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Course Paper

Stylistic Functions of Elliptical Constructions in English and Ukrainian

(A Study of Fictional and Non-Fictional Texts)

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INTRODUCTION

As we all know, for quite a while now, elliptical instructions have offered us a unique method of portraying our thoughts via this particular stylistic move across all languages. It highlights the human brain's capability of adapting to any situation thanks to being able to understand and absorb information even if it wasn't provided fully (or at least what one's individual might consider full).

Studying this topic, dwells more on the usage of said move across the different text types as well (both fiction and non-fiction), which in itself, contributes useful and valuable insights and information to the studies of contrastive stylistics, that in the future might evolve the languages used in the world further, providing even more conventional means of communication between humans.

We already can see this evolution in the rise of online communication, with its emphasis being on brevity, leading to a more widespread use of ellipsis overall. Languages, gladly, adapt and change over time with all sorts of factors, including technological advancements, cultural exchanges, tragic events, wars, the evolution of thinking, climate change, etc.

This study's purpose and objective is to discover stylistic functions of elliptical constructions in English and Ukrainian fiction and non-fiction texts.

The specific objectives include: identifying the types of ellipsis used, analyzing the stylistic effects exploring the differences in their usage between the two languages, and comparing them to understand similarities as well as the differences in usage and meaning of said constructions.

Research significance. The data collected might help to understand the communicative function and both differences and similarities of, in our case, Ukrainian

and English languages and cultures. Understanding both of these languages/cultures is of utmost importance right now, as we can see a lot of new mixing vocabulary and slang being created and used daily due to the blending of English and Ukrainian cultures and languages (now more than ever, different elements of the languages being borrowed in this exchange) in the grand picture of war and being supported by USA, followed by the volunteers and overall just regular people that are compassionate and willing to help by any means, which creates the necessity having the knowledge and understanding the differences between us and our supporters.

Also, this can help the future translators generations, translation program models, and AI models to provide even more accurate translations. It has been always challenging to navigate the ways of conveying meaning across languages with different grammatical structures. Certain elliptical constructions are inherently ambiguous, so addressing this can make it easier to get the intended meaning based on how similar constructions are used in the target language, and understanding and comparing how similar ideas are expressed in different languages will give us the most natural-sounding and direct equivalents in the target language that never existed before. Even processing how different cultures are building relationships via the means of language units can progress this study a lot.

With all of the points mentioned, it is safe to say that this study is relevant to today's events and future possibilities and requires throughout research and discussion more than ever.

CHAPTER ONE

THEORETICAL ASPECTS OF ELLIPTICAL CONSTRUCTIONS. STUDY IN PRESENT DAY STYLISTICS.

1.1 Ellipsis in literature and linguistics

Elliptical constructions – are grammatically incomplete sentence constructions for the deliberate purpose of concise prose. The whole term comes from the "ellipsis" which shows an omission, or in other words, something that was left out (*VERBS Elliptical Construction*, 2020). This incomplete structure may deliver its full meaning only if the context itself makes it clear what the missing elements. It is being studied in stylistics – a branch of linguistics that studies the interpretation of texts, mainly literary texts and/or spoken language regarding both linguistic and tonal style, by style, we mean the variety of language used by different individuals in different situations, settings, or environments (Wikipedia, 2024).

But the most important information is that ellipsis in linguistics differs from ellipsis in literature. In literature, it is mostly used as a tool to make a dramatic effect, to highlight, to signify a thought or a pause. For example, in F. Scott Fitzgerald's The Great Gatsby, the narrator, Nick, describes his first encounter with Jay Gatsby at a lavish party: *"...Suddenly there was a burst of laughter, a musical laugh as if someone had laughed all his life and then out of sheer plenty there was more laughter left over. I turned around and there he was.."* - F. Scott Fitzgerald (1925). Great Gatsby.

The ellipsis after "laughter" was used to create a sense of mystery and anticipation. The reader doesn't immediately find out who is laughing, building suspense about Gatsby's grand entrance. And this ellipsis also mimics the breathlessness Nick might have felt upon seeing Gatsby for the first time.

The author created suspense by withholding information (keeping the reader engaged for more), highlighting the character and the moment of meeting a new one (also making him significant), and showcasing the emotion of a character (the breathlessness).

