

**Gurbanzada Fatma Nazim** Department of Student Registration and Assessment,  
Azerbaijan, Baku, e-mail: fatima.gurbanzadeh@mail.ru**ELLIPSIS IN CONTEMPORARY LINGUISTICS  
AND ITS FEATURES OF ECONOMY AND CORRELATION**

The article is dedicated to directions of elliptical utterances, which appear to be a legitimate occurrence in texts (dialogues) in comparable languages. The choice of the subject of the article is due to the fact that the approach to language facts within the traditional linguistic framework does not provide sufficient information to adequately explain the peculiarities and features of the objective reality represented by the elliptical sentences. This, on the one hand, is a clear indication of the regularity of the use of ellipsis in the communication process, not only its normativeness, but also the legitimacy and purpose of the use of that means, on the other hand, the ellipsis, which is a means of essence link between the dialectical components as a whole, is the means by which it strengthens the essence link between the utterances and stimulates the continuation of the textual dialogue.

The linguistic definition of the cognitive mechanisms that allow the coordination of language and conceptual views of the world in the process of defining strategies for interpreting information in elliptical utterances has not been fully resolved.

The author of the article emphasizes like the language (colloquial – F.G.) phenomenon, has repeatedly been the subject of linguistic research and discussion. For example, ellipsis is a case of rhetoric or grammar, the matters such as whether it is necessary to identify incomplete and elliptical sentences, whether the sentences with the main parts of sentence but with missed secondary parts can be considered to be the elliptical sentence, have always been the subject of discussion. However, there is still no consensus among linguists on these issues, and these points can be regarded as actuality of the article.

The aim of the article is to investigate the functional-cognitive features of ellipsis in texts and discourses on the basis of English, Azerbaijani and Spanish samples, and to identify linguistic and extra linguistic factors that lead to this result.

**Key words:** Ellipsis, elliptical sentences, speech act, phenomenon of ellipsis, syntagmas.

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Әзірбайжан, Баку қ., e-mail: fatima.gurbanzadeh@mail.ru**Қазіргі тіл біліміндегі эллипсис және оның тілдік құралдарды  
үнемдеудегі ерекшелігі мен олардың арақатынасы**

Мақала салыстыруға келетін тілдерде жазылған мәтіндердегі эллипсистерік айтылымдарға арналады. Таңдалған тақырыптың мақсаты эллипсистерік сөйлемдердің ерекшелігі мен объективті шындығын айқындауда дәстүрлі тіл білімінің құрылымдары қажетті ақпараттарды дәл бере алмайтындығымен түсіндіріледі. Бұл бірінші жағынан қарым-қатынас барысында эллипсистері жиі пайдалатындығымызды аңғартады. Сонымен қатар эллипсис мәтіндегі диалогтың жалғасуына негіз болатын диалектикалық компонент.

Эллипсистерік айтылымдардағы ақпараттарды интерпретациялау стратегиясын анықтауда әлемді танудың тілдік және концептуалды көзқарасын қалыптастырушы тіл білімінің танымдық механизмдерінің анықтамасы толық ашылмаған.

Мақала авторы эллипсистерік тілдік феномен ретінде тіл білімінің зерттеу нысаны және сан рет талқыға түскендігін айтып өтеді. Мысалы, эллипсис – риторика немесе грамматикада байқалады, әсіресе толық емес және эллиптикалық сөйлемдерді анықтау мәселесі және де негізгі мүшелері бар, бірақ қосалқы эллиптикалық сөйлем бөлшектері түсіп қалған сөйлемдерді сөйлем деп табуға бола ма деген сұрақтар әрқашан талқы нысанына айналып отырады. Дегенмен тілшілер арасында осы мәселелер айналасында бір ізділік болмағандықтан мақаланың өзектілігі өздігінен айқындалып отыр.

