The Cognitive Discourse Parameters of Directive Speech Acts in Modern Ukrainian

Abstract

The article presents a comprehensive multifaceted analysis of directive speech acts (based on modern media texts from the popular Ukrainian newspaper Day) taking into account the following approaches: 1) cognitive-semantic, with the projection of directive statements on extra-lingual reality, the study of their propositional-syntactic structure, and semantic relations between components; 2) formal-grammatical, which involves the identification of morphological and syntactic means of expression of motivation and the specifics of the positional structure of sentences; 3) communicative-syntactic, which allows for the characterization of directive statements in terms of their intonation and actual articulation; 4) communicative-pragmatic and discursive, which focuses on the specifics of certain types of directive speech acts in specific discourses, their perlocutionary effect, pragmatic intentions of the speakers, their communicative strategies and tactics, the interaction of the addresser and the recipient and more. Directive speech acts with infinitives, verbs of imperative, conditional and optative moods, present, past and future tenses, which are based on performative constructions, are distinguished from the formal-grammatical point of view. They all have the same propositional meaning, which at the semantic-syntactic level of the sentence is implemented in the following obligatory syntagmas: the subject (speaker), the predicate of volitional action, the recipient of volitional action or the potential subject of action, and the predicate of potential action. In specific communicative acts, the syntaxeme of the subject of volitional action is correlated with the recipient of speech, i.e., the speaker expressing the communicative intention of motivation, and the complex syntax of the recipient of volitional action-subject of potential action – with the recipient of speech, i.e., the interlocutor from whom the speaker expects on his volition. The core of directive speech acts is formed by sentences with verbs in the imperative mood (imperatives) and vocatives. The periphery is formed by indirect statements (including narrative, interrogative, conditional), the motivational modality of which is due to context or extra-lingual situation. Verbal predicates as the centre of directive speech acts, with the semantics of order, command, request, supplication, imploration, persuasion, invitation, permission, demand, coercion, appeal, instruction, direction, recommendation, suggestion, warning, precaution, advice, admonition, preaching, etc., are usually in a communicative position rheme with the actual articulation of statements. 

Keywords: directive speech acts; performative utterances; imperatives; infinitives; indirect utterances; subject; predicate; recipient; rheme; Ukrainian

1 Introduction

The dominance of the communicative–pragmatic and the cognitive–discursive paradigms of research of language units and categories in modern linguistics has determined the need for their
thorough study not only in terms of formal expression, but also in close connection with extra-verbal reality, operations of thought and consciousness, communicative activity of speakers and situations, and different types of discourse, etc. The works of A. Przepiórkowski (Przepiórkowski, 2017), A. Dziob, & M. Piasecki (Dziob & Piasecki, 2018) are devoted to topical issues of modern cognitive grammar. The objects of many scientific studies have been different types of speech acts, among which an important role is given to the so-called directives – communicative–intentional content which, according to A. P. Zahnitko, is “… direct motivation of the recipient to action” (Zahnitko, 2001, p. 460). According to a review of the scientific literature, the study of directive expressions is related to: the study of the semantic–syntactic and communicative structure of sentences of motivational modality (Kharchenko, 2001); the grammatical means of expression of the category of motivation in indirect utterances of modern Ukrainian (Miasoiedova, 2001); the modal and temporal transposition of verb forms into the sphere of motivation (Piddubs’ka, 2001); categories of motivation in pragma–stylistic aspect (Narushevych-Vasyl’ieva, 2002); paradigms of Ukrainian motivational sentences (Musatova, 2007); the directive influence of speech on journalistic discourse (Formanova & Veĭda, 2011); the functional features of the grammar of motivational syntactic modality (Kostusiak, 2012); indirect statements in the system of syntactic representatives of the category of communicative intention (Shabat-Savka, 2013); and interrogative sentences as expressions of motivational modality (Shatilova, 2013). However, a systematic analysis of directive speech acts is impossible without taking into account various aspects. Given this, the purpose of this article is to present a comprehensive multifaceted study of directive speech acts based on the material of modern media texts from the popular Ukrainian newspaper Day (https://day.kyiv.ua) from the last ten years (from 2013 to 2022). The choice of this publication as a source of illustrative material for modern media texts is determined by the fact that it is distinguished by its truthfulness and objectivity about current events in Ukraine and around the world, and therefore by the reader’s trust in it. The newspaper not only has a printed version, but also an electronic version, which enables the convenient viewing and operational analysis of various media texts from a wide time range. Directive speech acts are presented here in all possible structural–semantic and communicative–stylistic occurrences. Modelled constructions in conversational style were also used to analyse the directives. In accordance with the stated goal, the main tasks of this scientific study involve the implementation of the following types of linguistic analysis: 1) cognitive–semantic, with the projection of directive statements on extra-linguistic reality, the study of their propositional and syntactic structure, and content relations between components; 2) formal–grammatical, which involves the identification of morphological and syntactic means of expressing motivation and the specifics of the positional structure of sentences; 3) communicative–syntactic, which makes it possible to characterize directive statements from the point of view of their intonation and topical articulation; 4) communicative–pragmatic and discursive, which focuses attention on the specifics of certain types of directive speech acts in specific discourses, their perlocutionary effect, the speaker’s pragmatic intentions, his communicative strategies and tactics, and the interaction between the addressee and the recipient.

2 Differential Features of Directive Speech Acts

A speech act is the smallest basic unit of verbal communication, which is characterized by the following main features: formal–grammatical, semantic and communicative organization, intentional and situational–contextual conditioning, the speaker’s action directed at the recipient and his/her reaction or their speech interaction to achieve a certain perlocutionary goal. This definition should be expanded with the qualification of F. Batsevych, who interprets a speech act as “a purposeful speech act carried out in accordance with the principles and rules of speech behaviour accepted in this society” and “as a minimal unit of normative socio-speech behaviour considered within the limits of a pragmatic situations” (Batsevych, 2004, p. 170). Having laid the foundations of the theory of speech acts and offering their holistic concept, J. Austin qualified a speech act as
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a set of three actions – locution, illocution and perlocution, and was also the first to classify illocutionary acts (Ostin, 1986, pp. 22–130). J. Searle, focusing on the most important linguistically significant parameters, singled out five types of speech acts depending on the illocutionary purpose. Among them are directives – imperative statements, with the help of which the speaker, taking into account his own desires or needs, tries to force the listener to do something (Serl’, 1986, pp. 151–169).

