

The Russian particle *i*.

The paper proposes a taxonomy of meanings of the particle *i* in Russian. While the meaning of the conjunction *i* is 'and', and while there indeed may be an additive meaning among the meanings of the particle *i*, there are other discourse factors and semantic components that come into play. Previous analysis (Uryson 2000) stipulated that the conjunction/particle *i* means 'proceeding as expected' in addition to the additive meaning.

In fact *i* is an important element of text cohesion: it has the function of tying together elements of discourse (or text) separated in time (or space on the page). It may also serve as a discourse connector tying new information with information already present (presented by the same speaker or a different speaker).

Without giving the larger discourse situation for each case (which will be presented in the paper and which is necessary for the analysis), the usages can be reduced to the following meanings:

1. $i + \text{Neg} + V = \text{'even'}$
 $ja\ i\ ne\ znal = \text{'I did not even know'}$
2. $\text{Subj} + i\ to + V = \text{'even'}$
 $ja\ i\ to\ znaju = \text{'even I know'}$

In (1) 'even' refers to the predicate while in (2) 'even' refers to the subject.

3. deictic particle + $i + V = \text{adversative meaning; focus on an action which clashes with the previous discourse}$
 $Vasja\ tut\ i\ govorit = \text{'at this point he says'}$

Whatever Vasily says contradicts the statements of the previous speakers.

4. index deictic particle + $i + V = \text{focus on summarizing action}$
 $vot\ i\ pogovorim = \text{so we will talk}$

The action V or the decision to undertake action V is done in order to resolve some issue raised in the previous discourse.

5. $i + V = \text{focus on new action } V \text{ (or content of } V \text{ for } \textit{verba dicendi) \text{ which is triggered by the previous discourse}}$
 $a/\ nu\ \zetaena\ i\ govorit = \text{and the wife says}$

The conjunction *a* and the particle *nu* introduce different semantic interplay between the previous information and the information in the sentence in question, yet whatever the wife says is a direct consequence of the previous discourse.

6. i + different parts of speech = meaning of acceptance
nu i xorošo = it's okay (I accept)
7. modal particle + i = acceptance + adversative meaning
pust' by i skazal = it's okay that he said that, but...

Uryson, E. V., 2000. Russkij sojuz i častica i: struktura značeniia. *Voprosy jazykoznanija*, 3: 97-121.