

Abstract

Graduation Level of Proficiency Paper

Title: Personification in fiction and its types (on the material of short English stories)

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Topical Importance: This diploma paper is devoted to the linguo-stylistic analysis of personification in the English prose works with the purpose of disclosing language peculiarities of its actualization. Personification is understood as a type of allegory when one object or notion is depicted and characterized through another, quite different one.

Goals: We set as a main goal description of the process of personification in fiction using linguo-stylistic analysis, find out the ways to distinguish different types of personification on the material of English short stories.

Tasks: basing on grammatical, semantic and cognitive study of personification to define peculiarities of lexico-grammatical personification, to expose codified and non-codified personifications, to explore the topical representation of personification in the English short stories.

Theoretical value and practical applicability: Classification of personification through parts of speech is based on belonging of the word-personifier to a definite word class. Thus, we expose substantive, adjective and verbal personification. Each of them has its own features and is characterized by specific conditions of usage.

Results: We also distinguish between codified and non-codified personifications. Codified are reflected in the dictionaries. They are trite metaphors. Non-codified personifications are new, image-bearing, occasional ones. Fiction works by the English writers demonstrate a rather wide range of personified objects and notions. We reckon there is no limit of personification. The most frequent personified objects and notions are natural phenomena, plants, sky objects, buildings, clothes, surroundings, abstract notions.

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