МОДАЛЬНОСТЬ УВЕРЕННОСТИ В ПРОИЗВЕДЕНИИ ДЖОРДЖА ОРУЭЛЛА «ANIMAL FARM»

Лусине Степановна Нуриджанян

nurijanyanlusine@yahoo.com

Ст. преподаватель кафедры английского языка,
Государственный университет им. В.Я. Брюсова,
Ереван, Республика Армения

АННОТАЦИЯ

Целью статьи является исследование оценки модальности «уверенности» в романе Джорджа Оруэлла «Animal Farm» и анализ языка, власти и манипуляции в этом произведении. В статье рассматривается, как Оруэлл использует модальность и проявления уверенности для отражения динамики власти, показывая, как использование животными языка формирует их убеждения, устанавливает господство и искажает истину. Модальность в этом романе находит различные способы реализации.

Ключевые слова: модальность уверенности, алетический, эпистемический, деонтический, экзистенциальный.

In linguistics, modality refers to the way speakers express their evaluation of a proposition in relation to other possible propositions. There are various ways to express modality, including modal words, modal verbs (like «can», «must», etc.), and mood – categories that can vary across languages. Modality can be expressed using auxiliary verbs, verbal morphology, or adverbs, depending on the language.

Modal words are typically categorized based on their meaning. For instance, words that express certainty include «certainly», «surely», and «undoubtedly», while words that express doubt include «perhaps», «maybe»,

and «possibly». In English, the modality of confidence is typically conveyed through modal words, expressions, and patterns.

Thus, modality is one of several semantic and grammatical characteristics. It does not correspond to a simple, easily definable semantic category like time or quantity. In linguistics, modality enables speakers to assess a proposition in relation to a range of other propositions.

The meanings conveyed by the modal verbs in English largely correspond to those that should be considered in a typological framework for modality. These modal verbs express a range of meanings that are central to understanding modality across languages.

John Lyons suggests that modality is used by the speaker as a way 'to express, parenthetically, his opinion or attitude towards the proposition that the sentence expresses or the situation that the proposition describes [3: 452], which appears to be a fairly useful initial definition. Indeed, research has demonstrated that there are quite distinct formal systems, such as the modal verbs in the English language.

It is essential to differentiate between the more central modal meanings – those that lie at the core of modality – and those that are more peripheral or secondary. In any language, a grammatical system can be classified as modal only if it expresses at least some part of the central set of modal meanings, which typically include concepts such as possibility, necessity, and ability. However, one of the most fascinating aspects of investigating modality across languages is that modal systems often express meanings that are not immediately recognized as modal in English but can nonetheless be shown to have a close relationship with the core modal concepts.

These meanings, although not traditionally viewed as central to modality in English, can be linked in various ways to the more fundamental modal notions, such as expressing desires, obligations, or permissions, for example. The relationship between these peripheral meanings and the central modal meanings, though, is not always straight forward or uniform; rather, it varies

in strength and form. This variability makes it challenging to draw clear-cut distinctions and to precisely define the semantic range of modality in its broader sense. As a result, it is difficult to delimit the boundaries of the categories of modality, since the connection between peripheral modal meanings and the central ones is essentially a matter of degree.

There are four main types of modality:

1. «The *alethic* modes or modes of truth
2. The *epistemic* modes or modes of knowing
3. The *deontic* modes or modes of obligation
4. The *existential* modes or modes of existence» [7: 6].

These categories are primarily for logicians, focusing on their formal structure, while linguists aim to study the types of modalities found in language.

Alethic modality has been the main concern of logicians, but it has little place in ordinary language [7: 6]. In linguistics, alethic modality refers to the expression of necessity, possibility, and impossibility in language, reflecting the truth conditions of propositions. It's part of the broader field of modality, which involves how speakers' express attitudes toward the truth of propositions, such as necessity, possibility, permission, obligation, or ability. Alethic modality specifically focuses on the logical or metaphysical status of the proposition in terms of what must be true, what can be true, and what cannot be true.

