



TEXT TYPES AND GENRES: A FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS

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Annotation. *This article explores the relationship between text types and genres through a functional linguistics viewpoint. It examines the structural and communicative characteristics of different text types and explains how genres operate within specific social settings. Practical examples are included to demonstrate how functional analysis can be applied to real text.*

Key words: *text types, genres, functional linguistics, communicative characteristics, social context, discourse analysis, linguistics classification.*

Аннотация. *В этой статье исследуется взаимосвязь между типами текстов и жанрами с точки зрения функциональной лингвистики. В ней рассматриваются структурные и коммуникативные характеристики различных типов текстов, и объясняется, как жанры функционируют в определенных социальных условиях. Приведены практические примеры, демонстрирующие, как функциональный анализ может быть применен к реальному тексту.*

Ключевые слова: *типы текстов, жанры, функциональная лингвистика, коммуникативные характеристики, социальный контекст, дискурсивный анализ, лингвистическая классификация.*

Annotatsiya. *Ushbu maqola funktsional tilshunoslik nuqtai nazaridan matn turlari va janrlari o'rtasidagi munosabatni o'rganadi. U har xil turdagi matnlarning tarkibiy va kommunikativ xususiyatlarini ko'rib chiqadi va janrlarning ma'lum ijtimoiy sharoitlarda qanday ishlashini tushuntiradi. Funktsional tahlilni haqiqiy matnga qanday qo'llash mumkinligini ko'rsatadigan amaliy misollar keltirilgan.*

Kalit so'zlar: *matn turlari, janrlar, funktsionallik, tilshunoslik, kommunikativ xususiyatlar, ijtimoiy kontekst, diskursiv tahlil, lingvistik tasnif.*

INTRODUCTION.

Text linguistics plays a crucial role in understanding how meaning is created, organized, and interpreted in real communication. (Beaugrande, R. de, & Dressler, W., 1981). Every text has a purpose, a structure, and certain features and these elements shape the way language is used. Text types describe general patterns such as narration, description, or argumentation, while genres describe real examples of communication like news reports, letters, essays, or advertisements. A functional approach allows us to look at texts not only from their structure but also from the way they communicate meaning in real contexts. This work is useful for students because it helps them analyze texts more critically and understand how language changes depending on the situation. By studying both text types and genres, we can see how communication works in different fields and how writers choose language according to their communicative goals.

Theoretical Framework

Text types and genres are closely connected, but they represent different levels of analysis. Text types describe the universal and repeated patterns found in many kinds of communication. For example, a narrative text type usually includes characters, events, and a sequence of actions. Werlich (1976) explains that narrative



text usually presents events in a chronological order, including actors and actions. A descriptive text type focuses on giving details about objects, people, or places often using adjectives and sensory language, while argumentative claims supported by evidence (Hyland, 2004). Thus, argumentative text type presents a claim and supports it with reasons. These text types are general, and they can appear in many different forms of writing or speaking.

Genres, on the other hand, are more specific and socially recognized. They develop within communities and have typical structures and language features. According to Swales (1990), genre in a group of communicative event, the members which share some set of communicative purposes. For instance, a newspaper article has a headline, a lead paragraph, and a body of information. A formal email usually has a greeting, a body message, and a closing. A scientific report includes an introduction, method, results, and discussion. These genres are shaped by the expectations of readers and the traditions of particular fields. According to functional linguistics, every genre serves a particular social purpose, and its structure helps achieve that purpose. For example, instructions guide the reader step by step, while stories entertain or inform through events.

Functional linguists argue that the meaning of a text cannot be separated from the context. Eggins (2004) says that understanding a text requires considering a social roles of the writer and reader as well as the purpose of the communication. This means that to understand a genre, we need to consider who is writing, who is reading, and why the text is being created. In this way, text types give us the basic patterns of communication, while genres show us how these patterns become real texts used in society. The combination of text types and genres helps readers and writers understand how language functions in different situations.

Case Studies

To understand how text types and genres work in real communication, it is useful to analyze actual examples. Texts can be studied by looking at their structure, purpose, language, and context. Below are several examples from different genres, along with an analysis of their text types and linguistic features.

