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## THE DISCURSIVE MARKER FEATURE OF EXCLAMATIONS: A LINGUISTIC ANALYSIS

Abdumalikova Dिल्фуза

Teacher Of Jizzakh State Pedagogical University, Uzbekistan

**ABSTRACT:** Exclamations are a fascinating linguistic phenomenon that serve various discursive functions in communication. This article explores the discursive marker feature of exclamations, examining how they are used to express emotions, attitudes, and pragmatic meanings in discourse. Drawing on theoretical frameworks from discourse analysis and pragmatics, this article discusses the structural and functional characteristics of exclamations, highlighting their role in conveying emphasis, surprise, and intensity in communication. Through a detailed analysis of examples from natural language data, this article aims to provide insights into the discursive marker feature of exclamations and its implications for linguistic theory and communication studies.

**KEYWORDS:** Exclamations, discursive markers, discourse analysis, pragmatics, linguistic communication.

### INTRODUCTION

Exclamations are a distinctive feature of language that serve as markers of emotion, emphasis, and attitude in discourse. They are characterized by their syntactic and prosodic features, which distinguish them from other types of sentences. Exclamations play a crucial role in communication, allowing speakers to express a wide range of emotions and attitudes with intensity and emphasis. This article examines the discursive marker feature of exclamations, focusing on how they function in discourse to convey meaning and pragmatic effects.

**Theoretical Framework:** The analysis of exclamations is situated within the framework of discourse analysis and pragmatics, which are concerned with the study of language use in context. Discourse analysis emphasizes the study of language beyond the level of the sentence, focusing on how language functions in communication. Pragmatics, on the other hand, examines how context influences the interpretation of language and how language is used to achieve communicative goals.

**Structural and Functional Characteristics of Exclamations:** Exclamations are characterized by their syntactic and prosodic features, which distinguish them from other types of sentences. Syntactically, exclamations often lack a subject-verb-object structure and may include interjections or exclamatory words (e.g., "Wow," "Amazing," "Oh my God!"). Prosodically, exclamations are marked by a heightened pitch and loudness, reflecting the speaker's emotional state.

In terms of function, exclamations serve various discursive purposes in communication. They can express emotions such as surprise, joy, anger, or frustration (e.g., "How wonderful!" "I can't believe it!"). Exclamations can also convey emphasis and intensity, highlighting the importance or significance of a statement (e.g., "That's absolutely ridiculous!" "What a beautiful day!").

**Discursive Marker Feature of Exclamations:** The discursive marker feature of exclamations lies in their ability to signal the speaker's attitude, emotion, or pragmatic intention in discourse. Exclamations often serve as markers of evaluative meaning, indicating the speaker's judgment or opinion about a situation or event (e.g., "How amazing that is!" "What a terrible mistake!"). They can also function as attention-getting devices, drawing the listener's focus to a particular point or aspect of the discourse (e.g., "Look at that!" "Listen to this!").

Examples from natural language data:

"Wow, that's incredible!"

"Oh no, I forgot my keys!"

"What a beautiful sunset!"

"I can't believe you did that!"

"How lovely to see you!"

## CONCLUSION

Exclamations are a powerful linguistic tool that plays a significant role in communication. Their discursive marker feature allows speakers to express emotions, attitudes, and pragmatic meanings in discourse. By examining the structural and functional characteristics of exclamations, this article provides insights into their role in linguistic communication and their implications for discourse analysis and pragmatics.

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