

# LINGUISTIC AND EXTRALINGUISTIC PREREQUISITES FOR THE FORMATION OF SPORTS DISCOURSE

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## KALIT SOʻZLAR

Sport diskursi, lisoniy omil, nolisoniy omil, gender tenglik, sportchi, jang, jangchilar, sport tadbirlari.

# ключевые слова

Спортивный дискурс, лингвистический фактор, экстралингвистический фактор, гендерное равенство, атлет, битва, борцы, спортивные мероприятия.

## **KEY WORDS**

Sports discourse, linguistic prerequisite, extralinguistic prerequisite, gender equity, athlete, battle, warriors, sporting events.

## ANNOTATSIYA

Bitta til oilasiga mansub tillari turdagi oʻxshashlik darajasi turlicha boʻlishi mumkin. Ayrim tillar shu qadar oʻxshashki, ularning egalari bir-birining tillarini oʻrganmagan boʻlsa ham, bemalol bir-birini tushunadi. Sport diskursining shakllanishida lisoniy va nolisoniy omillarning oʻrni katta. Ushbu maqolada ushbu omillar tavsiflangan boʻlib, ularning nutqning ushbu maxsus aloqa shaklini rivojlantirishdagi hissasi izohlab berilgan.

# **АННОТАЦИЯ**

Языки одной языковой семьи демонстрируют различные уровни сходства. Некоторые языки настолько похожи, что их носители без особых трудностей понимают друг другу, даже если не изучали их. Формированию спортивного дискурса способствуют как лингвистические, так и экстралингвистические факторы. В данной статье описываются эти факторы и объясняется, как они способствуют развитию этой особой формы коммуникации.

## ABSTRACT

Languages within a language family exhibit varying levels of similarity. Some languages are so similar that they are mutually intelligible even if the speakers haven't learned each other's languages. The formation of sports discourse involves both linguistic and extralinguistic prerequisites. This article outlines these prerequisites and explains how they contribute to the development of this specialized form of communication.

**Introduction.** Sport discourse creates a comprehensive and interesting mode of communication by seamlessly combining linguistic and extralinguistic elements. Commentators and reporters use specific language and narrative techniques that draw on cultural, psychological, and sociopolitical contexts to resonate with their audiences. This integration helps increase entertainment value, foster a sense of community, and keep sports relevant in broader social and cultural conversations. Sports discourse, the countless conversations, stories, and commentaries surrounding sports activities, is a living and integral part of our cultural fabric. It goes beyond the analysis of plays and performances, integrating identity, politics, economics and social issues. This article examines how sports discourse reflects and shapes societal values, highlighting key themes in contemporary sports discourse.

Sports, often seen as a microcosm of society, provide a platform where broader societal issues play out. Discussions about gender equality, racial justice, economic disparities, and national identity frequently find a focal point in the arena of sports. For instance, the discourse around women's sports has evolved significantly over the past few decades, mirroring the broader movement towards gender equality. The increasing visibility and support for women's leagues and the push for equal pay are reflections of a society that is progressively recognizing the importance of gender equity. According to Schirato, sporting discourses, however, were and remain highly influential in determining how men and women were understood and valued, the functions and roles that were allocated to them, and the different forms and performances that were associated with normative accounts and templates of gender [1; 43].

Sport discourse is deeply intertwined with politics. From the ancient Olympic Games, which served as a political tool in Greek diplomacy, to modern-day events like the World Cup and the Olympics, sports have always been a stage for political expression and conflict. The debate over athletes kneeling during national anthems to protest racial injustice is a contemporary example of how sports can be a powerful platform for political and social statements. Such actions spark widespread debate, drawing in voices from various sectors of society and prompting discussions that extend far beyond the playing field. The economic dimension of sport discourse is another significant aspect. Sports are a multi-billion-dollar industry, and discussions often revolve around the commercialization of sports, the financial health of leagues and clubs, and the economic impact of major sporting events. The lucrative nature of sports has led to debates about player salaries, ticket prices, and the role of sponsorships and advertisements. Additionally, issues such as the exploitation of athletes, particularly in youth and collegiate sports, and the financial inequities between different sports and leagues are frequently highlighted in sports discourse. The advent of digital media and technological advancements has transformed sport discourse. Social media platforms like Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube allow fans, athletes, and commentators to engage in real-time conversations, share opinions, and disseminate information [2; 108]. This democratization of sports commentary has broadened the discourse, giving a voice to diverse perspectives but also leading to the spread of misinformation and heightened instances of online abuse. The role of traditional media, with its established narratives and sometimes biased coverage, continues to be a topic of discussion in the digital age. Sports have the unique ability to unite people across different backgrounds, fostering a sense of community and shared identity. Major sporting events like the FIFA World Cup or the Olympics can bring nations together, creating moments of collective joy and national pride. However, sports can also be a source of division. Rivalries between teams and nations can lead to conflict and hostility, both on and off the field. Issues such as doping scandals, match-fixing, and corruption within sports organizations also contribute to the darker side of sports discourse, highlighting ethical concerns and challenging the integrity of sports.

