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**ABSTRACT**

of the dissertation for the degree of Doctor of Philosophy

**FUNCTIONAL-COGNITIVE FEATURES OF ELLIPSIS IN  
DIFFERENT SYSTEMATIC LANGUAGES**

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## INTRODUCTION

**Actuality of the topic and the degree of research.** In recent years, interest in the comparative-typological study of different systematic languages in Azerbaijani linguistics has increased, and certain successes have been achieved in this field. The growth of comparative-typological studies has led to the emergence of a new field of Azerbaijani linguistics-contensive typology. A functional-cognitive approach to language facts has created a special field of synthesis in linguistic studies. As a result, functional and cognitive study of different language phenomena is the focus of anthropocentric research today.

Language is an integral part of human life and is “*connected with the unbreakable ties of the human and society that serve at all stages of its existence*”.<sup>1</sup> The special significance of the language is, first of all, its constant accompaniment of the person in everyday life, social and professional communication and creativity. The main function of the language is to provide information exchange between communicators.

One of the main means used in this field is ellipsis, which is widely used in all speech styles. Ellipsis, which is an effective syntactic-stylistic means for information transfer, is increasingly applied in colloquial, literary and publicist texts. According to some linguists, for example, V.L.Yucht, “*elliptical sentences arise in conversation*”.<sup>2</sup>

Ellipsis, regarded as deliberate omission of words that do not play an important role in the expression of the idea, is due to L.L.Nelyubin, “*the stylistic figure manner consisting of any assumed element, released in a sentence*”.<sup>3</sup> For example, / Could have come any sooner. Been on my feet since six o'clock this morning./

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<sup>1</sup> Zhirona, I.G The linguistic category “empathy” in anthropocentrism: Margaret Thatcher in Emotional-evaluative Discourse. / I.G.Zhirona. – M.: Publishing house «LIBROCOM», – 2012. – p. 12.

<sup>2</sup> Yucht, V.L. Incomplete sentences in modern English: /Ph.D. Report/ – M.: 1964. – p.17.

<sup>3</sup> Nelyubin, L.L. Linguo-stylistics of modern English. / L.L.Nelyubin. – M.: Flint: Nauka, – 2007. – p. 65

The use of non-verbal syntactic structures in the speech act is primarily based on consituation and background knowledge of the interlocutors.<sup>4</sup> Ellipsis represents the syntactic realization of linguistic compression, a manifestation of the principle of language economy. According to R.O.Jakobson, “*ellipsis is a zero anaphoric (or deictic) sign.*”<sup>5</sup> In the study, ellipsis is understood as the release of an easily recovered element in context or in a situation (consituation – F.Q.).

Ellipsis is not a problem of the syntax of a different language, but rather a problem of general syntax theory. One of the main tasks of grammar is to study the communicative unit - the sentence (phrase – F.Q.) in all its manifestations. In this direction, the research by A.Y.Gatina and L.V.Kosonojkina focuses on the specific communication methods of elliptical sentences, their functional and semantic features, and their text creative role.<sup>6</sup> The names of L.Churchill, T.Shopen, R.Gunter, and others may be cited as an example in the direction of the research on the problem of ellipsis in foreign linguistics at different levels of language structure.<sup>7</sup> Despite the disagreement among researchers, recently elliptical sentences have been investigated from linguo-cultural aspect as a subjective semantic compressive nomination on linguistic ground.

Studying elliptical sentences is important for understanding the processes dealing with economy of language means at all levels of

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<sup>4</sup> Zemskaya, E.A. Russian as a foreign language. Russian colloquial speech. Linguistic analysis and study problems. / E.A.Zemskaya. – M.: FLINT, – 2004. – p. 36.

<sup>5</sup> Jakobson, R.O. Zero sign // Selected works. M.: – 1985. – p. 227.

<sup>6</sup> Gatina, A.E. Incomplete utterance as a combat unit of a coherent text: /Report. diss. candidate philological sciences/ – M.: 1989. – p. 10; Kosonojkina, L.V. Elliptic sentences as a means of implementing cohesion of the text // Language as communication in the context of culture. – Rostov-on-Don: – 2010. –p. 69.

<sup>7</sup> Applied Linguistics: DuFon, Margaret; Churchill, Eton. On the role of ellipsis in discourse coherence // Ellipse und fragmentarische Ausdrücke. Tübingen: Max Niemeyer Verlag, – 1985. Bd. 2, – 230 p.; Gunter, R. Elliptical Sentences // – Amsterdam: North Holland Publ. Co, American English, Lingua, – 1963. No 12, – p. 137-150; Shopen, T. Ellipsis as grammatical indeterminacy // Foundations of language. – North Holland: Reidel Publ. Co, – Vol. 10. – 1973. No1, – p. 65-77..

language. Because elliptical sentences act as typical communicative structures in realization of every language.<sup>8</sup>

The choice of the subject of the research work is due to the fact that the approach to language facts within the traditional linguistic framework does not provide sufficient information to adequately explain the peculiarities and features of the objective reality represented by the elliptical sentences. This, on the one hand, is a clear indication of the regularity of the use of ellipsis in the communication process, not only its normativeness, but also the legitimacy and purpose of the use of that means, on the other hand, the ellipsis, which is a means of essence link between the dialectical components as a whole, is the means by which it strengthens the essence link between the utterances and stimulates the continuation of the textual dialogue.

The linguistic definition of the cognitive mechanisms that allow the coordination of language and conceptual views of the world in the process of defining strategies for interpreting information in elliptical utterances has not been fully resolved.

As noted, ellipsis, like the language (colloquial – F.G.) phenomenon, has repeatedly been the subject of linguistic research and discussion. For example, ellipsis is a case of rhetoric or grammar, the matters such as whether it is necessary to identify incomplete and elliptical sentences, whether the sentences with the main parts of sentence but with missed secondary parts can be considered to be the elliptical sentence, have always been the subject of discussion. However, there is still no consensus among linguists on these issues, and these points can be regarded as **actuality** of the Ph.D. research work.

**The object of the research.** The object of the research is elliptical sentences in comparable languages which act as a regular phenomenon in texts (dialogues).

**The subject of the research.** The subject of the research is the study of the functional properties of elliptical sentences and their

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<sup>8</sup> Budagov, V.V. Does the principle of economy determine the development and functioning of the language? // Questions of linguistics, – 1972. No. 1, – p. 23;

cognitive features within a sentence or a text as well as in the ordinary spoken language.

