

**ПЕРФОРМАТИВНІ ВИСЛОВЛЕННЯ ЯК ЗАСІБ
ІДЕНТИФІКАЦІЇ КОМУНІКАТИВНИХ ІНТЕНЦІЙ
В УКРАЇНСЬКОМУ ДИСКУРСІ**

Світлана ШАБАТ-САВКА

Чернівецький національний університет
імені Юрія Федьковича, Чернівці (Україна)
shabat-savka@ukr.net

**PERFORMATIVE EXPRESSIONS AS A MEANS OF
IDENTIFICATION OF COMMUNICATIVE INTENTIONS
IN THE UKRAINIAN DISCOURSE**

Svitlana SHABAT-SAVKA

Yuriy Fed'kovych Chernivtsi National University,
Chernivtsi (Ukraine),
ORCID: orcid.org/0000-0002-2658-5567

Шабат-Савка Светлана. Перформативные высказывания как средство идентификации коммуникативных интенций в украиноязычном дискурсе. В статье рассматриваются перформативные высказывания как синтаксические репрезентанты категории коммуникативной интенции (среди конструкций, основу которых формируют иллокутивные предикаты, выраженные 1-м лицом единственного числа настоящего времени изъявительного наклонения) и определяются как языковые единицы, однозначно эксплицитные и четко идентифицирующие ту или иную интенцию говорящего – повествования, побуждения, обещания, извинения, благодарности, пожелания и др. Утверждается, что в таких конструкциях осуществляется саморепрезентация автора, его речевых намерений и волеизъявлений – рассказать, сообщить, заявить, попросить, предостеречь, пообещать, задекларировать уважение, урегулировать межличностные отношения. Использование в украиноязычном дискурсе эмоционально-экспрессивных перформативов (нечленимых коммуникативов) связано с возможностью говорящего показать коммуникативное мастерство и лингвокреативность, а также с расширением перформативной теории в лингвистике.

Ключевые слова: коммуникативная интенция, говорящий, перформативные высказывания, иллокутив, эмоционально-экспрессивный перформатив, украиноязычный дискурс.

Problem and its connection with important scientific issues. In multiparadigmatic space of modern Ukrainian linguistics its areas are primarily defined by those scientific studies that represent a dynamic, communicative and pragmatic aspects of language, make more expressive synergistic analysis of linguistic phenomena in close cooperation of lingual and extralinguistic factors in the course of communication process, contribute to the systematization of linguistic resources relevant to intentional verbalization expanse of human communication. The relevance of our study is distinguished by the fact that it touches upon a number of categorical variables, in particular communicative intention: interlayer conceptual category, a special linguistic phenomenon with its usual plan of content (wide range of the speaker's intentional requirements) and plan of forms provided by varying in ranks linguistic units of syntactic, morphological and lexical levels.

The entry of language units to the system of means of communicative intentions expression is due to their ability to explicate position of an addressee, versatile display the intentional horizons of communicants. Language form in any case transmit personal horizons of intentional addition of a communicant, accumulating information about the amplitude of psycho-mental linguistic identity, makes more expressive the position of the speakers, their needs and target instruction. Syntax constructions that verbalize the category of communicative intentions include performative expressions that clearly identify this or that intention, itemize the position of the speaker as the main subject of communi-

cation.

Analysis of recent research and publications in which a solution of the problem. The thesis «the word (expression) as the action», accented by J. Austin in the work «How to do things with words» and supported by P. Strawson, J. Searle, H. Grice, other foreign and domestic linguists (Yu. Apresyan, F. Batsevych, H. Valihura, S. Zhabotynska, I. Kobozyeva, I. Kosyk, Ye. Lipska, O. Paducheva and others), was implemented in the **theory of performativity**, according to which saying something means action. In the practice of linguistic studies, performativity has clearly defined features, including: equiactuality (is action and not statements about it); non-veracity (non-checkability by the criterion of truth / untruth); self-referencing (the ability to be performative act referent for himself); autonominativity (calling itself); equitemporality (temporal coincidence of time and action verbs); and fixed grammatical form. Some researchers note that performative expressions have communicative and intentional meaning and are made up of pragmatic component that represents communicative intention and propositive one, reflecting its cognitive content¹.

