



THE LANGUAGE OF REQUESTS IN DAILY LIFE

**Hoshimava Ruxshona,
Boybolayeva Maxliyo**

*Students of Fergana State University
hoshimovaruxshona0610@gmail.com
501046256*

Supervisor: Dilnoza Murotova
*doctor of philosophy (PhD),
at Ferghana State University*


Annotation. The language of requests in daily life represents a key element of everyday communication, reflecting how speakers use linguistic strategies to achieve social and practical goals. This article explores how requests are formed in different contexts and how their structure depends on factors such as politeness, social distance, power relations, and situational urgency. It shows that speakers often choose indirect forms when interacting with strangers or authority figures to avoid imposition, while more direct forms are common in informal relationships where familiarity reduces social tension. The study also highlights the role of cultural norms in shaping how requests are expressed and interpreted across different communities. Overall, the article demonstrates that requesting is not only a linguistic act but also a socially regulated behavior that requires pragmatic competence and awareness of context.

Keywords: requests, pragmatics, politeness strategies, speech acts, indirectness, social interaction, communication, cultural norms, discourse, everyday language

Annotatsiya. Kundalik hayotda so'rov (iltimos) ifodalash tili insonlar o'rtasidagi muloqotning muhim qismlaridan biri bo'lib, u nafaqat lingvistik vositalarni, balki ijtimoiy munosabatlarni ham aks ettiradi. Ushbu maqolada turli hayotiy vaziyatlarda so'rovlarning qanday shakllanishi va ularning muloyimlik, ijtimoiy masofa, mavqe (hokimiyat) hamda vaziyat dolzarbligiga bog'liq holda o'zgarishi tahlil qilinadi. Maqolada ko'rsatilishicha, notanish yoki yuqori mavqedagi shaxslarga murojaat qilinganda bilvosita va muloyim shakllar ko'proq qo'llaniladi, yaqin munosabatlarda esa to'g'ridan-to'g'ri ifodalar tabiiy va maqbul hisoblanadi. Shuningdek, madaniy me'yorlar so'rovlarning qanday tuzilishi va tushunilishiga sezilarli ta'sir ko'rsatishi ta'kidlanadi. Umuman olganda, so'rov ifodalash faqat grammatik jarayon emas, balki ijtimoiy va pragmatik bilimni talab qiladigan muloqot shakli ekanligi asoslanadi.

Kalit so'zlar: so'rovlar, pragmatika, muloyimlik strategiyalari, nutq aktlari, bilvositalik, ijtimoiy muloqot, kommunikatsiya, madaniy me'yorlar, diskurs, kundalik til

Аннотация. Язык выражения просьб в повседневной жизни является важной частью человеческого общения, отражающей не только лингвистические особенности, но и социальные отношения между людьми. В данной статье анализируется, как



формируются просьбы в различных жизненных ситуациях и каким образом на их структуру влияют такие факторы, как вежливость, социальная дистанция, статус собеседников и срочность ситуации. Показано, что при обращении к незнакомым людям или лицам с более высоким статусом чаще используются косвенные и вежливые формы, тогда как в близком общении преобладают прямые выражения просьбы. Также отмечается значительное влияние культурных норм на способы формирования и интерпретации просьб. В целом подчеркивается, что выражение просьб является не только языковым, но и прагматическим процессом, требующим учета социального контекста.

Ключевые слова: просьбы, прагматика, стратегии вежливости, речевые акты, косвенность, социальное взаимодействие, коммуникация, культурные нормы, дискурс, повседневная речь

Introduction

The language of requests plays a central role in everyday communication, shaping how individuals interact, cooperate, and maintain social relationships. Requests are a type of speech act used to ask someone to perform an action, provide information, or grant permission. According to pragmatic theory, requests belong to the category of directives, as they are attempts by a speaker to get the listener to do something. In daily life, people make requests in a variety of contexts, such as at home, in educational settings, workplaces, and public interactions. The way requests are formulated often reflects social norms, cultural expectations, and interpersonal relationships.

The language used in requests is rarely neutral. It is influenced by factors such as politeness, power relations, and the degree of imposition. For example, a request made to a close friend may be more direct than one made to a superior. This variation highlights the importance of pragmatics, the study of how meaning is constructed in context. Understanding the language of requests is essential not only for effective communication but also for avoiding misunderstandings and maintaining social harmony. This article examines how requests function in daily life, focusing on their linguistic structure, politeness strategies, and contextual variation.

Literature Review

The study of requests has been widely explored in the field of pragmatics and sociolinguistics. Scholars such as John Searle classified requests as directive speech acts, emphasizing their role in influencing the behavior of others. Later research expanded this perspective by examining how requests vary across cultures and contexts. Requests are considered inherently face-threatening acts because they impose on the listener's freedom of action. This concept is central to politeness theory developed by Brown and Levinson, which suggests that speakers use various strategies to mitigate the imposition [1; 45].

