

*Elena N. Kolomiets,
postgraduate student,
National Pedagogical Dragomanov University*

Reconstruction as the Main Method of Text Interpretation in Modern Linguistics

Key words: *text reconstruction, structural reconstruction, semantic reconstruction, syntax reconstruction.*

Annotation: *The article is devoted to the study of methods of text reconstruction. Methods of reconstruction in modern linguistic studies are analyzed.*

Present anthropocentric linguistics returns to the study of phenomena that were considered in the first comparative historical linguistic paradigm including the concept of reconstruction. Traditionally, in classical linguistic studies (F. Bopp, J. Grimm) the understanding of the reconstruction was reduced to its interpretation as a procedure of comparative historical method, which aims were to establish an archetype based on the position that sound changes in related languages are distinct that is why the roots and inflections are stable over millennia (1).

Comparative historical method remains the most important tool for establishing languages affinity and knowledge of their history, but with the development of linguistic science, the term “reconstruction” began to be interpreted more broadly than just the procedure of comparative historical method and became an independent method of cognitive comparative linguistics that involves restoring structures of consciousness which are organized as matrices (a founder of cognitive comparative linguistics is A.V. Korolyova). At present days the renewed understanding of the problem is observed from the cognitive vector (A.V. Korolyova, L.P. Dronova), the aim of which is not only to reconstruct language forms but more complex structures especially texts. The basis of this approach is to understand the idea of reconstruction as a way of representation and interpretation of reality through its objectification in the light of the text as a sign of culture. Under these conditions, the text (its structure, semantic, syntax) undoubtedly becomes a product and the phenomenon of the society, the reflection of its attitude and outlook.

Today it is necessary to develop special methods of text reconstruction, as many scholars have paid attention to the importance of the text and context for all language levels reconstruction and also to the lack of comprehensive technique of reconstruction procedure. Integrated reconstruction involves basic method reconstruction that is used for various text levels (compositional-semantic, syntactic and semantic), and also supporting methods which are used for the results interpretation of reconstruction (contextually-interpretative method, philological text analysis).

Reconstruction of the compositional and semantic elements enables to imagine text as the implementation of the cultural circuit that has a logic construction and includes a “diachronic matrix” (2). Therefore, through the text structure, another text appears as a result of cultural environment. Commenting this process, V. Toporov said: “Every step in the text reconstruction is accompanied by a kind of projection on a sphere of textual structure” (2, p. 415). Thus reconstruction enables segregation of compositional semantics elements, clarifying their part in the text.

Linguist B.A. Uspenskiy considers the text structure as a unity of points of view (structure becomes a sign of cultural nature) which aim is to organize and give structural order. Opinion in the text structure is a kind of perspective, from which textual information is perceived with the text architectonics.

Reconstruction of internal semantic elements aims to identify sustainable, meaningful characteristics used to encode historically conditioned and fixed in the mind meanings that are reflected in text. The procedure of finding out the meanings that were fixed in the mind provides a clear sequence of actions that in addition to the reconstruction of images and meanings involves the reconstruction of ancient vocabulary and identifying those values that were fixed in it. Emphasizing the importance of reconstruction of semantic elements A.A. Sorokina notes that semantic reconstruction involves the study of vocabulary for its grade level and theme groups, determining the location of vocabulary in the text (context) (3).

Implimenting the procedure of semantic reconstruction, Austrian linguist William Royder, conveniently came to the conclusion that the work on reconstruction becomes easier due to the fact that even faded images of the world (verblasste Weltbilder) continue to live in language structures for a very long time even for milleniums. Thereby a linguist emphasized the importance of reconstruction of the syntactic text component for faded world images reproduction, fixed in its semantic and syntactic structures and verbalized by syntactic figures (4, p. 11-22).

Reconstruction of syntactic text elements uses syntax through the interpretation that syntactic figures reveal assessment of the image that lies behind them.

As F.I. Buslaev noted the task of the syntactic reconstruction is to reveal the language, its grammar, in the forms of combination of words which reflect the general laws of logic on the one hand, and on the other, the internal ways of expressing original inherence in the language that often develops in contradiction to the laws of logic or “the internal laws of language” (5).

