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Term Paper

**INTERJECTIONS IN MODER ENGLISH DIALOGICAL DISCOURSE: A  
STUDY OF MOVIE SCRIPTS**

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## INTRODUCTION

Interjections are an essential part of modern English dialogical discourse, used to express emotions and reactions in conversations. Modern English has a wide range of interjections that are used in various contexts to convey different emotions.

They can be standalone words or used in conjunction with other words and phrases. One of the most sources for studying interjections is movie scripts, as they offer a large variety of dialogues that are both written and spoken. Very often interjections words or phrases are used to express a feeling or to request or demand something. While interjections are a part of speech, they are not grammatically connected to other parts of a sentence.

In movie scripts, interjections can serve a variety of functions. They can express surprise, excitement, frustration, anger, agreement, disagreement, and more. For example, the interjection "Wow!" is often used to express amazement or admiration, while "Oh no!" is used to express dismay or disappointment.

One interesting aspect of interjections in movie scripts is their use of repetition. Many interjections are repeated multiple times in a row for emphasis, such as "Oh my god, oh my god, oh my god!" or "No, no, no, no, no!" This repetition can convey a sense of urgency or intensity in the dialogue.

Another aspect to consider is the use of interjections in different genres of movies. For example, action movies may use more aggressive or forceful interjections, while romantic comedies may use more playful or flirty interjections.

Overall, the study of interjections in movie script **topicality** can provide insight into the way language is used to convey emotion and meaning in dialogical discourse.

The **object** of the study is the English dialogical discourse of movie scripts, which contains interjections that convey emotions, surprise, indignation, etc.

The **subject** of the study is the linguistic means (namely interjections) used to convey emotions in the English-language dialogical discourse, as well as their

influence on the viewer's perception and reaction. The study focuses on the study of features of the lexical and grammatical composition of movie scripts, conveying emotions, speech style, and other means.

This study **aims** to analyze the use of interjections in modern English dialogical discourse by examining the interjections used in a sample of movie scripts.

Achieving the goal of the research involves the following tasks:

- define and distinguish the concepts of «discourse» and «dialogical discourse»;
- describe linguistic features interjections phrases and expressions in the modern English language system;
- describe the means of emotional expression in English dialogical discourses;
- to determine the features of the transmission of emotions and intonation of exclamations in modern English dialogical discourse;
- analyze the linguistic means of using interjections in English movie scripts;
- to summarize the research results.

In order to carry out a scientific analysis, the research material served the following **methods**: classification of scientific and practical information from scientific works on linguistics by domestic and foreign authors, dictionaries, encyclopedias served as research material, film scripts, also analysis, and descriptive methods.

The scientific novelty of the coursework lies in the fact that it is the first study dedicated to the study of the specifics of linguistics by using means of interjections in modern English dialogical discourse using the study of movie scripts.

The scientific novelty of the coursework lies in the fact that it is the first study dedicated to the study of the specifics of linguistics by using means of interjections in modern English dialogical discourse using the study of movie scripts.

The methodological basis was made up of scientific and critical articles by researchers of cognitive linguistics, authors of discourse theory

The theoretical significance of the research lies in the fact that it highlights important aspects of the relationship between language and emotions in cinematographic works. The results of the study can be useful for a better understanding of the linguistic means of conveying emotions in movies.

The logic of the research determined the structure of the coursework. The study consists of an introduction, two chapters, conclusions to them, general conclusions, and a list of reference materials. The total volume is 23 pages.

## **CHAPTER ONE. THEORETICAL FRAMEWORKS OF THE STUDY OF DIALOGICAL DISCOURSE IN MODERN ENGLISH**

### **1.1. Distinguishing the concepts of «discourse» and «dialogical discourse» or «dialogism» in modern linguistics**

Discourse analysis is a key area of study within linguistics, providing important insights into the complex and nuanced ways in which language is used in real-world communicative contexts. It is an interdisciplinary field that draws on insights from linguistics, sociology, psychology, anthropology, and communication studies.

