

## INTERSECTION OF AFFIRMATIVE MEANINGS IN THE UKRAINIAN LITERARY LANGUAGE (ON THE MATERIALS OF CONTEMPORARY FICTION)

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**Abstract:** *Given that the main feature of the affirmation is an assertion which is the basis of most speech acts, that is why we aim to determine the scope of an affirmation explication separately from the negation. The goal involves the following tasks: to establish a nuclear, sub-nuclear, intermediate, peripheral and outmost peripheral zones of functional-style implementation of affirmative meaning. The object of the study is multilevel linguistic means as explicitors of the affirmation category. The materials used for the analysis are represented by the compositions of Ukrainian writers of the early 21st century. Functional approach with component and transformational analysis has been used to streamline the corpus of affirmative verbalization in fiction. The prospect for further research is a detailed representation of main common and distinct features of function-semantic affirmation category in Ukrainian and English languages.*

**Keywords:** functional-semantic category, affirmation expressing ways, fiction literature, linguistic levels, modern Ukrainian language.

Affirmation occupies a special place in the fields of human knowledge such as philosophy, logic, psychology and linguistics. It plays an important role in the explication of the speaker's internal state, stating ideas about what is being communicated, verbalizing the speaker's desire to be understood, and so on. The functional potential of the affirmation category makes it possible to study it further. The contradiction of approaches to the study of the category of affirmation is predominantly due to the multidimensionality of this linguistic phenomenon, the essence of which is mainly related to the expression of reality on a sign such as the existence in reality of the connection between the subject and its attribute. The main importance of this category is expressed in the statement of information, confirmation of its authenticity, notification of unanimity in views, expressing consent to the proposal, consent to the order, consent to fulfill the request, etc. The main components of the affirmation category are, first, the conformity or non-conformity of objective reality, second, the reflection of the truth or falsity of the utterance, and third, the statement of the presence of any particular feature. Parallel functioning in the linguistic literature of the concepts of affirmation, assertion, positivity testifies to the wide terminological apparatus of the category of affirmation

in modern linguistics and the difference of views in the representation of character and functions of this category<sup>1</sup>.

For a long time in Ukrainian and world linguistics, researchers have studied only one aspect of this category, for example, they have shown the cognitive affirmative potential, emphasizing that it is an important and cross-cutting way of encoding the world, fills thought with content, expressiveness, understandability and enables informative highlighting of the phenomena of actuality<sup>2</sup>; they emphasized the psycholinguistic features of affirmation<sup>3</sup> and metaphysical peculiarities of affirmation<sup>4</sup>; they motivated the interconnection between affirmation and modality, since the means of one category sometimes serve to explicate the meanings of another one and are also expressed in parallel in speech units<sup>5</sup>; they established the syntactic basis of the affirmation category, indicating that the affirmation and predicative category “emphasize the speaker’s position on what is reported in the sentence, convey his attitude to the fragment of reality reflected in the speech”<sup>6</sup>; they pointed out semantic-syntactic features of the affirmation through domains of double negation<sup>7</sup>. However, the modern scientific linguistic area is characterized by a tendency to study syntactic phenomena in the aspect of functional

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<sup>1</sup> R.B. Kamaeva, “National cultural specifics of representing dialecticisms in the fiction work translation”, in *Life Science Journal*, 2014, vol. 11, no. 10, p. 653-656.

<sup>2</sup> U. Hasson, S. Glucksberg, “Does understanding negation entail affirmation?”, in *Journal of Pragmatics*, 2006, no. 2445, p. 1-18; M. Grugiel, “Affirmation modality in Bulgarian, Macedonian and Serbian”, in *Cognitive Studies*, 2015, no. 13, p. 279-296.

<sup>3</sup> K.R. Christensen, “(Non-) Arguments in long-distance extractions”, in *Journal of Psycholinguistic Research*, 2015, vol. 44, no. 5, p. 519-531; P.D. Ashworth, “Interiority, exteriority and the realm of intentionality”, *Journal of Phenomenological Psychology*, 2017, vol. 48, no. 1, p. 39-62.

<sup>4</sup> M. Almotahari, “Metalinguistic negation and metaphysical affirmation”, in *Forthcoming in Philosophical Studies*, 2014, p. 1-26. Available at: [https://www.academia.edu/2159326/Metalinguistic\\_Negation\\_and\\_Metaphysical\\_Affirmation](https://www.academia.edu/2159326/Metalinguistic_Negation_and_Metaphysical_Affirmation).

