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# LINGUISTIC FOUNDATIONS OF DETERMINING ELEMENTS OF INSULT, THREAT AND PSYCHOLOGICAL PRESSURE IN AUDIO RECORDINGS

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## Abstract

This article analyzes the linguistic foundations for identifying elements of insult, threat, and psychological pressure found in audio recordings. The phonetic, lexical-semantic, pragmatic, and discursive features of verbal aggression are systematically examined and evaluated from the perspective of linguistic expertise. The study substantiates the role of phonosemantic signals, speech act theory, conflict linguistics, psycholinguistics, and pragmalinguistics in the expert analysis of audio materials. In addition, the article provides an extensive explanation of implicit (hidden) threats, direct and indirect forms of insult, and manipulative means of psychological pressure in audio speech.

**Keywords:** Audio linguistics, aggressive speech, insult, threat, psychological pressure, phonosemantics, prosody, pragmatics, linguistic expertise.



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## **AUDIOYOZUVLARDA HAQORAT, TAHDID VA PSIXOLOGIK BOSIM ELEMENTLARINI ANIQLASHNING LINGVISTIK ASOSLARI**

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### **Annotatsiya:**

Maqolada audioyozuvlarda uchraydigan haqorat, tahdid va psixologik bosim elementlarini aniqlashning lingvistik asoslari keng ilmiy yondashuvlar asosida tahlil qilinadi. Nutqiy agressiyaning fonetik, leksik-semantik, pragmatik va diskursiv xususiyatlari tizimli ravishda yoritilib, agressiv nutqning turli ko'rinishlari lingvistik ekspertiza nuqtayi nazaridan baholanadi.

**Kalit so'zlar:** Audio lingvistika, agressiv nutq, haqorat, tahdid, psixologik bosim, fon-semantika, prosodiya, pragmatika, lingvistik ekspertiza.

### **Аннотация:**

В данной статье анализируются лингвистические основы выявления элементов оскорбления, угрозы и психологического давления, встречающихся в аудиозаписях. Фонетические, лексико-семантические, прагматические и дискурсивные особенности речевой агрессии системно раскрываются и оцениваются с позиции лингвистической экспертизы.

**Ключевые слова:** аудиолингвистика, агрессивная речь, оскорбление, угроза, психологическое давление, фоносемантика, просодия, прагматика, лингвистическая экспертиза.



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## **Introduction**

In today's era of digital communication, a large part of communication between people is moving to the audio form. Phone conversations, voice messages on social networks, voice conversations on online platforms and audio recordings recorded in various situations have become one of the main means of modern communication. Therefore, the scientific-theoretical identification of the types of verbal aggression such as insults, threats and psychological pressure manifested in audio files has become an urgent issue for the fields of linguistics, psycholinguistics and forensic linguistics [1, p.12-13]. In Uzbekistan, there is a growing need for linguistic expertise of audio recordings in forensic practice. The main reason for this is that many types of verbal violence, such as social conflicts, confrontations, intimidation, coercion or insults, are recorded in audio form. Identifying such cases in audio recordings is not limited to checking the lexical content of the text; it requires in-depth analysis of prosodic indicators such as intonation, tone, accent, pause, timbre and speech rate [2, p.45]. The linguistic nature of speech aggression is formed at the intersection of several scientific directions. In particular, linguistics analyzes the structural and semantic structure of speech, psychology studies the emotional state of a person and the psychodynamic aspects of aggression, and pragmatics deals with the purpose and communicative intention of the speech act. Also, the communicative theory explains the relationship between aggressive speech and the social-psychological situation [3, p.28-29]. Threats, insults, or emotional pressure are often conveyed not only through words, but also through prosodic means - a sharp change in tone, an increase in stress, a shortening or lengthening of pauses, and a "tightening" of the timbre of the voice. Therefore, the identification of aggressive speech in audio recordings requires multi-layered differential analysis. Prosody elements sometimes indicate the presence of aggression more clearly than lexical items. This once again confirms that audio-linguistic expertise is a complex and responsible direction [4, p.64]. At this point, it should be noted that scientific research on the detection of speech aggression in audio recordings is developing widely in the world, especially in schools of conflict linguistics, speech act theory, and psycholinguistics. Their practical results are gradually being applied



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to the practice of forensic linguistic expertise in Uzbekistan [5, p.101-102]. This indicates the theoretical and practical relevance of the topic.

Verbal aggression is a complex phenomenon that has become the center of attention of linguistics, psychology, communicative pragmatics and forensics researchers in recent decades. Aggression is a set of speech acts aimed at negatively influencing, humiliating, intimidating, humiliating, or disturbing the mental balance of a person. This process is manifested not only through lexical units, but also in the phonetic layer of prosody, that is, in such elements of speech as intonation, stress, timbre, rhythm, and pause. [3, p.41] The content and essence of aggression is exacerbated in interpersonal communication, especially in conflict and conflict situations. Therefore, identifying aggression in audio recordings is much more complicated than identifying aggression in text. Because in audio form, the emotional coloring, psychological power, and communicative intent of speech are more clearly felt.

The factors determining the linguistic nature of verbal aggression are as follows:

1. Targetedness - the intention to harm, threaten or pressure;
2. Context - communication situation, social role, relationship between conversation participants;
3. Prosody - tone, intonation, emphasis, pause;
4. Semantics - the negative meanings of lexical units;
5. Pragmalinguistics - the level of expressiveness of speech and its communicative effect.