Or, in another example, in Harper Lee's novel To Kill a Mockingbird: *"Jem was twelve. He was already an expert at hating— ".- Harper Lee (1960). To kill the mockingbird.* In those two small sentences, we have 2 instances of ellipsis being used.

The first is the absence of information after "twelve" in sentence one, which proposes that there is a lot more to be said about the character, yet the author leaves it unsaid,(what for?) to peak the reader's anticipation and curiosity and make people fantasize about what the character needed to go through to shape them into someone with such hate towards something.

Second, is the dash after "hating". Used to create an abrupt pause, as if the narrator was interrupted by someone. We have no idea what the character hates, or why. In this case, it adds a whole new layer of mystery and does a neat trick: it foreshadows the racial tension that will be one of the main points in the story.

Again we speculate withholding information, and providing us with an interesting concept that'll follow throughout the book: prejudice — it sets the overall tone of the novel.

 In linguistics, however, ellipsis just refers to the omission of one or more words from a sentence (Ellipsis, 2024). It is used when you want to avoid the unnecessary repetition of words, and the rest of the sentence can still be understood through context. Imagine a scenario where two friends are discussing their weekend plans:

"Are you going to the movies tonight?"

"Mhm, yeah."

or this could end at "Mhm." Even though this answer would be considered a normal one, this is the most frequent usage of ellipsis in daily life. Instead of saying, "Yes, I'm going to the movies tonight." The person just omits the repeated phrase because it is

obvious what they will be answering. It is the common practice of ellipsis in spoken language – it does a great job of helping us be concise and avoiding unnecessary redundancy. In the case where there would be another person joining the conversation, the repeated phrase could be used, but technically it wouldn't be considered a repeated phrase at all to a new speaker.

Another interesting example:

"You're finally here! Coffee? Tea?"

"Tea."

"Sugar?"

"Two."

Beginning with "Coffee? Tea?" – instead of asking fully "Would you like some coffee or tea?" we just shorten it to the fundamentals and with the help of tone in the voice we make it sound like a question. The answer is just as simple: "Tea." short for – "I would like some tea". "Sugar?" – "How much sugar do you want for me to add?" or "Do you want sugar in your tea?" – because the answer could be "No." – "No I don't want sugar in my tea." So the phrase fully means "Do you want sugar in your tea, if so how much do you want for me to add?", but this is too long and inconvenient to use. That is exactly the reason why elliptical constructions are so useful.

1.2 Classification of elliptical constructions

According to John Russell, from the Voice of America (2022), they can be classified based on the type of element omitted:

Noun ellipsis: Omission of a noun phrase, because it's already mentioned previously in the context (John Russell,2022). For example: "I like tea. She does too."- instead of "She does like tea too."

Divided into 2 categories: **simple ellipsis** – the entire noun phrase is omitted (John Russell,2022): I like coffee. He does too.", and **partial ellipsis** – Only part of the noun phrase is omitted, mainly adjectives and determiners (John Russell,2022): "This guide is useful. That one looks too." – "Useful" is omitted. Additionally, these may be used for emphasis (The statue! It is enormous! – "The statue is omitted emphasizes the importance), and informality (Where r u? – stands for "Where are you?", used for brevity").

Verb ellipsis: Omission of a verb phrase, because it is the same as the one in the preceding clause and can be understood from the surrounding context (John Russell,2022). For example: "They cook every day. We as well." – instead of "We cook every day too."

Divided on **symmetrical ellipsis** – Verb phrases are omitted from both clauses of a grammatically similar structure (John Russell,2022): "We do this every day. They as well.", and **asymmetrical ellipsis** – The verb phrase is omitted from only one clause, relying on the other clause for context (John Russell,2022): "I fed the parrot yesterday. Did you?" – "Feed the parrot yesterday?" is omitted. Additionally, verb ellipsis may be used to convey context clues, it could be either previous mention of something: "I've already done the homework. Have you?"- "Already done the homework?" is omitted; or a parallel structure (implying the same verb usage): "He speaks Ukrainian and speaks English too." – "he" is omitted instead if using it for repetition; or an auxiliary verb (suggesting the same auxiliary verb in the elided clause): "He has finished his task. She finished her yet?" Both "Has" and "task" are omitted.