In linguistics, discourse refers usually to the study of speech patterns and the usage of language etc. To understand the speech patterns one need to be clear about the term 'discourse' and 'text. Discourse put simply, is structured collections of meaningful texts [Ian Parker, 1992]. It refers to the study of language use in larger communicative contexts. It involves the analysis of spoken or written language beyond the sentence level, focusing on how speakers and writers use language to communicate meaning, convey social relationships, and achieve specific goals.

There are traditionally four different types of discourse, namely argument, narration, description, and exposition. Discourse is generally understood to encompass almost any type of communication whether written or oral, and there are some cases in which entire papers or speeches depend on just one style; most of the time, though, authors, writers, and speakers use two or more methods at once. Different types are usually better suited for different circumstances, and there are usually some pretty distinguishable features of each. Most of the time writers and speakers will use the methods they think will be most effective at getting their points across and reaching their intended audiences.

A text is a part of the process of discourse. It is the product of any communication by writer/speaker. A text consists of cues for interpretation processes and traces of

production processes. As Norman Fairclough said that, this process includes in addition to the text the process of production, of which the text is a product, and the process of interpretation, for which the text is a resource.

Therefore, discourse analysis examines how language is used in a variety of contexts, such as conversations, interviews, movies, narratives, speeches, and written texts. It looks at how linguistic features, such as sentence structure, vocabulary, tone, and register, are used to create meaning and convey social and cultural information. It can also involve the study of the social and cultural factors that influence language use, such as power dynamics, gender, ethnicity, and social class. By examining language use in its broader social and cultural context, discourse analysis provides insights into the ways in which language is used to construct and reinforce social identities, relationships, and power structures.

To sum up, in linguistics, discourse refers to language use beyond the level of the sentence, such as conversations, stories, and written texts. Discourse analysis involves the study of how language is used in context to create meaning and communicate effectively.

The category of dialogism is also considered to be the basic text category which reveals its interactive, intertextual and intrinsic text character. Interactivity is determined by the addressability of the text, the relationship between its author and reader. Such interaction can be manifested both in dialogical and monologic speech directed by the author to the addressee. Consequently, dialogue is inherent not only in dialogical, but also in monologic texts. Dialogism as an intertextual category of text is manifested in its interaction with other texts while using citations, references, allusions, reminiscences from them. The intertextual character of dialogism reveals the interdependence of the text fragments, provides its structural and content cohesion as a semantic and communicative unit.

Dialogism is an integral category of scientific and technical texts not only due to the purpose of their creation which consists in spreading certain scientific and technical information among specialists, but also in communicative intentions of



these texts' authors by establishing contact with the addressee and attracting their attention to the most important information. The methodological basis of the dialogic texts' analysis is the multi-dimensional, complex nature of dialogism itself determined by a number of dialogic relationships: inter-subjective (between the author and the reader), interdisciplinary (between the author and other authors) and intrinsic (within the same text between its parts).

From a number of different research approaches, it is obligatory to focus on various textual components: informatively, intentionality, connectivity, integrity, situationality. There should be a refreshing reassessment of the contrastive dimension in the study of voice, interjections and dialogic relations, taking into consideration language, specialized fields and genres.

## 1.2. Linguistic features of English-language movie discourse

English-language movie discourse typically includes a range of linguistic features that help to convey meaning and create a particular style or tone. Some of the key features include:

**Dialogue:** movies are primarily made up of spoken language, and so dialogue is a central feature of English-language movie discourse. Dialogue may be naturalistic or stylized, depending on the genre of the film and the intentions of the filmmakers.

**Characterization:** characters in movies are often differentiated through their speech patterns, which may reflect their social background, personality, or emotional state. For example, a character who is nervous or unsure may use hesitant or fragmented speech, while a confident or aggressive character may use language that is more assertive.

**Tone:** movies often use language to create a particular tone or atmosphere, such as suspense, humor, or romance. This may involve the use of figurative language, such as metaphors or similes, or the use of emotive language to create a particular mood.

