

The Emotion Of Surprise Expressed By The Emotive Particles Of The German Language

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The emotion of surprise is a brief mental and physiological state, a [startle response](#) experienced as the result of an unexpected event. Surprise can have any [valence](#); that is, it can be neutral/moderate, pleasant, unpleasant, positive, or negative. Surprise can occur in varying levels of intensity ranging from very-surprised, which may induce the [vivid response](#), or little-surprise that elicits a less intense response to the stimuli. In language surprise can be expressed by lexical and syntactic means. In the German language surprise is very often expressed by means of emotive particles on the level of the whole sentence.

The emotion of surprise is determined as an emotional attitude of the speaker to the subjective and semantic content of the statement caused by unexpectedness, extraordinariness, the inappropriateness of certain facts and by factors of individual analytical perception of reality that conflict with the conceptual ideas of the speaker. Surprise is aimed to influence the receiver in order to get certain information to clarify the assessment of the relevant facts of the receiver, as well as adjustment and refinement of fact confirmation or denial of the speaker's own point of view. Depending on the specific conditions and different communicative subjective assessments of the speaker surprise becomes emotionally expressive with a positive or negative attitude to a particular situation. [2, p.136]. The specific characteristics of communicative-pragmatic context of the emotion of surprise determine the usage of the following emotive particles: *ja, doch, aber, nein, denn, vielleicht, denn, also, nicht*. Emotive and expressive variants of the surprise emotion are determined by the semantic core of the above mentioned emotive particles. The emotion of surprise is often expressed in exclamatory and interrogative-exclamatory sentences that express the speaker's desire to find out something unknown for himself [1, p.163].

„Ich habe vier Brüder und drei Schwestern“, sagt Michel. „Das sind ja acht Kinder! Um Gottes willen!“ (Pressler, 40)
Emotion of surprise is intensified by the interjection *um Gottes willen!*

„Eve ist Ihnen ja wie aus dem Gesicht geschnitten!“ rief sie aus. „Ganz anders als James. Ich dachte immer, Jungen schlügen der Mutter und Mädchen dem Vater nach!“ (5, p. 34) Surprise in the example is determined not only by the exclamatory sentence, but also by the verb *ausrufen*.

„Das ist ja ein richtiger junger Gott! flüsterte sie Annabel zu. (5, p. 35) The emotion of surprise is activated by the interaction of the seme "GENERAL TRUTH" with the syntactic structure of the exclamatory sentence. The emotion of surprise is based on the seme of "COMMON KNOWLEDGE", although the overall situation is unexpected.

„Man sollte wirklich nicht meinen, dass sie Annabels Mutter ist“, gab Lucia zurück. „Ich habe so manches von ihr gehört; aber die Wirklichkeit übertrifft doch alle Erwartungen!“ (5, p. 95) The emotion of surprise is activated through a combination of semes "NORM VIOLATION", "NEED TO ADJUST THE SITUATION" and exclamatory syntactic structure of the sentence where the speaker corrects his knowledge of the surrounding reality and accepts the existence of certain facts, despite his previous doubts.

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Exclamatory sentences can sometimes be exclamatory only in its syntactic shape, unframed by exclamation mark: „*Ha! ha! ha! den Pater und die alte Hexe will er zu sich nehmen? Das ist ein schönes Paar; da kann er nun vormittags Griechisch lernen beim Kapellan und nachmittags Unterricht im Hexen bei der Frau Feldheimerin. Ei! was macht **doch** der dumme Kuno für Streiche.*“ (3, p. 214) In exclamatory sentences word order may be either direct or inverted: „*Das ist **doch** herrlich!*“ „*Was ist das **doch** herrlich! Das ist **doch** nicht zu glauben!*“ „*Was ist das **doch** nicht zu glauben!*“ „*Das ist **doch** prima!*“ „*Was ist das **doch** prima!*“

„*Mutter! Das ist **aber** eine Überraschung! Noch hatten wir dich gar nicht erwartet!*“ (5, p. 95) The emotion of surprise is activated by the interaction of the same "DIFFERENCE BETWEEN EXPECTED AND ACTUAL FACTS" with the syntactic structure of exclamatory sentences. In contrast to the emotive particle *doch*, the emotive particle *aber* expresses surprise not about the possibility of existence of the fact itself but the possibility of its deploying otherwise. Synonymous to the emotive particle *aber* in the function of surprise is the emotive particle *nein*: „*Nein, so was!*“

„*Das ist **vielleicht** ein Wagen!*“ The emotion of surprise is activated by the same "IMPROBABILITY OF FACT" and the syntactic structure of exclamatory sentence, where the speaker expresses surprise about the strangeness of a particular phenomenon, which causes difficulty in imagining the possibility of it.

The emotion of surprise is activated by the interaction of the same "SUBJECTIVE INTEREST", "SITUATION CLARIFICATION", "INQUIRY ABOUT DETAILS" and the syntactic structure of exclamatory character: „*Ist sie **denn** nicht schön!*“ Sentences with the emotive particle *denn* are exclamatory only in their form but in their content they are interrogative sentences, which require no answer, but induce identical emotive response from the speaker. Sometimes exclamations with the emotive particle *denn* can be framed with an exclamation mark: „*Wie siehst du **denn** aus?*“, *fragt Berthold. Eva fällt zum ersten Mal auf, dass er wie ihr Vater spricht. „Gefällt es dir nicht?“ „Nein. Du siehst wie ein Zirkusferd.“* (4, p. 49)

„*Es hieß, Judith Kelly sei vor sieben Jahren bei einem Verkehrsunfall ums Leben gekommen. Und einen Monat, nachdem diese Nachricht in den Zeitungen gestanden hatte, heiratete Kelly eine gewisse Mollie Moore.*“ „*Na **also!** Dann ist doch für Kelly alles in Ordnung!*“ (5, p. 114) „*Da bist du **also!***“ The peripheral emotive particle *also* activates the emotion of surprise in exclamatory sentences, giving an unexpected outcome of the situation. The identical emotion is activated in interrogative sentences: „*Er aß **also** nie Schokolade?*“

„*Was ist dort **nicht** alles gibt!*“ The emotion of surprise is activated in the example by the same "EXCITEMENT" during the interaction with the exclamatory sentences, which according to their content are questions that require no answer, but an appropriate emotional response from the speaker.

Thus, the semantic cores of the above described emotive particles in conjunction with exclamatory and interrogative construction transfer modal, expressive, emotive assessment of certain content from the perspective of the speaker. The following emotive particles convey the emotion of surprise in the above mentioned syntactic constructions with their own semantic shades of the emotion of surprise generated from their senses: *ja, doch, aber, nein, denn, vielleicht, denn, also, nicht*.

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