

LINGUISTICS

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Is presupposition an illocutionary act?

The article deals with the act of presupposition, which is differently interpreted by linguists: as success condition of an illocutionary act, as comment for an illocutionary act, or as an illocutionary act. To define the status of presupposition, the notion of illocutionary act is studied because different criteria are proposed to describe this notion. Classical variant of the speech act theory names purposefulness, ability to accomplish the speaker's intention as the main criterion of illocutionary act. From this point of view presupposition can't be called an illocutionary act, it is considered as success condition of an illocutionary act. Another point of view defines presupposition as comment for an illocutionary act. At last, in opinion of French linguist O. Ducrot, presupposition is an illocutionary act because the criterion of illocutionary act is ability to change the situation of communication.

Key words: presupposition, illocutionary act, illocutionary complex, communicative intention, implied.

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