NON-VERBAL COMPONENTS OF COMMUNICATION: SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES

Annotation. The article examines the similarities and differences between the non-verbal techniques used in communication. At the same time, the meaning of a number of the non-verbal techniques used in context is defined. Non-verbal communication is realised through the use of different body parts, carrying a certain semantic sense. For example, nodding means greeting and saying goodbye, as well as disagreeing and being surprised. In communication, such gestures are often used in everyday life. Indeed, a person cannot communicate without using gestures when communicating, because non-verbal components are the play that clarifies the meaning of words, gives them additional meaning and contributes to a more accurate and clear expression of thoughts.

The authors argue that gestures in communication, although similar in origin through the use of various non-verbal techniques, including the use of hands, head, eyes, etc., in terms of semantics convey different meanings in the communication of Kazakhs, Russians and other ethnic groups, and point out that some gestures are not used in the same meaning by all people. It also includes specific examples of fiction works related to similarities and differences of non-verbal techniques in communication.

Keywords: non-verbal components, kinema, the gesture, the sign language, communication.

Тірек сөздер: бейвербалды амалдар, кинема, ым-ишара, ым тілі, қарым-қатынас.

М.П. Ешимов1, С.Р. Нуртилеуова1, С.К. Кулманов2*

1Қазақский национальный университет имени аль-Фараби, Алматы, Казахстан;
2 Институт языкознания имени А. Байтурсынулы, Алматы, Казахстан
*e-mail: k.k.sarsen@mail.ru

НЕВЕРБАЛЬНЫЕ КОМПОНЕНТЫ КОММУНИКАЦИИ: СХОДСТВА И РАЗЛИЧИЯ

Аннотация. В статье рассматривается сходство и различие невербальных компонентов, используемых в общении. При этом определяется смысл ряда рассматриваемых невербальных компонентов в контексте. Невербальная коммуникация реализуется посредством использования различных частей тела, неся определенную смысловую нагрузку. Например, кивнуть – значит поприветствовать и попрощаться, а также не согласиться, удивиться. В общении подобные жесты часто используются в повседневной жизни. Действительно, человек, вступая в коммуникацию, не может общаться, не используя невербальные компоненты – это игра, уточняющая смысл слов, придающая им дополнительный смысл и способствующая более точному и четкому выражению мысли. Авторы утверждают, что жесты в коммуникации, хотя и схожи по своему происхождению, посредством применения различных невербальных приемов, в том числе использования рук, головы, глаз и т.д., в плане семантики передают разные смыслы при общении казахов, русских и других этносов, и указывают, что некоторые жесты не у всех народов употребляются в одном и том же смысле. Также приводятся конкретные примеры из художественных произведений, связанных с похожими и различающимися невербальными приемами в общении.

Ключевые слова: невербальные компоненты, кинема, жест, язык жестов, коммуникация.

Introduction
Non-verbal techniques used in place of words in communication substitute for words, performing the function of language signs. There is a constant unique «language» in the world that cannot be revised. It is a language of gestures, actions and movements common to all mankind, regardless of nationality or gender. Even a slightest facial expressions, body language, limbs, and just a finger’s movement can give a sign about the person’s inner
thoughts. It is easy to tell if a person is lying or telling the truth, and sometimes even if one is silent you can detect his/her intentions. Gestures are also constructed as sentences and express a person’s mood and attitude. Non-linguistic nonverbal techniques play a key role in determining the emotional state of people during communication.

Materials and methods

In linguistics, the problem of non-verbal techniques in communication was considered in the early 50’s of the XX century in the works of linguists and psychologists as R.L. Birdwissl, W. Wundt, W. LaBarre (1948: 50), etc. It is also worth noting the works of the famous German psychologist V. Wundt. B. Wundt believed that the sign language has its own etymology and syntax (Wundt, 1973: 51). And the American scientist R. L. Birdwissle was the founder of the science of kinesics. He referred facial expressions, body posture, behavior, and hand movements to kinesian techniques (Birdwhistell, 1952: 55).

The frequency and intensity of the movement are also observed in the compliance with cultural norms. According to V.A. Labunskaya, the English psychologist Michael Archil studied the sign language while traveling around the world and found that in an hour of conversation a Finnish can use 1 gesture, an Italian - 80, a French - 120, and a Mexican - 180 (Labunskaya, 1989: 27).

