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RUSSIAN ADVERB AS THE "THING IN ITSELF"

Summary. The article gives an analysis of the specific lexical and grammatical group of words, adverbs, in terms of teaching Russian as a foreign language; the comparison of Russian and English adverbs is given; the conclusions concerning the methods of teaching Russian adverbs to international students are made.

Key words: adverb, qualitative adverbs, circumstantial adverbs, predicative adverbs, synonymy, antonymy, homonymy, Russian as a foreign language.

Introduction. Among the traditionally distinguished parts of speech, a very unique, diverse and semantically rich lexico-grammatical group of adverbs takes a special place.

The general meaning of this lexico-grammatical group, which can be described as "attribute of attribute", is almost the only semantic core that integrates around itself the words which are different in etymology, morphological structure, and derivational characteristics.

Etymologically, adverbs are heterogeneous: from the most archaic ones, positioned today as non-derivatives (*вчера, там, иногда, ныне* (yesterday, there, sometimes, nowadays)), through obsolete ones (*намедни, доколе, все, отсель, втуне* (the other day, how long, in vain, from here, in vain)), through relatively morphologically (but not semantically) available ones (*босиком, вдогонку, в потемках* (barefoot, after, in the dark)), through the obscure ones, that are nowadays idiom segments (*сбить с панталыку, решать с кондачка, дел невпроворот, жить на куличках* (to throw into confusion, to decide off-hand, to have too many things to do, to live in the boonies)) – to later adverbs with petrified inflexions which go back to completely transparent and well-known to international students forms, such as *весной, вечером, осенью, внизу, замужем, досуха, нехотя* (in spring, in the evening, in autumn, at the bottom, married, to dryness, reluctantly).

The diversity in the morphological structure, reflecting the historical formation, as well as today's permanent replenishment of adverbs due to adverbialization of the words and forms of many parts of speech, and occasionalisms of artistic speech, undoubtedly, supports considering adverbs as a living lexico-grammatical group, albeit with a diverse of morpheme inventory involved.

Against the backdrop of such an abundance of morphological signs of Russian adverbs, grammarians sought for "the internal unity of this category on the paths of its semantic and syntactic study" [1, p. 272].

Syntactically, the adverb performs in the sentence the function of adverbial modifier, qualitative / quantitative characteristics of actions, intensity, measure, degree, etc., and from the communicative-syntactic point of view, it becomes an adverbial determiner (being in the absolute beginning or end of the utterance).

Despite all of the above, the adverb is superficially studied not only in the course of Russian as a Foreign Language (RFL), but also in the course of modern Russian philology in general. Reviews of ways to represent the category of adverbs in RFL text-books [2–3] allow us to join the conclusion that "the adverb still remains on the periphery of the attention of the authors of text-books and study guides" [3, p. 183]. As examples, simplest and "flattest" adverbs (*дома, обычно, интересно* (at home, usually, interesting)) are usually used, but they are frequency adverbs though, that is methodologically advisable at the initial stage of the international students' training. However, not returning to the systemic study of adverbs later, unfortunately, forever deprives the adverb semantics of its expressive component.

Adverbs comprise a large in number, varied in structure and functioning group of significant words having a tendency to replenish. As for the quantity of adverbs, there are more than 8.5 thousand words and more than 10 thousand semantic units (according to the dictionaries [4–5]) in modern Russian literary language, let alone numerous occasional adverbs given to us by word painters.

Main body of the research. The most important theoretical notions on the nature of Russian adverbs the international students need to learn are as follows.

1. An adverb is unchangeable part of speech, denoting a non-process characteristic of an action, quality, or object (*нудатся всухомятку, дом наискосок* (to live on cold food without liquids, a kitty-corner house)).

2. The main formal characteristic of an adverb is the absence of word change. The words of other parts of speech, that become adverbs, do not lose their correlations with motivating forms: with cases of nouns (*зурьбой, бегом, наизнанку* (in a crowd, at a run, inside out)), with adjectives (*мудрено, по-новому* (ingeniously, in a new way)), with numerals (*надвое, вчетвером* (in two, the four of us / them)), with pronouns (*по-нашему, незачем* (our way, no need)), with verbs (*шутя, играючи* (easily, effortlessly)). There are also non-derivative adverbs (*теперь, тут, завтра* (now, here, tomorrow)).