Directive speech acts always provide for the presence of the addresser, who expresses the communicative intention of motivation, and the recipient, from whom the speaker expects a positive reaction to his volition. They are classified according to the obligation / non-obligation to perform the action by the recipient, the priority of the addresser or recipient (based mainly on the relationship of dominance of the addresser over the recipient), and the benefit / disadvantage of the action for the recipient, etc. (Mykhailova, 2015, pp. 453–454). Most directive speech acts are categorical and provide for the dominance of the addresser over the recipient, as well as the obligation to perform the action by the recipient (order, directive, permission, threat, prohibition, instruction, requirement, command, coercion, or direction). The freedom of choice of the recipient and the non-binding nature of the action can be traced in such directives as advice, recommendation, suggestion, persuasion, appeal, invitation, warning, instruction, and prescription, in most of which the recipient’s action is desirable and beneficial. For the addresser, speech acts of request, supplication, invitation, and imploration, in which the recipient is a priority, can also be beneficial.

3 Performative Statements

The concept of a performative sentence as an expression in the process of performing a speech act introducing a true proposition (constative) that corresponds to the actions and intentions of the speaker, was introduced by J. Austin, connecting the performative sentence with the illocution of the speech act – the goal or the intention of the speaker in relation to the actions of the recipient (Ostin, 1986, pp. 26–27). Performativity as a multi-faceted language and speech phenomenon should be considered at the morphological, semantic–syntactic, and communicative–pragmatic levels. Performative sentences of bi-syllabic or monosyllabic structure in the language system are most often explained by verbs of the 1st person singular, less often by the plural of the present tense, and have a specific syntactic organization. Expressing the ascertainment of an action and its simultaneous implementation, they are fully implemented only in the speech system, in the processes of speech communication, and in specific speech situations, and they foresee clear consequences – the performance or non-performance of the action by the speaker or the recipient. Depending on this, performative acts can be both successful and unsuccessful.

Orders and requests are the most commonly used directive speech acts in which predicates are expressed by performative verbs. Their distinction is most visible in narrative performative expressions with the verbs nakazuiu, proshu [order, request], which do not describe the action, but are equivalent to the implementation of this action (Zahnitko, 2001, p. 461). First-person performative verbs dozvoliaiu, zaboroniaiu, wymahaiu, rekomenduiu, radzu, proponuiu, blahaiu, zaklykaiu, poperedzhaiu, zaproshuiu [allow, prohibit, demand, recommend, advise, suggest, beg, call, warn, invite], both in the singular and in the plural, with their lexical meaning also form the corresponding directive speech acts, significantly expanding their communicative and pragmatic paradigm, e.g.:

1. Ya zaklykaiu Rosiiu pozytyvno vidpovisty na propozytsiiu SSHA, – skazav hensek [I call on Russia to respond positively to the US proposal, said Secretary General] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 22.01.2021);
2. Dozvoliaiu korystuwaty tsymy plakatamy bezkoshtovo, poshyriwaty yikh [I allow you to use these posters for free, distribute them] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 07.06.2018);
3. Proponuiu obhovoryty stvorennia mizhnarodnoi naukovo-doslidnytskoi ta vyrobnychoi korporatsii [I suggest we discuss the creation of an international research and production corporation] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 19.01.2021);
(4) V Ukraini rekomenduiut dozvolyty vaktsynuvaty ditei vikom do 12 rokiv, – MOZ [In Ukraine, it is recommended to vaccinate children under 12 years of age, – MOH] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 27.10.2021);

(5) Novomu skladu KPK nakazuiemo rozhylynuti dokumentalne pidverzhennia chyselnykhy po-rushen, – hovorytsia v teksti rezoliutsii [The new composition of the CCP is ordered to consider documentary evidence of numerous violations, stated in the resolution] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 22.11.2016);

(6) Takozh my zaboroniaiemo evtanaziiu yak metod rehuliuvannia chyselnosti bezptrytnykh tvaryn [We also prohibit euthanasia – as a method of regulating the number of stray animals] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 07.02.2018);

(7) Tymchasovo zaboronyaiu realizatsiiu ta zastosuvannia likarskoho zasobu Kombispazm, – ministr [I temporarily prohibit the sale and use of the drug Kombispazm, said Minister] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 23.06.2018);

(8) Na plakatuh zaznachalosya: Vymahayemo vidvodu sudi! [The posters read: We demand the resignation of the judge!] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 20.08.2020);

(9) My vymahayemo rozhylynuti nash zakonoproekt zvera v komiteti [We demand to consider our bill tomorrow in the committee] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 14.03.2017);

(10) Sohodni my ne dozvoliaiemo fal’skyfivaty nashu istoriyu [Today we do not allow falsification of our history] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 18.01.2020);

(11) Ni. Ya proponuiu povernutysia do tsoho pytannia blyzhche do lita 2022 roku, todi ya zmozhu nazvati konkretni daty, – skazala Stefanyshyna [No. I suggest we return to this issue closer to the summer of 2022, then I will be able to name specific dates, said Stefanyshyna] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 04.01.2022).

