
CONFERENCE ARTICLE

**PRAGMATIC EXPRESSION OF TEMPORALITY IN MILITARY DISCOURSE AND COMPARATIVE
ANALYSIS OF UZBEK, ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN COMMANDS**

Samadova Svetlana Jontosheva

Chirchik State Pedagogical University, Uzbekistan

ABSTRACT

This article explores the pragmatic expression of temporality in military discourse based on Uzbek, English, and Russian command structures. Unlike traditional linguistic interpretations that associate temporality with grammatical tense, military communication relies on imperative signals that link the moment of command with the immediate execution of action. The analysis shows that temporal units function not only as indicators of time but also as mechanisms of discipline, coordination, and control. Commands in all three languages demonstrate similar semantic and pragmatic features, confirming a universal model of temporality in military communication.

KEYWORDS

Temporality, military discourse, professional speech, command structures, pragmatic mechanism, comparative analysis, linguistic means, cadet training, operational communication.

INTRODUCTION

In linguistics and linguodidactics, professional speech is interpreted as a type of discourse that is formed within a specific field of specialization, subordinated to the needs of professional activity, and aimed at the effective resolution of communicative tasks. According to researchers, professional speech represents a special functional variety of the national language, in which terminological precision, logical consistency, contextual appropriateness, and standardization are of primary importance. For instance, V.V.Vinogradov, discussing the functional differentiation of speech, emphasizes that the use of linguistic units is closely related to the type of social activity. In his view, communication within each profession shapes specific principles for the selection and use of language means. A.A.Leontev, in turn, interprets professional communication as a system of speech actions intrinsically linked to activity, where the exchange of information is determined not only by its content but also by the speed and accuracy of its delivery.

In Uzbek linguistics, the issue of professional speech has also received particular attention. According to specialists, professional speech is a communicative tool that serves to express domain-specific knowledge, issue commands and instructions, organize cooperation, and implement management. It differs from everyday speech in its formality, the prevalence of standardized units, limited emotionality, and pragmatic orientation.

In the military sphere, professional speech constitutes an even more strictly regulated system. Here, every element of speech is directly connected with practical outcomes. An incorrect or imprecise command may negatively affect the effectiveness of operational activity. Therefore, brevity, accuracy, standardization, and promptness emerge as the key criteria of military professional speech. These characteristics are determined not only by terminological precision or syntactic standardization but also by how the time factor is expressed within the communicative process. Professional activity, especially in military service, requires that each speech unit

convey the timing, sequence, and urgency of specific actions. The effectiveness of such communication largely depends on linguistic means capable of expressing temporal relations accurately and concisely. In this regard, temporal units within the system of professional communication function not only as grammatical categories but also as important pragmatic mechanisms that ensure effective management and operational coordination. For this reason, there arises a need for the targeted study of linguistic means expressing temporality in the process of developing cadets' professional speech. In the context of military professional communication, the time factor acquires strategic significance. The success of operational tasks often depends on how quickly, in what sequence, and within what timeframe instructions are executed. Therefore, temporal expressions hold a priority status in military discourse, becoming an integral tool for planning, coordination, and control of actions.

Temporal linguistic means also play a significant role in the execution mechanism of commands and instructions. In a military environment, commands must be understood in a timely manner and executed immediately; any delay or misinterpretation may have serious consequences for operational effectiveness. Therefore, such units as "immediately," "now," "without delay," "at the designated time," and "in sequence" not only indicate temporal relations but also convey discipline, subordination, and the algorithm of actions. By making speech concise, precise, and unambiguous, they contribute to increasing the efficiency of command and control.

Based on the analysis of various scholarly works, it has been established that the formation of cadets' professional speech in military education is not limited to expanding terminological competence alone, but also involves the development of the ability to consciously, purposefully, and contextually use linguistic means expressing temporal relations. It can be argued that the precise expression of temporality is an essential condition of operational management, ensuring both the correct

understanding of commands and their timely execution. This indicates that teaching temporal units should be considered one of the key factors determining the professionalization of cadets' speech, the effectiveness of communication, and the level of readiness for service activities.

In military discourse, the expression of temporality is closely connected with communicative function and requires maximum precision and promptness. Although in linguistics the category of time is often interpreted through grammatical tense, in military speech it transforms into a pragmatic mechanism. The imperative form establishes the moment of utterance as a reference point and presupposes the immediate execution of an action. J. Lyons interprets time as a category defined in relation to the moment of speech; in military communication, this moment becomes maximally specified through an operational signal. As V. Evans notes, humans perceive time through conceptual modeling. In a military context, this model is structured on the basis of disciplinary hierarchy and functional sequence. As a result, time is no longer merely an individual experience but becomes a managed resource.