**Register:** English-language movie discourse often uses a particular register or level of formality, depending on the context of the scene. For example, characters may use more formal language in a courtroom or academic setting, while using language that is more colloquial in informal settings.

**Intertextuality:** movies often refer to other texts or cultural products, such as literature, music, or other films. This intertextuality may be reflected in the use of language, such as through allusions, quotations, or references to specific cultural figures or events.

**Genre conventions:** different genres of movies may use specific linguistic features to create a particular style or mood. For example, horror movies may use language to create a sense of fear or suspense, while romantic comedies may use language to create a light-hearted and humorous tone.

Overall, the linguistic features of English-language movie discourse are diverse and varied, reflecting the different contexts, genres, and intentions of filmmakers and writers.

### 1.3. Means of interjections in English-language discourses

Interjections are an essential part of modern English dialogical discourse, used to express emotions and reactions in conversations. Interjections are linguistic elements that individuals use to express mental states, attitudes or reactions to perceived stimuli. Quite often, they are seen as instinctive, involuntary or uncontrolled verbalizations, i.e. quasi-reflexes [Nicoloff 1990, 214]. It can add emotional depth to conversations and help convey the speaker's thoughts and feelings. Movie scripts provide a rich source for studying interjections as they offer a large corpus of dialogues that are both written and spoken. This study aims to analyze the use of interjections in modern English dialogical discourse by examining the interjections used in a sample of movie scripts.

Interjections are normally considered paralinguistic elements because of their phonological and morphological anomalies, their relative syntactic independence,

and their occurrence in discourse accompanying other linguistic chunks. This consideration has resulted in a historical lack of agreement as to whether they are one of the traditional word-classes or parts of speech. As opposed to linguists who do not include interjections among their word-classes (Huddleston 1988).

The use of interjections in movie scripts can vary depending on the genre, tone, and style of the movie. Action movies may use more forceful and aggressive interjections, while romantic comedies may use more playful and flirty interjections. Overall, the use of interjections in movie scripts can help bring the dialogue to life and convey the emotions and reactions of the characters in a particular scene.

Interjections are words or phrases that are used to express strong emotions or feelings in English-language discourse. They are used to convey a range of emotions such as surprise, excitement, anger, frustration, and others. Here are some of the common means of interjections used in English-language discourse:

**Emphasis:** Interjections can be used to emphasize a point, drawing attention to an important moment or idea. For example, "*Wow, that's amazing!*" emphasizes the speaker's sense of wonder and amazement.

**Intensity:** Interjections can be used to intensify a feeling or emotion, making it more powerful or dramatic. For example, "*Oh my God!*" conveys a strong sense of shock or surprise.

**Response:** Interjections can be used to respond to something someone else has said or done. For example, "*Aha!*" can be used to show that you have understood something.

**Expression:** Interjections can be used as a way of expressing a feeling or emotion, without necessarily responding to something specific. For example, "*Yay!*" is often used to express excitement or happiness.

**Social function:** Interjections can serve a social function, signaling the speaker's intentions or attitudes towards others. For example, "*Excuse me!*" can be used to politely interrupt someone, while "*Oops!*" can be used to apologize for a mistake.

One of the interesting aspect of interjections in movie scripts is their use of repetition such as "*Oh my god, oh my god, oh my god!*" or "*No, no, no, no, no!*" This repetition can convey a sense of urgency or intensity in the dialogue, for instance, if we look the script from the movie "The Devil Wears Prada" (2006), a comedy-drama film about a young woman who lands a job as an assistant to a powerful fashion magazine editor, contains examples of repeated interjections:

INT. RUNWAY - MIRANDA'S OFFICE 33

ANDY appears in the door. MIRANDA is talking to PAUL, the art director, who is showing her a layout.

MIRANDA

It's too dark. I can't see any of the clothes...

PAUL

...I think he intended to use shadow to show the contours of the...

