

РОМАНСЬКІ ТА ГЕРМАНСЬКІ МОВИ

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METAPHORICAL EXPRESSIONS IN ENGLISH LITERARY TEXTS AND THEIR PRAGMATIC CHARACTERISTICS

The present article undertakes a comprehensive examination of metaphor usage in English literary texts, with particular attention to their pragmatic properties. In the preliminary phase of the investigation, metaphors were analyzed in terms of their placement and function within linguistic structures. However, the evolution of cognitive linguistics and the advent of pragmatic methodologies have facilitated more nuanced and systematic inquiries into the latent meanings and communicative functions of metaphors. The principal objective of the study is to elucidate the operational mechanisms of metaphor and to ascertain the extent to which these figurative devices contribute to the communicative efficacy of language. Furthermore, the inquiry seeks to assess the aesthetic impact of metaphorical expressions and their pragmatic resonance for the reader. Toward this end, the analysis is oriented toward identifying the contextual functionalities of metaphors and delineating their deployment across diverse textual environments.

Research on the typological diversity of metaphors in English literary discourse, and their interaction with target audiences, underscores the instrumental role of figurative language in advancing communicative objectives. The cognitive-linguistic perspective conceptualizes metaphor as a critical cognitive apparatus through which individuals construct and organize their conceptual worldview. Within this theoretical framework, metaphors are not merely ornamental linguistic elements but constitute a significant medium for enhancing the expressive and communicative potential of language. The methodological framework of the study incorporates descriptive, comparative, and contextual analyses, thereby enabling a cross-linguistic and intra-textual exploration of metaphorical constructions.

In addition, the empirical findings of the study delineate the structural impact of metaphors on language and substantiate their functional role within pragmatic contexts. This analytical orientation enables a deeper understanding of reader-text interaction, specifically concerning the reception and interpretive influence of metaphor, as well as its contribution to the overarching communicative intent of the text. The strategic employment of metaphor and allied tropes as purposive communicative instruments serves to facilitate a more immersive reader engagement. As such, metaphor emerges not solely as a vehicle for aesthetic enhancement but as a pivotal rhetorical and cognitive tool for establishing discursive coherence and achieving intended communicative outcomes. The study ultimately demonstrates the reciprocal interplay between metaphorical language and the structural and intentional dimensions of authorial discourse.

Key words: metaphor, pragmatics, cognitive linguistics, aesthetic function, literary discourse, contextual analysis, communicative function.

Introduction. The scholarly investigation of metaphor can be traced to antiquity, with its conceptual elucidation as a rhetorical device attributed to classical Greek philosophers. Notwithstanding its ancient origins, sustained academic engagement with metaphor as a subject of linguistic inquiry intensified in the latter half of the twentieth century, catalyzed by the emergence of novel paradigms in

linguistic theory. Foremost among these developments is the cognitive approach, which foregrounds the conceptual underpinnings of linguistic phenomena and reveals previously overlooked dimensions of figurative language, thereby necessitating their rigorous exploration. The implementation of cognitive methodologies has simultaneously highlighted the imperative of analyzing metaphorical models

within and across linguistic systems through a typological lens.

Given its relevance to the expressive articulation of thought and its resonance within aesthetic domains, the thematic focus of the current study is of considerable scholarly interest. Moreover, the investigation engages with a core issue in pragmatic linguistics – namely, the contextual realization of speech acts within the communicative dynamics of sender and recipient. As indicated earlier, metaphorical constructs encompass salient dimensions of cognitive processes. By conducting a typological analysis of metaphorical models based on representative examples from English and Azerbaijani journalistic texts, the study illuminates key mechanisms of conceptualization and offers a linguistically grounded perspective on shared cognitive schemas across cultures. Accordingly, the subject matter of this article occupies a critical and timely position within the broader field of cognitive linguistics.