Clausal ellipsis: it represents the omission of the part of the clause or the entire clause, relying mainly on the context to understand the meaning (John Russell,2022). For example: "If you do this, I'll be happy" – instead of "If you do this, then I'll be happy".

Divided by **elliptical answers:** Responding to questions with just a phrase or word, relying on the context of the question (John Russell,2022): "Are you going to the cinema? Sure." – "(Sure), I am going to the cinema" is omitted; and **elliptical comparisons:** Comparing two things by omitting identical elements (John Russell,2022): "He's taller."- "than him" is omitted; or **tag questions:** can be questions attached to statements, seeking confirmation or clarification: "It's a good day, isn't it?" – The full question is omitted: Would you agree that it is a good day today?"

1.3 Functions of elliptical constructions in fiction texts

There are a lot of ways in which authors can and have used the said constructions in literary texts. Not just a grammatical mistake, ellipsis, if used properly, can create a dynamic interplay that engages and invites the reader to actively participate in the construction of meaning in the overall text. **Ellipsis is able to showcase stressful situations experienced by the characters and can make the pacing of the story faster or slower (**Elliptical Sentence Constructions, 2024**), depending on what the original intention of the author was, to reveal true intentions or sides of the character that were not shown before and others.**

As an example, I will be using the book I read a while ago – Philip Pullman's "The Subtle Knife", the second installment in his "His Dark Materials" trilogy.

A scene full of tension: Lyra Belacqua hides in the bustling streets of Cittàgazze, pursued by the sinister Spectres. Here, ellipsis is used to amplify the sense of danger:

"Lyra scurried through the crowd, her heart hammering... She didn't look back. She didn't dare... A shadow detached itself from the wall..." – Philip Pullman (1997) The Subtle Knife.

The ellipsis after "She didn't dare" creates a pause, allowing the reader to be in her shoes for a second, to understand the fear that was gripping Lyra at that exact moment. The next sentence, devoid of a verb, further intensifies the suspense, reaching its peak. Can you imagine a picture of a shadow detaching itself from the wall, a silent and

almost invisible predator chasing and closing in? It has a big impact on the perception of this scene.

Then, for example, during this action sequence, the short, elliptical sentences were used to launch the narrative forward at a breakneck speed, pacing it:

"She ran. Heart hammering. Lungs burning. The forest floor was a blur beneath her feet. A monstrous bird screeching behind..." - Philip Pullman (1997) The Subtle Knife

The absence of conjunctions and the emphasis on action verbs create a strong sense of urgency.

Also, it is possible to showcase how the character thinks and feels by just omitting some of the elements, even if they might be crucial as a piece of information in the story, they better act as omitted material which will make the readers feel more connected to the narrative; as in the situation when Will Parry grapples with complex emotions and disturbing memories, the author utilizes elliptical narration to capture the fragmented nature of his thoughts:

"Dust... swirling... choking him. Gobblers... their pale eyes... their machines... Mary..." - Philip Pullman (1997) The Subtle Knife

The incomplete, shattered, mumbling sentences reflect the chaotic torrent of emotions and unsettling images that are flooding Will's mind. It allows the reader to experience the world through Will's perspective, making you, the reader, feel empathy and trying to relate, to show understanding.

And it is no problem at all to show particular character traits. Lord Asriel, Lyra's enigmatic father, is a character covered in mystery. To show his stoic and authoritative demeanor, Pullman uses ellipsis here as well:

"Lyra," he said, his voice low.

"We have much to talk about."...Lyra looked up at him.

"Where's Roger?"

"..."

- Philip Pullman (1997) The Subtle Knife

Asriel's clipped speech pattern, with its short sentences and pauses indicated by ellipsis, reflects his reserved nature. The emptiness after Lyra's question hangs heavy, giving us information on Asriel's reluctance to address the topic of Roger. With this, the readers can analyze for themselves the emotional state he's in and what kind of relationship he has with Lyra.

As you can see, ellipsis can increase suspense, reveal character traits through dialogue, reflect the characters' inner turmoil, pace the narrative effectively, and much more. The masterful use of this tool shows clearly how seemingly minor grammatical choices can significantly increase the overall impact of a story and experience.

