

MULTI-FUNCTIONS OF THE PRINCIPLE OF LANGUAGE ECONOMY IN LITERARY DISCOURSE

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Abstract: This article will discuss the principle of distributing information - language economy and its polifunctional features that are represented in literary discourse. The analysis will show several functions, such as cognitive, pragmatic, stylistic and emotional, in English literary discourse fragments. Each functions represented in the contexts will be analyzed in terms of implicit and intertextual categories of literary discourse.

Keywords: implicit meaning, intertextuality, language economy, compressed information, pragmatic functions, cognitive function, knowledge structures, cognitive processing

Introduction. The development of information theory and interdisciplinary studies have introduced the issue of distributing information in text. Several scientists suggested their typology on principle to distribute information in the text. One of them which we follow is suggested by D. Ashurova. The linguist divides principles into 5 types: iconicity, language economy, language redundancy, old and new information, opposition and contrast [1; p.5]. We will discuss one of them, which is quite common, but not studied enough in the sphere of cognitive linguistics and stylistics as well.

The feature of economy is tightly linked to human action. Effort to minimize time and energy has been a center in human behaviour. In turn, economy exists in language and its use. This has been studied for a long time. The origin goes back to the time of Aristotle, when original ideas started to emerge. The desire to achieve results with minimal time and effort is the goal-oriented nature of human activity. This expresses the fundamental essence of the principle of language economy. Systematic research on language economy has been conducted in a number of studies. In particular, linguistic economy at the phonetic level was studied by P. Passi and G. Sweet, and in their opinion, language economy is not understood by the speaker and does not interfere with the communication process [5]. Language economy has also been studied as a key factor in the development of various language skills by V.G. Admoni at the grammatical level [6] and by A.M. Peshovsky in dialogical speech [7]. Polish linguist I.A. Baudouin de Courtenay emphasizes that the basis of all language changes and the

driving force behind them is the desire for convenience. In his opinion, this desire arises in the areas of phonetics, listening and perception of language, and language-related thinking [7]. Language economy is emphasized by J.K. Zipf as manifested in the economical use of language tools [3]. Therefore, this phenomenon is characteristic of different language levels and related areas.

Linguist G. Paul also considers language economy to be a tendency characteristic of language activity [4]. It is known that the desire for economy in the use of language is a natural phenomenon for language, in which there is no inconvenience or obstacle to the exchange of information, and the information is fully conveyed to the listener. A.M. Peshkovsky expressed his opinion on this, saying that “the omission of parts that are understood from the content of the speech or that are already common to the participants in the speech is a characteristic feature of language”[7]. In his opinion, this feature can be explained not only by our entire activity, but also by the law of conservation of energy. That is, the phenomenon of economy is characteristic of all activities and does not interfere with the processes in them.

Methodology. The analysis will be based on the theoretical framework suggested by Uzbek linguist D. Ashurova on cognitive stylistics, G.K.Zipf, H.Paul on language economy. The object that will be analyzed is a literary discourse as the context the text is situated is necessary. As a result, it requires the analysis of external factors that are integrated into the discourse chosen. This will enable to approach the problem of verbalization of language economy in distributing information from cognitive perspective, which includes human cognition, culture, background and other factors related to him.

The analysis will be carried out through stylistic, discourse, pragmatic and conceptual metaphor methods.

Analysis and discussion. Within the framework of literary discourse, this principle is directly related to the category of implicitness and intertextuality of it. D. Ashurova emphasized that implicitness implies the economy of language means. In other words, the cognitive nature of the language economy is an important factor for the emergence of implicit information [2]. The principle of language economy and the category of implicitness of literary discourse are interconnected and require each other. Moreover, intertextuality is also relevant in this case. According to J. Kristeva “Any text is constructed of a mosaic of quotations; any text is the absorption and transformation of another” [2; p.108]. This well-known description of intertextuality gave rise to different notions around it. We will follow the description given by D. Ashurova in the analysis of linguistic studies of this phenomenon. She notes that for linguistics intertextuality is explicit or implicit reference to another text by citing [1]. By referring to another text the author can economize the language, but requires deep analyzing and suggests wider

meaning. This category is verbalized by different linguistic means which will be discussed further in the samples.

The scientist notes that in the superficial layer of literary discourse, hidden information can be identified through certain markers. These markers are manifested in the form of various language units or short text fragments. Therefore, lexical stylistic means, in particular, metaphor, metonymy, irony, epithet, etc., are of great importance in the realization of language economy in literary discourse. At the same time, information is conveyed in an implicit, that is, hidden layer with their help. Another category specific to literary discourse is intertextuality, and the stylistic devices that give rise to this category can also be a vivid example of language economy, such as allusion, antonomasia, epigraphs, quotations, citations and others.