Degree of Problem Elaboration. Scholarly investigations into the use of metaphors in English literary texts and their pragmatic features have been conducted across various periods. The initial studies in this domain primarily aimed to examine the position and influence of metaphors within the linguistic structure. However, with the recent development of cognitive linguistics and pragmatic approaches, the semantic depth and functional application of metaphors have been explored with greater sophistication. Diverse types of metaphors in English, their contextual operations, and the ways in which they serve the author's communicative intent have become subjects of extensive academic inquiry. Additionally, the pragmatic dimensions of metaphors – particularly their connection with the audience and their role in fulfilling communicative functions of language – have garnered scholarly attention. The topic holds significant importance in terms of both the aesthetic potency of language and the emotional and cognitive impact it generates in the reader. Clarifying the role of metaphors as intentional communicative instruments enables a more comprehensive interpretation of the analyzed texts.

In contemporary linguistic research, the interest in exploring cognitive structures of thinking, the interrelation between words and ideas, and the emergence of new meanings has markedly increased. Within this context, the study of metaphor has gained particular prominence. Linguists emphasize the central role of metaphor in the formation of the human conceptual worldview. Noteworthy in

this field are the contributions of Western linguists such as Longman A.W. [8], Albert N.K. [9], Tamsen E.T. [9], Hugh Holman C. [18], Harmon W. [18], and others, whose research warrants special attention.

Aims and Objectives. The principal aim of this study is to investigate the use of metaphors in English literary texts and to analyze their pragmatic characteristics. The research will examine the contextual functions of metaphors and their service to the communicative purposes of language. Furthermore, a key objective of the study is to assess the aesthetic and pragmatic impact that metaphors exert on the reader.

Methods. In conducting this scholarly investigation, descriptive, comparative, and contextual analysis methods have been employed. Contextual analysis has played a critical role in clarifying the meanings of metaphors within English literary texts. Based on the aforementioned approaches, the distinctions and similarities in the use of metaphors in English have been systematically compared. This analysis has made a significant contribution to the in-depth and comprehensive execution of the research. These methodological tools have been instrumental in understanding the pragmatic properties of metaphors in different languages and their relevance to communicative objectives.

Main Section. Metaphors and Their Pragmatic Value in Texts. Metaphors constitute vital devices in literary texts, enhancing the expressive capacity of language and conveying deeper layers of meaning to the reader's cognitive world. Beyond simple descriptions, they serve the fundamental communicative objectives of the text, allowing the author to articulate thoughts and emotions with greater resonance. The pragmatic value of metaphors lies in their capacity to generate varied meanings depending on the context, thus eliciting specific emotional and cognitive reactions in the reader. Moreover, metaphors are embedded within the social and cultural strata of language, facilitating connections with broader audiences. Consequently, metaphors play a significant role not only in the aesthetic dimension of a text but also in its communicative and pragmatic functions.

Although a vast number of concepts exist in language, the corresponding lexical items used to express them are relatively limited. The phenomenon of polysemy allows a single word to convey multiple meanings. This semantic flexibility enables words to extend beyond their

primary denotative meanings and assume figurative connotations. Figurative meanings emerge from perceived similarities, resemblances, or associations among objects, entities, or events. As figurative devices of artistic expression, metaphors began to be studied within the field of linguistics starting in the 1940s. Prior to this period, metaphor was examined exclusively through a literary-theoretical lens within the discipline of literary criticism. The Russian linguist V.V. Vinogradov played an indispensable role in establishing metaphor as a legitimate object of linguistic inquiry. Metaphorical meaning is not confined to a linguistic phenomenon alone but also fulfills a stylistic and artistic function within literary texts. Numerous linguistic scholars in Azerbaijani, English, and French have expressed views on semantic shift, stylistic figures, and metaphor. Semantic transformation is one of the key factors enriching the lexical composition of a language [11, p. 97].

Among the categories of language, figurative language expands the expressive potential of speech, enriches the lexical stock, and generates imagery. Metaphorical meaning emerges from a word's original, primary sense. Polysemy facilitates the emergence of metaphor. The literal meaning of a word is used to denote a specific object or phenomenon, and in linguistics, this is referred to as its normative meaning. The literal meaning forms the basis for the development of figurative meanings. The emergence of figurative meanings is significantly influenced by associations of similarity between objects or phenomena in terms of space and time [5, p. 26].

