

## LEXICAL EXPRESSIVE MEANS AND STYLISTICS DEVICES

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**Abstract.** Lexical expressive means and stylistic devices are key tools of linguistic expressiveness. Lexical means enrich a text through emotionally coloured word choice, while stylistic devices create patterned rhetorical effects. Their systematic use strengthens meaning, cohesion, and reader engagement.

**Keywords:** lexical expressive means, stylistic devices, linguistic expressiveness, metaphor, onomatopoeia, alliteration.

**Аннотация.** Лексические выразительные средства и стилистические приёмы являются ключевыми инструментами языковой выразительности. Лексические средства обогащают текст за счёт эмоционально окрашенного выбора слов, тогда как стилистические приёмы создают структурированные риторические эффекты. Их систематическое использование усиливает смысл, связанность текста и вовлечённость читателя.

**Ключевые слова:** лексические выразительные средства, стилистические приёмы, языковая выразительность, метафора, ономапоня (звукподражание), аллитерация.

**Annotatsiya.** Leksik ifodaviy vositalar va stilistik uslublar lingvistik ifodaviylikning asosiy vositalaridir. Leksik vositalar matnni emotsional ranglangan so'z tanlovi orqali boyitadi, stilistik uslublar esa tartibli ritorik effektlar yaratadi. Ularni tizimli qo'llash matn mazmunini, bog'liqligini va o'quvchi ishtirokini kuchaytiradi.

**Kalit so'zlar:** leksik ifodaviy vositalar, stilistik uslublar, lingvistik ifodaviylik, metafora, taqlidiy so'z, alliteratsiya.

**Introduction.** Lexical expressive means and stylistic devices play a crucial role in enhancing the emotional and aesthetic impact of language. They enable speakers and writers to convey attitudes, create imagery, and influence readers more effectively. This article examines the main types and functions of these expressive linguistic resources. The expressive means of a language are those phonetic, morphological, word-building, lexical, phraseological and syntactical forms which exist in language-as-a-system for the purpose of logical and/or emotional intensification of the utterance.

**Literature review.** In this connection the following passage from "Investigating English Style" by D. Crystal and D. Davy is of interest: "Features which are stylistically significant display different kinds and degrees of distinctiveness in a text: of two features, one may occur only twice in a text, the other may occur thirty times, – or a feature might be uniquely identifying in the language, only ever occurring in one variety, as opposed to a feature which is distributed throughout many or all varieties in different frequencies." [1]

Professor Seymour Chatman introduces the term 'phonostylistics' and defines it as a subject the purpose of which is "the study of the ways in which an author elects to constrain the phonology of the language beyond the normal requirements of the phonetic system." [2] As it can be inferred from this quotation, phonetic expressive means.

According to Galperin I.R, all types of set phrases (phraseological units) typically have an expressive quality. Idioms, catchphrases, proverbs, and sayings make up a large group of linguistic units that add emphasis to speech, mainly by conveying emotional nuance. When used in everyday communication, they are especially notable for the subjective emotional colouring they create.

It should be emphasized that, because colloquial language is generally emotional in nature, various fixed expressions sound natural in daily conversation. In fact, they are an integral part of spoken interaction. However, when such expressions appear in written texts, their expressiveness becomes more noticeable. This is because written discourse is usually more logically oriented, unless the writer intentionally introduces an expressive element into the message. Most languages have the same stylistic devices in core, but it defers in their function.

Stylistic devices are commonly used in poetry, acting a role of intensifiers of mood and feeling in a poem. According to some notions taken from Galperin's work, stylistic devices are applied to give two meanings, the first one is ordinary meaning or is also called lexical and structural meaning, whereas the second is used to give special meaning. In his work, Galperin distinguishes expressive means with stylistic devices. Stylistic devices have a less degree of predictability than expressive means. In order to be interpreted easily, stylistic devices should be well known to the reader as a special code. Stylistic device can be used as rhetorical device if it's used to convince, and as a literary device if it's used to express something. Before starting translation, it is crucial to identify the meaning of stylistic devices in a language which is to be translated into another language. [3]

**Metaphor.** The word metaphor, as its origin suggests, regards to the transfer of a particular quality from one object to another. Since the era of ancient Greek and Roman rhetoric, the term has been used to describe the shift of meaning from one word to another. Today, it continues to denote the process by which a word develops a secondary or figurative sense.

**Onomatopoeia** – is a word which has sound of imitation of an object or an action which it describes. Onomatopoeic words are mostly used to add excitement and interest to the written work as well as humour to make the readers laugh. With onomatopoeia the work turns to be more fun and expressive. Some words of onomatopoeic words are 'meow', 'baa', 'hiss', 'neigh', and 'oink' in English.

**Alliteration** is a frequently utilized stylistic tool defined as the repetition of identical initial consonant sounds in neighboring words. Writers employ it in literary texts to capture the reader's attention and to establish a particular mood. This device is especially common in children's literature and poetry. The term was first introduced by the Italian humanist Giovanni Pontano, who described it as the recurrence of the same first sound

within a sentence. Its main purpose is to make expressions more memorable and rhythmically appealing through added emphasis.

For example: 'Betty Botter bought some butter, but she said, this butter's bitter; if I put it in my batter, it will make my batter bitter, but a bit of better butter will make my batter better.'

**Methods.** The methodological framework based primarily on the classifications suggested by I. R. Galperin and further developed in current stylistic studies. Lexical expressive means are understood as emotionally coloured lexical units that strengthen the expressive force of utterances, while stylistic devices are treated as intentional patterns of language use that create additional semantic and pragmatic effects.

The analysis proceeded in three stages. First, key theoretical definitions and classifications of expressive means and stylistic devices were systematized. Second, the functional characteristics of major lexical expressive means (e.g., evaluative vocabulary, intensifiers, emotionally coloured words) and stylistic devices (e.g., metaphor, metonymy, hyperbole, irony) were examined through illustrative examples drawn from standard stylistic literature. Third, the communicative and pragmatic functions of these units were interpreted within the broader framework of functional stylistics. The study follows the descriptive–analytical method widely used in linguistic stylistics.

**Analysis and discussion.** The theoretical analysis claims that lexical expressive means and stylistic devices constitute two complementary mechanisms of linguistic expressiveness. First, lexical expressive means primarily function at the level of emotional and evaluative colouring. Units such as intensifiers, emotionally marked adjectives, and evaluative nouns significantly strengthen the subjective tone of discourse. As noted by Galperin (1977, p. 36), lexical choice serves as one of the most direct carriers of emotive meaning. Second, stylistic devices operate mainly through semantic transformation and figurative reinterpretation. Among them, metaphor demonstrates the highest expressive potential because it enables the transfer of meaning between conceptual domains. According to Leech and Short (2007, p. 48), metaphor not only decorates speech but also structures perception and interpretation. Third, devices such as hyperbole and irony contribute strongly to pragmatic effects, including emphasis, evaluation, and implicit authorial attitude. Their effectiveness lies in the deliberate deviation from neutral expression, which increases reader engagement and interpretative depth.

**Conclusion.** This study confirms that lexical expressive means and stylistic devices are central to linguistic expressiveness. Lexical means primarily strengthen emotional and evaluative colouring, whereas stylistic devices enrich discourse through figurative reinterpretation and semantic transformation. As I. R. Galperin notes, “expressiveness is a natural property of language units when they are used to intensify the utterance”. Their combined use substantially increases the persuasive and aesthetic impact of texts.

Therefore, expressive language should be viewed as a systematic and functionally motivated feature of effective communication.

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