Мақаланың мақсаты мәтін мен дискурстардағы эллипсистерік функционалды-танымдық ерекшелігін ағылшын, әзірбайжан, испан тілдері үлгілері негізінде зерттеу және де қосымша тіл білімінің факторларын анықтау, қорытынды жасау.

**Түйін сөздер:** эллипсис, эллипсистерік сөйлем, сөйлеу акті, эллипсис феномены, синтагма.

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### Эллипсис в современной лингвистике и его особенности в экономии языковых средств и их взаимосвязи

Статья посвящена направлениям эллиптических высказываний, которые кажутся закономерными в текстах (диалогах) на сопоставимых языках. Выбор предмета статьи обусловлен тем, что подход к языковым фактам в рамках традиционной лингвистической структуры не дает достаточной информации для адекватного объяснения особенностей объективной реальности, представленной эллиптическими предложениями. Это, с одной стороны, является четким свидетельством регулярности использования эллипсиса в процессе общения, не только его нормативности, но также законности и цели использования этого средства, а с другой – эллипсис является средством сущностной связи между диалектическими компонентами в целом, т.е. является средством, с помощью которого усиливается связь между высказываниями и стимулируется продолжение текстового диалога.

Лингвистическое определение когнитивных механизмов, позволяющих согласовывать языковые и концептуальные взгляды на мир в процессе определения стратегий интерпретации информации в эллиптических высказываниях, не было полностью решено.

Автор статьи подчеркивает, что эллипсис как языковой (разговорный – Ф.Г.) феномен неоднократно становился предметом лингвистических исследований и дискуссий. Например, эллипсис – это случай риторики или грамматики, и такие вопросы, как необходимость определения неполных и эллиптических предложений, а также можно ли считать предложения с основными частями предложения, но с пропущенными вторичными частями эллиптическим предложением, всегда были предметом обсуждения. Тем не менее, по-прежнему, нет консенсуса среди лингвистов по этим вопросам, и эти моменты можно рассматривать как актуальность статьи.

Целью статьи является исследование функционально-когнитивных особенностей эллипсиса в текстах и дискурсах на основе образцов английского, азербайджанского и испанского языков, а также выявление дополнительных лингвистических факторов, которые приводят к этому результату.

**Ключевые слова:** эллипсис, эллиптические предложения, речевой акт, феномен эллипсиса, синтагмы.

## Introduction

The special significance of the language is, first of all, its constant accompaniment of the person in everyday life, social and professional communication and creativity. The main function of the language is to provide information exchange between communicators. One of the main means used in this field is ellipsis, which is widely used in all speech styles. Ellipsis, which is an effective syntactic-stylistic means for information transfer, is increasingly applied in colloquial, literary and publicist texts. According to some linguists, for example, V.L.Yucht, “*elliptical sentences arise in conversation*” (Юхт, 1964 : 17).

Ellipsis, regarded as deliberate omission of words that do not play an important role in the expression of the idea, is due to L.L.Nelyubin, “*the stylistic figure manner consisting of any assumed element, released in a sentence*” (Нелюбин, 2007 : 65). For example, / Could have come any sooner. Been on my feet since six o'clock this morning./

The use of non-verbal syntactic structures in the speech act is primarily based on consituation and background knowledge of the interlocutors (Земская, 2004 : 136). Ellipsis represents the syntactic realization of linguistic compression, a manifestation of the principle of language economy. According to R.O.Jakobson, “*ellipsis is a zero anaphoric (or deictic) sign*” (Якобсон, 1985 : 227). In the article, ellipsis is understood as the release of an easily recovered element in context or in a situation (consituation – F.Q.).