Among the various types of figurative expressions, metaphor stands out as the most productive. In terms of its formation mechanisms, expressive potential, stylistic functions, and capacity to enrich the lexicon, metaphor occupies a prominent position within the system of tropes. Research conducted on examples from the works of Eric-Emmanuel Schmitt has identified both the differences and similarities between metaphor, simile, metonymy, and synecdoche. These analyses reveal that, compared to other types of figurative expressions, metaphors appear more frequently in the texts under investigation [1, p. 14].

There are general and global relationships across the levels of language, and this system is characterized by hierarchical and dependent relations from lower to higher levels. In the act of speech, this system's established mechanism is recalled, and each element activates another. However, by their nature,

tropes are combinations of figurative units that ensure the imagery of speech. Unlike the language system, where each level presupposes the other, the construction of this unity does not follow such a strict hierarchy. Nonetheless, metaphors formed on the basis of different principles collectively constitute a system of tropes. Therefore, while the linguistic system is based on structural-semantic principles, the rhetorical system consists of tools that rely on figurative expression. The combination of metaphor, metonymy, hyperbole, meiosis, and irony within the system of tropes is associated with their function as cognitive operations [7].

In Azerbaijani poetry, metaphor, metonymy, and synecdoche function as some of the most powerful and effective artistic devices, playing a significant role in the creation of poetic imagery. These types of tropes have a broad scope of application and are capable of encapsulating diverse modes of thinking. Implicit metaphors are not exclusive to artistic language; rather, they are considered "products of human thought and imagination" in general. Expressions with functions similar to comparison and analogy ensure the application of the principle of economy in the text. Words and expressions reflecting economy visually evoke imagery without relying on any external factors, and each time, the omitted component of such expressions must be reconstructed through the textual context [3, p. 326].

Metaphors, as a part of everyday language, inevitably lead to challenges in the translation process. Nord notes: "A translation problem is an objective issue that every translator must resolve in connection with a specific task." The difficulties in translating figurative language encompass linguistic, aesthetic, literary, and socio-cultural challenges. Translation is the act of establishing communication between two languages and two cultures. Therefore, translators must ensure the accurate and appropriate transfer of culturally embedded elements from the source text into the target text. The extent of these challenges depends on the cultural and linguistic differences between the languages involved.

Tropes are essential elements that enhance the expressive power of literary texts and reveal different layers of language. More than simple depictions, they help the author generate the desired emotional and intellectual impact. The pragmatic value of tropes derives from their capacity to engage the reader and fulfill communicative functions. Each trope, within its specific context, can evoke distinct meanings and effects, enriching the text as a whole. At the same time, tropes – due to their connection

with the cultural and social dimensions of language – can resonate more clearly and intimately with certain audiences. The use of tropes in a text strengthens the writer's connection with the reader and reveals a more complex mode of thought. Consequently, tropes function not merely as linguistic tools but as crucial instruments for realizing the pragmatic goals of the text. Interpreting the meanings and depths of figurative language allows the reader to access the fuller and richer meanings of a text. Thus, tropes are indispensable components in the comprehension and interpretation of any literary work.

The Role of Tropes in the Enrichment of Language and Literary Expression. In English literary texts, metaphors play a significant role in enhancing the aesthetic and expressive power of language. The use of metaphors allows the author to create deeper and more multi-layered meanings. Metaphors enable the reader to penetrate the text more profoundly and discover its hidden meanings. In this way, metaphors are not merely wordplay but also powerful tools for presenting the central themes and ideas of the work. The use of metaphors in literary works helps depict each image or event in a more vivid and concrete manner. Metaphors transcend the ordinary meanings of words, presenting them in a more complex and meaningful way. Furthermore, metaphors allow for the creation of more colorful and multi-dimensional images without disrupting the simplicity of the language. This enables readers to understand the text in a deeper and more diverse manner.