<sup>5</sup> E. Leiss, W. Abraham (eds.), *Modes of modality. Modality, typology and universal grammar*, John Benjamins Publishing Company, Amsterdam, 2014; Alefina Golovchun, Beibitkul Karimova, Maira Zhunissova, Gulaim Ospankulova, Kuralay Mukhamadi, „Content And Language Integrated Learning In Terms Of Multilingualism: Kazakhstani Experience,” in *Astra Salvensis*, V (2017), no. 12, p. 300; Z. Guentchéva (ed.), *Epistemic modalities and evidentiality in cross-linguistic perspective*, De Gruyeter Mouton, Paris, 2018; Th. Van Leeuwen, “Multimodal literacy”, in *Viden om Læsning*, 2017, no. 21, p. 4-11; S. Kooohkan, *The typology of modality in modern west Iranian languages*, Antwerp, 2019.

<sup>6</sup> I.R. Vykhovaneec, *Essays on the functional syntax of the Ukrainian language*, Naukova Dumka, Kyiv, 1992; L. Travis, *The integration, proliferation, and expansion of functional categories*, Routledge, London, 2014.

<sup>7</sup> M. Miestamo, *Negation. The Cambridge handbook of linguistic typology*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2015.

semantic parameters, whose components are linguistic categories. The need for a detailed study of the specificity of the language categories, the basis for their interpretation is their consistent implementation at different linguistic levels, undoubtedly becomes relevant and belongs to the list of world linguistics contradictory problems, which at each stage of development linguistic thought acquire new angles of study<sup>8</sup>. In particular, P. Muysken, R. Nordquist, studying functional categories, proposes to substantiate their specificity in the functional and semantic perspective<sup>9</sup>. J. Rijkhoff identifies four main types of functional categories and indicates their relationship to utterance<sup>10</sup>. I.N. Mwinlaaru and W.H. Winfred examine systemic functional theory and language metatheory in general, and point to the interaction of functional grammar and language<sup>11</sup>. V.M. Barchuk<sup>12</sup> outlines the linguistic status, grammatical content and structure of the category of temporality in modern Ukrainian. M.P. Baghan<sup>13</sup>, investigating the category of negation, which is relevant to the category of affirmation, studies its functional-semantic and ethno-linguistic features. T.P. Tkachuk<sup>14</sup> analyzes the concession category in the Ukrainian literary language taking into account functional-semantic specificity. Instead, S.T.

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<sup>8</sup> N. Orazbayeva, K. Nurgali, "Russian writers with bicultural thinking and the formation of readers' multicultural competence", in *Pertanika Journal of Social Sciences and Humanities*, 2017, vol. 25, no. 2, p. 823-836.

<sup>9</sup> P. Muysken, *Functional categories*, Cambridge University Press, New York, 2008; R. Nordquist, Overview of systemic functional linguistics, 2019. Available at <https://www.thoughtco.com/systemic-functional-linguistics-1692022>.

<sup>10</sup> Ja. Rijkhoff, "Functional categories in grammar and typology. Crosslinguistic categories in morphosyntactic typology: problems and prospect", in *Linguistic Typology*, 2016, vol. 20, no. 2, p. 343-348; Alefina Golovchun, Beibitkul Karimova, Maira Zhunissova, Gulaim Ospankulova, Kuralay Mukhamadi, „Content And Language Integrated Learning In Terms Of Multilingualism: Kazakhstani Experience,” in *Astra Salvensis*, V (2017), no. 12, p. 300.

<sup>11</sup> I.N. Mwinlaaru, W.X. Winfred, "A survey of studies in systemic functional language description and typology", in *Functional Linguistics*, 2016, vol. 3, no.8, p. 1-41.

<sup>12</sup> V.M. Barchuk, "Grammatical levels of temporality category representation", in *Scientific Notes of Vinnytsia State Pedagogical University named after Mikhaïl Kotsyubynsky*, 2015, no. 21, p. 73-78. Alefina Golovchun, Beibitkul Karimova, Maira Zhunissova, Gulaim Ospankulova, Kuralay Mukhamadi, „Content And Language Integrated Learning In Terms Of Multilingualism: Kazakhstani Experience,” in *Astra Salvensis*, V (2017), no. 12, p. 298.

