

## **LANGUAGE FEATURES OF COMMENTING IN TENNIS**

### **Языковые особенности комментирования в большом теннисе**

Commenting on sports events is an integral part of television broadcasts and modern sports media. In the context of lawn tennis, where every moment of the game matters, the language of the commentator plays a special role in creating an image of what is happening, maintaining the interest of the audience and strengthening the emotional connection between the audience and the event. The purpose of this report is to analyze the key linguistic features used in commenting on lawn tennis matches, identify their impact on the perception of the game and consider interaction with the media environment. The result of the study is to identify the main techniques and styles of commenting, as well as understanding their importance for sports broadcasting.

#### **1. The specifics of tennis terminology**

One of the fundamental linguistic features of tennis commentary is the use of specialized terminology. Tennis has well-defined terms such as «game», «set», «break», «serve», «forehand», «backhand» and others. These terms have meaning not only in the context of the game, but also within the framework of the general perception of a sporting event by the audience. A professional commentator must be an expert in these terms in order to accurately and competently convey the details of the match. For example, the expressions «break during a set» or «serve to the court» serve as indicators for viewers of key moments that can affect the course of the game.

#### **2. The role of metaphors and hyperboles in the commentator's language**

The stylistic features of the commentator's speech play an important role in the perception of the match. Unlike other sports, where actions can be described in a more straightforward manner, tennis requires vivid and expressive verbal constructions. Metaphors, hyperbole, and other figures of speech are used to convey the emotional intensity of what is happening. For example, expressions like «a lightning strike» or «this moment is fateful» help not only emphasize the significance of the event, but also create a sense of drama and tension in the viewer.

Commentators often use hyperbole to emphasize the highlights of the game, such as «incredible return!» or «amazing defense!». These means of language help to enhance the emotional reaction of the audience, creating an atmosphere of exciting confrontation and emphasizing the sporting value of what is happening.

#### **3. Structural features of the commentator's speech**

Tennis is a dynamic sport, and the commentator must react quickly and accurately to changes on the court. This requires a certain structural organization from the commentator's speech. Unlike the long narrative sentences typical of other types of

journalism, a concise and concise form of information presentation is important in sports commentary. Phrases such as «set 6-4», «game on serve» or «break, 2-1 in favor of Nadal» are used to quickly inform the viewer about the progress of the match.

Moreover, at the moment of a particularly intense game, commentators resort to repeating key phrases to enhance the effect. For example, «This is incredible! Look what Djokovic is doing!» or «Yes, he returned the ball again, saved the match again!» – such structures create a presence effect and actively involve the audience in the process.

#### 4. The impact of social media and new media

Modern commentary on tennis matches is impossible without taking into account the influence of social networks and online platforms. In the last decade, social media has become an important part of the media environment, influencing the style and structure of comments. During live broadcasts, commentators often use hashtags, mention viewers' tweets, or highlight popular opinions on social media.

This gives the broadcast an interactive character, giving viewers the opportunity to feel part of the process.

In addition, cultural differences between countries also affect the choice of vocabulary and approaches to commenting. In different countries, the emphasis may shift to certain aspects of the game: for example, British commentary often contains elements of politeness and restraint, while American commentary focuses on the drama and brightness of events.

The linguistic features of commentary in lawn tennis are an important tool for creating entertainment and involving the audience in what is happening on the court. Through the use of specific terminology, metaphors and hyperbole, concise structures and taking into account the influence of social media, commentators form a unique style of sports communication. The result of this analysis was an understanding of how language helps the commentator not only inform, but also entertain viewers, maintain their attention and enhance the emotional perception of events. Commenting in tennis is becoming an art where every choice of word or phrase matters, and the influence of media and cultural differences adds layers and depth to sports reporting.

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