The Literature Review

All foreign, Russian and Kazakh scientists have aroused great interest and concern to the science of paralinguistics. Among the Kazakh scientists who have studied nonverbal techniques we can mention B. Momynova, Zh. Omiraliyeva, A. Seisessenova, S. Magzhan and etc. These scientists have considered nonverbal techniques in communication from different sides. Among the named scholars, B. Momynova is one of the scientists who has been working and doing a lot about this issue for a long time. Within the framework of this topic it is worth noting several scientific articles on this topic and namely her monograph «Gestures in the Kazakh language: the culture of communication and speech etiquette» (Momynova, 2016).

Results and discussion

In general, the most common and widely used nonverbal techniques are considered to be hand gestures. We can use our hands to express our thoughts, emotions, and feelings. This is because the semantic nature of hand gestures becomes more capacious. For example, handshakes can mean greetings, farewells, gratitude, congratulations, acquaintances, entering into agreements, contracts, confirmation, support, as well as promises of handshakes when people argue with each other and so on, are associated with the concept of etiquette, so this kinema adds additional meaning to a lexical element. For example, Dear Fedor Ivanovich, you can also congratulate us, saying this he extended his rough hand for a handshake and added, we have completed the harvest on time, which were sown later in the distant units (I. Esenberlin). This example shows a congratulatory ceremony by a handshake. And the handshake to bet (lay) is reflected in the fiction works as follows. For example, Temirshot said: I’ll never let you see Altyynshash, even you cannot follow her footsteps. Sapar said: Extend your hand! (Both shook hands) (M. Auezov).

In addition to verbal technique the non-verbal gestures are often used in farewell communication. These gestures include as shaking hands, waving, nodding, or raising hands. There are formed body movements used in farewells and greetings, and they are common to many languages. An outstanding researcher of Russian language in this field N.
I. Formanovskaya noted followings: «Companions have body gestures that they use when farewell. They are related to the kinematics used in the greeting ceremony» (Formanovskaya, 1982: 90). This statement is not alien to the nature of kinema in the Kazakh language, it makes sense and synonymous with them. For example, As if Ayauzhan understood my condition or just wanted to talk to me, so she squeezed my hand that extended to say goodbye and said:  
— Zhantas aga, you have demonstrated your skills, thank you very much for that, and if you don’t mind, you should to come to the crane where I work and watch our art work, too... (I. Esenberlin).

In the farewell ceremony a gesture is made in the form of a wave and the palm is extended forward to the level of the head, which can be called a waving gesture. This gesture is used in the farewell ceremony among English, Kazakh, Russian, Uzbek people. Similarly, in these countries at the end of a conversation, a smile, a bow and similar gestures of the companions, interlocutors as nonverbal gestures accompany the conversation and clarify it. For example, Sherubay bowed his head slightly to all and walked out (I. Esenberlin). The nodding or bowing is also used to express gratitude and appreciation. Depending on the movement, even if they are similar to the kinema of approval or/and consent, but different in meaning. For example: He paused some. The professor nodded mentioning his appreciation to him (I. Esenberlin).

Kazakh, English, Russian, Uzbek, and Chinese people have the same gesture of gratitude to each other by head nodding in everyday life. At the same time, the gesture of placing the right hand palm on the chest (placing the right hand on the chest) in gratitude has similar meaning of nonverbal behavior among Kazakh, Russian, and Uzbek. But it turns out that this kind of gratitude is not common in English society. In some countries, this type of gesture is performed when the country’s anthem in use and the meaning of it does not correspond to the previous ones, as this gesture is used for the purpose of respecting, honouring the country’s symbols. In the Republic of Kazakhstan also used this gesture of placing hands to the chest in order to honor the symbols of the country.

We can express our gratitude by using the handshake gesture. For example, At that moment I saw Sherubai, who was enjoying the results of his treatment as a child, I could not control myself:

— Thank you very much Sherubai, I said squeezing his both hands (I. Esenberlin). The Chinese people express their gratitude by hand-to-hand, shaking hands, bowing their heads, and embracing.

