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Pragmatic Functions of Additive Constructions In Present German

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Abstract: The transition from structuralism to pragmalinguistics in the second half of the 20th century redefined linguistic inquiry, highlighting speaker intention and the communicative context. Although pragmatics gained substantial attention, the pragmatic functions of additive (appendix) constructions in modern German, especially in discourse contexts, remain insufficiently explored. Previous studies often emphasized syntactic or semantic aspects, overlooking the specific communicative roles of adverbial constructions in achieving clarity, emotional emphasis, and social alignment. This study aims to analyze the pragmatic characteristics of adverbial constructions in German literary and official texts, focusing on their functional contributions to communication. The findings reveal that additive constructions enhance discourse coherence, emphasize emotional nuances, demonstrate politeness, and assist in social identity expression. Their strategic positioning improves the listener's understanding and strengthens interpersonal communication. Unlike earlier research, this study integrates a pragmatic-disursive perspective, showing how additive constructions serve both micro-level sentence functions and macro-level discourse organization, particularly reflecting speaker intentions and socio-pragmatic variability across different registers. These insights emphasize the necessity of integrating pragmatic competence into language teaching and discourse analysis, suggesting that a deeper understanding of additive constructions can enhance learners' communicative efficiency and sociolinguistic sensitivity in German language acquisition.

Citation: Urunovna A. S. Pragmatic Functions of Additive Constructions In Present German. American Journal of Social and Humanitarian Research 2025, 6(4), 822-826.

Received: 10th Apr 2025

Revised: 17th Apr 2025

Accepted: 28th Apr 2025

Published: 07th May 2025



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Keywords: Application Construction, Application Element, Pragmatic Function, Text, Expressiveness, Emotionality, Component, Main Expression, Stylistic Figure, Linguistic Unit.

1. Introduction

The change of scientific paradigm in linguistics in the second half of the 20th century, the transition from structuralism to pragmalinguistics and cognitive science, the appeal to man as the main component of any phenomenon - all this led to a new interpretation of many language facts, the discovery of new features and properties. Linguistic pragmatics focuses on the personality of the speaker and communication as an activity. An activity-based, functional approach opens up new perspectives in the study of language phenomena [1].

Pragmatics, as a new theoretical and practical branch of linguistics, studies issues related to the speech process, which embodies human social activity, and the communicative intention inherent in speech participants, which is manifested under the influence of the speech situation. Thus, pragmatics is one of the new branches of

linguistics, which studies the functional use of linguistic signs in speech. Therefore, this direction of linguistics is considered one of the branches of semiotics [2].

In recent years, a number of linguists have been consistently studying adverbial constructions. This article is also devoted to highlighting the linguistic properties of adverbial constructions, including their pragmatic functions [3].

Appendices are used in non-traditional speech acts, since the forms of traditional speech acts are fixed in the language system and are automatically repeated by speech participants, while the use of appendices implies a special intention on the part of the speaker and forces him to segment his speech. Appendices are one of the most important and widely used structures in linguistics. These constructions are used to clarify, expand, and modify the content of a text or speech. Appendices are also widespread in German, and they are complex and have specific features from a pragmatic point of view. Appendices pragmatically create opportunities for the language to fulfill its communicative functions, clarify speakers, and better present information. The evolution of linguistic science in the second half of the 20th century, particularly the shift from structuralism to pragmalinguistics and cognitive linguistics, led to a new perspective on language phenomena. Linguistic pragmatics emphasizes the speaker's role, communication context, and the pragmatic force behind language use. As noted by Aznaurova, pragmatics focuses on the speaker's intention and the context in which communication takes place. Additive (appendix) constructions, especially in the German language, are significant not only in syntax but also in pragmatics. These structures enable clarification, elaboration, and reinforcement of speech acts [4]. They are used to adjust or enrich a message and are essential for conveying subtle communicative intentions. According to Safarov, pragmatic elements in discourse are closely tied to social interaction and situational context. However, despite increasing interest in pragmatics, the role of additive constructions in German remains underexplored. In this study, the pragmatic properties of adverbial and additive constructions in German are examined using discourse analysis of literary and official texts. Pragmatic functions such as clarification, emphasis, politeness, and social alignment are explored. The study highlights the constructions' influence on coherence, expressiveness, and communicative efficiency [5].