Depending on the genre of the text, metaphors may serve different functions. For instance, in poetry, metaphors often carry an emotional charge and influence the reader's feelings. In novels and short stories, metaphors are used to express the inner world of characters, character changes, and various situations. The use of metaphors in literary texts enhances the main idea of the work, thereby strengthening its impact. In English literary texts, metaphors not only serve aesthetic purposes but also expand the reader's worldview. Metaphors deepen the connections between events and characters in the text, helping to uncover additional layers of meaning in each. Through metaphorical expressions, authors present the world from different perspectives, forcing readers to think more critically and analytically.

In some cases, metaphors serve to express the author's ideas in a new and distinct way rather than merely repeating them. This contributes to the richness and diversity of the literary work. The use of metaphors in texts also facilitates the enrichment

of the reader's linguistic and cultural understanding. Through metaphors, authors approach various topics, encouraging readers to view the text from different aspects and discover deeper meanings. The functions of metaphors within the context of a text may also vary. For example, some metaphors define the overall tone and mood of the text, while others help emphasize the characteristics of a particular event or image. This kind of metaphorical analysis and usage enables the reader to better grasp the text and understand its meanings more accurately. Additionally, through metaphors, authors provide more detail and information, enriching the text.

The role of metaphors in literary texts is not only evident in the depiction of images and events but also in the deepening of themes. Metaphors ensure the development of the theme and play a crucial role in the process of the reader's understanding of the text. By using metaphors, authors present the multi-layered and subtle meanings behind their words in their literary works. As a result, metaphors in English literary texts are an indispensable tool not only for enriching the language but also for ensuring that readers think more actively and engage with the text on a deeper level. The role of metaphors in literary works goes beyond being mere embellishments of the language; they also make the text more philosophical, multi-dimensional, and meaningful.

An illustrative example of this concept is the expression "*Time is a thief*" [24, p. 12], a metaphor that underscores the irreplaceable and irreversible nature of time. The notion of time being "stolen" evokes a sense of the fleeting passage of time, one that cannot be regained. The phrase "*Her voice is music to my ears*" [10, p. 313] symbolizes the aesthetic beauty of an individual's voice and the comfort it imparts to the listener. In this context, the word "music" serves to depict the profound pleasure derived from the voice.

Furthermore, the renowned expression by William Shakespeare, "*The world is a stage*" [16], constitutes a classic example of metaphorical language. In this instance, life is portrayed as a stage upon which every individual is assumed to play a designated role. This metaphor highlights the dramatic and transient essence of human existence.

Expressions such as "*The fog of war*" [26] are commonly encountered in literary texts. This metaphor vividly symbolizes the confusion and uncertainty inherent in warfare or tumultuous circumstances. The "fog" in this context represents the disorienting and unclear nature of war, where the

boundaries between clarity and chaos are blurred. Similarly, the metaphor "*He is a lion in battle*" [20] exemplifies a person's bravery and strength in combat, where the lion is employed as a symbol of courage, power, and valor.

These examples collectively demonstrate that in English literary texts, metaphors do not merely serve to embellish the aesthetic quality of language, but they also facilitate a deeper analysis of the text, allowing readers to uncover latent meanings and interpretive layers. By augmenting the emotional and symbolic weight of the text, metaphors serve as indispensable tools in enriching the depth and significance of literary works. Moreover, such metaphors contribute to the cultural enrichment of the reader, offering a framework for viewing the world from an alternative, more nuanced perspective.

The statement, "*The worst is behind us. Thursday is before Saturday*" [13], reflects the author's conceptualization of time as a measurable and directional phenomenon. To denote the movement of time, the author employs not only symmetrical axes (right/left) but also asymmetrical horizontal and vertical axes (front/back; before/after; up/down) [4, p. 110].

The English language, too, abounds with a variety of metaphorical constructs. For instance, a simile: "*The cat sat in the chair like a king overlooking his kingdom*" – "*Pişik krallığına baxan bir padişah kimi kürsüdə oturdu*" [21, p. 350]. Here, the posture of the cat is likened not to an individual of royal lineage, but to a king seated comfortably in a chair reserved exclusively for him.

