

Abstract

Graduation Level of Proficiency Paper

Title: Zoomorphic Metaphor in the English Fiction Discourse

Author: Bidziyeva A.

Research Supervisor: Grevtseva N. V.

Research Initiator: Chair of the English Philology

Topical Importance: This diploma paper is devoted to the cognitive study of the zoomorphic metaphor basing on the works by the English writers of the 20th century. Zoomorphic metaphor is a cognitive projection of the animal image (behavior, appearance or physiological peculiarities on a human being). Zoomorphic metaphor acts in the language according with the figuratively associative richness of native speakers' experience, mentality and observation.

Goals: The main goal of the diploma paper is to study the cognitive and semantic peculiarities of the zoomorphic lexemes from the contextual usage in the works by the English writers.

Tasks: basing on the cognitive study of metaphors by foreign and Russian scientists to analyze the use of the zoomorphic metaphors reflecting anthropomorphous and out-personal characteristics.

Theoretical value and practical applicability: We offer a cognitive and discourse analysis of the zoomorphic metaphors in the English language texts. It helps to find out and describe the main division of the zoomorphisms reflecting anthropomorphous and out-personal characteristics. The results of the diploma paper can be applied in different spheres of language study.

Results: Discourse study of the zoomorphic metaphoric nominations shows that the base of the figurative interpretation is zoonym. Thus, zoomorphic metaphor is a way of conceptualization of the reality awareness basing on the analogy with the animal world.

As the result of the study show, the majority of zoomorphic metaphors (85%) reflect anthropomorphous features. They can depict appearance, behavior, physiological and intellectual peculiarities, social functions and character of a human being basing on the analogy with an animal. The rest of the zoomorphic metaphors are out-personal (15%) and depict inanimate objects or phenomena by virtue of the humans mind.

Implementation advice: the theoretical material of the diploma thesis can be applied while studying or teaching different courses of cognitive linguistics, discourse analysis, in special courses on text analysis