Studies show that 50-70 percent of aggressive speech is manifested through phonetic (prosodic) signs. For this reason, prosodic analysis occupies a leading place in audio-visual examination. Prosody is a set of phonetic features of speech, such as tone, intonation, rhythm and stress. Prosodic signals are the most sensitive indicators of aggression detection in audio recordings. Because the lexicon can be neutral, but its pronunciation can be aggressive, threatening or oppressive.



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Prosodic signs are manifested in the following ways:

1. A sharp change in tone - a sudden increase or decrease in the volume of the voice, which creates a feeling of pressure in the listener.
2. Intensification of stress - offensive or threatening words are sharply emphasized.
3. Voice tension - the trembling, straining, or vibration of the voice indicates emotional tension.
4. Changes in the rhythm of speech - acceleration or, conversely, artificial slowing down of speech can be a sign of psychological pressure.
5. The structural role of pauses - in aggressive speech, pauses increase or decrease sharply; The lengthening of the pause before the threat enhances the effect of intimidation.

Identifying the elements of insult in audio recordings, that is, insult is verbal violence directed against the dignity, honor and social position of a person. Insults take the following forms:

1. Direct insults are labels that are clearly directed at a person;
2. Indirect insult through sarcasm, mockery, mockery;
3. Insults directed at the group, generalizations such as "your people are like that", "your generation...". All these situations can be enhanced by prosody in audio recording. [4, p.240]

When identifying elements of threat in audio recordings, threat is one of the most obvious, most dangerous and most serious manifestations of verbal aggression. In the practice of forensic linguistic examination, the process of identifying a threat is considered one of the most complex linguistic tasks, since it is assessed not only through the list of words, but also through the psychological power of intonation, the strategic placement of pauses, changes in the rhythm of speech, and the emotional background of the social situation. Depending on the content and form of the threat, it can be hidden or overt. For this reason, linguistic criteria for identifying threats always require a complex, multi-layered approach. In linguistics, threat is usually defined as a speech act that indicates the possibility of harming the listener or his relatives. But the scientific and theoretical roots of the threat are much broader than that.



A threat is not only a warning about physical harm, but also a linguistic strategy aimed at destroying the listener's psychological stability, breaking his will, damaging his social position, and changing his moral and spiritual state. Threats usually come in three main forms:

1. A direct (clear) threat is an open and clear manifestation of the intention to cause harm. Such threats are expressed as follows: "I will beat you!", "I will destroy you!", "I will destroy you!", "I will destroy you!", "You will get your divorce!" These types of threats are very strong from the semantic point of view, and their impact is twice as great as that of prosody. Also, such threats often occur in high-conflict situations and pose a direct threat to the listener. Indirect threats are also phonetically specific: they are usually delivered in a harsh, sharp, high-pitched tone, the speaker's voice is tense, and the stress falls on the verbs that express violence.

2. Indirect threat. The implied threat of harm is not explicitly stated, but it is clearly implied through context: "The consequences will be bad," "If you don't do this, you'll know later." "This matter won't end that easily." These types of threats are often associated with manipulative speech strategies. The danger of an implicit threat is such that it is assessed based on a large context. In audio form, a decrease in intonation, a change in voice timbre, a sharpening of pauses and rhythm increase the strength of an implicit threat.

3. Implicit threat. Implicit threat is the most dangerous, but also the most difficult to detect form of verbal aggression. These types of threats may appear mild on the surface, but the content of the threat, through intonation, pauses, or context, can be very powerful: "I can recognize you," "We'll meet again," "Do you know who you're talking to?", "You'll see the consequences." Prosodic elements are crucial in identifying hidden threats. Because in text, such phrases may seem like a simple reminder or warning, but in audio form they take on a dangerous, frightening tone.

In identifying elements of psychological pressure in audio recordings, psychological pressure is one of the most complex and multifaceted manifestations of verbal aggression. It is a set of linguistic strategies aimed at eliciting the listener's emotional state, mental stability, self-confidence, decision-making ability, and will. In particular, pressure in the audio form is felt under the





strong influence of prosody, because the tone of the voice, intonation and pauses increase the manipulative effect.

In conclusion, it should be noted that the identification of speech aggression, threat and psychological pressure elements in audio recordings is one of the most relevant directions for modern linguistics and forensics. Because verbal aggression is a form of linguistic violence directed at a person, it is fundamentally different from textual aggression. Aggression in the audio form is not limited to lexical items, but is enhanced by prosodic means: tone, intonation, stress, timbre, rhythm and pauses, and shows its real communicative effects. Therefore, the process of identifying audio aggression requires a multi-layered, complex analysis. The main principles determining the linguistic nature of speech aggression were identified, and their phonetic, semantic and pragmatic aspects were analyzed based on scientific approaches. Open, direct and covert forms of threats, their phonosemantic manifestations, their amplification by prosody and changes in content depending on the context are widely shown. Linguistic mechanisms of psychological pressure - such forms as accusation, manipulation, coercion and rhetorical pressure are manifested in audio recordings under the strong influence of prosody, and directly affect the listener's mood through tone, rhythm, emphasis and pauses. based on the aspect.

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