A metaphor, such as "*Time is money*" – "*Vaxt puldur*" [15, p. 46], establishes a comparison between time and money, but not in the literal sense. Rather, it conveys the idea that time is a valuable resource that should be utilized efficiently in order to generate wealth. The passage of free time implies the loss of opportunities to acquire more financial gain. Similarly, the expression "*Life is a journey*" – "*Həyat bir səyahətdir*" [9] serves as a metaphor in which life is compared to a journey. Another pertinent example is the expression "*She is my heart*" [19, p. 357], in which the metaphor directly equates the person to the speaker's heart. In the phrase "*She is a bookworm*" – "*O, kitab qurdudur*" [19, p. 357], the metaphor emphasizes the individual's propensity for reading and love of books.

Holman and Harmon define simile as the indirect comparison of two objects and emphasize its distinction from metaphor. In similes, connectors

such as "*like*," "*as*," "*such as*," "*as if*," and "*seem*" are typically employed [18], whereas metaphors utilize the auxiliary verb "*to be*." For example, the phrase "*He is like a frog*" – "*O, qurbağa kimidir*" [18] represents a simile, while the statement "*He is a frog*" – "*O qurbağadır*" [18] exemplifies a metaphor. A simile draws a comparison between two objects belonging to different categories, as illustrated in the expression "*The boy seems to be as clever as his mother*" – "*Oğlan anası kimi ağıllıdır*" [18], where both "*boy*" and "*mother*" fall within the same category. Holman and Harmon further illustrate this distinction with the example "*He is as brave as a lion*" – "*O, aslan kimi cəsurdur*" [18], where "*he*" represents a human and "*lion*" an animal, thus categorically differing.

An idiomatic expression, or idiom, refers to phrases that are both semantically and syntactically cohesive, functioning as a unified whole. For instance, the phrase "*It's raining cats and dogs*" [25, p. 1313] cannot be translated literally, as it is an idiomatic expression. It must be translated appropriately into the target language, such as "*Gur yağış yağdı*" [2, p. 111] or "*Bir yağış yağdı ki, tut ucundan göyə çıx*" [2, p. 111]. Expressions such as "*Please, don't mention it*," "*Not at all*," "*It was a pleasure*" [19], or "*Forget it*" [19] also resist literal translation. Instead, the translator must understand that they are typically used in the sense of "*Dəyməz; xoşdur*." Idiomatic expressions, therefore, function independently of other words, as seen in "*She washed her hands of the matter*" – "*O, əllərini bu məsələdən yudu*" [17, p. 63], which, in context, should be understood as "*O, məsələ ilə əlaqəni kəsdi*" [2, p. 111]. Similarly, "*That drives me crazy*" – "*Bu məni dəli edir*" [22] conveys strong disapproval or irritation. Furthermore, phrases such as "*That story just about killed me*" [14] and "*Then she turned her back on me again. It nearly killed me*" [18] illustrate how "*killed*" may carry both negative and positive connotations, necessitating careful attention to contextual meaning for accurate translation [2, p. 111].

According to the lexical pragmatics approach, meanings are interpreted through the processes of narrowing and widening. For example, when a speaker says "*I have a temperature*" or "*I'm not drinking*" [9, p. 43], the meaning is narrowed to "*fever*" and "*alcohol*," respectively. Conversely, when someone says "*it's boiling hot outside*" [9, p. 43], the term "*boiling*" is expanded to include temperatures below 100°C. Through the process of widening, non-precise language is

employed to achieve additional communicative effects, including poetic and rhetorical impacts, as demonstrated in the phrase “*Juliet is the sun*” [9, p. 43].

Metaphorical meanings are also observed within the semantic connotations of words that represent ethnographic realities across various linguistic groups, including terms related to “house” or “building.” For instance, the word “shack” (a primitive type of dwelling) is utilized as a verb in English to denote the act of “*living with someone without marriage*” (to shack). Thus, the expression “*She is shacking up with her boyfriend*” [8] is translated as “*O, oğlan dostu ilə kəbinsiz yaşayır.*” A metonymic relationship exists between this connotation and the semantics of the noun “shack” [6, p. 10–11].