The principle of language economy to distribute information in literary discourse serves different functions ranging from pragmatic to cognitive functions. We will discuss these functions based on intertextual markers to verbalize these functions. Primary function, in this turn, is to compress the information to strengthen focus and cognitive analysis on it. The following sample is taken from English literature which will illustrate several functions of language economy at the same time. The fragment taken from the poem "The love song of Alfred Prufrock" by T. Eliot will be analyzed below:

*"To say: 'I am Lazarus, come from the dead,
Come back to tell you all, I shall tell you all'"*

In the sample author uses intertextual category of literary text. This intertextuality is verbalized by allusion applying a proper noun which goes back to religious sources. Language economy here enables to compress information which can fit in the form of poem and adapt the information into a rhyme. Here we can see compressing function.

There is also a cognitive function that evokes mental processing. The allusive name activates religious knowledge structures and integrates with the contexts. The context of Lazarus is transformed to the context of Prufrock. This mental processing draws a parallel line between two contexts. In the poem by Eliot Prufrock lives according to the social norms and rules without considering his own wishes. When he realizes the truth that his life is ruled and controlled by other people, the author uses the intertextuality and refers to the religious story about Lazarus. This emphasizes and clearly shows how Prufrock lived and feels at that time. According to Christian religious stories, Lazarus comes back alive from death and lives a new life. His new life is given due to his pure belief and hope. So, here the poet tries to link the contexts together to show that Prufrock's confession about his life is a new start and a new one for him. This comparison clearly describes the intended meaning the author wanted by using background, already-have religious knowledge structures. The activation of knowledge structures will enable readers to inference and process the information.

Another function is pragmatic. The intertextual marker is referring to the confession of the author rather than emotional exaggeration. However, there is an implicit meaning illustrating regret, anger and disappointment, which is defined pragmatically.

Stylistic function here is increasing expressive effect. By drawing parallel line between two contexts and metaphorically integrating the context of Lazarus into Prufrock's life and context, the author is trying to intensify emotional focus.

In literary discourse, language economy is serving the function of characterization. The allusion illustrates how the character feels and how he lived his life so far. All this information is decoded by referring to the precedent text of Lazarus. Combining the decoded information to Prufrock's context will enable to understand the reason why this allusion was used, and it will enable readers to understand better by background knowledge they already have.

This intertextual fragment in a short and simple form can prove that language economy is polifunctional and can perform semantic, stylistic and pragmatic functions at the same time in one sample, and can transfer different information according to the functions.

Implicit category is verbalized by language economy in the sample below where we can analyze implicit meaning achieved by compressed information. The linguistic marker used in the below sample is conceptual metaphor, which is quite common to form implicit layer of literary texts.

"So we beat on, boats against the current, borne back ceaselessly into the past"

This fragment taken from the novel "The Great Gatsby" refers to the struggles people face during their life and transfers this meaning into the metaphorical phrase "boats against the current". Here the author implicitly described the striving of people towards forward, but they are held back by their past. The metaphorical phrase also illustrates people's difficulty in life in the comparison of "boats sailing against the currents". This fragment is compressed, but can be decoded by the plot of the novel, Gatsby's life, and illustrates the whole morale of his life and his struggles in this fragment.

Implicit layer of literary discourse is decoded by cognitive processing of information. In this fragment language economy functions cognitive, stylistic, emotional. Conceptual metaphor activates knowledge structures and requires to process information. Moreover, emotional effect is also strengthened by referring to the overall conclusion of Gatsby's life and destiny. Stylistic function here emphasizes expressiveness of the fragment and takes attention to the whole story again.

Conclusion. In conclusion, the analysis above illustrate that the principle of language economy can perform several functions in literary discourse, such as

cognitive, pragmatic, stylistic and emotional. Interlayer studies of language economy as a principle of distributing information can illustrate its polifunctional feature.

The analysis show that language economy is not just compressing linguistic means, but also forms implicit and intertextual categories of literary discourse performing different functions. The meaning is not decoded in the text itself, but there is a need to refer to other external sources in decoding intertextual fragment, and review the whole story as a cognitive mechanism to decode implicit meaning.

Intertextual and implicit categories of literary text strengthens emotional, pragmatic and esthetic impact, and urges readers to inference the meaning by cognitive processing of these mechanisms to reconstruct intended meaning by the author. This principle is central to the phenomenon of language economy.

Overall, as a result, language economy and implicit meaning, intertextuality are phenomena that work in mutual integration, which:

- a. increase the semantic density of the text,
- b. increase the cognitive activity of the reader,
- c. provide the aesthetic value of artistic expression.

Therefore, language economy in literary discourse can be interpreted as a strategy that creates not only formal conciseness, but also cognitive and pragmatic depth.

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