<sup>13</sup> M.P. Baghan, "Objection as the basis for nomination of scientific concepts", in *Humanities Education in Technical Higher Education Institutions*, 2016, no. 33, p. 7-18.

<sup>14</sup> T.P. Tkachuk, *Admissibility category in Ukrainian literary language*, Vydavnytstvo-Drukarnya Dilo, Vinnytsia, 2013.

Shabat-Savka<sup>15</sup> gives the category of communicative intention the status of an inter-level linguistic category, explicating it in various discursive and stylistic expressions of the Ukrainian language. O.V. Hurko<sup>16</sup> substantiates a multistatus nature of the affirmation category in Ukrainian linguistics and qualifies it as functional-semantic.

Thus, at present, it is relevant to systematically study the functional-semantic parameters of the affirmative meaning implementation at the lexical, morphological and syntactic levels in the modern Ukrainian language. In this manuscript, for the first time in linguistics, on the contemporary fiction material, the affirmation category will be studied comprehensively, in particular, as a functional-semantic one, which has a logical and psychological basis and a modus character, represented by their units at different levels of language, which integrates common affirmative meanings; provides human cognitive-communicative activities mainstreaming. That is why the aim of the article is to find out the point of intersection of affirmative meanings in the Ukrainian literary language. The goal is to perform the following tasks: to establish nuclear, sub-nuclear, intermediate, peripheral and outmost peripheral zones of functional and stylistic implementation of affirmative meaning. The object of the study is multilevel linguistic means as explicators of the affirmation category in the Ukrainian literary language, and the subject is the hierarchy of these means within the functional and semantic affirmation category. Materials for analysis were works by the Ukrainian writers of the early 21st century, including Ya. Vereshchak<sup>17</sup>, Yu. Vynnychuk<sup>18</sup>, L. Deresh<sup>19</sup>, S.

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<sup>15</sup> S.T. Shabat-Savka, *Category of communicative intention in the Ukrainian language*, Bukrek, Chernivtsi, 2014.

<sup>16</sup> O.V. Hurko, "The functional-semantic category of affirmation in the Ukrainian literary language", in *Development of Modern Science: the Experience of European Countries and Prospects for Ukraine*, Baltija Publishing, Riga, 2019, p. 197-217.

<sup>17</sup> Ja.M. Vereshchak, "Stefko sold to Mormons", in *Contemporary Ukrainian Dramaturgy*, 2007, no. 4, p. 118-127.

<sup>18</sup> Ju.P. Vynnychuk, *Spring games in the autumn gardens*, Folio, Kharkiv, 2016.

<sup>19</sup> L.A. Deresh, *A little darkness*, Klub Simejnogho Dozvillja, Kharkiv, 2014.

Zhadan<sup>20</sup>, Ye. Kononenko<sup>21</sup>, T. Prokhasko<sup>22</sup>, I. Rozdobudko<sup>23</sup> and Yu. Sanhal<sup>24</sup>.

### Materials and methods

In our research we use a descriptive method to inventory, classify, and interpret affirmative units of language and to explain the peculiarities of their structure and functioning in the works of contemporary Ukrainian writers. In addition, during the descriptive method used the method of internal interpretation using paradigmatic and syntagmatic methods. The paradigmatic methodology is applied for comparing affirmative lexemes and establishing their differential features. The analysis found that the main affirmative features are the uniqueness, the obviousness, the direct expressiveness, which is independent of contextual and situational preconditions; in particular, the form reflects the content that is formed at the mental level. The syntagmatic methodology served to identify sentences that do not have a clear connection with affirmative content, since they are represented by linguistic units which do not actualize the assertion directly and, as M. Krsmar, D. Ewoldsmen, A. Koerner<sup>25</sup> note, may be unnoticed in a paradigmatic approach. Transformational analysis is necessary to determine the depth of affirmative meaning through the identification of syntactic and semantic similarities and differences in constructions with negation. The structural method has been used too, in particular, the method of component analysis<sup>26</sup>, by which they analyzed vocabulary definitions for the semantic expression of the affirmation and analyzed the lexical and grammatical means of affirmative verbalization. Manuscript also used a contextual analysis method that is, exploring the

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<sup>20</sup> S.V. Zhadan, *Big Mac and other stories*, 2003. Available at: <https://javalibre.com.ua/java-book/book/2925158>.