At the semantic–syntactic level of a sentence, we distinguish the following syntaxemes: subject (speaker), predicate, recipient–potential subject, predicate of potential action and possible object. If the predicate of volitional action is expressed by a performative personal verb, which is the centre of the directive act, the predicate of potential action is an object infinitive, which indirectly calls for the action–motivation. Such structures contain two propositions (e.g.: Ya nakazuiu soldatam i Soldaty povynni prypynyty vohon [I order soldiers and soldiers must cease fire]), so the recipient in the dative or accusative case is complicated by the semantics of the potential subject. With the actual division of performative statements, the theme is formed by the first sentence, and the rhyme by the second: a nakazuiu soldatam // prypynyty vohon [I order the soldiers // to cease fire]. The morphological paradigm of such sentences is limited to the use of the verbs in first person in the present tense of indicative mood, and the formal–syntactic paradigm is complemented by constructions with indirect and direct speech, e.g.:

(12) Viktor Yushchenko: Ya proshu, shchob sohodni my zhadaly vsikh zhertv Holodomoru [Victor Yushchenko: I ask that today we remember all the victims of the Holodomor] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 28.11.2015);

(13) Ya radzhu: Prochytайте прynaimni odnu dobru khudozhniu knyzhku, yaku davno mriialy pro-chytaty [I advise: Read at least one good fiction book that you have long dreamed of reading] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 23.10.2020);


It is the performative constructions mentioned above (often modified) which compile all other types of directive statements: with verbs in the imperative mood, present, past and future tenses, and conditional and optative moods. They all have the same propositional meaning, which at the semantic–syntactic level of the sentence is implemented in the following syntaxemes: subject of action + predicate of volitional action + recipient of volitional action + subject of potential action + predicate of potential action + [possible object, instrumental or locative]. In specific
communicative acts, the syntax of the subject of volitional action is correlated with the addresser of the speech, i.e. the speaker, and the complex syntax of the recipient of the volitional action–subject of potential action – with the recipient of speech, i.e. the interlocutor.

4 Imperative Statements

The core of directive speech acts is formed by causative sentences with verbs in the imperative mood (imperatives), which include two sentences. Compare: *Zahrai, muzykante!* [Play, musician!] ← *Khtos* [Someone] (subject of action–speaker) *poprosyv* [asked] (action of subject–speaker) *muzykanta* [musician] (recipient–potential performer of action) + *Muzykant* [Musician] object of potential action–interlocutor *zahraie* [will play] (potential and optative for the speaker action of the interlocutor). These are semantically complex (non-elementary) sentences in which “the subject and predicate of the first construction are the speaker and his/her volitional action on the object, that is, the interlocutor, and the subject and predicate of the second construction are the interlocutor and his/her potential action (with possible object, recipient, means of action, etc.)” (Vykhovanets', 1992, p. 187).

The valence intention of the predicate also presupposes in the language system the syntaxeme of the object *vals* [waltz], the recipient *hostiam* [guests], the instrumental *na roiali* [the piano], but in the field of speech and specific communicative acts, they are rarely lexically expressed due to the situation. “According to the communicative intention of the speaker, the interlocutor should perceive the information of the recipient, and later to implement it in the form of action to which the speaker encourages,” states N. M. Kostusiak (Kostusiak, 2012, p. 67). The morphological paradigm of this type of utterances is presented by singular and plural nouns, personal pronouns (*ty, vy, my* [you, we]), imperative verb forms (perfect, imperfect) and numerical and possessive forms of the vocative, e.g.: *Zahrai, muzykante* [Play, musician] – *Zahraite, muzykanty* [Play, musicians] – *Zahraimo, muzykanty* [Let’s play, musicians] – *Hrai, muzykante* [Play, musician] – *Hraite, muzykanty* [Play, musicians] – *Hraimo, muzykanty* [Let’s play, musicians] and others. The plural person presupposes the joint performance of the action by the subject–speaker and the recipient:

*Khodimo do vashoho kabinetu, budemo rozbryatsia v tomu, shcho vy nakoily, – zaznachyv Yatseniuk* [Let’s go to your office to find out what you have done, said Yatseniuk] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 04.03.2013); *Pratsiuimo! My zh – ukrainists! Let’s work! Because we are Ukrainians!* (https://day.kyiv.ua, 15.12.2019); *Polyshymo u mynulomu te, shcho nas rozdilialo, i pratsiuimo dali razom na blaho Pravoslavia ta Ukrainy!* [Let’s leave in the past what divided us and continue to work together for the good of Orthodoxy and Ukraine!] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 28.04.2019).

“Given the functioning of the predicate in the form of the first person plural,” states N. M. Kostusiak, “we observe a partial change in the semantics of sentence structure. In this case, the role of the potential executor of the action is performed not only by the recipient of the speech, but also by the addressee. In them, the subjective syntaxeme (substantive part of the appeal) is often reduced due to the great semantic self-sufficiency of the predicate, i.e. it has an implicit manifestation” (Kostusiak, 2012, pp. 68–69). If the recipient–potential subjects are not verbalized, we learn about them from the context or situation.

The lexical meaning of the components, constitution and intonation allow us to establish the following types of directive speech acts:

1. order, command: *Shykuitesia u boiovi kolony! Nastav chas nastupu* [Line up in battle columns! It’s time to attack] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 15.08.2020); *Stiy! Byy! Bizhy! Kyiv zminyuie stratetsiu shchodo nevyznanykh nym Luhanskoii ta Donetskoii narodnykh respublik* [Stop! Hit! Run! Kyiv is changing its strategy regarding the unrecognized Luhansk and Donetsk People’s Republics] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 27.01.2017);
2. request: *Bud laska, pochuite prokhannia materi y dopomozhit nam!* [Please listen to your mother’s request and help us!] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 05.12.2021);
3. Rozkazhit, bud laska, pro vashi roboty, predstavleni na vystavtsi v muzeii [Tell us, please, about your works presented at the exhibition in the museum] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 17.06.2020);
4. begging, imploration, persuasion: Koly my tilky zaishly v Pisky, do nas pidiishla babusia y zi slizmy na ochakh pochala prosyty probachennia. My ne mogly zrozumity, shcho stalosia. A rona kazhe: Synochky, probachte nas za te, shcho my yikh pidtrymuvaly. A vam teper dovodytsia tut voinyty... I blahaie nas, shchob my ne zalyshali sela, shchob znowu tudy ne prysylish bandyty [When we just came to Pisky, an elderly lady came up to us and with tears in her eyes began to apologize. We could not understand what happened. And she says: Sons, forgive us for supporting them. And now you have to fight here... And she begs us not to leave the village so that bandits don’t come there again] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 20.11.2014);
5. Tilky ne zalyshaite nas naodyntszi tsieiu vladoiu [Just do not leave us alone with this government] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 12.02.2015);
6. invitation: Zakhodte, dlia vas ye mistsia – tse osnovnyy mesydzh “rozumnoho khabu”, yakyi nazyyava “bilshe, nizh prostir” [Come on in, there is enough room here for you all – this is the main message of the “smart hub”, which is called “more than space” (https://day.kyiv.ua, 13.09.2017);
7. Zakhodte, testuite ta zalyshaite svoi komentari u okladtsi “zvorotnii zviazok”, – dodav vin [Come, test and leave your comments in the tab “feedback”, he added] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 23.08.2017);
8. Sanktsii – tse syhnal Rosii: nehaino povernit ukrainskykh moriakiv, korabli i nadaite svobodu sudnoplavstva [The sanctions are a signal to Russia: immediately return Ukrainian sailors, ships and grant freedom of navigation] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 13.12.2018);
9. call: Vstavaite i diite! Lyshe vid vas zalezhyt, naskilky khoroshym bude vashe zhyttia. Lyshe vy nesete vidpovidalnist za vlasnyi uspakh, i nikhto inshyi [Get up and act! It’s up to you how good your life will be. Only you are responsible for your own success, and no one else] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 23.08.2014);
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17. instruction, direction: *Natysnit posluhy ta vyberit punkt “COVID-sertyfikaty”* [Click Services and select “COVID-certificates”] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 15.11.2021);

18. Kartka kyianyna, yak pilhovyj sotsialnyi instrument. Ekonomte chas ta koshty – oplachuite kartkoiu! [Kyiv resident’s card as a preferential social tool. Save time and money – pay with a card!] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 21.07.2019);


20. recommendation, offer: *Berit uchast u rozhreshi knyhy pro krashchi mistsia dla podorozhei Ukrainoiu, – idetsia u povidomlenni* [Participate in the drawing of a book about the best places to travel in Ukraine, said in a statement] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 04.02.2022);

21. *U Ternopoli oboviaczko vo vidvidaite kafkaedralnyi sobor Rizdva Khrystovoho* [In Ternopil be sure to visit the Cathedral of the Nativity of Christ] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 28.03.2020);

22. *I duzhe vony chekaitu na vidviduvachiv z lasoshchamy, tozh, planuiuchy podorozh Zakarpattiam, oboviaczko navidaitezis u hosti do tsykh kraseniv* [And they are waiting for visitors with delicious food, so when planning a trip to Zakarpattia, be sure to visit these beautiful creatures (https://day.kyiv.ua, 10.12.2021);

23. Otzhe, shchob prydbaty novynku zvertaites do nashoho viddilu realizatsii [So, to buy a brand new item, contact our sales department] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 11.06.2021);

24. warnings, precautions: *“Skhamenitsia! Ya zh voiuvav za te, shchoby viiny nikoly v nas ne bulo, a vy sami skriz yii rozdmukhuiete, chy to v Hruziii, chy to v Ukraini. Hanba!”* [Come to your senses! I fought so that there would never be a war, and you yourself are starting it everywhere, whether in Georgia or in Ukraine.] Shame! (https://day.kyiv.ua, 21.04.2017);

25. Yakshcho ministr pryide v Ukrainu, hotuitesia do velykoii krovi, – napysaly nevidomi [If the minister comes to Ukraine, blood will be shed, wrote the unknown] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 27.01.2021);

26. Zhurnaliste, ne striliai nam u spynu! [Journalist, don’t shoot us in the back!] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 31.03.2017);

27. advice, guidance, preaching: *Doroslishaite, muzhniite, berit vladu u svoii ruki i keruite Ukrainoiu, – pid chas vidkrytia Plastovoho mistechka skazav Andrii Sadovyi* [Grow up, be brave, take power into your own hands and rule Ukraine, said Andrii Sadovyi during the opening of the Plast] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 22.09.2014);

28. *Yu yim zavzhdy kazhu: Druzi, sidaite za stil, domovliaytesia, vypratsovuite spilni kryterii* [I always tell them: Friends, sit down at the table, negotiate, work out common criteria] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 01.08.2014);


In some of the above mentioned speech acts there are not one, but several illocutions of the addresser.

As we can see, the recipient–subject syntaxeme (vocative) acquires both explicit expression in the form of the noun and also implicit nouns. According to S. Kharchenko, “the presence of a semantic subject expressed by a personal pronoun logically and psychologically emphasizes the contact between the speaker and the listener, strengthens or weakens the variant motivational meaning of the sentence” (Kharchenko, 2001, p. 9). Compare: *Vy yidte dodomu* [You go home] and *Yidte vy dodomu* [Go home]; *Ty prykhod do mene* [You come to me] and *Prykhod ty do mene* [Come to me]. In expressive (rude) speech, the pronouns *ty, vy* [you] in the address function can emphasize the speaker’s contempt for the interlocutor: *Anu, ty, khody siudy! Hey, vy, vorushitsia!* [Hey, you, come here! Hey, you, move!].

In the actual division of sentences with verbs in the imperative mood, the verbalized recipient of volitional action–subject of potential action in the exclamative case usually performs a typical communicative theme function, while the imperative predicate of potential action performs

a rheme function. According to the communicative intention of the speaker to emphasize the 
person of the interlocutor, the vocative can move to the rheme position.