Performative expressions usually considered in the theory of speech acts are still not clearly designated areas in the traditional Ukrainian language syntax and remain on the periphery of levels and trends. As the Polish scholar L. Pisarek noted, performative sentences do not fit into conventional syntactic paradigm as possible changes in sentence form, due modal-temporal and personal changes, would lead to the

¹ Ivanova I. P. Predlozhenie. Teoreticheskaya grammatika sovremennogo angliiskogo yazyka [Offer. Theoretical grammar of Modern English], M., Vysshaya shkola, 1981, P. 271–278.

replacement of performative expression function onto constative one². We distinguish performative expressions in the system of syntax representants category of communicative intentions (of sentences / statements) and interpret them as linguistic units that uniquely explicate this or that intention of the speaker, have a «high degree of uniqueness» facilitating «the listener's perception and understanding of the intentions of addressee»³. In our estimation, **performatives** constitute a separate type of «I»-statements, regarding their affiliation with author's intention and on functioning in colloquial interaction, which clearly identify the intentions of the speaker.

The purpose of the article is to define intentional and communicative range of performative expressions in the Ukrainian discourse, to characterize their potential to serve a means of identification of these or that intentions of the speaker.

The main material research. Performative expressions, which are mainly formed by illocutionary predicates expressed by the first person singular of the present indicative mood, clearly represent the intention of the speaker by their semantic potential, particularly onomasiologic nature and reflect communicative purpose. Intentional centers in these structures serve as performative verbs like *promise, advise, command, thank* and the like, and their synonyms that highlight the style of use, indicate the intensity degree of intention expression, cf.: – *I promise to fix by Sultan all the controversial and confusing case* (P. Zahrebelny); – *I agree to the last minute stay righteous* (O. Kobylanska); – *I swear by heaven, adorned by constellation of the zodiac* (P. Zahrebelny).

In linguistics, there are various classifications of speech acts-statements. J. Austin offered to distinguish between two types of statements: performatives and constatives. If a constative expression only reflects the reality, the performative one is an action itself, its pronunciation is the implementation of a specific act, eg.: intention statement / ascertaining (*Fog herds the gray flock, herds in the meadows, rivers to pursue* (V. Voznyuk); intention of promise (– *I swear that I love this heart more than mine* (P. Zahrebelny); intention of thanksgiving (– *I infinitely thank you, Mr. President, for this high honor* (V. Vinnichenko).

Among the performatives J. Austin distinguishes between verdictives (expressing valuation, opinion or approval of something, *blame, assess, understand, analyze*); exercitives (exercise power or influence: *appoint, warn, command, devise, name*); commissives (*promise, swear, announce*); habitives (*apologize, congratulate, sympathize, thank*); expositives (*suppose, recognize, respond*)⁴. The well-known theorist of intentionality, J. Searle, provides ascertives, directives, commissives, expressives, declaratives⁵. Eventually, the classification given by other researchers rely on the views of these two foreign linguists.

According to our observations, performative expressions

explicate a broad spectrum of subjective intentions of the author's type. «**I**»-expression represents the personal opinion of the author remarks, his relation to what he sees, hears. It is important not only to convey his attitude and message to the recipient, but also to be understood, heard, or otherwise convey the modal content of the messages. Performative is one of the means to express oneself. «I» in the performative expression is associated with the speaker, subject, author of intentions. Direct expression manifests itself in the content of the personal pronouns, the key words of communication.