Shaking hands and squeezing hands kinema is considered as a type of gesture that is also performed when saying goodbye, saying gratitude, and getting acquainted with new person. For example, He looked at me with a smile and as if sensing my presence extended his hand:

— Baimagambet Iztulin, he introduced himself. I have also extended my hand (S. Mukanov). Besides, when people get offended and quarrel with each other they shake hands to make peace. It means I’m forgiving you and making peace with you. For example: If you forgive me, I also forgive what happened between us.

— I forgave you, said the brave Sayan with a smile, extending his hand first (I. Esenberlin).

Greeting with a kiss is a kinema, which is common among relatives, close to each other people, as well as among friends. The kinema of kissing between friends expresses the feeling that they are happy to see each other. The duration, passionate of the kiss, and the chosen location allow to reflect the degree of intimacy of the relationship (J. Hall, M Knapp, 2013: 160). The act of kissing (kissing on the face) between men and women is a gesture used when saying goodbye, as well as greeting. And if the kiss of saying hello or goodbye is on the lips then the kinema carries an intimate meaning. The kinema of kissing on the lips before the audience is
considered as a sign of rudeness. Among Russian people the cinema of kissing on the lips takes place between the man and his wife, the bride and groom. Kissing kinema is a form of greeting that is now used in the daily life of young people. Among the German people the kinema of kiss on the face is a kind of gesture that occurs when elderly greet young people, and vice versa, when young people greet older people. Kissing on the lips is a gesture that occurs between couples. And kissing on the lips in public does not mean an intimate relationship. Kissing is one of the most popular kinematics in Germany. In Chinese relations men and women do not greet each other with kisses. They learn well-being of each other by nodding their heads or shaking hands. Among Russian people men greet women by kissing her hand or shaking her hand. Also, for the Russian people the kinema of kissing hands is a gesture that belongs to the high society, i.e., among the intelligentsia. This type of gesture is also found among English. Kazakh people use such a gesture very rarely. Formerly Kazakh men and women did not use shaking or kissing hand to greet each other, but recently this gesture becoming more and more common among Kazakh people of high society (elite). At the same time, handshake greeting is used in some parts of the southern regions of Kazakhstan.

U. Gevorkyan, a sign language researcher argues that the hand-kissing kinema, which symbolizes greetings and respect, originated in connection with the gesture of kissing mother’s breasts, i.e., modified version of the hand-kissing kinematics. According to the researcher, in the beginning the kinema of breast-kissing expressed kindness and humility towards the mother’s love. And later on, this gesture gradually turned into a hand-kissing kinema. And both have the same meaning, concludes Gevorkyan, 1991: 33).

Raising a hand has several meanings, concepts and symbols in the consciousness of our people (Momynova, Beisenbayeva, 2003: 71-72). The first meaning is “I have something to say”. The second meaning is «Please stop, that’s enough.»

In everyday life, when there is something urgent to say there are number of gestures that can be used to calm the audience without giving a word, instead of saying «Stop», «Calm down». Here, the communicator raises the palms of one or both hands to the recipients with the palms facing up to the level of the head (or may be slightly raised above the head), which is associated with “Be quiet», «Calm down». One can also raise a hand without saying a word. For example: (raising her hand) Raya said: Wait! (People keep silent here. She moved forward quickly). Samat aga, where have you been? I was looking for you (M. Auezov).

However, not all hand-raising gestures are equal to calming meaning, and in some cases they are used to determine the number of supporters and opponents during the voting. Such situations are often reflected during various meetings, elections, etc., in the society. Hand-raising and handshakes, hand squeezing gestures during voting are used in many countries, in particular by the CIS countries, Malaysian, the French, etc.