Ellipsis is not a problem of the syntax of a different language, but rather a problem of general syntax theory. One of the main tasks of grammar is to study the communicative unit – the sentence (phrase – F.Q.) in all its manifestations. In this direction, the research by A.Y.Gatina and L.V.Kosonjokina focuses on the specific communication methods of elliptical sentences, their functional and semantic features, and their text creative role (Гатина, 1989 : 10; Косоножкина, 2010 : 69). The names of L.Cherchi, T.Shopen, R.Gunter, and others may be cited as

an example in the direction of the research on the problem of ellipsis in foreign linguistics at different levels of language structure (Cherchi, 2006 : 230; Shopen, 1973 : 69; Gunter, 1963 : 149). Despite the disagreement among researchers, recently elliptical sentences have been investigated from linguo-cultural aspect as a subjective semantic compressive nomination on linguistic ground.

Studying elliptical sentences is important for understanding the processes dealing with economy of language means at all levels of language. Because elliptical sentences act as typical communicative structures in realization of every language.

### Experiment

The text has characteristic features and peculiarities. These features include the completeness and integrity of the text. The integrity of the text is one of the basic requirements for its comprehension. There are a number of factors contributing the integrity and completeness of the text. The text must coherent at the same time in order to be complete. Intertextual relations and their structural semantic parameters are important for text linguistics. The text is a communicative phenomenon, and the standards defining its completeness include coherence, intensity and cohesion. Cohesion refers to the components of the upper layer of the text, that's to the means of interconnection of real words we hear or see within relationship. In our opinion, the following should be emphasized: grammatical-reference, substitute, ellipsis, lexical-grammatical conjunction, lexical cohesion, etc.

Replacement is possible in the ellipsis, lexical-grammatical category. It is mainly anaphoric, but in some cases it may also be cataphoric. Ellipsis is typical for speech, an incident caused by the situation. In the case of an ellipsis, words and phrases are intentionally omitted in sentences. In ellipsis word combinations, short responses, etc. are not observed. For example,

- *¿Where are you going?*  
- / *To town* //

And the full answer should be: *"I'm going to town"*.

There are 3 types of ellipsis: nominal ellipsis, clausal ellipsis, and verbal ellipsis.

The first type of ellipsis is the omission of the word within the nominal clauses. For example, / *The teacher went to the board and wrote (he \ the teacher) on it* //.

A verbal ellipsis means the omission of a specific element within the verbal clauses. For example,

- *¿Have you been swimming?*  
/ *Yes, I have* // (*blank was left for / been swimming* /).

/ *I could tell you, but I won't* //.

In the clausal ellipsis, the subordinate clause is taken as a starting point. In English, the subordinate clause is understood as the expression of different speech functions (confirmation, question, answer, etc.). It consists of two parts and is divided into modal and propositional elements. For example,

/ *The Duke was (modal element) going to plant a row of poplars in the park* // (*propositional element*).

*¿What were they going? Holding hands (blank was left for / they were/).*

Commenting on the structure of elliptical sentences, F.Veyselli writes: *"Although elliptical sentences have structural flaws, they still have their own distinct structures, although they are incomplete:*

- / *How many times have I told you ...* //

- *¿Told you, so?*

- / *Just ...* //

- / *Haven't got* //.

*Even if the dialogue is interrupted, the interlocutors understand each other very well"* (Veyselli, 2007 : 234).

The phenomenon of ellipsis in Azerbaijani linguistics has aroused interest from logical and semantic aspects. However, unfortunately, ellipsis has been treated as a purely problem of "elliptical sentence", studied as a syntactic phenomenon, and the main cognitive aspect of the phenomenon remains in the shadow. The closest approach to the ellipsis problem is its overlap with the "half-sentence principle". To understand the elliptical structure with its full content, we first need to distinguish the terms "ellipsis" and "incomplete sentence".

If the incompleteness can be recovered at the expense of the internal capacity of the sentence in incomplete sentence where one or both of the main parts of the sentence are missed, the elliptic structure is completed only by the content and contextual context of the sentence or text. For example,

Incomplete sentence:

a) - *¿When must those people you talk about come to?*

- *¿Tomorrow!* (Araz reacted angrily)

b) / *The door is slightly opened for a minute or two.*

- *¿Who is there?* - a thin voice was heard. The student turned in a suspicious look and asked:

- *¿Where is the room for rent?*

- / *Here it is,* - the girl opened the door immediately //

Ellipsis affected sentence:

a) / Where there is a will there is a way //;

b)  $\zeta$ that's me who comes from Hajj; you are informing me of Mecca?