**The goal and objectives of the research work.** The aim of the research is to investigate the functional-cognitive features of the ellipsis in texts and discourses basing on the materials belonging to various languages such as English, Azerbaijani and to identify linguistic and extra linguistic factors that lead to this result. In this regard the following tasks were carried out in the research work:

- to study the main function of the ellipsis in the language as a syntactic phenomenon;
- to study ellipsis as the main language unit in comparable languages;
- to study and comparative analysis of ellipsis’s functions in and out of text in the text samples of the comparable languages;
- to study and investigate the cognitive (mental) value of ellipsis in the language;
- to investigate ellipsis in comparable languages as a psycholinguistic phenomenon;
- to give a comparative characteristic of elliptical phrases in all three languages;
- to reveal problems arising in the translation of elliptical utterances in comparable languages and to perform functional-cognitive classification based on samples.

**The research methods.** The methods of descriptive and contextual analysis of language units were used in this research work. In addition, semantic-structural, functional-cognitive analysis, the Bogardus social distance scale, the Guttman scale, and semantic differential analysis were used to examine the two- and multivariate and empirical relationships between the comparable objects.

**The main provisions for defense are:**

- Language is not an independent event isolated from national culture, it is an intercultural social phenomenon that reflects the lifestyle, experience, spiritual, psychological, cognitive, and national traditions of the people to which it belongs;
- The ellipsis is not a sentence (language – F.G.), has got status of phrase (colloquial – F.G.) because it has the peculiarities

characteristic to utterance and should be investigated in terms of the transmission of certain meaning in verbal communication;

– The principle of language economy, as a psycholinguistic phenomenon, is an indicator of the intellectual level of the addressee, manifesting at all levels of the language, including the syntactic level;

– Ellipsis is one of the relevant elements that provide compression of the conversation within various functional styles. The ellipsis, an integral part of the text, is a coherent means that ensures realization of important textual characterization as linking;

– Elliptical utterances are cognitive units with psycholinguistic status, reproduction of which is changed by the person's outlook and consituation chances.

**Scientific novelty of the research work.** Extensive and systematic study of the subject can be regarded as a scientific novelty of the research work. The work carried out a comprehensive and multiaspect analysis in different systematic languages such as in English, Azerbaijani and provided the description of elliptical sentences in those languages. Structural types of elliptical sentences in languages with different grammatical and phonetic structure are described; semantic characterization of elliptical sentences with different structures is presented. In addition, an attempt was made to investigate ellipsis on the wider ground, in the light of more accurate, cognitive psychology and psycholinguistics excluding the boundaries of ellipsis from the linguistic aspect in the research work.

**Theoretical and practical significance of the research.** The research of the topic may serve to translate elliptical phrases in English and Azerbaijani, to understand their cognitive discourse, and to explore accurate and laconic speech methods. The material and scientific results of the research work are useful for future investigations in this field.

The main provisions of the research work can be used in writing research papers on text categories. The research of the ellipsis language phenomenon can assist in the effective resolution of foreign language teaching issues, improving elliptical construction

teaching in Azerbaijani audiences, and enriching theoretical knowledge about the specifics of text and discourse analysis.

**Approbation and application.** The main provisions of the research are reflected in the published articles of the author and were also listened to in the scientific seminar of the mentioned department.

**Name of the organization where the dissertation is performed.** The Ph.D. thesis was carried out at the Department of General Linguistics at the Azerbaijan University of Languages and at the Faculty of Language and Literature of the Basque Country University of Spain (15.09.2014 - 25.09.2015).

**The total volume of the structural units of the dissertation separately by volume and sign.** Introduction 5 pages, chapter I 55 pages, Chapter II 34 pages, Chapter III 37 pages, conclusion 3 pages, list of used literature 20 pages. Total volume 154 page 214,016 mark.

## **BASIC CONTENT OF THE WORK**

In the **Introduction** to the thesis the actuality of the topic, the object and subject of the research work, , the scientific novelty, theoretical and practical significance of the research, the purpose and objectives of the research work, the language material and methods used are presented.

Chapter I of the Ph.D. thesis, “**The Place of Functional-Cognitive Paradigm in Contemporary Linguistics**”, explores the problems of ellipsis in linguistics and the role of ellipsis in the formation of text. The first subchapter of the chapter is entitled “**Organization Issues of Fiction texts**”. The text has characteristic features and peculiarities. These features include the completeness and integrity of the text. The integrity of the text is one of the basic requirements for its comprehension. There are a number of factors contributing the integrity and completeness of the text. The text must coherent at the same time in order to be complete. Intertextual relations and their structural semantic parameters are important for text linguistics. Among the linguistic investigations carried out in this direction are the studies of M.A.K.Halliday and R.Hassan. They



used the term of cohesion to denote intertextual relation and provided a comprehensive description of the cohesive means<sup>9</sup>.

The text is a communicative phenomenon, and the standards defining its completeness include coherence, intensity and cohesion. Cohesion refers to the components of the upper layer of the text, that's to the means of interconnection of real words we hear or see within relationship. In our opinion, the following should be emphasized: grammatical-reference, substitute, ellipsis, lexical-grammatical conjunction, lexical cohesion, etc.

Replacement is possible in the ellipsis, lexical-grammatical category. It is mainly anaphoric, but in some cases it may also be cataphoric. Ellipsis is typical for speech, an incident caused by the situation. In the case of an ellipsis, words and phrases are intentionally omitted in sentences. In ellipsis word combinations, short responses, etc. are not observed. For example,

A. ¿Where is he going?

B. /To the market//

And the full answer should be: /He is going to the market//

There are 3 types of ellipsis: nominal ellipsis, clausal ellipsis, and verbal ellipsis.

The first type of ellipsis is the omission of the word within the nominal clauses. For example, / A doctor reached the patient and (she\ the doctor) wrote the prescription//

A verbal ellipsis means the omission of a specific element within the verbal clauses. For example,

¿Have you been running?

/ Yes, I have // (blank was left for / been running/).

/I should have told you, but I forgot//

D.Hardt claims that there some different viewpoints about the usage of the clausal ellipsis<sup>10</sup>. In the clausal ellipsis, the subordinate clause is taken as a starting point. In English, the subordinate clause

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<sup>9</sup> Halliday, M.A.K. Linguistic Function and Literary Style: An Inquiry into the language of William Golding's "The Inheritors". "Literary Style: A Symposium". / M.A.K.Halliday, R.Hassan. Ed. Seymour Chatman. – London-New York: Oxford University Press, – 1971. – p. 330.