Alethic necessity is used to indicate that something must be the case, or is required by the facts. In English, it's often expressed using modal verbs like «must» or «have to»: *She wears a ring, so she must be married.*

Alethic possibility is used to suggest that something can be the case, but is not guaranteed. It is often expressed using «can», «could», or «may»: *The weather may get warmer next week.*

Alethic impossibility indicates that something cannot be true or cannot happen. It's often expressed using «cannot» or «must not»: *She cannot be at the party, she's in another city.*

Of all the kinds of modality only **epistemic modality** is generally completely distinct, both syntactically and semantically, from the other kinds [7: 197]. Epistemic was derived from the Greek word epistēmē «knowledge». Thus, epistemic modality is related to a speaker's knowledge on the proposition [11: 167]. The degree of certainty regarding the knowledge of a proposition can be categorized into several levels: certain, probable, and possible. Epistemic modality, therefore, can be defined as the use of language to express the speaker's assessment and judgment concerning their confidence in the truth of a proposition.

More specifically, epistemic modality refers to the linguistic representation of an evaluation of the likelihood that a hypothetical situation or some element of it will happen, is happening, or has happened, within a possible world that forms the basis for the evaluation. The meanings of epistemic modality are categorized according to the degree of certainty, which can be classified into certainty, probability, and possibility.

Epistemic certainty:

• conveys the highest degree of confidence based on the speaker's knowledge on the proposition [11: 168]. It is commonly expressed with the modal operators «must» and «will»: *The soup must be cooked. It's been boiling for fifteen minutes.*

• may be carried in such kind of modal adjuncts as such as «certainly», «definitely», «surely», etc.: *The boy will definitely be successful due to his hard work and determination.*

• may be expressed by the lexical verbs as «believe» and «guarantee»: *I believe she has already finished her work.*

Epistemic probability:

- reflects a moderate level of confidence based on the speaker's knowledge of the proposition. The modal operators «should» and «ought to» can indicate epistemic probability: *It's six o'clock, the party ought to have started.*

- is expressed by the modal adverbs «probably», «perhaps», and «maybe»: *Maybe, the weather will get warmer next week.*

- can also be conveyed by the verbs «guess», «think», and «suppose»: *I think her dress will look good on her.*

Epistemic possibility:

- reflects the lowest level of confidence based on the speaker's knowledge of the proposition. It is expressed through modal operators like «can», «could», «may», and «might»: *It may snow this evening.*

- are conveyed by the modal adverbs that include «possibly», «perhaps», and «maybe»: *Perhaps, the exam will be easy to pass.*

- can also be indicated in some lexical verbs, such as «guess», «wonder», «think», and «suppose»: *My mother wondered whether I put on my jacket or not.*

Deontic modality determines whether a proposition expressed by a command is obligatory, advisable, or permissible, based on a normative framework such as law, morality, or convention. It focuses on the meaning of a proposal in terms of both positive and negative aspects, in terms of what should or should not be done.

Deontic necessity:

- represents the strongest level of obligation in a command and can be conveyed through various linguistic features. Deontic necessity can be expressed using modal operators such as «must» and «have to»: *You must finish your sandwich before the teacher enters the class.*

- can be expressed by a clause using adjectives like «compulsory», «obligatory», «necessary», or «urgent», followed by either an infinitive or a

that-clause: *It is compulsory for all employees to attend the training session tomorrow.*

• can also be expressed by a clause using the past participles «required» and «obliged», followed by either an infinitive or a that-clause: *It is required that all participants submit their applications by the deadline.*

• can be expressed through a clause that starts with the impersonal «it», followed by the noun «obligation» or «necessity», and a that-clause: *It is a necessity that students complete their assignments on time.*

Deontic advisability:

• expresses a moderate level of obligation in a command and is conveyed through specific linguistic features. The modal operators that express deontic advisability are «should» and «ought to»: *You should start believing in yourself.*

• can be expressed by a clause using the adjective «advisable», followed by either an infinitive or a that-clause: *It is advisable for singers to drink more water before the concert starts.*

• can also be expressed by a clause using the past participles «supposed», «advised», and «suggested», followed by either an infinitive or a that-clause: *It is suggested that singers drink more water before the concert starts.*

Deontic possibility:

• represents the lowest level of obligation in a command, implying a sense of permission. It can be expressed through various linguistic features. The modal operators that convey deontic permission are «may» and «can»: *You may come to my party with your sister.*

• can be expressed by a clause using the adjective «possible»: *It is possible for the students to enter the exam room with their text books.*

• can also be expressed by a clause using the past participles «allowed» and «permitted»: *The students are allowed to use the internet for their research.*

Existential modality refers to a type of modality in language that expresses the existence, possibility, or necessity of something, typically related to whether something exists or could exist in a certain context. This modality often involves statements about the reality or potential of entities or events in the world.