1.4 Functions of Elliptical Constructions in Non-fiction Texts

When it comes to elliptical constructions in non-fiction texts, the usage has nothing to do with artistic vision or enhancing experience, it is rather used to ease the reading and make it efficient so that the smallest parts of text deliver most of the information. Clarity and conciseness are streamlining writing and it is very valued in instructions, tech writing, and summaries where efficiency is valued and necessary.

 In instructions, for example, instead of: "Carefully locate the "Eyes" (detail 2132) designated as 'Q' in the package. Using the computer, connect it to the computer and recalibrate it manually via the computer (the instructions below) until it is calibrated and ready to use. **A manual will use an ellipsis and make it much easier for the reader's eyes:** "Find "Eyes" (Q) in the package. Using a computer, recalibrate the "eyes". A concise approach delivers the essential steps without unnecessary details.

Technical specifications often benefit from ellipsis as well. For example, a camera description could read: "16-megapixel.... 4K video... Wi-Fi...". Highlights key features clearly and concisely.

Ellipsis condenses lengthy reports into digestible summaries, as in: "The study linked regular exercise to improved cardiovascular health... Further research is needed..." Captures the core findings and the need for further exploration.

As well as being efficient, elliptical constructions are great at keeping the conversational flow when referring back to the material that was previously mentioned in the context. Not only that is a pretty good way to not lose the idea that was at the beginning of the conversation or conference but also it grants the possibility to re-think of the opinion that was made at first impression, to realize the full potential of what was said.

Furthermore, they can encourage discussion and re-evaluation of ideas: "The data suggests a correlation between X and Y. However, there might be other factors..." (The ellipsis prompts the audience to consider alternative explanations).

Additionally, it is frequently used to showcase the importance of something, omitting elements can draw attention to the ones that are left. With this, it is much easier to maintain and work with highlighting key terms, concepts, conclusions, summaries, etc. that were mentioned before.

A great tool in research findings as well, it can help to highlight significant findings in research papers: "The study found a direct link between air pollution... and respiratory illnesses." Omitting the subject after "pollution" draws attention to the crucial connection.

Explaining concepts? These constructions can be used as well! As in: "Photosynthesis... the process by which plants convert sunlight... into energy." This streamlined explanation emphasizes the core elements of photosynthesis.

Summaries and conclusions are becoming more compact and informative: "The new policy focuses on sustainability... Overall, it aims to create a more..." (The ellipsis prompts the reader to consider the broader implications of the policy).

But not only these means can change the perspective of the sentence. **Ellipsis in sentences spoken by different people can also vary**: When somebody says, "He

finished," a person can simply reply, "He did?" rather than saying the same, "He did finish?" or something like that. But if somebody says, "He finished with unmatched results," we can't respond, "He with unmatched results.", this sort of answer would be available in a different context, of a book maybe: "O He, with unmatched results, won the competition of skills and glory….", but of course, that wouldn't be used in a regular speech and this would we an entirely different situation. But of course, some more additional cases of omission need to be known how to work with them so that a person using them wouldn't get into an uncomfortable situation needing to explain his formulations.

When a verb form is omitted in one of two instances, its repetition, not the original, should be omitted: "My sister has never gone canoe riding, and never will," not "My sister has never and will never go canoe riding." ("My sister has never . . . go" is incorrect .)

When using an elliptical construction that in its full form would employ the comparative terms as and then, we don't omit the first instance of the terms before the conjunction: "Polar bears are as large as and just as deadly as regular bears," not "Polar bears are as large and just as deadly as regular bears." Similarly, we don't omit that: "Crocodiles are smaller than but just as impressive as Alligators," not "Crocodiles are smaller but just as impressive as Alligators."

To test for grammatical soundness, we can temporarily omit the phrase including the conjunction and the comparative up to the object: "Polar bears are as large . . . regular bears" and "Crocodiles are smaller . . . Alligators" are ungrammatical and you would have to put additional words for the sentence to be fully coherent and cohesive in the context.

And, we need to be sure to omit only the words not essential for clarity: "The bus doesn't go to or return from the city," not "The bus doesn't go or return from the city."

