LINGUISTICS

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Semantics of an attribute as a part of a sentence

The article analyses semantic peculiarities of an attribute in an English sentence and the dependence of its semantics on the words and phrases used in this syntactic function and on the author's purpose of the utterance. The article considers various types of attributes – those expressing estimation and neutral attributes which can express a whole range of adverbial characteristics. The use of an attribute is determined by the communicative task. An attribute can be used for the purpose of nominating a person or an object, it can provide information about a person or an object and it can serve as a means of the influence on the recipient. The semantic structure of an attribute may acquire additional meanings as the syntactic structure of an attribute becomes more complicated. Thus the use of the infinitive can even add some modal meaning.

<u>Key words</u>: neutral attribute, informative attribute, estimating attribute, determiner, semantic structure of an attribute.

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