<sup>10</sup> Hardt, D. Ellipsis and the structure discourse. //– Berlin: ZAS, Journal of Semantics, – Volume 21, – Issue 4, – 2004. – p. 375.

is understood as the expression of different speech functions (confirmation, question, answer, etc.). It consists of two parts and is divided into modal and propositional elements. For example,

*/The Duke was (modal element) going to plant a row of poplars in the park // (propositional element).*

*¿What were they going? Holding hands (blank was left for / they were/).*

Commenting on the structure of elliptical sentences, F.Veysalli writes: “*Although elliptical sentences have structural flaws, they still have their own distinct structures, although they are incomplete:*

*- / How many times have I told you ... //*

*- ¿Told you, so?*

*- /Just ... //*

*- / Haven't got //*

*Even if the dialogue is interrupted, the interlocutors understand each other very well”.*<sup>11</sup>

The second subchapter entitled “***Different Language Phenomenon in a Functional-Cognitive Context***” investigates the ellipsis in the functional-cognitive context. The different realization of ellipse in different languages is shown. The ellipsis, as a language phenomenon, is formulated on the basis of pseudo gapping. The syntactic phenomena such as verbal phrase, gapping, sluicing and etc. may be added to this list. The common features of all these syntactic phenomena can be grouped as follows: 1) Like the ellipsis, the syntactic units mentioned above serve to restore meaning that is omitted in the context; 2) Other syntactic units have functions of comprehensive, cognitive, and expressive functions as ellipsis; 3) As ellipsis, other syntactic units can be in the form of a word, a number of combination and a sentence. For example,

a) / That rain should make you sad - it did me! (Pseudo gapping)

b) / Adolf saw Bill off at the Brussels airport and Maximilian did too // (VP ellipsis)

c) / Simone bought a new umbrella, and Marco a raincoat // (gapping)

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<sup>11</sup> Veysalli, F.Y. Language. / F.Y.Veysalli. – Baku: Education, – 2007. – p.234

The third subchapter of the first chapter of the research work is called *“The Place and Basis of Ellipsis and elliptical Constructions in Contemporary Linguistics”*. This chapter focuses on F. de Saussure’s study of language (language-speaking dichotomy) and N.Chomsky’s study of syntax. In his theory, N.Chomsky studying the grammatical structure of the language with traditional provisions divided it into syntax, morphology and phonology, apart from the lexicon. In addition, the syntax investigates the inter-word and intra-word grammatical relationships, the morphology as the main constituent of the syntax, from transformative generative grammar aspect.

The phenomenon of ellipsis in Azerbaijani linguistics has aroused interest from logical and semantic aspects. However, unfortunately, ellipsis has been treated as a purely problem of “elliptical sentence”, studied as a syntactic phenomenon, and the main cognitive aspect of the phenomenon remains in the shadow. The closest approach to the ellipsis problem is its overlap with the “half-sentence principle”. To understand the elliptical structure with its full content, we first need to distinguish the terms “ellipsis” and “incomplete sentence”.

If the incompleteness can be recovered at the expense of the internal capacity of the sentence in incomplete sentence where one or both of the main parts of the sentence are missed, the elliptic structure is completed only by the content and contextual context of the sentence or text. For example,

Incomplete sentence:

a) - *ç*When must those people you talk about come to?

- *ı*Tomorrow! (Araz reacted angrily)

b) /The door is slightly opened for a minute or two.

- *ç*Who is there? - a thin voice was heard. The student turned in a suspicious look and asked:

- *ç*Where is the room for rent?

- / Here it is, - the girl opened the door immediately<sup>12//</sup>

Ellipsis affected sentence:

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<sup>12</sup> Chamanzamenli, Y.V. Selected works. / Y.V.Chamanzamenli. – Baku: Ganjlik, – 1976. – p. 45.

a) / Where there is a will there is a way //;

b) ¿that's me who comes from Hajj; you are informing me of Mecca?

K.Habibova writes of the functions of ellipsis such as expression, integrity, and informativeness: “*The term of semantic ellipsis should not be perceived as being less informative than any expression. Because semantic ellipsis forms new variants of one or another expression that perform different stylistic functions in language*”<sup>13</sup>.

Speaking of the concept of “elliptical sentence”, such types of sentences should be consistent with the criteria of the sentence as a whole, although not in terms of structure. Otherwise, we may come across an unfinished idea or an incomplete meaning that does not fit the concept of “sentence”.

Elliptical sentences are *complete and incomplete* due to meaning and structure:

a) - ¿Anar, will you?

- ¡Yes, I will come!

b) -¿What's wrong with you, looks like a sick?

- / Yes, I'm sick //

-¿What is your illness?

Rustam in a persistent voice:

- / I've got accustomed to you day by day, my life's getting hard as getting thirsty and stifled. This is my disease<sup>14</sup>//

As you can see, such sentences convey the thought and speech of the speaker with more vivid, expressive and natural emotions. It becomes not so difficult for the reader to present any idea about any image or contextual environment, to formulate ideas, and to analyze psychologically. This is a sample of a direct analysis of the psychological aspect of the language, the relationship of the linguistics with the science of psychology.

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<sup>13</sup> Habibova, K.A. Elliptical Sentences in Modern Azerbaijani Language and Their Peculiarities: /Ph.D. Report/ – Baku, 2008. – p. 19.

<sup>14</sup> Chamanzamenli, Y.V. Selected works. / Y.V.Chamanzamenli. – Baku- Ganjlik, – 1976. – p. 42.

Elliptical sentences may be simple and complex. Simple elliptical sentences, in turn, are broad and short:

Simple short elliptical sentence:

a) -; Girl, hat! (take)

b) ;Get out! (of the classroom)

This type of elliptical sentence, similar to the structure of nominative sentences, differs in two important features: it is formulated within specific situational possibilities and missed part (especially, predicate) can be easily recovered.

The nominative sentence is a product of poetic thinking, used extensively in artistic literary samples, complemented the style of expression of an image or event, presented at the beginning of the text, separated from the main thought by ... (three dots), does not contain any incomplete or inaccurate thought, an idea, does not provide the restoration of a missed element or part. For example,

a) / Post... Countless telephones. Various calls. Cabinet//<sup>15</sup>

Examples for simple broad elliptical sentences may be so: a) ;Look, this is another matter!; b) ;A sign for a wise one!

