

TRADITIONAL GRAMMAR AND THE THEORETICAL FLOWS OF TERMINOLOGY FROM ANTIQUITY TO THIS DAY

Albina Pajo

University "Fan S. Noli" Korca

ALBANIA

ABSTRACT

Language since its birth among human society, until now, has served as a phenomenon that realizes the interaction between people and communication as a necessary social and effective process. People have studied various issues of the language since an early stage because language belongs to everyone. It should be emphasized that their treatment has been observed since ancient times, in the philosophy of China, India, Arabia, that of Greece, Latin, etc. In this article we will see that along with the development of linguistic theories from ancient Greece, terminology was born and developed as a science related to the exact denomination of things. Notwithstanding the fact that language from the very beginning is seen as a phenomenon and is studied from the perspective of Philosophy, there have also been approaches proper scientific studying it, which have produced a rich linguistic terminology, traces of which are encountered nowadays.

Keywords: Grammar, terminology, theoretical linguistic, tradition.

INTRODUCTION

Although it could be said that the language and linguistics are genuinely studied, definitely philosophically, back in the civilizations of countries like India, China, Arabia, etc., European linguistics begins in the ancient Greek world. During Helen the ancient civilization was developed writing as an important tool of knowledge and culture through phonemic alphabet. But what is worth noting for this period are the two main theories; theory, fyse hypothesis or else called nomo and conventional theory, else known as naturalist. The difference between them lay in the relationship between words and objects they designate. Naturalists thought that this connection is natural, while conventionalists and felt that there are no natural relations between the word and the thing that it labels therefore their relationship is arbitrary, built by agreement of the speakers of the language (Rrokaj, 2010, p. 34).

According to John Lyons, grammar conventional which was developed later acknowledged as theoretical principles of its development even the analogy and anomaly because grammarians on the one hand, while looking into regularities of the language since an early stage often come to various options of relations between words, and on the other hand, the question of which "linguistic form" will be accepted as eligible, remains open. Thus, the struggle between analogists and anomalists continues to remain open (Lyons, 2010, p. 25). Two of the most prominent names of antiquity, Plato and Aristotle took an important place in the development of linguistic philosophical thinking in ancient Greece. Plato advocated that the totality of beings are manifestations of the idea, to which is reached through the analysis of language and specifically of certain linguistic units (Onome, rema), which have a fundamental role in language. Thus, it is about the different parts of speech, whereas Aristotle thought that "ontological primacy" is revealed through the analysis of language and logical-linguistic function of a speaker inside a phrase (Rrokaj, 2010, pp. 29-30). As can be seen both

these scholars, despite perceiving language in its philosophical terms brought new terms in language and showed the way how to use them. Aristotle, in his "Poetics", claims that human speech has these parts: element, syllable, conjunction, the name, verb, part of speech, the case of the name, sentence, giving detailed definitions for each. The element is a sound but only that which creates reasonable words, the syllable is formed by elements but has no sense in itself: the conjunction (here is included even the pronoun) does not make sense on its own and does not possess any time nuances: the verb has a meaning on its own, time nuances which are additional meanings, the time is the present and the past: the sentence, according to him, is a composed meaningful sound which consists of parts each of which ones carries a sense on its own. It must be said that Aristotle is the founder of the terms which are used today (Aristoteli, 2006).

In this article through the identification and review of the literature, are presented theoretical contributions in the field of linguistic terminology by major disciplines. This article gives the evolution of linguistic terms from ancient times till nowadays by the main approaches of language theories.

TERMINOLOGY IN ANCIENT GREECE

In the field of terminology and linguistic concepts it is worth going back to mentioning Plato because he is the one to make the categorization of words into classes based on logical criteria namely; the class of nouns, which played a role of the subject of the statement in the sentence; the class of verbs, which can express action or quality.