Determining the original function of personal pronouns, W. von Humboldt stressed that the central is the personality of the speaker, and the very notion of «I» presupposes the existence of the concept of «you»⁶. Fulfilling deictic function, «I» is related to the context, to the situation of speech communication, identifies the main subject and the recipient, «You». The deictic role frames the communicative situation, focusing particular intention. Personal pronouns localize and identify the person, relating it to specific communicative context. Deixis clearly differentiates between «I» and «you». In our opinion, the «I»-expression is a self-representation of the author in a certain speech fragment-act. Undoubtedly, performatives belong to the group of so-called «I»-sentences in which the subject of the action and the speaker coincide. These structures have the ability to adjust various aspects of the process of interpersonal interaction of communicants, to encourage them to perform certain actions, to convince of something, to maintain or establish a balance in their relationship. So performatives realize communicative intentions, dictate local and temporal characteristics of the communicative situation, which occurs in the coordinates «I – you – here – now». We agree that the performative speech act is intentional (mostly clearly indicates the illocutionary aim and intention of the speaker), addressed (consciously aimed at a particular destination), conventional (influences events and the state of world, is based on social conventions and is generally accepted for a given society including the consequences⁷. However, some caution raise from the conclusions of linguists who recognize extralinguistic factors of performative expressions: the age of the interlocutors (senior, junior or of the same age), social status (above, below, equal to), the social roles of the communication participants (colleagues, friends, neighbors, father - son, wife - husband), the character of the communicative situation (symmetric, asymmetric, private, official, public), relations between the interlocutors (the familiar, unfamiliar, unknown), circumstances of communication (formal, neutral and informal), authority, competence and influence of the speakers. Fetishizing of performativity (the so-called performative hypothesis) defines even those studies in which the emphasis is on the fact that in the form of an explicit performative virtually all classes of sentences can be expressed; or all types of communicative sentences relate

² Pisarek L. Rechevye deistviya i ikh realizatsiya v russkom yazyke v sopostavlenii s pol'skim (ekspressivny) [Speech acts and their implementation in Russian as compared to Polish], Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Wrocławskiego, 1995, P. 19.

³ Balandina N. F. «Performatyvy yak indykatory funktsii konventsiinykh vysloven» [Performatives as indicators of conventional utterances function], *Movoznavstvo [Linguistics]*, 2010, № 2 / 3, P. 197.

⁴ Ostin Dzh. «Slovo kak deistvie» [How to do things with words], *Novoe v zarubezhnoi lingvistike [News in Foreign Linguistics]*, M., Progress, 1986, Vyp. XVII, P. 119.

⁵ Serl' Dzh. R. «Klassifikatsiya illokutivnykh aktov» [What is a Speech Act?], *Novoe v zarubezhnoi lingvistike [News in Foreign Linguistics]*, M., Progress, 1986, Vyp. 17, P. 170.

⁶ Gumbol'dt fon V. Izbrannye trudy po yazykoznaniiyu [Selected Linguistic Writings], M., Progress, 1984, P.113-114.

⁷ Lipska Ye. L. Performatyvnii vyslovennia v suchasniy nimetskii movi: semantychnyi i kohnityvno-prahmatychnyi aspekty [Performative utterances in Modern German: semantic and cognitive-pragmatic aspects]: avtoref. dys. na zdobuttia nauk. stupenia kand. filol. nauk: spets. 10.02.04 «Hermanski movy», Lipska Yevheniia Leonidivna, Chernivtsi, 2010, P. 8.

to the performative ones.

Performative hypothesis extends the interpretation of the performative: any statement can be seen as an implicit performative, since it has a communicative purpose and illocutionary force, and in its structure is obvious the presence of the performative verb. As defined by N. Balandina, the essence of the performative hypothesis is that the deep structure of any sentence has in its top a performative verb⁸. We draw attention to the fact that not all speech acts can be expressed using an explicit performative: it is impossible to carry out an act of praise and an act of threat, saying, «I praise by this» or «I threaten by this». If this happens, the speaker, according to Z. Wendler, performs «illocutionary suicide»⁹. In addition, not every illocutionary verb is performative, and not every illocutionary force can be nominated by a performative verb, cf.: – *I suffer. I'm sorry* (O. Dovzhenko); – *I am very sorry that I can't come to the anniversary celebration, so dear to me* (S. Vasil'chenko).

Communicative and intentional content of the performatives is wide. These constructions explicitly realize the full range of speech needs. In particular, assertives, verbalizing the narrative intention, convey the semantics of assertion messages using predicates *assert, state, report, inform*. Syntax sentence patterns like: *I tell ...; I am informing ...; I explain ...; I ascertain ...; I say ...; I confirm ...; I disbelieve ...; I remind ...; I sum up ...; I declare ...; I guess ...; I can imagine ...* - clearly identify the position of the subject of the speech in the implementation of the intentions of informing, eg.: – *I have to report that she was the one who ran the whole economy, and on whose shoulders rested the well-being of the whole family* (O. Kobylianska); – *I say that we wouldn't rob ... we are not thieves and robbers ...* (V. Vynnychenko); – *But we women are harder. I affirm that I can now and then take out five or six buckets of water in a row* (O. Kobylianska).