MIRANDA

And what is this? I want the title of the layout to bleed over the left side of the photo...

PAUL

I see, well, we needed room for the typeface to pick up the lines of the dress, which is cut on the bias, so we...

CONTINUED:

MIRANDA

**No, no, no.** That's not what I want. I made that abundantly clear...

MIRANDA looks up and sees ANDY.

MIRANDA (CONT'D)

There you are, Emily. How many times do I have to scream your name?

ANDY

Actually, it's Andy.

MIRANDA gives ANDY a look. And ANDY notices she's brought the room to a screeching halt.

ANDY (CONT'D)

My name is Andy. Andrea, but people call me Andy.

- "*No, no, no*" - interjections that repeated multiple times in a row for emphasis of emotions.

In general, the emphasis of emotions in interjections depends on the speaker's vocal inflection, body language, and the intensity of the emotion being expressed. Interjections can be a powerful tool for expressing emotions and adding emphasis to speech, but it's important to use them appropriately and in context to avoid misunderstandings or communicative deviations.

The highest degree of interjectionally is characterized by the following criteria [Stange 2016, p. 17]:

1. It is primarily emotive
2. It is exclamatory
3. It does not require an addressee
4. It is produced semi-automatically

**Emotive** interjections, such as “*ow!*, *ouch!*, *yuck!*” exhibit all four features. They express the speaker’s emotions and sensations, they do not necessarily need an addressee, and they are semi-automatic in the sense that they are often spontaneous and unplanned, and triggered by the sudden occurrence of external events.

**Cognitive** interjections express the speaker’s state of knowledge, which may just have changed prior to its emission. Examples are “ah” and “aha!”

**Conative** interjections are directive. They try to get the addressee’s attention and often demand some action or response. The request to others to be quiet by uttering “shh!” is a relevant example. Moreover, finally, elements like “u-huh” or “mhm” are classified as phatic markers. They function as feedback in an ongoing conversation and show a low level of interjectionally [pp. 11-12].

Another aspect to consider is the use of interjections in different genres of movies. For example, action movies may use more aggressive or forceful interjections, while romantic comedies may use more playful or flirty interjections.

Overall, the findings of this study demonstrate the importance of interjections in modern English dialogical discourse. Interjections add nuance and emotion to conversations, it is an excellent representation of how language is used to convey the emotions and attitudes of the characters, and they help to create a particular tone or atmosphere in the movie. They also provide insights into the characters' personalities and motivations, and they help to advance the plot by establishing the relationships and tensions between the characters.

In conclusion, this study highlights the use of interjections in modern English dialogical discourse by analyzing the interjections used in a sample of movie scripts. The analysis shows that interjections are an essential part of language, used to convey emotions and reactions in conversations. Further research in this area could focus on the use of interjections in other forms of dialogical discourse, such as TV shows or social media conversations.

## **Conclusions to Chapter One**

In chapter one, has provided an overview of the theoretical frameworks that have been developed to study the linguistic use and meaning of interjections, with a specific focus on the English discourse. We have discussed the distinction between discourse and dialogical discourse in modern linguistics.

We have also explored the characteristics of the vocabulary of interjections in the English language, including the means of interjections and their types.

Furthermore, we have examined some examples of interjections in English-language discourses, their meanings, and appropriateness of use.

Overall, this chapter has highlighted the importance of understanding the linguistic tools and strategies used to express emotions in the English language.

## **CHAPTER TWO. LINGUISTIC MEANS OF CONVEYING EMOTIONS THROUGH INTERJECTIONS IN DIALOGIC DISCOURSE**

### **2.1. Movie discourse in English-language communication**

Movie discourse refers to the language used in English-language movies to convey meaning, express emotions, and create a particular atmosphere. Movie discourse can take many forms, including dialogue between characters, voiceovers, and narration, and it can serve a range of functions, such as advancing the plot, developing character, and creating tension or suspense.