In phonological aspect in this period were observed concrete findings: Plato divided the alphabet phonemes in consonants and vowels. The latter were subdivided in voiced and voiceless. The syllable was identified as a structural unit and language and speech were defined as product of interaction between the hinge organs with air flow that comes from the lungs.

Regarding the verbal morphology of the Old Greek, there were distinguished five moods: indicative, subjunctive, causative, and the imperative. Besides passive and active voice Greek linguists acknowledged even medial voice which conveys a kind of self-reference towards the one that carries out the action (Robins, 2010, p. 80).

Another Greek scholar Dionysus, increased the number of classes of words with adverb, participle, pronoun and preposition. Regarding the conjugation, Greeks were the first to find the term "case", giving it the grammatical meaning it has even today (Lyons, 2010, pp. 28-29).

It must be said that based on the above definitions of terminology of the Greek scholars, these terms are used today in the languages with the same denominations not only in the scientific literature and contemporary grammar but even in textbooks. As can be seen parallel with the development of linguistic thought in ancient Greece was developed even the linguistic terminology. In the ancient linguistic studies, Greeks used the term "grammar", which meant "the art of writing". Then under this term were built conventional grammars, which were based on linguistic terms and their division from linguo-philologists of ancient Greece.

TERMINOLOGY IN THE MIDDLE AGES

Even in the middle Ages there was a similar approach to the development of linguistic thought carrying still a philosophical character. Besides this, there was also developed a set of linguistic terminology in terms of phonetics, morphology, syntax, etc. Despite the fact that even during this period we find terminology statements of the language being based on the disciplines, we cannot claim that terminology became a separate science. Linguistic terms appeared in the light of the development of linguistic theories of the time, bearing philosophical as well as logical character. Philosophers of linguistics in the Middle Ages were inspired mostly by Scholars, relying on the idea that science is the search for universal and unchanging causes, and based on this assertion, they tried to explain the categories of grammar based on the categories of logic, epistemology and metaphysics. In the analysis that Lyons makes the development of linguistics in this period, he goes further by saying that: "Grammar was a philosophical theory of parts of speech and of the personal kind of significance to them, which means that the language is like a mirror that transmits a copy of the reality, which lies in the core of the phenomena of the natural world"(Ibidem, p.33). During this period, it is worth noting the grammar of Donate and Priscian, parts of which were used as textbooks, or were also used as a support by other scholars of the medieval period, especially scholasts. Thus, during the Middle Ages, Modists focused on the development of grammar, bringing valuable innovation in the linguistic terminology of the particular language of technical terms. Modists conserved, and further developed the elements of the Latin grammar of Priscian, especially the categorization of words into classes such as: the division of the personal names into praenomina (pronouns), cognomina (surnames) and agnomina (nicknames).

Robert H. Robins argues that based on the grammar of Priscian and Donate, Modists built the definitions of eight classes of words as follows:

- Nomen (name), a part of speech that denotes meaning by being based on the continuity of existence in time, or something with distinctive features.
- Verbum (verb), a part of speech that expresses meaning being based on the manner of the process of time, detached from matter.
- Participium (participle), a part of speech that expresses meaning being based on the manner of the process of time, detached from matter.
- Pronomen (pronoun), a part of speech that expresses meaning being based on the the continuity of existence in time with no distinctive features.
- Adverbium (adverb), a part of speech that nominates according to the manner of existence, combined with another part of speech, which nominates by means of the process of time, with no other syntactical relationships.
- Coniunctio (conjunction), a part of speech that nominates by combining two other terms.
- Praepositio (preposition), a part of speech that nominates through a syntactical structure, case inflection, combining and referring it to an action.
- Inerectio (exclamation), a part of speech that nominates according to the manner of defining a verb or participle and shows a feeling or emotion (Robins, 2010, pp. 129-131).