K.Habibova writes of the functions of ellipsis such as expression, integrity, and informativeness: "The term of semantic ellipsis should not be perceived as being less informative than any expression. Because semantic ellipsis forms new variants of one or another expression that perform different stylistic functions in language" (Habibova, 2008 : 19).

In the act of communication efficient delivery of information to the listener by means of language units is one of the issues that linguists constantly think about. The development of formal grammar has given a powerful impetus to the idea of a complete, perfect sentence structure in the language. At the 1996 SOAS ellipsis seminar at the University of London, scholars attempted to discuss the syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic aspects of the issue.

Complex sentences are more elliptical sentences. Sentences of this type are divided into two parts – source and target. For example,

/ The units in the /Adela likes each new jacket (and the source clause) and Alex does too // (the target clause) are parallels. If we refer the sign  $\lambda$  of phrase elements to the source verb "like" (Jacket – of) and the main information base with P (Alex), then we can conclude that the sentence starting with "Adela" is new and independent of itself. This means that P can be any name and adapt moving subject due to a source clause. It may be presented in such a scheme:

a)  $\lambda_x$  – likes (x, jacket – of)

$\lambda_x$  – likes (x, jacket – of (x))

$\lambda_x$  – likes (from, jacket – of)

$\lambda_x$  – likes (from, jacket – of (x))

In short, the majority of parallel elements do not reduce their dependency on the source clause "Adela likes jacket". We can mark P (Alex) as ( $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$ )

Ellipsis can be analyzed not only as a syntactic phenomenon but also from a pragmatic aspect. In other words, the release of P (subject) or FS (VP ellipsis) in the above sentences is not significant. The main point is to draw the reader's attention to the black box (to a missed mysterious context).

According to Winkler, "the main symbol of economy in language is the prosodic phenomenon "light" and "shadow". "Now You Hear it – Now You, Don't". The laconic of the language is a two-fold connection between the metaphorical and visual systems in the language" (Winkler, 2003 : 5).

In English, elliptical structures overlap with a more syntactic and informative structure of the sentence. For example:

1)/Alfonso reads a novel and Leonardo a comedy//;

2)/Alfonso reads a novel but Leonardo doesn't//;

3) /Alfonso reads a novel and Leonardo does a comedy//;

4) /Alfonso reads a novel and Leonardo, too//;

5) /Someone's reading a novel but I don't know who//;

6) / Some played tennis with their two friends and Mary with one//.

The first sentence is called gapping because of missing main verb. In the second sentence there is a predicative space and it is an elliptical sentence with a verbal phrase. The third sentence is structurally in order. However, the expression "does a comedy" is pseudo gapping because it indicates the omission of the initial verb and its expression in pseudo-news. The fourth sentence is called stripping because the gaps are replaced by "too". In fact, strippings, where elliptic structures are most prevalent, contribute condition for greater structural economy.

In the Azerbaijani language we come across this phenomenon more:

a)  $\zeta$ Are you going to a movie?

- Me, too? [s]

The fifth sentence is sluicing, expressed in relative pronouns. Finally, the sixth sentence is an expression undergone with the ellipsis in the nominal phrase of the sentence, which is quite common in the Azerbaijani language.

## Discussion and result

When the addressee is unable to convey his idea or content, he tries to use implicit meaning colours. The implicative meaning of the sentence serves as a means of connection in written speech (context) and in colloquial language (in consituation). The implication of the sentence is a product of cognitive thinking and implication cannot be conceived without thinking. For example, / Kovsar Asadova graduating from the University of Manchester, England with a score of 4.7 received an Honors Diploma, returned to her homeland, and started working at the Department of Political Science at the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy // for analyzing speech implication of this sentence, let's share it into syntagmas:

$S_1$ / Kovsar Asadova graduated from the University of Manchester, England with a score of 4.7 /;  $S_2$ / Honors Diploma /  $S_3$ / returned homeland;  $S_4$ / Started working in PS department at ADA.