English-language movies are an important form of communication, both within and outside of English-speaking countries. They are a powerful tool for cultural exchange, allowing people from different cultures and backgrounds to share stories, perspectives, and ideas. Moreover, movies provide a rich source of language input for language learners, who can use movies to improve their listening comprehension, vocabulary, and overall language proficiency.

Movie discourse is shaped by a range of factors, including genre, audience, cultural context, and the intentions of the filmmakers. Different genres of movies use different linguistic features to create a particular style or mood, and filmmakers may make conscious choices about the language they use in order to achieve their desired effect. For example, horror movies may use language to create a sense of fear or suspense, while romantic comedies may use language to create a light-hearted and humorous tone.

Overall, movie discourse is an important part of English-language communication, and it plays a significant role in shaping our understanding of the world around us. By analyzing the linguistic features of movie discourse, we can gain insights into the ways in which language is used to create meaning and to evoke emotions and attitudes.

### **2.2. The role of interjections in movie scripts**



Interjections are words or phrases that are used to express strong emotions or feelings, such as surprise, excitement, or frustration.

Interjections are a fascinating aspect of modern English dialogical discourse. They are short utterances that express emotion, feeling, or attitude, and often occur in spoken language. English-language movies often use interjections to convey the emotions of the characters or to create a particular tone or mood, so I analyzed interjections in a corpus of movie scripts to explore their frequency, form, and function in dialogical discourse. Here are some examples of interjections that you might hear in movies:

*"Phew!"* - used to express relief, often after a tense or stressful situation.

*"Ouch!"* - used to express pain or discomfort, often in response to a physical injury.

*"Yikes!"* - used to express fear or alarm, often in response to a sudden danger or threat.

*"Geez!"* - used to express frustration or annoyance, often in response to a difficult or annoying situation.

*"Boo!"* - used to express disapproval or to frighten someone, often in a playful or teasing way.

One of the most common interjections in English is *"oh"*. It is used to express surprise, dismay, or realization, among other emotions. In the field of science literature, *"oh"* can be used to convey a sudden moment of insight or understanding. For example, in a paper about the discovery of a new species of dinosaur, the author might write:

*"Oh! This unique set of characteristics suggests that this dinosaur is a completely new species, unlike anything we've seen before."*

Another common interjection in English is *"wow"*, which is used to express admiration, wonder, or excitement. In the context of science literature, *"wow"* can

be used to express amazement at a groundbreaking discovery or a surprising result. For example, in a paper about the detection of gravitational waves, the author might write:

*"Wow! This discovery confirms Einstein's theory of general relativity and opens up new avenues for studying the universe."*

Finally, the interjection "hey" is often used to get someone's attention or to express surprise or disbelief. In the context of science literature, "hey" might be used to draw attention to a particular finding or to express disbelief at a surprising result. For example, in a paper about the discovery of a new exoplanet, the author might write:

*"Hey, check this out! This planet is in the habitable zone and has a similar mass and composition to Earth. Could it support life?"*

The movie script "The Devil Wears Prada" (2006) contains many examples of interjections, which are used to convey a range of emotions and attitudes:

INT. ELIAS-CLARKE - DAY

ANDY, a young woman in her early twenties, walks through the bustling office of RUNWAY magazine. She looks around in awe at the stylish and glamorous surroundings.

ANDY (to herself): Wow.

As Andy walks past EMILY, a snarky assistant, Emily shoots her a dismissive glance.

EMILY: Ugh.

Andy continues walking and bumps into NIGEL, a flamboyant fashion director.

NIGEL: Ooh, watch it!

ANDY: Sorry.

Andy makes her way to the office of MIRANDA PRIESTLY, the powerful editor-in-chief of Runway.

MIRANDA: Hello, Andrea. (pause) That's all.

ANDY (to herself): Oh my God.

As Andy leaves Miranda's office, she bumps into MIRANDA'S other assistant, JACQUELINE.

JACQUELINE: Excuse you.

ANDY: Sorry.

As Andy walks away, Emily glares at her.

