappearing of the declensions of nouns, adjectives → fixed word order

The language type
(мовний тип)

is understood as a fixed set of main features of a language, which predetermine its structural organization, thus employed by **linguistic typology:**

e.g. ***flexional,***

agglutinative,

isolating,

polysynthetic languages

The typical in the language

(типове в мові)

that is the presence of some dominant features in one language which correspond to the recessive/non-characteristic features of a language of another type:

e.g. the Future Simple in English and Ukrainian:

In Ukrainian *the verb "бути" can be used to form analytically the future form of the verb (**буду писати, буду одягатися**) and the words "більш, найбільш" to produce the comparative and superlative degrees of adjectives (**більш, найбільш начитаний**).*

In English *the demonstrative pronoun is agreed with the noun in number (**this boy – these boys, that girl – those girls**).*

The end

To be continued…

Thanks for your attention!:)

HAVE

A NICE DAY !!!