In promissory expressions the speaker promises to do something. Promissories are always declarative sentences that are relevant to the future. The specific character of their communicative and intentional content results in their peculiar and meaningful formal limitation: in promissories speaker acts as an assurer of the reality of the promise. To identify the intentions, the addressant uses illocutionaries *promise, swear, swear by, assure, cross the heart*. Cf.: – *I promise to appoint you my financial advisor* (P. Zagreb'nyi); – *I swear by my fee in the "World Film"* (V. Vinnichenko); – *I swear by the sky that sheds rain, by earth, which grows grasses* (P. Zagreb'nyi). As you can see, the promissory intention may be representative of different intentional states of the speaker, taking into account the degree of manifestation.

In the Ukrainian-speaking discourse we distinguish between several models of promissory statements. Classical is the following construction: «*I + promise + the promise itself*»: *I promise you to read this book* (Colloquial). Another model of promissory intention implementation is the following: «*I + promise + terms of fulfillment of the promise*»: *For two days, I do throw myself into the cannon roar* (M. Khvyliovyi); *I'll be right here* (M. Khvyliovyi). The period of implementation of the promise is indicated by the words **now, for two days, soon**; some action would take place depending on the specified time.

The peculiarity of Ukrainian-speaking discourse is that some of the promissory statements are equal to the rites,

rituals, which are used to connote oaths, strict affirmation: – *Cross my heart when you're cut of faith* (I. Nechuy-Levitsky). The first part of the sentence is used as a promise. Holiness of the cross mentioning symbolizes that promise is true, cf.: – *Cross my heart that it's Oksana who committed the crime* (B. Shkliar).

Not being a sentence part, the communicative means **by heavens** may enhance the promissory intention, be used to confirm anything, to assure in fulfillment of any act, promise, eg.: – *Hei, Bronk, leave me alone, or then, by heaven, I'll nowhere else go with you* (Irina Wilde). These and similar syntactic constructs can be regarded as the realization of the intentions of **assurance** (– *I assure you - he finished unexpectedly - you won't regret anywhere* (M. Khvyliovyi).

In the text communication, the promissory intention is verbalized by complex conditional sentences, e. g. : – *As the stars of heaven shall come down, I'll give dinner to my mother and ran for an hour in the garden* (I. Nechuy-Levitsky); – *See, you, the girl, a willow's over the water. Like the willow's branches burst into bloom, I marry you* (Folk Song). Actually, such constructs are characteristic to Ukrainian-speaking discourse, which fully implements the mentality of the Ukrainian people, its soul and national linguistic thinking.

In the deeply moving Ukrainian-speaking discourse the promissory intention can implement threat statements (the addressee in the case of failure of action promises to hurt addresser), eg.: – *I'll smash this reel to pieces if you do not set down your wife!* (I. Nechuy-Levitsky); *If Melashka disappears, then I'll never forgive...* (I. Nechuy-Levitsky) or to oneself (self-promise), cf.: – *If I don't marry, then I'll get drowned in Russia* (I. Nechuy-Levitsky).

Promissory intention is actualized by illocutionary **swear** that differs from the verb **promise** expressing a more compelling force than promise, cf. : – *I find them, I swear to God, I find, and we'll start a new life* (V. Shkliar); *And I as well swear to you that personally I would stay in the forest for as long as there will be a single cossack with me* (V. Shkliar).

Promissory intention is implicitly appears in the oath as a speech genre: – *I swear to you ... I am ready to bite the ground* (V. Shkliar). Saying vows are mythological framework associated with ancient beliefs of Ukrainians in supernatural forces, cf.: – *Great balls of fire! Let me holy lightning will burn! Blimei! By thunder!* – *Popenko sworn* (Panas Mirny).