In communication instead of the using words «wonderful», «great», «perfect» can be used non-verbal technique as showing the big finger up, i.e., the thumbs up. For Example, Hey, Zeyp. No one is against it, my dear!.. Russian living over there, Kazakh living over here – who would not marry you a daughter? (Giving his thumb’s up.) You can even choose a daughter of an aristocratic one. Why not? You want to marry the daughter of a servant, what will happen if people hear about it? (M. Auezov). This gesture is used only for the purpose of expressing the criticism, quality of a thing, an object. At the same time, the gesture can also be used instead of phrases and words. In response to the question «How are you?», one may show his/her thumbs up. Showing one’s thumbs up is a gesture that means «all good», “perfect”. This gesture is used instead of the word «very good» in most of the countries mentioned above, but in Greece the
sign thumbs up means «shut up!». But again, in response to “How do you like my dress?” the best way to reply is the thumbs up gesture, indicating that it is good looking. This gesture is also used instead of the words «wonderful», «great», «perfect», “all good” in the language, and the thumbs up gesture is similar in meaning among Uzbek, Kazakh, Russian, English, Chinese, and Korean. This type of gesture is considered to be a borrowed kinema to the CIS countries from the West.

A wave of the hand can mean to call a person, and this kinema is used in the same sense in many nations. A wave gesture with the right hand raised up at the level of the head or above is a type of gesture to draw attention, call and ask someone to come closer. From the gesture of waving our hands we can recognize that a person is calling the addressee. If this type of gesture is used as gently waving it means that the issue is not hurry, but if the waving is rushing and quick, then it can indicate that there is something very dense or something very important. Here the gesture can be distinguished not by a gentle wave, but by a quick wave of the hand. For example, Hamit waved his hand to Tolebay as mentioned «be quick!». Hamit looked around and came closer slowly (M. Auezov). It is believed that this type of gesture entered to use among the Kazakh, Uzbek, and Russian people in the near future, roughly speaking, in the 60s and 70s. But among the English people the gesture of waving a hand or drawing attention means rudeness (Smirnova, 1977: 221).

One of the types of gestures that clarify and define the addressee’s thoughts in the course of communication are gestures in the sense of instruction. Gestures performed by hand, chin, eyebrow can be counted as the sense of instruction. Eyebrow-pointing, chin pointing or hand-pointing can also serve as an adjective or a noun (indicating factual and abstract objects). Specifically, a noun, an adjective or a verb can be replaced by a nonverbal approach. It means pointing out what you are asking for, as well as simply pointing out a person or thing. For example: Moldeke!, called Mustafa the mullah who had a miserable look and pointing at me with his hand said, do you know this guy, don’t you? (S. Mukanov) or a young milkmaid caught with the corner of eyes Glasha setting herself in order (I. Esenberlin). In our opinion, pointing with the chin is not that rude than pointing with the index finger in non-verbal communication. If the gesture is given without any aggressive movements, then this kinema is well-received. For example, I was tired of waiting for an answer and asked «Hey, Sake, what do you say?», but he without saying a word pulled out a bulky leather wallet from his pocket, scratched a thin piece of paper out and gave it to Samyrat pointing at me with his chin as saying, «pass it to him!» (S. Mukanov). Waving the index finger to right and left at medium speed forbidden in English, Kazakh, Russian and Uzbek as well. This gesture in Russian is slightly different, as the index finger in the pointing position directed to someone is the gesture to mention a person. Frequent right-to-left waving with the left and right arms held below the chest is typical in all three languages. We can also convey the prohibition, ban by a head shake gesture. Kaziz, realized that I was looking for a dombra gestured to his brother lying in the corner and shook his head quietly and bit his lip, as if saying he was “not allowed to bring a dombra” (S. Mukanov). Shaking the head slightly from side to side is also used in communication between the English, Kazakh, Russian, and Uzbek people. A gesture with a clenched fist directed at the audience means intimidation among the Kazakh, Russian, English, Uzbek people. Clapping the back of the head is also used among Kazakh, Uzbek and Russian in the sense of intimidation, but doesn’t mean same and not in use among the English communication. For example, At the top of the «Aulie peak» the Pishper falconer Alisher Dat and Orman Manap people clenched their fists as if saying «Wait for it! You have seen the last of me!» (I. Esenberlin).
The gesture of nodding the head several times up and down means approval, consent. When using this gesture it is transmitted in Kazakh with the sound sign «ymm», in Russian with the diffuse sound «uggu», and in English with the sound «um-hum». Nodding the head up and down is a significant indicator of accepting the opinion or suggestion, wishes, conditions of the companions, and it shows the moment when the question is adapted to the positive side, stated R.O. Jacobson (Jacobson, 1970: 285). For example, *When the speaker looked at him, he was embarrassed as if saying you praised too much, but from time to time he shook his head approving as if saying right you are* (I. Esenberlin).

