



## THE ROLE OF LINGUAPRAGMATICS IN INFORMAL SPEECH

**Ne'matova Arofat Dilshod qizi**

*Teacher at the Department of Functional Lexis*

*Uzbekistan State World Languages University*

[arofatnematova@gmail.com](mailto:arofatnematova@gmail.com)

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**Annotation:** *This article explores the crucial role of linguapragmatics in informal speech, examining how it shapes everyday interactions and contributes to meaningful communication. It delves into the ways speakers and listeners utilize context, implicature, presupposition, and social cues to navigate casual conversations. The analysis includes discussions of politeness, humor, turn-taking, and conversational repair, highlighting how these pragmatic principles facilitate effective communication in informal settings. Furthermore, the article addresses the impact of digital communication on informal speech, emphasizing the continued relevance of linguapragmatics in evolving social landscapes.*

**Key words:** *Linguapragmatics, informal speech, context, implicature, presupposition, politeness, humor, turn-taking, conversational repair, social dynamics, digital communication.*

**Kirish.** Linguapragmatics, at its core, is the study of language use in context. It's the bridge between the literal meaning of words (semantics) and the intended, socially situated meaning (pragmatics). In informal speech, this bridge is often the most heavily trafficked, as conversations are less structured and more reliant on shared understanding, implicit cues, and social dynamics. This article aims to explore the intricate ways linguapragmatics shapes our everyday interactions, focusing specifically on informal speech. Informal speech, unlike formal discourse, thrives on spontaneity, flexibility, and a focus on building and maintaining social bonds. It's the language of friendship, family, and casual encounters. It's where we let our guard down, deviate from rigid grammatical rules, and prioritize connection over precision. To understand its workings, we must move beyond the dictionary definitions and delve into the realm of intention, inference, and social context.

Consider a simple greeting: "Hey, how's it going?" In a formal setting, this might be inappropriate, but in an informal context, it's a standard opening. However, the actual meaning can vary greatly. If said with a warm smile and genuine interest, it's a genuine inquiry. If said quickly and distractedly while passing in the hallway, it's more of a perfunctory acknowledgment. Linguapragmatics helps discern these nuances.

### **Implicature, Presupposition, and Context**



# XORIJY TILLARNI O'QITISHDA INNOVATSION YONDASHUVLAR NAZARIYANING AMALIYOTGA TATBIQI

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One of the most significant contributions of linguapragmatics to informal speech is its ability to explain how we convey meaning beyond the literal words we use. This is where *implicature* and *presupposition* come into play.

**Implicature:** This refers to the implied meanings that speakers convey through their utterances. For example:

- "Do you have any spare change?" "Sorry, I left my wallet at home." The response doesn't directly answer the question, but it implies that the person doesn't have any change.

- "Is John a good student?" "He always attends class on time." This implies that John is a good student, but it doesn't state it directly.

In a conversation between friends, one says "It's getting late." This could imply that they want to leave, or that they are tired, or that they are concerned about the other person needing to get home. Context and shared knowledge are key to interpreting this.

**Presupposition:** This refers to the assumptions that speakers make about what their listeners already know.

- "Did you return the book I lent you?" This presupposes that the listener borrowed a book.

- "Where did you park your car?" This presupposes that the listener has a car and that they parked it somewhere.

Two friends discussing a party might say "Was the music too loud?" This presupposes that they both attended the party and that there was music.

**Context:** The setting, the relationship between speakers, and shared experiences are crucial for interpreting these implicatures and presuppositions. A sarcastic tone can completely change the meaning of an utterance, as can a shared joke or inside reference.

## **Politeness, Humor, and Social Dynamics**

Informal speech is a delicate dance of social interaction, and linguapragmatics provides the choreography.

**Politeness:** Even in casual settings, politeness is essential. However, the expression of politeness varies significantly.

- Instead of a direct command like "Close the window," a friend might say, "It's a bit chilly in here, isn't it?" This is a more indirect and polite way of requesting that the window be closed.

- Offering a drink: instead of "Do you want a drink?", a friend might say "Can I get you something?"



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**Humor:** Humor is a cornerstone of informal speech. It relies heavily on pragmatic principles like irony, sarcasm, and hyperbole.

- Sarcasm: "Oh, great, now it's raining," said while standing under an awning. The context makes it clear that the speaker is being sarcastic.

- Hyperbole: "I'm so hungry I could eat a whale." This is an exaggeration used for humorous effect.

- Inside jokes: these jokes rely on shared experiences and knowledge, and are therefore only funny to the group that shares that context.

**Social Dynamics:** Informal speech is a tool for navigating social relationships.

- Using nicknames or terms of endearment can signal closeness and intimacy.

- Switching between different registers (e.g., using more formal language when talking to an elder) can indicate respect and deference.

- The use of filler words like "like" or "um" can show hesitation, or be used to hold a turn in a conversation. Using phrases like "you know" shows that a speaker is trying to establish a shared understanding.

## **Turn -Taking, Backchanneling, and Conversational Repair**

The smooth flow of informal conversation relies on implicit rules and pragmatic strategies.

**Turn-Taking:** In informal conversations, turn-taking is typically less structured than in formal settings.

- Speakers may overlap or interrupt each other, but this is often done to show enthusiasm or engagement, rather than to be rude.

- Speakers use cues like eye contact, pauses, and intonation to signal their intention to speak or yield the floor.

**Backchanneling:** Listeners use non-verbal cues and short verbal utterances to provide feedback to the speaker.

- Nodding, smiling, and saying "uh-huh" or "mm-hmm" indicate that the listener is paying attention and understanding.

- Asking clarifying questions or summarizing what the speaker has said can also be a form of backchanneling.

**Conversational Repair:** When misunderstandings or breakdowns occur, speakers use pragmatic strategies to repair the conversation.

- Repeating or rephrasing what they said.

- Asking for clarification: "What do you mean?" or "Could you explain that again?"



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- Apologizing for any offense or misunderstanding.
- Changing the subject if a topic becomes awkward or uncomfortable.

## **Digital Informal Speech and Conclusion**

The digital age has brought new dimensions to informal speech, with text messaging, social media, and online forums becoming primary venues for casual communication.

### **Texting and Social Media:**

- Emojis and GIFs are used to convey emotions and intentions that might be difficult to express in text alone.
- Abbreviations and acronyms (e.g., LOL, BRB) are used to save time and space.
- The use of memes and viral content relies heavily on shared cultural knowledge and pragmatic interpretation.

### **Online Forums and Gaming:**

- Online communities often develop their own unique slang and jargon.
- The use of voice chat in online games allows for real-time interaction and the use of prosodic cues like intonation and tone.
- The use of internet slang, and internet culture in everyday speech.

Linguapragmatics is the invisible hand that guides our informal interactions. It allows us to navigate the complexities of social relationships, convey meaning beyond the literal words we use, and maintain the smooth flow of conversation. From the subtle nuances of politeness to the shared understanding of humor, linguapragmatics is essential for effective and meaningful communication in our everyday lives. As communication methods evolve, linguapragmatics will continue to be a crucial tool for understanding and adapting to the changing landscape of human interaction.

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