

ЛИНГВИСТИКА И МЕЖКУЛЬТУРНАЯ КОММУНИКАЦИЯ

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МНОЖЕСТВЕННОЕ ЧИСЛО ПОДЛЕЖАЩЕГО – СПОСОБ ВЫРАЖЕНИЯ ИСТОЧНИКА ИНФОРМАЦИИ В РЕПОРТАТИВНОМ ДОСТУПЕ В АНГЛИЙСКОМ ЯЗЫКЕ

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Аннотация. В статье рассматриваются вопросы, связанные с категорией эвиденциальности, формами множественного числа подлежащего, а так же способами выражения источника информации на английском языке. Отмечается, что непрямая эвиденциальность требует особых языковых средств, а форма множественного числа является одним из способов выражения источника информации в непрямой эвиденциальности.

Ключевые слова: язык, английский, эвиденциальность, непрякая эвиденциальность, множественное число, подлежащее, источник информации.

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PLURAL FORM OF SUBJECT AS WAY OF EXPRESSING A REPORTED SOURCE OF INFORMATION IN THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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Abstract. The paper reviews the questions concerned with the category of evidentiality, plural form of subjects, ways of expressing a source of information in the English language. It shows that indirect evidentiality requires special linguistic means and plural form is one of the ways of expressing a source of information in indirect evidentiality.

Keywords: language, English, evidentiality, indirect evidentiality, plural form, subject, source of information.

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The problem of evidentiality is widely discussed in modern linguistics nowadays.

The significance of this category is indisputable, because there is a need to indicate the source of received or reported information in many languages. Being an indicator of the attitude of the speaker or hearer to the expressed information, this category indicates the nature of the received / reported information (information can be obtained directly or indirectly), i. e. in the first case, the source of acquired knowledge and information may be the speaker's own observations, who directly witnessed or participated in some events that have or took place in reality, in the second case, the speaker may know about the event from the words of another individual or group of people, as well as information obtained from sources of a different nature.

In linguistics, there are various approaches to the study of the category of evidentiality. So, for example, F.R. Palmer identifies evidentiality with an epistemic modality and attributes the latter to a linguistic mood indicating the degree of confidence or testimony of the speaker or writer in his proposition. [5].

T. Willet argues that evidentials are rarely mentioned explicitly in theoretical studies on modality [6]. Guided by this interpretation, it can be stated that the various ways of acquiring knowledge correlate with different degrees of confidence in the propositional content of the utterance.

According to the second point of view, evidentials do not represent varying degrees of confidence in the propositional content of the utterance, since in describing some exotic languages, evidentials presented by the speaker are definite and true [4].

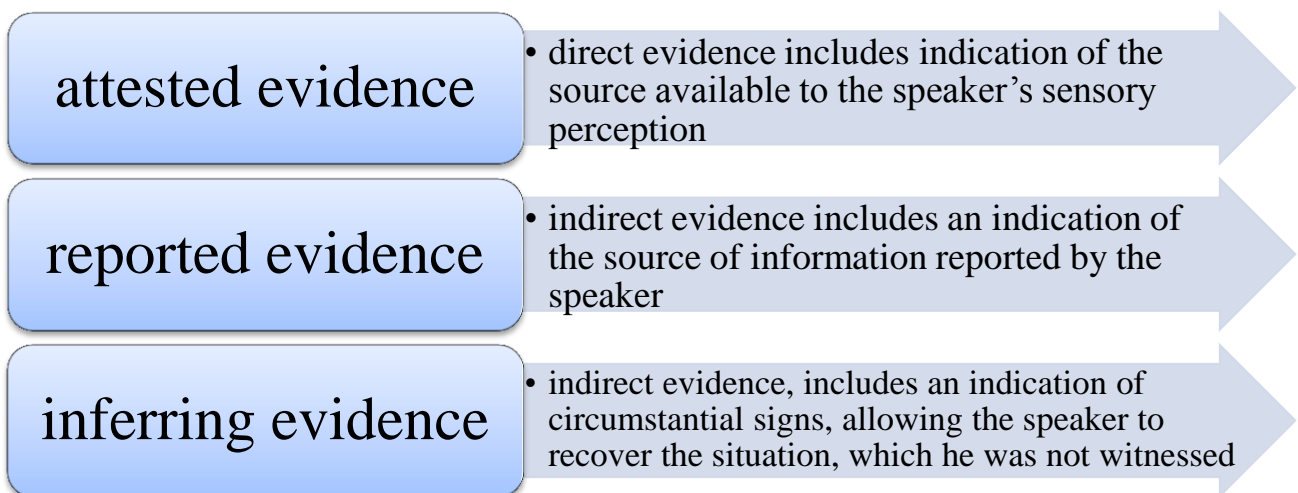
They do not cast a shadow of doubt on the truth of the statement, as they only implicitly imply that they are reported statements. From the point of view

of engaging the truth on the part of the speaker, such evidentials are neutral, showing only the degree of evidence that the speaker has for his message. Thus, evidentiality is an epistemic modality, implying an assessment of the evidence of the speaker for its statement [3].

As an evidential parameter, a distinction is made between direct and indirect evidence (reported evidence, inferential evidence).

The term "evidentiality" marks the fact that the speaker or another person is the author or witness of the statement. If the method of explication of the source of information indicates the indirect nature of its acquisition, then it can be called "reported".