3. Adverbs do not have grammatical categories of either a noun, or a verb. They can depend on the verb (*знать понаслышке* (to know by hearsay)), on the adjective (*весьма приятный* (very pleasant)), on the noun (*дверь нараспашку* (the door is wide open)), on the sentence as a whole (*Формально он прав.* (Formally, he is right.)), i.e. syntactic characteristics of adverbs are: 1) the ability to combine with significant words by parataxis; 2) the use in a function of adverbial modifier.

Adverbs adjoin the verb (*упоминать вскользь* (to mention in passing)), the adjective (*чересчур грустные глаза* (too sad eyes)),

the participle (*набекрень надетая шапка (with one's hat cocked)*), the adverb (*смотреть совсем по-детски (to look quite childishly)*), the category of state (*было нестерпимо больно (it was unbearably painful)*), the adverbial participle (*ушел, вдребезги разбив посуду (on breaking dishes into pieces, he left)*), to the comparative (*вдвое дороже (twice as expensive)*). Adhering to the noun, adverbs act as an uncoordinated definition (*прогулка пешком (a walk on foot)*).

The adverbs' ability to government is limited. In this case, the connection is strong in a significant part of the circumstantial adverbs (*вразрез с общим мнением, наперекор судьбе (contrary to the general opinion, in defiance of fate)*). Qualitative adverbs have a weak ability to government, and it is of unnecessary character (*обидно до слез, важно для дела, легко на сердце (to be so upset one could cry, it is important for business, to be light of heart)*). The comparative strongly governs the nouns: 1) in Genitive case (*белее снега (whiter than snow)*); 2) in Accusative case with the prepositions *в / на* (*быстрее в 2 раза, старше на 5 лет (2 times faster, 5 years older)*).

4. Qualitative and circumstantial adverbs fundamentally differ not only in the type of grammatical connection, but also in other characteristics including the actual meaning (the degree of its abstraction). So, qualitative adverbs denote the quality of a characteristic / action, or indicate quantitative shades of action / quality, and circumstantial adverbs express temporal, local, causal, and other relationships.

5. Qualitative (attributive) adverbs are tens of times greater than circumstantial ones. In form, they are correlative with nomina and participles. They are adverbs ending in *-о, -е, -ски*, and primitive adverbs. They answer the questions: *как? каким образом? (how? which way?)* From qualitative adverbs, comparatives and superlatives are formed (*строго – строже – строжайше (strictly – more strictly – the most strictly)*); from qualitative adverbs, one can make the forms of subjective evaluation (*давненько, тихонечко, маловато, давным-давно (for quite a while, very quietly, not quite enough, long long ago)*).

Qualitative adverbs include quantitative ones too; they indicate the degree of quality, intensity of action and answer the questions: *сколько? / как много? до какой степени? (how much? to what extent?)* (*очень умный, вдвое больше, идти вдвоем, гораздо интереснее (very clever, twice as many, to go together, it's much more interesting)*).

Sometimes, adverbs, intermediate between qualitative and circumstantial ones, are distinguished; they are qualitatively-adverbial adverbs that combine the qualitative characteristic of an action with an indication of the way of its accomplishment (*вдруг, наизусть, вприпрыжку (suddenly, by heart, skipping)*). That also includes adverbs with the meaning of assimilation (*по-свойски – как свой (in a familiar way – as a relation)*) and adverbs formed from the Instrumental case of a noun (*стоять столбом (to stand like a statue)*).

6. Circumstantial adverbs denote time (*спозаранку, исстари (very early, from olden times)*), place (*за пазухой, на часах behind (in one's bosom, on guard)*), cause (*сгоряча, сослени (in temper, due to poor sight)*), purpose (*назло, нарочно (to spite smb., purposely)*), compatibility (*сообща, наедине (in common, privately)*).

7. Among the adverbs, there are predicative adverbs which differ from others in syntactic function, have the form of time (with the verb to be), and express predicates in non-subjective sentences. They can be accompanied by circumstantial words and objects, infinitives, combinations with Dative case indicating a person who experiences a condition indicated by a predicative adverb (*надо*

есть, нам весело, ему невдомек (we must go, we have fun, it doesn't occur to him)).