5 Infinitive Statements

A very common way of expressing directives, including categorical orders or appeals, is the use 
of closed infinitive motivational sentences with an implicit speech recipient–interlocutor (recipient–potential subject) who is known from the context or speech situation. For certain communicative intentions, however, the speaker may be verbalized in the form of the dative case of the person, e.g.:

(15) Na prapor – strunko! Ukrainskyi prapor – pidnesty! I pid surmu ta svyst pidstarshyn-moriakiv 
zletiv uhoru ukrainskyi prapor. Roziitys! [Attention! Ukrainian flag – raise! And Ukrainian 
flag flew up under the trumpet and whistle of the non-commissioned officers–sailors. Dis-
dimmed!] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 13.05.2016);

(16) Chytaty, dumaty, vchytysia: Ihor Siundiukov – pro misiiu zhurnalista i svoiu istoriiu v “Dni” 
Read, think, learn: Ihor Siundiukov – about the journalist’s mission and his story in the 
“Day” (https://day.kyiv.ua, 20.06.2017);

(17) Vchytys use zhyttia. Yak zakonodavecho zabezpechyty osvitu dla doroslykh [Learn all life. How 
to establish a legal framework that secures access to adult education] (https://day.kyiv .ua, 11.11.2014);

(18) Berehty istoriiu Dnipra ta liudei, shcho staly yoho symvolamy. Bilia pamiatnyka Oleksandru 
Polui oblashtyvaly tymchasovu instaliatsiu [Preserve the history of Dnipro and the people 
who became its symbols. A temporary installation has been set up near the monument of 
Oleksandr Pol] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 01.12.2020);

(19) Shanuvaty i vsiliako pidtrymuwaty tykh, khto viddia sebe wysoki spravi vykhovannia, maie 
buty vershynoiu tsyivilizovanosti vladariv! [To respect and support in every way those who 
dedicate themselves to the high cause of education – should be the pinnacle of the lords 
civility!] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 11.02.2022);

(20) Borotysia, maiuchy metu pered ochyma. Kinorezhyser-dokumentalist Mykhailo Tkachuk – 
pro te, yak kompensuwaty nestachu derzhavnytskoho dukhu [Fight, having a sense of purpose. 
Documentary film director Mykhailo Tkachuk – on how to compensate for the lack of state 
spirit] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 01.10.2015).

Such orders or appeals may contain communicative intentions of demand, command, permis-
sion, coercion, directions, recommendations, instructions, guidelines, and so on.

When creating infinitive sentences, the first part of a semantically complex sentence of the type 
Ya nakazav vam stoiati bilia vkhodu [I ordered you to stand at the entrance] is reduced to a 
semantically elementary sentence (offer) with the subject and predicate of the volitional action, 
and sometimes with the recipient of the volitional action. As a result, the second part of the 
semantically complex sentence remains, i.e. the semantically elementary sentence (offer) Stoiati 
bilia vkhodu [Stand at the entrance] with a possible explication of the dative case of a person 
who is both the recipient of the volitional action of the speaker (interlocutor) and the subject of 
potential action:

(21) Usim roziitysia i nadali bilše trokh osob ne zhyratysia! [Dismissed and do not gather more 
than three people!] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 17.10.2019);

(22) Nehaino vsim vidstupity na desiat krokiv nazad! [Immediately move ten steps back!] (https: 
/day.kyiv.ua, 27.08.2018);

(23) Zhinkam ne khodyty tudy i buty duže oberezhnymy [Women are not allowed to go there and 
need to be very careful] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 10.05.2015).
Infinitives can be complicated by modal or phase modifiers such as *treba*, *potribno*, *neobkhidno*, *slid*, *varto*, *mozhna*, *pochynaty*, *prodovzhuvaty*, *zavershuvaty* [need, should, must, can; begin, continue, end] and negative particles that strengthen or mitigate the order:

(24) *Stoiaty na mistsi ne mozhna, treba rukhatysia* [You cannot stand still, you must move] ([https://day.kyiv.ua](https://day.kyiv.ua), 03.09.2015);

(25) *Treba vchytysia zminiuvatysia. Lvivska veducha Zoriana Tyvin – pro rezonansni efiry ta perspektyvy mistevoho telebachennia* [We must learn to change. Lviv presenter Zoriana Tyvin – about resonance broadcasts and prospects of local TV] ([https://day.kyiv.ua](https://day.kyiv.ua), 26.05.2017);

(26) *Za dushi nashykh hromadian treba borotysia. Vechirni rozmovy z biitsuamyi za kilka kilometriv vid Piskiv* [We must fight for the souls of our citizens. Evening conversations with the fighters a few kilometers from Pisky] ([https://day.kyiv.ua](https://day.kyiv.ua), 28.06.2015);

(27) *Neobkhidno pryskoryty budivnytstvo viiskovo-morskoi bazy v Berdiansku, – Reznikov* [It is necessary to accelerate the construction of a naval base in Berdiansk, said Reznikov] ([https://day.kyiv.ua](https://day.kyiv.ua), 14.01.2021);

(28) *Khoroshi spravy varto prodovzhuvaty. Larysi Ivshynii vruchat tytul Pochesnoho doktora Stus-ivskoho vyshu* [Good deeds should be continued. Larysa Ivshyna will be awarded the title of Honorary Doctor of Stus University] ([https://day.kyiv.ua](https://day.kyiv.ua), 26.09.2018);

(29) *NATO slid hotuvatysia do porazky dyplomati, – Stoltenberh pro RF* [NATO should prepare for the defeat of diplomacy, said Stoltenberg about RF] ([https://day.kyiv.ua](https://day.kyiv.ua), 20.02.2022).

