CONTIGUITY OF THE RESEARCH WORKS OF
ROMAN JAKOBSON AND YURY ROZHDESTVENSKY
IN TERMS OF METHOD AND MATERIAL

Presentation at the ‘Russian Evolution: Russian Reflections’ conference on the work of Yuri Rozhdestvensky: his Contribution to Linguistics, Rhetoric, Communication Theory, Semiotics, Poetics and Narratology

21st October 21017 University of London
RUSSIAN HISTORY

R.O. Jacobson

Yu.V. Rozhdestvensky
“The distinction between the past, present and future is only a stubbornly persistent illusion”

The name Rozhdestvensky ← the Russian word Rozhdestvo = English Nativity: Nativity of the Most Holy Mother of God (September 21)
I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues which are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his part from the tree of life and from the holy city, which are written in this book.

Revelation 22:18-19
Wilhelm von Humboldt; 1767 — 1835

The works on substantial composition of the word (without considering the semantics)
The importance of semantics in any linguistic analysis
The context juxtaposition

1896 – 1982

1926 - 1999
Folklore is a key to historical system of verbal and cognitive communications and simultaneously – the key to the explanation of the modern discourse.
Moscow Institute of Oriental Studies

**Fortunatov**
1848 – 1914

F. de Saussure
1857 – 1913

Ch. S. Peirce
1839 – 1914

A.A. Shakhmatov
1864 - 1920

N.I. Konrad
1891 - 1970

V.V. Vinogradov
1894 - 1969

R. Jakobson
1896 - 1982

YU. V. Rozhdestvensky
1926 - 1999

Ch. F. Hockett
1916 - 2000
Full Member of the Russian Academy of Sciences (1902),

Full Member of the Finno-Ugric Society, Helsingfors (1911),

Doctor Honoris Causa of Norwegian University, Christiania (1911);

Specialist in General and Indo-European Linguistics, graduated from Moscow University, did fieldwork in Germany at Curtius’s and Leskin’s laborotaries and in France at Breal’s laboratory;

Head of the Department of Comparative Linguistics;

Founder of the Moscow Formal School of Linguistics.
The pathos of the research school (founded by Fortunatov) “is in the protest against interference grammar with psychology and logics”.

L. Hjelmslev
1899 – 1965
The first chairman of Moscow Circle (1915 – 1919)

V. Mayakovsky

B. Pasternak

O. Mandelstam

N. Aseev

Moscow Linguistic Circle (1915 – 1924)
Material of research

Distinctive features

Poetic text

“language is the form, not substance”
The English typical features:

when IN / disGRACE / with FOR-tune AND / men’s EYES
i ALL / a LONE / beWEEP / my OUT-cast STATE

da DUM / da DUM / da DUM / da DUM / da DUM

da DUM / da DUM / da DUM / da DUM / da DUM

When in disgrace with Fortune and men's eyes,
I all alone beweep my outcast state,..

Sonnet 29
by William Shakespeare
The Russian typical features:

The Latin VOGUE toDAY is WANing,
And YET I'll SAY on his beHALF,
He HAD suFFIcient Latin TRAINing
To gloss a COMmon epiGRAPH,..

Eugene Onegin
by Alexander Pushkin
Translated from Russian
into English
by JAMES E. FALEN
The English iambus