2. Materials and Methods

This study adopts a qualitative-descriptive method based on pragmatic and discourse analysis of literary and official texts in the German language. The analysis primarily focuses on adverbial constructions that function as appendices—linguistic units that provide supplemental or clarifying information within a sentence. The linguistic behavior of these constructions is examined in natural discourse, where they serve to emphasize, expand upon, or reframe the main clause. Theoretical concepts from Uzbek and Russian linguistics, particularly those emphasizing the link between linguistic form and communicative function, guide the classification and functional analysis. The study differentiates adjunct constructions from fixed speech acts by their flexible positioning and ability to reflect speaker-specific intention. Literary examples were extracted from works such as Elger's *Paul's Jungfrau Johanna*, where the pragmatic effect of additive constructions is evident. Both formal and informal registers are considered to demonstrate their socio-pragmatic variability. Pragmatics, on the other hand, studies the aspects of language that are dependent on linguistic conditions and context. In linguistics, pragmatic features are used to analyze the purposes of speech acts and their significance in context. In this sense, adverbial constructions are important not only syntactically and semantically, but also pragmatically [6].

In linguistics, adverbs are two or more words or groups of words that are connected together to complement or clarify each other. In German, adverbs are usually separated by

a period. Adverbs are used primarily to expand, clarify, and elaborate on the meaning of a main word[7].

When comparing adverbial constructions to other syntactic units, such as descriptive adjectives or prepositional phrases, the main difference is that adverbials usually only specify a specific noun or predicate, while adverbials are used more to express a state[8].

3. Results

The analysis revealed the following core pragmatic functions of additive constructions in modern German discourse: Clarification and Elaboration: Additive constructions frequently appear in contexts where additional explanation or detail is necessary. These constructions serve to refine or reinterpret a previous statement. Emphasis and Emotional Marking: The strategic placement of adverbials helps highlight specific parts of an utterance, thus conveying the speaker's emotional stance or urgency. Politeness and Social Alignment: In formal and informal interactions, additive constructions are used to signal respect, humility, or social solidarity. For instance, formal appositions before names often function as markers of politeness. Discourse Structuring: They play a role in maintaining coherence in communication, guiding the listener's attention, and emphasizing key information. This makes the discourse more accessible and engaging. Identity Construction: These constructions assist speakers in expressing their social status, alignment with group norms, or relational stance within the interaction[9].

Furthermore, it was observed that their frequency and form vary by register, with literary texts showing more expressive and creative usage compared to bureaucratic or technical discourse[10].

4. Discussion

The study confirms that additive constructions are not merely syntactic embellishments, but perform essential pragmatic functions in German discourse. Their placement and semantic flexibility allow speakers to navigate complex social interactions, enhance textual coherence, and reflect their communicative intent. Compared to other syntactic tools, additive constructions offer broader expressive capacity. For instance, they can frame personal opinions, highlight contrasts, or foreground important content without restructuring the core syntax of a sentence [11].

In spoken discourse, these constructions often emerge at points of hesitation or elaboration, signaling thought development or response to listener feedback. Their pragmatic load is particularly significant in social contexts where the speaker's tone, politeness, or emphasis must be finely tuned. As Mamasoliyev notes, these constructions can reflect identity, emotion, and even hierarchy within communicative acts. From this perspective, they function as both linguistic and social instruments, embodying intent and interactional meaning. Moreover, the interaction of additive constructions with discourse norms demonstrates their dual role as both micro-level sentence components and macro-level discourse organizers. In teaching German as a foreign language, raising awareness of these pragmatic functions can significantly improve communicative competence and interpretation skills [12].