Syntagmas create a sentence with an entire semantic structure. Although the syntagmas express meaning separately, the subject remains unchanged. Kovsar's graduation from the university is important, that is  $S_1 > S_2$  for her getting the honors diploma.

To work at university in Azerbaijan, you have to live here, that is, so  $S_4 > S_3$  can't be. Here the logical sequence is broken. You have to return to Azerbaijan to work at ADA:  $S_3 > S_4$ .

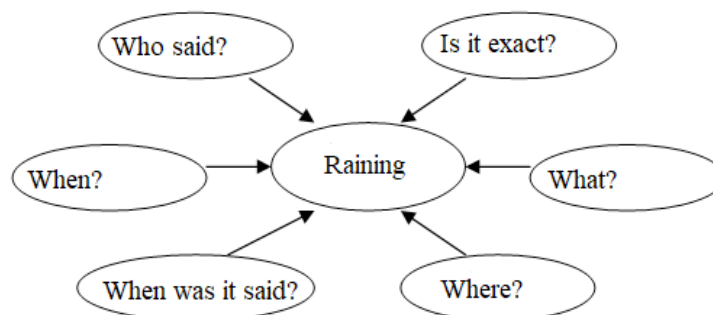
In order to work at ADA, depending on a context meaning, Kovsar must execute each of the previous syntagmas ( $S_1, S_2, S_3$ ).

The question arises: If Kovsar did not graduate from the University of Manchester in England with honors diploma and could not return to Azerbaijan, couldn't she work at ADA?

Answer: Kovsar could work at ADA. Of course,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  are inevitable to justify the authenticity

of  $S_4$ . But the most important factor here is the  $S_3$  factor. Without the  $S_3$  syntagma, Kovsar would not have been a member of  $S_4$ . Hence,  $S_4$  is directly related to  $S_3$ :  $[K-S_3 \geq K-S_4]$

We need to consider two aspects of "comprehension" in order to remember, react, and analyze the speech of a speaker in a particular context without any comment: 1) the given database (data) overlaps with the facts presented; 2) Conversation acts works to capture the "key idea" inside the database. The intertextual and outertextual role and function of "hidden conceptual meaning" should be explored. The emergence and analysis of the "hidden contextual meaning" is more complex than the explicit structure. For example, the difference between the complete and the incomplete part of the sentence / Raining // is clearly seen:



In English, it further clarifies the meaning by expressing a sentence such as / It is raining //. The expression /To rain // refers to "it rains", but the idea is not over. "When?", "Where?" and the questions that arouse afterwords will still remain unanswered.

### Conclusion

Ellipsis is a textual category that expresses itself in the absence of any other element in the structure of phrases. In the narrative, the verbalization of the components within phrase is caused by a specific communicative situation and is understood in syntagmatics with the context. The ellipsis should be viewed as a thoughtful sign that can be easily restored in the context. The zero component only takes place when it is impossible to recover.

Ellipsis that's omission of thought language unit in colloquial (discourse) language or text, "structural incompleteness" of syntactic

constructions have been studied as a separate grammatical phenomenon in European, Russian and Azerbaijani linguistics as well as other phenomena accompanying other facts of language. There are two trends in language development – economy and expansion. The manifestation of language economy principle is a linguistic compression of systemic character and style, representing the process of language structures being reduced without changing the information contained in them. The main function of ellipsis is an economy of language means and reduction of sentences by missing separate words.

Ellipsis as a lexical-grammatical category arises when a structurally important component is omitted or not. The main function of ellipsis in the language is its cognitive (mental) basis. Interfering the meaning of text, leaving the reader complete the meaning or understand it out of the context are related with elliptical constructions.

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