

LEXICO-SYNTACTICAL STYLISTIC DEVICES: SIMILE, PERIPHRAISIS, LITOTES, GRADATION, ANTITHESIS, AND REPRESENTED SPEECH

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Annotation

This article discusses the nature of lexico-syntactical stylistic devices as a specific category in linguistics. It examines the aims and functions of devices such as simile, periphrasis, litotes, gradation, antithesis, and represented speech. Special attention is paid to how these means intensify speech and create a stylistic effect in modern English.

Keywords: stylistics, lexico-syntactical devices, simile, periphrasis, litotes, gradation, antithesis, represented speech, linguistics.

Introduction

Language is not only a means of communication but also a way of expressing emotions and attitudes. Stylistics, as a branch of linguistics, studies the expressive resources of language and the principles of their use. While some devices are purely lexical or syntactical, lexico-syntactical devices combine the meanings of words with specific sentence structures to achieve a certain effect.

1. Simile

Simile is a formal comparison of two objects belonging to different classes. It is often used to make speech more vivid and impressive. Unlike a simple comparison, a simile aims to highlight a specific quality by using link-words like "as" or "like".

2. Periphrasis

Periphrasis is a stylistic device where a direct name is replaced by a descriptive phrase. This is often used in the belles-lettres style to create imagery or in the official style to maintain formality. It explains the object by pointing out its most characteristic features.

3. Litotes

Litotes is a form of understatement that uses a negative construction to express a positive idea. It is an expressive mean that intensifies speech by sounding softer or more formal. For example, "It is not difficult" instead of "It is easy."

4. Gradation (Climax)

Gradation is the arrangement of words or sentences in an increasing or decreasing order of importance or emotional weight. It is used to build tension or emphasize the author's intention.

5. Antithesis

Antithesis is based on the opposition of two ideas or images within a parallel structure. Stylistics investigates how this relation between language and context creates a sharp contrast, helping to persuade the audience.

6. Represented Speech

Represented speech is a technique that conveys a character's thoughts and feelings within the narrator's discourse. It is particularly important in literary stylistics for creating atmosphere and character images.

Conclusion

The study of lexico-syntactical devices helps students understand how language functions effectively in different situations. By analyzing these devices, we learn to recognize the beauty and communicative power of the English language.

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