

THE SUBJECT MATTER OF STYLISTICS

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Abstract. Stylistics is a branch of linguistics that examines the expressive resources of language and their functional use in communication. This study explores the subject matter of stylistics, focusing on its role in analyzing linguistic variation, stylistic devices, and functional styles in the English language. Using a theoretical and analytical approach, the research identifies key stylistic features across different types of texts and evaluates their impact on meaning and communication. The findings demonstrate that stylistics plays a crucial role in understanding how language functions beyond its basic communicative purpose, contributing to emotional expression, aesthetic value, and contextual appropriateness. The study emphasizes the importance of stylistics in linguistic and literary analysis, as well as in language teaching.

Keywords: Stylistics, Expressive Means, Stylistic Devices, Functional Styles, Language Analysis, English Language

Introduction. Language is a dynamic and multifunctional system that serves not only for communication but also for expression and influence. One of the key branches of linguistics that studies these aspects is stylistics. Stylistics investigates how language is used in different contexts and how linguistic choices affect meaning, tone, and communicative effectiveness.

The subject matter of stylistics includes the analysis of expressive means, stylistic devices, and functional varieties of language. This study aims to examine the core components of stylistics and to explain how they contribute to the interpretation and production of texts in modern English.

Main

Body

Stylistics focuses on the relationship between linguistic form and communicative function. It studies how phonetic, lexical, and grammatical elements acquire stylistic significance in different contexts. These elements are not neutral; their selection depends on the speaker's intention, the audience, and the situation of communication.

One of the central aspects of stylistics is the study of expressive means and stylistic devices. Expressive means include phonetic, lexical, and syntactic features that intensify expression. Stylistic devices, such as metaphor, simile, hyperbole, and irony, are deliberate constructions used to achieve a particular effect. These devices enhance the aesthetic and emotional impact of language.

Another important component of stylistics is the study of functional styles. Language varies depending on the sphere of communication, giving rise to different styles such as scientific, official, journalistic, literary, and colloquial. Each style has its own set of linguistic features and communicative purposes. For example, scientific style is characterized by precision and objectivity, while literary style emphasizes imagery and emotional expression.

The analysis of stylistic variation also reveals how language adapts to different communicative needs. Speakers and writers choose specific linguistic forms to achieve clarity, persuasion, or artistic expression. This demonstrates that stylistics is not only concerned with language structure but also with its practical use in real communication.

Furthermore, stylistics plays an important role in text interpretation. By analyzing stylistic features, researchers can uncover implicit meanings, evaluate the effectiveness of communication, and understand the author's intention. This makes stylistics a valuable tool in fields such as literary criticism, discourse analysis, and language education.

Conclusion

Stylistics is an essential branch of linguistics that studies the expressive and functional aspects of language. The subject matter of stylistics includes expressive

means, stylistic devices, and functional styles, all of which contribute to effective communication. This study highlights the importance of stylistics in understanding how language operates in different contexts and how it influences meaning and perception.

As language continues to evolve, stylistics remains a key discipline for analyzing both everyday communication and complex texts.

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