Syntactic parallelism and homogeneity play a special role in formulating ellipsis in the complex elliptical sentences. Short and laconic expressions of complex sentences and elliptical constructions in the direction of thought play an indispensable role. Sufficient elliptical expressions can be found in both dependent and independent complex clauses. For example,

a) / Claw me and I'll claw thee<sup>16</sup>//

b) / Where there is a will there is a way<sup>17</sup>/

c) / Ilkin brought Kanan, and I - Sarfinaz //

In the subchapter *“Ellipsis and the stylistic means of a language”*, the colloquial style is described as a system and style of use of speaker's (or writing's) language means; phonetic, lexical, and grammatical means due to goal an opportunity. Language units have different stylistic qualities. These qualities come from the phonetic, lexical, and grammatical means of the language, add to the stylistic

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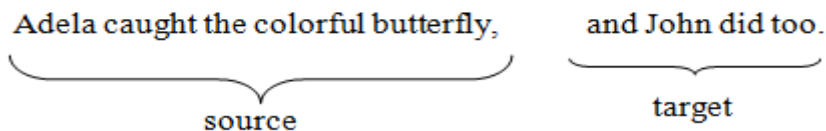
<sup>15</sup> Rahimov, S.H. Legends. / S.H. Rahimov. – Baku: Ganjlik, – 1981. – p. 34.

<sup>16</sup> Proverbs. / – Baku: Writer, – 1985. – p.62.

<sup>17</sup> The same, p.90.

colour to the speech, make it fluent, flexible, meaningful and sensitive, and enhance the aesthetic effect. Speaking of the stylistic means of language units, A.M.Demirchizadeh wrote that *“in term of style, we understand the system of selected units of words, expressions, grammatical and phonetic capabilities on the basis of expediency”*.<sup>18</sup>

In the subchapter of Chapter I entitled **“Functional and cognitive basis of the ellipsis”**, linguistic theories on ellipsis are analyzed. For example, I.Sag called the existence of elliptical structures a “syntactic material heading”<sup>19</sup>. M.Dalrymple spoke about the semantic quality of material missed in the sentence structure<sup>20</sup>. Later, this was the “context-based” or “supposed” reconstruction of the missed material in the linguistics. M.Dalrymple’s investigation was based on the concepts of target and source.<sup>21</sup>



### Scheme 1.1.

The basis of the thought is in the “John did too” part, while the main source – the main informatics basis of the abovementioned sentence is “Adela caught the colorful butterfly”. I. Sag thinks this sentence should look like this: /Adela caught the colorful butterfly, and Bill caught the colorful butterfly too//. The part affected by the ellipsis must have been / caught the colorful butterfly/.

<sup>18</sup> Demirchizadeh, A. The Modern Azerbaijani Language Part I. / A.Demirchizadeh. – Baku: Education, – 1972. – p.174.

<sup>19</sup> Sag, I.A. Deletion and Logical Form. /I.A.Sag. – New York: Garland Press, – 1980. – p.164.

<sup>20</sup> Dalrymple, M. Objects and Information Structure. / M.Dalrymple, N.E.Irina. – Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, – 2011, – p. 39.

<sup>21</sup> The same, p. 39.

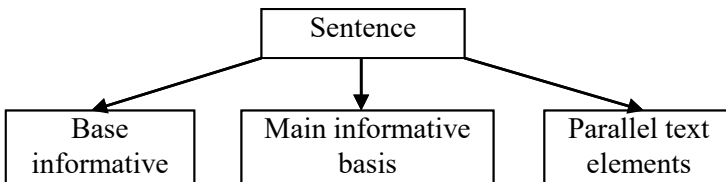
S.Chung’s research also stated that the missing structure of the sentence is just an “unpronounced verb”.<sup>22</sup> /Adela [caught [the colorful butterfly]], and John did [ $\Delta$  [ $\Delta\Delta\Delta$ ]] too //

Unpronounced expressions were given with a space  $\Delta$ .

S.H.Lappin and M.C.Mccord argued that the most correct syntactic gap was created by the transfer of “source” to “base”.<sup>23</sup> However, H.Lasnik considered that the recovery of the missed or deleted gaps is possible only in a logical form: [Adela [caught the colorful butterfly]], and [John [caught the colorful butterfly]].<sup>24</sup>

This is the most obvious example of dependence between sentences. Reproduction of the syntactic gap means the transfer or passing from the “source” to the “main”.

As a problem with the meaning of the term ellipsis, linguists also use a particular situational division in the literary language system. Using the samples, we can refer to the following scheme for opening semantic (often pragmatic) context within the context:



**Scheme 1.2.**

Susane tried to escape from the problematic situation better than my little cousin Caleb!

If we denote the subject and predicate of a sentence with  $\lambda$  and X, then we can create such a division:

$\lambda X =$  Susane, Caleb / escape

escape (xx) = escape (Susane, Caleb)

Source Informational Base: escape (Susane, Caleb)

<sup>22</sup> Chung, S. Sluicing and the Lexicon: The Point of No Return. / In C.Rebecca & Y.Kim (Eds.)// – Proceedings of the annual meeting of the Berkeley linguistics society – Vol. 31. – 2006. –p.73.

<sup>23</sup> Lappin, S.H. and Mccord M.C. // Anaphora Resolution in Slot Grammar. Computational Linguistics, – 1990. No16 (4), – p.197.

<sup>24</sup> Lasnik, H. On ellipsis: The PF approach to missing constituents. // Working Papers in Linguistics, Maryland: University of Maryland, – 2007. No15, – p.146.

Main Informational Base: P (Susane)

Parallel text elements: My little cousin Caleb, Susane,

P (my little cousin Caleb) = escape (Caleb, Susane)

a.  $P \rightarrow \lambda X$ . Escape (X, Susane)

In the Azerbaijani language the sentence structure is expressed as follows:

/ My sister will go to Ismayilli next month, so her mother-in-law does //

Source Informational Database: Will Go (Sister, mother-in-law)

Main information base: P (mother-in-law)

Parallel text elements: Sister, mother-in-law

P (Sister) = going (Sister, mother-in-law)

a.  $P \rightarrow \lambda X$ . Will go (X, X)

b.  $P \rightarrow \lambda X$ . Will go (X, Sister)

Chapter II of the research work is devoted to the problem of “**Ellipsis in Pragmatic Perspective**”. The first subchapter of the chapter is called “*Ellipsis as a result of economy in the language*”. In the act of communication efficient delivery of information to the listener by means of language units is one of the issues that linguists constantly think about. The development of formal grammar has given a powerful impetus to the idea of a complete, perfect sentence structure in the language. At the 1996 SOAS ellipsis seminar at the University of London, scholars attempted to discuss the syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic aspects of the issue.

Complex sentences are more elliptical sentences. Sentences of this type are divided into two parts - source and target. For example,

/ The units in the /Adela likes each new jacket (and the source clause) and Alex does too // (the target clause) are parallels. If we refer the sign  $\lambda$  of phrase elements to the source verb “like” (Jacket - of) and the main information base with P (Alex), then we can conclude that the sentence starting with “Adela” is new and independent of itself. This means that P can be any name and adapt moving subject due to a source clause. It may be presented in such a scheme:

a)  $\lambda_x$  - likes (x, jacket - of)



$\lambda_x$  - likes (x, jacket - of (x))

$\lambda_x$  - likes (from, jacket - of)

$\lambda_x$  - likes (from, jacket - of (x))

In short, the majority of parallel elements do not reduce their dependency on the source clause “Adela likes jacket”. We can mark P (Alex) as ( $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$ )

Ellipsis can be analyzed not only as a syntactic phenomenon but also from a pragmatic aspect. In other words, the release of P (subject) or FS (VP ellipsis) in the above sentences is not significant. The main point is to draw the reader’s attention to the black box (to a missed mysterious context).