All of that raises the question of efficiency vs clarity in a language. It is an exciting and specific phenomenon that linguists and scientists have been researching for ages while trying to find whether or not there is a possibility of a future where both can coexist

effectively, being able to provide the most information in the least amount of language units. In the end, it all comes down to language's possibility of shortening itself while not losing the meaning in the progress and the human's brain availability of being able to analyze, understand, and sort out all the incoming information in the shortest amount of time, or at least to the amount of time that is usually used in the "regular" human communication, both written and spoken.

The system proves to be a very complex but organized phenomenon, which represents an additional line of communicating via texts and proves to be very effective as one.

CHAPTER TWO

SEMANTICS AND FUNCTIONING OF ELLIPTICAL CONSTRUCTIONS IN LITERARY AND NON-LITERARY ENGLISH AND UKRAINIAN TEXTS

2.1 Contrastive analysis of elliptical patterns in English and Ukrainian

The similarities would be obvious: both of them use the ellipsis for conciseness (omitting the repeated words and phrases to avoid redundancy):

"I like apples. He does too."

"Мені подобаються яблука. Йому теж."

And both of them use ellipsis for emphasis (omitting elements to draw attention to the remaining words):

"Good!"

"Добре!"

And lastly, they are used in similar grammatical structures, so the noun, verb, and clausal ellipsis are found in both languages.

However, there are interesting differences concerning this matter. The first is that English might rely on ellipsis slightly less than Ukrainian. Ukrainian, particularly spoken Ukrainian, can be more elliptical.

Even if we do not notice it ourselves, without additional analysis, that would be apparent to non-native speakers when it comes to learning the language itself. Quite a lot of sentences either disappear or are shortened to one word and in some way, it might help but simultaneously make it harder to understand the language as a foreigner.

And there are obvious reasons why the Ukrainian language can operate freely with such a large amount of elliptical constructions. Ukrainian is a synthetic language, meaning that most of the grammatical information is within the words, not requiring

additional resources. Because of that, ellipsis is more acceptable. English, however, is an analytic language, and being reliant on a lot of separate words to be able to have correct grammatical meaning means that in a lot of situations, the ellipsis can feel grammatically incomplete, which can't be used as much as in Ukrainian.

Still even considering that, there are unique elliptical constructions available to both of the languages that are not intertwined and can't be properly re-made for the other language. As in :

"Up for a movie?"- In this case, the sentence uses multiple ellipses: The subject, verb, and clausal ellipsis, and in English, this kind of elliptical question is very common in informal contexts. The context and intonation make the meaning clear despite the missing elements. But of course, directly translating this sentence word-for-word into Ukrainian wouldn't give any results and even may confuse the person reading it. Ukrainian tends to favor more explicit constructions, especially in questions. We would usually say something like: "Хочеш в кіно?" (Do you want to go to the cinema?), or there's a possibility to make it even shorter, but the dialogue would have to be formed uniquely:

"Чи є в тебе бажання кудись піти?"

"Ммм…..В кіно?"

"Чом би й ні? Погнали."

An interesting thing you may see here is that in the question whether or not the person wants to go to the cinema instead of asking if they're "Up for a movie?" – in English context this would be almost always asking if someone wants to watch a movie implying that they're going to cinema (or in other case they would add that they watch to watch it on Netflix or any other subscription-based movie provider, that means to watch a movie at home), in Ukrainian context however, it is specified already where they're going to go to the cinema and watch a movie, because if they were to ask "Хочеш подивитися фільм?" – most expected that you're proposing to watch a movie at home (either again, from any of the subscription-based movie providers, or you've

pirated the movie (downloaded or found the movie somewhere else) and ready to watch it). This context may and will appear more frequently in Ukraine because of the advanced digital piracy culture that has been developing for 10s of years.

Now, as for the example from the other perspective:

"Пішов в магазин.” – usually, it would be used in the context of a person that is going to go to the store, and is informing, (could be either friends or family etc.) that he's heading out. This Ukrainian sentence uses a subject ellipsis: "Я" is omitted.

Similarly to the situation that was provided before, translating word-for-word will not succeed at all, as the translation would be “Went to the store.” – instead of informing of your departure to the goal of destination, it simply suggests that you've done it before the moment of speaking and could be used in the following context:

“Where have you been? Couldn't reach you over the phone.”

“Went to the store. During my trip back phone died, so that's why.”

