

## COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF THE GRAMMATICAL FEATURES OF INDEFINITE PRONOUNS IN MODERN ENGLISH AND RUSSIAN

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***Abstract.** The article comprehensively describes indefinite pronouns in the English and Russian languages and identifies the use of them in this article. It also defines the ways of expressing the indefinite pronouns in English and Russian.*

***Key words:** pronouns, indefinite pronouns, meanings, properties, noun-pronouns, adjective pronouns*

We know that English pronouns have very general, relative meaning. Thus, the indication of a person by means the speaker, e. g .one the same person may be denoted by I, you or he; when a person speaks of himself, he calls himself I; addressing him, we call him you; speaking about him, we refer to him as he. In the same way possessive pronoun indicate relative possession depending on the actual speaker, and one and the same things possessed by a certain person may be referred by as my book, your book or his book.

According to Kobrina E. all pronouns may be divided into twelve subclasses. However, some other scholars restrict the number of these subclasses to ten, pointing reflexive and possessive pronouns to be essential constituents of the subclass of personal pronouns. Pronouns of other subclasses are grouped according to their function and, sometimes, to their morphological structure.

Pronouns are specific word with regard to both meaning and form. They point out things and qualities of things without naming or describing them (as nouns and adjectives do).

In this article we analyze the indefinite pronouns in English and Russian. These pronouns indicate persons or non-persons or else their properties in a general way

without defining the class of objects they belong to, class or properties they possess. They are: *some, any, somebody, anybody, someone, anyone, something, anything, one*.

*Some* and *any* are both noun-pronouns and adjective-pronouns; their compounds in *-body, -one, or -thing*, as well as the pronoun *one*, are only noun-pronouns.

*Some, any, something, anything* have no grammatical categories, *somebody, anybody, someone, anyone*, and *one* have the category of case (*somebody's, anybody's, someone's, anyone's, one's*).

*Some* and *any* indicate qualities or quantities, depending on the class and grammatical form of the noun with which they are used as attributes or for which they function as their substitutes. The idea of quantity is actualised if they combine with:

a) count nouns in the plural:

*Are there **any** roses in your garden? I have a tot of flowers in my garden, **some** of them are sweet-scented, **some** are not.*

b) nouns of material:

*Give me **some** water, please. Can you see **any** snow on the mountaintop?*

c) abstract nouns:

*She won't give you **any** trouble.*

When used before noun-phrases with cardinal numerals *some* denotes **approximate quantity**: *some ten years ago, some twenty people* (около, приблизительно).

The idea of **quality** is actualized when *some* and *any* combine with count nouns in the singular. In a positive statement *any* acquires the meaning of 'любой'.

*They bought **some** old house in the country, (какой-то дом)*

***Any** horse will do now. (любая лошадь)*

Very often the idea of quality and that of quantity go together: *Some people will do it of their own free will* means a certain type of persons and ocertain number of people.

*Some* and *any*, indicating both indefinite qualities and quantities, differ in meaning: *some* has **assertive force**, that is presupposes the presence of some quality or quantity. It generally corresponds to the Russian *некоторый, какой-то, некоторое количество*. *Any* has a **non-assertive force**, that is, does not presuppose the presence of any quality or quantity, and generally corresponds to the Russian *какой-нибудь, какой-либо, сколько-нибудь*.

The difference in meaning predetermines their use. *Some* is commonly used in *affirmative* and *imperative sentences*.

*There are some apples on the table. Give him some milk.*

*Any* is commonly used:

1) In negative sentences (with negatives *not, no, never, neither... nor*), in sentences with **incomplete negatives** (*hardly, little, few, least, etc.*), and with **implied negatives** (*fail, prevent, reluctant, hard, difficult*).

*I don't like any of them. She has never lasted any wine.*

*I hardly knew any of those present.*

*He failed to find any of them.*

2) In questions, mostly general:

*Did you see any of them? Is there any bread there?*

3) In conditional clauses:

*If any person learns about it, you will have to leave.*

4) In comparative phrases:

*He did more for me than any of you.*

However, *some* not *any*, is used in interrogative sentences when their basic meaning is assertive and the speaker suggests that a certain state of affairs exists, as in:

*Did you see some new English books on the shelf?*

(The speaker suggests that there are new English books on the shelf and the addressee had only to look on them).

*When will you have some time to show me your presents?*

*Some*, not *any*, is preferable when making invitations or offers if it presupposes an acceptance:

*Will you have **some** tea? Would you like to see **some** of my pictures?*

The same holds true for negative sentences and conditional clauses with positive orientation.

*She would not find **some** letters she had left on the table.*

*If you bring her **some** flowers, she'll be only too glad.*

On the other hand *any* can be found in affirmative sentences if used with the meaning of *no matter what, no matter who*, as in: *I am so hungry. I'll eat **any** piece of stale bread. **Any** of them will do.* (Я съем любой черствый кусок хлеба, любой из них подойдет).

Syntactically *some* and *any* can be used as subject, object, or attribute.

The compound pronouns of this subclass (*something, somebody, someone, anything, anybody, anyone*) are used only as **noun-pronouns**. Those ending in *-thing* imply non-persons, and those ending in *-body* imply persons. The difference in their communicative value is the same as between *some* and *any*. The pronouns with the element *some-* are used in affirmative and conditional sentences, or in interrogative, negative and conditional sentences if they are assertive:

***Something** unexpected always happened to him.*

*Что-нибудь неожиданное всегда случалось с ним.*

*Let **somebody** bring me a glass of water.*

*Пусть кто-нибудь принесет мне стакан воды.*

*Did **somebody** called me up?*

*Мнекто-то звонил?*

The pronouns beginning with *any* are used in negative and interrogative sentences, in conditional clauses, in comparative phrases and in affirmative sentences meaning *no matter what, no matter who*.

*I don't see **anyone** here.*

*Я никого здесь не вижу.*

*If **anyone** calls, ask them to wait a moment.*

*Если кто-нибудь зайдет, попросите подождать минуту.*

**The pronoun *one*** is *indefinite-personal*. It indicates people in general implying inclusion of the speaker, much in the same way as the indefinite-personal *we, you, they* do:

*One* is used as **subject** and **attribute** (in the genitive case)

*One never knows what may happen.*

Никогда не знаешь, что может случиться.

The use of *one* is rather formal. In everyday speech *we* or *you* is preferable:

*You never know what may happen.*

As we show pronouns are specific word with regard to both meaning and form. They point out things and qualities of things without naming or describing them (as nouns and adjectives do).

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