TYPES OF PRONOUNS IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE: A COMPREHENSIVE ANALYSIS

Khamraeva Dilrabo Ramazanovna

Teacher of Russian Language and Literature, Department of History and Philology, Asian International University, Bukhara, Uzbekistan.

E-mail: dilya.xamraeva71@gmail.com

Abstract. This article provides a comprehensive analysis of pronouns in the Russian language, examining their morphological, syntactic, and functional features. The study is structured according to the IMRAD system, facilitating a scientific presentation of the material. A detailed classification of pronouns is presented, with special emphasis on their grammatical properties and their pivotal role in ensuring text cohesion and shaping various speech styles. The theoretical analysis is supported by illustrative examples from classical and modern Russian literature, demonstrating the practical application and stylistic significance of pronouns.

Keywords: pronoun, classification, syntax, morphology, functional features, grammatical categories, text cohesion, stylistics.

Introduction. Pronouns (*mestoimeniya*) constitute a fundamental and unique class of words in the Russian language. Unlike nouns or adjectives, they do not name objects, attributes, or quantities but instead point to them, taking their meaning from the context. This deictic nature makes them indispensable for creating coherent, dynamic, and economical speech. The historical study of Russian pronouns, initiated by M.V. Lomonosov and further developed by A.A. Shakhmatov and V.V. Vinogradov, has evolved from a purely morphological approach to a broader, functional one. In modern linguistics, pronouns are recognized not merely as a part of speech but as crucial tools for text cohesion, anaphora, and expressing speaker subjectivity. This article aims to systematize the categories of Russian pronouns and explore their multifunctional role in the language system.

Methods

The research employs an integrated approach, utilizing several linguistic methods:

1. Morphological Analysis: This method is used to examine the grammatical categories of pronouns (case, number, gender, person) and their inflectional paradigms, which often exhibit suppletion and archaic forms.

2. Syntactic Analysis: This method investigates the syntactic functions of pronouns within a sentence, where they can act as subjects, objects, attributes, and even adverbial modifiers.

3. Functional-Stylistic Analysis: This approach analyzes the usage and frequency of different pronoun categories across various functional styles, such as colloquial, official, scientific, and, most prominently, artistic speech.

4. Contextual and Textual Analysis: This method involves examining pronouns in authentic texts to understand their role in creating links between sentences and larger discourse segments (cohesion).

Results and Discussion

1. Expanded Classification and Grammatical Characteristics

The traditional classification of Russian pronouns includes nine major categories, each with distinct semantic and grammatical traits.

PRONOUN CATEGORY	EXAMPLES	GRAMMATICAL AND FUNCTIONAL FEATURES
Personal	я, ты, он, она, оно, мы, вы, они	Change by case, number (for 3rd person), and gender (for 3rd person singular). "Он" (he), "она" (she), "оно" (it) are used not only for persons but also for objects. The pronoun "вы" (you) is also used as a formal/polite form for a single addressee.
Reflexive	себя	Refers back to the subject of the sentence. It has no nominative case form and does not change by number or gender.
Possessive	мой, твой, свой, наш, ваш, его, её, их	Denote belonging. "Мой, твой, свой, наш, ваш" decline like adjectives. "Его, её, их" are invariable (like the genitive case of personal pronouns). The pronoun "свой" is particularly important, indicating belonging to the subject of the action.
Demonstrative	этот, тот, такой, таков, столько	Point to a specific object or feature, distinguishing it from others. They decline (except "таков") and agree with the noun they modify. "Этот" (this) indicates proximity, "тот" (that) indicates distance.
Determinative	сам, самый, весь, всякий, каждый, любой, иной, другой	Specify and characterize an object in terms of its identity, scope, or exclusivity. For example, "сам" emphasizes the person, "весь" means "the whole," "каждый" means "each/every single one."
Interrogative	кто? что? какой? который? чей? сколько?	Used to form direct questions. "Кто" and "что" are substantive and do not change by gender or number. Others are adjectival and decline.
Relative	кто, что, какой, который, чей, сколько	Identical in form to interrogative pronouns but function as conjunctions, linking subordinate clauses to the main clause.

PRONOUN CATEGORY	EXAMPLES	GRAMMATICAL AND FUNCTIONAL FEATURES
Indefinite	кто-то, что-то, какой-то, кое-кто, кто-нибудь, какой-либо	Formed by adding prefixes and postfixes (-то, -нибудь, -либо, кое-) to interrogative pronouns. Express uncertainty or vagueness.
Negative	никто, ничто, никакой, ничей, некого, нечего	Express the absence of an object, person, or attribute. The pronouns "некого" and "нечего" are used only in the genitive case and in negative constructions.

2. Syntactic Roles and Functional Diversity

Pronouns are remarkably versatile in their syntactic functions:

* Subject: Кто пришёл? (Who came?) Она молчала. (She was silent.)
* Object: Я вижу его. (I see him.) Он купил что-то. (He bought something.)
* Attribute: Мой дом. (My house.) Какая прекрасная погода! (What wonderful weather!)
* Predicate: Эта книга моя. (This book is mine.) Он был не таким. (He was not like that.)