The above directives are often supplemented by semantic nuances of prohibition, requirement, command, coercion, appeal, instruction, warning, precaution, threat, and blackmail, which are most pronounced in oral speech due to para-lingual means of communication. In infinitive statements with the particle *b* (*by*), on the contrary, the intentions are dominated by advice, guidance, instruction, recommendations, suggestions, and therefore their command is weakened:

(30) *Znachnii kilkosty nimtsiv varto bulo b ochystyty pidsvidomist ta pozbutysia iliuzii shchodo Putina ta Rosii* [A significant number of Germans should clear their subconscious and get rid of illusions about Putin and Russia] ([https://day.kyiv.ua](https://day.kyiv.ua), 24.01.2022);

(31) *Zvivno, pensioneriv mozhna bulo vidpravyty v neoplachuvanu vidpustku, a molodi zruchnishe bulo b zvilnytysia i staty na oblik u tsentr zainiatosti* [Of course, the pensioners could be sent on unpaid leave, and it would be better for young people to resign and visit an employment center] ([https://day.kyiv.ua](https://day.kyiv.ua), 03.07.2020);

(32) *Dumaiu, shcho persh niizh priimaty taki pospishni rishennia, treba bulo b radnykam prezidenta dobre oznaomytysia iz sotsiolohiieiu* [I think that before making such hasty decisions, the president’s advisers must be well acquainted with sociology] ([https://day.kyiv.ua](https://day.kyiv.ua), 16.05.2017).

The independent infinitive as the communicative centre of such statements alone or together with the distributors in the actual articulation usually falls into the position of rheme, and the explicit or implicit dative case of the recipient–potential subject of action falls in the position of the theme. With appropriate communicative guidance, they can change their places in the sentence.

6 Indirect Directive Speech Acts

Directive speech acts can be formalized with verbs of the present, future and past tenses in indicative mood and verbs in the conditional mood, due to the transposition of narrative sentences into causative ones. Causative–narrative sentences are characterized by the partial concealment of the directive intention of the speaker: *Rozpochymaiemo klasyykoiu! Klasyykoiu zavershymy!* [Let’s start with the classics! Let’s finish with the classics!] ([https://day.kyiv.ua](https://day.kyiv.ua), 09.09.2018).叙事
sentences make a kind of “switch” from a strict, clearly defined requirement that motivates the recipient to action, towards an interpretation or explanation of the situation, bringing certain information to the attention of the same recipient. At the same time, it would be completely wrong to assume that the factor of motivating the recipient to action has disappeared. It is preserved in narrative sentences, but in a veiled, “softened” form. Moreover, it is in such cases that the speaker even wins, because the narrative sentences provide not only an order or prescription, but also an explanation that clarifies the prospects of the recipient in case of the fulfillment of a requirement (Popova & Khoruzhenko, 2016, p. 216). Such indirect statements are synonymous with sentences with verbs in the imperative mood, and therefore their propositional (semantic–syntactic) structures are similar: subject (speaker) + predicate of his volitional action + recipient of volitional action of the speaker–subject of potential action + predicate of potential action + possible object, recipient, instrumental, locative. However, the first statements are less categorical and often contain the illocutionary goal of the recipient to emphasize the temporal parameters of the potential action of the interlocutor with the help of personal endings of verbs, a circumstantial–temporal specifier.

Present tense verbs in the imperative mood usually convey a demand or command to perform an action as soon as possible, as emphasized by the corresponding temporal determinant:

(33) Pislia tsioho pozityvnoho povidomlennia, my zavtra rozpochynaemo zariadzhennia batarei [After this positive message, we will start charging the battery tomorrow] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 20.02.2021);
(34) Otozh, pidpysuemo zaraz kontrakt i zavtra rozpochynaemo roboty – tse khybnyi khid dumok. Spochatku potribni detalni obhovorennia [So, we sign a contract now and start work tomorrow – this is a wrong move. First, detailed discussions are needed] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 24.11.2017);
(35) Poriad iz fiksatsiiu v avtomatychnomu rezhymi prodovzhuiemo pratsiuvaty z pryладamy dla vyimiriuvannya shrydkosti TruCAM. Vzhe vid zavtra, 12 chernia, zdishuiemo kilkist dilianok, de budut zdisniuvatsia taki vyimiriuvannya [Along with fixing in automatic mode, we continue to work with devices for measuring the speed of TruCAM. Starting tomorrow, June 12, we are increasing the number of sites where such measurements will be carried out] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 11.06.2020);
(36) Iz zavtrashnogo dnia pratsiuevmy v okruhakh z vybortsiamy [Starting tomorrow we work in districts with voters] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 25.09.2018);
(37) Zbyraiemosia zavtra o shostii hodyni ranku bilia metro [We are meeting tomorrow at six o’clock in the morning near the subway] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 28.05.2014).

Some present forms, in addition to actual orders, are able to verbalize such types of directive speech acts as instruction, direction, prescript:

(38) Na perekhresti povertaiemo vlivo, na dorohu, shcho ide uzdovzh richky [At the crossroads, turn left onto the road that runs along the river] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 02.04.2016);
(39) Uvaha! Z 1 zhovtia vmykaiemo svitlo far poza naselennym punktom [Attention! From October 1, we turn on the headlights outside the cities] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 29.09.2020);
(40) Holky khvoi rostрайuit z nevylykoiu kolkistiu kholidnoi kipiachenoi vody, potim zalnyauiut vodyuy [Acerose leaves are rubbed with a small amount of cold boiled water, then filled with water] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 23.07.2017);
(41) Povertaiemo ruchku rehuliatora temperatury povitria proty hodynnykovoi strilky [Turn the knob of the air temperature regulator counter-clockwise] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 23.04.2015).

The forms of the future tense of the verb in the imperative mood more clearly convey the temporal coordinates of the action to be performed by the recipient alone or together with the addressee:
Considering such transpositional transformations, I. V. Piddubska emphasizes: “The corresponding connotation of the message is connected with these changes. The fact is perceived as one that will definitely come true in the future. This emphasizes the pragmatic effect of the irrevocability of the requirement... These changes determine the presence of an expressive shade of categorical requirements, increase the impact on the interlocutor” (Piddubska, 2001, p. 14). The morphological paradigm includes personal pronouns (ty, vy, my [you, we]), singular and plural nouns, and verb forms (perfect, imperfect). The use of verb forms of the first person plural emphasizes the joint performance of the action by the speaker and the recipient. In the sentences mentioned above, the implicit recipient of speech is clear from the context or situation, but can also be verbally expressed by the exclamatory case of a noun or personal pronoun.