The grammatical level

The phonological level

The Russian iambus

The phonological level

The grammatical level
Language as a part of culture

Linguistic system: dictionaries and grammars

Creation of texts
Language as a part of culture

Linguistic system: dictionaries and grammars

Popular-colloquial element

Heterogeneous texts

Oral speech connected with these texts

Creation of texts
Language as a part of culture

Linguistic system: dictionaries and grammars

Popular-colloquial element

Heterogeneous texts

Oral speech connected with these texts

Creation of texts

Esthetics of text

Individuality of an author
The goals and objectives of typological investigation

- Which groups of elements in subsystems and systems are possible and which are not
- Which combinations of subsystems in systems are possible and which are not
- Which systems are possible and which are not
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of slovesnost</th>
<th>Facture of speech</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Oral speech</td>
<td>Material is air; instrument is speech apparatus.</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Written speech</td>
<td>Material is writing/ non-writing; way of processing is by means of a die or letter by letter.</td>
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<tr>
<td>3. Printed speech</td>
<td>Material is writing; instrument is printing machine.</td>
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<td>4. Mass communication</td>
<td>Electronic facture: the transformation of electromagnetic energy for receiving, transmitting, processing and storing information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Types of slovesnost</td>
<td>Subtypes of slovesnost</td>
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<tr>
<td>1. Oral speech</td>
<td>1.1. Pre-written oral speech</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.1.1. Folklore</td>
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<td>1.1.2. Rumour</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.1.3. Dialogue</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.1.2. Literary oral speech</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.2.1. Oratory</td>
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<td>1.2.2. Homiletics</td>
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<td>1.2.3. Scenic Speech</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1.2.1. Judicial speech</td>
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<td>1.2.1. Advisory speech</td>
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<td>1.2.1.3. Demonstrative speech</td>
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<td>1.2.2. Sermon</td>
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<td>1.2.2. Propaganda</td>
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<td>1.2.2.3. Academic speech</td>
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<td>2. Written speech</td>
<td>2.1. Paleography and neography</td>
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<td>2.1.1. Personal correpondence</td>
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<td>2.1.2. Documents</td>
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<td>2.1.3. Essays</td>
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<td>2.2. Sphragistics</td>
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<td>2.3. Numismatologia</td>
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<td>2.4. Epigraphy</td>
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<td>3. Printed speech</td>
<td>3.1. Belles-lettres</td>
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<td>3.2. Scientific literature</td>
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<td>3.3. Journalistic literature</td>
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<td>4.1.1. Newspapers</td>
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<td>4.1.2. Radio</td>
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<td>4.1.3. Television</td>
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<td>4.1.4. Cinema</td>
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<td>4.2. Advertising</td>
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<td>4.3. Informatics</td>
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<td>4.3.1 Information systems</td>
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Common methodological axioms:

• Significance of material substance with the help of which the language form is rendered

• Language’s administrating role in terms of extralinguistic reality by means of nomination
N. Webster; 1758–1843
pavane, (probably from Italian padovana, “Paduan”), majestic processional dance of the 16th- and 17th-century European aristocracy. Until about 1650 the pavane opened ceremonial balls and was used as a display of elegant dress. Adapted from the basse danse, an earlier court dance, the pavane presumably traveled from Italy to France and England by way of Spain; in southern Spain it was performed in churches on solemn occasions.

The pavane’s basic movement, to music in \( \frac{2}{2} \) or \( \frac{4}{4} \) time, consisted of forward and backward steps; the dancers rose onto the balls of their feet and swayed from ... (100 of 241 words)
Some 10,000 words, which more or less identify the basic symbolic range of the English-American culture, were selected from Webster dictionaries.

All the words with their definitions were redistributed from alphabetic order into thesaurus order.

1) classes of signs (e.g. dance)

2) parts of these classes (e.g. ceremonial dance)

3) units of the classes (e.g. pavane)

4) parts of units/signs (e.g. forward and backward steps)
The pattern of semiotic systems

- the occasional words (non-systemic signs)
- the words/signs being composed of “figures”
- the words/signs being composed of “figures”

Konrad Duden; 1829-1911

Pierre Athanase Larousse; 1817 - 1875
The progressing complexity of semiotic systems

No mix is possible among the classes of semiotic systems

For all these cultures

The general scheme comes up to sixteen semiotic systems

The specificity of every semiotic system is determined by the facture of signs
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3. Rites</th>
<th>4. Games</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>14. Commands</td>
<td>7. Fortunetelling</td>
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<tr>
<td>13. Property design</td>
<td>8. Fine arts</td>
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<tr>
<th>1. Language</th>
<th>2. Means of counting</th>
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<tr>
<td>16. Measures</td>
<td>5. Omens</td>
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*THE SOCIAL INTELLIGENCE*
project implementation

developing schemes of synthetic environment

prognosis

developing images
The axis of paradigms is considered as the axis of simultaneity (synchronism)/axis of selection (metonymy)

The axis of syntagmas – as the axis of sequence (diachrony)/the axis of combination (metaphor)
DISTRIBUTION

complementary

| a' | a'' | a''' |

contrastive

| a  | b   | c   |

| I  | II  | III |
| a  | a'  | a'' |
| b  | b'' | b'''|
| c  | c'  | c'' |

a, b, c are independent units;

a', a'' – variants of invariant a
Typology of texts

language forms:

- folklore,
- poetical organization of speech,
- material of language sign,
- nomination of semiotic phenomena

Cultural significance of linguistic systems
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Thank you for your attention!