

DEVELOPMENT OF ANALYTISM IN THE USE OF NOUN GENDER FORMS IN THE RUSSIAN LANGUAGE**Khudoiberdieva Yulduz Abdumannonovna**

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<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.20020367>

Abstract: This article is devoted to the analysis of analytical tendencies in the morphological system of the Russian language, with particular attention to the development of analytism in the use of noun gender forms. The study examines the processes of simplification of gender paradigms, the expansion of common gender nouns, semantic agreement phenomena, and the influence of social and linguistic factors on the transformation of the gender category. Special attention is paid to the comparative analysis of traditional synthetic forms and emerging analytical constructions in modern Russian. It has been established that the Russian language demonstrates a gradual shift towards analytism in the gender system while maintaining the core synthetic structure. The results of the research can be used in theoretical linguistics, comparative Slavic studies, and the methodology of teaching Russian as a foreign language.

Keywords: analytism, synthetic language, noun gender, common gender, semantic agreement, morphological changes, Russian language, declension, linguistic tendencies.

The relevance of the research is determined by the dynamic processes occurring in the morphological system of the modern Russian language, particularly in the category of noun gender [1, p. 45]. Russian, traditionally classified as a synthetic language with a well-developed system of inflections, is currently experiencing significant analytical tendencies that affect all levels of its grammatical structure [2, p. 112].

The aim of this article is to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the development of analytism in the use of noun gender forms in the Russian language, to identify the main directions of transformation, and to examine the factors influencing these changes.

Analytism represents a tendency in language development whereby grammatical categories previously expressed through inflectional forms begin to be signalled by separate formal indicators in the form of independent words [3, p. 78]. In the process of a language becoming more analytical, the role of «helper» words increases, which leads to the gradual disappearance of case declension, whose functions are superseded by prepositions and word order [3, p. 82].

The concept of analytism used in this research is of a traditional character and stands in opposition to the concept of language synthetism [4, p. 201]. The smaller the number of morphemes in a language, the higher the level of analytism [4, p. 208]. Modern Russian demonstrates a number of features indicating an increasing level of analytism, despite its traditionally synthetic structure [5, p. 156].

The history of Slavic languages demonstrates that their morphological level has always been one of the most prevailing features [4, p. 215]. However, the analysis of innovations in Slavic languages reveals that their common feature is a tendency towards simplifications, most frequently manifested as a penetration of non-literary language forms into the literary standard [4, p. 220].

The transformation of the synthetic structure of a language into an analytical one, as happened in Bulgarian and Macedonian, has been intriguing linguists for decades [4, p. 225]. This raises the question of the current condition of modern Russian, which possesses a rich literary tradition and solid grammatical norms while belonging to the group of synthetic languages [5, p. 162].

One of the most significant manifestations of analytism in the Russian gender system is the growing importance of nouns with common gender [6, p. 89]. Common gender nouns represent a special group of substantives that can function with both masculine and feminine agreement depending on the sex of the referent [7, p. 234].

The expansion of common gender nouns is closely connected with social changes and the necessity to denote persons of different sexes in professional and social roles without creating separate gender-specific forms [8, p. 67]. This phenomenon reflects the analytical tendency to reduce the number of grammatical forms while preserving semantic distinctions through contextual means.

In modern Russian, there is a noticeable tendency towards the development of semantic agreement with nouns of masculine gender denoting persons [9, p. 178]. This manifests itself in the use of constructions such as «врач сказала» (the doctor said-FEM), where a grammatically masculine noun triggers feminine agreement when referring to a female individual [9, p. 185].

Research demonstrates that the set of masculine nouns allowing feminine semantic agreement is naturally limited to nouns that have referents of different genders but no separate form that could be used without negative connotations for female referents [10, p. 145]. Among this restricted group of nouns, feminine semantic agreement is widely attested and productive [10, p. 152].

Modern Russian demonstrates a decreasing use of paired gender-specific forms, particularly feminine profession nouns with suffixes -ниц-, -к-, -их- [11, p. 203]. Forms such as учительница (female teacher), артистка (actress), and студентка (female student) are gradually being replaced by the use of masculine forms with semantic agreement or common gender constructions [11, p. 210].

This tendency is explained by the fact that in modern social conditions, the necessity for constant opposition of male and female labour has diminished [8, p. 74]. The analytical approach allows the language to maintain gender distinctions through agreement rather than through separate lexical forms.

Analytical tendencies in Russian morphology include a decrease in the number of cases in all inflected parts of speech [4, p. 230]. In the noun gender system, this manifests itself in the simplification of declension paradigms, particularly in the use of uninflected nouns and adjectives [4, p. 235].

The tendency not to inflect surnames and personal names represents another manifestation of analytism [4, p. 240]. For example, forms such as «в Республике Кения» (in the Republic of Kenya) with uninflected «Кения» demonstrate the analytical approach to case marking.