In grammar, modality typically refers to the way in which a speaker can express attitudes toward the reality or truth of a proposition, including concepts like necessity, possibility, ability, permission, and obligation. Existential modality focuses specifically on the existence or non-existence of something, or the possibility that something exists.

• To express existence the word «exist» is used: *I believe that true love exists.*

• The word «possible» also introduces an existential modality: *It is possible that there is life on other planets.*

• The use of the word «necessary» highlights the modality of existence, too: *It is necessary that there is a book for every student.*

Existential modality often comes into play in logic, philosophy, and discussions about possible worlds, where it's used to describe the conditions under which certain entities or scenarios could or must exist.

Many scholars distinguish between epistemic and non-epistemic modality, with dynamic modality being another valid distinction. Yong-Beom Kim suggests that 'dynamic modal verbs should be able to predicate not only properties of the subject but also properties of the situations denoted by the sentence [12: 714]. This implies that dynamic modality can encompass both the subject and the situation it refers to. However, this modality may not strictly be considered modality, as it relates to the subject's ability, not the speakers.

• **Modality of Confidence in English**

In the English language the meaning of confidence is expressed with modal words, modal phrases and modal constructions:

The construction is: '**be sure / certain** + **infinitive**' [1: 162].

She is certain to finish the project on time.

The modal word «of course» expresses the speaker's confidence, based on an evident fact. The speaker expects the addressee to have the same confidence, which follows from the general social experience of the communicants:

Of course, I like your gift.

The position of the modal word in a sentence is flexible, though it most commonly appears at the end. A typical structure is a narrative affirmative sentence. Another common usage is in an absolute form as a simple affirmative response to express agreement. However, this usage is not appropriate in conversations between someone junior and someone senior, as it may highlight the questioner's awareness of well-known or obvious information:

Isn't she beautiful? – Yes, of course. She's the most beautiful woman I've ever seen.

In response to an incentive, offer, or invitation, «of course» conveys a sense of enthusiastic agreement:

Mommy, can't we bake a cake? – Of course.

«Certainly» shows a great degree of confidence of the speaker. It is used between communicators of neutral or equal relations. In a sentence, it typically occupies the initial or, more often, the medial position, placed between the subject and the predicate. It can also be used on its own as a confident statement:

Certainly, he knows what he's doing.

«Surely» expresses the speaker's firm confidence in the truthfulness of the statement. This modal word can be placed in any part of the sentence, but more often it is in the beginning.

Surely, everything will work out in the end.

«Undoubtedly», «doubtless», «no doubt» modal words are rarely found. These modal words are typically placed in the middle of declarative sentences, and are more commonly found in formal language, scientific discourse, and in the author's narrative style:

She will undoubtedly succeed in her career, given her dedication and talent.

He will doubtless be remembered for his contributions to the project.

Modal phrases are built according to the following models:

- Personal Pronoun + Linking Verb + Modal Word with the **Meaning of Confidence:** *I am sure that…, I am certain that….*

- *I have no doubt that…, there is no doubt that….*

- Personal Pronoun + Verb: *I bet.*

Modal phrases «I am sure» and «I am certain» are characteristically different. «I am certain» is often used in formal speech and expresses neutral meaning, while «I am sure» is used in equal relations:

I am sure that music heals.

I am quite certain that the weather will be perfect for the ceremony.

«No doubt» expresses distant or neutral relations between communicators and is used mostly in formal speech:

There is no doubt that she is the best candidate for the job.

The most colloquial form is the modal phrase «I bet».

I bet you'll love the new restaurant we're going tonight!

The phrase is commonly used in conversations between people of equal status who share a close social or psychological connection.

- **Modal Adverbs Expressing Confidence in English**

Adverbs of certainty convey the level of confidence or surety someone has about an action or event.

Some of the most common adverbs of certainty include: certainly, definitely, absolutely, confidently, undoubtedly, surely, positively, determinately, unhesitatingly, steadily, firmly, solidly, unquestionably, inevitably, assuredly, evidently, apparently, etc.