But simply trying to use it in the same context as the Ukrainian example is not possible. For that, you need to rebuild the sentence:

“I am heading to the store.” – “Я вирушаю в магазин.”

Other options like "I'm off to the store." or "Just leaving for the store." could also work.

English typically requires a present continuous tense ("I am going") or a future tense ("I will go") to express the imminent action of leaving, so that is why the “Went to the store.” usage is not possible.

There are a lot more examples that showcase the differences and quite a lot of them could be provided from real-life situations – Imagine you are hanging out with someone and getting a bit hungry, quiet probably The next dialogue could happen:

"Ugh, my stomach's growling. I think I'll grab a snack."

"Журчить в животі. Мабуть, перекушу."

As we can see in the English variant, we would need to use the subject pronoun (I) that can be removed in the Ukrainian (Я).

"Журчить в животі. ("It's growling in my stomach")

"Мабуть, перекушу. ("Perhaps, I will have a snack")

It is a subject omission. The first sentence translates to "growling in the stomach," but the context itself and meaning of the verb "Журчить" implies that "My stomach is growling." or "It's growling in my stomach", showing the connection to the one who speaks, not any other person. The second sentence, "Мабуть, перекушу." ("Perhaps, I will have a snack") uses the first-person singular future tense conjugation of the verb "перекушу" ("I will have a snack"), abandoning the need for the subject pronoun "Я".

Then, everyone probably experienced this one: You are waiting in line for who knows how long, and there is a sneaky person who, without a care in the world, just barges in the middle of the line. Most likely you will hear:

"Hey! People are waiting here!" (There is a line here! – could be also used but it is highly dependent on the location and situation, using it in the written speech requires more background knowledge.)

"Агов! Тут черга!"

In this case, the omission was used for both sentences. In the first sentence, "Агов! (Hey!)" is an interjection expressing surprise or annoyance (here, it is an annoyance). While it doesn't directly show who is surprised ("you"), the context and situation make it clear.

In the second sentence, "Тут черга! Directly translates to "Here's a line!" Or "Here's a queue!". Although it means "Here is a line," it indirectly implies that "People are waiting in line!" The omitted subject is understood from the context and the imperative form of the verb "є" ("is")(which is also omitted) is within the noun "черга" ("line").

This feature to omit subjects gives the Ukrainian language a level of conciseness that English often struggles to get.

2.2 Cultural context in the process of elliptization:

Surprisingly, it is not common knowledge for everyone that elliptical constructions often rely on the cultural context that the language provides. Some cultures may favor explicitness (tend to say everything whether or not background knowledge is provided or known to the listener/speaker, which can be useful for those who are used to more thorough thinking rather than rushed) while others rely more heavily on implicit communication (relying on context and missing out the information to avoid (missing) the repeating information that might slow the pace of conversation or slow the analyzing/reading process of a document, that needed to be understood in the shortest time, for example).

Even something as simple as the greeting that we use every day is affected:

"Good morning!"

"Доброго дня!"

In the Ukrainian greeting, there is an omission of the subject pronoun "тобі" ("you") and the genitive case of the adjective "доброго" ("good") is used. It is translated as "Good day!", while the cultural context implies "Good day to you" or "Have a good day." / (бажаю) Гарного дня! (вам), but "Гарного дня!" is mostly used as a way to say goodbye in the Ukraine – the context is always important. While English "states" the fact of day being good, Ukrainian favours wishing that the good day will come.

This cultural and linguistic phenomenon exists in more areas than just greetings. For instance – you could be present at a party that you got invited to but you are feeling bored:

"I am bored….. Shouldn't have come here."

"Нудно….. Краще б залишився дома."

The Ukrainian sentence omits the subject pronoun ("Мені") and ("Я") and the verb "is" (є, which is not used at all, apart from some rare occasions). However, the context makes the speaker's meaning fully clear.

2.3 Physical context in the process of elliptization:

The level of formality in a situation also influences the use of ellipsis in both languages.

While using formal writing in English, it is generally discouraged to use ellipsis, and complete/grammatically correct sentences are in favor. The informal setting, of course, allows for more ellipsis, and at times can be irrecognisable from the formal variant (Ellipsis,2024). Ellipses are common in Ukrainian communication, regardless of formality. However, in formal settings, it is less likely to encounter such a literary device, since it gives an impression of a casual form of communication, but is still used more than in English. An example of an ellipsis could be as follows:

Informal English: "Hey, how's it going?" "Not bad. You?"