RENAISSANCE

It is worth mentioning that after the Middle Ages, Renaissance, as a new era came and was developed around the main axis, humanist philosophy and science, in general, was based on the data of the objective reality. During the era of Renaissance started a range of movements

for creating national languages which shocked the eprimacy of the Latin of the time. The position of universal and logical grammars was taken by the descriptive ones. The new languages of the nations or else known as neolatin languages served as a genuine study material in the comparative plain with Latin language. The comparative elements, in general, deal with the phonetical differences of the new languages with their corresponding ones in old Latin language. Also, regarding the plane of their characterizing grammatical systems, it was reached to important conclusions which showed that neolatin languages had values regarding their grammatical and terminological novelties (Hall, 1936, pp. 100-105). Among the linguistic flow of this period, what is worth noting is the Port-Royal's Grammar called "General and Logical Grammar ". This grammar was based on the universality of ideas, describing and studying in detail the basic structures of the language. For the drafters of this grammar, Arnauld and Lancelot, natural languages are special performances of a general and unique structure, which is deep and common to all languages (Rrokaj, 2010, p. 63). The interest for modern languages gave rise to a series of grammars in different languages, which had a normative character. This principle was also used for creating dictionaries for these new languages.

During the XVII- XVIII centuries, there were observed explanatory normative dictionaries in which were given the lexical meaning of the words, their grammatical and stylistic features, as an evidence not only of the qualitative development of active languages, but also of their scientific level of study. Based on these data we see that the emergence of normative grammars and explanatory dictionaries provided the foundations for the development of the new philology the main focus of which was the linguistic norm. Parallel to the above developments, it is worth mentioning the development of phonetics and the terminology of this field respectively named as orthography and pronunciation, because the term Phonetics was shaped during the nineteenth century.

Scholars like, J Hart, A Hume, R Robinson, J Wallis and W Holder founded what was called "the phonetics of English schools." Holder, for example, was among the first researchers who provided quite accurate definitions in the field of concepts and terminology of phonetics, in terms of correct articulation of sounds, the manner of vowels acquisition, the acquisition of voice, etc. Based on these definitions, Willkins later built an organic alphabet with pictures of correct articulation of 8 vowels and 26 consonants, which represented the general phonetic categories, showing the position of the lips, crosscut position of language etc. British grammarians kept the Priscian's grammar system in Latin (that of the division of words in eight classes) while others shared these eight classes into two groups according to the grammar of Port-Royal. Specifically, in the first group belonged those words that designate objects of thought (noun, participle, adverb + articles). In the second group belonged those words that labelled the forms of opinion (verb, exclamation, conjunction).

While J Willkins and C Cooper organized words into two main categories based on semantic grounds: a. integrals, b. particles, integrals included names, verbs and adverbs, because these categories have a definite meaning.

In the second group that of particles that are included pronouns articles, prepositions, simple adverbs, and conjunctions. Other linguists made other such determinations as Wallis, who declared that a language had two tenses: the present and the past and every further distinction was accomplished through auxiliary verbs the historical study of neolatin languages highlighted linguistic works in which the linguistic formulation of terms and terminology in

general, which served as solid foundation for the development of modern linguistics in a broader context is obvious (Robins, 2010, pp. 185-200).

In the early nineteenth century, Bernard (1769- 1820), tried to synthesize the results in linguistics achieved until the end of the eighteenth century. First, he set linguistic components, such as phonetics, etymology, word formation, morphology, syntax and the theory of combining words (phrase). This division provided by Bernard was of solid scientific basis, and brought innovation in the field of determining linguistic terms according to the above disciplines. The young grammarians of this period, made a significant contribution in two areas of linguistics which they saw closely related to historical linguistics: phonetics and dialectology.

Descriptive phonetics of this period dealt mostly with active languages, their pronunciation and their phonological elements with the view of comparing them to the dead languages which had entered through literature. They gave clear definitions of the letter and the sound, as two distinct elements from each other. These researchers dealt thoroughly with the dialects spoken in Europe, because according to them, they shed light on the linguistic changes as the former represented the full extent of differentiation of Indo-European languages. The studying of dialectal differences highlighted new issues related to the etymological studies where different researchers studied the word as an individual unit with its own history. Every word, according to them, has its own history (Ibidem, 281-287).

