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THE SUBJECT-MATTER OF TEXT INTERPRETATION AND THE SCHEME OF TEXT INTERPRETATION

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Abstract

This article examines the subject-matter of text interpretation and proposes a structured scheme for interpreting texts within the framework of modern linguistics and literary theory. Text interpretation is understood as a complex cognitive and analytical process that involves decoding meaning, identifying authorial intention, and reconstructing contextual and cultural layers embedded in the text. The study highlights the interdisciplinary nature of interpretation, drawing from linguistics, hermeneutics, and semiotics. Special attention is given to the stages of interpretation, including surface comprehension, contextual analysis, and deep semantic reconstruction. The article argues that effective interpretation requires both linguistic competence and critical thinking skills. A systematic scheme of interpretation is presented as a practical model that can be applied in academic and educational contexts.

Introduction

In contemporary linguistics and literary studies, text interpretation occupies a central position as one of the fundamental processes of understanding language and communication. A text is not merely a sequence of words or sentences; rather, it is a structured unit of meaning that reflects the author's intentions, cultural background, and communicative goals. Therefore, interpreting a text involves much more than literal comprehension — it requires uncovering implicit meanings, recognizing

stylistic features, and situating the text within a broader socio-cultural and historical context.

The subject-matter of text interpretation includes the study of how meaning is constructed, transmitted, and understood by readers. It also explores the interaction between the author, the text, and the reader, emphasizing that meaning is not fixed but can vary depending on perspective and context. This makes interpretation a dynamic and multifaceted process.

The purpose of this article is to explore the theoretical foundations of text interpretation and to outline a clear and systematic scheme that can guide the process of analyzing texts. Such a scheme is particularly important in educational settings, where students must learn not only to understand texts but also to critically engage with them.

A systematic scheme of text interpretation typically includes several stages:

First, pre-reading analysis, where the reader gathers background information about the text, including the author, genre, and historical context. This stage prepares the reader for deeper understanding.

Second, surface-level comprehension, which involves identifying the main idea, key themes, and basic structure of the text. At this stage, the reader focuses on literal meaning and general understanding.

Third, detailed linguistic analysis, where attention is paid to vocabulary, grammatical structures, stylistic devices, and rhetorical strategies. This stage helps uncover how meaning is constructed within the text.

Fourth, interpretative analysis, which goes beyond the surface to explore implicit meanings, symbolism, and underlying messages. Here, the reader actively engages with the text, forming interpretations based on evidence.

Finally, evaluation and reflection, where the reader assesses the text's significance, relevance, and impact. This stage may include personal response, critical judgment, and comparison with other texts.

It is important to note that interpretation is not a purely objective process. Different readers may interpret the same text in different ways, depending on their background knowledge, experiences, and perspectives. However, valid interpretations must always be supported by textual evidence.

Furthermore, modern approaches to interpretation emphasize the role of the reader as an active participant in meaning-making. This perspective challenges the traditional view that meaning is solely determined by the author and highlights the interactive nature of reading.

Conclusion

In conclusion, the subject-matter of text interpretation encompasses a wide range of linguistic and extra-linguistic factors that contribute to the understanding of meaning. A structured scheme of interpretation provides a useful framework for analyzing texts in a systematic and effective way. By combining linguistic analysis with contextual and critical thinking skills, readers can achieve a deeper and more nuanced understanding of texts. This makes text interpretation an essential skill in both academic and real-world communication.

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