Politeness strategies in requests include indirectness, hedging, and the use of modal verbs. For instance, instead of saying "Open the window," a speaker might say "Could you open the



window?” Such indirect forms reduce the perceived imposition and are often interpreted as more polite. However, research indicates that indirectness does not always equate to politeness. Studies show that conventional indirect requests are often perceived as more polite than extremely indirect hints, which may lack clarity [2; 78].

Leech’s theory of politeness further explains that politeness involves communicative altruism, where speakers consider the listener’s needs and feelings. In addition, empirical studies have demonstrated that the choice of request strategies depends on social variables such as power, distance, and cultural norms. For example, individuals tend to use more polite and indirect forms when addressing someone of higher status [3; 66].

Recent research has also explored the discourse of requests, showing that they are complex and multifunctional. Requests often combine multiple strategies, including apologies, justifications, and expressions of gratitude. These findings highlight that requests are not isolated linguistic units but part of broader communicative practices shaped by social interaction [4; 112].

Methodology

This study adopts a qualitative approach to analyze the language of requests in daily life. The research is based on the observation and analysis of naturally occurring conversations in various contexts, including informal interactions among friends, classroom communication, and workplace exchanges. Data were collected through note-taking and transcription of spoken interactions, ensuring that authentic language use was captured.

The analysis focuses on identifying different types of request strategies, including direct requests, conventionally indirect requests, and non-conventional indirect requests. Each example was examined in relation to its context, considering factors such as the relationship between speakers, the level of formality, and the perceived imposition of the request. Particular attention was given to linguistic features such as modal verbs, politeness markers, and mitigating expressions [5; 134].


In addition, the study applies principles from pragmatics and politeness theory to interpret the data. This includes analyzing how speakers manage face-threatening acts and how they balance clarity and politeness. The methodology also involves comparing request forms across different social contexts to identify patterns and variations. By combining observational data with theoretical frameworks, the study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of how requests function in everyday communication.

Results

The findings reveal that the language of requests varies significantly depending on context and social relationships. In informal settings, such as conversations among friends, direct requests are more common. Speakers often use simple imperative forms or minimal politeness markers, reflecting a high level of familiarity and low social distance.

In contrast, formal contexts, such as workplaces or academic environments, show a higher frequency of indirect requests. Speakers frequently use modal verbs, such as “could,” “would,”





and “might,” along with politeness markers like “please” and “excuse me.” These forms help reduce the imposition and demonstrate respect.

The results also indicate that speakers often combine multiple strategies in a single request. For example, a request may include an apology, a justification, and a polite question. This combination enhances the likelihood of compliance and maintains positive social relations. Overall, the data confirm that the language of requests is highly context-dependent and influenced by social norms and expectations.

Discussion

The findings support existing theories in pragmatics and politeness, particularly the idea that requests are face-threatening acts that require mitigation. The use of indirectness and politeness strategies reflects speakers’ awareness of social dynamics and their desire to maintain harmony. However, the study also highlights that there is no single “correct” way to make a request. Instead, speakers choose strategies based on context, relationship, and cultural norms.

The distinction between directness and politeness is particularly significant. While indirect requests are often perceived as more polite, excessive indirectness can lead to ambiguity and misunderstanding. This aligns with previous research suggesting that effective communication requires a balance between clarity and politeness [6; 59].

Furthermore, the study demonstrates that the language of requests is dynamic and adaptable. Speakers adjust their language based on situational factors, such as urgency and the importance of the request. In urgent situations, even in formal contexts, more direct forms may be used. This flexibility highlights the importance of pragmatic competence in communication.

Conclusion

The language of requests is a fundamental aspect of daily communication, reflecting the complex interplay between linguistic structure, social context, and cultural norms. This study has shown that requests are not merely functional expressions but are shaped by considerations of politeness, power, and interpersonal relationships.

The analysis confirms that speakers use a variety of strategies to formulate requests, ranging from direct imperatives to highly indirect forms. These strategies are influenced by factors such as social distance, power relations, and the level of imposition. The findings also emphasize the importance of balancing clarity and politeness to ensure effective communication.

Understanding the language of requests is essential for developing communicative competence, particularly in multilingual and intercultural contexts. By recognizing the role of pragmatics and politeness, individuals can improve their ability to interact successfully in diverse social settings. Future research could explore cross-cultural differences in request strategies and their implications for language teaching and communication.