From this perspective, the above cited grammar books can be defined as traditional grammars, in which priority was given to linguistic rules, under which are built the related words in sentences in order to carry out the meaning of the information. Based on this, we can say that a good part of the basic terms and concepts of contemporary grammar today come from these grammars. Grammars of this period and the linguistic systems of terminology shown therein are neither proper Latin nor did they belong to any particular national language, which flourished during this period. In this context, we note that general conceptions of terminology and general rules that show the operation of all languages are presented in those books (Todorov & Dycro, 1984, pp. 20-21).

TERMINOLOGY IN XX CENTURY

It is worth noting that after XIX and XX centuries, the linguistic development was mostly oriented towards historical linguistics and latter, towards the comparative and generativist one. The linguistic phenomena of this period were mainly studied diachronically leaving, thus, the linguistic terminology passed in the second plan. In spite of this, linguists of the time considerably relied on the previous tradition, hence, making slight changes to terminological systems of the language in all the corresponding subsystems.

Modern linguistics of the XX century begins with Saussure, who, being the representative of descriptive linguistics as much as its founder, studied language from different prospects: synchronically, languages were considered to be closed systems of communication and diachronically, carrying out a thorough analysis of the changes occurring to the language over the time. In Saussure's opinion, language in general should be studied synchronically which means as a system of grammatical, phonological and lexical elements with mutual relationships.

Regarding linguistic terms, he was of the opinion that they must be defined in relation to each other, as that is the only way they operate in a language. According to him: “*Grammar studies the language as a system of means of communication, so when we say grammatical we mean synchronical and meaningful and because no system can be active in a number of eras at the same time, there is no ‘historical grammar’ to us; what we call as such is the diachronical linguistics itself.*” Moreover, Saussure didn’t leave Lexicology out of Grammar, highlighting that it coexists together with Morphology and Syntax and, later, including in the same group Phonetics and Phonology. Saussure paid considerable attention to the speech and to the use of language (Saussure, 2002, pp. 152-154). In the second half of the twentieth century, another linguistic theory, generativism, studied language in terms of its synchronic aspect, built rules for constructing phrases and treated language in terms of semiotic aspect. Thus, generativist grammar of Noam Chomsky, the main representative of this theory, had three main directions: Syntax, rules of forming phrases and sentences, and formalization rules. According to Sh. Rrokaj, as Saussure made the distinction between language and speech, Chomsky made a distinction between competence and performance by providing precise definitions for these terms (Rrokaj, 2010, p. 163).

According to Teresa M Cabra, it is worth noting an interesting fact that linguists in this period, have shown low interest in the study of proper terminology as science in itself. What is more, they were interested in developing theories which were focused on their main principles by which human languages are developed. Only within the later approach, a special attention is paid to linguistic terminology.

If we continue our analysis, we can say that, during the second half of the twentieth century, the terminology theory, especially the applied one, showed significant interest to scientists and technicians. Based on this structured and organized work, we can confirm the reason why systematic terminology in various fields of knowledge, science and technology was evident in most developed countries. Ethnologists, in their studies, are based on new developments while preserving old traditions, but certainly giving more importance to new developed elements. In this period we note two important features which make simultaneously visible cultural differences: Technicalised society and its relation (society) to information. Namely, following M Cabra, these two traits influenced the language and interpersonal communication, by necessitating the creation of new linguistic products, and new methods of organization of the communication process. In the period of industrial development, when the writing was developed significantly, linguistic rules were created for a better use of language, thus making possible the emergence of standard language with rules and basic principles in many cultures. The use of national languages continued to be as natural vehicles of effective communication at all levels of use and in the technical and scientific use as well. As part of a specific lexicon, terminology is affected by social changes, which have an obvious effect on it by enabling the fulfillment of language needs in every field.