Depending on the source of information pointed to by the speaker, T. Willet [6] identifies three main types of evidentials:



The following sentences consider a reportable way of obtaining information as the main within the framework of indirect evidentiality. In these examples, the exact sources of outgoing information, which are representatives of different fields of activity, are indicated; this value is objectified through the modus verbs of speech activity such as *say* and *point out*.

1. Make the water exactly 99 degrees. *Doctors say* that's the perfect temperature to get you totally relaxed (Cosmopolitan 2012). – *Official point of view*.

2. *Ecologists say* dry periods are good for wetland areas, giving plants a chance to re-establish (NPR-Sunday 2012). – *Official point of view*.

3. *Doctors say* that men taking more than one of the drugs in succession would be expected to live more than 2 years (NY Times 2012). *Result of investigation.*

4. *Scientists point out* some benefits, especially in developing a healthy, strong-functioning immune system (ConsumReserch 2003). – *Result of investigation.*

5. *Scientists point out* that organic photovoltaics are newer field (PopScience). – *Result of investigation.*

6. *Doctors say* that postmastectomy regrets are rare (Shape 2012). – *Existing opinion.*

7. “Nations must help poorer countries with birth control and with the associated economic problems”, *ecologists say* (NYT 2012). – *Existing opinion.*

In these examples, one opinion is attributed to all representatives of this professional society. The construction is abstract in content, since it is impossible to imagine that all representatives of a particular field of activity say the same thing.

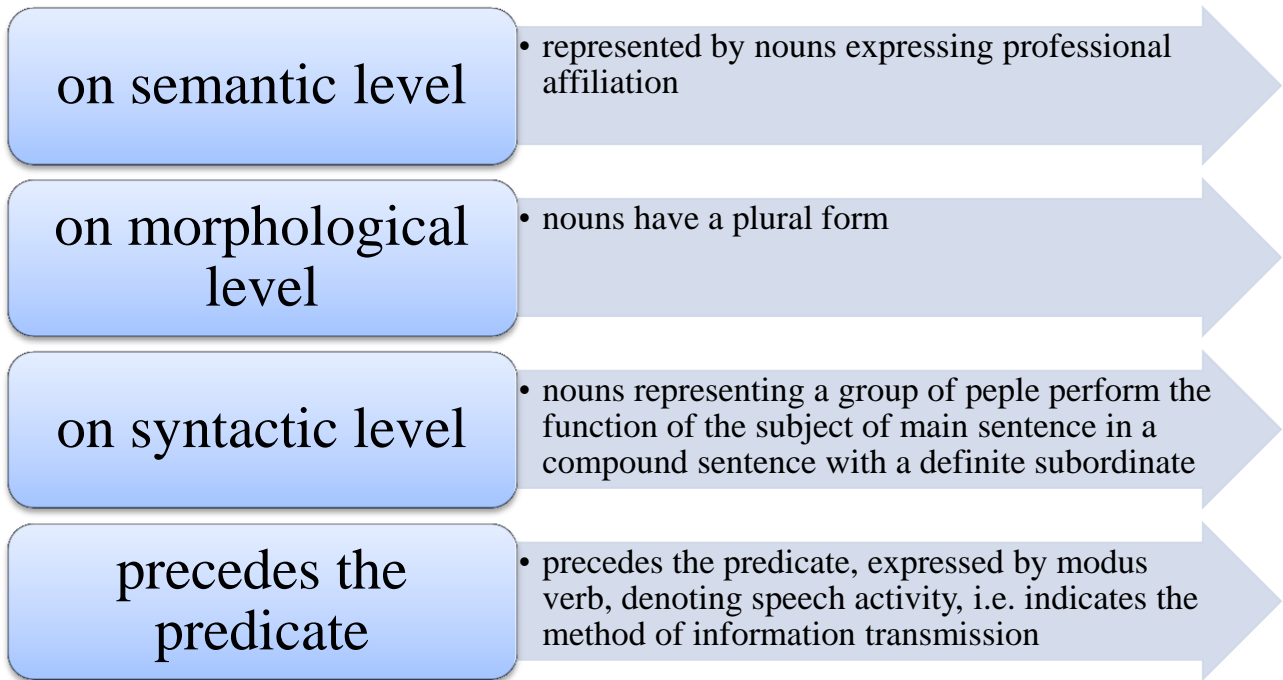
In some cases, referring to the exact source of information, various statistics are reported. This method of information transfer contributes to the objectivity of the reported and reflects the desire of the addressee to indicate that it is not only he who is responsible for the accuracy of this information.

1. *Twenty states reported* that they haven't used AETL.

2. Throughout the country, *South Korean officials reported* that 16 civilians had been killed and 82 wounded in the attacks.

Indirect evidentiality requires special labeling by linguistic means (as it became known from reliable sources, according to scientists, as doctors say). The plural form is one of the ways of expressing the source of information in indirect evidentiality and represents a group of people.

The group of people as a source of information are represented in the following way:



The plural form of the noun is used to designate a group and makes it possible to interpret the content of the first part of the utterance as an opinion, abstractly attributed to any representative of a particular field of activity, or it is about the overwhelming majority, or the officially accepted point of view, or presented as a result of the research.

Thus, the plural form marks the source of information, representing a group of people.

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