<sup>21</sup> Je.A. Kononenko, *Writings*, 2017. Available at: [https://md-eksperiment.org/etv\\_pages.php?album\\_id=588&category=features](https://md-eksperiment.org/etv_pages.php?album_id=588&category=features).

<sup>22</sup> T.B. Prokhasko, *Port Frankivsk*, 2006. Available at: <https://statechnyikrill.livejournal.com/3362.html>.

<sup>23</sup> I.V. Rozdobudko, *I know you know what I know*, Nora-Druk, Kyiv, 2016.

<sup>24</sup> Ju. Sanghal, *The lady of Lviv*, 2019. Available at: <https://javalibre.com.ua/java-book/book/2923705>.

<sup>25</sup> M. Krsmar, D. Ewoldsen, A. Koerner, *Communication science theory and research*, Routledge, New York, 2016.

<sup>26</sup> K. Kohler, *Communicative functions and linguistic forms in speech interaction*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, 2018.

part as a whole when the analyzed unit is viewed within context<sup>27</sup> to establish the areas of affirmative explication. The method of continuous selection is also applied to distinguish more than 10.000 multilevel units and sentences with affirmative content in the modern works of Ukrainian writers.

## Results and discussion

Different approaches to the interpretation of the affirmation category make it possible to form and systematize multilevel means of expression that represent the semantic potential of affirmation. Appropriating this category to the functional-semantic one must take into account its logical and grammatical potential, as well as communicative and pragmatic one in the process of inventorying its components and core. Functional-communicative intersection of the affirmative meaning is caused by the presence of a considerable number of linguistic means, which in some communicative situations actualize the affirmative function. In the context of the study, relying on factual material, we consider that the structure of the affirmation category in functional style sectors covers a wide arsenal of means of implementation, for example, lexical, phraseological, lexical and grammatical, grammatical, in particular, morphological and syntactic. Structuring the functional-semantic affirmation category denotes division into zones. In particular, A.V. Bondarko<sup>28</sup>, N.N. Kanashina<sup>29</sup> distinguish between central, primary, dominant, nuclear, and peripheral, secondary. Instead, L.M. Vladimirskaya and N.G. Yerygina<sup>30</sup> fix nuclear, central, peripheral zones. T.P. Tkachuk<sup>31</sup> separates the nuclear, sub-nuclear, peripheral and outmost peripheral zones. Expanding the classification provided by T.P. Tkachuk, we believe that the structure of the functional-semantic category of affirmation

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<sup>27</sup> S. Bašcarada, “Qualitative case study guideliness”, in *The Qualitative Report*, 2014, vol. 19, no. 40, p. 1-18; B. Paltridge, A. Phakiti, *Research methods in applied linguistics: a practical resource. Eition*, Bloomsbury Academic, London, 2015.

<sup>28</sup> A.V. Bondarko, *Functional grammar issues*, Yazyki Slavyanskikh Kultur, Moscow, 2018.

<sup>29</sup> N.N. Kanashina, “The structure of the function-semantic microfield of the diminutiveness in Russian, German, Mari and Chuvash languages”, in *Mediterranean Journal of Social Sciences*, 2015, vol. 6, no. 3, p. 199-204.

<sup>30</sup> L.M. Vladimirskaya, N.G. Yerygina, “Actualization of the category of affirmativeness/negativity in a non-imperative space (based on the material of the modern German language)”, in *Bulletin of Barnaul State Pedagogical University*, 2002, no. 2-2, p. 54-58.

<sup>31</sup> T.P. Tkachuk, *Admissibility category in Ukrainian literary language*, Vydavnytstvo-Drukarnya Dilo, Vinnytsia, 2013.

characterized by a division into nuclear, sub-nuclear, intermediate, peripheral, and outmost peripheral zones.