These adverbs typically appear before the main verb. However, when the verb is «to be» or when there are auxiliary verbs, the adverb is placed between the auxiliary and the main verb. In some cases, these adverbs can be positioned at the beginning of the sentence:

He is obviously in love with Jennie, I can see it in his eyes.

A widely used pattern in English, particularly in scientific writing, political speeches, formal discussions, and academic contexts, is the structure «Be sure/certain + infinitive».

You must be certain to follow the instructions carefully.

- **Modal Words that Express Confidence in English**

Modal words express the speaker's attitude toward the reality of the action described in the sentence. Essentially, these words convey the speaker's perspective on the truth or likelihood of a proposition. Modal logic, which is often used in the study of modality, suggests that the truth of a proposition is linked to which «possible world» it applies to, meaning the proposition's truth is contingent on different circumstances or possibilities.

Modal words differ from adverbs in two main ways: their meaning and their grammatical role. While adverbs modify verbs, adjectives, or entire clauses, modal words offer additional commentary on the proposition itself, often functioning parenthetically in a sentence.

Will she arrive soon? – Certainly!

Is your friend coming to the party tomorrow? – Maybe.

- **Modal Expressions of Confidence in English**

Modal expressions are made up according to the following pattern:

1. Personal pronoun + auxiliary + modal word expressing certainty
/I'm sure that … I'm certain that … I have no doubt /there is no doubt that …

2. I'm positive that….

3. Personal pronoun + verb /*I bet ...*

4. Personal pronoun + auxiliary + modal word expressing certainty /*I'm sure that ... I'm certain that ... I have no doubt /there is no doubt that ...*

- **Idioms with Varying Degrees of Confidence in English**

Walking on air / Feeling extremely happy and confident

Have a spring in one's step / Walking with confidence and energy

Head held high / Feeling proud and confident

Have the world at one's feet / Feeling confident and capable of achieving anything

In high spirits / Feeling happy and confident [13].

Without / beyond a doubt / Absolutely or with absolute certainty; with no doubt whatsoever.

Idioms expressing varying degrees of confidence play a significant role in the English language by conveying subtle distinctions in certainty, assurance, and emotional state. These expressions serve to enhance communication by allowing speakers to articulate levels of confidence, clarity, and conviction. Their usage reflects both linguistic richness and cultural nuance, making them essential for effective and expressive communication in both spoken and written contexts.

Coming to Orwell's novel it should be mentioned that George Orwell's «Animal Farm» is a political allegory and dystopian novella that criticizes the corrupting influence of power. The story unfolds on a farm where the animals revolt against their human owner, hoping to create a society where all animals are equal. However, as time passes, the animals who take charge – particularly Napoleon – gradually become just as oppressive and corrupt as the humans they initially overthrew. The novella highlights how those in power can betray revolutionary ideals and manipulate others for personal gain.

The core themes of «Animal Farm» revolve around the corruption of power, manipulation, and social inequality. As the animals rise to power,

they begin to twist the original goals of the revolution for their benefit, showing how leadership can exploit its position to maintain control. Through propaganda and the distortion of truth, the animals manipulate the other animals into accepting their authority, revealing the dangers of propaganda and the ways in which information can be controlled to serve those in power. Over time, the society the animals built becomes indistinguishable from the one they fought to overthrow, exposing how revolutions can fail when their ideals are betrayed.

The novella also reflects Orwell's critique of the Soviet Union, particularly the rise of Stalinism after the Russian Revolution. The characters in «Animal Farm» are allegorical representations of key figures from this historical period. For example, Napoleon represents Joseph Stalin, while Snowball mirrors Leon Trotsky. Through these characters, Orwell explores the dynamics of political power, the manipulation of the masses, and the betrayal of the working class. The animals' gradual realization of their exploitation is a tragic commentary on how power structures can become entrenched, even in the wake of a revolution that aimed to create equality.