Formal: "Good morning sir. I hope you're having a pleasant day today." "Why yes, thank you, hopefully, it is the same for you."

Informal Ukrainian: "Привіт, як справи? "Та нормально. А ти як?"

Formal: "Доброго дня, як у вас справи?" "Непогано, могло бути й краще."

While both languages exhibit a shift in sentence structure between informal and formal contexts, the level of ellipsis used might be more pronounced in English. It's important to remember that an ellipsis isn't just about omitting words.

The usage of these structures in both cultures and languages is nuanced and can be researched till the end of time. All of the additional details that the history, culture, nationality, and overall behavior add to the whole system, make it a complex and unique structure for understanding. The usage of non-verbal cues like facial expressions and gestures to complement verbal communication adds to that too.

CONCLUSIONS

Elliptical constructions are more than just grammatical additions, they are a grandiose part of human communication. With its usage, it is possible to achieve a level of sophistication and conciseness that would otherwise be difficult to obtain. Elliptical constructions allow us to compact complex ideas into a simple and strict choice of words.

They can be employed to inject a touch of humor or irony into our communication. We can create a playful tension with it, that can make people more relaxed, maybe could even cause laughter or make them reconsider their initial assumptions about any topic given.

Any instructions become easier to read, and texts overall are becoming much more available to humanity. Without even realizing it, this crucial element makes our speech much more dynamic, understood, and colorful, than it would be without it.

In short, English and Ukrainian both use ellipses, despite using them in some different ways. Due to the nature of the Ukrainian language and the unique conjugations for each personal pronoun, it is often clear who is being referred to, which leads to pronouns being omitted to reduce redundancy and make the conversation feel more casual. English, on the other hand, has limited conjugations for verbs and therefore almost always includes the corresponding pronoun. However, both languages utilize ellipses where possible to achieve the same goal of conveying a casual mood. Omitting certain parts of a sentence can have the effect of highlighting others and giving the sentence a slightly more nuanced meaning. This effect of additional nuance can also be achieved through the use of intonation. When used in combination with an ellipse, the same sentence can be interpreted in many ways. Simply using a rising intonation without necessarily omitting any words, but rather adding a pause, can function as a suggestion instead of being a statement by demonstrating uncertainty about what is being said. When observing ellipses in media or in daily life, it is clear that they function to make dialogue feel more organic and help to avoid redundancy.

It was a really interesting experience to dive into the world of elliptical constructions. After all the materials that I've looked through and the information collected, it is mind-blowing how effortlessly we are using such a unique and complex structure even without thinking half a second during speaking or when writing a text. Understanding that the elliptical constructions weren't deliberately made from the beginning of it is even more fascinating, it was just a simple wish for a shorter means of communication. It truly is a wonder how the human brain acts as if it was developed to communicate through the most effective means while using minimal resources.

It dwells further on the theory of human evolution and the nature of the human brain. That only means that it is only natural to try to study more usages of said elliptical constructions, reflect on how to make it simpler to understand for learning, to realize and calculate how far the omissions could go and how systemized they can be, so that we may try to predict into what exactly human language can evolve in future.

РЕЗЮМЕ

Ця робота присвячена дослідженню семантичної конструкції під назвою еліпсис. На сьогоднішній день вона є дуже використованою не тільки у повсякденному мовленні, а й в письмових як і літературних, так і не літературних текстах. Еліпсис - це не просто економія мовних засобів. Він відіграє важливу роль у розумінні та інтерпретації тексту. Невеличка, як здавалося, граматична зміна, не тільки має можливість скоротити час подання інформації до слухача або читача, а й робить саму інформацію набагато легшою в розумінні через меншу кількість використаних лінгвістичних засобів.

В художних текстах, еліпсис здатен показати емоційні ситуації, які переживають персонажі, може пришвидшити або сповільнити темп розповіді, розкрити справжні наміри або сторони персонажа, які не були показані раніше, тощо.

В нехудожніх текстах, еліпсис не має нічого спільного з художнім баченням та використовуються для полегшення читання та підвищення ефективності текстів, щоб менші частини тексту містили якнайбільше інформації.

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