



The Role of Punctuation in Russian Grammar

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Abstract: *This article discusses the role of punctuation in Russian grammar and the history of their occurrence. Punctuation marks as the main component of intonation.*

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In our work, we would like to highlight the topic of the history of punctuation marks, since they are the main component in our speech. Punctuation (from Latin punctum 'point') is a set of punctuation marks and a system of developed and fixed rules for their use.

Why is punctuation necessary? Why are the letters of the alphabet not enough to make what is written understandable to the reader? After all, words are made up of letters denoting speech sounds, and speech is made up of words. But the fact is that to pronounce individual words one after another does not mean to make what is pronounced intelligible. Words in speech are combined into groups, between groups of words, and sometimes intervals of various lengths are made between individual words, on word groups or over individual words, either rise or fall in tone is made. And all this is not accidental, but is subject to certain rules: intervals, rises, and falls in tone (the so-called intonation) express certain shades of the meaning of speech segments. The writer must firmly know what semantic connotation he wants to give to his statement and its individual parts, and what method he must use for this.

Punctuation, like spelling, is part of the graphic system adopted for a given language, and must be as firmly mastered as the letters of the alphabet with their sound values, in order for the letter to accurately and completely express the content of the statement. And in order for this content to be equally perceived by all readers, it is necessary that the meaning of punctuation marks be firmly established within one national language. It does not matter that the appearance of punctuation marks in different languages may be the same, but the meaning and, consequently, their use are different. It is important that all those who write and read in one language or another have the same understanding of what this or that punctuation mark expresses.

Punctuation marks developed gradually in the history of the Russian language and acquired a modern look only by the 19th century. Punctuation marks were also used in ancient written monuments, but they were very different from modern ones. For example, a dot in the middle was used

lines. The dot corresponded to the modern comma, the quad or "thinkable cross" corresponded to the dot, moreover, in ancient times texts were written together, letter by letter. Since the 15th century, separate spelling has been increasingly observed, such a punctuation mark appears that we also use, but for us it is an "empty space", that is, a space. The system of punctuation marks, which

was formed in general terms by the 18th century, also required the development of certain rules for their use. Back in the 16th - 17th centuries, the first attempts were observed to theoretically comprehend the setting of the punctuation marks that existed by that time (Maxim the Greek, Lavrenty Zizaniy, Meletius Smotrytsky). However, the general and particular foundations for punctuation marks in their main features took shape during the 18th century, when the formation of the foundations of the modern Russian literary language ended.

The beginning of the scientific development of Russian punctuation was laid by the brilliant representative of grammatical science of the 18th century M.V. Lomonosov in his work "Russian Grammar", written in 1755. Lomonosov gives an exact list of the punctuation marks used by that time in Russian printed literature, sets out the rules for their use in a system, formulating these rules on a semantic and grammatical basis, that is, for the first time in Russian grammatical literature, he brings the theoretical foundation to the practically existing punctuation: all the rules for the use of punctuation marks are reduced to a semantic-grammatical principle. Many Russian writers and poets spoke about punctuation marks. Before you is a quatrain by M.Yu. Lermontov. The significance of the semicolon in it is undeniable:

I don't want the light to know
My mysterious story;
How I loved, for what I suffered,
That judge is only God and conscience!

The proposal, thanks to this sign, is divided according to the author's intention into two parts. According to the sign, there should also be a pause in reading. It is important for the poet that God and conscience are the judges of how the hero loved and suffered, and not everything else. Replacing the semicolon with a comma, we come to a list of what the author would like to keep secret from the light. And this is not the only evidence that punctuation marks play a very important role in the Russian language.

In Russian linguistics, there are three main directions in understanding the principles of punctuation: logical (semantic), syntactic and intonational. Supporters of the logical direction consider the semantic articulation of speech and the transfer of semantic relations to be the main purpose of punctuation

dismembered parts. These include F. I. Buslaev, D. N. Ovsyaniko -Kulikovskiy, P. N. Sakkulin.

F. I. Buslaev, in the question of the use of punctuation marks, wrote: "Since through language one person conveys thoughts and feelings to another, punctuation marks have a dual purpose: 1) contribute to clarity in the presentation of thoughts, separating one sentence from another or one part from the other, and 2) express the sensations of the speaker's face and his attitude towards the listener.