The so-called causative past tense can express the communicative intention of the demand, mainly in colloquial (rough) speech and particularly in expressively coloured constructions such as: Pishov zvidsy! [Get out! (present tense in English)]; Poikhala nehaino! [Go immediately! (present tense in English)]; Stav do roboty! [Go to work! (present tense in English)]; Sila na mistsi! [Sit down! (present tense in English)]; Vyishy z kabinetu! [Get out of the office! (present tense in English)], or a command in the plural form: Rozpochaly! [Go! (present tense in English)]; Zakinchyly! [Finish! (present tense in English)]; Pobihly! [Run! (present tense in English)]; Poikhaly! [Let’s go! (present tense in English)] (request or command, less often – request, immediate action by the recipient, the same moment), or a call, instruction, coercion, threat with the particle shchob, for example: Shchob ty dopomih materi! [Help your mother! (imperative mood in English)]; Shchob zavershly robotu do kintsia tyzhnia? [Finish the work by the end of the week! (imperative mood in English)]; Shchob pryikhav vchasno! [Arrive on time! (imperative mood in English)]; Shchob vykonaly zavdannia! [Complete the task! (imperative mood in English)] (the recipient–potential subject must perform the action immediately or as soon as possible).

Despite the lack of a formal means of expressing causative modality, consituation, specific intonation, or lexical means help the recipient to understand the directive isolation of the recipient in such statements and react accordingly. Such speech acts are not typical of journalistic style, in particular media texts, but they can convey the speech of specific characters of journalistic publications and represent their headlines: Nu shcho? Poikhaly? [Well? Let’s go?] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 29.05.2017). The periphery of such formations with verbs of the past tense is formed by narrative sentences on the model of Vony blahaly povernuty svoikh cholovikiv dodomu. A ot sami biitsi prosly ne zavazhatsi yim dosluzhity i vykonaty svii oboviazi pered Batkivschinoi [They begged to return their men home. But the fighters themselves asked not to interfere with them to serve and fulfill their duty to the Motherland] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 11.06.2014) which do not contain a direct imperative, but indirectly express the causative of the lexical semantics of the relevant verb forms.
The use of the conditional verb in the sense of the imperative emphasizes the communicative intentions of requests, supplications, advice, offers, etc., which are often layered with shades of optative modality: *Ale reshti ukrainstiv ya poradyby vse zh taky chytaty knyzhku v oryhnali.* – Volodymyr Voinovych [But I would advise other Ukrainians to read the book in the original, said Volodymyr Voinovych](https://day.kyiv.ua, 04.09.2014). Relevant key lexical items, extra-lingual factors and consituation help the recipient to better identify the illocutionary goal of the speaker:

(47) *Ya zoseredyvsia b na nashomu menedzhmenti, nashii kraini, na liudiakh, yaki na sohodni, deiai, perebyvaiut za kordonom, deputaty deiai ykih partii, ya ne khochu navit nazvy hovoryty, vy vsi rozumiete, shcho tse za liudy. Meni zdaetsia, shcho tse serioznyi vyklyk. Ya hadaiu, shcho my maiemo nadaty yim yshnal – spravedlyvyi. Nasampered vid Verkhovnoi Rady, vid spikera, vid derzhavy, i ya vid sebe osobysto khotiv by yikh poprosyty, shchob uprodovzh 24 hodyn vony vzhe kohos zi svoikh ridnykh pryvezly, shchob vony vse-taky vzhe povernulisya do krainy, – skazav Zelenskyi na spilnomu z kantslerom FRN bryfinku u Kyievi u poniedilok* [I would focus on our management, our country, on the people, some of them are abroad today, deputies of some parties, I do not even want to say the name, you all understand who I am talking about. It seems to me that this is a serious challenge. I think we have to give them a signal – fair. First of all, from the Verkhovna Rada, from the Chairman, from the state, and I personally would like to ask them to bring one of their relatives within 24 hours, so that they can return to the country, said Zelensky in a joint meeting with the Chancellor of Germany at the briefing in Kyiv on Monday](https://day.kyiv.ua, 14.02.2022).

The illocutionary intentions of request, supplication, invitation, appeal, suggestions, persuasion, incitement, temptation, advice, permission, and threats as types of directive speech acts can also be represented by interrogative statements in which the interlocutor’s urge to act is veiled:

(48) *Roman zaproponuvav: A chomu b vam, Serhiiu Fedorovychu, ne zniaty shchos i u nas v Kyievi? Bodai kamerne* [Roman offered: Why don’t you, Serhii Fedorovych, shoot something here in Kyiv? Even chamber movie](https://day.kyiv.ua, 25.09.2020);

(49) *Pani Liubove, chy ne mohly b vy rozpovisty trokhy pro sebe?* [Miss Liubov, could you tell us a little about yourself?](https://day.kyiv.ua, 22.12.2017);

(50) *Shcho b vy khotily skazaty slukhacham, yaki znakhodiatsia na okupovanykh terytoriakh?* [What would you like to say to the listeners who are in the occupied territories?](https://day.kyiv.ua, 21.09.2017);

(51) *Yarosh vidpoviv Makronu na propozitsiiu Ukraini shchodo Donbasu: A chy ne pishly b vy... daleko z vykonanniam tak zvanikh “Minskikh domovlenostei”?* [Yarosh responded to Macron’s offer to Ukraine on the Donbas: Wouldn’t you go ... far away with the implementation of the so-called “Minsk agreements”?!](https://day.kyiv.ua, 08.02.2022).

To verbalize their pragmatic goal, the speakers use such grammatical and intonational means as interrogative and negative parts, modal units, word order, logical emphasis, which at the same time serve to highlight the usually prepositional rHEME in various directive statements.

The narrative and interrogative indirect statements analysed above, together with the causative ones, are syntactic synonyms, components of one communicative–pragmatic directive superparadigm with common propositional content, but different formal–grammatical means of its representation and discursive–stylistic possibilities. Their semantic–syntactic structure contains, in addition to the verb predicate, an explicit or lexically unexpressed syntaxeme of the recipient–potential figure in the exclamatory case. The communicative centre (rHEME) of such statements is usually a predicate, expressed by a verb of the actual, conditional or optative way, which in the appropriate situation verbalizes the directive illocution of the addressee.