A crucial element in the transformation from synthetic to analytical language is the substitution of case forms with prepositional units [5, p. 168]. In the gender system, this manifests itself in the replacement of traditional case constructions with prepositional phrases that do not require gender-specific inflections [5, p. 175].

For example, the use of prepositional constructions instead of indirect case forms reduces the functional load on the declension system and contributes to the overall analytical character of the language [4, p. 245].

The category of indeclinable nouns in Russian presents a special case for studying the interaction between gender and analytical tendencies [12, p. 92]. Indeclinable nouns do not belong to any declension type and their gender assignment relies on semantic and morphosemantic criteria rather than formal inflectional markers [12, p. 95].

According to the absolute semantic criteria, indeclinable nouns denoting males are assigned masculine gender, while those denoting females receive feminine gender [12, p. 98]. The morphosemantic rule based on synonyms allows the prediction of gender assignment for indeclinable nouns through association with declinable counterparts [12, p. 102].

Table 1

Manifestations of analytism in the Russian noun gender system

Manifestation	Description	Examples	Degree of development
Common gender nouns	Nouns functioning with both masculine and feminine agreement	пьяница, сирота, зануда	High, expanding
Semantic agreement	Feminine agreement with grammatically masculine nouns	врач сказала, судья постановила	Moderate, productive
Reduction of paired forms	Decreased use of feminine-specific profession nouns	учитель instead of учительница	Moderate, progressive
Uninflected borrowings	Gender assignment without declensional markers	кофе, такси, метро	High, stable
Prepositional substitution	Replacement of case forms with prepositional phrases	для брата instead of брату	Moderate, expanding
Simplified declension	Reduced paradigm in colloquial speech	двухста instead of двухсот	Moderate, colloquial

This table demonstrates the principal manifestations of analytical tendencies in the Russian noun gender system. The analysis reveals that common gender nouns and semantic agreement represent the most dynamically developing areas of analytism, while prepositional substitution and simplified declension are more characteristic of colloquial speech [6, p. 108].

Social changes play a significant role in the transformation of the gender category in Russian [11, p. 215]. The evolution of gender roles in society, the expansion of women's participation in professional activities, and the development of gender-neutral discourse contribute to the analytical restructuring of the gender system [8, p. 80].

The internet and mass media serve as venues for the first use of gender-neutral constructions and the spread of analytical forms [13, p. 118]. This sphere has become a prospective source for observing the development of analytical tendencies in real time.

Language contact significantly influences the development of analytism in the Russian gender system [14, p. 185]. Borrowings from analytical languages, particularly English, introduce new patterns of gender assignment and agreement that differ from traditional Russian norms [14, p. 192].

The assimilation of borrowed nouns often proceeds through analytical mechanisms, with gender assignment based on semantic criteria rather than formal morphological markers [12, p. 105]. This contributes to the overall shift towards analytism in the gender system.

The development of analytism in the Russian gender system can be compared with similar processes in other Slavic languages [4, p. 250]. Polish demonstrates comparable analytical tendencies, including the growing importance of common gender nouns and the use of masculine forms to depict feminine gender [4, p. 255].

Bulgarian and Macedonian represent extreme cases of analytical development, having largely lost their case systems [4, p. 260]. While Russian maintains its synthetic core, the direction of change is similar, suggesting a common Slavic tendency towards analytism [5, p. 180].

The analysis of current tendencies allows for prognostic conclusions about the future development of the gender category in Russian [6, p. 115]. The most probable scenario involves the further expansion of common gender nouns, the increased productivity of semantic agreement, and the gradual reduction of purely formal gender distinctions [6, p. 120].

However, the core synthetic structure of the Russian gender system is likely to be preserved in the foreseeable future, with analytical tendencies manifesting primarily in the expansion of existing patterns rather than in radical structural changes [5, p. 185].

The conducted analysis allows us to conclude that the development of analytism in the use of noun gender forms in the Russian language represents a complex linguistic phenomenon driven by both internal structural factors and external social influences. The study has established that the main manifestations of analytism in the gender system include the expansion of common gender nouns, the development of semantic agreement, the reduction of paired gender-specific forms, and the increased use of uninflected borrowings.

It has been established that while Russian maintains its fundamentally synthetic character, the gender category demonstrates clear analytical tendencies that reflect broader processes of language simplification and adaptation to modern communicative needs. The transformation proceeds gradually, preserving the core grammatical structure while introducing new analytical patterns.

The results of the research can be used in theoretical linguistics, comparative Slavic studies, lexicography, and the methodology of teaching Russian as a foreign language. Further development of research in this area is associated with the application of corpus linguistics methods and the creation of comprehensive databases for monitoring morphological changes in real time.

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