The definition of the parameters of the functional-semantic category depends on the means of different linguistic levels, within which it has unequal degree of significance. Ukrainians relying on the scientific achievements of their predecessors<sup>32</sup> suggest allocating the center and periphery of the functional-semantic category according to the following features: 1) the maximum concentration of features specific to a particular functional-semantic category and their differences in the periphery; 2) concentrating the functional load of the dominant in the center and reducing the load, the non-systematic constituents of the periphery; 3) the specialization of the core constituents is clearly expressed and the lower level or implication of the specialization of the realized semantic function in the constituents of the periphery; 4) high frequency of use of the central constituents of the functional-semantic category in comparison with the constituents of the periphery<sup>33</sup>. Taking into account the views of I.T. Balza<sup>34</sup>, that the dominant microfield of affirmation is the sentence modal word *yes*, considering K. Willems's<sup>35</sup> opinion, presented in the theory of lexical field, relying on the belief of L.M. Vladimirkaya and N.G. Yerygina<sup>36</sup>, which find out on the core of the affirmation category “in the true way, on the one hand, as the most frequent marker of assessing the reality of predicative communication, and on the other, as a common indicator for monologic and dialogic speech that can realize the grammatical meaning of affirmation”, and to the central zone includes “affirmative modal words-sentences and verbal tokens containing this “affirmation””, based on the research, we believe that the nuclear zone is

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<sup>32</sup> L.M. Vladimirkaya, N.G. Yerygina, “Actualization of the category of affirmativeness/negativity in a non-imperative space (based on the material of the modern German language)”, in *Bulletin of Barnaul State Pedagogical University*, 2002, no. 2-2, p. 54-58; O.V. Hurko, “The functional-semantic category of affirmation in the Ukrainian literary language”, in *Development of Modern Science: the Experience of European Countries and Prospects for Ukraine*, Baltija Publishing, Riga, 2019, p. 197-217.

<sup>33</sup> T.P. Tkachuk, *Admissibility category in Ukrainian literary language*, Vydavnytstvo-Drukarnya Dilo, Vinnytsia, 2013.

<sup>34</sup> I.T. Balza, Syntactic structure and modal interpretation: the case of Basque “*behar*”, 2018. Available at: <https://tel.archives-ouvertes.fr/tel-02136208/document>.

<sup>35</sup> K. Willems, “Lexical field theory”, in *Theories and Methods in Linguistic*, 2014, vol. 11. Available at: <https://biblio.ugent.be/publication/5782760/file/5782762.pdf>.

<sup>36</sup> L.M. Vladimirkaya, N.G. Yerygina, “Actualization of the category of affirmativeness/negativity in a non-imperative space (based on the material of the modern German language)”, in *Bulletin of Barnaul State Pedagogical University*, 2002, no. 2-2, p. 54-58.

formed by units specializing in the direct, unambiguous, systematic expression of the affirmation. It is primarily implemented by means of grammatical level, in particular, morphological and syntactic. Filling in the sub-nuclear, intermediate, peripheral, and outmost peripheral spheres depends on the degree to which other means are removed from the semantics of the affirmation category. In particular, the sub-nuclear sphere is verbalized by the lexemes that are most indicative for conveying the affirmative meaning, such as particles, modal words, verbs, nouns, etc. The intermediate zone is formed by means that are not directly correlated with the affirmative content and are implemented by means of negative means. The peripheral zone includes those markers that specialize in indirect, unforeseen implementation of the affirmation category, such as syntax means represented by rhetorical questions, optative or interrogative sentences, and the like. Accordingly, the lowest peripheral zone is represented by the least frequency linguistic units and those involved in the formation of affirmation, without actualizing directly categorical value, such as conjunctions, prepositions, etc.

In the context of our study, we will try to introduce in stages the model of the functional-semantic category of affirmation. Given that the affirmation category has a complex heterogeneous structure, in our opinion, corresponds to the nuclear zone. First of all, we include affirmative sentences explicating the positive meaning mostly in the form of narrative sentences by means of an indicator. In addition, forms of the present method can reflect a wide range of modus meanings, such as need, reality, appropriateness, necessity, opportunity, and perform the affirmative function of what is reported. E.g.: “Police officers drove young parents to the hospital and reported a happy family – dad, mom and their newly born daughter Paris – that they had abused their visa regime and had to return to their historic homeland anyway”<sup>37</sup>. The attribution of narrative sentences to the nuclear affirmation markers is also due to the fact that the function of affirmation is characteristic primarily of assertion sentences, the basis of which is an informative comprehension, which, according to I.R. Vykhovanets<sup>38</sup>, was created by the interaction between grammatical semantics of form and lexical semantics of the filler. A grammatical marker of narrative sentences with affirmative semantics is the absence of the negation of the verb in the position of the predicate or

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<sup>37</sup> S.V. Zhadan, *Big Mac and other stories*, 2003. Available at: <https://javalibre.com.ua/java-book/book/2925158>.

