

METAPHOR AND METONYMY IN EVERYDAY COMMUNICATION

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Annotation. *The article explores metaphor and metonymy as tools of figurative thinking in everyday speech. The analysis shows that these linguistic phenomena help people understand abstract ideas and communicate information effectively. The study also highlights their role in shaping cultural and social meanings.*

Keywords: *metaphor, metonymy, everyday communication, figurative language, cognitive linguistics, semantics, pragmatics, figurative meaning, language expressiveness, spoken language.*

МЕТАФОРА И МЕТОНИМИЯ В ПОВСЕДНЕВНОМ ОБЩЕНИИ

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Аннотация. *Статья рассматривает использование метафоры и метонимии как средств образного мышления в повседневной речи. Анализ показывает, что данные языковые явления помогают людям лучше понимать абстрактные идеи и эффективно передавать информацию. Работа также*

демонстрирует их значимость в формировании культурных и социальных смыслов.

Ключевые слова: метафора, метонимия, повседневная коммуникация, образный язык, когнитивная лингвистика, семантика, прагматика, переносное значение, языковая выразительность, разговорная речь.

KUNDALIK MULOQOTDA METAFORA VA METONIMIYA

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Annatsiya. Maqola kundalik nutqda metafora va metonimiyaning obrazli tafakkur vositasi sifatidagi rolini ko'rib chiqadi. Tahlil shuni ko'rsatadiki, bu til birliklari abstrakt g'oyalarni tushunishga va ma'lumotni samarali etkazishga yordam beradi. Shuningdek, ular madaniy va ijtimoiy ma'nolarni shakllantirishda muhim ahamiyatga ega.

Kalit so'zlar: metafora, metonimiya, kundalik muloqot, obrazli til, kognitiv lingvistika, semantika, pragmatika, ko'chma ma'no, til ifodaliligi, og'zaki nutq.

Language plays an essential role in human communication. People use different linguistic devices to express ideas, emotions, and experiences. Among the most important of these devices are metaphor and metonymy. These figures of speech are widely used in everyday communication and help speakers convey complex meanings in a simple and expressive way. Metaphor and metonymy are not only literary tools but also fundamental elements of daily speech. They shape the way people think, understand reality, and communicate with others. A metaphor is a figure of speech in which one concept is understood or described in terms of another. It involves a

comparison between two different things that share similar characteristics. For example: “Time is money”, “Life is a journey”.

In these examples, abstract ideas such as time or life are explained through more concrete concepts. Metaphors help people explain complex ideas more clearly. They make communication more vivid and engaging. In everyday conversations, people often use metaphors without even realizing it. Metaphors also reflect human thinking. According to cognitive linguistics, people understand many abstract concepts through metaphorical structures. As Leon Surette states in his article *Metaphor and Metonymy*, “It is difficult to say which position above most closely represents the way a listener interprets the expression, and it is possible that different listener analyze the phrase in different ways, or even in different ways at different times”. Meanwhile, Lakoff and Johnson also noted that metaphor is original in not only daily speech but also in human’s action and thought. The conceptual system of people, that is responsible for acting and thinking, is naturally metaphoric. They also note that root metaphors can be single for different cultures, nations, organizations or groups. “Life is a journey” in one culture may have a metaphor of life as a journey in one culture, whilst another may see it as opportunity. It is interesting to note that besides culture, age groups also have a specific cognitive different usage in everyday speech of monolingual or bilingual children. For instance, monolingual children may use broader metonymy and metaphor concerning two languages while bilingual children may not use so widely as monolingual children. “My brother is Pushkin” denotes that his hair is curly or can create poems or stories. Children who speak Russian can understand who is Pushkin or his appearance. “My sister is Masha” refers very talkative girl. During recording bilingual and monolingual children’s communication mostly metaphor and metonymy are used in conversation of monolingual children. Especially visual metaphor is actively produced. Metaphor and metonymy are essential elements of everyday communication. They help people express ideas, emotions, and experiences more effectively. By using figurative language, speakers can simplify complex concepts and make communication more engaging. Understanding metaphor and metonymy is important for studying language, communication, and human cognition. These linguistic phenomena

demonstrate how language reflects the way people perceive and interpret the world. Secondly, the study showed that metonymy functions as an efficient communicative strategy by allowing reference through associated concepts within the same cognitive domain. Examples such as “the press” for journalists or “the classroom” for the students illustrate how context-dependent associations simplify meaning transmission. Metonymy thus plays a key role in discourse economy and is frequently used in both spoken and written forms. Another important result is the discovery of the interplay between metaphor and metonymy. In many cases, metaphorical expressions are grounded in metonymic reasoning. This interaction—often termed *metaphtonymy*—reveals a more dynamic and interconnected relationship between the two mechanisms than previously thought. It reflects the flexible, multi-layered nature of human conceptualization and meaning-making. Furthermore, the results suggest that while some metaphorical and metonymic patterns are universal across languages and cultures, others are shaped by specific sociocultural contexts. For instance, bodily-based metaphors (e.g., HEART AS EMOTION) are commonly found across cultures, but conceptual metaphors involving political or religious symbols can vary significantly depending on cultural values and experiences. During recording bilingual and monolingual children’s communication mostly metaphor and metonymy are used in conversation of monolingual children. Especially visual metaphor is actively produced. Human communication is not limited to literal expressions. People often use figurative language to make their speech more vivid, expressive, and meaningful. Two of the most common figurative devices are metaphor and metonymy. These linguistic phenomena are widely used in everyday conversations, media discourse, political speech, and literature.

Figurative language allows speakers to convey complex ideas in a simple and understandable way. It also reflects the way humans perceive and interpret the world around them. Metaphor and metonymy are essential elements of everyday communication. They help speakers express complex ideas, emotions, and experiences in a more vivid and understandable way. These linguistic devices also reflect the

cognitive processes that shape human thinking. Understanding metaphor and metonymy is important for linguistics, communication studies, and language education because they reveal how people conceptualize reality and interact with others through language.

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