The representation of parts of speech as applied elements in the adjunct construction is a means of shaping speech; with their help, typical patterns of speech structure in the process of communication are formed. According to the linguist Sh. Safarov, "The relationship between the speaker and the listener arises in the process of speech communication, the speech act requires a text of communication and acquires meaning in the context of this communication". From the point of view of pragmatic analysis, adjunct constructions mainly allow speakers to provide additional information and expand their speech. This, in turn, increases the clarity and understanding of communication. In German, adjuncts are often used to present clear, concise, and interconnected information, which helps to make the audience more understandable. Appendices are pragmatically

used based on the social context and politeness of the conversation. For example, appendices can be used to express a very formal or informal style of speech, which indicates the speaker's level of politeness. Appendices can also often be used to express empathy or mutual respect. For example, appendices can be used to express politeness or respect for someone before saying their name. Through their pragmatic properties, adjunct constructions are an important tool for performing many speech acts. For example, adjuncts play an important role in providing explanations, clarifying, or solving problems in communication. Unlike other speech acts, adjuncts can convey additional information and express a point of view more fully [13].

It is characterized by the fact that the applied elements appear in a separate place in this situation. Their appearance at the end of the sentence, in a coherent or disorganized manner, leaves behind the situations that arise in the process of thinking. In some texts, such an application of parts of speech resembles a careless description of the parts of speech by the author. In texts and works of art, they concretize and repeat previously mentioned information in oral speech.

A thought can be expressed by highlighting a specific part of a sentence and making it concrete with words that explain its meaning, and it is indicated in the language by a period.

Varkony zieht drei Tonbandbriefe aus der Tasche. "Vielleicht hätte ich ihm die Post gleich mitgeben sollen".

"Post for the Earth?"

"An meine Frau und die Kinder".

Here, the use of parts of speech as the main "information activator" is emphasized, not only in terms of the lexical and pragmatic meaning of the speech unit, but also in terms of the pragmatic content that expresses the meaning structure, denotative meaning, and communicative purpose.

In the process of pragmatic analysis, adjunct constructions are a very important tool for presenting information. They are mainly used to introduce additional and complete information, to create a clearer picture of something. For example, in scientific or official texts, adjuncts are often used because they allow for a clearer and more extensive explanation of the main idea [14].

In conversation, adjunct constructions are distinct from fixed and structural elements. They help speakers in communication to understand each other and adapt to social situations. Adjuncts often help to explain social roles or tasks that are important in society [15].

There are several possibilities for using adjunct constructions in communication. First, both the main part of the speech and the plot can be found in the speech of one speaker. Second, the main part of the speech can be in the speech of one person (in the initial replica), and the adjunct construction can express the reaction of the interlocutor in communication. Third, an adjunct construction can contain several parcels distributed between the speaker and the listener. At the same time, adjunct constructions perform various pragmatic functions. The use of an adjunct construction can be part of the speaker's intention or be a consequence of communicative incompetence. The listener's verbal response in the form of a re-question does not necessarily signal a break in communication. Misunderstanding or incomplete receipt of information can also be conveyed by non-verbal means, in particular, facial expressions (surprised, incomprehensible look, incomprehensible facial expression, etc.).

5. Conclusion

If the meaning of certain words in the text is not clarified for the listener in the message being conveyed, that is, without auxiliary elements, the information being conveyed may not be conveyed to him clearly and completely. He draws attention to this situation and expresses it in his speech with a fragment that provides additional

information. Such words that provide additional meaning are manifested as auxiliary elements.

In social contexts, adverbial constructions are mainly used to convey information conveniently and clearly. They are very useful, for example, in making social interactions effective, clear, and understandable. Often, adverbial constructions are used to express the identity, social position, and relationships of speakers. The interaction of applicative constructions and discourse plays an important role in many cases. In discourse, applicatives strengthen the connections between speakers and make understanding clearer. For example, applicatives can be used to expand or describe a topic, which increases the attention of the audience.

Appendices are used not only to expand information, but also to express the relationships between speakers. They help, for example, to express someone's position or status. In this way, social interactions and relationships are understood more broadly, more clearly, and more precisely with the help of appendices.

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