According to S.Winkler, *“the main symbol of economy in language is the prosodic phenomenon “light” and “shadow”. “Now You Hear it - Now You, Don’t”. The laconic of the language is a two-fold connection between the metaphorical and visual systems in the language.”*<sup>25</sup>

In English, elliptical structures overlap with a more syntactic and informative structure of the sentence. For example:

1) /Alfonso reads a novel and Leonardo a comedy//;

2) /Alfonso reads a novel but Leonardo doesn’t//;

3) /Alfonso reads a novel and Leonardo does a comedy//;

4) /Alfonso reads a novel and Leonardo, too//;

5) /Someone’s reading a novel but I don’t know who//;

6) /Some played tennis with their two friends and Mary with one//

The first sentence is called gapping because of missing main verb. In the second sentence there is a predicative space and it is an elliptical sentence with a verbal phrase. The third sentence is structurally in order. However, the expression “does a comedy” is pseudo gapping because it indicates the omission of the initial verb and its expression in pseudo-news. The fourth sentence is called stripping because the gaps are replaced by “too”. In fact, strippings, where elliptic structures are most prevalent, contribute condition for greater structural economy.

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<sup>25</sup> Winkler, S. Ellipsis and focus in Generative Grammar. / S.Winkler. – Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, – 2003. – p. 5.

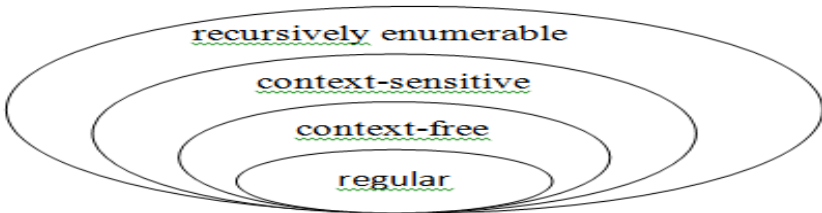
In the Azerbaijani language we come across this phenomenon more:

a) -*ç*Are you going to a movie?

- Me, too? [s]

The fifth sentence is sluicing, expressed in relative pronouns. Finally, the sixth sentence is an expression undergone with the ellipsis in the nominal phrase of the sentence, which is quite common in the Azerbaijani language.

The second subchapter of the Chapter II is devoted to the study of “*N.Chomsky and the role of ellipsis in his derivative grammar*”. Differentiating the deep and surface structures in the language, N.Chomsky’s derivative grammar means that word order is ranked with the help of certain principles and parameters.<sup>26</sup> The scheme, known as the Chomsky hierarchy in linguistics, is the logical structural approach of formal grammar to different language families (see Scheme 2.1).

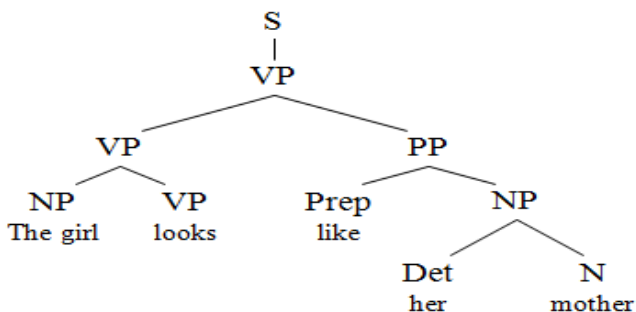


**Scheme 2.1. The Chomsky hierarchy**

The core of N.Chomsky’s Minimalist program is a logical approach to the “deep and surface” structured sentences. He claims that the brain contains firstly “sound” and then “meaning” for the creation of “linguistic data”. This happens within the brain of speaker and listeners spontaneously. In his previous research, N.Chomsky learned the rules of the language structure and the possibilities of its use, while at this stage he studies the mechanism of the formation of these rules (Scheme 2.2).

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<sup>26</sup> Chomsky, N. Syntactic structures // New in linguistics / Sat. Art. Comp., Ed. And preface. V.A.Zvegintseva. – M.: – Vol. 2. – 1962. – p. 412.



**Scheme 2.2. Chomsky's sentence structure**

Explaining the syntactic structure of a sentence in phonological and logical forms, N.Chomsky refers to 1) pronunciation-comprehension and (2) conceptual-intentional system for conveying an idea in form gap from speaker to listener by ellipsis. The missed meaning gap is recovered by sentence intonation. For example:

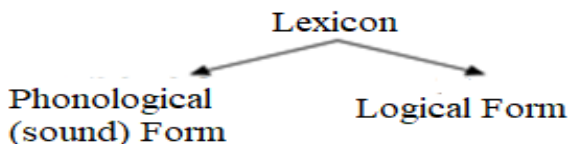
1)/She wrote long [...] letters, which she sent to her sister and she to my mother//.

Here, the intonation contours are conventionally divided into two tones - high and low tones.

2)/My sister calls my brother an idiot, but we don't know who else//

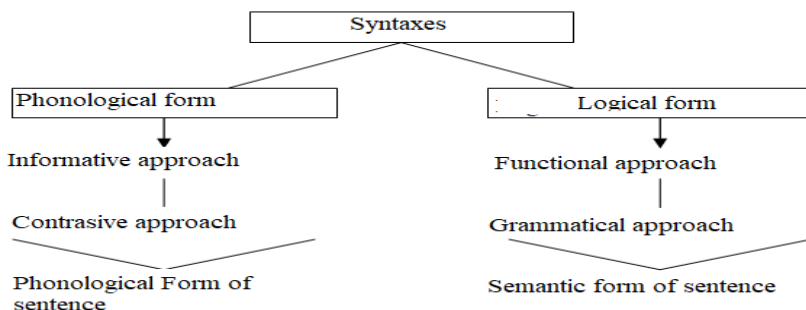
a. / MY SISTER calls my brother an IDIOT, but we don't know who ELSE//

b. / MY SISTER calls my brother an idiot, but we don't know who ELSE// As it is seen, depending on (a) and (b), the presence in the function of subject or object is observed. So N.Chomsky's theory is analyzed like this:



**Scheme 2.3.**

In modern linguistics it is called the "T-model" of N. Chomsky. The study of this model divides ellipsis and elliptical sentences into three new paradigms: phonological reduction theory; syntactic displacement theory; semantic theory.



