Т. Л. Бородина, В. С. Солуянов

(Новосибирский государственный педагогический университет)

ENGLISH LEXICO-GRAMMATICAL MEANS OF EXPRESSING NECESSITY, OBLIGATION: COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

В данной статье анализируются лексико-грамматические средства выражения субъективной модальности, проводится сопоставительный анализ ряда модальных глаголов современного английского языка, выражающих долженствование.

Ключевые слова: лексико-грамматические средства, модальные глаголы, субъективная модальность, английский язык.

This article deals with lexico-grammatical means of expressing subjective modality. The authors represent a comparative analysis of grammatical meanings of a number of English modal verbs that express necessity and obligation.

There is no doubt that one of the troublesome topics in teaching English grammar and learning it is the category of modality. In fact, these difficulties are determined by the specific nature of modality and the heterogeneous means of expressing it [2, p.21-25]. In the article the authors highlight the use peculiarities of some modern English modal verbs that serve to express necessity and obligation as the semantic constituents of the category of modality.

International Encyclopedia of Linguistics describes modality as a functional-semantic category which expresses different types of relations between the utterance and reality as well as different types of subjective evaluation of the information contained in the utterance [7].

In grammar studies the category of modality is traditionally divided into two types: objective modality and subjective modality [4, p.139-140]. Modal verbs are considered to be lexico-grammatical means to express subjective modality

[2, p.21-25]. They are used to show the speaker's attitude to the action or state expressed by the infinitive that follows them. They show that the action expressed by the infinitive is considered by an individual as obligatory, necessary, advisable, probable, improbable, doubtful, certain, and etc [3, p.145].

In English there are several modal verbs which express necessity and obligation. They are *must, have, be, need, should, ought.* Although they may seem much alike, each of them shows up a different necessity and obligation.

If we consult a dictionary we find out that necessity is a need for something, where need is a situation in which you want something very much [11, p. 491]. Obligation is a moral or legal duty to do something [11, p. 506].

"Necessity" and "obligation" to perform actions can have different roots, be brought about by different factors. And in the meaning of the modal verbs under study these roots and factors are coded and when a learner of English begins to decipher that code they come to use modal verbs correctly and stop confusing them. Having analysed a number of grammar reference books it is possible now to present specificity of each modal verb under study.

The modal verb **must** refers to the obligation with no freedom of choice from the speaker's point of view [1, p. 60]. Obligation expressed by the modal verb **must** usually refers to the present or future:

1) You mustn't tell this to anyone. It's a secret [6]. – *Ты не должен никому это говорить. Это секрет.*

If we analyze the example above, we can see that for the speaker there is no other choice but keep silent.

2) Soldiers must obey orders [6]. – *Солдаты должны подчиняться приказам.*

This example shows that the only way for soldiers to act properly is to obey orders.

The modal verb **have to** shows the obligation and necessity which arises out of

circumstances [1, p.76]:

3) I've got to buy some new clothes. I'm starting a new job as a teacher and we have to wear formal clothes [7]. – *Я вынужден купить новую одежду. Я начинаю, работать учителем и мы обязаны формально одеваться.*

In the example the modal verb **have to** corresponds to the Russian word «вынужден». If we consult a dictionary we will find out that the Russian word «вынужден» means «вызванный какими–нибудь обстоятельствами, не по своей воле» [5]. And we can interpret sentence (3) in the following way: «The fact that I›m starting the new job as a teacher makes me buy some new clothes».

Both **have to** and **have got to** express the same general idea. The difference lies in the fact that **have got** is mainly used when a specific occasion is meant:

4) You've got to press very hard on the doorbell [7]. – *Тебе нужно будет посильнее нажать на дверной звонок.*

In the example **have got to** refers to a single particular occasion at this very moment because this particular doorbell doesn't work properly.

When the obligation, necessity comes from an arrangement or plan the modal verb **be** is used. It expresses an action as unavoidable because it has been discussed, agreed upon and become a part of the plan for the other people to follow:

5) The ceremony is to take place in the palace grounds [12]. – *Церемония пройдет на территории дворца.*

The example tells us that it has been discussed and settled down to have the ceremony in the palace grounds.

The modal verb **need** is difunctional: it can be a notional verb and a modal one.