<sup>38</sup> I.R. Vykhovanec, *Essays on the functional syntax of the Ukrainian language*, Naukova Dumka, Kyiv, 1992.



the main part of the one-member sentences. E.g.: “They smile kindly at their new masters and look into their eyes in anticipation of the friendliness of a strange land”<sup>39</sup>.

Besides, an important role in the formation of affirmative meaning plays the intonational completeness of the affirmative sentences, which is clearly revealed in the declarative sentences-messages (“The conversation was short, he mostly listened, and she quickly put everything into place, on the shelves, numbered and printed it”<sup>40</sup>), sentences-explanations (“My profession makes a man old in spirit. And so this work is arranged, that you can have an access to the most interesting things when it becomes absolutely unattractive”<sup>41</sup>), statement sentences (“After all, the most industrious representative of the Albanian people stands out from the crowd, takes us aside and offers to buy two grams of it”<sup>42</sup>) and narrative sentences (“Port Frankivsk smells like soaked walls, coral reefs of its beaches, cannon fires of strongholds, cheap fir’s amber, storages and warehouses and plates of the Galicia-Lviv and Tismenets-Kamenets roads, which are flooded by cemetery and pubs around the lighthouse and by houses along the coastline where merchants, sailors, pirates, carpenters, astronomers, map-makers, cheaters, thieves, retired captains, future cabin boys, cooks and whalers have a breakfast and sleep”<sup>43</sup>). In addition, the affirmative content is implemented by each component taken from the affirmative sentence (as well as the interrogative and the imperative ones), which is emphasized by a logical accent, emphasizing the attention of the speakers on that word in the sentence, which is semantically and stylistically the most important for every individual speech situation. As a result, various functional-stylistic variants of the sentences are produced. Compare: “First we were deprived of our own premises, and then we were lured into this cellar with secret passages, portraits, chests and secret princesses”<sup>44</sup> – due to another logical separation in this sentence of every meaningful words its different stylistic variants are formed, and they explicate the affirmation with the help of allocated words: “First, we (not anyone else) were deprived of their own premises, and then lured into this

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<sup>39</sup> I.V. Rozdobudko, *I know you know what I know*, Nora-Druk, Kyiv, 2016.

<sup>40</sup> Ju.P. Vynnychuk, *Spring games in the autumn gardens*, Folio, Kharkiv, 2016.

<sup>41</sup> L.A. Deresh, *A little darkness*, Klub Simejnogho Dozvillja, Kharkiv, 2014.

<sup>42</sup> S.V. Zhadan, *Big Mac and other stories*, 2003. Available at: <https://javalibre.com.ua/java-book/book/2925158>.

<sup>43</sup> T.B. Prokhasko, *Port Frankivsk*, 2006. Available at: <https://statechnyikril.livejournal.com/3362.html>.

<sup>44</sup> Ja.M. Vereshhak, “Stefko sold to Mormons”, in *Contemporary Ukrainian Dramaturgy*, 2007, no. 4, p. 118-127.

basement with secret passages, portraits, chests and secret princesses; At first we were deprived of our own premises, and then lured into this cellar (not outside) with secret passages, portraits, chests and secret princesses”, etc.