EMILY: Unbelievable.

Andy takes a deep breath and tries to compose herself.

ANDY (to herself): Okay, I can do this.

In this script, the interjections serve a variety of functions. Let's take a closer look:

- "*Wow.*" - This interjection is used by Andy to express her sense of awe and wonder at the stylish and glamorous surroundings of the office.

- "*Ugh.*" - This interjection is used by Emily to express her dismissive attitude towards Andy, indicating that she finds her presence annoying or unimportant.

- "*Ooh, watch it!*" - This interjection is used by Nigel to express a sense of danger or warning, indicating that Andy should be careful not to bump into anyone.

- "*Oh my God.*" - This interjection is used by Andy to express her shock and disbelief at the abrupt way in which Miranda dismisses her.

- "*Excuse you.*" - This interjection is used by Jacqueline to express her annoyance at Andy for bumping into her.

- "*Unbelievable.*" - This interjection is used by Emily to express her frustration with Andy, indicating that she finds her behavior unacceptable.

- "*Okay, I can do this.*" - This interjection is used by Andy to encourage herself and to try to remain calm in the face of the challenges she is facing.

To sum it up, these interjections help to convey the emotions and attitudes of the characters, and they help to create a particular tone or atmosphere in the movie. They also provide insights into the characters' personalities and motivations, and they help to advance the plot by establishing the relationships and tensions between the characters.

### **Conclusions to Chapter Two**

In chapter two, linguistic means of rendering the feelings and emotions in the English movie discourse were analyzed. The linguistic expression of reactions and feelings in movie scripts is a dynamic and ever-evolving phenomenon that reflects the different ways in which people experience and communicate in today's world. Through a range of linguistic means such as interjections, actors can communicate the feelings of their heroes to viewers. The analysis of the scripts in this chapter highlighted the importance of using interjections to convey the emotional feelings of the hero.

## GENERAL CONCLUSION

We analyzed two scripts of one movie. The emotion in dialogical discourse has been found to be communicated through interjections.

Interjections play a significant role in modern English dialogical discourse in movie scripts. As I noticed, interjections are often used to add emphasis to the words, and convey tone and attitude. Interjections are one of the ways to diversify the language and add colors in the form of expressing emotions through words. An analysis of the English dialogic discourse of movie scripts showed that they provide a sense of realism to the dialogue, making it more authentic and relatable to the audience.

Movie scripts often use interjections to create a sense of immediacy and urgency, drawing the audience's attention to the scene and the characters' emotions.

Interjections can also be used to create a sense of humor or irony, adding another layer of complexity to the dialogue.

Generally, as we can see, interjections are an essential part of modern English dialogical discourse in movie scripts, and their effective use can greatly enhance the quality and impact of the dialogue. By incorporating interjections into their writing, screenwriters can create more engaging and dynamic scenes, making their scripts more memorable and enjoyable for audiences.

In conclusion, the linguistic means of rendering emotion in movie scripts that are diverse and dynamic reflect the complexity and richness of human emotions. The study of these linguistic features provides valuable insights into how individuals use just a few words, one phrase to express and communicate their feelings.

The results of the study can be useful for a better understanding of the linguistic means of conveying and perceiving emotions and can be used in courses on linguistic and cultural studies, linguistics, and the English language.

## RÉSUMÉ

The aim of the term paper "Interjections in Modern English Dialogical Discourse: a Study of Movie Scripts" is to identify linguistic markers of transmission of emotions and exclamations in English movies. Using both qualitative and quantitative research methods, the coursework analyzes movie scripts to better understand how the viewer can perceive by ear the feelings and reactions of actors by using emotional exclamations in movies. In addition, not only ways of expressing emotions in movie scripts but also its meaning in modern English dialogical discourse are analyzed.

Generally, the coursework sheds light on how the use of interjections affects the expression of emotions and represented in stage communication, which has important implications for understanding social interactions.

***Key words:*** *interjection, emotion, dialogical discourse, movie, script.*

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