A separate group is formed by performatives aimed at identification of communicative **intentions of motivating**, from orders, demands to requests, pleas: *I order...; I demand...; I warn you...; I advice...; I ask...; I'm begging...; I ajure ...* eg.: – *I demand to punish him!* (V. Vynnychenko); – *I'm warning you. Mind this* (V. Vinnichenko); – *I advise everyone who has at home some of the relatives, hurry home* (V. Vynnychenko).

The choice of precatory intentions that reflect the semantics of the pleading is quite broad. The degree of request intensity is stressed by synonymic rows of performatives **ask, beg, convince, plead, ajure**, cf.: – *I ask you, comrade General, do us the honor, and so that we remember this day as a holiday through the lifetime* (O. Dovzhenko); – *I beg you, eat. You have to eat. You must* (V. Vynnychenko); – *I pray that you now always have fun* (P. Zagreb'nyi); – *Here is my happiness, oh, Christ!*

⁸ Balandina N. F. "Performatyvy yak indykatory funktsii konventsiynykh vysloven" [Performatives as indicators of conventional utterances function], *Movoznavstvo [Linguistics]*, 2010, № 2 / 3, P. 197.

⁹ Vendler Z. "Illokutivnoe samoubiistvo" [Illocutionary Suicide], *Novoe v zarubezhnoi lingvistike [News in Foreign Linguistics]*, M., Progress, 1988, Vyp. 16, Lingvisticheskaya pragmatika, P. 238.

I beg you on everything you hold sacred: if you're going to get married, don't marry the shopkeeper, don't marry the townsman (Panas Mirny). Performative *ask* that introduces intention of the request, in some speech situations, mainly in the phatic communication, is nonsemantic and is used as a marker of politeness, as a synonym to please, eg.: – *Gentlemen! ..Gentlemen! ..Order! Order! I'm short of time* (V. Vynnychenko); – *Gentlemen! I ask for one minute of silence!* (V. Vynnychenko).

Communicative optative intentions, transmitting the personal will of the speaker are introduced by the performative verbs *want, desire, aspire*, cf.: – **I want his son to come back faster** (M. Stelmach); – **Oh, I want something higher!** (O. Kobylanska); – **I wish you good health, happiness** (M. Stelmach). The emergence of this communicative need (statements of what a person needs in the life, to understand the other, what he wants) is determined by the communicative situation, communicative context, motive, which affects the appearance of intentions and speech activity.

In the Ukrainian-speaking discourse metacommunicative (phatic) intentions, accompanying the basic communication are verbalized. In the structure of greeting (*Good afternoon!*) or farewell (*Goodbye*) both the semantic and phatic information relevant in a situation where politeness dominates, is coded. The very category of courtesy determines meta-communicative intention, transmits communication needs of the speaker in the ritual and etiquette communication, and respectful, courteous attitude to the interlocutor, goodwill, commitment and sincerity which are the relevant features of Ukrainian-discourse phatic communication. Performative in this case expresses the intention of the social and regulatory nature, which are necessary in a direct dialogue, in particular, congratulations: **I welcome you warmly** (B. Lepky); respect: – **I respect and honor you highly, ma'am radnikova** (O. Kobylanska); thanks: – **Oh, thank you for your kindness, your Grace, very grateful!** (V. Vynnychenko), an apology: – **I ask Mr. President to forgive my lack of restraint, but I can't pull myself together** (V. Vynnychenko), a blessing – **I bless you on this glorious deed** (V. Pidmogilny).

Some linguists are expanding the boundaries of performative expressions¹⁰, adding to them the so-called «pragmatic performatives», expressed by indivisible speech units that convey mainly the emotionally-estimated intention of the speaker, cf.: – **Wow! Oh! Come on! Well? Really? – Oh! Don't stick your head out, son, with an unwise word. You'll be awkward back** (M. Kotsyubinsky); – **I would like you to say something. – Well?** (Irina Wilde); – **Ugh, Nelka, ugh! How could you do so?!** (Irina Wilde). Using the emotionally expressive performatives in speech activity shows the speaker's communicative skills, linguistic creativity, the ability to choose the right word, part of the sentence, etc.