Even more hidden are the pragmatic intentions of orders, instructions, permits, prohibitions, requirements, commands, directions, coercion, appeals, guidance, warnings, precautions, incitement,
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etc. in directive communicative acts, expressed by elliptical sentences with eliminated (omitted) predicates of action, and sometimes the recipient of speech (vocative), in which the imperative seme is taken over by circumstantial determinants: Vpered, Ukraino! Vpered, Izrael! Posol Dzhoel Lion: Uhoda pro zonu vilnoi torhivli dopomožne pidvyshchytu riven zhyttia ta polipshytu yoho yakist dla obokh krain [Go, Ukraine! Go, Israel! Ambassador Joel Lion: The Free Trade Agreement will help improve living standards and improve the quality of life for both countries] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 17.01.2019), or parts and exclamation points in the predicative position:

(52) Hodi khovaty holovy v pisok: pid Kharkivskoi obhradoiu – potriinyi piket [Stop hiding the heads in the sand: there is a triple rally at the Kharkiv regional council] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 10.06.2021);

(53) Korona stop! Stop koronavirus! [Coronavirus, stop! Stop coronavirus!] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 27.08.2021);

(54) Stop korupsii! Stop swavillia! [Stop corruption! Stop arbitrariness!] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 17.03.2020);

(55) Het vid Evropy! Ruky het vid Ukrainy! U Moskvi zatrymaly aktywistiv, yaki protestyvaly proty viini z Ukrainoiu [Hands off Europe! Hands off Ukraine! The activists protesting against the war in Ukraine were detained in Moscow] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 20.02.2022);

(56) Putin, ruky het vid Ukrainy: u Hruzii vidbulas aktsii solidarnosti z Ukrainoiu [Putin, hands off Ukraine: a rally in solidarity with Ukraine took place in Georgia] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 24.02.2022);

(57) “Het vid Moskvy” i “sviatkuieeno Rizdvo zi svitom”. Shche raz pro impersku pupovynu “hands off Moscow” and “celebrate Christmas with the world.” Once again about the imperial umbilical cord] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 20.12.2021);

(58) Ne podobaietsia mova – het do Rostova. U Kyievi mitynhom boronyly solovinu [If you do not like the language – go to Rostov. A rally in Kyiv was held to protect Ukrainian] (https://day.kyiv.ua, 16.07.2020).

Such constructions of causative modality, which veiledly reproduce the propositional content of typical imperative statements, are aimed at specific odious recipients–potential performers / non-performers of the speaker’s will and negative social phenomena. In such statements, used mainly as headlines of journalistic publications, it is important that the recipient adequately perceives the addresser’s illocution in order to achieve the desired perlocutionary effect and, consequently, the success of the communicative act. This should be facilitated by both linguistic and extralinguistic factors: spatial, temporal determinants, intonation, constiguation, common background knowledge of the recipient and the addresser, nonverbal means, etc. A specific communicative feature of such statements is that they always perform the function of rheme and are usually emotionally coloured (exclamatory).

7 Summary

Directive speech acts have an extensive system of semantic, formal–grammatical and communicative variants in modern Ukrainian, including media texts. Performative, imperative, infinitive constructions, as well as indirect expressions of narrative, interrogative modality and conditional mood, are transposed into imperative sentences. All of them form a directive paradigm with a common cognitive–propositional subject–predicate–recipient structure and communicative intention of motivation, along with specific discursive features. Only the close interaction of structural (formal–grammatical, propositional, semantic–syntactic), cognitive–discursive and communicative–pragmatic components in the formation of directive statements will ensure their effectiveness and, consequently, the success of acts of communication.

With the dominance of the communicative function of language, we consider the communicative–pragmatic aspect to be the main one in the study of directive statements, to which all others
are subordinated, including communicative–syntactic, cognitive–semantic, and formal–grammatical. The communicative–syntactic (the so-called topical theme–rheme) division of directive statements correlates with semantic and formal–grammatical: the position of the rhyme is usually replaced by a predicate syntax and a predicate in the form of an imperative, respectively, and the position of the topic by an recipient–subject syntax and a subject in the form of a vocative, which is a display of some balance between the language system and its speech implementation. However, we often observe the inconsistency (asymmetry) of these structures, which is caused by the communicative task of the speaker, for example, to emphasize the recipient–potential executive action. The communicative organization of the utterance as a speech unit is more closely related to the semantic than to the formal–grammatical structure of the sentence as a unit of the language system. All these structures, aimed at the implementation of the two main functions of language – communicative and cognitive – are important to consider through the prism of the communicative–pragmatic approach, against the background of the communicative level of language. The formal–grammatical, semantic–syntactic and communicative structure of the sentence is the basis for creating directive statements as speech acts directly related to real speech situations, specific circumstances of communication between the speaker (addressee) and the listener (recipient). The formal–grammatical verbal categories of mood, person, time and cognitive–semantic categories of subject, recipient, imperative predicate of will expression are at the same time communicatively and pragmatically oriented, as they actualize the motivating speech situation and determine the communicative–intentional aspects of the motivation expressed by the speaker to the listener (recipient). It is the speaker who chooses the appropriate grammatical means (verb forms of the imperative mood or intransitive forms) in a specific speech situation, the speech context for the implementation of the communicative–pragmatic intention of encouragement, and the formation of the appropriate communicative type of expression – a directive speech act.

The specific expression of the addressee and the recipient can be traced in organizational and administrative documents: orders, directives, decrees, instructions, resolutions, and business letters (requests, inquiries, proposals, reminders), the study of which is very promising and important for modern linguo–pragmatics and linguo–cognitology. Directive statements in the form of inarticulate and vocative closed sentences, used mainly in conversational and artistic discourses, also require more study.

References