According to R.O. Yakobson, both head movements are accompanied by mutually opposite movements of eyes, pupils, eyebrows: when the eye is lowered (closed) - means approval, consent, and when it rised up - means disagreement, rejection. Shaking the head from side to side, that is, from right to left, means disagreement in Uzbek, Kazakh, English, and Russian. And in the Bulgarian people it means approval (Lipowska, 2000: 167-168).

According to A. N. Nurmanov and M. M. Saidkhanov who have studied nonverbal «agree and disagree» gestures among the Uzbek people, gestures expressing disagreement are conveyed by such body parts as hands, head and lips. For example, Uzbeks partially put their index finger to their lips as a disagreement with the listener’s speech, which is considered the paralinguistic equivalent of the verbal «gapirma» (don’t talk, keep silent) «zhim» (TSS) (Nurmanov and Saidkhanov, 1986: 65-66).

Gesturing with the forefinger on the lips means don’t speak, to be quiet, no sound. This is a sign that another people around near not hear what they are talking about. In most of the CIS countries the call to be quite is accompanied by the verbalization «tss, tshsh, yshsh» and touching the index finger of the right hand (left hand) to the lips. And in German communication, people touch the lips with four fingers. This is also a call to calm down, to be quiet. For example, *Gulya. Seiktherei has arrested my brother-in-law and Batyrsha just now. Abish (made a sign with his hand). Shh-sh-sh! Enough, stop that talking, be so kind* (M. Auezov).

In a certain era, sticking out tongue kinema was used to express fear in China, anger in India, and intelligence in the Maya people. And for many CIS countries this gesture is a mockery, ridicule. For example, *Well, Lyalechka, Lyalechka! (Lala stuck out her tongue, turned around, slammed the door and left. Muslim stayed there and only sighed)* (M. Auezov).

Another type of kinema, which means sarcasm, mockery is the making a face with a lip. As if the lower lip sticked out down sharply and moved forward (Momynova, Beisenbayeva, 2003: 50). Sticking out tongue kinema is mostly used by children and women, while lip-making gesture finds use only in female relationships.

Twist a finger at a temple back and forth in Russia means “you are a fool”, in France means “you have a good idea”, and in the United States means “I know what I am doing”. And, in Korea the gesture «you’re a fool» is shown as if you are drawing a circle with the index finger at the forehead. As for the specifics of these gestures, in the first case the hand is raised up and touched the forehead (a twist), in the second case the finger is only raised up around the forehead, but no touching, only circling around forehead. In Chinese the gesture «you’re a fool» is indicated by pointing your thumb down and holding all other fingers in a bent position, and holding your hand firmly at shoulder level.

Nonentity (stick thumb between index and middle fingers) in Russia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan means «you don’t get anything» or «you have nothing». For example, *Seeing a half-written unfinished poem that titled «Bread!” he turned to Yerkebulan: «Get your bread!” and he showed nonentity.*
«You will see that?» (G. Musrepov). But here named kinema means a gesture mentioning an intimacy in Japan. At the same time, in Japan, the gesture of holding four fingers bent and pointing out only the middle finger means an invitation to intimacy. And among Kazakhstan, Russia, and Uzbekistan people this gesture is associated with nonentity. In Portugal and Brazil this means a defensive gesture, in Turkey and the Arab countries it can mean sexual abuse. When the thumb is up too fast - it is abusive, but the same gesture in Greece means «shut up and shut your mouth.» If the forefinger and middle finger are raised upwards (vertically), in Jewish society, in Latin American immigrants it means «I swear», in Ethiopian Jews (Sephardic) indicates «alarm/fire» or «attention», which means people are based on their own sign language.