Sport discourse is a specialized form of communication that encompasses the language, narratives, and discussions surrounding athletic activities. The formation of sports discourse is influenced by a blend of linguistic and extralinguistic factors, each playing a crucial role in shaping how sports are talked about, analyzed, and understood. This article delves into the key linguistic and extralinguistic prerequisites that contribute to the development of sports discourse.

# **Linguistic Prerequisites**

1. Specialized Vocabulary

One of the most apparent linguistic features of sports discourse is its specialized vocabulary. Each sport has its own set of terms and jargon that are essential for accurate and effective communication. For example, terms like "offside", "hat-trick" and "free throw" are specific to soccer,

cricket, and basketball, respectively. Understanding and using these terms correctly is crucial for anyone involved in sports communication, from commentators and journalists to coaches and fans.

# 2. Metaphorical Language

Sports discourse often employs metaphorical language to create vivid and engaging narratives. Metaphors such as "battle", "warriors" and "underdogs" are commonly used to describe sports events, teams, and players. These metaphors help to convey the intensity, drama, and emotional stakes of sports, making the discourse more relatable and compelling for the audience. For instance, Razhina states that "sport is fight" the targets like athletes or clubs (the conceptual target is sport) obtain their metaphorical expressions from the source domain concerning fights especially using words with a historical meaning such as gladiators, musketeers, cavalry, etc. [3; 65].

# 3. Syntax and Grammar

The syntactic and grammatical structures used in sports discourse can also be distinctive. Commentaries and live reports, for instance, often feature short, dynamic sentences that convey the immediacy and excitement of the action. In contrast, analytical pieces might use more complex sentences to provide detailed explanations and insights. The choice of syntax and grammar helps to shape the tone and style of the discourse, making it suitable for different contexts and audiences.

# 4. Narrative Structures

Sports discourse frequently utilizes specific narrative structures to tell stories about games, players, and seasons. These narratives can range from the classic "underdog" story to tales of redemption and rivalry. The use of narrative structures helps to organize information in a coherent and engaging way, making it easier for audiences to follow and connect with the content.

**Extralinguistic Prerequisites** 

# 1. Cultural Context

The cultural context in which sports discourse occurs plays a significant role in its formation. Sports are often deeply embedded in cultural traditions and values, influencing how they are perceived and talked about. For example, the way cricket is discussed in India is influenced by its status as the country's most popular sport, whereas American football's discourse in the United States reflects its cultural prominence and commercial aspects. Another example is how Usein Bolt perfomance before, during and after the 100 metres final at the 2012 London games [4]

# 2. Media and Technology

The evolution of media and technology has a profound impact on sports discourse. The rise of television, the internet, and social media has transformed how sports are covered and consumed. Live broadcasts, online streaming, and social media platforms allow for real-time engagement and interaction, broadening the reach and immediacy of sports discourse. These technological advancements have also led to new forms of discourse, such as memes, live-tweets, and fan blogs.

# 3. Socio-political Influences

Sports discourse is often shaped by socio-political factors. Issues such as nationalism, gender equality, and racial justice frequently intersect with sports, influencing the narratives and discussions that emerge. For instance, the discourse around the participation of women in sports or the activism of athletes like Colin Kaepernick reflects broader societal debates and movements. These socio-political influences add layers of meaning and significance to sports discourse, making it a reflection of societal values and tensions. A good example for women's attendance in sport events that Atlanta 1996 was "Olympics of the women" mentions Fastman and Billings [5].

## 4. Economic Factors

The economic context of sports can also influence its discourse. The commercialization of sports, sponsorship deals, and the financial aspects of running sports leagues and events are common topics

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within sports discourse. Discussions about player salaries, team finances, and the economic impact of sporting events highlight the business side of sports, shaping how the discourse is framed and understood.

**Conclusion** The formation of sports discourse is a complex process influenced by a combination of linguistic and extralinguistic prerequisites. The specialized vocabulary, metaphorical language, and narrative structures provide the linguistic foundation, while cultural, technological, sociopolitical, and economic factors shape the extralinguistic context. Together, these elements create a rich and dynamic discourse that not only communicates the action and excitement of sports but also reflects and influences the broader societal landscape. Understanding these prerequisites is essential for anyone looking to engage with or analyze sports discourse in a meaningful way.

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