**Scheme 2.4.**

Elliptical constructions and expressions are known to be sentence bound ellipsis and discourse bound ellipsis. The sentence bound ellipsis is informative in a narrow context. Discourse bound elliptic phrases are the delivery of a “transmitted” signal. Gappings and strippings may be referred to sentence bound ellipsis, but verb phrase elliptical omissions to discourse bound constructions. For example:

- a) /Ali applied for the college Maissa the University//;
- b) /Ali applied for the COLLEGE, but NOT the UNIVERSITY//;
- c) /My sister said that Ali applied for the COLLEGE. But actually, all we know that he DIDN'T//

The sentence (a) can be considered gapping bound ellipsis, the sentence (b) stripping bound ellipsis. If the first two sentences (a) and (b) create an incomplete sentence bound interference, while the last sentence contains (c) the discursive analysis.

According to G.Cook’s opinion, there should be any key word in the context for the cognition of incomplete thought in the discourse<sup>27</sup>. For example, / Ali applied for the college, but he DIDN’T // applied for the university the discursive basis of the sentence is the words “the College” and “DIDN’T”.

In the next subchapter of Chapter II “*Ellipsis as intertextual connection means*” is looked through. When the addressee is unable

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<sup>27</sup> Cook, G. Discourse and Literature. / G.Cook. – Oxford: Oxford University Press, – 1994. –p. 56.

to convey his idea or content, he tries to use implicit meaning colours. The implicative meaning of the sentence serves as a means of connection in written speech (context) and in colloquial language (in consituation). The implication of the sentence is a product of cognitive thinking and implication cannot be conceived without thinking. For example, / Kovsar Asadova graduating from the University of Manchester, England with a score of 4.7 received an Honors Diploma, returned to her homeland, and started working at the Department of Political Science at the Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy // for analyzing speech implication of this sentence, let's share it into syntagmas:

S<sub>1</sub>/ Kovsar Asadova graduated from the University of Manchester, England with a score of 4.7 /; S<sub>2</sub>/ Honors Diploma / S<sub>3</sub>/ returned homeland; S<sub>4</sub>/ Started working in PS department at ADA.

Syntagmas create a sentence with an entire semantic structure. Although the syntagmas express meaning separately, the subject remains unchanged. Kovsar's graduation from the university is important, that is S<sub>1</sub>>S<sub>2</sub> for her getting the honors diploma.

To work at university in Azerbaijan, you have to live here, that is, so S<sub>4</sub>> S<sub>3</sub> can't be. Here the logical sequence is broken. You have to return to Azerbaijan to work at ADA: S<sub>3</sub>> S<sub>4</sub>.

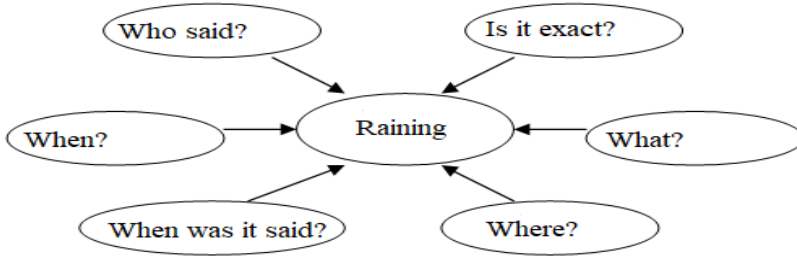
In order to work at ADA, depending on a context meaning, Kovsar must execute each of the previous syntagmas (S<sub>1</sub>, S<sub>2</sub>, S<sub>3</sub>).

The question arises: If Kovsar did not graduate from the University of Manchester in England with honors diploma and could not return to Azerbaijan, couldn't she work at ADA?

Answer: Kovsar could work at ADA. Of course, S<sub>1</sub> and S<sub>2</sub> are inevitable to justify the authenticity of S<sub>4</sub>. But the most important factor here is the S<sub>3</sub> factor. Without the S<sub>3</sub> syntagma, Kovsar would not have been a member of S<sub>4</sub>. Hence, S<sub>4</sub> is directly related to S<sub>3</sub>: [K-S<sub>3</sub> ≥ K-S<sub>4</sub>]

We need to consider two aspects of "comprehension" in order to remember, react, and analyze the speech of a speaker in a particular context without any comment: 1) the given database (data) overlaps with the facts presented; 2) Conversation acts works to capture the "key idea" inside the database. The intertextual and

outertextual role and function of “hidden conceptual meaning” should be explored. The emergence and analysis of the “hidden contextual meaning” is more complex than the explicit structure. For example, the difference between the complete and the incomplete part of the sentence / Raining // is clearly seen:



**Scheme 2.5.**

In English, it further clarifies the meaning by expressing a sentence such as / It is raining //. The expression /To rain // refers to “it rains”, but the idea is not over. “When?”, “Where?” and the questions that arouse afterwards will still remain unanswered.

Chapter III is devoted to the study of “**The involvement of Ellipsis in the comprehension process**”. The first subchapter of this chapter is called “*Ellipsis as a syntactic phenomenon*”. In order to determine the place of ellipsis in the syntax, it is necessary to look at the concepts of nouns, pronouns, word combinations and sentences (main sentences, short sentences, incomplete sentences and anaphors). J.P.Kaplan notes that “*the anaphor is those pronouns that are used instead of names and nominal phrases*”.<sup>28</sup> For example,

/The boy went back to school when he heard the news//.

Noun (1)

pronoun (2)

Apparently, pronoun (2) replaced the noun (1). However, this does not mean that all pronouns can replace nouns.

Anaphoric combinations can be found in different expressions in languages. For example:

1) /Joe (painted the box) before Sam could do so / do it//;

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<sup>28</sup> Kaplan, J.P. English Grammar: Principles and Facts / J.P.Kaplan. – Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc., – 1995. – p. 31.

VP (verbal)

2) /Joe is not really (lazy), he just seems so/it//

Pro Aps

3) a) /They say (Fidel fired Fernando), but I don't believe it//;  
(sen.)

b) /I will believe that (Fidelfired Fernando), if you say so//;  
(sen.)

4) /In the fifties gas prices were low Also, back then, American cars were reliable//  
adv. prepos.

J.P.Kaplan calls these sentences a typical anaphor and adds that each of them has its own meanings of context.<sup>29</sup>

However, even though sentences 3 and 4 have anaphoric replacement, sentences 1 and 2 are elliptical constructions. In other examples, the author emphasizes that the expression “do it” and “do so” are anaphors.

a) /Max bought the old chest before Barbara was able to do so//.

