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**GENRES, PARTICIPANTS AND CHRONOTOPE OF THE SPORTS DISCOURSE  
THROUGH THE EXAMPLE OF THE ENGLISH FOOTBALL REPORTAGE**

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*Universal access to sport and its popularization has become the main reason for the development of the Institute of Sports, which brought about a remarkable growth in sports research. Linguistics focuses on sports discourse with all evidence pointing to the institutional discourse.*

**Introduction.** Modern sport could be attributed to as one of the leading cultural phenomena of the society. Due to the promotion and public availability sport is discussed as the massive professional and entertaining sphere, affecting physical, psychological, institutional, social, cultural and economic forms of life of individuals involved in sports. In this regard, sport as a phenomenon becomes the subject of social studies.

**Subject of research.** The subject of our linguistic research is the sports discourse, bringing together means of verbal and nonverbal communication along with other characteristics of sporting events.

**Literature review.** Sports discourse as a type of institutional discourse is viewed through the status-role relations between participants taking into account both the linguistic and extralinguistic features, implying the communicative behavior of those involved into a sport. [1, p. 96]. Furthermore, the sports discourse is replete with a special sport language including the terminology and the professional slang that corresponds to «sub-language» each type of institutional discourse has.

On the other hand, the problem arises there where the contents and the boundaries of the sports discourse need to be defined. The lack of clarity comes from integration of the sports discourse into the common discursive space as the sports discourse shares common ground with other types of discourses such as *scientific, pedagogical, business, legal, political* and *military* discourses. But the vast majority of foreign (R. Boyle, N. Blain) and national (I. Dubchak, B. Zilbert, K. Snyatkov) researchers hold the opinion that sports media discourse is the purest form of sports discourse.

The present study is based on the material of the football TV report.

The sports mass media discourse has proved to have the same benchmarks proposed by the Russian linguist V. Karasik. In the scholar's opinion, any type of institutional discourse can be described with the help of the following components: *genres, participants, chronotope, goals, values, strategies, material (subject), precedent (cultural) texts, discursive formulas* [2 p. 11].

In this research we'll consider such components as *genre, participants and chronotope* in one of the English Premier League report.

The concept of *genre* with respect to discourse is discussed widely in modern linguistics. For example, the Russian philosopher and philologist M. Bakhtin claims that the knowledge of discourse genres is an essential component of linguistic competence of a human being [3, p. 428].

**Research and results.** Putting the linguists' arguments about the discrimination between a sports commentary and a sports report aside (O. Pankratova, V. Anosova, G. Denisova), we view them in the present work as interchangeable concepts, despite some differences in semantics.

Reportage is a visual representation of events through the prism of an author's or participant's worldview, while commentary allows an author to focus on his/her own views and assessments of the subject. These genres are mixed in the sports discourse, owing to the specific nature of that very type of discourse. For instance, personal opinions and comments on a line-up, substitution, weather, predictions and etc.:

***Manchester United should be aware of danger because the passes are going through those two*** (Gary Neville/Martin Tyler Manchester Unites vs. Tottenham Hotspur 13/01/19).

***As for the Arsenal, where new managers were coming in, is gonna have to take time for lineup*** (Darren Fletcher/Glen Hoddle Chelsea vs. Arsenal 18/08/18).

In addition, it has become common for two or more commentators to comment on the football match today, making it all more analytic:

***«Glenn, what about the tactical lines of two teams?»*** (Darren Fletcher/Glen Hoddle Chelsea vs. Arsenal 18/08/18).

## Linguistics, literature, philology

The above examples illustrate complementarity of reportage and commentary in the modern football reporting.

An equally important component within each sports discourse is a *participant*, around whom events are unfolding. Since a sports discourse is linked with the transmission of sport events through mass-media, its main participants would be *sportsman/ commentator/ spectator*, the leading role of each being a matter of controversy. Although spectators are considered to be passive, their role should not be underestimated, because report aims at demonstrating sporting activities exactly to spectators. Meanwhile, the commentator serves as the link between active and passive participants of the sports discourse. The significance of the commentator's role lies in attracting and holding the attention of audience. Our analysis reveals that the commentator's speech is full of personal pronouns, motivating words and phrases:

***And your Saturday evening starts with Premiere League on BT-Sports*** (Darren Fletcher/Steve McManaman Arsenal vs. Liverpool 25/12/18).

***Hold on tight – Manchester city travel to London to take on Chelsea*** (Stewart Gordner Manchester City vs. Chelsea 8/12/18).

***And now YOU NEVER WALK ALONE - a big song which brings us a little bit closer to kick off*** (Darren Fletcher/Steve McManaman Arsenal vs. Liverpool 25/12/18).

The sports discourse is taking place in the space-time continuum, that is scientifically called «*the chronotope*». Logically, the sports discourse will have both the spatial and the temporal coordinates.

In essence, a football report represents a complex system of spatio-temporal characteristics composed of, at least, three small chronotopes:

1. *chronotope of a sporting event* (a game, sportsmen);
2. *chronotope of a commentator* (fixation and description of the game for virtual fans);
3. *chronotope of a spectator* (emotional evaluation of a sporting event and results of each participant of the game).

Thus, each participant has their own space-time localization. Let us get on to the next example. The commentator emphasizes that the match goes on live. It is noteworthy, that the spectacular, who has missed the live broadcast, will hear exactly the same words when watching a replay of the match, what gives some kind of reversibility to the time axis:

***A prime candidate against very competitive caretaker - Spurs against United. And it is LIVE*** (Gary Neville/Martin Tyler Manchester Unites vs. Tottenham Hotspur 13/01/19).

The repetitive reports, during which the commentators are reviewing goals, fouls or substitutions, deserve a special attention too, because in this case we find the nonlinearity of the chronotope:

***This is a different type of quality goal. He was on edge of offside. It's not quite simple to do as he's just done*** (Gary Neville/ Martin Tyler Manchester City vs Chelsea 10/02/19).

In another example, the commentator is attempting to show the atmosphere on the stadium, immersing the viewer into the specific event location:

***Anfield raises to celebrate the brilliant Roberto Ferminho goal*** (Darren Fletcher/Steve McManaman Arsenal vs. Liverpool 25/12/18).

### Conclusion

The fore-mentioned features related to the sports discourse (genres, participants and chronotope) reveal the institutional character and integrity of the mass media sports discourse. And in this, football reportage exemplifies the latter best because of its non-linearity and dynamism.

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