In «Animal Farm», confidence is expressed through modal words, modal expressions, and modal patterns, each differing in the level of certainty they communicate. Modal verbs, such as «may be», «can be», or «would be», express less certainty than adverbs of certainty like «certainly», «definitely», «probably», «undoubtedly», and «surely». Modal patterns, which are more commonly found in formal speech styles, are often used in scientific writing, political addresses, authorial discourse, and formal conversations.

e.g. «***I do not know*** *when that Rebellion will come, it might be in a week or in a hundred years, but* ***I know****, as* ***surely*** *as I see this straw beneath my feet, that sooner or later justice will be done»* [6: 9].

«I do not know» introduces uncertainty, suggesting that the speaker is unsure about when the rebellion will happen. However, it contrasts with the

confident «I know» and «surely», which later express strong belief in justice being done, despite the unknown timing.

e.g. *« 'Yes, Jones would come back!* **Surely***, comrades,' cried Squealer almost pleadingly, skipping from side to side and whisking his tail, 'surely there is no one among you who wants to see Jones come back?'»*

Now if there was one thing that the animals were **completely certain** *of, it was that they did not want Jones back»* [6: 27].

Here «yes» and «surely» express confidence by emphasizing certainty. «Yes» is a direct affirmation, showing assurance in the statement. «Surely» suggests that the speaker believes the idea is so obvious that it shouldn't be questioned, adding a layer of strong confidence. Together, these words make the statement sound unquestionable and certain.

In the next paragraph the use of «completely certain» indicates a high degree of epistemic modality. This construction emphasizes that the animals are fully sure, without any doubt or hesitation, about their desire to prevent Jones from returning. The word «completely» suggests that there is no room for ambiguity or uncertainty in their conviction. It reflects an assertive belief, one that the animals hold with firm confidence.

e.g. *«One false step, and our enemies would be upon us.* **Surely***, comrades, you do not want Jones back?*

Once again, this argument was unanswerable. **Certainly,** *the animals did not want Jones back; if the holding of debates on Sunday mornings was liable to bring him back, then the debates must stop»* [6: 41].

«Surely» expresses confidence by suggesting the idea is obvious and beyond doubt, making the comrades feel they should agree without question.

«Certainly» emphasizes the speaker's belief in the truth of the statement. It conveys that there is no doubt in the speaker's mind about the animals' desire to prevent Jones from returning, suggesting that the conclusion is obvious.

*e.g. «You have heard then, comrades», he said, «that we pigs now sleep in the beds of the farmhouse? And why not? You did not suppose, **surely**, that there was ever a ruling against beds? A bed merely means a place to sleep in. ... You would not rob us of our repose, would you, comrades? You would not have us too tired to carry out our duties? **Surely** none of you wishes to see Jones back?»* [6: 49].

The repetition of «Surely» and the rhetorical questions serve to express the speaker's confidence and attempt to manipulate the audience. The word «Surely» reinforces the idea that what is being said is self-evident and unquestionable. The speaker expects the comrades to agree without hesitation, framing any disagreement as unreasonable. The rhetorical questions further pressure the audience to align with the speaker's perspective by implying that opposing their logic would be absurd or harmful.

*e.g. «**Surely**, he cried indignantly, whisking his tail and skipping from side to side, **surely** they knew their beloved Leader, Comrade Napoleon, better than that? But the explanation was really very simple»* [6: 85]

The repetition of «Surely» shows the speaker's confidence, suggesting the comrades should already agree. It emphasizes certainty, implying any doubt is unreasonable.

*e.g. «And since it was **certainly** true that nothing of the kind existed in writing, the animals were satisfied that they had been mistaken»* [6: 46].

*e.g. «For the time being, **certainly**, it had been found necessary to make a readjustment of rations (Squealer always spoke of it as a «readjustment», never as a «reduction»), but in comparison with the days of Jones, the improvement was enormous»* [6: 76].

«Certainly» asserts the truth of the statement with strong certainty. It conveys that there is no room for disagreement about the fact that nothing exists in writing, reinforcing the idea that the animals' previous belief was incorrect.

Л.С. Нуриджанян

In the second example, «certainly» shows the speaker's confidence that the readjustment of rations is necessary, making the statement sound unquestionable.

e.g. «And what is more, the words of the song also came back-words, ***I am certain****, which were sung by the animals of long ago and have been lost to memory for generations»* [6: 11].

e.g. «If a window was broken or a drain was blocked up, ***someone was certain*** *to say that Snowball had come in the night and done it, and when the key of the store-shed was lost,* ***the whole farm was convinced*** *that Snowball had thrown it down the well»* [6: 54].