Terminology has been developed as a basic human necessity, that of identifying, labeling or naming things. In the XVIII-XIX centuries, scientists of different fields became terminology makers and leaders in general. They noted difficulties in relation to the diversity of forms and relationships between forms and concepts. (Cabre, 1992, pp. 2-6). The proper terminologists of different disciplines, fields of science, technology, art, etc., including linguistic discipline emerged by the middle of the XX century, when the science terminology was crystallized as a genuine science with the rules and its basic principles.

Linguistics is the study of language in all its dimensions. In the twentieth century, structural linguists describe specific languages, by indirectly drawing conclusions on some aspects of behavior and different language typologies. Generativist linguists focused on the description of language skills, individual and non-individual in description of specific languages. The development of language and modern linguistic theories are mostly based on generativists. Pragmatic aspect of language in communication function has become a part of linguistics in order not to focus on the main rules of language structure, but in its general principles. Consequently, their interest is directed at the concrete, natural practice of language.

Applied linguistics studies the structure of language as a communication tool, as a way to solve informational and communication needs of society. Growing importance of applied science played a concrete role in changing the linguistic behavior of speakers. Pragmatism is a feature that dominates the linguistic behavior. This new social and linguistic behavior has influenced the development of other fields within applied linguistics as: teaching, assessing linguistics, lexicography and terminology.

Undoubtedly, the terminology as a discipline, is one of the most privileged branches of applied linguistics. From a point of view, it can truly be classified as part of Applied Sciences, but which as united as one, theory with practice. This fact is noted in the compilation of glossary-lexical dictionaries, which are the most recent results of it (Roger, 1985, pp. 10-16).

CONCLUSIONS

At the end of this article we can say that terminology is generally developed as a basic human need to exactly designate things in order to achieve an effective and specialized communication.

Terminology and its development theories, were created and continue to evolve through practical experience even today through practical experience which is conditioned by people's need to find solutions through language to designate different terms in various fields of life.

It can be said that the study of language as a phenomenon has been noted since antiquity, while the development of linguistic theories according to historical periods brought about its terminology, as a constantly improving system. The terms defined from Antiquity, Middle Ages and Renaissance served as concrete basis for the formation of traditional descriptive grammars, whose terminological elements are still used nowadays in textbooks as well as contemporary literature.

Modern linguistics, strands of which emerged with Saussure gave the language the position of a science on its own, by considerably contributing in the field of phonology, semantics, morpho-syntax and semantics. Thus, it can be said that Linguistic terminology was born and developed through linguistic theories and grammar textbooks drafting throughout centuries, while terminology, in general, contributes to the science, technology and communication. Experts (terminologists in general) work together to enable the ranking and standardization of terms and concepts in various fields. The current development of terminology is not only the result of scholarly cooperation in all areas, including linguistics, but also of developments in technology and the increasing demand of the necessity for specialized communication in different languages.

REFERENCES

- Aristoteli. (2006). *Poetika*. Tiranë: ÇABEJ.
- Cabre, T. M. (1992). *Terminology, theory, methods*. John Benjamins Publishing Co.
- Hall, R. (1936). Linguistics theory in the Italian Renaissance. *Language*, XII, pp. 100-105.
- Lyons, J. (2010). *Hyrje në gjuhësinë teorike*. Tiranë: Dituria.
- Robins, R. (2010). *Historia e gjuhësisë*. Tiranë: Dituria.
- Roger, G. (1985). La science terminologique. 2, 10-16.
- Rrokaj, S. (2010). *Filozofi e gjuhës*. Tiranë: Arbëria.
- Saussure, F. d. (2002). *Kursi i gjuhësisë së përgjithshme*. Tirana: Dituria.
- Todorov, O., & Dycro, O. (1984). *Fjalori Enciklopedik i shkencave të ligjërimit Prishtinë*. Prishtinë.