

# The Influence of Subtext on the Perception Process

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## **Abstract:**

This article examines the essential factors for the process of perception, focusing on the issues of the speech situation and speech context. It highlights how context and speech situation are directly related to the process of expressing and understanding speech. The article emphasizes that the concept of context plays a crucial role in expressing and understanding subtext and differentiates between various types of contexts, such as social, psychological, and societal. The discussion incorporates the views of researchers like M. Hakimov and Mirkin on psychological context, defining it as the mutual real knowledge based on the interlocutors' previous shared experiences. The article also delves into the explicit and implicit content levels of expression, noting that implicit content complicates perception and requires a certain degree of knowledge and intellectual capacity. It further categorizes implicit meanings into general and specific types, examining how understanding subtext depends on the listener's prior experience and perceptive ability. Through literary examples, the article illustrates the challenges and intricacies of perceiving subtext in communication.

**Keywords:** speech situation, speech context, perception, subtext, implicit content, psychological context, semantic perception, implication, communication, literary analysis.

## **Introduction**

In the process of perceiving speech, factors such as the speech situation and context play crucial roles. Context and the speech situation are directly related to the process of expressing and understanding speech. When discussing explicit or implicit content, the concept of content can be supplemented by context. Just as speech acts and the unity of speech and clarity serve as a basis for determining the relationships between the speaker and the listener, the processes of expression and understanding are inherently linked to the issues of the speech situation and context.

The concepts of speech situation and context are fundamental for the expression and perception of meaning. Context plays a key role in expressing and understanding subtext, and depending on the form of expression, contexts can be classified into social, psychological, cultural, and other types. It is in the context of hidden meaning that the process of perception becomes particularly complex and multilayered.

It is known that the content level of an utterance is divided into two: explicit and implicit. The implicit content level is expressed through implication, and elements of the implicit level complicate the process of perception. While messages conveyed through the explicit content level are easily and correctly perceived, elements of the implicit level may not be understood by everyone. Understanding implicit elements requires a certain level of knowledge, experience, worldview, and intellectual capacity.

This article explores the different types of contexts, their impact on the process of perception and understanding of speech, and the role of hidden content in communication. Using examples from literary works, it examines how understanding or misunderstanding subtext can lead to communication breakdowns. Additionally, it highlights researchers' views on the significance of psychological context and its influence on message perception.

### **The main part**

One of the essential factors for the process of perception is the issue of the speech situation and speech context. Context and speech situation are directly related to the process of expressing and understanding speech: "If the discussion revolves around explicit or implicit content, the concept of content can be supplemented by context. Just as speech acts and the unity of speech and clarity serve as a basis for determining the relationship between the speaker and the listener, the processes of expression and understanding are inherently linked to the issues of speech situation and context. The concepts of speech situation and context are fundamental to expression and comprehension. Therefore, context plays a crucial role in expressing and understanding subtext. Accordingly, different types of context can be distinguished, such as social, psychological, and societal, based on verbal and non-verbal forms" [1, 78]. Just as it is difficult for a listener who is unaware of the speech situation to correctly understand the conversation, it is also challenging for someone who is unaware of the existing context to comprehend the speech.

M. Hakimov cites Mirkin's research, which discusses the 'psychological context,' stating that the substantive expression of the psychological context corresponds to the 'implicit context.' He notes that the psychological context is the mutual real knowledge based on the previous shared experiences of the interlocutors. Additionally, Hakimov emphasizes that when explaining the concept of psychological context, it is necessary to take into account the participants' psychological states, moods, memories, worldviews, knowledge, and behaviors [1, 78]. Giving a definition of the psychological context, the author states, "The psychological context expresses the speaker's mental state, encompassing meanings such as the speaker's mood, psyche, perception, imagination, fear or fearlessness, and agreement or disagreement within the text's content" [1, 81-82].

It is known that "The content level of expression is divided into two: the first is the explicit content level, and the second is the implicit content level. The implicit content level is expressed using the term 'implication.' Therefore, the content structure of expression contains implied elements" [1, 75]. Specifically, implicative level units are considered factors that complicate and hinder the process of perception. While messages conveyed through the explicit content level are easily and correctly perceived, not everyone can understand elements of the implicit content level. Perceiving implied elements requires a certain degree of knowledge, experience, worldview, and intellectual capacity. In this context, semantic perception plays a role, as understanding the content of the message is related to semantic perception: "Semantic perception is the adequate understanding and comprehension of specific information content by the listener (reader)" [2, 65].

Since the forms of expressing implicit meanings vary, we will initially divide them into two groups: general implicit meanings and specific implicit meanings.

General implicit meanings are hidden meanings that can be understood by the speaker, listener, and all participants in the conversation. These include phrases, replies, proverbs, sayings, riddles, and the like. The subtexts expressed through such texts are characterized by being known to any participant in the conversation [1, 89].

➤ *Bu gap yaxshi bo'ldi. Shu gapdan keyin albatta sizni o'ylamayman. Rahmat.*

*Zebixon o'ylamay aytib qo'ygan gapini to'g'rilash uchun boshqa gap qidirardi. Uning qoshlari chimirildi, peshanasida tugunchak paydo bo'ldi.*

➤ *Biroq chumchuqdan qo'rqqan tariq ekmaydi, shu gapni eshitganmisiz?*

➤ *Eshitganman, – dedi Nizomjon. – Ikromjon aka chumchuq emas-da.*

➤ *Albatta, Ikromjon amaki chumchuq emas, ammo Tursunboy chumchuq. Chumchuq ham undan xijolat bo'ladi.*

➤ *Sut ichib, og'zimiz kuygan, endi qatiqni ham puflab ichmoqchimizda – dedi Nizomjon. U bu gapi bilan Dildorga ilakishib, zada bo'lganini aytmoqchi edi. Buni Zebixon u o'ylagandan ham ziyod tushungan edi. Kinoyali qilib javob berdi:*

➤ *O'sha Dildoringiz qaynoq sut-u, biz achigan qatiq ekanmizda! (S.Ahmad, Ufq, 362-bet)*

Understanding in conversation is related to the characteristics of subtext. M. Gaziyeva, discussing the importance of subtext in literary texts, writes: "...The subtext is not explicitly expressed through verbal means. It is conveyed in the text through references, hints, or reminders of other events. Alternatively, the part of the text based on the subtextual content may be explicated in later sections. In the subtext part, other meaningful expressions serve to reveal the author's communicative intent. A reader who only superficially engages with the text might not even notice this. However, perceptive readers quickly grasp these subtexts and admire the writer's skill" [3, 103].