The theoretical perspectives outlined above reveal the general semantic and pragmatic nature of temporality. However, in the practice of military education, the key issue lies in identifying which specific linguistic units express temporal relations in commands and instructions. In military discourse, temporality is

often conveyed not through grammatical tense, but through lexical and syntactic means that determine the starting point, duration, and sequence of operational actions.

In Uzbek command speech, units such as "darhol," "hozir," "zudlik bilan," "falon vaqtda," "buyruqdan so'ng," and "navbat bilan" clarify the algorithm of execution. These means not only indicate when an action should begin, but also emphasize the necessity of carrying it out without delay and in accordance with a prescribed order, thereby integrating temporal reference with disciplinary requirements. A similar mechanism is observed in English military communication: temporal expressions such as "immediately," "at once," "stand by," "on my command," and "in five minutes" establish the moment of the command as a reference point and organize subsequent actions relative to it. In this context, temporality not only denotes time but also functions as a coordination tool ensuring the continuity of command and control.

Based on the analysis of domain-specific sources, the ways in which temporality is expressed in military command systems were examined, and it was considered appropriate to conduct a comparative analysis based on materials from Uzbek, English, and Russian languages (see Table 1).

Table 1.

A comparative analysis of military commands

Uzbek	English	Russian
Commands indicating the start of an action		
Saflan / Safga tur	Fall in	Строиться / Встать в строй
Qadam BOS	March	Шагом марш
YUR	Move / March	Марш / Двигаться
Ortimdan yur	Follow me	За мной
Olg'a BOS	Forward, march	Вперёд, марш
Joy-joyingni egalla	Take your positions	Занять позиции
Jangga	To battle / Engage	К бою
Qurollan	Arm yourselves	К оружию
O'qla	Load	Заряжай
Bosh kiyimlar KIYILSIN	Headgear on	Головные уборы надеть
Bosh kiyimlar YECHILSIN	Headgear off	Головные уборы снять
Commands indicating stopping or completion		
To'xta	halt	Стой / Вольно
O'qsizlantir	Unload	Разрядить
<i>Commands expressing the meaning of continuity or maintaining a state</i>		
Rostlan	Dress / Align	Равняйся
Tekislan	Align	Равнение
Joyida qolsin	Stay where you are	Остаться на месте
Xizmat qilaman	I serve	Служу
Saqlagichga qo'yilgan	On safety	На предохранителе

Commands expressing the meaning of waiting or readiness		
Liniyaga	On the line / Line up	В линию
Bayroq ostida	Under the flag	Под знамя
Vaqtincha nazorat	Temporary control	Временный контроль
Tayyorlan	Prepare / Get ready	Приготовиться
Commands expressing a specific time reference		
Ertalabki ko'rikka saflan	Fall in for morning inspection	Построиться на утренний осмотр
Kechki yo'qlamaga saflan	Fall in for evening roll call	На вечернюю проверку становись
Jadvalga muvofiq	According to the schedule	По расписанию
Falon vaqtda	At (specified) time	В указанное время
Sequence / order		
Bittadan	One by one	По одному
Rota-rota bo'lib	By companies	По ротам
Almashuvchilar	Relief	Смена
Topshirdi / qabul qildi	Handover / take over	Сдал / принял
Commands expressing the tempo of action		
Shahdam qadam	Quick march	Быстрым шагом
Sekin qadam	Slow march	Медленным шагом
Tez-tez qadam	Double time	Бегом марш
Kalta qadam	Short step	Коротким шагом

In these commands, across all three languages, time is expressed not through grammatical tense but through an operational signal, namely the moment of issuing the command, which serves as the starting point of action. Therefore, they can be regarded as examples of pragmatic temporality. The means of expressing temporality in military discourse share common functional features in Uzbek, English, and Russian. In this type of discourse, time is realized not through the grammatical category of tense, but through imperative signals that directly link the issuance of a command with the initiation of action. For example, the Uzbek commands "Saflan," "Qadam bos," "To'xta" correspond to the English "Fall in," "March," "Halt," and the Russian "Строиться," "Шагом марш," "Стой," all of which inherently require the immediate execution of the action. In these units, temporal reference is not indicated by a separate marker but is determined by the pragmatic context—specifically, the moment the command is given.

The materials studied and the comparative analysis conducted indicate that, within the system of military commands, temporality manifests not only through grammatical tense forms but also as an operational and pragmatic mechanism. The fact that Uzbek, English, and Russian commands exhibit similar semantic and pragmatic features confirms the existence of a universal mechanism of temporality in military speech. Thus, in military discourse, time is interpreted not as an element of individual perception but as an organizational and operational resource. This approach plays a central role in ensuring conciseness, precision, and promptness of expression, and provides a new conceptual framework for a deeper understanding of temporality in military linguistics.

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