Need as a notional verb is mostly used in statements. It tells us that something is essentially important [11, p. 492]:

6) I need to have my hair cut [8]. – *Мне нужно подстричь волосы.*

If we analyze example (6) we can see

that the speaker considers their hair too long and / or messy and that disturbs them and stops them from doing some activities. It is essential for the speaker to have a new haircut.

Need as a modal verb is usually used in its negative form. It emphasizes the idea that although the action can be done, it is unnecessary:

7) You needn't take off your shoes [8]. – *Тебе не нужно снимать башмаки.*

The example tells us that even if a person takes off their shoes, it won't matter. He will do it in vain.

8) He needn't have come [13]. – *Зря он пришел.*

In example (8) **need** corresponds to the Russian word «зря». In the example we can see that the fact that the person came changed nothing. He came in vain.

The modal verbs **should** and **ought to** are interchangeable [3, p. 154]. They quite often convey the idea of moral obligation, for absolutely natural reasons the speaker expects the listener to fulfill it and in most cases what the speaker says is a recommendation, advice. Therefore, **should** and **ought to** express obligation weakened to the sense of advice [1, p. 92]:

9) You should take the bus – it's the easiest way to get there [9]. – Вам следует сесть на автобус – это самый легкий способ добраться туда.

10) You ought to be kinder to him [9]. – Вам следует быть к нему добрее.

To sum up, it is important to emphasize that every modal verb is a specific code which needs decoding. Modal verbs expressing obligation and necessity are not always interchangeable. They are not synonyms. Each of them conveys a particular aspect of necessity and obligation.

Список литературы

1. *Богуславская Г. П., Николаева З. А., Делендик Т. А., Лещенко Л. С., Иващенко Л. С., Захарова А. Ф.* Практическая грамматика английского языка (2 курс): учеб. пособие для ин-тов и фак. ин. яз. – Мн.: Выш. школа, 1985. – 240 с.

2. *Бородина Т. Л.* Языковые средства выражения модальности в когнитивно-функциональном аспекте // Актуальные проблемы филологии и методики преподавания иностранных языков: материалы Международной научно-практической интернет-конференции (г. Новосибирск, 1–28 февраля 2015 г.). – Вып. 9 / под науч. ред. Е. А. Костиной. – Новосибирск: Изд-во НГПУ, 2015. С. 21–25.

3. *Каушанская В. Л., Ковнер Р. Л., Кожевникова О. Н., Прокофьева Е. В., Райнес З. М., Сквирская С. Е., Цырлина Ф. Я.* Грамматика английского языка: пособие для студентов педагогических институтов. – 7 изд. – М.: Айрис-пресс, 2014. – 384 с.

4. *Козлова Л. А.* Теоретическая грамматика английского языка (на английском языке): учебное пособие. – Барнаул: Изд-во БГПУ, 2005. – 249 с.

5. Толковый словарь Ожегова [Электронный ресурс]. – URL: http://slovarozhegova. ru/word.php?wordid=4535 (дата обращения: 04.02.2017).

6. Cambridge Dictionary [Электронный ресурс]. – URL: http://dictionary.cambridge. org/us/ dictionary/english/must (дата обращения: 04.02.2017).

7. Cambridge Dictionary [Электронный ресурс]. – URL: http://dictionary.cambridge. org/ grammar/british-grammar/have-got-to-and-have-to (дата обращения: 04.02.2017).

8. Cambridge Dictionary [Электронный ресурс]. – URL: http://dictionary.cambridge. org/grammar/british-grammar/common-verbs/ need (дата обращения: 04.02.2017).

9. Cambridge Dictionary [Электронный ресурс]. – URL: http://dictionary.cambridge.org/ grammar/british-grammar/modals-and-modality/ should (дата обращения: 04.02.2017).

10. International Encyclopedia of Linguistics [Электронный ресурс]. – URL: http:// www.oxfordreference.com/view/10.1093/ acref/9780195139778.001.0001/ acref-9780195139778-e- 0692?rskey=OHCuYX&result=691 (дата обращения 01.02.2017).

11. Longman Active Study Dictionary. – Edinburgh Gate, Harlow, Essex CM20 2JE: Pearson Education Limited 1983, 2004.

12. Macmillan Dictionary [Электронный ресурс]. – URL: http://www.macmillandictionary. com/dictionary/british/be-to-do-something (дата обращения: 04.02.2017).

13. Macmillan Dictionary [Электронный ресурс]. – URL: http://www.macmillandictionary. com/ dictionary/british/need_1 (дата обращения: 04.02.2017).