Metaphors with word-based structures are frequently observed in English-language journalistic discourse. For instance: “*Mr. Orban has also embraced the term ‘illiberal democracy,’ essentially arguing that majority rule is more important than minority rights. ‘Here is a government that proclaims itself as illiberal, and if it says it’s illiberal, liberals are its natural enemy, especially if they are backed by funds the government has no control over,’ Mr. Loke said, referring to organizations funded by Mr. Soros*” [27].

In this excerpt, the verb “*embrace*” – which typically denotes a physical action associated with living beings (such as to hug or hold close) – is metaphorically extended to a non-human subject, namely the abstract concept of a “term.” Within the given context, it conveys the meaning of “to adopt” or “to accept.” Notably, the verb “*embrace*” functions as an independent syntactic unit within the sentence structure.

It is also possible to encounter this in English-language journalistic texts. Мәсәлән: “*While such wizardry is convenient, it has also left a gaping security hole. New findings published Monday by researchers at New York University and Michigan State University suggest that smartphones can easily be fooled by fake fingerprints digitally composed of many common features found in human prints. In computer simulations, the researchers from the universities were able to develop a set of artificial “MasterPrints” that could match real prints similar to those used by phones as much as 65 percent of the time*” [28]. The excerpt, taken from an article addressing the shortcomings of touchscreen smartphones, begins with the sentence “*it has also left a gaping security hole*” [28], which exemplifies

a sentence-level metaphor. This metaphor operates as an autonomous syntactic unit and is articulated through a structurally simple sentence that conveys a fully figurative meaning [23].

In English literary texts, metaphors serve as powerful linguistic devices that enhance the aesthetic and expressive potential of language, enabling authors to construct deeper and more multilayered meanings. Through metaphor, readers are invited to engage with the text on a more profound level, uncovering its implicit messages and interpretative depths. Consequently, metaphors become instrumental in articulating the core themes and ideological underpinnings of literary works. Far from being mere rhetorical embellishments, these figurative expressions vividly portray characters, events, and abstract concepts with heightened clarity and specificity.

By increasing the linguistic complexity of a literary text, metaphors also stimulate interpretative flexibility, encouraging readers to approach the narrative from diverse analytical angles. The function of metaphor is inherently genre-dependent: in poetry, metaphors predominantly convey emotional resonance, while in prose genres such as novels and short stories, they often illuminate the psychological landscapes of characters and trace their inner transformations. Additionally, metaphors expand readers’ cognitive horizons and foster critical engagement, prompting them to adopt novel perspectives and challenge conventional modes of thought. Through metaphorical language, authors not only exhibit the richness and versatility of English but also express a wide array of human experiences and philosophical insights.

Furthermore, metaphors in literary discourse significantly contribute to the development of readers’ interpretative and analytical capacities, as these expressions enrich the text with symbolic and emotional dimensions. They offer readers an alternative lens through which to perceive the world, thus reshaping patterns of thought and perception. In this respect, metaphors transcend their ornamental function and serve as essential mechanisms for imbuing literary works with depth, ambiguity, and interpretive richness. Their role in English literary texts is therefore not only indispensable but also transformative. They are employed not solely for their aesthetic function but as critical tools that enable a deeper, more nuanced understanding and analysis of literary meaning. In enriching narrative texture, facilitating more vivid character construction, and enabling the articulation

of complex ideas, metaphors perform a vital literary and cultural function. Thus, metaphors in literary texts actively contribute to both linguistic innovation and cultural enrichment.

Conclusion. The article addresses a wide range of linguistic and literary concerns, with particular emphasis on metaphor and its various manifestations within language and literature. It offers theoretical insights that span multiple subfields of linguistics – including lexicology, semantics, stylistics, and translation studies – providing a comprehensive exploration of how metaphors function and how they are employed as fundamental components of literary expression.