Example 1: News Article

A news article belongs to the journalism genre and primarily serves to inform the audience about recent events. Its dominant text type is expository, because it presents facts clearly and logically. For instance:

“Heavy rainfall on Monday caused flooding in several districts, according to local authorities. Traffic delays affected major roads throughout the city.”

This text uses short, clear sentences and factual vocabulary such as flooding, districts, and traffic delays. The past tense highlights that the events already happened, and reported speech (according to local authorities) adds credibility. Functional analysis shows that the article fulfills the ideational function by presenting information, the interpersonal function by using neutral language for general readers, and the textual function by organizing sentences logically (Halliday, 1994).

Example 2: Recipe

Recipes are part of the instructional genre. Their main text type is instructive, because they guide the reader through a process. For example:

“Step 1: Preheat the oven to 180°C. Step 2: Mix the flour and sugar in a bowl. Step 3: Add the eggs and stir until smooth.”

The structure is very linear and step-by-step, which is typical for instructional texts. Imperative verbs like preheat, mix, and add directly involve the reader in following the instructions. The textual function is clearly evident because the numbered steps ensure clarity and easy understanding. Additionally, the ideational function is reflected in the concrete nouns and precise measurements, which help achieve the goal of successful cooking.

Example 3: Personal Letter

A personal letter represents the expressive genre and usually contains the expressive or narrative text types. For example:

“Dear Anna, I hope you are doing well. I wanted to tell you about my new job and how exciting it has been. Last week, I attended my first team meeting and learned a lot.”



Here, the letter communicates personal feelings and experiences. The use of first-person pronouns (I) and past tense verbs (attended, learned) reflects the narrative nature. The interpersonal function is prominent because the writer maintains a friendly and polite tone. The textual function is maintained through clear paragraphing and logical sequencing of events. Personal letters often combine narrative and expressive text types depending on the writer's purpose.

Example 4: Advertisement

Advertisements belong to the persuasive genre, often using argumentative text types because their goal is to convince readers to take action. For example:

“Buy our new smartphone today! Enjoy faster performance, longer battery life, and a stunning display.”

The text uses short, impactful sentences, positive adjectives (faster, longer, stunning), and imperatives (buy) to persuade the audience. The ideational function focuses on the product's features, while the interpersonal function engages the reader directly, creating urgency. The textual function is evident in the concise and structured format, which makes the message easy to understand and memorable.

Example 5: Scientific Abstract

A scientific abstract belongs to the academic genre and typically combines expository and analytical text types. For example: “This study investigates the impact of temperature on plant growth. The experiment was conducted over four weeks under controlled conditions. Results indicate that higher temperatures accelerate growth rates.”

The abstract provides essential information in a compact form. It uses formal vocabulary and objective tone, which reflects the academic purpose.

The ideational function conveys the research findings, the interpersonal function maintains neutrality, and the textual function organizes information in a clear and logical way. Abstracts follow strict genre conventions to meet the expectations of academic readers (Hyland, 2004).

These examples demonstrate that genres shape how text types are realized in real communication. A single genre may combine multiple text types depending on its purpose. For instance, a news article (genre) is mostly expository (text type) but may include narrative details about events. Recipes are instructive, letters are expressive and narrative, advertisements are persuasive, and scientific abstracts are expository and analytical. Functional analysis allows us to examine not only the content of a text but also how its structure, language, and purpose interact to achieve effective communication (Eggins, 2004; Halliday, 1994).

In conclusion, studying text types and genres helps us understand how language works in real life. Text types show the basic patterns of writing, like telling a story, giving information, or giving instructions, while genres are the actual forms of texts we see every day, such as news articles, letters, recipes, or advertisements. Using a functional approach, we can see how writers choose words, sentences, and structure to achieve their purpose. The examples in this article show that texts are carefully organized to communicate effectively. Understanding text types and genres is useful for reading, writing, and learning language, because it helps us understand how texts are made and why they are written in a certain way.

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