The phrase «I am certain» shows strong epistemic modality, meaning the speaker is expressing a high level of confidence. It indicates that the speaker firmly believes the statement to be true, with little or no doubt.

In the second paragraph, this reflects epistemic modality, with «was certain to» indicating a very strong belief or certainty about what would happen. It shows that the response was not just likely but almost guaranteed, highlighting how the farm had become convinced of this narrative. Similarly, «the whole farm was convinced» reinforces this certainty, emphasizing that the belief in Snowball's guilt was widespread and unwavering.

e.g. «And – I was a long way away, but ***I am almost certain*** *I saw this – he was talking to you and you were allowing him to stroke your nose»* [6: 33].

The use of «almost» suggests that the speaker believes what they saw with a high degree of confidence, but there's a small amount of doubt or possibility that they could be mistaken. It's a way of expressing near certainty while acknowledging a slight room for error or misperception.

e.g. «If one of them suggested sowing a bigger acreage with barley, ***the other was certain*** *to demand a bigger acreage of oats, and if one of them said that such and such a field was just right for cabbages, the other would declare that it was useless for anything except roots»* [6: 34].

The phrase «was certain to» expresses epistemic modality indicating a high level of confidence in what is going to happen. The use of «was certain to» implies that the response is not just likely or probable, but almost guaranteed. It conveys a sense of certainty about the predictable nature of the other person's reaction.

*e.g. «He was running as only a pig can run, but the dogs were close on his heels. Suddenly he slipped and **it seemed certain** that they had him»* [6: 39].

The phrase «seemed certain» expresses a high level of confidence but with a slight hint of doubt. It suggests that the outcome appears very likely, but the speaker isn't claiming absolute certainty. The use of «seemed» indicates it's more of an impression rather than a definite statement.

*e.g. «“**Are you certain** that this is not something that you have dreamed, comrades? Have you any record of such a resolution? Is it written down anywhere?”»* [6: 46].

The phrase «Are you certain» challenges the listener's confidence, suggesting that there may be doubt or uncertainty about whether the event actually happened. It implies that the speaker is questioning the other's belief in the reality of the event, testing their assurance or asking them to reconsider whether they might be mistaken.

*e.g. «And now, he said finally, he would ask the company to rise to their feet and **make certain** that their glasses were full»* [6: 94].

Here, the phrase «make certain» expresses a desire to ensure something is true or happens. It indicates a strong intention to confirm that the glasses are full, removing any doubt.

*e.g. «From now onwards Animal Farm would engage in trade with the neighbouring farms: not, **of course**, for any commercial purpose, but simply in order to obtain certain materials which were urgently necessary»* [6: 45].

*e.g. «Somehow it seemed as though the farm had grown richer without making the animals themselves any richer-except, **of course**, for the pigs and the dogs»* [6: 88].

e.g. *«He could not **of course** know – for he, Napoleon, was only now for the first time announcing it – that the name «Animal Farm» had been abolished»* [6: 95].

In these examples, «of course» communicates that the speaker is confident in what they are stating, often suggesting that the idea or fact is not in doubt, but is rather assumed to be true or accepted without question. It reflects a high degree of confidence in the assertion, as the speaker believes the audience should already recognize or understand it.

e.g. *«By the time he had finished speaking, there was **no doubt** as to which way the vote would go»* [6: 38].

«No doubt» shows high epistemic modality, meaning strong confidence or certainty about the outcome.

e.g. *«**No question**, now, what had happened to the faces of the pigs»* [6: 96].

In this case, the narrator is observing the situation with complete clarity. There's no longer any ambiguity or uncertainty about the transformation or identity of the pigs.

e.g. *« "No", said Snowball **firmly**. "We have no means of making sugar on this farm"»* [6: 14].

e.g. *«No one believes more **firmly** than Comrade Napoleon that all animals are equal»* [6: 40].

