

Implicit Meaning in a Belles-Lettres Text: Speech Means in a Cognitive Paradigm

Since any belles-lettres piece is intended to perform a certain set of various pragmatic tasks (informative, esthetic, emotive, etc.) it is always interesting to analyze those speech means which are capable of performing these tasks, especially when the author's ideas, evaluations and intentions are not presented literally, i.e. presented implicitly. The *purpose* of the article is to analyze the capacities of the following speech means from the point of view of implicit pragmatic impact:

- utterances with transformed idioms
- hint (allusions)
- text symbols
- additional sense nuances (Матвеева, 2003) which are often combined with the above mentioned speech means.

British and American belles-lettres texts, written in late XX – XXI centuries are taken as a material for the research.

The research is conducted in text-linguistics terms in combination with cognitive linguistics paradigm, the accent being made on the mechanism of a reader's perception of implicit meanings and impacts: the interpretation of the effects studied is demonstrated as the result of verbal associations which trigger a chain (or several chains) of deductions, the latter being sometimes more meaningful than the explicit information.

The features of the given types of implicit speech are studied in the angle of the development of R.W. Langacker's cognitive operations (Langacker 1990) that are relevant in a discourse:

- trajectory/landmark alignment;
- specification vs. schematization;
- reference point relationship;
- focusing;
- perspectivization.

The interpretations of implicit textual meanings results in certain assumptions:

- a) pragmatic effects analyzed can be studied efficiently in terms of a cognitive paradigm;
- b) the transparency of implicit textual meanings is directly related to the number of deduction chains and the quantity of cognitive steps in each of them;
- c) speech means capable of referring implicit textual meanings can interlace, thus reinforcing pragmatic effects;
- d) the analysis made demonstrates various possibilities of speech means in belles-lettres texts and can serve as an index of individual authors' styles.