We find a syntactic understanding of punctuation words in J. K. Grot and S. K. Bulich, who believed that punctuation makes the syntactic structure of speech visual. In the works of Groth, it is important to point out the connection between the punctuation system and the general nature of the syntactic structure of the sentence and written speech. He draws attention to the trend in contemporary literature towards the rejection of "too complex or common sentences" and to the use of "more abrupt speech". "Jerky speech, on the other hand, consists in expressing itself in as short sentences as possible for greater simplicity and clarity of presentation, and thereby allowing the reader to pause more often. In relation to the use of punctuation marks, this means: between two points do not accumulate too many sentences that are mutually dependent or closely related to each other, and at the same time arrange them so that they can determine one from the other, at least by a

semicolon or colon. An immoderate set of subordinate clauses between the main ones confuses and obscures speech.

Grot outlined punctuation rules with punctuation marks: for each character, all cases of its use are indicated; each rule is illustrated by one or more examples from the works of the late 18th century and the first half of the 19th century, but due to Grot's dislike for authors of a later period, some of his rules became obsolete by the end of the 19th century.

Nevertheless, Grotov's rules of punctuation, together with his spelling rules, as already mentioned above, entered the everyday life of the school, and through it into the practice of printing. For everyday use, they turned out to be quite clear and convenient, as they were based on the syntactic structure of the sentence, which the writers learned in the school grammar course. But in fact, all writers, in addition to the rules of punctuation known to them, are also guided by some indications of rhythmic melody, coming from oral pronunciation, when setting punctuation marks. The writer mentally (and sometimes aloud) pronounces a sentence or part of it in order to clarify for himself which punctuation mark should be put in this or that case. Since the pauses and intonation of oral speech in many cases really express the relationships that are contained in the sentence, it is quite natural to refer to these indicators.

The transmission of the intonation side of speech seems to be the main task of punctuation to A. Kh. Vostkov, I. I. Davydov, A. M. Peshkovsky, L. V. Shcherba. Punctuation is closely related to intonation. However, it cannot be argued that punctuation is subordinate to intonation and that intonation is the main basis of punctuation, although some Russian linguists supported this opinion.

Considering the question of the relationship between punctuation and intonation, we narrow the concept of "intonation" to pausitrics and rhythm of speech, taking into account, first of all, the presence or absence of intonation pauses, their duration, rise or fall in tone, place of logical or phrasal stress. In this understanding of the intonation of a sentence, we share the point of view of scientists who believe that intonation is a grammatical means of expressing meanings in oral speech (along with the structural features of a sentence), and on this basis we distinguish intonations of enumeration, comparison, contrasting opposition, warning, explanation, conditionality etc.

Punctuation in written speech, and intonation in oral speech serve the same purposes - the semantic reading of the text; they give speech a meaningful character. The pronunciation of the same expressions with different intonation, as well as different punctuation, can radically change their semantic meaning.

In cases where the choice of a punctuation mark is determined by the differentiation of semantic connections of words or semantic relations between parts of a complex sentence, there are punctuation variants, which in oral speech correspond to various intonational features of the statement. In such situations, punctuation marks in written speech and intonation in oral speech are interconnected, they are single-functional - they perform a meaningful function.

However, the meaning of the statement is inextricably linked with the grammatical structure and intonation of the sentence. This explains the fact that the rules for punctuation in modern Russian writing cannot be reduced to any one of the listed principles, and individual punctuation marks in each specific case of use emphasize either the logical, syntactic, or intonational structure of speech or are syntactic - at the same time divide the text into semantic and syntactic segments, characterize its semantic and intonational structure, etc.

Conclusion

Without the history of punctuation, it is impossible to imagine life today. Without the ability to punctuate, it is impossible to master written speech in general, which is why it is so important to know punctuation - a branch of the science of language that talks about their use. And without the

development of written language, thanks to which human knowledge and experience are passed on from generation to generation, it is impossible to even imagine life today.

The need for punctuation marks can be proved with one easy example. Everyone knows the phrase - "execution cannot be pardoned." From this phrase, we understand that a person's life depends entirely on one comma. So, you need to have a good understanding of punctuation in Russian. And a comma must be placed after the word "no", as this is proof that punctuation is an important subject in a person's life.

With the help of punctuation marks, the written word is perceived and mentally pronounced by the reader, if not in fifty or five hundred ways, then, in any case, not in one, but in several. Thus, punctuation marks make it possible to say much more in writing than can be written in letters. Signs, like words, speak, and we read them along with the words.

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