According to the polystatus nature of the affirmative category, it is logically to distinguish a circum nuclear zone which classifies the following lexical items: “Yes”; “Of course”; “Okay”; “Alright”; “Truth”; “OK”; “Right”; “Exactly”; “Everything is going to be well” as the first level of affirmative sub-nuclear explicators, since they contain the “affirmation” in its semantic potential. In modern literature a speaker expresses the modal meanings of the agreement using these units (“Yes, it is appearing. Now I see it”<sup>45</sup>), the conclusion (“Of course, it is much easier to break up with hysterics who like to drink and smoke”<sup>46</sup>), confirmation (“Right, for our meeting, – Uliana confirmed, and we clinked”<sup>47</sup>), statements (“Well, exactly a baby”<sup>48</sup>), concretization (“On the vassal rights, of course”<sup>49</sup>), generalizations (“It is great, the next day was Saturday, and each of us could rest a little longer in the morning”<sup>50</sup>), conviction (“Do not worry. Everything is going to be fine. The son already has his own money and a place for living, and you somehow can cope on your own. You will receive a pension for me. So it will be all right. Don’t cry. Everything will be fine”<sup>51</sup>), categorical assurance (“Of course, I know! My dad and I often go here for the weekends!”<sup>52</sup>), approval (“Well, okay. We go to Ternopil. I hide my boots in the tent, and we run barefoot downhill together”<sup>53</sup>), etc. For instance, in the sentence: “It is true, Lizko, and it was even forbidden to pronounce this word!”<sup>54</sup> the word “truth” is representative, which helps to express more vividly the speaker’s confidence in the reality of the message. Therefore, these words can function independently in the speech, which means that they can form communicative units without other lexical items. Sentences which contain these particles, modal words,

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<sup>45</sup> L.A. Deresh, *A little darkness*, Klub Simejnogho Dozvillja, Kharkiv, 2014.

<sup>46</sup> Ju.P. Vynnychuk, *Spring games in the autumn gardens*, Folio, Kharkiv, 2016.

<sup>47</sup> *Ibidem*, 2016.

<sup>48</sup> I.V. Rozdobudko, *I know you know what I know*, Nora-Druk, Kyiv, 2016.

<sup>49</sup> L.A. Deresh, *A little darkness*, Klub Simejnogho Dozvillja, Kharkiv, 2014.

<sup>50</sup> Je.A. Kononenko, *Writings*, 2017. Available at: [https://md-eksperiment.org/etv\\_pages.php?album\\_id=588&category=features](https://md-eksperiment.org/etv_pages.php?album_id=588&category=features).

<sup>51</sup> Ju. Sanghal, *The lady of Lviv*, 2019. Available at: <https://javalibre.com.ua/java-book/book/2923705>.

<sup>52</sup> *Ibidem*, 2017.

<sup>53</sup> *Ibidem*, 2014.

<sup>54</sup> *Ibidem*, 2017.

exclamations, phraseological compounds, express affirmation, describe events more expressively, bring some new pragmatic information about the inner world of the subject of speech to the main part of the message.

It is known that explicating affirmations with their lexical meaning are peculiar to the words of different partially spoken words, therefore, in our opinion, it is important to distinguish the second level of the sub-nuclear niche and classify nouns (“affirmation”), adjectives (“fair”), verbs (“confirm”), and pronoun lexemes (“every”) with the seme “affirmation” to this lacuna. For instance, in the sentence: “Every German did his own thing: if he raised pigs, then he raised only pigs; if he kept cows, so he kept only cows; if he had a mill, then he milled grain; if he had a brewery, he brewed beer”<sup>55</sup> the affirmative-pronoun adjective denotes a person, indicates the presence of a probable subject, and contains an element of affirmation in its semantic structure. Phraseological compounds and borrowed correspondences of Ukrainian affirmative particles form the intermediate zone of the studied category and are mostly peculiar to the dialogic speech. The usage of phraseological affirmative units in the speech is primarily caused by that fact that they have a wide potential to convey different connotations of affirmation, including success, abundance, aesthetics, brightness, beauty, etc. For example: “Everybody has his own fate, which is measured by God, – said Larissa, though she thought differently”<sup>56</sup>. In the given sentence the phraseological unit “which is measured by God” expresses the affirmation of the sentence independently, as well as the phraseological unit can be a definite lexical and grammatical marker of the affirmation of the whole expression. Contemporary authors, taking into account the modern policy of Ukraine, the tendency for Europeanization and the global trends, in particular, “encoding strategies that we find across languages of the world”<sup>57</sup>, often convey information by affirmative borrowed lexemes like: “o’kay”, “yes”, “OK”, “yes of course”, explicating a shade of confidence (“OK, after dinner you go home”<sup>58</sup>), reliability (“Well, he’s got a breath, okay”<sup>59</sup>) and

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<sup>55</sup> *Ibidem*, 2019.

<sup>56</sup> Je.A. Kononenko, Writings, 2017. Available at: [https://md-eksperiment.org/etv\\_pages.php?album\\_id=588&category=features](https://md-eksperiment.org/etv_pages.php?album_id=588&category=features).