3. Stylistic and Pragmatic Functions in Text

Pronouns are powerful stylistic tools. In fiction, they are essential for:

* Creating Lyrical Intonation and Intimacy: Pushkin's line "Я к вам пишу – чего же боле?" (I write to you – what more can I say?) immediately establishes a personal, confessional tone.
* Building Psychological Tension and Subtext: Chekhov's "Она молчала, он смотрел на неё" (She was silent, he looked at her) uses pronouns to create a dense field of unspoken thoughts and emotions between the characters.
* Expressing Philosophical Generalizations: Tolstoy's "Мы все думаем, что знаем, но никто не знает истины" (We all think we know, but nobody knows the truth) uses "we" and "nobody" to make a universal statement about human nature.
* Ensuring Text Cohesion: Pronouns prevent repetition and create logical connections. For example: "Мы встретили друга. Он был очень рад нас видеть." (We met a friend. He was very happy to see us.) The pronoun "он" links the second sentence back to the first.

Conclusion. In summary, pronouns form a complex and dynamic subsystem within the Russian language. Their significance extends far beyond simple substitution for nouns and adjectives. They are integral to the grammatical structure, enabling correct case government and agreement. More importantly, they are the primary means of creating coherent and connected text, reflecting the speaker's point of view, and achieving a wide range of stylistic effects. A deep understanding of their classification, morphology, and functions is crucial for mastering the Russian language. Future research in this area could fruitfully explore the use of pronouns in digital communication or from a cognitive linguistics perspective, investigating how they reflect mental processes of

reference and identification.

References

1. Lomonosov M. V. Russian Grammar. – St. Petersburg, 1755.
2. Shakhmatov A. A. Syntax of the Russian Language. – Moscow, 1925.
3. Vinogradov V. V. Russian Language: Grammatical Doctrine of the Word. – Moscow, 1947.
4. Skripnik Ya. N., Smolenskaya T. M. Phonetics of the Modern Russian Language. – Moscow, 2010.
5. Rozental D. E. Handbook of the Russian Language. – Moscow, 2005.
6. Beloshapkova V. A. Modern Russian Language. – Moscow: Vysshaya Shkola, 1989.
7. Zolotova G. A. Communicative Aspects of Russian Syntax. – Moscow: Nauka, 1982.
8. Xasanova Shaxnoza Baxodirovna. (2025). ANTON PAVLOVICH CHEKHOV'S ARTISTIC SKILL IN CREATING SUSTAINABLE COMBINATIONS. *Journal of Applied Science and Social Science*, *15*(06), 297–303. Retrieved from https://www.internationaljournal.co.in/index.php/jasass/article/view/1246
9. Xasanova Shaxnoza Baxodirovna. (2025). ANTON PAVLOVICH CHEXOVNING BARQAROR BIRIKMALARNI YARATISHDAGI BADIIY MAHORATI. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15655770
10. Хасанова Шахноза Баходировна. (2025). ХУДОЖЕСТВЕННОЕ И ФУНКЦИОНАЛЬНОЕ ИСПОЛЬЗОВАНИЕ ПОСЛОВИЦ В РАССКАЗАХ. MEDICINE, PEDAGOGY AND TECHNOLOGY: THEORY AND PRACTICE, 3(6), 6–12. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15619982
11. Хасанова Шахноза Баходировна. (2025). ПОНЯТИЕ ФРАЗЕОЛОГИЧЕСКОГО ОБОРОТА. MEDICINE, PEDAGOGY AND TECHNOLOGY: THEORY AND PRACTICE, 3(5), 71–82. https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.15375653
12. Хасанова Шахноза Баходировна, . (2025). "ЭФФЕКТИВНЫЕ МЕТОДЫ И ПОДХОДЫ К БЫСТРОМУ ОСВОЕНИЮ РУССКОГО ЯЗЫКА". *Medicine, Pedagogy and Technology: Theory and Practice*, *3*(4), 133–141. Retrieved from https://inlibrary.uz/index.php/mpttp/article/view/84170
13. Хасанова Шахноза Баходировна, . (2025). BARQAROR BIRIKMALAR: MOHIYATI, ADABIYOTDAGI O'RNI VA TAHLIL. *Medicine, Pedagogy and Technology: Theory and Practice*, *3*(3), 120–132. Retrieved from https://inlibrary.uz/index.php/mpttp/article/view/72328
14. Хасанова Шахноза Баходировна, . (2025). ИНТЕРПРЕТАЦИИ ПРОБЛЕМ В УПОТРЕБЛЕНИИ ФРАЗЕОЛОГИИ И ПРИНЦИПЫ ИХ ИЗУЧЕНИЯ. *Medicine, Pedagogy and Technology: Theory and Practice*, *3*(2), 221–230. Retrieved from https://inlibrary.uz/index.php/mpttp/article/view/68949
15. Хасанова, Ш. (2024). *ФРАЗЕОЛОГИЗМЫ В РАССКАЗАХ АП ЧЕХОВА: ИХ РОЛЬ И ФУНКЦИИ.(2024). MEDICINE, PEDAGOGY AND TECHNOLOGY: THEORY AND PRACTICE, 2 (11), 416-426.*