Δ  
VP

/Barbara was able to do so//

b) /Although I didn't want him to do it, Garth sold the old truck//.

/Garth sold the old truck//<sup>30</sup>

VP

While the concept of ellipsis and elliptical constructions has been studied so far as syntactic phenomenon, it is now researched as a means of finding out thematic relations in a discursive approach. This removes it from the boundaries of syntax and brings it closer to lexical semantics, discourse, prosody, semantics and style. However, the notion of “syntactic phenomenon” in relation to the ellipse is still in power. An elliptical word or phrase is shown exactly in the sentence with a sign “Ø”. Ellipsis carries on not only an omission function, it does not reverse the idea afterwards, but also creates a

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<sup>29</sup> The same, p. 28-31.

<sup>30</sup> Kaplan, J.P. English Grammar: Principles and Facts / J.P.Kaplan. – Englewood Cliffs, New Jersey: Prentice-Hall, Inc., – 1995. – p. 197.

connection between the stressed and intended text element within a realistic and conceptual context. Let's pay attention on the following examples:

a) / Last week Secretary of State Colin Powell went to Belgium//;

b) / The purpose of his visit was to take part in a meeting of foreign ministers of NATO countries //

In Azerbaijani:

/ If so, with your permission, I'd like to explain what I mean to say to you. We are talking about the murder of our famous politician, Mr. Predrag Bashtich. He was killed two months ago during a secret meeting of opposition party representatives from neighboring republics. As a result, the politician's bodyguard was arrested as the main suspect in this criminal case<sup>31</sup>//

As it's seen, in order to get the full semantic richness of the context, there must be phrases (nominative phrases) serving to sufficient cognitive content within the context to obtain the sentence interlinks.

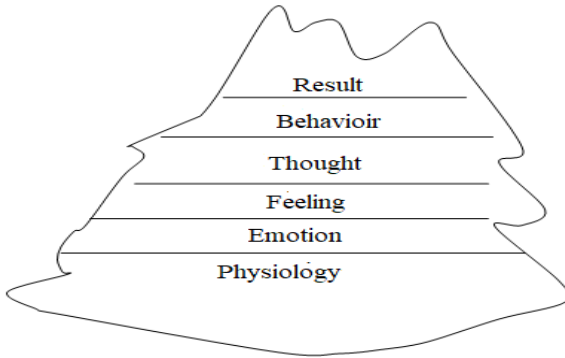
In the second subchapter of chapter III entitled "***Usage opportunities of ellipsis in fiction literature***", ellipsis is considered as a widely spread phenomenon in fiction literature. The usage of elliptical constructions in literary works is associated with "more realistic", "reasonable" metaphorical expressions. However, these expressions can't reflect the reality within fiction. The main task of elliptical phrases is to create short and laconic content in sentences. Two types of ellipsis are most commonly used in fiction literature: 1) elliptical expressions in artistic-literary samples are the shortened form of long sentences presented by operator heading. For example, "In such books as ...", "In literature up to nowadays ..." and etc. Such expressions combine with the sentence by the sign [Ø] to create a new sentence; 2) ellipsis has two types in literature: 1) story language and 2) is expressed artistically. Ellipsis changes the influential ability due to the communicative intent of the speaker.

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<sup>31</sup> Abdullayev, Ch.A. Balkan syndrome. / Ch.A.Abdullayev. – Baku: Law, – 2014. – p.12.

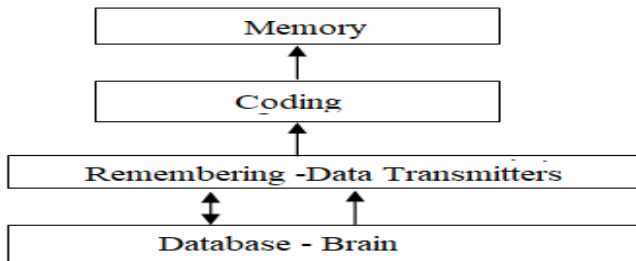


Ellipsis can only be used when reading or implementing ideas and expressions, unfinished or forgotten to complete. The usage of ellipsis in fiction literature not only prevents from the use of long sentences, broad expressions, but also saves time, it helps writer to make readers think as much as possible, use his logical, expressive, figurative imagination in a very short time. The main purpose of using ellipsis is to develop ability of thinking and presenting ideas in addressee, readers and their intuitive capacity. From this point of view, we remind E. Hemingway’s well-known “Theory of Iceberg”:



**Scheme 3.1. Scheme of E. Hemingway’s “Theory of Iceberg”**

The third subchapter of Chapter III entitled “*Ellipsis and Memory*” is devoted to the study of the interrelationship of ellipsis and memory. Memory is directly related to psychology and is a direct organizer and participant of the cognitive process of the objects, people, actions, events of the human brain. The psychological structure of memory is as follows:



**Scheme 3.2.**

The process of acquiring new knowledge, remembering the read text and using this innovation in time and place is part of intellectual principles. The basis of language phenomena is related to mental and social life. The reason that connects “memory” with our research object as a phenomenon is its study of the psychological aspect. If we speak of the functional-cognitive role of elliptical constructions in our language, then we will not be able to ignore such terms as “memory”, “mental development”, or “mentality”.

Ellipsis has been studied as “existing but not uttered” parts. We support the idea that ellipsis occupies more space than the syntactic level in the language.

Ellipsis is a psycholinguistic factor and is a “mental game” that crosses the boundaries of linguistics for more functional memory development. All parts of the memory (database, memory, coding) are active. A new database is created on compressed data of memory.

At the end of the research, the generalizations of our research - the scientific provisions are presented as following:

- Ellipsis is a textual category that expresses itself in the absence of any other element in the structure of phrases. In the narrative, the verbalization of the components within phrase is caused by a specific communicative situation and is understood in syntagmatics with the context.

- It is not expedient to identify elliptic structures with incomplete structures. Incomplete sentences are wholly non-regenerative compressive derivatives (called canonical structures). Elliptical sentences are also compressive by nature, but the main condition for their existence is the existence of a complete synchronous correlation in language. The zero sign refers to phenomena of diachronic but ellipsis to the synchronic plan. The ellipsis should be viewed as a thoughtful sign that can be easily restored in the context. The zero component only takes place when it is impossible to recover.

- Ellipsis that’s omission of thought language unit in colloquial (discourse) language or text, “structural incompleteness” of syntactic

constructions have been studied as a separate grammatical phenomenon in European, Russian and Azerbaijani linguistics as well as other phenomena accompanying other facts of language. There are two trends in language development – economy and expansion. The manifestation of language economy principle is a linguistic compression of systemic character and style, representing the process of language structures being reduced without changing the information contained in them. The main function of ellipsis is an economy of language means and reduction of sentences by missing separate words.

