WAYS OF EXPRESSING EMOTIONS IN ENGLISH

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Abstract

The article is devoted to identifying and describing the most typical means of expressing positive and negative emotions at all language levels in modern English.

Keywords: emotion; means of expression; grammar; morphology; prosody; vocabulary; English.

Introduction

A person's emotional state can be judged by their speech, which is a powerful indicator of their state. Undoubtedly, the possibilities of capturing emotional feelings by means of language are extremely great, and the ability to understand the emotions of the interlocutor is an ideal way to establish contact. Emotions are inextricably linked to the process of communication. Among the theorists who have devoted their works to the study of emotions from the point of view of psycholinguistics, it is important to note W. James, F. Krueger, S.L. Rubenstein, N.Y. Grot, as well as emotions were studied from the perspective of pragmatics by E.S. Aznaurova, N.D. Arutyunova, V.G. Gak, E.V. Paducheva, T. Van Dyke, G.P. Grice, C. Morris. The pragmatic approach in describing the linguistic means of conveying emotion demonstrates how the narrator selects and organizes linguistic means so that they not only convey meaning, but more importantly, elicit a reaction from the interlocutor or reader.

The object of the research was linguistic units of English fiction, since it is the fiction text that is characterized by the fullest variety of linguistic units that serve to denote emotions.

The subject of the research was the specifics of language units usage in speech to express emotions.

The topicality of the chosen subject of research is determined by the fact that when communicating with a native speaker there is a problem of recognizing not only the general meaning of the statement, but often a hidden, not always immediately understandable attitude of the speaker. The speaker can use various lexical, grammatical, phonetic means of expressing this attitude. The study of the aforementioned means will allow communicating more successfully in English and will help to most correctly recognize the intent of the speaker, his position, attitude towards what he says, which is important for adequate understanding of the two participants of the communicative act.

The study involved solving the following tasks:

Definition of the concept of emotional state, the influence of emotions on human speech.

Identification of the most typical linguistic means at all levels of language, which create the emotional coloring of the statement.

The material of the research was linguistic means of expressing emotions from direct speech of the characters, selected in the works of fiction of modern English-language literature by the method of continuous sampling.

During the research 72 examples of the most frequent ways of expressing emotional sentiments were singled out.

Speaking about the role of prosodic means in the emotional speech, it should be noted, that the intonational design of any utterance is the best way to express any state of mind. Sometimes prosody may be the only means sufficient to make a neutral statement become an emotional one.

"Everybody thinks so - the most advanced people. And I know". [6; c. 18]. In the above example, the verb "know" is italicized for a specific purpose. In writing italics and other ways of changing the font is one of the typical ways of conveying emotional states. The intonation, the emphasis of the word "know" indicates the speaker's confidence in his rightness, indicates his inflated self-esteem and desire to demonstrate his awareness and superiority over others, the reader can easily feel the contempt of the speaker in relation to the other person.

In addition, only two types of prosodic means are distinguished in writing - exclamatory intonation and parcellation, because in writing only these means are represented by special punctuation marks, dashes, exclamation mark.

"Please! I'll do anything. Anything you like!" [8; c. 306].

"Speak for yourself!" [6; c. 108]. In these examples, the exclamation mark informs the reader that the author is experiencing strong emotions, in the first case - the experience, brought to despair, and in the second example the author as if warns that he, perhaps, was offended, sounds a warning.

Parcellation, as a means of showing emotion, is much less common than exclamatory intonation.

"Knock, knock. Louder." [9; c. 132]. The hero is tense, his excitement is felt, and the pause between sentences increases the tension among the participants in the communication process.

Speaking about the morphological means of expressing emotionality in speech, then, first of all, suffixes that give a positive or negative coloring to a word should be named.

Thus, the affixes -ie, -let (girlie, birdie, kinglet) convey positive emotional coloring, and the suffixes - y, -ish + noun base form adjectives with negative and sometimes contemptuous connotations: "bookish, doggish".

"The whole thing sounds a little fishy, doesn't it?" [8; c. 181]. In the example given, fishy means doubtful, suspicious, not inspiring confidence. The suffix - y gives the word a negative connotation.

The lexical level is by right the richest in the means of expressing emotionality. Practically every day new words and neologisms with bright expressive coloring are formed, so research in the sphere of lexical ways of expression cannot fail to be relevant. Some authors refer tropes, interjections and words with an evaluative component in their structure to the lexical ways of conveying emotions.

"'This is a terrible mistake', he said, shaking his head from side to side 'a terrible, terrible mistake'". [6; c. 88]. Thus, the adjective terrible contains negative connotational meaning, and the repetition of the word creates the impression that the speaker not only doubts, but also regrets the events. Interjections and expletives also act as bright indicators of emotional speech.

Most of the work is devoted to grammatical means of expressing emotion. These include the use of inappropriate tenses, the use of Continuous tenses, degrees of comparison, the emphatic do's and oneself, and inversion.

"'Tom's getting very profound', said Daisy, with an expression of unthoughtful sadness". [6; c. 13]. The use of the long form expresses irritation and dissatisfaction of the speaker.

In addition, the most common ways of conveying regret include the construction I wish... smb would...., which is used to express dissatisfaction with the situation, the speaker as if criticizing what is happening, expressing his dissatisfaction.

"'I do wish', she cried, 'Uncle Timothy wouldn't talk about what doesn't concern him! [7; c. 109]. In this case the construction I wish somebody would express despair, acute desire of the speaker about the happened event. Emotional state is strengthened by emphatic use of do.

Interrogative constructions can be represented by the example:

"You make me feel uncivilized, Daisy. Can't you talk about crops or something?" [6; c. 13]. In pragmatic terms the questions with negation demonstrate the expression of surprise or irritation, which in Russian are conveyed by additional lexical means (unless, really, how).

Using the method of continuous sampling from the works of English and American literature, 72 examples of ways to express both positive and negative emotions were identified. The method of statistical analysis highlighted the most frequent means of conveying emotions on all levels of language. Prosodic means of expressing emotion account for 28 percent (20 examples). Due to the fact that English is an analytical language, the morphological means of expressing emotions account for only 4 percent of the total number. Emotional vocabulary accounts for about 19 percent of the examples, and mostly these are adverbs giving emotional coloring, as well as interjections and expletives. Grammatical means account for 49 percent.

Thus, the study has revealed that the most typical linguistic means of conveying emotions in modern English in writing are the graphic way of conveying intonation, as well as grammatical means, in particular - interrogative constructions.

For effective communication it is necessary not only to know all these ways, but also to understand the meaning, to understand the emotional state that they convey.

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