<sup>57</sup> C. Bentz, A. Verkerk, D. Kiela, F. Hill, P. Buttery, “Adaptive communication: Languages with more non-native speakers tend to have fewer word forms”, in *PLoS ONE*, 2015, vol. 10, no. 6, article no. e0128254.

<sup>58</sup> *Ibidem*, 2017.

<sup>59</sup> S.V. Zhadan, Big Mac and other stories, 2003. Available at: <https://javalibre.com.ua/java-book/book/2925158>.

absolute conviction in what is reported (“YES, the son, yes, – she points out, – social assistance”<sup>60</sup>).

Considering that the divergence and the weakening of semantic features occurs on the periphery of the field<sup>61</sup>, the distribution of constituents depending on the degree of remoteness from the center is considered appropriate. To the peripheral zone of affirmative verbalizers, we attribute rhetorical questions, optative and interrogative sentences, which are the means of syncretizing affirmations with emotional response to messages and reproduction of the author’s thoughts. The usage of rhetorical questions makes it possible to form persuasive, evidential, epistemic and emotional-evaluative modes of affirmation at the first level of the peripheral zone (“Will I call the characters one by one as they appear and then think which one is the most appropriate stone for them, okay?”<sup>62</sup>). The second level of the peripheral lacuna is represented by optative sentences, which represent the affirmative function with the shades of desire, wish, request, advice on the implementation of certain actions. For instance, “I congratulate you and wish you more fun truths in the New Year!”<sup>63</sup>. And finally, interrogative sentences, in particular interrogative-specifying, show activity at the third level of the peripheral zone, since they correlate with the narrative sentence-statements with the help of subjective-modal meanings (“We are fat with you on their American-Australian-Canadian, and they are here (gesture towards Sinka), so they should without cars and without apartments?”<sup>64</sup>). The identifier of the internal affirmation in the sentences like “Chekanchuk spoke about the e-mail response in the morning, the letter in the safe and a recent conversation with Mykola Kubov. And also about the lack of information about Friendship Wife on Maryan’s computer”<sup>65</sup> is the attachment “and also”, which helps to create a complete, informatively comprehensive message, to reflect the character’s thoughts and to reproduce the process of thinking with a shade of epistemicity.

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<sup>60</sup> *Ibidem*, 2003.

<sup>61</sup> B. Paltridge, A. Phakiti, *Research methods in applied linguistics: a practical resource*. Eition, Bloomsbury Academic, London, 2015.

<sup>62</sup> L.A. Deresh, *A little darkness*, Klub Simejnogho Dozvillja, Kharkiv, 2014.

<sup>63</sup> Je.A. Kononenko, Writings, 2017. Available at: [https://md-eksperiment.org/etv\\_pages.php?album\\_id=588&category=features](https://md-eksperiment.org/etv_pages.php?album_id=588&category=features).

<sup>64</sup> Ja.M. Vereshhak, “Stefko sold to Mormons”, in *Contemporary Ukrainian Dramaturgy*, 2007, no. 4, p. 118-127.

<sup>65</sup> Je.A. Kononenko, Writings, 2017. Available at: [https://md-eksperiment.org/etv\\_pages.php?album\\_id=588&category=features](https://md-eksperiment.org/etv_pages.php?album_id=588&category=features).

The main markers of affirmation explication in the outmost peripheral zone are conjunctions, prepositions and attachments, which do not implement the affirmative function directly, but emphasize and focus on a certain affirmative component of the sentence, form semantic-syntactic relations between parts of the sentence, for example, by attributing statements with the meaning of sequence, time consistency, simultaneity, etc. The functioning of multilevel means of explicating the mental-speech category of affirmation in language proclaims the importance of its reflection in the cognitive-communicative activity of Ukrainians. Since the category of affirmation has a complex heterogeneous structure, the intersection of different modes of affirmation in contemporary Ukrainian fiction texts is represented in our study. Means of lexical, morphological, and syntactic levels of language completely and clearly reflect affirmation in the functional and stylistic sectors. The basis of narrative, reflective and descriptive texts in the artistic style is an affirmative act of thought, in the process of which the author retells certain information, consistently expresses opinions, arguing them. The prospect for new studies is seen in the ordering of the corpus of main common and distinct features of the affirmation in Ukrainian and English languages.