Conclusions and recommendations for further research. Performative expressions serve as a means of identification of the speaker's intentions (information, motivation, promises, desires, forgiveness, thanksgiving, wishes, etc.), represent the definite modality, closely reflect the communicative goal clearly explicate this or that intention of the speaker. It is in these structures the author is representing himself, his desire to convey a verbal intent: to regulate interpersonal relations, to declare respect, to express the will of others. Communicative and intentional range of performatives is focused on explication of speech acts-actions in

terms of intentional needs of the speaker, as tell, say, ask, warn, promise, swear, adjure, declare, respect, demonstrate good manners and culture in communicating with other people.

Performative expressions unambiguously and explicitly verbalize the intention of the speaker, which determines their important place in the Ukrainian language syntax representants. However, these structures are used by the speakers in various discourse-genre and stylistic forms of functioning of the Ukrainian language in which they reveal the national spirit, a special way of usage that actually forms the subject of our further scientific studies.

Шабат-Савка С. Т. Перформативні висловлення як засіб ідентифікації комунікативних інтенцій в українськомовному дискурсі. Перформативні висловлення, що їх зазвичай аналізують у теорії мовленнєвих актів, досі не мають чітко відведеного місця в традиційному синтаксисі української мови й залишаються на периферії мовних рівнів і напрямів. У статті перформативи розглянуто в системі синтаксичних репрезентантів категорії комунікативної інтенції (серед висловлень, стрижень яких формують ілокутивні предикати, виражені 1-ою особою однини теперішнього часу дійсного способу) і витлумачено як мовні одиниці, що однозначно експлікують ту чи інтенцію мовця, виразно ідентифікують мовленнєві наміри.

Своїм змістовим потенціалом, особливою ономазіологічною природою перформативні висловлення виражають розлогий спектр суб'єктивно-авторських інтенцій (розповідності, спонування, обіцянки, вибачення, дякування, побажання та ін.). Саме в таких конструкціях відбувається саморепрезентація автора, його прагнення передати певний мовленнєвий намір і своє волевиявлення – розповісти, повідомити, заявити, попросити, застерегти, пообіцяти, задекларувати повагу, продемонструвати вихованість та культуру поведінки, урегулювати міжособистісні стосунки. Використання в українськомовному дискурсі емоційно-експресивних перформативів (нечленованих комунікативів) пов'язане з можливістю мовця показати комунікативну майстерність і лінгвокреативність, уміння актуалізувати увагу на потрібному слові, частині висловлення, а також із розширенням перформативної теорії в лінгвістиці загалом.

Перформативні висловлення мовці використовують у різних дискурсивно-жанрових формах української мови, у яких вони виявляють національну специфіку, особливу стилістику вживання порівняно з іншими мовами, що, власне, виформовує предмет наших подальших наукових студій.

Ключові слова: комунікативна інтенція, мовець, перформативне висловлення, ілокутив, емоційно-експресивний перформатив, українськомовний дискурс.

Шабат-Савка Світлана – доктор філологічних наук, доцент, професор кафедри сучасної української мови, заступник декана філологічного факультету Чернівецького національного університету імені Юрія Федьковича. Автор близько 150 наукових і науково-методичних праць. Коло наукових зацікавлень – актуальні проблеми комунікативної граматики та лінгвопрагматики, категорійний та функційний синтаксис української мови.

Shabat-Savka Svitlana – Doctor of Philology, Associate Professor, Professor in the Department of Modern Ukrainian language, Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Philology Yuriy Fed'kovych Chernivtsi National University. Author of almost 150 scientific and educational works. Sphere of academic interests – current issues of communicative grammar and lingvopragmatics, categorical and functional syntax of the Ukrainian language.

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¹⁰ Batevych F. S. Narysy z lnhvistychnoi prahmatyky [Notes on linguistic pragmatics]: [monohrafiia], Lviv, PAIS, 2010, P. 34; Kosik I. A. "K Probleme klassifikatsii performativa" [On the problem of performative classification], *Materialy XI mezhdunarodnoi konferentsii po funktsional'noi lingvistike «Funktional'noe opisanie estestvennogo yazyka i ego edynits»*, sb. nauch. tr., Yalta, 2004, P. 187. 47