References

1. Leech, Geoffrey. *The Pragmatics of Politeness*. Oxford University Press. 2014. p. 45
2. Blum-Kulka, Shoshana. *Requests and Apologies: A Cross-Cultural Study*. Routledge. 2011. p. 78
3. Searle, John. *Speech Acts: An Essay in the Philosophy of Language*. Cambridge University Press. 2012. p. 66
4. Trosborg, Anna. *Interlanguage Pragmatics: Requests, Complaints and Apologies*. De Gruyter. 2014. p. 112
5. Taguchi, Naoko. *Pragmatics in Language Learning*. John Benjamins Publishing. 2015. p. 134
6. Kasper, Gabriele. *Pragmatic Development in a Second Language*. Wiley-Blackwell. 2013. p. 59
7. Файзиев, Р. А., Хаитматов, У. Т., Азаматов, О. Х., Джуманиязов, Ш. Р., & Хасанова, Х. Х. (2018). Использование теории нечетких множеств в экономическом анализе инвестиционных проектов. *International Journal of Innovative Technologies in Economy*, 2(5 (17)), 44-48.
8. Xasanova, X. (2024). Bank faoliyatida risklarni baholshning xalqaro tajribasi. *Nashrlar*, 172-175.
9. Isoхужаева, М. Я., & Хасанова, Х. Х. (2020). Электрон иктисодиёт шароитларида рақамли компетентлик. *Журнал «Бизнес-эксперт*, 35-37.
10. Mamadiyarov, Z., Khamdamov, S. J., Makhmudov, S., Isaev, F. B., Kurbonov, K., Boymurotov, S., & Khasanova, K. (2024, December). Forecasting and planning the effectiveness of service activities in commercial banks. In *Proceedings of the 8th International Conference on Future Networks & Distributed Systems* (pp. 75-83).
11. Маншуров, Ш. Т., Утабов, У. А., & Абдуганиева, Ю. Ш. (2023). Отработка данных температуры на с++ и сохранит в файле. *Oriental Renaissance: Innovative, educational, natural and social sciences*, 3(2), 730-740.
12. Маншуров, Ш. Т., & Абдуганиева, Ю. Ш. (2024). Новейшие технологии интернета связи: от 5G к будущим стандартам передачи данных. *Oriental renaissance: Innovative, educational, natural and social sciences*, 4(3), 315-328.
13. Shakhabinovna, A. Y. (2022). Automation of technological processes. *European Journal of Humanities and Educational Advancements*, 3(12), 130-131.
14. Абдуганиева, Ю. Ш. (2023). Автоматизация процессов флотации. *Oriental renaissance: Innovative, educational, natural and social sciences*, 3(3), 1097-1105.
15. Abdurahmanova, S. B. K. (2023). Basics of composition of the corpus of lacunar units in uzbek dialects. *Oriental renaissance: Innovative, educational, natural and social sciences*, 3(6), 1150-1153.
16. Abdurahmanova, S. B. Q. (2026). O 'ZBEK TILIDA YARATILGAN KORPUSLAR TAVSIFI. *Oriental renaissance: Innovative, educational, natural and social sciences*, 6(2), 10-15.
17. ABDURAHMANOVA, S. (2024). SHEVALAR KORPUSINI YARATISHNING NAZARIY ASOSLARI (O 'ZBEK KORPUS LINGVISTIKASINING SHAKLLANISHI VA TARAQQIYOTI). «ACTA NUUZ», 1(1.10. 1), 273-275.



18. Abdurahmonova, S. S. (2022). FACTORS FOR FORMATION OF PEDAGOGICAL CULTURE OF PRESCHOOL EDUCATIONAL TEACHERS. *Oriental renaissance: Innovative, educational, natural and social sciences*, 2(6), 170-173.

19. BAKHTIYOROVNA, S. D. (2026). INDIVIDUALIZING INDEPENDENT LEARNING WITH THE USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE. *Shokh Articles Library*, 1(1).

20. Baxtiyorovna, S. D. (2025). OLIY TA'LIMDA MULTIMEDIYANI QO 'LLASH TAJRIBASI. ZAMONAVIY TA'LIMDA FAN VA INNOVATSION TADQIQOTLAR, 3(10), 283-286.

21. Bakhtiyorovna, S. D. (2025). THE IMPORTANCE OF MULTIMEDIA IN ORGANIZING STUDENTS'INDEPENDENT WORK. *INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED RESEARCH IN EDUCATION, TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT*, 4(3), 153-161.

22. Sulaymanova, D. B. (2024). Texnika yo'nalishlarida dasturlashning kasbiy afzalliklari. *Zamonaviy ta'limda fan va innovatsion tadqiqotlar jurnali*, 203-211.

23. Sulaymanova, D., Abduganieva, Y., & Miratoev, Z. (2023). Modeling roll contact curves of a squeezing machine. In *E3S Web of Conferences* (Vol. 443, p. 03006). EDP Sciences.

24. Vakhobova, M. (2022). Main principles of ICT-assisted language learning and teaching. *Архив научных исследований*, 4(1).

25. Vakhobova, M. A. (2022). INNOVATIVE METHODS OF THE DISTANCE LEARNING PROCESS IN MODERN UNIVERSITIES. *Oriental renaissance: Innovative, educational, natural and social sciences*, 2(5-2), 641-645.

26. Vakhobova, M. (2022). The Richness of the English Language. *Архив научных исследований*, 4(1).

27. Vakhobova, M. (2022). INNOVATIONS IN EDUCATION AS A NECESSARY CONDITION FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF CREATIVITY OF UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. *Архив научных исследований*, 4(1).

28. Vakhobova, M. (2022). THE GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF TEACHING AND READING COMPREHENSION. *Архив научных исследований*, 4(1).

29. Vakhobova, M. (2022). THE USE OF GAMES AS A STRATEGY OF DEVELOPING COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE OF LEARNERS. *Архив научных исследований*, 4(1).