8. In addition, adverbs can be characterized by:

- unique combinatory, which is close to a stable one (*бежать наперез, знать наперечет, говорить наперебой, отказаться наотрез, жить на отшибе (to run to intercept smb., to know every single one of them, to vie with each other in telling, to refuse point-blank, to live in a remote)*);

- active synonymy (*слишком = чересчур, всюду = сплошь, настезь = нараспашку, ненароком = нечаянно (too much = excessively, everywhere = nothing but, wide open = unbuttoned, inadvertently = by accident)*);

- synonymy with idioms (*мало = кот заплакал, много = дел по горло, легко = без сучка и без задоринки, быстро = во весь дух (little = dribs and drabs, many (things to do) = on the go, easily = without a hitch, quickly = at a great lick)*);

- antonymy (*втридорога ≠ втридешева, тайком ≠ без утайки, в розницу ≠ оптом, черне ≠ белое, недавно ≠ давным-давно (triple the price ≠ dirt cheap, secretly ≠ frankly, in the foreground ≠ ntom, vcherné ≠ nabelo, nedavno ≠ a long time ago)*);

- homonymy (*Ты верно говоришь! – Ты, верно, не здорова?; Сегодня мне грустно. – Лицо её было грустно. (You are telling right! – You aren't well, are you?; I'm sad today. – Her face was sad)*);

- stylistic nuances: a) use of various logical constructions in discourse (*Она по-русски плохо знала.; Летала птичка высоко, да села недалеко. (She did not know Russian well; Look high and fall low)*) which may contain a description, statement of fact in literary works, or inference based on collective, historical experience; b) use of dialect variants of adverbs in proverbs and sayings (*Далеко, да легко – близко, да склизко; Сказал бы словечко, да волк недалеко (The longest way around is the shortest way home; I've a word for your ear, but the wolf is prowling near)*); c) use of a significant concentration of adverbs and occasionalisms in poetic texts for an emotional impact on the reader (*Сквозь волны – навывлет! (right through) Сквозь дождь – наугад! (at random) В свистящем гонимые мыле, Мы рыщем на оурунь... (gropingly) Навзрыд (uncontrollably) и не в лад (out of tune) Хранят полотняные крылья; И вот уже сумеркам невтерпь (can't wait), И вот уж за дымом вослед (after), Срываються поле и ветер... (poetry examples by Eduard Bagritsky, and Boris Pasternak)*).

Conclusions. All of the above-mentioned theoretical notions require special approaches and close attention, methodological breakthroughs, accumulation of experience in the reception and production of adverbs in written and verbal texts. The unique etymology and dispersion of necrotic morphemes, which create additional difficulties for foreign trainees and even for teachers, often position Russian adverbs as the "thing in itself". And indeed, it is hardly possible for international learners to understand (without a particular preparation) such Russian adverbs as *ничком, кубарем, впопыхах, взалб, внакладе, впритык, врасплох, навзничь, насмарку, подспудно, опротя, prone, head over heels, hastily, excitedly, lose, tight, unawares, on one's back, down the drain, surreptitiously, headlong*.

The authors' practical experience in this field is reflected in a special study guide which contents theoretical background, explanatory dictionary of the most difficult to understand adverbs (450 units), and 200 exercises (communicative, training and illustrative ones) of varying degrees of complexity. These exercises include synonymy and antonymy of adverbs, homonymy of ad-

verbs and other words in the sentence, formation of the comparative and superlative adverbs, compatibility of adverbs with verbs and nouns, interpretation of idioms through adverbs, and other materials on Russian adverbs [6]).

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Нагайцева Н. И., Романов Ю. О. Російський прислівник як «річ у собі»

Анотація. У статті надано аналіз специфічної лексико-граматичної групи слів – прислівників – із точки зору викладання російської мови як іноземної; проводиться порівняння російських і англійських прислівників; зроблені висновки, що стосуються методики викладання російських прислівників іноземним студентам.

Ключові слова: прислівник, означальні прислівники, обставинні прислівники, предикативні прислівники, синонімія, антонімія, омонімія, російська як іноземна.

Нагайцева Н. И., Романов Ю. А. Русское наречие как «вещь в себе»

Аннотация. В статье представлен анализ специфической лексико-грамматической группы слов – наречий – с точки зрения преподавания русского языка как иностранного; проводится сопоставление русских и английских наречий; сделаны выводы, касающиеся методики преподавания русских наречий иностранным студентам.

Ключевые слова: наречие, качественные наречия, обстоятельственные наречия, предикативные наречия, синонимия, антонимия, омонимия, русский как иностранный.