Misunderstanding the subtext is directly related to the perception process and can lead to misunderstandings between the speaker and the listener in communication.

*Bobur otini Qosimbekning otiga yaqinlashtirib, past ovoz bilan so'radi:*

➤ *Asirlardan xabar olishga odam tayinlandimi?*

*Qosimbek bu savolning yashirin ma'nosiga tezda tushuna olmadi.*

➤ *Amirzodam, qaysi asirlarni aytursiz?*

*Bobur otasi tengli Qosimbekning oldida qallig'ini tilga olishdan uyalar edi. U allanechuk iymanib qovog'ini solganidan Qosimbek gap nimadaligini fahmladi-yu: – Ha, asiralarmi? – deb Bobur aytolmagan so'zni o'zi aytdi. – Bu ishga No'yon Ko'kaldoshni tayin etgaymen (Pirimqul Qodirov, Yulduzli tunlar", 129-bet).*

To understand the subtext and grasp the true essence of the intended message, one must possess prior experience and knowledge, as well as a high level of perceptive ability. Otherwise, misunderstandings may arise in communication, or the conversation may completely break down.

Failure to understand the wordplay reflecting the subtext is also related to the level of perception.

✓ *Ha, kel, bolam, tinchlikmi? Kech kirganda kepsan? Yo yana topshiriq keldimi?*

✓ *Ha, keldi, ota*

✓ *Nimaykan?*

- ✓ *Paxtaga, ota!*
- ✓ *Boshlandimi?*
- ✓ *Boshlandi, ota!*
- ✓ *Ertaga mahalla oqsoqollarini to'plab berarkanmiz, raykomning o'zi kelib majlis o'tkazarkan. Aftidan, tepadan buyruq kelgan-ov. Har kuni bo'lmasa ham, haftada bir kun dalaga oqsoqollarni olib chiqadiganda o'xshaymiz, ota.*
- ✓ *Shunga yetib keldikmi, Avazbek?*
- ✓ *Yana paxta terayotgan oqsoqollarni telvizorda ko'rsatarkan, – kuldi Avazbek.*
- ✓ *Xo'jako'rsinga, degin.*
- ✓ *Biz kichkina odammiz. Topshiriqni bajaramiz, ota.*
- ✓ *Bek degan qanday ulug' oting bor-u, yana kichkina odammiz, deysan! Bu yog'i ham xo'jako'rsinga-da, a?*
- ✓ *Tushunmadim, Po'lat ota, – qo'lini ko'ksiga qo'yib jilmaydi Avazbek.*
- ✓ *Ismingni aytaman, uniyam ota-onalarimiz xo'jako'rsinga qo'yishganmi, deb. Hammamizning otimizda bek, boy, jon, xo'ja bor-u, o'zimiz qul bo'lib yurganimizni qara!*

*Avazbek gap nima haqida ketayotganini chamalab ko'rarkan, peshonasini tirishtirdi. Keyin topolmadi shekilli, yana beg'ubor iljaydi (Ulug'bek Hamdam, "Ota", 150-bet).*

In the above context, Po'lat ota uses the affectionate suffix 'bek' in Avazbek's name while also referring to the 'bek' part in the name of the Uzbek people. Although the Uzbek people have 'bek' (meaning 'lord' or 'noble') in their name, they live like slaves, working hard to produce cotton and being subjugated by the Russians. This subtext is expressed through the implication. However, the listener cannot understand this message because they fail to grasp the essence of the subtext.

The implicit expression of an utterance, or the subtext of a sentence, is intricately linked to the thinking activity of the participants in communication and their perceptions of the world. The broader the speaker's understanding of the external world, the quicker they comprehend the nuances of the communicative situation. Therefore, presenting information either explicitly or implicitly in the semantic structure of an expression, and conveying information that cannot be explicitly stated through subtext, is connected to the speaker's internal intentions [1, 93].

## **Conclusion**

In conclusion, the study of speech situation and context is essential for understanding the complex process of speech perception. Context, whether social, psychological, or cultural, plays a pivotal role in how subtext is expressed and understood. The implicit content of speech, often conveyed through implication, presents unique challenges for perception that require a certain degree of knowledge, experience, and intellectual capability.

The interaction between explicit and implicit content in communication underscores the importance of context in ensuring effective understanding. Misunderstandings and communication breakdowns often arise when the context is not fully grasped by the participants. Therefore, a deep awareness of both the explicit message and the underlying subtext is crucial for accurate comprehension.

The examples provided from literary works demonstrate the significance of subtext and its potential to enrich or complicate the communicative experience. As highlighted by various researchers, psychological context, in particular, adds an additional layer of complexity to how messages are perceived and interpreted.

Overall, recognizing and analyzing the various forms of context and their impact on speech perception can enhance our understanding of communication processes and improve our ability to navigate complex interactions effectively. This insight is not only valuable in literary analysis but also in everyday communication, where grasping the full meaning behind words is vital for meaningful exchanges.

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