THE PRAGMATIC NATURE OF GRADATION IN THE ENGLISH POETRY

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ABSTRACT

This article focuses on the pragmatic nature of gradation and its use in the English poetic speech. The article also discusses the application of gradation in speech situations.

It is a well known fact that, one of the founders of the science of linguistics, Ferdinand de Saussure divided linguistics into internal and external linguistics. Modern linguistics, in addition to the problems of internal linguistics, is beginning to study the relations of external linguistics deeply, mainly the language and speaker, the language and communication process (environment, factors), language and logic, language and world knowledge, language and culture. Simultaneously, the areas of linguistics such as linguistic pragmatics, linguoculturology, gender linguistics and cognitive linguistics are being formed and developed.

Pragmatics is considered as one of the areas of linguistics. It is also viewed as a science that studies the interrelated cognitive, social and cultural aspects of language and communication. The main question that the pragmatist-linguist is to answer is: "What is it to use language?": Eng. - "How to use language correctly: what is the use of language?" within the framework of this approach is accompanied by an additional question: "What does language do for human beings, or what do human beings do for themselves by means of using language?" - "What influence does language proficiency have on individuals, or what do people achieve by speaking a language?".[1; 28]

According to M.V. Nikitin, mental activity is based on the coordinated unity of the cognitive and pragmatic structures of consciousness, growing on a hereditary basis, absorbing and organizing the personal experience of the individual, which is enriched and corrected a thousand times by the collective experience of mankind thanks to language. The pragmatic structures of consciousness are primary and are responsible for the subjective assessment of observations and experiences from the point of view of the interests and values of the individual. Cognitive structures represent information about the world in its ontological essence, ordering extra-pragmatic knowledge.[2; 38]

One of the stylistic devices which is to be studied by the angle of pragmatics is gradation (climax). As it is defined in the encyclopedia entries, gradation is a stylistic device; a series of similar words or expressions (images,

similes, metaphors, and so on) that gradually emphasize and increase or, on the other hand, decrease (climax and anticlimax, respectively) the sense or emotional significance.[7;1]

Gradation in the languages of the world refers to those phenomena that permeate all human activity and the entire system of a particular language, starting from phonemes to whole syntactic structures. The wide distribution of gradation dictates the need for its deep understanding and comprehensive study. [3;1]

While in traditional linguistics the phenomenon of gradation is explained by means of language and speech or directly related factors, in modern linguistics there are opportunities to study this problem in more depth, that is, in the aspects of gender, cognitive and pragmatic linguistics. Such an approach to linguistic phenomena allows us to delve deeper into the essence of the problem under study and to observe the unseen aspects of this phenomenon.

"The social behavior of a person in the objective world is reflected in his speech activity. That is why the study of human speech allows one to get acquainted with his spiritual world. Pragmatic linguistics is a new theoretical and practical branch of science. It studies the process of speech, which reflects the social activity of a man, the communicative intention that's specific to the participants of the speech, the issues related to the impact of the speech situation".[4;12]

Philosophical and linguistic scholars have long dealt with the problems of pragmatics. However, in solving these problems, pragmatics as a separate branch of linguistics did not have its clear boundaries, and its problems are sometimes included in the syntax, and sometimes these issues fall within the scope of semantics.

Pragmatics forms the basis of theoretical grammar. The history of pragmatics is associated with the names of great philosophers and scientists such as Ch. Pierce, U. James, D. Dune and Ch. Morris. The works of these scholars were the first to express ideas about the system of signs and the function of signs, to identify the main features of semiotics, to show the differential signs between semantics, syntax, and pragmatics.[5;43]

In gradation, each given phrase in a sentence becomes stronger and more influential than its predecessor. Synonyms are often used in gradation. The sequential use of these synonyms serves to increase emotiveness.

Gradation in texts of various styles and genres is capable of performing various stylistic functions. At the same time, the general stylistic function of the gradation is the function of expressiveness. The particular stylistic functions of the gradation include emotional-amplifying, visual, rhythm-forming, text-forming, evaluative, excretory-logical with its varieties (the function of clarification and the function of updating information).[6;7]

Gradation is widely used in poetic speech. One of the main features of poetic speech is the use of inversion. Inversion is the replacement of the usual position of the components, the purpose of which is to bring the main idea to the forefront. The pronunciation of poetic speech is based on the phenomenon of inversion, which is the norm, and in English poetry, the method of gradation is often used to enhance the meaning of words:

The human heart has hidden treasures,
In secret kept, in silence sealed,-
The thoughts, the hopes, the dreams, the pleasures
Whose charms were broken if revealed.
(Ch. Bronte)

In the above verses, the author Charlotte Bronte enhances the emotional properties of

the text by using the words "the thoughts", "the hopes", "the dreams".

In the language of fiction, the use of gradation has its own specifics, which consists in the fact that in the texts of this functional and stylistic variety of the Russian language, a gradation of the expressive type is presented. due to the spontaneity of communication in the everyday sphere.[6;7]

Specific issues of linguistic pragmatics are related to the concept of speech act participants and speech situation, forms of speech intervention (dialogue in the content of the message, friendly conversation, discussion and other conversations), socio-etiquette forms of speech (appeal forms, intervention style), communication between communication participants. It studies the nature of the speech act (the lingvo-social nature of the plea and the order). In this regard, we can see in the following examples that the stylistic device of gradation is used to reinforce the idea:

"Threaten him, imprison him, torture him, kill him; you will never induce him to betray his country"

"It was a lovely city, a beautiful city, a fair city."

"For that one instant there was no one else in the room, in the house, in the world, besides themselves . . ." (Wilson)

Here's an example of climax from a poem by Shakespeare:

Beauty is but a vain and doubtful good;
A shining gloss that fadeth suddenly;
A flower that dies when first it gins to bud;

A brittle glass that's broken presently:
A doubtful good, a gloss, a glass, a flower,

Lost, faded, broken, dead within hour. ("The Passionate Pilgrim")

The final lines of this stanza contain two examples of climax: in the second-to-last line, words increase in beauty and delicacy, from the middling "doubtful good" to "flower." In the last line, the words once again increase in intensity, but this time in a progression from bad to worse ("lost" to "dead"). [8;2]

"I do not regret, I do not call, I do not cry" (S. A. Esenin). [9;3]

In the process of living in a society, people take certain patterns from it, act in accordance with that social environment, and perform certain tasks. Each person, on the other hand, speaks in a way that is appropriate to the role he or she is performing in the community. Based on a person's speech, it is possible to know what role he or she plays in society. In the following text, the conclusion made by the treating physician to the patient's parents is further reinforced using gradation:

"Your sun is very ill – seriously ill – desperately ill."

In short, it is important to identify the pragmatic meaning of gradation, focusing on how different manifestations of movement in material beings are reflected in human thinking through language tools, researching the social functions of members of society, taking into account the characteristics of their speech.

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