– Elliptical constructions as elements of a text are of particular importance in a particular communicative situation and have a specific communicative and pragmatic function. Therefore, ellipsis can be accepted as a syntactic function involved in the creation of communicational text.

– The analysis of the materials of the comparative languages shows that each of them has a specific economy principle. In the analyzed languages, ellipsis is observed within simple, independent and dependent clauses of complex sentences. The expression of an ellipsis in a simple sentence can be found in omission of one or another member - subject and its content, predicate and its content. Generally speaking, ellipsis in all three languages is more typical for oral communication.

– Ellipsis is not pragmatically neutral. It is not just used in certain communicative situations, but also has the power to influence the listener according to certain communicative needs. From the analysis of the linguistic material, it is clear that the semantic structure of elliptical constructions has a set of meanings that enrich them and change the initial communicative model by referring to the main communicative types of phrases (sentences). The pragmatic meaning of separate elliptic structures depends on a number of factors. These factors are, first of all, the communicative type of the elliptical sentence; structural and functional type of ellipsis; communicative intentions of the author; her (author – F.G.) tendency to obtain the appropriate perlocutive effect, etc.

– The main task of elliptical phrases is to create short and laconic content in sentence form. Replacement is possible in anaphoric ellipsis. Elliptical expressions are directly psycholinguistic factor status and cognitive variables which reproduction is due to a person's background knowledge and contextual (consituation) abilities.

– Ellipsis as a lexical-grammatical category arises when a structurally important component is omitted or not. The main function of ellipsis in the language is its cognitive (mental) basis. Interfering the meaning of text, leaving the reader complete the meaning or understand it out of the context are related with elliptical constructions.

– The main task of elliptical phrases is to create short and concise content in the form of sentences.

– There are more elliptical expressions and phrases in Azerbaijani literature, and they often coincide with the syntactic basis of the ellipse. Issues in Azerbaijani literary works, based on the saving factor in the language, are more common in the form of 'primitive gaps'. Logical recovery of releases is easier than in English.

– The place of the ellipse in the syntax is essential in determining the syntactic structure and functionality of a sentence. The term syntactic ellipsis is the omitted syntactic structure of a sentence. In modern linguistics, the place of the ellipse in syntax is already expanding.

– The development of elliptical constructions in fiction, in contrast to meynongionism, is associated with the metaphorical expressions 'more real', 'mind-boggling'. Such expressions can reflect reality within fiction.

– Elliptical expressions are cognitive variables that have the status of a direct psycholinguistic factor, the regeneration of which depends on the person's worldview and context (situation). In generative linguistics, the term ellipsis refers to a number of events, the meaning of which is more comprehensive than the meaning expressed in linguistic forms.

–Substitution is possible in the ellipse; ellipsis is anaphoric. Pragmatic types of ellipses, which have a special conventional meaning, have a syntactic structure that arises from the context and is not pronounced.

**The following articles have been published on the topic:**

1. Müxtəlif dillərdə və janrlarda ellipsisin koqnitiv əsası // “Xarici dillərin tədrisinin aktual problemləri”. Respublika elmi-praktiki konfrans. – Bakı: – 7 – 8 may, – 2014. – s. 33-36
2. Elliptik konstruksiyaların tədrisində müasir innovativ metodlardan istifadə // “Xarici dillərin tədrisində innovativ metodlardan istifadə yolları”. Respublika elmi-praktik konfransının materialları. – Bakı: – 23 fevral, – 2016. – s. 53-55
3. Ellipsis və elliptik konstruksiyaların müasir dilçilikdə yeri və əsası // – Bakı: Dil və ədəbiyyat (ADU), – 2017. № 1, Cild 8, – s. 92-95
4. Ellipsisin məndaxili əlaqəlilik vasitəsi kimi Azərbaycan və ingilis dillərində müqayisəli təhlili // – Bakı: ADU-nun Elmi xəbərləri, – 2017. Cild 2, № 1, – s. 122-125
5. İngilis və Azərbaycan dillərində bədii mətnin başa düşülməsində ellipsisin rolu və ondan istifadə qaydaları // “İnformasiyalaşdırılmış cəmiyyətdə xarici dilin tədrisinin səmərəli yolları”. Beynəlxalq elmi-praktik konfransın materialları, – Bakı: – 21 aprel, – 2017. – s. 172-174
6. İngilis və Azərbaycan dillərində bədii mətnin başa düşülməsinə ellipsisin rolu və ondan istifadə qaydaları // – Bakı: ADU-nun Elmi xəbərləri, – 2017. № 4, – s. 30-34
7. Ellipsisin funksional-koqnitiv paradigmadan təhlili // – Bakı: ADU-nun Elmi xəbərləri, – 2017. Cild 2, № 3, – s. 81-85
8. Dildə ellipsis və yaddaş problem // – Bakı: BSU, Elmi əsərlər Dil və ədəbiyyat seriyası, – 2018. № 1, – s. 82-86
9. N.Xomski və onun törəmə qrammatikasında ellipsis anlayışı // – Bakı: Filologiya məsələləri, – 2018. № 7, – s. 99-104
10. Müasir dilçilikdə dil vahidləri və onlardan istifadə qaydaları // – Gəncə: GDU-nun Elmi xəbərləri, Fundamental, humanitar və təbiət elmləri seriyası, – 2018. № 3, – s. 57-60

11. Ellipsisin sintaktik fenomen kimi müasir dilçilikdə yeri // – Bakı: Dil və ədəbiyyat (BDU), – 2018. № 2 (106), – s. 128-130
12. Usage opportunities of ellipsis in fiction literature // Labyrinths of Reality, Collection of scientific works (based on materials of the VII International scientific and practical conference, February 14-15, 2020), Montreal: CPM “ASF”, – 2020. Issue 2(7), – p.44-45
13. Ellipsis in Contemporary Linguistics and its features of economy and correlation // – Алматы: Вестник Казахского Национального Университета имени Аль-Фараби, Серия Филологическая, – 2020. № 1(177), – с. 153-158
14. Yazılı və şifahi diskursda ellipsisin təsir gücü // – Bakı: Dil və ədəbiyyat (BDU), – 2020. № 1 (113), – s. 170-174

The defense of the thesis will be held on 29 September 2022 at 13<sup>00</sup> BDD 1.06 / 3 will be held at the meeting of the Dissertation Council on the basis of ED 1.06 Dissertation Council operating under the Institute of Linguistics named after Nasimi of the Azerbaijan National Academy of Sciences.

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