The «eye» is the main organ in human body and life. Through this organ people can see and admire the phenomena and things that are happening around them. In his work, A. Peese quotes Hess’s opinion that «the eye can clearly and accurately convey signs in human communication» (Pease, 1981: 86). With this part of body you can also see the movements made by people. In addition the movements associated with this organ, that is, with the eyes, are also different and have different meanings. One of them is the look around, watch out kinema. It means «if no one here?» and means «where?» indicating the person looking for something. For example, Alshynbek suddenly stopped. Where is Meruert? He looked around. His face turned gray (I. Esenberlin). And looking at the addressee from top to toe doesn’t mean only pointing out the clothes the one is wearing or his/her physique, appearance, which means looking at someone with criticism, but also express admire for the such look. For example: Hey, How are you? - she said to Khassen, who was staring in surprise to the white shoes on her bare feet and the red silk ribbon covered her hair, and smiled sweet continuing. «Didn’t you recognize me?» (I. Esenberlin).

Screwing up the eyes also indicates teasing, cunning, and questioning the person being communicated. This kinema usually occurs as an unpleasant, negative sign. For example: «By the way, I hope the department will allow to hear the report of your zootechnicians» said Bekov screwing his eyes up as if he was trying to tickle someone (I. Esenberlin). And staring at a person not only shows the absence of falsehood in the speech, but also shows that one is confident for his/her partner, a symbol of interest and passion for the person. For example, On the first of May holiday Glasha did not want to believe in that, but noticed that the professor was staring at her; looking passionately… (I. Esenberlin).

In some CIS countries to count an object people bent their fingers into the palm of their hand, but Germans do it vise-verse, bent their fingers out.

Sternin stated that to count 1 to 10 people can use their fingers of the right and left hands, but people cannot show numbers more than 10 (Sternin, 2002: 29). And from the experience of everyday life we learn how many different numbers as 10, 20, 30 and more can be displayed by opening and closing fingers of your right and left hands. However, gestures to show numbers greater than 10 are rarely used.

In Germans, the thumb means the number 1. The number 2 is indicated by the thumb and index finger. The rest numbering among German does not differ from the numbering among Russian, Kazakh, Uzbek, etc.

In French, the index finger means the number 2. This is because the thumb indicates the number 1. That’s why the forefinger after the thumb gives the number 2. The same goes for Italians. In China, crossing the forefingers of both hands (x-shaped) means the number 10. In addition, the fist-wielding kinema can mean the number 10. The number six is shown by bending the four fingers of the right hand and showing the thumb and little finger horizontally.
In Chinese showing the fingers of the right hand by joining and holding them vertically means the number 7.

In southern China, the kinematics of extending the thumb vertically and the index finger forward and bending the rest of the fingers in the palm make the number 7. And this gesture makes the number 8 in Northern China. We have already mentioned that there are dialectical movements in Chinese relations. Now, seeing these digital gestures facts we can be sure in that again. The number 11 is indicated by the index fingers of the right and left hands, while the rest of the fingers are bent. The index finger of the right hand plus the index finger and middle finger of the left hand makes the number 12.

**Conclusion**

There are similarities and differences between non-verbal techniques, gestures applicable to the communication of any population. However, a number of non-verbal techniques used and their meaning in context are different in communication. Non-verbal communication is performed by different parts of the body and carry a certain meaning. For example, to nodding one’s head means to greet or say goodbye, and to shake one’s head means to disagree, to be surprised, or to be amazed. In communication, such gestures are often used in everyday life. Of course, people cannot communicate without using gestures. This is because the nonverbal components clarifies the meaning of words, gives them additional meaning, and contributes to a more accurate and clear expression of thought.

Communication gestures are similar in terms of origin, but in terms of semantics these gestures have different meanings and in the same sense are transmitted through different nonverbal techniques, as well as nonverbal techniques used in communication of Kazakh, Russian and other nationalities, including hands, head, eyes, etc., gestures are not used in the same meaning among all nations.

Non-verbal techniques during communication, such as the relationship of kinesic elements in communication by language, the role of the body in performing movements in verbal description are universal and have some national and dialectical character.

**References**


LaBarre W. The cultural basis of emotions and gestures // Journal of counseling personality: 1948. – Р. 49-68.

Липовска А. Невербальные кинетические компоненты коммуникации в учебном русско-болгарском словаре и их место в процессе формирования вторичной языковой личности // Языковые сознание и образ мира. – М., 2000. – С. 167-175.


References

LaBarre W. (1948) The cultural basis of emotions and gestures // Journal of counseling personality: 1948, Pp. 49-68. (in English)