The adverb «firmly» expresses high epistemic modality – the speaker believes they are right, and they're trying to communicate that certainty to others. In Orwell's Animal Farm, this kind of confident tone often masks manipulation, which adds a layer of dramatic irony for the reader.

e.g. *«Unfortunately, the uproar awoke Mr. Jones, who sprang out of bed, **making sure** that there was a fox in the yard»* [6: 12].

e.g. *«Their first act was to gallop in a body right round the boundaries of the farm, as though to **make quite sure** that no human being was hiding*

anywhere upon it; then they raced back to the farm buildings to wipe out the last traces of Jones's hated reign» [6: 17].

«Making sure» implies that Jones is taking deliberate action to confirm a belief. This shows moderate to high epistemic modality – he believes there's a fox and wants to verify it. It's about ensuring truth, reflecting careful confidence.

«Make quite sure» intensifies the sense of deliberate checking or veryfication. This shows the animals are deeply concerned with being absolutely certain – high epistemic confidence, but through active confirmation.

*e.g. «The sheep were the greatest devotees of the Spontaneous Demonstration, and if anyone complained (as a few animals sometimes did, when no pigs or dogs were near) that they wasted time and meant a lot of standing about in the cold, the sheep **were sure to** silence him with a tremendous bleating of «Four legs good, two legs bad!» But by and large the animals enjoyed these celebrations»* [6: 79].

Here, «were sure to» shows strong prediction or expectation with confidence. It's almost guaranteed the sheep will silence complaints.

*e.g. «It was a source of great satisfaction to him, he said – and, he **was sure**, to all others present – to feel that a long period of mistrust and misunderstanding had now come to an end»* [6: 93].

This is subjective epistemic modality is based on the speaker's judgment, not external proof.

*e.g. «Late one evening in the summer, a sudden rumour ran round the farm that something had happened to Boxer. He had gone out alone to drag a load of stone down to the windmill. And **sure enough**, the rumour was true»* [6: 81].

«Sure enough» is an idiomatic expression of confirmation – meaning «just as expected» or «indeed». It adds a tone of inevitability or fated truth.

*e.g. «He **assured** them that the resolution against engaging in trade and using money had never been passed, or even suggested»* [6: 46].

The use of the verb «assured» shows that the speaker (likely Squealer, given the context) is stating something with total confidence and trying to convince the others of its truth.

*e.g. «At the same time Napoleon **assured** the animals that the stories of an impending attack on Animal Farm were **completely untrue**, and that the tales about Frederick's cruelty to his own animals had been greatly exaggerated»* [6: 68].

Here, «assured» shows that Napoleon is not just telling the animals something – he's asserting it with authority and total confidence. His purpose is to control the animals' beliefs and calm fear about a possible threat.

«Completely untrue» means not just «untrue», but absolutely, 100% false. «Completely» is an adverbial intensifier which boosts the confidence level of the statement. Orwell uses this to highlight how leaders use language to present absolute truths, even when they're lies.

Thereupon, «Animal Farm» uses modal expressions to show how language can manipulate truth and assert control. Orwell uses modal verbs, adverbs, and idiomatic phrases to convey varying levels of confidence, with characters like Squealer and Napoleon using terms like «surely» and «certainly» to reinforce authority and suppress dissent, the use of which highlight Orwell's critique of how those in power exploit language to distort reality and shape belief, making the novella a study of how epistemic modality can be used to control others.

Hence, «Animal Farm» shows how language, specifically modality, becomes a mechanism for the manipulation of truth and power, reinforcing Orwell's commentary on the dangers of authoritarianism and the fragility of revolutionary ideals. The novel not only critiques political systems but also explores the deep psychological impact of linguistic manipulation. «Animal Farm» warns about how language can influence personal convictions and the framework of society.