The opening section of the article underscores the significance of polysemy and metaphor in enhancing the expressive richness of language. As a defining feature of literary style, metaphor enables the articulation of conceptual relationships and analogies between disparate entities – objects, events, and phenomena – thereby increasing the expressive and communicative potential of language. These

qualities allow literary texts to generate profound aesthetic and interpretive experiences for readers.

The article also presents illustrative examples that highlight the difficulties encountered in the translation and interpretation of figurative expressions such as metaphors, symbols, metonymies, and idiomatic phrases. It explores the challenges these expressions pose in translation, with particular attention to intercultural and linguistic dimensions. Moreover, it emphasizes that metaphors extend beyond aesthetic enhancement, exerting a significant influence on cross-cultural cognition and conceptual understanding.

The breadth of topics covered makes this article a valuable resource for scholars interested in the contemporary relevance of metaphor within linguistics, literary studies, and translation theory. By examining how metaphors operate in both literary and everyday discourse, and by discussing their aesthetic and pragmatic functions, the article offers important insights into the interpretive complexities of metaphor and the translational challenges they present across languages and cultures.

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Агаларова А. К. МЕТАФОРИЧНІ ВИРАЗИ В АНГЛІЙСЬКОМОВНИХ ЛІТЕРАТУРНИХ ТЕКСТАХ ТА ЇХ ПРАГМАТИЧНІ ХАРАКТЕРИСТИКИ

У цій статті проводиться комплексне дослідження використання метафор в англійських художніх текстах, з особливою увагою до їхніх прагматичних властивостей. На попередньому етапі дослідження метафори аналізувалися з точки зору їхнього розміщення та функції в лінгвістичних структурах. Однак еволюція когнітивної лінгвістики та поява прагматичних методологій сприяли більш нюансованим та систематичним дослідженням латентних значень та комунікативних функцій метафор. Головною метою дослідження є з'ясування операційних механізмів метафори та встановлення ступеня, до якої ці образні засоби сприяють комунікативній ефективності мови. Крім того, дослідження має на меті оцінити естетичний вплив метафоричних виразів та їхній прагматичний резонанс для читача. З цією метою аналіз спрямований на визначення контекстуальних функціональних можливостей метафор та окреслення їхнього використання в різних текстових середовищах.

Дослідження типологічного розмаїття метафор в англійському літературному дискурсі та їхньої взаємодії з цільовою аудиторією підкреслює інструментальну роль образної мови у досягненні комунікативних цілей. Когнітивно-лінгвістична перспектива концептуалізує метафору як критичний когнітивний апарат, за допомогою якого індивіди конструюють та організовують своє концептуальне світосприйняття. У цих теоретичних рамках метафори є не просто декоративними лінгвістичними елементами, а й являють собою важливий засіб для посилення експресивного та комунікативного потенціалу мови. Методологічна основа дослідження включає описовий, порівняльний та контекстуальний аналіз, що дозволяє проводити міжлінгвістичне та внутрішньотекстуальне дослідження метафоричних конструкцій.

Крім того, емпіричні результати дослідження окреслюють структурний вплив метафор на мову та обґрунтовують їхню функціональну роль у прагматичних контекстах. Така аналітична орієнтація дозволяє глибше зрозуміти взаємодію читача з текстом, зокрема, щодо сприйняття та інтерпретаційного впливу метафори, а також її внеску в загальний комунікативний намір тексту. Стратегічне використання метафори та споріднених тропів як цілеспрямованих комунікативних інструментів сприяє більш захопливій взаємодії читача. Таким чином, метафора постає не лише як засіб естетичного вдосконалення, а й як ключовий риторичний та когнітивний інструмент для встановлення дискурсивної зв'язності та досягнення запланованих комунікативних результатів. Дослідження зрештою демонструє взаємну взаємодію між метафоричною мовою та структурними та інтенційними вимірами авторського дискурсу.

Ключові слова: метафора, прагматика, когнітивна лінгвістика, естетична функція, літературний дискурс, контекстуальний аналіз, комунікативна функція.