Reconstruction of the syntactic figures is based on methods of logical-semantic reconstruction with the aim of interpreting the author's expression through the syntactic form reproduction. Syntax reconstruction enables to clarify symbolic aspect of the text, since the choice of syntactic shapes is caused by the sign which they denote. The most important for syntactic reconstruction is the description of three main syntactic parameters: reconstruction of structural sentences' schemes, reconstruction of key tokens and their meanings that take place of predicate and oktant in the sentence a sentence of each structural schemes, reconstruction of new syntactical constructions, which were created by the interaction of the main types of syntactic figures.

Contextually-interpretative method is a set of procedures aimed at establishing the status of the text relatively to other texts, its importance in the socio-cultural context and the reconstruction of the author (communicative) idea, motives and goals, general content, text etc. receptive orientation. Some researchers believe this method is a kind of general descriptive method, while the others distinguish it as the independent method.

Contextually-interpretative method involves two stages: contextualization and interpretation. The first one aims at demonstration of continuous rigid context with the development of appropriate themes and concept of the text disclosure. This takes into account general context interpretation (outlook, individual consciousness, author lexicon, immersion to the cultural outlook and the corresponding existential time and space) and reception (outlook, individual awareness, corresponding world of reality), communicative and operational contexts. On the basis of the interpretation contextualization of information embodied in the text is made, the author's setting goals and strategies, his impact on the readers (6) are distinguished.

There are three fundamental principles of *philological text analysis* – attention to semantic, contextual part of the text, text categories for communicative text and aesthetic text qualities. Procedures of philological text analysis are based on six stages of literary text analysis, offered in 1976 by Russian scholar I. Halperin: 1) text style, language, genre, functional type of speech (narration, description, reasoning) definition; 2) text message decoding, general intent disclosure; 3) detailed analysis of words meanings; 4) analysis of stylistic devices compared to neutral meaning of linguistic expression; 5) stylistically marked fragments analysis, their part in the subjective-evaluative author's attitude to the described events in his text; 6) result synthesis (7).

Reconstruction of the text structural elements, semantic elements and syntactic elements are based on methods of reconstruction with the aim of interpreting the author's expression through the text structure, inner and outer semantic elements and syntactic form reproduction. Structural reconstruction detects structural elements and should be used to explain them through the cultural point of view. Semantic reconstruction is understood as a procedure for finding out the meanings that were fixed in the mind and provides a clear sequence of actions that in addition to the reconstruction of images and meanings involves the reconstruction of ancient vocabulary and identifying those values that were fixed in it. Syntax reconstruction enables to clarify symbolic aspect of the text, since the choice of syntactic shapes is caused by the sign which they denote. Contextually-interpretative method and philological text analysis are used to give interpretation to the reconstruction results.

References:

1. Bopp F. *A Comparative Grammar of the Sanscrit, Zend, Greek, Latin, Lithuanian, Gothic, German and Slavonic Languages (Electronic Resource): F. Bopp, EB. Eastwick, HH. Wilson. [Internet] Available from: <https://archive.org/details/acomparativegra01wilsgoog>*
2. Toporov VN. *Studies on the etymology and semantics. Moscow, 2004; 816.*
3. Sorokina EA. *To clarify the content of the term "Semantic Reconstruction" (Electronic resource): EA. Sorokina. [Internet] Available from: <http://cyberleninka.ru/article/n/k-utochneniyu-soderzhaniya>*

4. Lotman YuM. *Three functions Text: Lotman YM. Inside minded worlds. Man - text - semiosphere - history. Moscow, 1996.*
5. Buslaev FI. *About one Russian affinity spells with German belonging to the era of pagan: Historical Sketches of Russian folk literature and art. St. Petersburg, 1861.*
6. Celivanova OO. *Fundamentals linguistic theory of text and communication. Kiev, 2002; 336.*
7. Galperin IR. *Text as an object of linguistic research. Moscow, 1981; 144.*