ЛИТЕРАТУРА

1. *Almurzaeva P.Kh.* Modality means in the modern English language / P.Kh. Almurzaeva, L.F. Habaleva // The European Proceedings of Social & Behavioural Sciences EpSBS, Groznyi, Jun 14–15, 2019. – Vol. 76. – Groznyi: Future Academy, 2019. – PP. 94–99. – DOI: 10.15405/epsbs.2019.12.04.14. – EDN: EUBKOA.
2. *Lyons J.* Semantics: Vol. 2. – New York: Cambridge University Press, 1977. – 896 p.
3. *Martirosyan A.* Types of Modality and Its Inconsistencies // Banber of the International University of Eurasia, 2022. – Vol. 2, Issue 2. – PP. 99–112.
4. *Nizhnik L., Galaidin A.* Modal Verbs to Express Confidence / Uncertainty. Scientific Journal of Polonia University, 2020, Vol. 40, № 3. – Czestochowa, 2020. – PP. 49–59.
5. *Orwell G.* Animal Farm (A Fairy Story). Martin Publishing House, 2023. – 96 p.
6. *Palmer F.R.* Modality and the English Modals. Taylor & Francis, 1979. – 196 p.
7. *Perkins M.* Modal Expressions in English. Frances Pinter (Publishers), 1983. – 186 p.
8. *Portner P.* Modality. Georgetown University, 2008. – 284 p.
9. *Rescher N.* Topics in Philosophical Logic. Springer Science, Business Media Dordrecht, 1968. – 346 p.
10. *Suhadi J.* Epistemic Modality and Deontic Modality: Two Sides of a Coin. Department of English Literature, Faculty of Literature Islamic University of North Sumatra, 2011. Julisa, Vol. 11, № 2, Oct 2011. – PP. 156–179.
11. *Yong-Beom K.* Modal Categories and Dynamic Modality in English. Korean Journal of English Language and Linguistics, 2017, Vol. 17, Issue 4. – PP. 701–727.
12. *Беляева Е.И.* Функционально-семантические поля модальности в английском и русском языках / Е.И. Беляева. - Воронеж: Изд-во Воронеж. ун-та, 1985. – 180 с.
13. *Downs J.* 28 Idioms for Confidence [Electronic resource]. – Mode of access: https://idiominsider.com/idioms-for-confidence/ (Date of access: Sep 19, 2025).
14. The Free Dictionary by Farlex [Electronic resource]. – Mode of access: https://idioms.thefreedictionary.com/ (Date of access: Sep 19, 2025).
15. Cambridge Dictionary [Electronic resource]. – Mode of access: https://dictionary.cambridge.org/topics/chance-and-possibility/certainty/ (Date of access: Sep 19, 2025).

ՀԱՍՏԱՏԱԿԱՄՈՒԹՅԱՆ ԵՂԱՆԱԿԱՎՈՐՈՒՄԸ ՋՈՐՋ ՕՐՈՒԵԼԻ «ANIMAL FARM» ՎԵՊՈՒՄ

Լ.Ս. Նուրիջանյան

nurijanyanlusine@yahoo.com

Անգլերենի ամբիոնի ավագ դասախոս,
Վ.Յա. Բրյուսովի անվ. պետական համալսարան,
Երևան, Հայաստանի Հանրապետություն

ԱՄՓՈՓՈՒՄ

Հոդվածի նպատակն է ուսումնասիրել հաստատակամու-
թյան եղանակավորումը Ջորջ Օրուելի «Animal Farm» վե-
պում, վերլուծել դրա լեզուն, իշխանության և շահագործ-
ման առկայացումները: Այն ուսումնասիրում է, թե ինչպես
է Օրուելը օգտագործում հաստատակամության եղանա-
կավորումը իշխանության դինամիկան արտացոլելու հա-
մար, ցույց տալիս, թե ինչպես է կենդանիների կողմից լեզ-
վի օգտագործումը ձևավորում նրանց համոզմունքները,
հաստատում գերիշխանություն և ապավաղում ճշմար-
տությունը: Վեպում հաստատակամությունը գտնում է
դրսևորման տարբեր եղանակներ:

Բանալի բառեր՝ հաստատակամության եղանակավո-
րումը, ճշմարտային, իմացաբանական, պարտադրական,
գոյաբանական:

MODALITY OF CONFIDENCE IN GEORGE ORWELL'S «ANIMAL FARM»

L. Nurijanyan

nurijanyanlusine@yahoo.com

Senior Lecturer at the Department of English,
Brusov State University,
Yerevan, Republic of Armenia

ABSTRACT

The article aims to study the evaluation of modality of confidence in George Orwell's «Animal Farm» and analyzes language, power, and manipulation in the novella. It explores how Orwell uses modality and expressions of confidence to reflect power dynamics, showing how the animals' use of language shapes their beliefs, establishes dominance, and distorts the truth. Modality in this novel finds various ways of realization.

Keywords: modality of confidence, alethic, epistemic, deontic, existential.